

The Bristol China Partnership Newsletter Happy New Year 2012

Welcome Ni Hao!

From Dianne Francombe, Vice Chair

There are many exciting initiatives which are linking Bristol and China ever more closely and some of them are mentioned in this newsletter. The Bristol China Partnership is forging ever stronger links with other organisations and businesses across the City and the region to make 2012 The Year of the Dragon truly remarkable. Check out our website for more information about events and activities and join us in welcoming The Dragon to Bristol!

Releasing the Dragon

BCP supported the Institute of Directors and the China Britain Business Council to raise awareness of the opportunities of trading between China and Bristol and the South West of England. The conference held at the HSBC headquarters in Bristol on 28th September 2011 was a sell out.

Guest speakers from UKTI, China-Britain Business Council, Institute of Export, Bristol China Partnership and the University of the West of England addressed Directors about ways to expand into China and what is required to develop products and services in order to succeed in the world's fastest growing economy.

Richard Lowe representing the Institute of Directors who were the lead organiser said "Over the coming months we look forward to an exciting programme of events that will reinforce our mission to Guangzhou to educate and guide the business community in the South West."

Welcoming the Dragon

A date for your diary! Join us on **29 February 2012** for an evening of fine Chinese food and entertainment to celebrate the Chinese New Year in the company of The Rt. Hon The Lord Mayor, Cllr Geoffrey Gollop. Our Gala events are renowned and supported by a range of businesses across Bristol and the South West. Attending this event will give you an opportunity to meet people who have an interest in China and its culture and to learn from those already trading with China.

Please email bcpenquiries@ymail.com to register your interest in this event.



Bristol China Partnership
布里斯托-中國夥伴協會



Guangzhou and Bristol School Twinning

By Eric Dolling

BCP is delighted to have facilitated a school sister city link between the Primary sections of Clifton High School and Dongfeng Donglu School in the Yuexiu District of Guangzhou. BCP Executive Member, Penny Lee liaised with the two schools to create this partnership.

A delegation of six from Guangzhou, including the head of Dongfeng Donglu Primary and senior officers from the Yuexiu District Education Department, were welcomed by the Deputy Lord Mayor of Bristol, Cllr Colin Smith.

For the full story, see the news section of our website: <http://www.bristol-china-partnership.com/news/twinning-between-two-primary-schools.aspx>

Students from No 6 School in Guangzhou visited Bristol in the summer of 2010 and enjoyed their visit so much the school now intends to form a link with a school in Bristol. We look forward to welcoming 5 teachers from No 6 School to Bristol in February 2012 to progress discussions with Fairfield School.



Our Correspondent in Guangzhou

By David Leadbetter

While Bristol had another patchy summer weather wise, Guangzhou sweated in summer heat as usual. Temperatures often soared to the high 30's and when matched with high humidity, it can make for an unpleasant time. In mid-September now, it is still sticky and humid. So how do the Cantonese survive?

Well firstly, there are air conditioners and fans. Most people, particularly westerners, sweat buckets in the Guangzhou summer. There is nothing more reviving than entering an air conditioned room after walking a long distance outside.



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Tony Richards and Chen Xiao sign the agreement



Pupils show off their dragon dance skills using BCP resources

Nearly all the shopping malls, restaurants and museums are air conditioned, though the same cannot be said of all schools. Most apartments have a fan or air conditioning. One can only imagine how big the carbon footprint of a 13,000,000 strong air conditioned city is!

Secondly, Cantonese people head for the swimming pools and water parks. Chimelong, which has a cluster of attractions in the south of Guangzhou, has a spectacular water park. It is full of thrilling rides, languid pools and splash fountains. The only drawback is everyone knows about the fabulous park too! That means that waiting in the long queues more than outweighs the fantastic waterslide rides during the high season. Still, wallowing in the wave pools is great respite.

Another way to counter the heat is to drink cool juices. Guangzhou is full of convenience stores selling cheap drinks. Some of the local favourites are cold ice teas. Like England there are a lot of different types of tea for example, green, red, lemon and barley teas. Of course the multinational soft drink companies are here too, as they are all over the world, but the Chinese companies selling energy drinks or fruit drinks are very popular too. Some of the native fruits like lychees, pomegranates and watermelon make great thirsty quenching juices.

Although Bristol had its fair share of rain over the summer, it was not as a result of typhoons. The vast Pacific Ocean is the breeding ground for these tempestuous storms. Usually, as the typhoons hit land, they lose their power and speed. Thankfully, Guangzhou is far enough in from the coast to usually avoid the worst of these storms but they still bring heavy rain. Sometimes, this means much needed, cooling rain for a couple of days at a time.

Britons often complain about their summers, as the fine weather they get never seems to stay long enough, but a short time in Guangzhou's oppressive summer heat might make them appreciate their lot just a little more. Guangzhou's cooler weather is only a month away but for now, Bristol's drizzle might be something to smile about.

Harbour Festival July 30th/31st

The Bristol China Partnership was present in the Twinning Zone where we were able to share snippets about China with visitors who participated in our quiz. The question was with which city in China is Bristol twinned? And the answer is Guangzhou. In the process a large number of Fortune Cookies were consumed and many visitors learned a lot more about their future from the contents of these!

The two lucky winners of our quiz who both received a voucher for a meal for 2 are Mrs Keanes from Yate and Mr Walter of Chalfont St. Peter, Bucks.

Special thanks to the following restaurants for their donation of these prizes:

Zen 11 Explore Lane, Harbourside, Bristol
Dynasty 16a St Thomas St, Bristol



Relaxing in the market



Bristol Talent Bristol Talent

Lady K

Introducing BCP member, Lady K: a half Chinese, half English, singer and songwriter from Bristol. Lady K's music has been played on BBC Bristol and placed no. 6 in the Ujima chart show. Lady K makes music in the studio at Knowle West Media Centre. Lady K has performed at numerous events and at various festivals over the last summer including Bristol Harbourside and Shambala Festival.

You can listen to her music at ladykmusic.co.uk
like and updates - www.facebook.com/TheRealladyK
Follow on Twitter @OfficialLadyK

See her perform at the **Year of the Dragon celebrations at the Bristol Museum and Art gallery and the M Shed - 28/29 January, 2012**

Quick News...Quick News.. Quick News...Quick News...

Opening of Bristol's new museum, the M-Shed

BCP was pleased to be able to contribute to the opening of the M Shed on June 18th and 19th. Introductory videos of Guangzhou were shown on a continuous loop throughout the two days on the top floor of the building where there are also displays reflecting Bristol's links with China.

3 –Day University Conference

Bristol Inter-University China Centre organised and hosted an excellent series of presentations from August 24th - 26th providing excellent insights into China past and present

Chinese delegation visits Bristol's Vet School

A delegation from the China Animal Disease Control Centre visited the University of Bristol's School of Veterinary Sciences on 6 December. The visitors were in Bristol to learn about the Vet School's teaching and research activities, to share information about disease control in farm animals and to discuss potential areas of emerging disease problems. Dr Becky Whay, Head of the Animal Welfare and Behaviour research group in the School of Veterinary Sciences, said: "Agriculture in China is growing at a phenomenally fast rate and this was a great opportunity for us to share knowledge and experiences about farm animal welfare, control of infectious disease and public health."



Lady K's QR code

M shed



Events Events

China Skills Recruitment and Networking Event - 21st March 2012

The Chopsticks Club are organising an even bigger Chin Skills Recruitment and Networking event for 2012. It will be held in London on **Wednesday 21st March 2012**.

This is a unique opportunity to:

- meet high calibre graduates and experienced professionals with China skills
- hand pick recruits
- advertise your products and services
- network with other exhibitors

For more information and to download the brochure visit:

www.bristol-china-partnership.com



2012 The Year of the Dragon 2012 Saturday 28th, Sunday 29th January and Sunday 5th February.

Join us for Chinese New Year to celebrate the year of the dragon! Bristol Museum and Art Gallery and the new M Shed are running their biggest celebrations yet for Chinese New Year in 2012. The celebrations kick off with a lion dance and include music, dance, children's activities, talks, the Bristol Empire Dragons dragon boat team and much more! There will also be stalls, displays and films. For more information visit the BCP website in the New Year at www.bristol-china-partnership.com





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About Bristol China Partnership

To find out more about us and our work or to become a member visit www.bristol-china-partnership.com

If you are interested in business, culture or education links with Guangzhou or China in general, please contact us on: bcpmembership@ymail.com

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