



## FROM BROADCASTING TO ACUPUNCTURE

**Forty** minutes' scenic drive downtown from Auckland, State Highway 16 will arrive at the historic township of Helensville. Right at that entrance, at a prime location, you will see May Yoo's Helensville Acupuncture & Herbal Clinic. The sign advertising the clinic was erected on 1 January this year. May did not invest in any other advertisement.

"On that first day I opened the clinic, while my family was erecting the sign, my first patient came for treatment," says May. The clientele has never stopped growing and neither has the Korean mother of two's increasing links into the local community.

"I have lived in Helensville for seven years but most of that time I have been busy helping my husband work at the market garden, raising my two girls and then undertaking the three-year diploma course in Chinese medicine and the four-year diploma course in acupuncture. Now, everywhere I go, people know me and my family and they appreciate the work I do," says May.

The recent graduate of the New Zealand School of Acupuncture and Traditional Chinese Medicine arrived in New Zealand from Korea nine years ago. The family bought a five-hectare farm in Helensville. The Korean university graduate with a Masters Degree in Mass Communication with 15 years' experience in broadcasting could not get a job here because of her poor English. "As I studied and improved my English, I wanted to do something to share my life and not just work to make money.

My husband encouraged me to pursue acupuncture. I am familiar with the use of acupuncture and herbal medicine. It is part of the traditional knowledge passed on to me through my mother," says May. "Those qualified in acupuncture are highly regarded in Korea. Only the top high school students get accepted. In New Zealand, we are known as practitioners, but in Korea, the formal title of an acupuncturist is "Doctor" - the same as western-trained doctors."

Using English as a second language to study was a steep challenge to May. "It was tough but the teachers were wonderful and very encouraging. My husband took over looking after our two girls. I used to record all my lectures and listen to them on the 40-minute drive to and from school," she says, adding that graduating and working at her own clinic has made it all worth while.

May and her family have increased the network of people they know in this retirement community. "Seventy per cent of the community is aged between 60 and 90 years of age. I love using my skills in acupuncture and herbal medicine to help them get well and lead healthy lives. I am so happy to have done the course and it has been a turning point in my life," she says. ■



# The Upcoming Courses



## Ba Duan Jin qigong

**Duration:** Monday weekly classes  
**Dates:** July 11, 18 & 25  
August 1, 8 & 15  
**Time:** 6:30pm - 7:30pm  
**Tutor:** Peter Caughey  
**Phone:** 09 630 1908  
027 652 1091  
**Email:** reception@forestrock.com  
**Website:** www.forestrock.com



## Su Jok Therapy

**Duration:** Two days  
**Dates:** July 30 & 31  
**Time:** 9:30am - 4:30pm  
**Tutor:** Dr Vesna Zdravkovic  
**Phone:** 09 838 3335  
021 264 9212  
**Email:** vesna@GoHealthy.co.nz  
**Website:** www.GoHealthy.co.nz



## A weekend with New Zealand College of Massage

### Massage stage one (intro to massage)

A fantastic way to discover massage, give and receive massage all weekend under the supervision of experienced teachers – great value for money! Walk away with skills to use immediately with your family and friends – they will love it! This tried and tested course has been thoroughly enjoyed by thousands of people. Covers all the basic strokes and sequences for massaging your friends and family from head to toe. Also includes principles and safety factors. A wonderful practical base, which can be built on with further learning.

**Auckland:** 16-17 July,  
13-14 August  
10-11 September  
**Address:** Building C  
382 - 386 Manukau Rd  
Epsom, Auckland  
**Phone:** 09 5225522  
**Email:** info@massagecollege.co.nz

**Wellington:** 16-17 July  
3-4 September  
26-27 November  
**Address:** Level 10  
Willbank House  
57 Willis Street, CBD  
**Phone:** 04 3858400

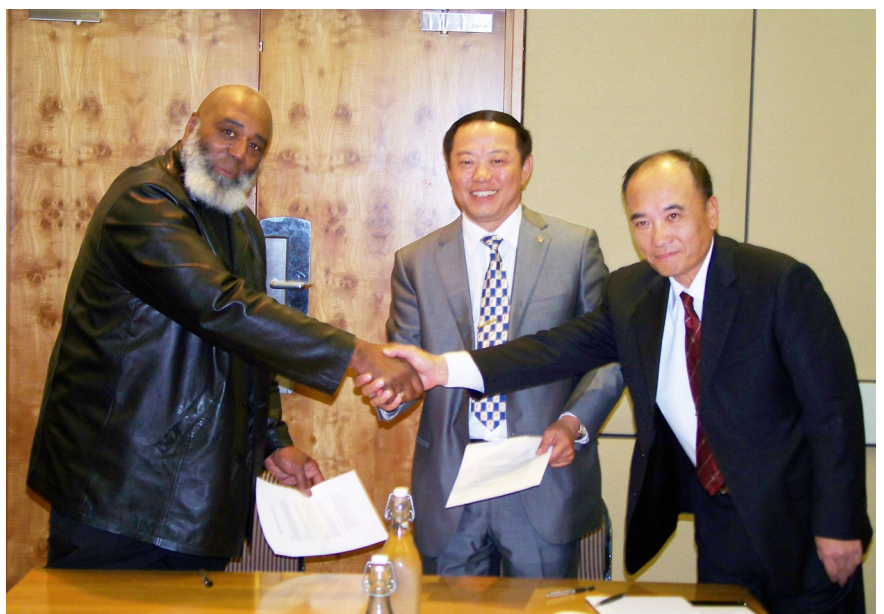
**Course fee: \$140 - Booking essential**

## The China Connection

A huge day of historic significance for the growth of traditional Chinese medicine – that is how the President of New Zealand Register of Acupuncturists, Ms Paddy McBride, described the meeting between New Zealand's Associate Minister of Health, Jonathan Coleman, and Dr Wang Guoqiang, the Vice Minister of Health and Commissioner of China's State Administration of Traditional Chinese Medicine (SATCM).

The successful ministerial level meeting of 14 June 2011 set the tone for the meeting between officials of the New Zealand Ministry of Health, the Chinese delegation from SATCM and New Zealand organisations representing TCM practitioners and education providers.

In the afternoon, New Zealand School of Acupuncture and Traditional Chinese Medicine signed a memorandum of understanding with New Zealand Federation of Chinese Medical Science Inc. The scope of cooperation includes



the exchange of scholarly publications, collaborative research, sponsorship of seminars and conferences, and continuing education programmes for the Federation members.

The event, held at Wellington's Intercontinental Hotel, was witnessed by the President of the Beijing-based World Federation of Chinese Medicine Societies, Professor Li Zhenji. Also present was the Education Attaché of the Chinese Embassy, Mr Zhengshun Qiao. ■