



Ms Yang and Dr Zhang (long hair and glasses) with Specialist Nurses and, on the far right, Ms Marian McElhinney, Specialist Mental Health Chaplain, all from Hairmyres Hospital

We were delighted to welcome Ms Yang Yan, Vice Director of Nursing, Shengjing Hospital and Dr Zhang Lixin, Rehabilitation Doctor, Shenbei Centre, Shengjing Hospital to Scotland between October 26<sup>th</sup> and November 5<sup>th</sup>.

The main aim of the visit was to enable Ms Yang to see the different roles undertaken by nurses in the NHS and Hospice settings however we were also able to show Dr Zhang a variety of rehabilitation services.

Their itinerary took them to Hairmyres Hospital and Stratharron Hospice as well as a meeting with Christine Pollock from Napier's University.

Discussions with Scottish staff once again highlighted the difference between health services in the UK and China. Specialist Cardiac Nurses were explaining how they will take up to an hour for a full assessment of their patient's condition at the same time that Dr Zhang was saying that doctors in Shengjing Hospital will be expected to see between 60-80

patients per day!

I thought I'd lost Ms Yang and Dr Zhang as they gleefully disappeared into the Occupational Therapy store room! They had already taken countless photos of the OT kitchen, bedroom and bathroom but the storeroom that was something else.

We are now looking for feedback and to see how we take things forward.

One complaint from our visitors – no chips for breakfast!!!

On November 1<sup>st</sup> Dr Jane Chidwick travelled to Shengjing Hospital 30 years after her time there when, as Dr Jane Edrington, the SCCG sent her to teach Medical English. On this occasion Jane was going to carry out a fact finding visit, for the SCCG, regarding GP training.

Currently China doesn't have a primary health care system. Patients go directly to a hospital for any health concerns. The Chinese Government now wants to introduce a primary health system led by GP's. Shengjing Hospital has asked the SCCG for assistance with developing this service. In order for us to look at what kind of assistance we may be able to give we needed a fuller picture of the current situation and what is being looked for.

During her 10 day visit Jane met with a number of Hospital staff and visited the 3 main centres in the city – Shengjing Hospital, Hua Xiang Hospital and Shenbei Rehabilitation Centre. She was also able to see the new China Medical University Campus.

The next stage is to meet with staff from Edinburgh University to discuss possible GP training for Chinese medics.



Dr Jane Chidwick with Dr Wang Yumei, Head of Palliative Care, Shengjing Hospital

The story of  
**Marion Young**  
 missionary in Japanese - occupied China

*Letters from Manchuria* Neil T. Sinclair

In 1935 Marion Young arrived in China and for the next six years she wrote weekly letters home to her parents in Ireland. Her letters give a vivid picture of life in the market town of Faku and of the villages in Inner Mongolia which Marion visited as part of her mission work.

She described how memories of 'the Mournes with gorse blazing gold, the smoke lying over Milford ... cut out completely the spits and smells around me.' She wrote about two wee boys, 'they flee like two little fat bundles with feet stuck on the bottom', and about 'Christmas morning – wakened by running feet outside my window' – the morning the cook's daughter-in-law jumped down the well.

Ever present is the oppression of Japanese rule – 'They treat folk a bit more kindly before freeing them, to give the marks of beating or torture a chance to clear up – isn't it a bright thought?'

Marion's letters and photos were passed down to her daughter and son-in-law, Helen and Neil Sinclair. After making difficult decisions on which of the letters should be included in the book, Helen read out the selected passages, while Neil typed into the computer. They then chose the photographs that would best illustrate the story.

The Right Hon. Douglas Alexander writes in the foreword, 'what emerges is the deep respect and indeed fascination with which Marion and so many of her colleagues regarded their Chinese students and the culture and civilisation of which they were part.'

*Letters from Manchuria* **£25.00**

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Nicola Hanssen, General Manager of ROAR – Connections for Life (pictured right) has previously welcomed Amity staff to her Centre to meet the staff and volunteers who provide community based services for older people in Paisley. When Amity staff asked for someone to come to Nanjing to run training on how to develop a volunteer team we were delighted when Nicola said she was free to undertake the visit.



Nicola arrived in Shanghai on Sunday November 6<sup>th</sup> and was met by Ms Yang Yan, one of the Amity staff who visited Paisley in June 2015. Together they travelled by train from Shanghai to Nanjing. Despite only arriving in Nanjing on Sunday evening Nicola began 5 full days of training first thing on Monday morning!

How did it go? Well, here's what Chu Chaoyu, Director of the Amity Foundation Social Service Div – 'Nicola shared so much useful concept, knowledge and skills on volunteer

management. Our team was really very enjoyed the training programme. Everyone gives very positive feedback. And we will do some follow up work to improve our volunteer management, especially on productive aging, dementia friends, risk assessment, marketing for right persons and matching their volunteers' position, etc. It's really very appreciated that Nicola has been working together with us for the whole week. Thank you all!

What did Nicola say – 'I'm going to come back a dumpling! I love them all, fried, steamed, boiled!!'

**Dates for your diaries:**  
March Plenary/AGM:  
Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2017  
at 10.00am for 10.30am.

Autumn Plenary: Tuesday  
12<sup>th</sup> September at  
10.00am for 10.30am.

**NEW WEBSITE to be  
live mid December  
2016. Look out for it!**

For further information about the SCCG work, Newsletter, how to get involved please contact Patricia Johnston on 01259 725521 or at [patriciajohnston185@gmail.com](mailto:patriciajohnston185@gmail.com)