



December Issue 2018



Fun Day Out for Our Special kids

The Fun Day Out for Our Special Kids was held on the 6th October at the North Shore Events Centre. This free event provided food and fun games for the children to enjoy in a safe and loving environment. It was also a day for the parents and caregivers to relax and an opportunity for them to learn about special needs resources and support available in the community.

The event was co-organised by the Kaipatiki Communities Facilities Trust, Auckland City Council Kaipatiki Local Board and Interfaith Friendship Group. Various faith groups and ethnic groups came together and shared the responsibility to run the event. Forty-five NZ Tzu Chi volunteers participated in the event.

At the carnival, they raised the awareness of environmental protection through conducting interactive games, prepared vegetarian food and performed sign language song. About 1200 to 1300 people participated in the event.



Christchurch Year-End Distribution

Delta Community House in Christchurch has been routinely providing dinner for around sixty low-income people for seven years. On 23rd October, Tzu Chi NZ held its year-end distribution and served a vegetarian dinner at the premises.

During the event Tzu Chi volunteers shared the humble beginning of Tzu Chi Foundation in Taiwan and the thoughts of Master Cheng Yen, about the joy of giving is not a privilege of the rich.

Each gesture and act of kindness is invaluable and can bring good Karma that radiates around the world. Guests were moved and thankful, they supported the thought by donating to the bamboo coin bank.

The distribution commenced after the dinner, there are twenty items including food items and essential supplies such as shampoo and soap in the pack.



Jing Si Seminar on How the Police Operate

A seminar on “How the Police Operate” was held in Tzu Chi Jing Si Books and Café on 20th October. Kevin Deng, the Ethnic Peoples Community Relations Officer from the Counties Manukau Police District was the presenter of the seminar.

Mr Deng explained how the police work and that the police need the cooperation of the Asian community. He also talked about the safety of driving in New Zealand and explained the importance of keeping to the speed limit.

80 people from the Chinese community attended the seminar.



Visit of Junior Police Officers to Tzu Chi NZ

On the morning of 9th October, Kevin Deng, the Ethnic peoples Community Relations Officer brought sixteen new police officers to Tzu Chi. The visit was to help the junior police officers to better understand the Chinese community.

The visit started with a briefing on Tzu Chi Foundation's philosophy and activities in New Zealand and around the world; followed by a presentation on the Jing Si tea ceremony, and a vegetarian lunch.

The new police officers gained a new perspective about the Chinese community. During Q & A they asked about who received help from Tzu Chi and what kind of help was given.

They were moved and impressed by the works of Tzu Chi, some police officers filled the forms to become Tzu Chi volunteers right on the spot.

Jing Si Chinese Class Completion

December 8 is the last day of 2018 Jing Si Chinese class.

Over a hundred students attended the special day where they took part in various performances included piano, violin, dancing and sign language.

In this day, students served tea to their teacher to express gratitude. Students with special recognition were also awarded.





Scholarship Award Ceremony

The Tzu Chi Financial Assistance Scholarship was first established following the Christchurch earthquake in 2011 as part of the long-term aid.

On 23rd October, A group of Auckland Tzu Chi volunteers flew to Christchurch to join the Christchurch Tzu Chi volunteers in running the Scholarship Award Ceremonies.

Two ceremonies were carried out on the same day. Rowley School, Linwood College and St James School participated in the 2018 Scholarship Programme, a total of seventeen students were awarded the scholarships.



Tzu Chi NZ Visit Bucklands Beach Rest Home

On the morning of Saturday 27th October, Seventeen Tzu Chi volunteers went to Bucklands Beach Rest Home to visit the senior residents there.

Putting on light music, the facilitator created a relaxing atmosphere; volunteer guided everyone to introduce themselves and then guided everyone to perform some light physical exercises.

These activities quickly warmed up the group with fun and laughter. Eleven elderlies enjoyed the company of Tzu Chi volunteers.

Tzu Chi volunteer Sophie who has recently arrived in New Zealand speaks little English, but Love has no language barriers, she managed to connect with the elderlies using simple English and warm eye contact.



Year-End Gathering for the Elderlies

On 25th and 29th October, Tzu Chi NZ organised two year-end gatherings respectively for a total of 126 elderlies at the Jing Si abode. These elderlies were from Auckland Stroke club and Auckland Communicare. A number of them were wheelchair-bound, special transport arrangement had been made for them to attend the gathering.

These elderlies enjoyed themselves and the performances by Tzu Chi volunteers. For some, it was the first time they visited Tzu Chi Jing Si abode. Susan was very touched and had tears in her eyes when she commented that Jing Si abode is very special and beautiful, and said that she would love to come again.



Christmas Shoebox Programme

Christmas is around the corner, this is the third year Tzu Chi NZ joins the Operation Christmas Child programme. From October, Tzu Chi started to collect gift items from members, Chinese class students and parents.

On 10th November, Jing Si Chinese class students packed the shoeboxes with the gifts and wrote notes of encouragement and wrapped the boxes. Jing Si class teachers took the opportunity to teach the children about love, respect and the meaning behind the Christmas charity programme.



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