



**CCSM**

CHINESE CHURCH SUPPORT MINISTRIES

中國教會支援使團

**CCSM New Zealand Magazine, October 2015**

To serve, strengthen and support the church and people of China

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Corner?

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**2016**

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*You saw me before I was born.  
Every day of my life was recorded in  
your book.  
Every moment was laid out before a  
single day had passed. - Psalm 139:16  
(NLT)*

Since 1985



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#### CCSM New Zealand Magazine

Cover: Chinese farmer working in a rice field, Dali, Yunnan Province, China. For many farmers rice is the main source of income (around \$NZ 1275 a year).  
Inside cover: Faith, Hope and Love Summer Camp participant.

#### A little about CCSM:

"Be a reporter for us," said a house church leader to Ross Paterson (CCSM Founder) on his first trip to China in 1983. Ross took that as his initial mandate from the Lord – to raise in the West awareness of China's needs and to prompt intercessory prayer. At this time very little was known about the church in China.

A further plea came on that same first visit to China. "We desperately need books and sound foundational teaching."

Today CCSM New Zealand is still meeting this call and continues to work closely with Chinese believers to meet the needs of such a rapidly growing Church. Sending intercession and practical ministry teams has become a large part of what we do. There are still millions of people in China who have never heard about Jesus.



# Welcome!

*It has been a busy year for our ministry and there are already so many stories to tell. This is our forum to share these with you.*

China's doors are open and people are still hungry to hear Jesus' message of hope. CCSM is searching to find enough people willing and able to meet the growing opportunities we are being offered to share the gospel. We are a small voice among the billions but the Lord time and again shows us that he is in control. Miraculously He appears to go ahead to arrange divine encounters and opportunities to share His love.

If you feel God is calling you to serve Him in China ministry, either long or short term, we may be able to help. We have a range of regular programmes but we can also put something together just for you. We are always happy to talk. Please ring me at any time.

Prayer is a pivotal part of this ministry. If you are interested in praying for CCSM New Zealand, or China in general, contact us for the regular Prayer Update.

Enjoy reading these articles about Our New Zealand People and other friends who have followed their hearts.

Blessings,

Murray Cameron,

New Zealand Director.



August Medical Trip to Gansu -  
MICHELLE'S STORY

## An Intimate Journey with God.

*'...but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness".'  
(2 Corinthians 12:9)*

I am a laid back person, I have an ordinary job and a normal family. I am a moderate Christian, I go to church every Sunday (well, I might miss a couple when there's a long weekend), I read and pray a bit every night (well, maybe every second night) and teach Sunday School from time to time. I am kind, smiling (most of the time), willing to help when other people need me, and I pray eagerly when I am desperately looking for a car park space! ..... Well, that was how I was after I was baptized 8 years ago. I slowly lost the intimate bond with my Heavenly Father, I did not hear when he talked to me any more.....Does this sound like you today, my friend?

That was until the day two years ago when CCSM's newsletter arrived in my mailbox. Without knowing what to expect, I put my

hand up and decided to take a risk and step out of my comfort zone.

In August 2013, I found myself on the other side of the world in Gansu Province. It was in the heat of summer in the driest and poorest place in China. I was full of doubt and uncertainty, my heart sinking as I embarked on my first medical missionary trip.

This trip challenged all my physical capabilities - working as an interpreter for American doctors who were treating local villagers. I had to talk continuously for over 10 hours every day, the dry weather not helping my sore throat; my nose bled every morning and night, with the heat and dust making it worse.

We were up at 6 am each day,

travelling 3-4 hours into the mountains, going from village to village. It was exhausting work and every team member felt it. Not to mention no toilets and tap water in the villages where we were working. Hand sanitiser only goes so far!

Probably the hardest part is keeping your emotions under control when you see so many patients suffering from such a variety of diseases. These people cannot afford basic food and clean water. They are mostly suffering from the results of a life time of hard work in the field and lack of good nutrition. There were so many old people, and children with poor eyesight, deformed hands or legs and in constant pain.

At the end of each day a heavy silence spread over the team, frustration, helplessness and tears welled up, knowing there was so little we could do to help these people. There is so much suffering in this world that we are not normally exposed to - I was left feeling vulnerable and weak. So many patients, all without hope.

The only thing I could do was to kneel down and pray. I put down my burden, I cried out to Him, I leaned on Him. Not only me but everyone in the



team. We gathered together every morning and every night, we worshiped and we prayed in silence, we could hear God. I have never felt so close to Him. When I was weak, and vulnerable. "...he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness". " ( 2 Corinthians 12:9)

Throughout my journey, God was with me every moment, every step I took in that land, every patient's hand I held, every crying child I hugged. Yes, there will always be poverty



and suffering in this world. What we did in Gansu cannot heal every pain, but these people are being heard, cared for, listened to, and loved, not by me, not by our medical team, but by our God. We are the channels bringing this heavenly love, faith and hope to this thirsty land.

In comparison to what I did during the medical missionary trip to Gansu,

China did even more for me. It restored my relationship with God, the beautiful intimate bond I have with my heavenly father. I experienced His grace and power again. He talks to me in my weakness and shines in my tearful eyes.

My friend, if you want to know what happened next... I went back again in August 2014! And I cannot wait for my 2016 journey!!



Do you want to walk a wonderful intimate journey with our God? Come join us and experience God's power and grace. "...your strength shall equal your days." (Deuteronomy 33:25)

**CCSM Medical teams visit remote areas in China. Patients often travel miles to see the doctors, dentists and specialists.**

**CCSM brings medical experts and volunteers from around the world to serve in China**



Earlier this year, I went with a group of Christians to China, to help run two camps for high-school students during their summer holidays.

## China – What I Learned

- by Tim Newman

I had never been to China before, I had never been on an overseas mission before, and I didn't speak any Chinese. Needless to say - I had a great time!

China is a country you tend to hear about a lot in the news these days. A vast country with an ancient history, a powerhouse economy, which will surely play a huge part in shaping the events of the 21st century.

From a Christian perspective, China is also a fascinating story. Despite a history of persecution and government interference, the growth



of Christianity in China has been incredible. With such a massive population, and with huge political and cultural influence throughout Asia and the rest of the world, the advancement of the gospel in China has the potential to change our world in ways which may be difficult to comprehend.

This narrative that we hear about China may come from articles we read, statistics we see, or anecdotes we hear. However, to actually get in a plane and go over there really does change your perspective. Although it is an oft-repeated comment, what immediately struck me about this country was its sheer size.

Travelling by train and plane, I got to see not only the density of China's population, but also its economic development. Even in

the midst of economic difficulty, it was incredible to see the rate of development within China's big cities.

Such an enormous transfer of population from the country-side to the city has no precedent in human history, and has huge implications for the spread of the gospel.

Another thing that stood out to me was the relative level of openness to the world outside of China. While it would be foolish to underestimate the reach of the Chinese government to monitor and control the traffic of information and ideas within China, it is also clear that Chinese society is become more and more open and embracing of the world outside its borders. This openness was evident to a degree from observation of people, places, and things in China, but

became very clear from getting to know its people.

During our two-week trip, our group led two four-day camps for high-school kids in



the cities of Xi'an and Shenzhen. We got to know the kids at these camps through a range of different contexts, from fun group electives (I introduced them to touch rugby!), English classes, and discussions on stories from the Bible itself. It was a real joy to be able to teach the kids at the camps. While there were occasionally some cultural and linguistic barriers to overcome, they really enjoyed having us there and it gave us an opportunity to model our faith, not

only through words, but also in actions and deeds.

Finally, our trip to China also gave us the opportunity to meet with other Christians and

encourage each other. To see how the Church in China is growing, despite opposition, and to see the commitment and boldness

of Christians to follow Jesus in that situation, was a great encouragement for me personally.

Having the opportunity to go to China was for me a hugely rewarding experience. It gave me a new perspective on Chinese culture and how we can better reach those members of our communities back in New Zealand, and through our work we were able to help the local church in China in their mission to win that nation for Christ.

In July 2015 CCSM ran our first Summer camp programme in China. Three exciting camps in two major cities.

## 1. FAITH HOPE & LOVE SUMMER CAMP

*This camp was the vision of a local Chinese church pastor. It became a five day English Adventure for 19 children aged from 9 – 15 years and a Faith Adventure for the four leaders.*

The camp motto came from Luke 6: 31 “Do to others as you would have them do to you.” It was memorised and experienced in different ways through the week and with the logo of FAITH, HOPE & LOVE and the influence of the Holy Spirit all that was done was based around this.

God brought together four leaders who at the beginning of the week were strangers - JoJo, a local graduate willing to help, to serve God, and full of fun. Caleb, seeking God’s will and experience in China, and with a sensitive heart for those he was serving. Also the guitar player we had prayed for! YaMin, a heart full of love, willing to serve, and a faith in God that gave her courage to try new and hard things. I was the fourth one with the challenge to lead and prepare as God had passed the vision to me about 12 months before. I knew it would bring together my past experience and I was willing to be a channel for God’s love to these children if it was His will. I am full of praise and thanks to Him for the way He led, challenged and enabled each of us to do our part and drew us together especially through the

morning times when we shared, prayed and entrusted each day to Him.

For many of the children, confidence to introduce themselves and use oral English built as the week progressed. Their involvement in games, songs, fun group activities and the building of relationships with the group leaders facilitated this. God’s love was shared through our lives as we interacted with each other and with students. The pastor was always there too, caring for us, modelling



“Do to others as  
you would have  
them do to you.”

Luke 6: 31

humility, graciousness and God’s heart for the lost.

Yamin commented, “We have learned from the Father through His words and we tried to be good examples for the kids. They learned from us to be kind to one another.” Yamin had a few very energetic boys in her group to whom she gently showed the right way. At the end of the week there were changes and one who had been a picture of “the Little Emperor” syndrome showed a marked change. He was happy to share his lunch and showed that he knew others must have a turn too. It was

special to see and a real encouragement. Then there were the highlights where we had opportunity to share and listen to the stories of some of the older students and adults connected to the programme, usually over a meal.

Caleb shares one of these special times: “Colin was one of the boys in my group. He is a tall relatively mature 12 year old who was quite confident in English. In the afternoon of the second day of the program he invited me to join him for dumplings for dinner.

*His family owns and runs a restaurant so Andrew (local leader of our camp) spoke with*



*Colin and we sorted out that our whole group of teachers would go for dinner. So on Thursday evening Colin hung around with us after class and we taxied together to the family restaurant. We were briefly greeted by his aunt and then she went off into the kitchen and not too long after that*

The Little Emperor Syndrome is an aspect of China’s one-child policy where only children gain excessive amounts of attention from their parents and grandparents.





the dumplings started coming and they didn't seem to stop coming for most of the evening. They were delicious as expected and the few side dishes were great too. One of the questions that I love to ask anyone who is learning English is why they want to learn. He said he'd like to travel to see a bit more of the world and learn more about other cultures. And of course get a good job. So I told him about my room mate in NZ who is from Beijing who has worked hard and continues to work hard improving his English by practicing both with his Chinese and English friends and prioritizing learning new words everyday. One of his self 'mottos'/ challenges is "how bad do you want it" (from some American inspirational speaker). Another comment that that speaker makes is when you want success as bad as you want to breath, then nothing will hold you back. So I encouraged him to really consider why he wants to learn and to work hard at it. I then told him that my position is that there is definitely one thing that you should always want more than to improve



your English and that is to spend time with God. However important English (or success) is, a relationship with God is more important. He seemed to receive that well. At the end of the meal, when the table was full of dumplings and everyone had given up trying to finish 'the last few' Colin's aunt and grandpa came out and chatted briefly before asking to be prayed for. We prayed for them (some in English some in Chinese) and then departed feeling that having dumplings for dinner was a very worth-while experience."

God encouraged me in so many ways and through His amazing Word before we went and during the time. There were many challenges not the least being starting the programme Monday morning after we had travelled about 18 hours the day before and moved from Winter in New Zealand to HOT Summer in China! BUT God armed me with strength and made my way safe. He made me as surefooted as a deer and led me safely along the mountain tops. Psalm 18: 32. Then being built up myself by Psalm 19: 7-8. The fact that God's law revives the soul, makes wise the simple, brings joy to the heart and gives insight to life. (NLT) And being able to share these words with others and see the encouragement and joy it brought to a lovely young woman who was struggling.

I want to encourage anyone whom God calls to take up the challenge



(above) Camp activities. For many students this was their first interaction with Westerners.

(right) We originally planned for 40 students at the high school camp. But God brought us 168!



of one of the CCSM teams. You will be stretched but you will grow and you will experience blessing from God that is hard to beat

- by Julie

## 2. SUMMER CAMP - HIGH SCHOOL

*Concurrent with the children's camp, 11 foreign teachers started their first day at a High School Camp on the city's preeminent campus.*

The numbers for this had been growing for some days and the programme was changing in response! The final rather stunning projection was "no more than 120". As we had originally planned for 40 some late purchasing of equipment and materials was hastily completed. Applause broke out as the foreign teachers walked into the auditorium. An auditorium bulging with 168 expectant students!

The team responded with great presence and flexibility – or as one China expert said "fluidity... as even flexible things break." The Parable of the Lost Son was discussed. The Narnia film "Voyage of the Dawn Treader" provided great opportunity for students to consider the meaning of "Aslan's Country." And why Eustace seemed totally unable to rid himself of his dragon skin. A talented team member taught the students to play



(left) A high school student shows off his Marquetry creation.

the ukulele – They loved the words of Amazing Grace and we were to hear that often as the students practised their new skill. Our engineer oversaw experiments and students amazed themselves as their eggs fell 5 floors and remained intact! Touch rugby was an unexpected hit – played in the midday sun at 40 plus degrees!! Marquetry was a prized elective with works of saleable quality being produced under Phil's expert eye. And maybe most popular of all – Lydia's cooking lessons – toasties and pikelets with jam and cream -delicious. And so it went on – teaching, games, conversation. Endless conversations.

And then the sad, tearful farewells. The staff asking why the camp wasn't longer. And the invitations to come back next year. Not only to that school but to the others who had heard the team was in town. Many will not forget that camp and we know there will be eternal consequences...

## 3. SUMMER CAMP - SHENZHEN

*John and his mother entered the hotel in Shenzhen to check in for the Camp. When he saw the 11 foreign leaders he panicked and ran back to the car.*



He stayed there for some time until his mum finally persuaded him to come back. For the first 24 hours he said not a word and no eye contact was made with the teachers. But a great change came over John as he found these strange foreigners treated him with respect and love. On the last day he hugged each of his new foreign friends and departed with tears in his eyes.

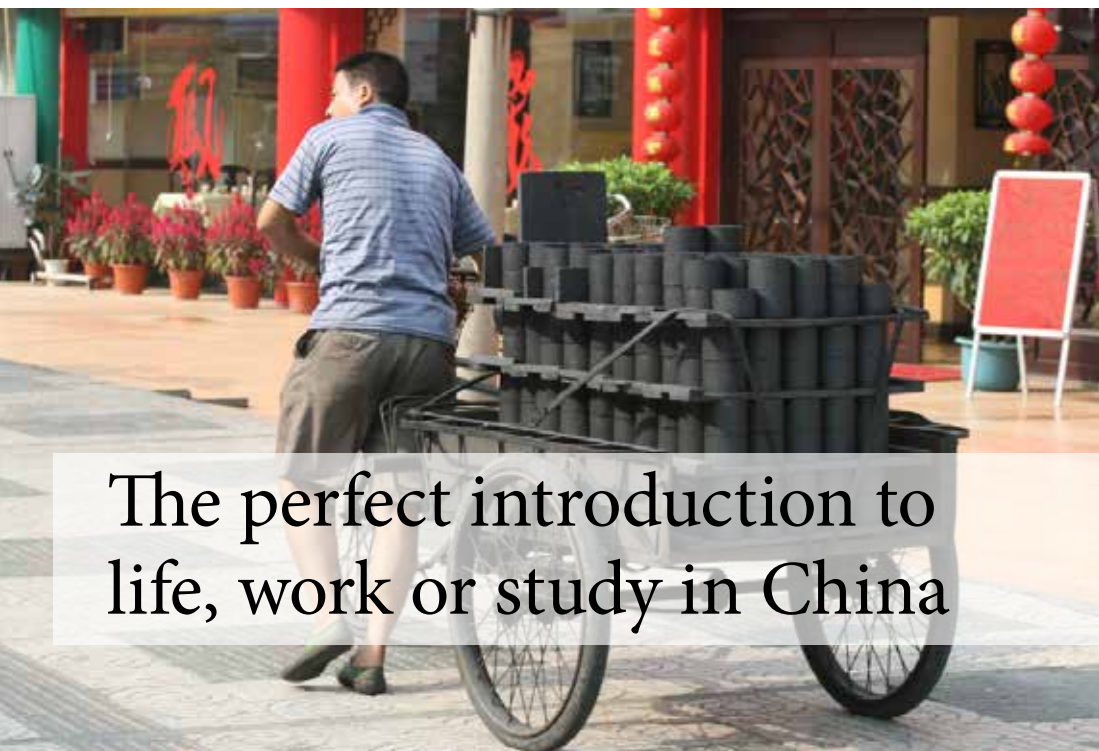
Our teachers made many new friends at the three camp venues. Earlier, the four leaders at the children's camp took their theme from the Bible: "Do unto others what you would have them do unto you." One parent had initially expressed concerns that the children would be taught "religion". So she sat in and watched for the first morning. Later, her fears allayed, (!) she invited all the teachers home for dinner and asked them to pray for the family business!

The organiser of this camp wrote: "Thank you so much for your help and love for us. We had a wonderful English summer camp for kids. They all like it and enjoy it very much. The kids hope next year they can attend the camp again. I deeply appreciate your help and love for kids and His Kingdom ! I am looking forward to seeing you again !"



# Learn Chinese in China

Chinese Studies Program - short courses



## The perfect introduction to life, work or study in China

### OPTIONS:

**1 Month** NZ\$1850 *-includes tuition, housing and 2-3 guided tours*

**2 Weeks** NZ\$1250 *-includes tuition, housing and 2 guided tours*

**1 Week** NZ\$870 *-includes tuition, housing and 1 guided tour*

### Like to know more?

Contact Murray Cameron at:  
Email: [newzealand@amccsm.org](mailto:newzealand@amccsm.org)  
Mob: 027 598 3149  
Ph: 09 924 6728

Ideal for students prior to starting at a course at a Chinese University. Begin your student life with confidence.

Great opportunity to share your life and faith.

Perfect for the business-person wanting to know more about the rapidly developing region which is Xi'an, while brushing up on their Chinese language skills and understanding of Chinese customs.

## CAN'T GO? - SEND ME! Sponsor a Team Member

### SEND SOMEONE YOU KNOW

joining a short-term team can change someone's life and can be a stepping stone to full term missions.

### SEND A PERSON ANONYMOUSLY

We have people ready and willing to go but lacking the means.

### OR CONTRIBUTE TO OUR FUND

Gifts given to the CCSM Reserve Fund will only be used to send Kiwis to the mission field in China.



CCSM TEAMS GET RESULTS

Not everyone is able to go... but we can all be part of the team.

## Be a sender.

How can they know if they do not hear?  
Who will tell them?

Millions of people in China are still waiting to hear the gospel.

Go to our website [www.ccsm-nz.org](http://www.ccsm-nz.org) to learn more about CCSM Short Term Teams.

Talk to CCSM about team member sponsorship. Most sponsors help short term members but also consider sponsoring a person into long term missionary training or help them transition to full time missions.  
Call into the CCSM office in Manukau or contact us at:  
Ph: 09 924 6728 Mob: 027 598 3149  
Email: [newzealand@amccsm.org](mailto:newzealand@amccsm.org)



# CHINA SHORT-TERM MISSION TRIPS

FRUITFUL, EFFECTIVE, FUN, LIFE-CHANGING – signing up now!



## Summary of Short Term Mission Teams for New Zealanders 2016

	DUR	TEAM	REQUIREMENTS	No. REQ	CLOSING DATES	APPROX COST**
APRIL	2 WEEKS	<b>Cycle Team Outreach</b>	Multicultural. English and Mandarin speakers. Adequate English. Physically fit for 7 - 8 days cycling 70 kms a day. All equipment supplied.	12	21st February 2016	Airfare plus RMB 6,100
APRIL	2 WEEKS	<b>English Cultural Exchange Team 1</b>	Multicultural. Fluent English speakers. Physically fit, mix of ages. Teaching experience great but NOT essential. 5 workers required to help in various welfare and mercy programs. Shaanxi Province.	20	12th February 2016	Airfare plus RMB 6,500
APRIL	2 WEEKS	<b>English Cultural Exchange Team 2</b>	Multicultural. Fluent English speakers. Physically fit, mix of ages. Teaching experience great but NOT essential. 5 workers required to help in various welfare and mercy programs. Gansu Province.	10	12th February 2016	Airfare plus RMB 7,000
APRIL	2 WEEKS	<b>Mercy Team</b>	Multicultural. Team members should have a heart for children and the disadvantaged. Preaching the gospel through your hands and your hearts.	12	19th February 2016	Airfare plus RMB 6,100
JUNE	10 DAYS	<b>Medical Team</b>	Multicultural. Mandarin helpful. Surgeons, doctors, nurses, dentists and other professionals. Non-medical helpers for reception, interpreting, administration etc.	many!	1st April 2016	Airfare plus RMB 3,000
JUNE	2 WEEKS	<b>Mercy Team</b>	Multicultural. Team members should have a heart for children and the disadvantaged. Preaching the gospel through your hands and your hearts.	12	13th May 2016	Airfare plus RMB 6,100
JULY	2 WEEKS	<b>Summer Camp High school and undergraduates.</b>	2 summer camps (one in the south, one in the north) - each 5 days duration. Academic qualifications and advantage and/or special skills for electives - sport, music, drama etc...	20	29th April 2016	Airfare plus RMB 5,500
JULY	10 DAYS	<b>Summer Camp Children</b>	5 day (not live in ) camp for 20+ children aged 10-12 years. English programme. Teachers ideal. Native English speakers with a native Mandarin speaker would be the ideal team.	4-5	29th April 2016	Airfare plus RMB 4,500
AUGUST	10 DAYS	<b>Medical Team</b>	Multicultural. Mandarin helpful. Surgeons, doctors, nurses, dentists, and other medical professionals. Non-medical helpers for reception, interpreting, administration etc.	many!	27th May 2016	Airfare plus RMB 3,000
SEPTEMBER	10 DAYS	<b>Trekking Outreach (proposed team)</b>	Multicultural. English & Mandarin speakers. Adequate English. Climbing mountain passes to 3000m. Physical fitness required. Most equipment supplied.	8	31st July 2016	Airfare plus RMB 6,100
OCTOBER	2 WEEKS	<b>Intercession Team</b>	Multicultural. Adequate English. Experienced intercessors or those who feel they would like to learn more of this gift. This team focuses on a north western region minority people.	10	28th August 2016	Airfare plus RMB 8,500
OCTOBER	2 WEEKS	<b>Cycle Team Outreach</b>	Multicultural. English and Mandarin speakers. Adequate English. Physically fit for 7 - 8 days cycling 70 kms a day. All equipment supplied.	12	28th August 2016	Airfare plus RMB 6,100
OCTOBER	2 WEEKS	<b>Mercy Team</b>	Multicultural. Team members should have a heart for children and the disadvantaged. Preaching the gospel through your hands and your hearts.	12	4th September 2016	Airfare plus RMB 6,100
NOVEMBER	3 WEEKS	<b>English Cultural Exchange Team</b>	Multicultural. Must be fluent English speakers. Physically fit, mix of ages. Teaching experience great but NOT essential. South and North China.	20	18th September 2016	Airfare plus RMB 7,500

Notes: For exact dates of all teams contact The Director, CCSM New Zealand.

\*\*1 RMB = NZ \$0.24 (as at August 2015). CCSM New Zealand, 20 Amersham Way, PO Box 76653, Manukau, Auckland 2241. T: 09 924 6728 Facebook: CCSM-NZ E: newzealand@amccsm.org

**www.CCSM-NZ.ORG**







**CCSM**  
CHINESE CHURCH SUPPORT MINISTRIES  
中國教會支援使團

## RESPONSE FORM

### I WANT TO SUPPORT CHRISTIANS IN CHINA.

I enclose a cheque for: NZ\$20 ☐ NZ\$50 ☐ NZ\$100 ☐ NZ\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please send this form and your gift to:

CCSM New Zealand, PO Box 76653, Manukau City, Auckland 2241

Or

I will make an online payment to:

CCSM New Zealand, ASB Account no: 12 3136 0043732 00

Please consider setting up regular monthly payments so we can plan ahead and achieve so much more.

☐ I REQUIRE A RECEIPT

If you would like a receipt complete your details in the form below. CCSM is a registered charity (Charity No. CC44047). Receipts are issued but do not qualify for donation rebates as most of our funds are expended outside of New Zealand.

NAME:

PH:

ADDRESS:

My preferred language: ☐ English ☐ Trad. Chinese ☐ Simp. Chinese

My preferred delivery: ☐ Post ☐ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### FREE STUFF!

SEND ME: ☐ The Prayer Update - monthly

Vital information about China and Chinese believers to keep you informed.

☐ The CCSM New Zealand Magazine - twice a year.

Keep up to date with our NZ team dates, projects and news.

### SEND ME INFORMATION ON:

☐ CCSM BOOK LIST and ORDER FORM ☐ SPONSORING A CHILD

☐ MISSIONARY TRAINING FOR CHINA ☐ \_\_\_\_\_

(please specify)

☐ SHORT TERM TEAMS: (tick which teams you are interested in)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ENGLISH CULTURAL EXCHANGE | <input type="checkbox"/> MEDICAL           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> INTERCESSION              | <input type="checkbox"/> MERCY             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CYCLING                   | <input type="checkbox"/> LEADERS & PASTORS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SUMMER CAMPS              | <input type="checkbox"/> TREKKING          |

A Kiwi couple see God moving amongst student believers in China. (Names have been changed to maintain confidentiality)

## The Next Generation Steps up.

Soon after Wendy began the first steps in her Christian walk and began attending our weekly discipleship classes. As a very young believer we taught her how to share her faith and guided her in starting a small group at her University. Now as she goes to another Province to commence graduate studies, her desire is to start more small groups on her new Campus.

Paul and five classmates began visiting our house 3 years ago. They always seemed to be eating for hours and cooking in our kitchen! After 18 months, the first student committed



their life to Christ, and six months later two more, then a further two classmates. It was extremely touching watching Paul's personality change from negative to positive, and we were amazed to hear him praying one night, "Thank you God for giving me hope!"

In a few weeks Paul begins life as a new teacher in his hometown. But recently as we chatted after dinner, Fiona, another young believer we have discipled, was advising Paul on the things he should be doing to get established in his Christian life, in his new town.

It was so thrilling to hear the next generation giving the advice!

Still time to apply!

Departing November 2015

## Cultural Exchange Team

- Spend three weeks in China in a safe and supportive team environment.
- Get a first hand perspective of life in the world's most populous country.
- Spend time in two major cities – if you haven't been to China this will be an unbelievable experience.
- Get an insight into Chinese history and culture – see famous tourist sites.
- Meet thousands of Chinese students.
- Meet university teachers and professors.
- Learn what life is like in the pressure cooker Chinese education system.
- Hear about student's hopes and fears.
- Share your life and faith (they are hungry to hear your story!!)
- Take part in discipleship programmes, sport, music, drama, hosting Christmas parties.
- Make new friends for life
- And above all see Him doing amazing things with life changing consequences for many.

Like to know more?

**This team is filling fast so don't delay.**

Contact [newzealand@amccsm.org](mailto:newzealand@amccsm.org) urgently

Or apply now on line at: [www.CCSM-NZ.org/team-application](http://www.CCSM-NZ.org/team-application)



## ENGLISH CORNERS

What are they?

An English Corner is a meeting place for people wanting to improve their oral English skills. It may be a cafe, a park or another venue. Native English speakers volunteer to give informal tuition and valuable practice.

The “teachers” will be surrounded by eager students wanting to practise their English or find a language partner. Activities can focus on “Western culture” such as Easter, Christmas or other festivals and holidays. In

China, many schools have English Corners on Friday afternoons after lunch.

English corners offer the perfect opportunity for believers to share their faith.

CCSM is delighted to announce that a Christian based English Corner has been started in Onehunga, hosted by the Auckland Chinese Banner Church. If you would like to be involved contact Lin Song at: [joeben0524@hotmail.com](mailto:joeben0524@hotmail.com)





## ENGLISH CORNERS IN AN ENGLISH-SPEAKING COUNTRY

By Lin Song

The idea of having an 'English Corner' in Auckland, New Zealand, came from an English Cultural Exchange team experience, when I joined a CCSM team and visited English Corners in many different parts of a city in China. I received great support from Murray Cameron, CCSM's New Zealand Director, and my own church pastor. I think they both saw the huge opportunity for outreach through this very practical activity of teaching English in a city full of Chinese migrants.

After initially advertising on a local Chinese website and through word of mouth, we got off to a good start. Many working holidaymakers and English language students visited the Corner in the early days. Talking with a native English speaker is of course very helpful for their studies. We adopted many of the features we had seen at English Corners in China, such as using name cards and stickers. But we also added new things, such as playing a video or movie clip followed by discussion. The video discussion topics give the group leaders great opportunities to guide conversations to matters of faith. We once had a discussion topic about funerals, which worked particularly well.

A difficult point came after we had a break when most of the Kiwi group leaders were away in China on another short-term team. When we resumed the local English Corners, we had hardly anyone attending. I still remember the time when I was in the room with lots of leaders but only a few students and I asked the Lord: "Is it time to stop?" A little voice was also trying to persuade me: "You have done your part, the resources are not being utilised, so they should be directed elsewhere."

Alongside that little voice, however, I also heard something else the whole night: "Your labour will not be in vain." I went back home and read the whole passage: "Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain" (1 Corinthians 15:58).

I resisted the urge to talk to Murray and my pastor about ending the English Corner and instead shared that Bible verse with them.

Then something amazing happened. Using a popular Chinese social media tool, I started a WeChat group, thinking that it would make communication easier. One member took a great interest in this and started inviting her friends to join. They went on to invite their friends and it just grew from there. A former fellow English Cultural Exchange team member, who is burdened for the students but lives hours away from Auckland, joined the group and started interacting with the Chinese members. They loved her! Most of those who joined the WeChat group ended up in the English Corner that same week and they filled the room! As I write, we have 112 members in the WeChat group and we had another full house at the English Corner just last night.

I recently praised the Lord when we saw the English Corner members come to a special Sunday Service. They were invited to sing 'You Raise Me Up' and read the passage about love in 1 Corinthians as a poem. During that service they also heard a special message giving the whole story of Jesus! Soon they will be studying various Bible stories and learning to repeat them as a speech.



It's exciting to work with and for the Lord. Although I don't know what else is in store, I am certain "that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus" (Philippians 1:6).



Since our China School of Missions (CSM) first started in 2009, we have run six schools and seen 156 local Chinese students graduate.

# China's own Missionaries

Training inside China.

*The aim of the CSM schools is to prepare local believers for life and ministry on the mission field.*

After four months of classroom training, the students head out on internships for eight months in minority areas of China.

The students are all Bible-school trained prior to joining the CSM. In recent years, some of the local churches have been able to support the living expenses of the students they sent to CSM.

One student shared, "I thank God that there's a programme like this to train and equip us to go out to serve the Lord." Another said, "CSM gives good systematic



training in many aspects of missions. I am more certain and confident now to step out and do cross-cultural mission work." Three of our original graduates (a married couple and a lady) are currently serving our orphans' canteen in a minority area. There, more than 80 young people who lost family members during an earthquake are able to receive

hot meals, tuition, vocational training, health care, school and other essential supplies.

Another thirty graduates are also now serving on the mission field. One base worker and a short-term team had the opportunity to work with a CSM graduate and four interns (men and women in their early twenties) during her recent trip to a remote minority region. She was very encouraged to see the quality and good attitudes of them all.

**Plans are underway to start at least another two CSMs later this year. There is also a request for a third school, which we hope to confirm soon.**

Our prayer is that God will transform these ordinary students to be mighty warriors in the mission field to reach the world with the Gospel!

## Masters Graduate

Following the Master.

A young graduate friend of mine contacted me recently to say that he had applied to join the airforce. He had passed all the physical tests but they asked him to change his application form where he filled in the text box on religion. He had written: Christianity. They told him they couldn't accept him and that he should change it to write atheist. He told the board that was not possible and told them why. They actually listened to him but then said that unless he changed it they would have to reject him. He told them he was sorry but he couldn't deny Jesus. He was duly rejected.

He was angry and resentful that they had turned him down and asked me whether this would have happened in the West, while at the same time he was quite euphoric that he had been able to defend his faith. He told me that every day during the testing and training they had been required to listen to a lot of propaganda extolling the virtues of the Party. But there was no room for Jesus. -A CCSM teacher in China



# A CHINA CHALLENGE

– Words from our people

*Through the years, Christians from many different countries, churches, age groups and professions have participated in our short-term teams to China. Each one has returned changed by their experiences.*

Yes have been opened to the urgent needs of China and to what the Lord is doing in our world today. Hearts have been touched by the lives of those living in poverty. Many have been challenged by the huge numbers of people who have yet to hear the Gospel.

Our prayer is that each team member will not just be changed themselves, but will go on to share their experiences with others back home. To challenge them to go and be changed, and to play their part in fulfilling God's Kingdom purposes for China in whatever way He leads.

Today we invite each one of you to hear what those team members have to say and to consider your own response to their words and their 'China Challenge':



photo: English Cultural Exchange Team working with at-risk youth

“The first time I went to China was about 30 years ago. After that visit, I did not want to go back anymore. Through God's divine guidance, I went on a CCSM team a few years ago and my life was transformed. I saw God's purpose for the land of China and made myself available for His use.”

## If it doesn't challenge you it doesn't change you

“I thank God that He opened my eyes to see the harvest field. I feel the urgency to reach the unreached people groups. I saw the need for Kingdom mentality in order for churches to work together.”

“I was reluctant to come on this trip initially but I felt the urge to return again the moment the plane touched down at the airport in China. I did not like to serve among children but overcame the barrier when I was ministering to children from a minority group. I understood God's love for them.”

“God is preparing me for China. I do not know what is next but I will pray about preparation and the next step to take.”

“I thank God that I could use my vocational skill to train the co-workers there.”

“Never have I ever shared so much about the Lord in my whole life.”

“I feel sad that there are no churches in the villages that we went to and I could feel the lack of religious freedom there. I am praying about joining a mission training school.”

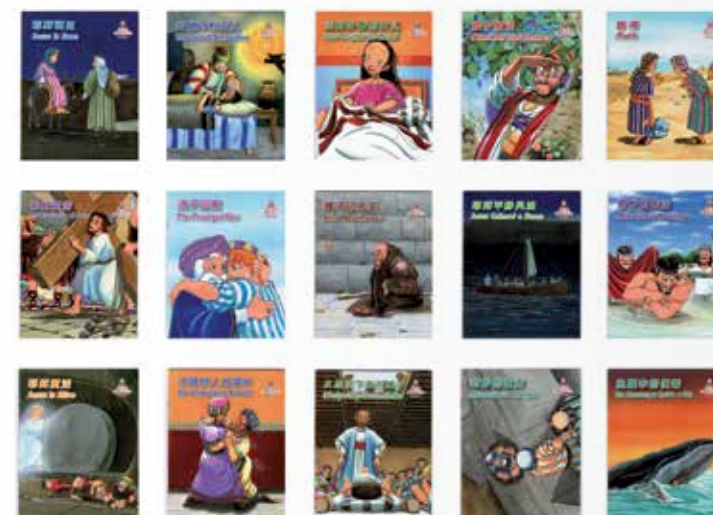
“Many people think that short term mission trips don't achieve much. This mission trip definitely proves that wrong!”

“The prayer warring together was exciting and extremely powerful!”

**“I never imagined the day would come when I would see tears in the eyes of Chinese students as I shared my testimony.”**



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Returning to China a third time, a seasoned CCSM team member reflects.  
- Peter's Story

# The Changing Face of Chinese Youth Culture

*I noticed a few differences in our host city which I did not detect last year. Maybe it was just the flavour of the month, but I doubt it.*

First there was this student who openly criticised the government in a ppt in front of the whole class while the New Zealand team was present. Unusual? Could it be a deep dissatisfaction about life in general? The students seem to search deep and wide for answers to life's questions, and they are hungry for real and honest answers.

Second I was surprised, maybe even a bit shocked about the open

discussions on homosexuality. Again, a student presented a very vivid ppt. In other classes they learned the art of debating. And again, the most popular subject was the above. I am still in contact with one student whose final paper will be about homosexuality! The student told me it is 'in' to be gay, that is different to the rest, that is something fresh, and that it represents 'pure' love... This topic seems to proliferate and become



acceptable in young people's minds. How tragic! It is a cleverly disguised lie!

Third, I realised that the time of opportunity will not last forever. One boy told me straight to my face, 'I don't want to talk about God, can we change the subject?' The majority, however, are still very interested and want to know what the solution to their craving for happiness and peace is. That is why I found the following song so fitting: "Because He lives I can face tomorrow, because He lives all fear is gone". Where, in the so called free western world, would you be allowed to sing

this song in a class full of university students? Many times it was a discussion starter, because tomorrow is



not looking too rosy for most.

We had lots of opportunity to share.

I'll just to mention a few. There was the young leaders training which I was involved in. Sharing and training in the inductive study method, using Psalm 23. It was amazing what the Lord was able to show us, even in one evening. Two of the attendees, who I'd met a year earlier and stayed in contact with via weChat became Christians during the year. It was a great joy to see them at this gathering, already getting equipped to share the Good News with others!!

Then of course there was the classroom work, the English corners and the Book Club

"I realised that the time of opportunity will not last forever."



that always provide great platforms. One English corner stands out for me. A student who attended another corner, asked me if we would come to her university's English corner too. After a few background checks, we agreed to attend. As it was not on the original programme, it was fitted in on top of a full days 'work'. Most of us felt a bit worn out, so our leader decided to give us the choice to go or have an early night. As we had promised to be there, some of us decided we must go – me included.

We were standing outside next to a fountain and it started off really slow. There were introductions and the usual food questions. But then, I can't remember how, someone asked questions about God and how to have peace. I was able to share right from Creation in Genesis. As this was happening, the handful of people suddenly seemed to multiply. People were

stopping and started to listen. A small crowd had formed. I was taken back to NT times... Also I noticed an eccentric guy with a bike helmet on his head circling the group, with what looked like earphones in his ears. It went through my mind: This is a policeman...What am I doing here? An anxious moment!! But God's presence was so tangible, so close. Every ounce of tiredness had left and was replaced with a great gratitude and thankfulness as to what God can do! To Him be the glory!

**So he said to his disciples, "The harvest is large, but there are few workers to gather it in". Matthew 9:37**



## Great China Missionaries

- series by Aucklander Peter Booker.

### Gladys Aylward a remarkable woman



"I wasn't God's first choice for what I've done for China. There was somebody else. I don't know who it was --- God's first choice. It must have been a man --- a wonderful man, a well-educated man. I don't know what happened. Perhaps he died. Perhaps he wasn't willing. And God looked down and saw Gladys Aylward."

Born in 1902, Gladys worked as a domestic worker in England, while saving for her dream of going to China as a missionary. In 1932 Gladys took trains across Europe and Siberia to China. Her destination was Yangcheng in Shanxi Province, where she helped an older missionary woman called Jeannie Lawson. To reach the Chinese people, Jeannie Lawson came up with the idea of opening an inn, providing a bed and food for the muleteers (mule drivers). Yangcheng was in a mountainous region and mule trains were the main method of transporting goods between towns. The inn was called The Inn of the Eight Happinesses. Gladys learnt Chinese so that she could read passages from the Bible to the muleteers as they were eating.

Gladys was chosen by the local Mandarin (governor) to be a "foot inspector". At that time the feet of many girls were tightly bound soon after they were born, causing deformity and difficulty in walking. The Central Government made a new law against foot binding. Gladys had the difficult and dangerous job of travelling to neighbouring villages to enforce the new law. Her care for Chinese girls and women soon showed, and she became welcome visitor in the villages.

In her second year at Yangcheng Gladys was summoned for help, because a violent riot had broken out in the town prison. Having to demonstrate her total faith in God's protection, she entered the prison alone. With God's help, the prisoners miraculously stopped killing each other. The prisoners gave her the Chinese name 艾偉德 Ài Wěi Dé, which means 'Virtuous One', by which she was known for the rest of her years in China.

When the Japanese invaded China in World War 2, Gladys gave vital first aid to Chinese civilians who had been wounded by bombing or other warfare. Most remarkably, Gladys led a group of almost 100 Chinese orphan children over the mountains to safety, even though she was wounded and the Japanese had put a price of \$100 on her head for her capture.

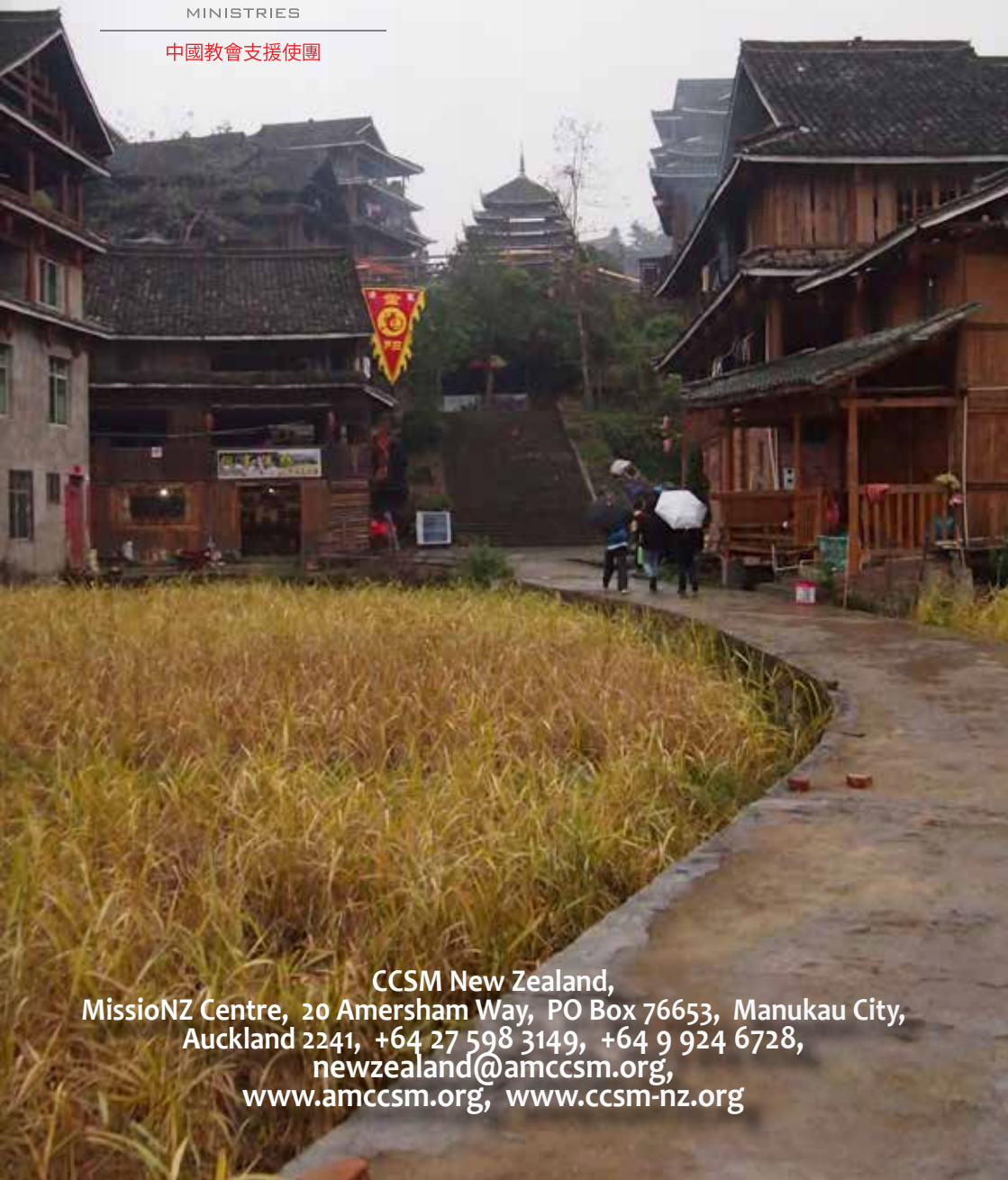




# CCSM

CHINESE CHURCH SUPPORT  
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