

QUARTERLY NEWS LETTER 2015

2015 年 2 季度简报

QUOTE : DO NOT REGRET GROWING OLDER
IT IS A PRIVILEGE DENIED TO MANY.

引用： 不要为自己变老而感到遗憾，
这种规律并不屈从于人类的特权。

GENERAL

一般新闻

As we enter the winter period we do not get quite as busy, although we still have a few projects that we are arranging to lead us into 2016.

冬天来了，我们协会的事务也不再像夏天那样繁忙。虽然也仍然有一些正在进行中的项目将我们慢慢带入 2016 年。

This year we changed our night to a Sunday night to hold our Sticky rice dinner at the Terryapi Restaurant .A change of night was welcomed with 50 people coming to enjoy the night with a different cuisine. Many thanks to Jason and his staff for the way they looked after us, as the restaurant was full to capacity with many diners coming in from outside.

今年我们将端午节晚宴改到了星期天晚上，地点是在 Terryapi 饭店。这一变化吸引到了 50 人来参加晚宴，大家都带去了不同的美味菜肴。太多的人使得餐厅爆满，后来的顾客不得不到餐厅外面就餐。非常感谢 Jason 和他的员工对我们的热情招待，

In My Ballarat a photo was published of the City of Ballarat youth council 2015. Did anyone take notice that in that photo was a lad called Henry Zhang. YES that's right and to guess that he is no other than the nephew of our Charles Zhang. Henry has been in Australia a little over 12 months doing studies at the Mt Clear college and already is an important part of our Lion Dance Team.

最近，在巴拉瑞特当地报纸上刊登出了一张巴拉瑞特青年协会的照片。不知大家是否注意到，照片中有一个很帅的小伙子名叫 Henry 张。他不是别人，正是 Charles Zhang 的侄子。Henry 来到澳大利亚

已经有 12 个月多一点，现在在 Mt Clear 高中学习，他现在是我们协会舞狮队的重要成员之一。

MOON CAKE DINNER

中秋节晚宴

Our Moon Cake dinner this year will be held on Monday October 5th at the Nerrina Tavern at 6.30pm. Nerrina Tavern is situated at Loften Street Nerrina and is owned by Henry and Lucy Wong. The dinner will cost \$25 per Adult and Children \$10.

今年的中秋节晚餐将于 10 月 5 号星期一晚上 6.30 举行，地点是坐落在 Loften 街的 Nerrina Tavern 饭店。这家饭店的拥有者是 Henry 和 Lucy 王。参加中秋节晚餐的费用是成年人\$25 每人，小孩\$10 每人。

Our Secretary Graham Bright who spent some time in China has written on his time and experience in china teaching, and is well worth the time to read. Although it is some years on, the culture has not changed and the conditions are probably the same. If this segment proves to be of popular reading we will try and add more excerpts in later issues.

我们协会的秘书Graham Bright先生已经将他在在中国支教的经历回忆并写作出来，这些回忆非常值得花时间一读。虽然已经过去多年，但是那里的文化和环境大概也还没有多少变化。如果下面这些文字能够引起大家的兴趣，我们将在以后的简报中刊登更多的内容。

FACT FILE

Year 2011

Time Period January 12th, 2011 to January 16th, 2012

City Fuzhou

Province Jiangxi

Job Lecturer in Oral English at ECIT (East China Institute of Technology)

EDUCATION IN CHINA

As a teacher with decades of experience in the secondary components of both the state and catholic education systems, teaching in China was a massive jolt to my system. I have picked out 5 main points that I noticed.

- *Incredible respect for teachers was automatically endowed by all sectors of the community.*

This feature of the Chinese was easily the most noticeable difference between teaching in China and teaching in Australia. The kindness of the students and their parents was just wonderful, as was their generosity even if they had meagre possessions. On the National Teachers Day, I was showered with gifts and again received lovely little presents around Christmas time even though Christmas was not a time of celebration for the majority of the Chinese people. The students I taught were incredibly polite and clearly appreciated every effort I made to make their lessons interesting. I was taken out to dinners by parents who insisted on paying and at no stage was there any pressure on me to respond by giving good marks; the parents were genuinely proud to have a foreign teacher teaching their children.

- *Almost total reliance on memory recall of facts as opposed to learning “methods”.*

This is an area where I didn't really agree with the way that Chinese students are “expected” to learn. Many of my students had been totally turned off Mathematics for example, by teachers who had insisted that they be able to recite facts. When I taught

them how to do a problem, the most question most often asked was “Why haven’t we been shown that?” I am not a super teacher by any means, but I believe in teaching method as opposed to reiteration of fact. When teaching language skills, I taught the students how to use the language as opposed to, for example, obscure grammatical theory.

- *Students are under immense pressure to perform from an early age, and this pressure to perform is maintained, and often intensified, throughout their education.*

This is clearly evident. I had to be a counsellor many times over as students wilted under the pressure to perform. The competition for jobs in China is absolutely HUGE and even the slightest edge (in terms of marks) can make a big difference. A significant proportion of the parents put a lot of emphasis on status and consequently, put a lot of pressure on their children to perform. Also, there is pressure on the children to force their way into what are seen as higher-class careers and in doing so, raise the status of the family.

- *The name of the high school or university attended is very important.*

A student who graduates from one of the “best” universities will always be “taken” for a job as opposed to one who graduates from a lesser known university. So, this is related to the previous point in that the pressure is on from a very early age to be able to get into the best primary schools so that the student can get into one of the best high schools so that they can hope to gain entry to the best university. I still get emails from a student who is incredibly gifted and talented but is now 24 and still trying to find a job. ECIT is not seen as one the best universities and she has been hamstrung by the fact that despite superb marks and glowing references, she graduated from ECIT and not, say, from Beijing University.

- *Facilities vary enormously from province to province, with many students lacking the most basic needs.*

I admired the students who made the best of what they had, and learned despite extremely adverse conditions. I saw things that no tourist would ever see and in relation to education, all of the students I taught made the best of what they had. This was especially important for me and I wished that some of the Australian students I teach now and those I've taught in the past could have seen what the students from poorer provinces on the whole, very spoiled and it wasn't till my year in China that I realised just how provinces in China had to put up with. Australian students are, much. My heart ached (figure of speech) while I was watching the students struggle with so little in the way of possessions and living conditions. Other excerpts will be added when they become available.