

ACFSWA NEWSLETTER

Australia China Friendship Society – WA Branch (Inc)

澳中友好协会西澳分会



Spring 2011 Edition

Coming Events

4th – 13th November 10.30 am to 4pm each day-

Nostalgia in Blue Exhibition. A cultural year of China event.

Memorial Hall, cnr Rockingham Road & Carrington St,
Hamilton Hill. Admission- Free

Sunday 13th November October 6.00 pm

Welcome banquet for Shanghai CPAFFC

Xintiandi Restaurant- 40 Francis Street, Northbridge
Cost \$40.00 Bookings contact: Roz Hanley 9497 5471

Saturday 19th November

Gala Concert for Chinese Culture Ambassador Award

Perth Convention & Exhibition Centre
Bookings contact: Roz Hanley 9497 5471

15th to 25th March 2012

Paper cuts & Chinese art display. To be held in the Perth
Town Hall. A Cultural Year of China in Australia event.

Christmas Picnic Sunday 11th December 12 noon

Banks Reserve, Joel Terrace, Mt Lawley - This year, owing to works being undertaken at the usual Christmas Picnic location, it has been decided to use the Banks Reserve. (opposite No 81) in Joel Terrace. There is a playground, lots of shade & views across the Swan R. Parking is available along Joel Tce.

If coming via East Parade, you can access Joel Tce using either Summer or Westralia Streets. If travelling via Guildford Road, access via Ellesmere or Stanley Streets.

Contents

- 2 President's Report
- 3 Chinese Painting Exhibition
Nostalgia in Blue Exhibition
- 4 ACFS Stamp Collection
Chinese Study Programme on Radio
- 5 Swanning Around the Swan Valley
- 6 Shanghai CPAFFC Visit
Promoting Communications with
People
- 7 Gala Concert for Chinese Culture
National Day Dinner
- 8 Membership Form & Information

General Information

Web Sites

Western Australia – www.acfswa.org.au

National – www.acfs.com.au

Postal Address: PO Box 2433 CLARKSON WA 6030

Email Address: acfswa@gmail.com

Telephone: 0430 223 792

The membership year is Jan. 1 to Dec. 31

ACFSWA Newsletter

ACFSWA Newsletter is published four times a year for the Australia-China Friendship Society (WA) Inc. Opinions expressed in the newsletter do not always reflect those of the editor, or the policies of the Society.

Closing dates for copy are the 14th of January, April, July and October.

Editor: David Kininmonth

Australia-China Friendship Society WA Branch

President: Dr Neville Green

Vice-President: Dr Wally Frick

Secretary: David Kininmonth

Treasurer: Ms Roz Hanley

Committee: Kok Foo Chang

Mr David Clark

Mr Peter Hoe

Mr Lindsay White

Mr. William Chi

Mrs Fran Kininmonth

Mr Chance Zhang

Committee meets third Monday of each month at Australia-Asia House, 275 Stirling St. Perth

President's Report

Consolidating international friendship through common goals

Beijing International Forum on People to People Friendship

Our President Dr Neville Green and Secretary Ms Roz Hanley attended the Beijing International Forum on People –to-People Friendship, in Beijing between 5th & 9th September 2011.

Neville was wearing two hats at the forum, Senior Vice President Australia China Friendship Society Ltd, and President of the Western Australian branch of the Australia China Friendship Society. Here is an extract of the paper he presented:

“The Australia China Friendship Society (ACFS) emerged from the Australia China Society founded in 1951, only two years after the proclamation of the People's Republic of China. Today, every Australian State and its two territories, the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory, has a China Friendship Society. For many years the ACFS was the unofficial conduit between our two Nations. We commemorated China's National Day, co-sponsored visits and lectures by noted authors, planned China tours, promoted Mandarin language teaching, recruited qualified English language teachers for China and hosted People's Republic of China students enrolled at our universities.

In 1973 Australia and China exchanged Ambassadors and much has changed since then. Gone is the Bamboo Curtain and along with it much of the mystique and antiquated perceptions of old China. Government agencies compete to welcome important Chinese officials and wealthy business people. Chinese students, who comprise the majority of our overseas students, have their own support agencies. Most of our universities and many of our secondary schools offer Mandarin study programs. Tour agencies control the outbound tourist trade and teachers negotiate overseas contracts via the internet and we ask, what is the role of friendship societies such as ours and yours in this modern world?

We are here this week to discuss friendly co-operation and harmony and it is timely that we also review what we have in common? We represent home-based China 1 412 Friendship Societies and Associations. We set objectives that we are rarely able to share. We are travellers in time and space and if we don't know where we are going it may well be that we are moving in different directions.

Should we persist with goals and activities that were successful in the past and are now outdated, or is it time to re-assess our objectives and identify areas where our friendship role is meaningful, both in our home nations and in China?

Times have certainly changed and we, the China Friendship Associations must keep pace with that change. One response may be a five year plan advancing the themes of this Forum –“ true international friendship and world harmony.” Lao Tze is credited with saying, “ A traveller without a destination will never arrive.” It may well be that some in the friendship community have yet to decide upon a destination but by sharing our goals we assist all members.

During a visit to Australia in April of this year, His Excellency, Jia Qinglin, Chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, gave credit to the reciprocal benefits of Chinese and Australian trade agreements. A month later, Ambassador Chen Yonglong, Vice President of the Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs in Beijing, in a private meeting with the Western Australian ACFS committee, saw similar benefits in international friendship relationships.

Professor Hu An Gang, of the Tsinghua University, writing for the *Beijing Review* of September 16 2010, outlined the seven steps in formulating China's twelfth Five Year Plan simplified here with our international friendship theme in mind as: reviewing the past, identifying the major



Deborah Rhode, Roz, Neville, Carol Keil, John Wong, Dave Bromwich at the forum.
Deborah and Dave are from NZ China Friendship Society Carol and John are from ACFS(ACT)

issues, presenting new guidelines, preparing a draft plan, further consultation and discussion and working towards the final draft. The seventh step is the endorsement of the plan at an international forum such as this. Is this a model worth adopting by our friendship community? Could we have a final draft plan ready for the next friendship forum?

With a well designed plan we could preserve our individuality, while drawing strength from common goals and continued friendship with China. The 17th century English writer, John Donne, reminds us that “no man is an island but part of a whole” and we, the island societies and associations represented at this forum, can together, form a powerful whole.

Chinese painting exhibition

Master YE Quan is a famous Chinese artist from China and has been awarded many distinguished titles for his paintings. As a famous chrysanthemum painter, he was awarded the title of “Contemporary King of Bloom”. Many museums and art galleries in China and some overseas countries have collections of his artworks.

Master Ye is the Honorary Advisor to the Perth based WA Oriental Culture and Arts Association.

His recent exhibition, held at the A-A Association Hall, Stirling Street, was received with great interest by the Perth community.



Roz Hanley with Consul General Madam Deng Fang at the exhibition.

Nostalgia in Blue

The City of Cockburn is holding an exhibition of Chinese textiles “Nostalgia in Blue”

from 4th to 13th November 2011 - 10am to 3pm daily.

Location: Memorial Hall, Hamilton Hill –

corner of Rockingham Road and Carrington Street, Hamilton Hill.



This textile exhibition is an acknowledgement of the City of Cockburn’s links with Sister City Yueyang (in Hunan Province) and to celebrate 2011-The Year of Chinese Culture in Australia. Long ago, the Chinese often used a kind of blue and white coloured hand-woven cloth in their daily lives. Although this cloth is simple in craftsmanship and dyed with pure natural pigments, it distinguishes itself visually with its sensational beauty and with its decorative pattern changes. The use of this fabric in the realm of fashion and accessories provides both an elegant and clear beauty that is pleasing to the eyes, and also serves as extremely characteristic example of ancient customs.

In some areas in China, especially in Yunnan Province, the Bai ethnic group has maintained the legend of the Bandhnu craft for generations. The usual Bandhnu method starts with drawing the outline of the design on the cloth, followed by needling the cloth together to create the “flower” pattern by a variety of folding, bundling, pinching, twisting, stitching, knotting, clipping etc., so that the cloth is tied in various shapes. The knotted cloth is then dyed by being soaked repeatedly in the pigment solution. Due to the different density of the ties, the fabric absorbs the pigment at different intensity levels. After the knots are untied, the cloth appears to have different shades, rich in colour layers, and the blue and white has been mutually infiltrated into the patterns. The fresh and elegant natural changes in the pattern’s texture creates a strong and un-replicable artistic effect, consequently each piece is a unique work of this art form.



ACFS Stamp Collection

The Societies Chinese Stamp collection has been stored in the South Australia for a number of years. The colourful & imaginative stamp collection is contained in twenty four “ornate presentation” panels (packages) covering a multitude of topics of cultural, economic, scientific, folklore, flora, ancient persons.



The collection is of historical importance to our two countries as the giving of the stamps to Australia, by the Peoples' Republic of China, is thought to have happened in the days of Prime Minister Gough Whitlam; Prime Minister of Australia 1972-1975. Mr Whitlam had frequently displayed an interest in China, even from his early days in politics in Australia. He was praised by Chairman Mao Zedong, during his visit to China in 1973, for “his foresight and wisdom in establishing formal relationships” at a time when many world powers were hesitating to establish diplomatic relationships with the country.

This actually was Gough Whitlam's second visit to The Peoples' Republic of China. The Prime Minister was the second world leader to visit China. President Nixon of the United States of America visited China in 1972

When the Committee learnt that the Western Australian Philatelic Society was holding a display and Auction at the University of Western Australia, it was decided to try and get the collection to WA, so that our members could view it.



Therese Moy viewing the stamps



The Bu Family from the Consulate view the collection

The Philatelic Society was so pleased with the display, that it awarded the branch a ‘Certificate of Appreciation (Award Certificate 2011 Court of Honour) ‘.

It also made an award to the Consulate as a gesture of appreciation to the Chinese Peoples Republic for presenting the collection. Mr Bu received the award on behalf of the Consulate

The collection will be on display again in March when our Society is putting together and hosting a display of Chinese Paper Cuts, as an event for The Year of Chinese Culture in Australia. These events will continue until June/July 2012..

Chinese Study Programme on Radio

Radio FM 104.9 which currently has some programmes for Chinese study on the radio, are planning to have a new series for students who are learning Chinese. It is planned that students can take their essays to the station to be read over the air- either by themselves, or a radio presenter. Students will also be able to select Chinese songs to be broadcast. There may be a small charge for the opportunity. For further information, contact the station on 0423 358 668.

Swanning Around the Valley...and Beyond.

by Fran Kininmonth

Whenever our friends come to visit us here in Perth from China, we are confronted with, "What can we show our visitors; they come from a country so ancient, alive with people, colour & activities?"

My reply was: "We too can show them a country that is also ancient. Maybe not alive with many people, but nevertheless, having colour and a variety of natural activities."

Our Aboriginal peoples have been living & surviving in this country for well over 40 000 years. But by comparison, European impressions on this country, unlike those of the Chinese on their landscapes, are very recent- only just over 250 years. Nevertheless, we are fortunate to have a little of this, combined, right here in the Swan Valley. And it was around the Swan Valley & into the hills around Mundaring that we decided to take our most recent visitors- a delegation of six officials from Zhejiang Province, who accompanied over 25 students of English from their schools; here to participate in an English Language competition. The students were hosted in the homes of students from the Western Australian Government & Private Schools, which were participating in the competition.

Sunday arrived with low, heavy, grey cloudy skies. Was it going to rain a lot and spoil the plans for the day? One couldn't be too belittling of the weather, as we badly needed a lot more rain, and so I just hoped and hoped things would fine up, at least for the afternoon. Our picnic basket on the kitchen bench, Thermoses filled and the "makings" for the afternoon tea were assembled then packed into the basket. Another look at the skyThank goodness! the sun shining at last, perhaps only a little warmly, with the grey clouds were disappearing. And so, happily, we met our visitors.

Driving through the riverside suburb of Guildford, our president, Dr Neville Green, (an historian when wearing one of his "other hats") gave a brief overview of the area's history. The old goal & Information Centre-once the Courthouse- and early relics of the area's history, including St Matthew's Church, sitting in its village green, were passed. The bus crossed over the Swan River and soon our first stop at Maalinup Aboriginal Gallery was reached. Here our visitors were treated to a brief history of the Nyoongar (indigenous) peoples of the south-west of WA, by Dale Tilbrook, the gallery's manager & also a Nyoongar elder. She explained about their many language groups; also how their weapons were made & used. All of this was capably translated by Ms Liang. (Lyla) Yonghong, the group's translator and the only person in the group to have previously visited Perth. Mr Ge Zhiyu, the leader of the delegation was very interested in the display of weapons, but he declined to try them out on the small group of (penned) emus they'd seen & photographed before entering the gallery.

After some time spent examining many of the gallery's souvenirs (NOT made in China) art works and native food products, all too soon it was time to move on to the next stop. This again was related to the culture of the Nyoongar people and a recent place of interest in the Swan Valley- Yagan Memorial Park. This park overlooks the river, close to where Yagan is said to have been killed in the early days of the Swan River Colony- near the junction of West Swan Rd and Grt Northern Hwy. It now contains the returned Kaat (head) of the warrior Yagan, so now his spirit, according to Nyoongar culture, can rest peacefully in his lands. The site contains walls of rammed earth; ceramic panels are embedded in the walls, illustrating on one side the story of Yagan & his unfortunate killing, with birds & other symbols which are totems of significant aborigines of that time, displayed on the other side. The surrounding area is planted with native plants which are related to this area & some had a variety of uses in those earlier times.



At Yagan Memorial Park



Ms Liang. (Lyla) Yonghong and Wallabies

The longish drive out to Mundaring Weir, through the outer hills' suburb of Mundaring, finished at the picnic area, overlooking waters of the man-made- Lake C.Y. O'Connor, held back by the weir's wall. We all had a most enjoyable, hilarious and relaxing time at the park. A couple of wallabies were close by, having afternoon nibbles of the damp, green grass. Cameras were soon busily clicking away; Ms Liang Yonghong and a couple of her companions, were carefully photographed with the wallabies, obligingly positioned in the background.

As the afternoon tea was unpacked & served to our friends & the accompanying committee members, a few magpies & a large flight of the green ring-necked parrots joined in the occasion. Soon crumbled biscuits were being sprinkled over a nearby table, with the birds squawking and squabbling about their own afternoon tea. Mr Zhang Xin and most of his colleagues, quickly discovered to their enjoyment, that the birds could be fed from their hands & were friendly enough to perch on heads and shoulders, given some encouragement with the food, and by quietly standing still. An afternoon and an unexpected event to enjoy, when recalling this afternoon's outing in the Perth hills.



Mr Ge Zhiyu photographing Mr Zhang Xin

Soon, once again, it was time to move. All of the visitors & most committee members chose to walk down the hill and across the wall of the Mundaring Weir, while some more of the history and purpose of the weir & pipe line was told. They all enjoyed this stroll, the fresh air, sunshine & chatting along the way.



Roz Hanley, Liang, Yonghong

The afternoon's outing finished with a drive down from the hills, past the slowly emerging golden blossoms of our wattle trees, often the first of our native wildflowers to show their beauty towards the end of winter. The occasion ended that evening, with the delegation members being entertained by a small banquet at the Wing Bo Restaurant.

** Note: Due to the short notice that was received by the committee of this visit, it was not possible to extend an invitation to the members to join this outing & so meet with a Friendship Member & others in the delegation. But, there

WILL BE an opportunity, we hope, time permitting, in early November for members to meet with other delegation members..

Shanghai Peoples Association Of Friendship with Foreign Countries

The branch will be partly responsible for hosting a visit from the Shanghai PAFFC in November. The group is in Perth for two days and arrangements have been made to visit the Institute of Child Health Research, Subiaco; Canning and Aranmore Colleges, also meeting with the Perth's Lord Mayor Lisa Schaffidi and visiting Parliament House.

One of the activities will be a welcome dinner at the Xintiandi Restaurant 40 Francis Street, Northbridge on Sunday 13th November. If members wish to participate contact Roz Hanley (9397 5471). Cost is \$40.00.

Promoting Communications with peoples all over the World

By Jordan Richards [Youth delegate](#)

On 18th of July 2011, Shanghai hosted its 7th International Youth Interactive Friendship Camp. At this camp youths aged between 12 and 18 from 12 different countries come together to promote friendship and communication among peoples all over the world.

This year was the first time that a delegation from Australia attended the camp. My parents were very keen for me to attend the camp as they thought it was an opportunity for me to experience a different way of life. They often tell me that I perhaps do not appreciate how privileged we are to live in Australia and that a view into another culture would help me see the world from a different perspective. I thought it would be an awesome way to meet people from all over the world, so I decided to go.

Well, the exposure to a different way of live started as soon as we left the airport. I was overwhelmed by the endless highrise housing, masses of electricity towers, billboards, multiple lane highways and continuous blasting car horns. Immediately the questions started, how many people actually live here, is this really just one city? Our (kind) host, Mr Wu Fei, explained that Shanghai had a population of 22million people. Three weeks later, I am still digesting this piece of information- How can 22 million people really live in one city? As we got closer to the city centre I was impressed by the array of architecture. The high rise buildings came in all shapes and sizes. This was extraordinary.

Upon our arrival at a lovely hotel (The Shantex) which was to be our base for the next 10 days we were presented with camp t-shirts and a camp schedule. That afternoon we went to an opening ceremony at

the Putuo District Library Auditorium where we saw Chinese dancers, Chinese costume display and a Pipa (Chinese 4 stringed lute) exhibition. During this ceremony all of us were called up on stage to hold our countries flag. It was a powerful experience to be standing amongst the flags of China, Serbia, Russia, Korea, Belgium, France, Canada, Thailand, Australia, Germany, Italy, Sri Lanka all together and knowing that I was in the midst of friends from all over the world.

The second day of camp, we were treated to many organised activities which included Chinese Martial Arts at Shanghai Indoor Stadium and various Chinese folk games such as spinning tops and Jianzi (a traditional Asian game in which players aim to keep a weighted shuttlecock in the air using your feet and other parts of the body). These activities were not only fun but allowed us to get to know each other and to further develop our friendships and understanding of each others cultures.

The rest of the week included a morning's orienteering at the beautiful Changfeng Park and an afternoon shopping at Tianzifang- which is a maze of lanes filled with art shops, fashion and traditional Chinese wares. On Thursday we went to visit Shaoxing province, which was amazingly beautiful. We went for a boat ride on the East Lake which meandered through caverns and rock grottoes and we visited the Chinese Rice Museum and wandered around Luxun's(a great Chinese writer) Former Residence.

After a week, it was time for our 2 night home stay with a Chinese family in Shanghai . We were all really nervous to leave our base, and the friends that we had made. Even though the organisers told us that the home stay families were very carefully selected, I still felt like I was way outside of my comfort zone. The home stay ended up being an unforgettable experience. It allowed me to truly absorb everything Chinese- the way they lived, how they relaxed, how they cared for each other, and their habits- like taking their shoes off before going inside. My home stay family really spoilt me by taking me ice skating and taking me to the movies. I loved it and I will never forget it. I think that I have learnt that taking the risk to go outside my comfort zone can be worthwhile.

The remainder of our time in Shanghai was spent seeing some of the most recognised sites in Shanghai, such as the Oriental Pearl TV Tower and the Bund. No words can describe how beautiful the Shanghai Night skyline is from the Boat Cruise along the Huangpu River at night. We also went to the wax museum at the base of the Pearl Tower, which showcases the history of the culture of Shanghai . Next door to this we visited the Shanghai Aquarium and did some shopping on Nanjing Road .

As our 10 days drew to a close we attended the closing ceremony. Each of the country delegations put on a show which somehow represented their countries. The Aussies decided to sing 'We are Australian' which was received quite well. Then for the goodbyes which involved lots of tears, hugs and contact detail swapping.

I am so grateful to everyone from 'Shanghai People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries' and the 'Shanghai Youth Federation' for organising this opportunity. Thank you also to the Australia China Friendship Society for selecting me as an ambassador for Australia . Not only do I now appreciate other cultures, but I also have friends from all over the world. I loved Shanghai and all of its bustle. I feel so honoured to be one of the people that were part of this trip and I would like to encourage all organisers to continue to organise and offer support of this occasion in the future..

Gala Concert for Chinese Culture Ambassador Award

In the spirit of celebrating Year of Chinese Culture in Australia, ACMF is organising a gala concert event on **19th Nov 2011** at the Perth Convention & Exhibition Centre.

As well as a variety of concert events, there will be ten awards given to the people and/or organisations that have contributed to promote Chinese culture in WA.

If you like to attend this event, contact Roz Hanley (9397 5471) to obtain tickets.

Chinese National Day

This event was celebrated by several members of the society on Sunday 2nd October 2011, with a banquet at the Ming Restaurant in Mundaring.

After the dinner, Dr Neville Green gave a power-point presentation about on the ACFS (Tasmania) tour to Fujian Province.



Application Form

Please fill in and send this slip with your remittance to PO Box 2433 CLARKSON WA 6030

MR/ MRS / SURNAME:

MS /MISS First Name/s:

Postal Address:

Post Code.....

Telephone Mobile: Email:

Subscription (Please Circle)

Individual	\$30.00	Family	\$35.00	Family Concession	\$25.00
Concession	\$15.00	Associate	\$45.00	Corporate	\$55.00

Donation to support ACFSWA Activities (Optional) \$

AUSTRALIA-CHINA FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY (WA BRANCH)

Our Aims:

To promote friendship and understanding between the peoples of Australia and the People’s Republic of China and to provide assistance to educational and social welfare projects in the People’s Republic of China.

Our Activities:

- We recruit, send and support teachers to work in schools and tertiary institutions in China.
- We organise special social events for members and friends
- We assist Chinese students, delegations visiting Western Australia.
- We arrange lectures and talks on China.
- We publish a quarterly newsletter
- We host a website at www.acfswa.org.au that contains information relating to the Society.



BONAVENTURE TRAVEL

Travel Planners and Agents

For all travel requirements. We are your Asia specialists
Specialising in ticketing and Inbound & Outbound Tours



Office: Suite 5/6 1327 Hay St West Perth (Near Thomas Road).

Telephone: Ph 08 9321 6555

Email: travel@bonaventure.com.au

www.bonaventure.com.au

ACFS uses Bonaventure for its China travel needs

ACFS – WA NEWSLETTER

Australia-China Friendship Society - WA Branch (Inc)
PO Box 2433 CLARKSON WA 6030

Print Post: PP643428/00022