

**Nancy Chen, ACFSWA President 2017**

**Welcome** to the Australia China Friendship Society of Western Australia reflecting upon 45 years of Australia China diplomatic relations. This is the first comprehensive publication about the activities of ACFSWA.

It briefly documents in words and pictures the activities and achievements of ACFSWA, since its Foundation in 1970.

Building understanding between two societies and the path trodden by the small band of dedicated members has not always been easy.

Three major steps can be seen in the history of the Society:

- Fostering the development of Diplomatic Relations
- Developing an understanding of China in the local community
- Promoting the friendship between our two great nations, Australia and China.

Our Society and all its members continue the task of strengthening the friendship between our two great countries by promoting their respective cultures.

I would like to thank the Western Australian community for the support that they have given to the activities of the Australia China Friendship Society of Western Australia over the years.

Special thanks is extended to the Consulate of the People's Republic of China in Perth for their long time support of ACFS activities.

This publication would not have been possible without acknowledging the important work undertaken by the members of our ACFS WA book committee to whom I express my sincere thanks on behalf of all our members. Thanks also go to the many contributors of the book's stories and photographs.

