



China News!!!

January 2015

Christmas 2014!!!

As per usual it was a frenetic week with many parties to attend! I believe it has been decided by ICC that every second year we will have one big party for everyone in Changsha together and on the alternative year separate parties at all centres and group homes.



Yep that's me in the Santa suit at the end singing in Chinese no less!! This was at the VTC but we also had parties at Lighthouse, HQY, community outreach project and group homes all in 2 days. As per usual it was staff putting on a big effort performing songs, dancing and skits. A lot of the kids performed as well. On top of the running around we had different groups that wanted to come around to give the kids presents which just added to the business of the season.

Needless to say I was exhausted by the end of the week but no rest because we still had to work straight through the Christmas till we had a few days off for New Year one of which I was videoing a wedding! Result! I got sick with a little bronchitis!

Christmas Day found me working as usual at the VTC which and I shared some Christmas spirit with the kids on the day. Actually a few students from one of the Universities came and did the same and stole my thunder somewhat! Hehe! That was fine though because it made the day that much more special for everyone.

Even though we were working I would not have been anywhere else because for me it was a salient reminder of what Christmas is all about!



FAQ!!!

Weather:

The last month has actually been very mild but we have just hit some cold weather now!!! Snow? Maybe?!

Home:

All good! I have had guests over a lengthy period of time but now have gone and I have the place to myself for a while which is nice,

Health:

Christmas week was frenetic as usual ended up exhausted and with a little bronchitis but over that now!!

Food:

We have a new cook for a month at the VTC and he is amazing!! Much less oil and does not overcook the vegetables. He is putting aside some of the food without Chili for me as per the other cook. I am really enjoying the lunches at the moment.

Language:

I have small steps and victories as I go along the difficult path of learning. Persevering and getting a little better all the time.

Coming Home!!!

Very soon I will be back in Australia and looking forward to seeing everyone. Some of the things that happening are as follows.

March 8th Sharing and Preaching at Pittwater Uniting at both services.

March 21st is an open house at Bobby and Katie Young's place at Elanora which is always a nice relaxing night of chatting with friends! Please feel free to come and cook a sausage on the BBQ and have a chat but let Bob or Katie know that you are coming.

March 18th I will be speaking to a young Adult group at the Beverly Hills Chinese Baptist Church.

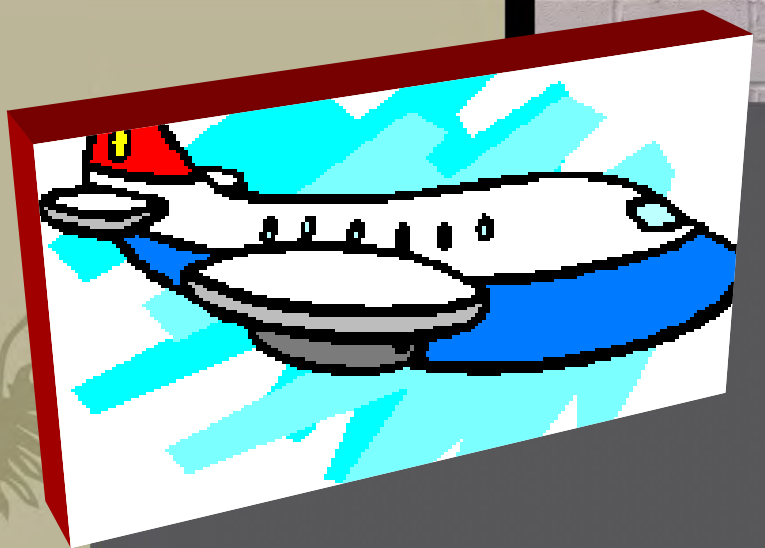
Official ICC Function: it looks like we will be holding a function for anyone to attend but do not have the full details yet but will keep you posted. Have had a few people who have been on Short Term Teams and they are very keen to have one.

Finally if you would like to catch up and have a chat please let me know as soon as possible so I can put you in the schedule! Look forward to seeing you!

Happenings at The VTC!!!!

Packaging Part 2!!!

We if you thought this saga which I started in the previous edition had a quick end you would be totally wrong! Having done everything wrong the first time we sent him off with detailed instructions and a request for a sample. A couple of days we get a call from him requesting a different format than we had given him so back I go to Canada asking them for the new format which delayed things by yet another few days. It arrives and we ask the printer to come and get it! Yep no worries will be there this afternoon! Surprise surprise 2 days later he turns up! We give him new format and go through instructions yet again. (Continued next page,)



Packaging Part 2 Continued!!!

This was a Tuesday and we asked when we would get the job. "Oh next week sometime!!!" Love it! So off he goes and yet 2 days a

Later another call! "What size do you want each packaging cut to?" Huh? Why is he asking when he just finished the same job only a short while ago? Tom just shrugs so we go through the effort of measuring things up again and sending the detail then we wait and wait. 3 weeks have gone since we have given him new format and then yet another call, "Ah going to be at least another week as I have no electricity!" Yikes what did he do forget to pay his bill!! I just looked at Tom and simply laughed because of the ridiculous nature of the whole thing. I get Tom to chase him yet again around a week later as we have not heard and he informs us he will bring it in that afternoon being a Thursday. As if I would believe anything he says at this stage and needless to say the afternoon comes and goes and no printer!! I get Tom to ring yet again "Tomorrow by 11!" Even Tom has given up believing him at this stage. The morning goes no arrival. Two o'clock yet another phone call!! "Be there before you go home!" I just look at Tom and shake my head! Guess what no show!! I have given up the effort of being annoyed and just put up with it. Another call "I have been very busy but will come on Monday." I look at Tom and wonder how he has not lost it with this guy but he remains totally relaxed and just smiles likes it's all ok! One of the times when I wish my language was better so I could speak to the printer!! Alas I just smile and say I will believe him only when I see the job on my table. Monday comes and the day ticks by with once again no show. This time the printer rings us. "Will be tomorrow! Too busy today." By this stage it is just water off a ducks back and Tom and I look at each other and say "Whatever!! Grrr!!". Tuesday comes and the day passes and I head off at 4 with no sight of the printer but I sat nothing. To my surprise the job is on my table the next morning and Tom informs me he delivered it at 5 the previous day. Thankfully and gratefully it is all good. Believe it or not this whole exercise has taken way over 3 months to complete from the time we first spoke to the printer to getting finished job. Quite ridiculous, to say the least, for a very simple and basic printing job to be completed. To make it worse Tom informs me we had to pay for the second print job because he did not tell him to do it on card but I said what about the fact that the color was totally wrong as well. Another shrug! Oh boy you got to love it!!!





ZHOU YONG

Believe it or not Zhou Yong does not like her photo taken yet she has the most beautiful smile. She has physical disabilities which has her in a wheelchair from time to time when her legs give out. She was employed at a Supermarket for a while but she simply could not stand on her feet for long periods of time so had to leave.

Zhou Yong is a character to say the least and is a bundle of energy with a boisterous laugh that brightens every ones day. She is always having a go at me for one thing or another and is forever trying to steal my lunch.

At the moment she diligently every day is working on huge embroidery 3mts by 1.5mtrs and is doing a fantastic job. Incredible detail which I would have no idea how to do.

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Financial Support:

Tax-deductible:

Deposit funds direct to ICC account and notate that it is for me tax-deductible receipt will be sent to you. Please let me know if you do this.

ICC Account
Bank: Commonwealth
BSB: 064450
A/C: 10130089

Non Tax-deductible:

Deposits can be made direct to my account.

Bank: Westpac
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Thank You!

Thank you for your ongoing support. I am so grateful that you are partnering with me in the work that God is doing here in China. I count it a privilege to be the one here representing you. People are amazed when they learn that I am a volunteer supported through the generosity of others.



Serving Together!