



Dear ACFS Members:

**The Australia-China Friendship Society (Vic) invites you to join us at a reception to celebrate the**

40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Australia and the People's Republic of China;  
&  
60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the foundation of the Australia-China Friendship Society.

Guests include The Chinese Ambassador to Australia, Mr. Chen Yuming and former Australian Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Malcolm Fraser.

Staff from the Consulate General of the People's Republic of China in Melbourne will also be in attendance.

When: 6.00pm to 8.00pm on Tuesday 24 July 2012

Where: Queen's Hall - Parliament of Victoria, Spring Street, Melbourne

**RSVP by 16 July 2012 – Secretary, Australia-China Friendship Society at [acfs.vic@gmail.com](mailto:acfs.vic@gmail.com) or fax: 03 9654 8099 mobile: 0469 622 254**

**This invitation must be presented on entry. Dress: Business Attire**

Australia-China Friendship Society

*President: John D. Brehney*

Promoting Friendship and Understanding Between the Australian and Chinese People



**June 2012**

# *Australia-China Friendship Society*

Victorian Branch (Inc).ABN 39 746 574 225

## **NEWSLETTER**

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### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

I am pleased to report that on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of June 2012 our National organisation held its biennial conference in Perth. All of our State Branches were represented. Please see further reports from the Victorian Delegate and Vice-President, Anthony Leong in this Newsletter.

Profuse thanks are due to the hosting Western Australian Branch.

At the commencement of the conference Madam Wang Yiner (the PRC Consul General in Perth) made an informative speech as did the President of the Western Australian Branch, Mr. William Chi. As National President I also made a speech in relation to the future of our Society. A copy of this speech is included in this Newsletter. At the conclusion of the conference, some agenda matters were left in abeyance to be concluded within the next 6 weeks. I will be in a position to make a full report on these matters in the next newsletter.

As members and supporters will note, we have now finalised arrangements for the joint ACFS 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary and Australia/China 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of diplomatic relations for the 24<sup>th</sup> July 2012. This is a unique opportunity for our members to get together to celebrate. I hope to see everyone there.

John D. Breheny

### **ACFS LTD NATIONAL CONFERENCE**

PERTH 9<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2012

#### **INTRODUCTORY ADDRESS BY THE NATIONAL PRESIDENT**

I would firstly like to welcome all delegates, directors, office bearers and observers to this 2012 annual general meeting of the National body of the Australia China Friendship Society.

In particular I welcome the Consul General of the People's Republic of China in Perth, Madam WANG YINER and on behalf of the Society extend thanks to

the Western Australia branch of the ACFS for all their efforts in organising this event.

Over the next 2 days, in addition to receiving various reports and electing new office bearers and directors, we will also discuss the future of our Society. I'd like to take this opportunity of making a few comments in this regard.

At the last AGM in Adelaide in 2010 the President of the South Australian Branch, Mike Willis presented our traditional Bill Morrow memorial address. Mike spoke about the history of the ACFS since its foundation in 1952 and raised the question of whether, in the circumstances of China's development since the late 1970's, the ACFS remained relevant.

I have heard people say that the real role of our Society was to promote friendly relations between the Chinese and Australian people when China was regarded by the West almost as a pariah state and a threat to world peace. This was in the 1950's and 1960's, during the period of the Cold War, the so called Domino Theory, attempts by the Australian Government to ban the Communist Party of Australia and of course the White Australia Policy.

Some people say that if these conditions don't exist anymore, why is it necessary to have an organisation like the ACFS.

Another position is that the changes occurring in China since the late 1970's have led to serious problems relating to corruption, the glorification of individual wealth and an ever-increasing divide between the wealthy and the ordinary Chinese people. Should the ACFS associate ourselves with these values?

I don't have the answers to these questions, but I'd like to make the following comments:

1) The ACFS is not a political organisation but at the same time our activities are necessarily political. This is because they involve the relations between the Australian people, under vehemently pro-American and anti-socialist Australian Governments, and the Chinese people who in the past 40 years or so have experienced unprecedented development and increases in living standards and whose Government



has steadfastly continued along the path of non-interference in the internal affairs of other Countries and non-expansionism.

2) The United States' so called "forward development" diplomacy in Asia and the Pacific region (including the permanent stationing of US marines in Darwin, the new U.S. naval base on Jeju Island in Korea and the permanent deployment of 60% of U.S. naval resources in the Asia/Pacific region) should be a cause of great concern to us. Despite American and Australian Government denials that these developments are not aimed at China, this is clearly the case.

3) For Australians this increase in the level of tension in our region should be declared emphatically as unacceptable. Add to this, the decline of Australia's manufacturing industry and our reliance on China's demand for our resources, and we end up with a volatile, complex situation.

4) The Charter of the ACFS is to promote friendship between the Chinese and Australian people and to endeavour to correct misunderstandings and misrepresentations made about China. I have no doubt with the change of circumstances in our region we will have an increasingly important role to play in this regard. Our future work will be "cut out" for us.

Thank you.

John D. Breheny

## ACFS National Conference

*Perth, Friday 8 to Sunday 10 June 2012*

This biennial conference was my first as Victorian Delegate to the Federal body, the first where I was obliged to act for and on behalf of the Branch.

The dinner on Friday evening at the Goodearth Hotel was a good chance to meet fellow Delegates and Directors whom I had only fleetingly been in contact with via teleconferences or emails. It was an opportunity to learn more about the W.A. Branch and supporting groups such as the Chung Wah Organisation of Perth.

From the dinner, we went to the conference room where we had informal discussion about experiences within China and the Branches. Many recounted humorous experiences, some of which they would not care to re-visit.

On Saturday, we were addressed by host Branch President William Chi, Chinese Consul General for W.A. Mme Wang Yiner and Federal President Mr

John Breheny. We then dealt with administration, general business and reports. I was interested to see how the ACFS Ltd operated and the overall structure. Of particular importance was discussion about governance, assets and tours to China.

Other topics were home-stay (local and China), celebration of the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the recognition of the PRC by Australia, use of new technology for communication and income. N. T. was asked to consider being host for 2014, with Tasmania as the alternative.

After lunch, as no nominations were received for President, it was resolved to call for nominations again and reconvene via phone no later than 8 weeks to elect a new President. All other office-bearers were confirmed.

We then discussed our relevance in the community and membership; we must be more active and positive, reaching new people using existing networks and being more prominent via 21<sup>st</sup> century communications and social media. This was significantly important in attracting a younger demographic. It was also thought vital to counter misinformation on China. A sub-committee was established to explore this.

We adjourned for the day to a lavish dinner at Chinese restaurant Xintiandi. A large gathering of friends and members enjoyed a banquet where hosts William Chi and incoming-Branch President David Clarke chatted informally. Of note was the contingent of teachers and Principal from Canning Secondary College who have a large population of Chinese students.

Sunday's half-day session discussed future directions. I chaired discussion outlining actions and outcomes. Each Branch was requested to list points suggesting ways of enlarging membership, engaging with people in terms of better understanding Sino-Australian relations and the ACFS' ongoing role. It was decided that following the election of a new President, this would be put to member Branches who would canvas opinion from their membership and respond within 2 months. Again, a recurrent theme was the use of new media and electronic communications as a vital tool in pursuing our goals and internal efficiency.

The President then thanked the assembled group of Directors and Delegates and wished all the Branches success in the coming year.

Anthony M Leong

Vice-President, Victorian Branch ACFS



## Address at the Opening of ACFS National Conference

9th June 2012 Wang Yiner

Mr. John Breheny, ACFS National President and members of the National Executive. Mr. William Chi, ACFS WA branch President. Distinguished branch Presidents and ACFS members. Ladies and Gentlemen: Good Morning!

It gives me great pleasure to be with you all at this conference gathering by the side of the beautiful Swan River.

First of all, please allow me, on behalf of the Chinese Consulate General in Perth, to extend my cordial greetings to everyone and to express to you my heartfelt congratulations on the occasion of the National Conference of the Australia- China Friendship Society, which is opening here today!

The year 2012 marks the 40th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Australia. As the famous Chinese philosopher Confucius once said: "When one becomes forty, one will no longer suffer from perplexity". Human beings are like this, and so are the relations between China and Australia. With the efforts made by the people of both China and Australia, the bilateral relations between our two countries have developed in an all-round way and have yielded a bumper harvest in the areas of trade, culture, technology, education and others.

In 2011, the bilateral trade volume reached 116 billion US dollars, an increase of a thousand times, compared to the time when China and Australia established diplomatic relations in 1972. The number of Chinese tourists to Australia is growing faster than that to any other country. There were more than 500,000 Chinese citizens travelling to Australia last year, and the total consumption by them increased 20%, compared to the year before, thus creating a large tourism revenue for Australia. Nearly 170,000 Chinese students are currently studying in Australia and China has become the largest source country for overseas students coming to Australia.

The exchanges between local governments have been very active as well, for all the states of Australia have established sister relationships with provinces or cities in China. Here, I would like to mention in particular that this year marks the 25th anniversary of the sister-

state relationship between Zhejiang Province and WA. In early September of this year, the Governor of Zhejiang Province will bring a large delegation with hundreds of people to WA to promote trade, tourism, as well as cultural and other exchanges.

Ladies and Gentlemen, A good relationship between China and Australia does not come easily. We have experienced beautiful sunshine, as well as fierce storms during the past 40 years. But, what makes us so delighted is the fact that the Australia-China Friendship Society always displays a friendly attitude towards Chinese people, and promotes cultural exchanges, no matter what happens. This enhances the mutual understanding between our peoples and helps to promote bilateral relations. Therefore, I would claim that the ACFS has made a substantial contribution to the development of Australia-China relations during the past 40 years!

When looking to the future, we feel even more confident! Benefiting from China's rapid economic development, Australia has been less affected by the global financial crisis. According to some statistics, China's imports from and investment to Australia have created hundreds of thousands of jobs for Australians in recent years, and have benefitted each Australian family with an increase of more than 10,000 dollars per year. Therefore, we may conclude in saying that nowadays Australia's economic development is very closely linked to China's economy.

I sincerely hope that the ACFS can make full use of all the advantages of this relationship and will find its proper position in this new historic era, so as to play an even more important role. The Chinese Consulate General will be always ready to support you in your endeavours.

In order to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Australia, the Chinese Consulate General has held and will continue to hold a series of significant events here in Perth. The You Yi Games between Chinese Men's National Basketball Team and Australia Men's National Basketball Team will be performing several friendship games in Perth. The First Chinese Movie Festival, Chinese Contemporary Art Touring Exhibition, and 'the Commemorating 40 years China-Australia relationship' Pictorial Exhibition will all be held in Perth. We welcome everyone to these events!

In concluding my speech, I would like to sincerely wish all of you a successful ACFS National Conference!





## Lotus Moon Concert

A Melbourne audience at the Elizabeth Murdoch Recital Hall was treated to a spectacular one-off concert by internationally acclaimed soprano Shu Cheen Yu on 14 May 2012. The concert also celebrated the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the recognition of the People's Republic of China.



The first part comprised orchestral pieces and arias by Bach, Handel and Mozart. The second half featured Chinese folk songs arranged in a western style by talented

composer Julian Yu. Hosted by MC Dr Christopher Lawrence, the Melbourne Sinfonietta accompanied the artists. Members of the Sinfonietta also performed outstanding solo pieces.

At times during the evening, Shu Cheen was joined on stage with Donna-Maree Dunlop, who performed well-known duets from Mozart's Marriage of Figaro and the Cat Duet, which was thoroughly entertaining.

The audience was treated to two special solos - firstly Hao Zheng who provided a fantastic piece on the er hu (two string violin) and Qiu Ming Dong who played the bamboo flute. These were highly skilled performances displaying the masterly abilities of two fine musicians.

Shu Cheen delighted the audience with her clear and resonant singing, perfect harmony with the orchestra and beautiful, elaborately embroidered costumes.

The concert was enjoyed by many representatives of the ACFS and members of the Chinese Consulate who were also present.

Robin Matthews,  
ACFS Committee

## Why Chinese Communists Make Better Capitalists than We Do ?

Hailed as an expert in global issues as diverse as international terrorism and political and economic theory, Dr Loretta Napolioni embarked on a world tour to deliver a message in late 2011.

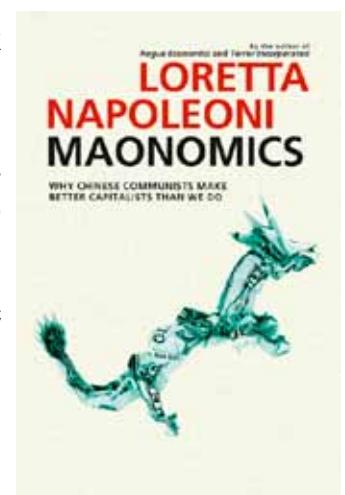
On Sunday May 20, in a small Italian restaurant in Carlton, Dr Napolioni spoke to an invited group about the theses in her book "Maonomics - Why Chinese Communists Make Better Capitalists Than We Do" (Seven Stories Press, October 2011). She maintained the People's Republic of China drives its version of capitalism better than the West.

Breaking with convention, she exploded myths about the Euro Zone crisis and described the blame heaped upon a hapless Greece as scapegoating for the fiascos of others. What fails or succeeds depends on a country's culture - one size (the Euro) does not fit all. She also criticised the USA house-of-financial-cards which collapsed, causing the GFC and which threatens to do so again. The one economy to endure and survive the next crash will be China's.

She believes China will not need military might in the coming century because their power will be economic. Dr Napolioni further contests current thinking by saying China has no need for expansion and has no internal contradictions in running a "Commi-Capitalist" system. She bases her theories on Chinese practice, a mix of flexibility, pragmatism and economic levelling to lift the general wellbeing of the people. She argues China is using Marxism in its purest form whereby the State is obliged to use its income to better the people. Thus, rather than changing the system to a "democratic", Western Capitalist model, the Chinese version of "democracy" works far better in line with the mores of the Chinese people and beliefs. The results speak for themselves.

As Random House Publishing stated mid-2011, "... (Napolioni) offers a front row seat on the greatest show on earth: the peaceful economic revolution that is shifting the balance of power in the world from West to East..."

Anthony M Leong





# The Hamer Scholarships Program

## Study Chinese in Jiangsu Province, China

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND INNOVATION

The rapidly growing Chinese economy offers unparalleled opportunities for Victorians and Victorian businesses.

Gaining strong Chinese language skills and a deeper understanding of the local culture gives you the best chance to succeed in this exciting market.

The Victorian Government's Hamer Scholarships program enables you to improve your skills and prospects by studying Chinese in Jiangsu Province, China.

- > Hamer Scholarships are valued at **up to \$10,000** for a minimum of one semester at select Jiangsu universities and institutions.
  - > Applications open on **Monday 23 July** and close on **Sunday 26 August 2012**.
  - > The program is open to Victorians who are aged 21 or above and are Australian citizens or permanent residents (Victorians living and working in China may also be considered).
  - > The scholarships are primarily aimed at Victorians working in the public, private, not-for-profit and creative industries with linkages to China.
  - > Applicants should demonstrate how the scholarship would significantly benefit their career path, study plan, or their employer's future engagement with China.
  - > Scholarship recipients will become business, cultural and educational representatives for Victoria in Jiangsu.
- For further information and to apply visit [dbi.vic.gov.au/hamerscholarships](http://dbi.vic.gov.au/hamerscholarships)







### Gaining strong Chinese language skills can open up a world of professional and personal opportunities

- > In addition to being the world's most populous nation, China is the world's number one exporter of goods, and is set to become the largest economy in the world by 2016. By 2025, it is estimated that China will have:
  - » 221 cities with more than one million inhabitants
  - » 23 cities with a population greater than five million
  - » Six cities with a population greater than 10 million
  - » Six provinces with an annual GDP of more than US\$1 trillion
  - » 90 per cent of China's GDP will be generated by its urban economy
- > China is Victoria's biggest trading partner, its leading destination for goods exports and its most valuable tourism and international education market.
- > Victoria shares a 33-year sister-state relationship with Jiangsu Province, and Melbourne has a 32-year sister-city relationship with Tianjin.
- > With a population of more than 78 million, Jiangsu is China's second largest provincial economy with a GDP of \$US612 billion, and is the number one destination for foreign direct investment in China.
- > Victorian Government Business Offices are located in Nanjing, Hong Kong and Shanghai, and an office is currently being established in Beijing.



## THE AUSTRALIA-CHINA FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY'S AIMS

Cultivate friendly relations with the people of China by fostering the study of China's history, language, culture, social and political structure.

Promote mutual understanding through friendly exchanges between the people of China and Australia. Strengthening ties with travel, the exchange of ideas, information and trade between the two countries.

To seek to clarify misunderstandings between the peoples of China and Australia, which may arise from the misrepresentation of information.

**PRESIDENT:** Mr John Breheny

**VICE PRESIDENT:** Mr Anthony Leong  
Mr Tower Liu

**SECRETARY:** Mr Neil Barker

**TREASURER:** Mr Dong Chen

**COMMITTEE:** Ms Louise Clayton  
Mr Richard Lightfoot  
Ms Robin Matthews  
Mr Phil Parker  
Mr Sean Murtagh  
Mr Robert Wang

ACFS (VICTORIA) Inc. A0038007M ABN NO. 39 746 574 225

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Family Name (Mr /Mrs/Ms/Other).....

Address.....

Phone .....

Fax .....

Given Names .....

P/code.....

Email.....

#### VICTORIAN MEMBERSHIP RATES

Family \$40.00

Single \$30.00

Concession \$15.00

Corporate on Application

I/We support the Society's aims: .....Signature/s

I/We enclose the sum of \$ ..... for my/our membership subscription.

**YOUR DONATION WOULD BE GRATEFULLY RECEIVED**

Please forward cheques to the Treasurer at the address in the left corner below

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