



Australia-China Friendship Society

Victorian Branch (Inc).ABN 39 746 574 225

NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2013

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PRESIDENT REPORT



I am honoured to be elected President of the ACFS Victorian branch and take this opportunity to thank the 2013 Committee, especially those with whom I have worked closely: Vice-President Tower Liu & Secretary Robin Matthews. Past President John Breheny has been a firm and constant guide and with Tower,

I hope I can rely on the continuance of the close association & friendship. Thanks also to Dong Chen for his tireless and efficient work in sometimes difficult circumstances. I also express my deepest thanks to Ms Margaret Stonehouse, who has worked untiringly for the Society for many years and has now retired.

I am a different President, with a different style. I will try to live up to your expectations, but I follow a long line of illustrious predecessors, including the late Dr Clive Sandy, eminent lawyer the late Mr Jack Lazarus and of course Ms Louise Clayton. While I may not have the wisdom of some, I have had ACFS in my blood since I was a child – let none doubt my sincerity and dedication.

Our Society faces many challenges: USA changing perceptions of China and international power balances, a far more conservative Australia, a rabid, anti-progressive mainstream media needing our vigilance and counter-argument and internally, growing our membership. We must also be mindful we are independent, focused on our goals and we must not be used as a commercial vehicle for personal gain.

My aims for the next term are:

1. More member activities - modernising our image;
2. Enlarging membership - engaging with younger people;
3. Closer working with the Consulate;
4. Consolidating ties and working more closely with regional sister groups;
5. Encouraging stalled talks with our Pacific neighbours;
6. Fundraising;
7. Carrying on John's work to establish a gift/interest register; and
8. Establish a visual library (movie & stills).

I am open to new ideas and I am happy to discuss any time. I believe we must be more vocal in promotion of China and understanding. As a group I think we can be and I welcome working with Members for the betterment of our goal: promoting friendship and understanding between our two peoples.

Finally, I wish you and yours a very safe, happy and restful festive season and a joyous and successful 2014.

Anthony Leong



SEASON GREETING

Report of AGM

Wednesday 27 November 2013

The purpose of the meeting was to receive the President and financial reports and elect a new Executive and Committee for 2014.

President Mr John Breheny, welcomed members and guests and gave a brief report of his activities.

The nominations received were equal to the vacancies, so there was no election. The significant change was the election of Anthony Leong to the role of President and John Breheny took on one of the Vice President roles.

The following office bearers for 2014 are:

President:	Anthony Leong
Vice President:	Tower Liu
Vice President:	John Breheny
Secretary:	Robin Matthews
Treasurer:	Dong Chen

Committee: Ms Wai Ching Chan, Ms Lou Clayton, Ms Lia Cross, Mr Richard Lightfoot and Mr Phil Parker.

The highlight of the meeting was an address by His Excellency Mr Yumin Song, Consul General to the People's Republic of China. The Consul General

spoke warmly about the Victorian Branch and its founders. He acknowledged the increase in diplomatic relations, friendship and breaking down the barriers over the 62 years of the ACFS Victorian Branch's existence. He spoke of strong ties and opportunities with the proposed Free Trade Agreement between China and Australia and related key elements of the recent Congress in China.

He said, "...These included part of the Government's reform agenda by promoting growth and development which will realise China's dreams and rejuvenation. An increase in private ownership leading to a mixed market are part of the economic reforms and development of the market economy were policy highlights. Opening up of the health and education sectors in an orderly manner, a relaxation of foreign investment in construction and e commerce and increased legal protection of human rights".

Mr Song emphasized we have much in common, namely close working ties, promoting peace, quality of life and a better and sustainable future for generations to come.

The meeting was pleased to welcome the presence of Mme Ta He, Cultural Consul.

At the conclusion of the formalities, members enjoyed refreshments and caught up with new and old friends.

NEW COMMITTEE WITH Consul General Mr Yumin Song (3rd left) & Cultural Consul Mme Ta He (2nd right)



Jinshan District Delegation Visit

The Committee hosted a six member delegation from Jinshan District near Shanghai on 11 November. The delegation visited the National Gallery of Victoria where they were taken on an exclusive tour of the Asian collection and other treasures by Dr Mae Anna Pang. After the tour, the delegation had discussions with senior managers about the operations and staging of major events at the Gallery.

ACFS President, Mr John Breheny, hosted a lunch at Young and Jackson's hotel where discussions centered on developing and maintaining friendship and exchanges.

After lunch, MCC Board Member, Mr Will Fowles arranged for the delegation to visit the MCG where they



Delegation with MCG Manager in MCG

had an extensive tour and overview of the ground and its facilities. The delegation was particularly interested in crowd management, publicity, financing and development of the ground. Vice President, Tower Liu joined the delegation at the later stage of the day's events.

Robin Matthews

UNDER AN EASTERN SKY

Sunday, 10 November, at the Gryphon Gallery,
University of Melbourne

Under an Eastern Sky presented an interesting and varied program of works, showcasing some of the creative possibilities of the fusion between Eastern and Western musical styles and compositions.

Brenna Wee, pianist and Artistic Director, is a consummate performer as well as an energetic

promoter of the Bridges Collective, an artistic platform which brings together composers and musicians from different cultures.

Her trio comprised Brenna Wee on piano, Mindy Wang on the guzheng (the Chinese zither) and Taryn Richards on flute.

We were treated to a wonderfully eclectic selection of works, ranging from *The Great Gate of Kiev*, which was originally composed for koto and a string quintet but on this occasion was performed by Brenna Wee on piano and Mindy Zang on the Chinese guzheng, to Julian Yu's arrangement of Pachelbel's well known and loved *Canon*, performed by the trio playing flute, piano and the guzheng.

It was lovely to see Julian Yu in the audience, listening to works which he had arranged or adapted for the different instruments.

The three performers were particularly accomplished musicians, who clearly loved their collaboration and performances together.

My favourite piece for the afternoon was *Plum Blossom*, for flute and piano. It was a beautiful and haunting piece of music.

I look forward to hearing this talented group again.

Louise Clayton

East Meets West: Chinese New Year Celebration

Melbourne Symphony Orchestra presents

"Tan Dun's music sculpts sound and transforms everything into a riveting experience that is hard to define..." The Los Angeles Times

Having won many of the world's most prestigious music and film awards including an Academy Award® and a Grammy, Tan Dun is one of the most revered musicians of our time.

He returns to Melbourne to help the city celebrate the 2014 Chinese New Year (The Year of the Horse) with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, Paganini Competition First Prize violinist Lu Siqing and China's leading young pipa player, Xie Yudan.

Promoting Friendship and Understanding Between the Australian and Chinese People

In this special concert, two of Tan Dun's major works share the program with classics from the Western tradition.

Tan Dun Concerto for String Orchestra and Pipa
Mendelssohn Violin Concerto in E minor
Tan Dun *The Triple Resurrection*
Prokofiev *Romeo and Juliet*: Selections



Tan Dun	conductor	Lu Siqing	violin
Xie Yudan	pipa	David Berlin	cello
Adoria Li	piano		

Date and Time

Friday 7 February 2014, 6.30pm

Pricing: Tickets \$25 - \$139

Booking: By phone: 1300 182 183

TAN DUN (simplified Chinese: 谭盾; pinyin: Tán Dùn, born 1957, Changsha, Hunan) is a Chinese contemporary classical composer and conductor, most widely known for his scores for the movies *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon* and *Hero*, as well as composing music for the medal ceremonies at the 2008 Beijing Olympics. His works often incorporate audiovisual elements; use instruments constructed from organic materials, such as paper, water, and stone; and, are often inspired by traditional Chinese theatrical and ritual performance. In 2013, he was named a UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador.

CHINA UNVEILS WORLD'S LONGEST HIGH-SPEED RAIL LINK

The travel time between Beijing and Guangzhou will be shortened from 20 hours to 8 hours November, when the Beijing-Guangzhou high-speed railway starts operating.

China launched the world's longest high-speed rail route services last month, the latest milestone in the country's rapid super-fast rail network.

Tests of the high-speed railway started last week at Beijing West Railway Station, and operations will start at the end of December, according to a report in the Beijing Morning Post.

Trains currently take more than 20 hours to cover the 2,294 kilometres between Beijing and Guangzhou.

The Beijing-Guangzhou high-speed railway will travel through the cities of Shijiazhuang in North China's Hebei province, Wuhan in Central China's Hubei province, Changsha in Hunan and Shenzhen in South China's Guangdong province.

The Ministry of Railways has not yet released the ticket prices for the new line. But the report said that likely cost more than 900 yuan (\$144) for a second-class seat, much more than the current prices of 253 yuan for a seat and around 450 yuan for a sleeper ticket. Airlines reportedly scrambled to compete with the new service, offering discounted one-way fares as low as 460 yuan between the cities.

China's high-speed rail network was only established in 2007 but has fast become the world's largest. The official Xinhua news agency said China now operates 9300 kilometres of high-speed railways.

The state-run *China Daily* newspaper said the high-speed rail network is set to jump to 50,000 kilometres by 2020, with four main lines running north and south and another four east and west.

The high-speed railway from Shenzhen to Hong Kong is expected to be complete in 2015, the report said.

source from: Xinhua New Agency; China Daily

Easy Chilli Pork (serves 6)

Several members asked me for the recipe for this simple dish. It's quick, easy & very tasty. It's best with pork, but if you don't eat pork, try steak cut finely. Chicken would be overwhelmed & fish is too delicate for this spicy sauce/marinade.



Marinade Ingredients: 3 tbsp Hoisin, 2 tbsp hot chilli sauce, 2 tbsp sweet chilli sauce, 150ml brandy or similar, chilli flakes (optional), 75ml sesame oil, 75ml peanut oil, 30ml dark soy sauce. ([photo 1](#))

Cut 1 kg belly pork or pork spare ribs into strips, then dice ([photo 2](#))



Whisk marinade ingredients to mix thoroughly. Add boiling water (about 120ml) to make up volume to cover pork ([photo 3](#))



Add diced pork belly to marinade, mix well, cover & leave for at least 2 hrs ([photo 4](#))



Heat 50ml peanut oil in wok or deep frying pan till it smokes. Add pork and stir fry constantly



for 10 minutes on med-high heat or till thoroughly cooked ([photos 5 & 6](#))

-Anthony Leong-



We are always looking for interesting stories and articles to share with our members. Any members who have great stories to tell please contact ACFS office or e-mail to acfsvic@vicnet.net.au

Opinions expressed in this Newsletter do not always reflect those of the ACFS and its policies. Reliance upon information in this Newsletter requires independent verification of its accuracy or completeness

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 Anthony Leong

VICE PRESIDENT: Mr John Breheny
Mr Tower Liu

SECRETARY: Ms Robin Matthews

TREASURER: Mr Dong Chen

COMMITTEE: Ms Louise Clayton
Mr Richard Lightfoot
Mr Neil Barker
Mr Phil Parker
Ms Lia Cross
Miss Wai Ching Chan

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

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

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

Given Names

Address.....

P/code.....

Phone

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.

Pay directly into the ACFS Victoria Branch Account, BSB: 063-019, Account number: 10040625

Please put your name in the subject line & email REFERENCE to acfs.vic@gmail.com

You may send cheques to the Treasurer at the address in the left corner below and YOUR DONATION WOULD BE GRATEFULLY RECEIVED

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Stamp

If undelivered please
return to ACFS Victorian,
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247 Flinders Lane,
Melbourne VIC 3000