

Robin Bacchus in retirement

Since retiring as Programme Director of the Diploma in Rudolf Steiner Education at Taruna College at the end of 2009, I have made 15 trips to Taiwan, China and USA running or participating in Steiner Teacher Preparation Courses and Workshops for both Lower and High School as well as mentoring teachers.

In China in particular, many people are seeking an alternative to the harsh and rigorous state education system and are flocking to Waldorf education and starting kindergartens [now over 200] and schools [about 10 new schools per year since 2010] often without sufficient preparation. They are a people of strong will! So much of the work in China is of a “catch-up” nature rather setting solid foundations before embarking on a venture. The China Waldorf Forum consists of regional representatives and tries to keep track of all these developments; however it is not in a position to regulate what is happening other than by raising consciousness. The Forum strongly encourages these schools to be in close touch with educational authorities and seek official registration – so far two schools have achieved this, the first one in Chengdu taking seven years to do so.

New and prospective teachers (usually parents) attend three-week preparation courses two or three times per year in the school holidays. These run in the main centres of Chengdu, Guangzhou, Xi’an and Beijing, but also elsewhere and have 80 to 120 participants each. The tutors are mainly experienced Waldorf teachers from Europe, America and Australasia who are willing to help. Courses are usually delivered in English and translated into Chinese sentence by sentence.◆



Pacifica Journal
A bi-annual newsletter published by the Anthroposophical Society in Hawaii

Support Pacifica Journal, the publication about what is happening in the Asia-Pacific region.

- Waldorf education
- Biodynamic farming
- Anthroposophical medicine
- Spiritual science & technology
- Threefold social ideals
- The arts

Four email issues US\$15
Make checks payable to:
Anthroposophical Society

Anthroposophical Society in Hawaii
2514 Alakula Way, Honolulu, Hawaii 96822 USA
www.anthroposophyhawaii.org
pacificajournal@gmail.com