

## Sunday 10

**Electric Bicycle World Tour: Farewell Party** Yugong Yishan, 3-2 Zhangzizhong Lu, Dongcheng district (6404 2711). 8pm. Free. 东城区张自忠路3-2号. A night of music to see Guim off on his eco world tour. See preview, page 55.

## Monday 11-Tuesday 12

**INSPIRED: 'Group Coaching: What's Next In Your Life'** Grand Hills compound, 8 Heiping Lu, Chaoyang district (5129 6024). Every Wednesday starting Wednesday 13, 9am-midday 1,500RMB 朝阳区和平路8号大湖山庄. Learn to use well-proven coaching tools to create your own personal objectives and design your own 90-day action plan.

## Tuesday 12

**FREE A Commemoration for the Sichuan Earthquake Victims** *The Bookworm*, see Events, Every week for contact details. 7-10pm. Join *The Bookworm* for a short commemoration of the devastating earthquake on this day in 2008. The event is followed by Green Drinks.

**Headhunter Social Networking Evening** Flame Bar, Hilton Beijing Wangfujing Hotel, 8 Wangfujing Dongjie, Dongcheng district (5812 8888). 东城区王府井东大街8号希尔顿王府井酒店. 7.30pm. 80RMB; 50RMB (pre-registered by Monday 13). To register and for more information email [event@feclub.com](mailto:event@feclub.com) or call 139 1109 8002. Are you looking to develop your career? Here's your chance to meet professionals and make new friends.

## Wednesday 13

**INN Big Brekkie: 'Get Healthy With Strawberries'** Schindler's Anlegestelle, 10 Sanlitun Beixiaoqie, Chaoyang district (6463 1108). RSVP to [beijingbigbrekkie@yahoo.com](mailto:beijingbigbrekkie@yahoo.com). 10am-midday. 80RMB. 朝阳区三里屯北小街10号. Socialise with friends and fellow newcomers in a relaxed setting whilst tucking in to a tasty German breakfast buffet including, of course, strawberries.

## Thursday 14

**FREE Basically Beethoven** *The Bookworm*, see Events, Every week for contact details. 7.30pm. People get to share their talents in an acoustic, open mic setting. Expect anything from solo trumpeters to entire choirs, and feel free to bring your instrument of choice and get involved.

## Tuesday 19

**'The New Silk Road' with Ben Simpfordorfer** *The Bookworm*, see Events, Every week for contact details. 7.30pm. 30RMB; 20RMB (members). 'The New Silk Road' is a groundbreaking investigation into the rise of the Arab world and its strengthening relations with China.



The Expat Show, Fri 22-Sun 24

# Get involved

## Femmes du Ningxia



In stitches Sewing for a better tomorrow

When a Ningxia Province woman gets married, she embroiders a piece of bedding and brings it to her new home. The organisation Femmes du Ningxia (Women of Ningxia - FDN) wants her to get paid for it. By tapping into the traditional embroidery culture of the area, FDN believes they can create sustainable employment for village women who would otherwise depend upon their sheep and subsistence farming. 'This provides women with a professional activity that they can do from home,' says China coordinator Pierre-Yves Babin. 'And it begins with skills they already have.'

Joined by the Ningxia Women's Federation and the provincial government, FDN set up the embroidery cooperative *Bai Hua* (100 Flowers) and provides training in management, accounting, customer service and, yes, even stitch-work. 'It is a traditional skill, but some are better than others,' explains Babin. 'The more experienced workers are teaching everyone else.' There is also a stark difference between handicrafts for the home, and ones for sale in a mass market; the women will have to choose their textiles carefully, keep the cloth clean and standardise the designs. Those whose

talents lie in numbers, organisation or human resources can run other parts of the business. Although women sell (and are paid) individually, joining the co-op means they get more job training and visibility with potential customers. The group also defrays some transportation costs for its farther-flung members. Best of all, *Bai Hua* is planning for the future. 'Our goal is for members to manage and sustain their cooperative autonomously,' says Babin. 'They'll be running their own business.'

### How you can help

Founded in 2007, FDN is now seeking corporate sponsorship and/or wholesale clients. Volunteers with a background in fashion can help *Bai Hua* members create new designs, and FDN needs French-Chinese-English speakers for website and document editing and/or translation. The organisation also plans to host trunk shows this autumn, where representatives pack up their products and sell them at parties or small shops. For more information about hosting trunk shows, donating or volunteering, contact Pierre-Yves at [pierreyves@femmesduningxia.org](mailto:pierreyves@femmesduningxia.org) or visit [www.femmesduningxia.org](http://www.femmesduningxia.org).

Simpfordorfer offers a unique view of the world, and reveals links between events in cities such as Cairo, Riyadh and Beijing.

**FREE INN Neighbourhood Coffee Morning** *The Bookworm*, see Events, Every week for contact details. 10am-midday. Get to know people who live close by and share or pick few tips and tricks from those who have been around the neighbourhood a while.

## Friday 20

**Sichuan Earthquake One Year Anniversary: 'Stories From the Elderly Victims'** Cafe Zarah, 42 Gulou Dong Dajie, Dongcheng district (8403 9807). 7.30pm. To RSVP contact Sally Sitou at [ssitou@gmail.com](mailto:ssitou@gmail.com) or 134 6638 5936. 东城区鼓楼东大街42号. This is a fundraising event hosted by the Community Alliance that aims to provide counselling for the elderly in Sichuan. Donations gratefully received.

## Thursday 21

**Mastermind Your Way to Business Success** Regus Centre, Fifth Floor, China Life Tower, 16 Chaoyangmenwai Dajie, Chaoyang district (5877 1111). 6.30-9.30pm. 300RMB (including refreshments). Contact Sarah Cooper on 136 2113 2201 for more details. 朝阳区朝阳门外大街人寿大厦5层. Mastermind groups are small peer support teams used by successful

businessmen like Bill Gates and Richard Branson to boost their business success. Learn how to create your own group, take part in a trial meeting, and identify future group members in a facilitated matchmaking session.

**FREE INN Neighbourhood Coffee Morning** O'Brien's, 6 Riverville Square, Tianzhu, Shunyi district (6450 8588). 10am-midday. 顺义区天竺日祥广场6号.

## Friday 22-Sunday 24

**FREE Expat Show Beijing** China World Trade Centre, 1 Jianguomenwai Dajie, Chaoyang district (6505 2288). Visit [www.expatshowbeijing.com](http://www.expatshowbeijing.com) or email [info@weacn.com](mailto:info@weacn.com). 朝阳区建国门外大街1号国贸. The second edition of an annual event geared towards establishing face-to-face contact between companies and expatriate customers. There will be plenty of stalls, activities and goings on, including a bazaar, food stalls, interactive games for kids, a blood drive and more.

# Critics' choice

**1 Sichuan Earthquake One Year Anniversary Fundraiser** Ditan Park, Saturday 9 Fundraiser to help victims of last year's earthquake, including activities such as mahjong, fan dancing and Chinese calligraphy.

**2 The Expat Show** China World Trade Centre, Friday 22-Sunday 24 An opportunity to check out everything from Mandarin schools to dance classes, enjoy chocolate tastings, free massages, mags and more.

**3 Bob Dylan: A Celebration** *The Bookworm*, Saturday 23 Fans of Bob Dylan will love this themed evening that includes screenings, a first listen of his latest album and a quiz.

## Saturday 23-Sunday 24

**Flea Market Fundraiser** CIMG Art space, Dashanzi art district, 2 Juxiangjiao Lu, Chaoyang district. 10am. Contact Sophie Sun on 1380 121 2305 or [sophie\\_sun99@gmail.com](mailto:sophie_sun99@gmail.com). 朝阳区酒仙桥路大山子艺术区内. Donate clothing, toys, books, games or household appliances and kitchenware to Dandelion Migrant School, the first registered middle school in Beijing specifically built for children from low-income migrant families. Donations can be dropped at the CIMG Art space or with Mr. Jiang (139 0108 3529) at 21st floor, Silver Tower, 2 Dongsanhuan Bei Lu, Chaoyang district, from Friday 22-Sunday 24.

## Saturday 23

**FREE Croisements: Patchwork by the IT Crew and Beijing Penzi** *The Piazza at the Village at Sanlitun, Courtyard 19, Sanlitun Lu, Chaoyang district (6417 6110). 2-9pm. 朝阳区三里屯路19号三里屯VILLAGE南庭. Four ambassadors of French graffiti art, Francky-la-Guepe, Supakitch, Usine and Bobaxx, will hook up with Chinese counterparts to create a work-on-location. Their creations will come to life in front of live audiences.*

**Bob Dylan: A Celebration** *The Bookworm*, see Events, Every week for contact details. 7.30pm. Price tba. Join fellow Dylan fans for a celebration of his 68th birthday, with the launch of his latest studio album *Together Through Life*. Rare footage, previously unissued tracks, live music and a quiz will make for a fun evening.

**FREE Pecha Kucha Night** Venue tba, [www.pechakb.org](http://www.pechakb.org) for details. Ten speakers from various creative fields are given 20 slides and six minutes and forty seconds to talk about their work and projects.

## Tuesday 26

**Business and Finance Social Networking Evening** D-Bar, Renaissance Capital Beijing Hotel, 61 Dongsanhuan Lu, Chaoyang district (5863 8888). 7.30pm. 80RMB if you register by Monday 25; 130RMB after. 朝阳区东三环61号富力万丽酒店. A well-organised business and finance social networking evening. Ticket includes a free drink, food and entry to a prize draw. For more information, visit [www.feclub.com](http://www.feclub.com) or call 139 1109 8002.

## Thursday 28-Sunday 31

**International Montessori Conference Beijing** Laffite Chateau Hotel, Beijiia Town, Changping district (8975 8866). 昌平区北七家镇. Four-day conference for parents, teachers and anyone interested in promoting and developing Montessori education. To register, visit [www.montessoriconferencebeijing.com](http://www.montessoriconferencebeijing.com)

**Dylan's big day**  
Celebrate Bob Dylan's birthday on Sat 23 at *The Bookworm*. See Events for details.