



# Australia-China Friendship Society

Victorian Branch (Inc). ABN 39 746 574 225

## Newsletter

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**June 2019**



## President's Report

We're all staying warm and I hope the wet weather isn't too much – we need the rain!

We are looking forward to the Shu Cheen concert at the Brunswick Uniting Church (Sydney Road, Brunswick) on Saturday 17 August at 3pm. We're almost there...

We have had a couple of meetings regarding the ACFS Vic. Achievement Award, which we think will be around September, so our next task is to line up the sponsors and put out the word. If you know of anyone worthy of merit, just ask for details from our Secretary, but officially it's not up and running quite yet.

Our sister organisation Pacific China Friendship Association, opened Pacific-China House in Beijing last month, as well as signing several agreements, including with one of China's largest infrastructure and engineering companies, China Civil Engineering Construction Corporation (CCECC).

The delegation visited renewable energy giant Suntech in Wuxi to inspect their plant, then to Xi'an to see the vast operation of the Aviation Industry Corporation of China (AVIC), one of the world's largest aeronautic companies. This paves the way for discussions and studies to provide air routes throughout the Pacific. PCFA also signed a Letter of Intent with China Express Airlines (CEA) to tap into their regional airline expertise and benefit from their experience in management and operations.

Don't forget our tours and that we're still working behind the scenes for more activities and gatherings perhaps when it's slightly warmer & dry!

Best wishes.

Anthony

# VICTORIA-JIANGSU

## 40<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

2019 marks the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of sister-state relationship between Victoria and Jiangsu Province in China. Over four decades, Victoria and Jiangsu have worked together successfully in a range of sectors, including science, technology and innovation, creative arts, and education.

After attending the second Belt and Road Forum in Beijing, Victoria's Premier Daniel Andrews has taken a three-day trip to Beijing and the Jiangsu Province to further strengthen the state's relationship with China. Last month a delegation from the Australia China Economic Trade and Investment Expo 2019 Organising Committee also visited Jiangsu Province and established a strategic partnership with Jiangsu.

The ACETIE 2019 is proudly supported by the Victorian Government, and is a part of Victorian Government's program for the 40th anniversary of its sister-state relationship with Jiangsu.

The Hon. Martin Pakula, Minister Jobs Innovation and Trade recently said, "Our sister state relationship with Jiangsu helps underpin Victoria's success in China and the ACETIE 2019 event in July is an excellent opportunity to expand on our collaborations. I look forward to visiting Jiangsu this month to build on the connections made recently by Premier Daniel Andrews on his visit. Our missions are part of the Premier's pledge to visit China every year to support our important ties."

The Australia-China Economic Trade & Investment Expo (ACETIE) 2019 is organized by the Australia China Business Council (ACBC) and the China Chamber of Commerce in Australia (CCCA), supported by the Victorian Government, and chaired by the Hon Andrew Robb AO.

ACETIE Exhibition

Date: Friday 12 July, Saturday 13 July and Sunday 14 July 2019

Venue: Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre (MCEC) 1 Convention Centre

Place, South Wharf 3006

Cost: Free

# Special concert for ACFS members and friends



A private audience with one of Australia's most talented sopranos and ensemble.

An ACFS exclusive, a unique experience not to be missed, featuring international diva Shu Cheen Yu with her talented protégés.

- When:** Saturday, 17 August 2019  
**Time:** 3.00 PM – 5.00 PM (refreshments included)  
**Where:** Brunswick Uniting Church  
214 Sydney Road, Brunswick, VIC 3056  
**Cost:** \$35.00 / \$25.00 concession  
**Bookings:** [acfs.vic@gmail.com](mailto:acfs.vic@gmail.com)  
**Enquiries:** 61 478 530 515

# GOODWILL VISIT TO SHANGHAI

Strengthening and deepening mutual understanding and friendship were the key themes of the May 2019 visit to Shanghai.



*Ms Jing Ying meets Robin Matthews*

Ms Jing Ying, Vice President of the Shanghai People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (SPAFFC) invited me to lead a delegation to Shanghai to discuss future cooperation and explore possibilities of joint projects.

ACFS Ltd was well represented across Australia by Jan Everett (Tasmania), Roz Hanley (Western Australia), Tower Liu (Victoria) and Martin Wu (Queensland).

The visit culminated in the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the two organisations reinforcing the already-close relationship to develop exchanges and cooperation, enhancing understanding and trust.



*ACFS Delegation with SPAFFC leaders*

It was forty two years since I previously visited Shanghai, so I was fascinated to see the vast changes to the city and its skyline.

SPAFFC were wonderful hosts. Expertly guided by Maggie, we were shown new developments, especially in the Putong area including the waterfront, and visited a mixture of historic and new developments.



*ACFS Delegation visit Qingpu Museum*

These ranged from the Qingpu District Museum, Zhujiqiao Ancient Water Town and new private museum on the 37<sup>th</sup> floor of the Shanghai Tower to the art gallery in the disused oil tanks, Putong waterfront and Hema Fresh Mart (a supermarket brand under the Alibaba Company). We joined in activities during our visit to the Wuliqiao Community Cultural Centre which was a wonderful facility and to me looked like “U3A on steroids”.



*Jan tries excise ball at Wuliqiao Community Cultural Centre*

We experienced delicious foods from regional areas, witnessed the greening of the city with an abundance of trees and flowers and wondered where was all the traffic, to be informed the locals now travel on the underground railway with 10.16 million daily trips across sixteen lines with 413 stations.

It was good to renew friendships with Mr Xiao Chong and Mr Scott Wu from SPAFFC and reinforce the close ties that ACFS Ltd has developed over the years.

This visit has given us great ideas for collaboration with SPAFFC and I look forward to formulating these into projects in the coming months.

Robin Matthews  
National President ACFS Ltd

# 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,

Commonwealth Bank          BSB: 063-019, Account number: 10040625

Please put your name in the subject line & email REFERENCE to

[acfs.vic@gmail.com](mailto:acfs.vic@gmail.com)

You may send cheques to the Treasurer at the ACFS office address

**YOUR DONATION WOULD BE GRATEFULLY RECEIVED**

Promoting Friendship and Understanding Between the  
Australian and Chinese People

# **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.

## **The ACFS Victorian Branch**

PRESIDENT: Anthony Leong

SECRETARY: Robin Matthews

VICE PRESIDENT: Damon Feng

TREASURER: Dong Chen

Tower Liu

COMMITTEE: Lia Cross

John Breheny

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 [acfs.vic@gmail.com](mailto:acfs.vic@gmail.com)