

Christmas Day.

It was a family day today.

Ballarat Golden Dragon Boat Club president Richard Parry & family came to Buangor Community Sports Club to help celebrate Christmas with my family.

One of best things we have from this trip is People; people we met in Panola brought us cold watermelon, I nearly ate my own fingers after 8 hours under a "34 degrees hot" day and almost running out water.

People on the road were kind enough to drive us to the local pub to arrange our stay in a local Community Hall.

People in Casterton booked an air conditioning room for us after we walked for 5 hours walk in 39 degree heat.

People in Kangaroo Inn Area School offered us a place to stay in their school hall after we were out of water for 4 hours and no food.

People offered us room to stay in their farm house and even come to pick up us at Willaura when we couldn't find place to stay, then drive us back to we should start on the next morning.

People welcomed us, greeted us, talked to us and showed us various Chinese sites and Australia historic sites, told us stories and showed us photos or documents, showed their pride in their buildings and community projects when taking us on a tour.

People representative of their cities, towns or communities as well as people from all cultural backgrounds, even people in the cars on the road, they all did one thing in common. They helped us in all different ways which made this journey so special to us, both Oscar & myself.

That was I said to people of Ararat on Day 10 Tuesday 24th Dec 2013, ".....If I could, on behalf of those Chinese walked pass here in middle 1800s, I would say thank you even it is 160 year late."

There are so many people to thanks but there are so little we are able to say. So as I promised them that I will be back to see them again & again (some of them may get sick of me, but I will be back).

Merry Christmas!

Charles & Oscar Zhang