

**2023/24 CWS
OFFICE HOLDERS
AND COMMITTEE**

Patron
Mr Richard (Dick) Griffiths

Vice Patrons
Mr Austin Chin (Junior)
Mr Alfred On OAM

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Mr Roland Chin

Vice President
Mr Daryl Chin

General Secretary
Ms Jade Schembri

Treasurer
Ms Kristina Chin

Chinese Secretary
Vacant

Committee Members

Alice Chin
Andrew Chin
Chantelle Chin
Courtney Chin
Melanie Chin
Mikayla Chin
Randall Chin
Tina Griffiths
Bronwyn Lo
Dennis Low
Iain MacPherson
Stephen Pearson
Nathan Tam
Natasha Yuen

Temple Officer
Dennis Low

Public Officer
Kristina Chin

Auditor
Eddie Lay

UPCOMING EVENTS / KEY DATES

- Sunday 30 June - Membership and Carparking fees due
- Sunday 7 July, 3:00pm - Car Scavenger Hunt
- Saturday 14 September - CWS Moon Festival Function

FROM THE COMMITTEE

The Committee would like to wish everyone a Happy Dragon Boat Festival!

The Dragon Boat Festival is a traditional holiday originating in China that occurs on the 5th day of the 5th month of the traditional Chinese calendar and commemorates the life and death of the famous Chinese

scholar, Qu Yuan. Qu Yuan was one of the greatest poets of ancient China. He eventually drowned himself in a river and the famous Dragon Boat Festival originated from the legend of people racing out and paddling on boats to search for the poet's body.

Today, the Dragon Boat Festival is a celebration where many eat rice dumplings and race dragon boats. The rice dumplings are a glutinous rice ball with a filling and wrapped in triangle or rectangle shapes in bamboo or reed leaves and tied with soaked stalks or colourful silky cords. The fillings can be egg, beans,

dates, fruits, sweet potato, walnuts, mushrooms, meat, or a combination of them.

The rice dumplings relate to the legend of Qu Yuan as it is said that lumps of rice were thrown into the river to stop fish from eating his drowned body.





ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - WELCOME TO THE NEW COMMITTEE

On the 26th of November 2023, the Chung Wah Society held its Annual General Meeting. We would like to extend a big thank you to the exiting Committee for their time and effort over the 2022/2023 year.



We welcome the new Committee and look forward to seeing what the new year brings us. A warm welcome to our new Committee Members - Alice Chin, Chantelle Chin and Courtney Chin.

BILL WONG MERITORIOUS AWARD - ANTONIO TJUNG

Every year at the Annual General Meeting, the Chung Wah Society awards a worthy recipient the Bill Wong Meritorious Award in recognition of outstanding services to the Society. The award is named after Mr Bill (William) Wong, who was general secretary of Chung Wah for a continuous period of 40 years (1955 - 1994). Mr Wong was also temple officer until 2005 and was granted an Order of Australia in 1996.

At our recent Annual General Meeting, Antonio Tjung was announced as the worthy recipient of the 2023 Bill Wong Meritorious Award. Antonio has been an active supporter of the Society through his catering involvement.

At the 2023 Moon Festival function held late last year, Antonio announced that he would be donating all his proceeds from the event towards the Lion Dance Troupe's fundraising efforts to attend the Bendigo Easter Festival in 2024, which was a significant contribution towards the trip.

Antonio has also provided invaluable pro bono advice relating to kitchen equipment and food safety standards. Congratulations Antonio!



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

Our annual Children's Christmas Party was another hit - with over 90 people in attendance! It wouldn't be a Chung Wah party without the delicious party food and yummy desserts. Classic cocktail frankfurts and ice-cream jelly are always a hit amongst the children (and the adults too!).

The kids had a blast jumping on the jumping castle in the comfort of our airconditioned Hall and also took time to make some fantastic Christmas cards and craft for loved ones.



Mums and dads, and even aunties and uncles got involved in our party games - with the favourite "Getting Ready for Christmas" team activity being a big hit. Teams of adults and kids had to "prepare" for Christmas by decorating the Christmas tree and their Santa in preparation for the festive season.



Santa Claus took time out of his busy schedule to pop in for a quick visit to deliver presents to the kiddies and to catch the end of our fantastic Chung Wah band. The band did a great job yet again with their musical talents in playing Christmas carols, led by our very special singer Amanda Ah Toy. Congratulations to Chantelle Chin on winning the Christmas raffle!

A big thank you to all the helpers that made the day possible. It was a great morning!





CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY CONTINUED...





CHINESE NEW YEAR

Chinese New Year Banquet

The Chinese New Year Banquet was held on 27 January 2024 at the Turf Club. We had great performances from the dragon team, with our normal team joined by 2 extra dragons for The Year of the Dragon. The Lion Dance Troupe performed a captivating routine on the high jongs (stilts), with the crowd cheering the team through their set.

Guests danced the night away with the talented band MuziKalye Trio and there were 12 lucky winners who took home raffle ticket prizes.



Thank you to the many volunteers who gave up their time to help and assist. A big thank you to: The Chung Wah Society Dragon & Lion Dance Troupe, The Chung Wah Society Patron Mr Dick Griffiths, Total Event Services, Darwin City Hotel, Chin Property Group, Hanuman, Wharf One, Just Looking Boutique, Nightcliff Newsagency, Paul Kirby MLA, Elements Wellness, Chilax Body

Therapy, SBS and The Northern Territory Government.

Chinese New Year Festival

The Chinese New Year Festival was held on 3 February 2024 at the Darwin Netball Stadium. Guests were entertained with line dancing, cooking demonstrations, Chinese dance, Tai Chi, knife sharpening demonstrations, Mah Jong demonstrations, table tennis demonstrations, painting shows and knot tying. The Chung Wah Society's Jade Dragons, Dragon & Lion Dance Troupe performed multiple times throughout the day, including the popular street parade through the stadium.

There was a range of delicious food on offer, which included Chung Wah's famous satees.

A big thank you to the food vendors, performers, presenters, activity stalls and the many volunteers who gave up their time to help and assist with delivering such a successful event. Thank you to the Chung Wah Society Dragon & Lion Dance Troupe and Jade Dragons Dance Troupe, BBQ Lady, Happy Garden, Pho Bistro & Grill, Yogi's Way, Xpresso Mobile Café, ZZAN, Rigney's Kitchen, Curled, Taste of Asia, Cool Kids & Co, SBS, The Northern Territory Government, Darwin Line Dancing, Charles Darwin University, Alfred's, Darwin Chinese Mah Jong Club, Australia China Friendship Society, Green Plum Tai Chi, Darwin Table Tennis Association, Confucius Institute, Badminton NT, CGee's Mirror On the Wall and Total Event Services.





CHINESE NEW YEAR CONTINUED...





CHINESE NEW YEAR CONTINUED...





CHINESE NEW YEAR CONTINUED...





LOST IN SHANGHAI WITH JANE HUTCHENCE

A former foreign correspondent working in China, the United Kingdom, and the Middle East, Jane Hutchence, presented the news on the Friday *ABC Morning Show* and hosted the series *One Plus One* from 2010 to 2019. Jane was raised in Hong Kong to journalist parents, her mother being of Scottish and Shanghainese heritage, and she studied journalism in Australia. Jane is the author of three major books and specialises as a communications consultant today.



Throughout her adventurous journalism career, Jane was intrigued by her mother's turbulent childhood in pre-Communist Shanghai. It's a tale of an ordinary Eurasian family in extraordinary times, set against the backdrop of fading colonial opulence and looming war.

After visiting Shanghai in 2018, Jane began searching for the truth about Beatrice, Jane's mother, who had difficult beginnings but became a journalist on the *South China Morning Post*. This was the genesis of Jane's *Lost in Shanghai* performance.



Following an approach by the Darwin Entertainment Centre, Melanie Chin and the Museum facilitated a storytelling workshop for 35 seniors and Museum volunteers and supporters. The workshop was great fun, with everyone concocting a family story based on artefacts and photographs from their collections and in response to cues and prompts from Jane.



Several seniors got to their feet and told their story about their artefact or photograph. Two days later, some 25 Seniors and Volunteers attended Jane's performance at the Entertainment Centre.

All were highly impressed by Jane's ability to narrate her fascinating story for nearly two hours without notes. The accompanying music composed and performed by Dr Terumi Narushima using a variety of Asian instruments was equally impressive. The performance was followed by a lively question-and-answer session with Jane. All in all, it was a different and enjoyable couple of days.





NORTHERN GATEWAYS CONFERENCE: 150 YEARS OF CHINESE IN THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

In August 2014, the Chinese Museum convened the inaugural History and Culture Day for Seniors attended by more than 100 local interstate senior citizens. The feature event was a presentation entitled 'The Dragon Descends on Darwin' by local historians Peter and Sheila Forrest, which provided a comprehensive overview of the Chinese community's history and contributions to the Northern Territory.

The Forrests made specific mention of the fact that the 5th of August, 2014, was the 140th anniversary of the arrival of the ss Vidar, which brought the first boatload of Chinese labourers to the Northern Territory. They suggested that the Chinese community prepare for the 150th anniversary in 2024 and plan some form of commemoration and celebration of that historic event.

To this end, the Chinese Museum is co-hosting the conference *Northern Gateways: Chinese Heritage and History in Northern Australia* from September 20th to 23rd 2024.

By "co-hosting", it is meant that this will be the 9th biennial "No-Fuss" conference of Chinese Heritage in North Australia Incorporated. CHINA Inc., as it is known, is a Queensland-based organisation dedicated to improving the understanding and appreciation of the contribution of Chinese history and heritage to the settling of Australia north of the Tropic of Capricorn. Peter and Sheila Forrest will deliver the keynote address, specifically to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the arrival of the Chinese in the Northern Territory.

The conference is open to all. An impressive array of presenters, from everyday amateur historians to leading history and archaeological academics, have already committed to the conference. More than a third of the presentations are directly about Darwin and the Northern Territory. Among the many intriguing presentations is one by Ely Finch, who visited the Museum and the Seniors lunch in 2022. Ely, a leading linguist and translator, will tell us about Australia's Chinese Language Place Names.

See the flyer in this edition about how to register for the conference.

BENDIGO EASTER FESTIVAL

In March 2024, the Chung Wah Society Lion and Dragon dance troupe attended the Bendigo Easter Festival. The Bendigo Easter Festival is the home of Dai Gum Loong, one of the largest Imperial Dragons in Australia, with the Festival just recently passing 150 years old.

Dai Gum Loong parades during Easter with many Lion and Dragon dance troupes from across Australia. The Chung Wah Society was privileged to be among the troupes invited to attend.

After fundraising for several years our troupe from Darwin was able to make the trip after last performing in 2019.

For many of our troupe members this was their first time participating.

The Lion Dance troupe had a recent promotion of members to the "seniors" level, where they were able to display their skills parading alongside many other troupes from across the country. All of the Lion Dancers put on memorable performances, with a spectacular "awakening" display, as well as the long choreographed parades that took place day & night.

Being year of the Dragon in 2024, the Chung Wah Society also sent down our Dragon Dance troupe to participate.



BENDIGO EASTER FESTIVAL CONTINUED...

This was the first time that the Chung Wah Society has performed a Dragon Dance outside of the NT. The Dragon Dance troupe was fortunate for being allowed to use the Dragon "Wei" borrowed from the Chinese Youth Society of Melbourne. The Dragon Dance troupe paraded and performed alongside the Lion Dance troupe, making this trip one of the largest contingencies of performers from Darwin to date.

While short, the Easter weekend also proves a valuable learning opportunity. With many different visiting Lion and Dragon Dance troupes participating, each was able to workshop with one another



providing their own unique insights and skills.

Our troupe from Darwin was able to learn and share from this experience.

The trip was an immense success, and was only possible due to the many hours of our volunteer coordinators, combined with generous support from the public and the other Lion and Dragon dance troupes.





BENDIGO EASTER FESTIVAL CONTINUED...





BENDIGO EASTER FESTIVAL CONTINUED...





JUNIOR LION DANCE TROUPE GRADUATION



Last month, Steve and I had the privilege of hosting our first official graduation ceremony for the Junior Lion Dance troupe on the 27th April 2024.

This particular group of juniors had all been training together for between 3-4 years, with some of them starting as young as four years old on their first day!

Our initial minimum age for Junior Troupe members before that was six years old, but we were quickly humbled by how many four and five year olds could pick up lion dance routines and had so much passion for lion dance as a whole.

We have been so lucky to be able to watch such a dedicated young group of kids grow into a team and true friends and are so excited to see them perform as Intermediates under the direction and guidance of Brandon Ting and Hannah Lo.



We have now been able to expand our Juniors into 2 separate groups, the Kindy Lion Dance Troupe (ages 4-6) and the Junior Lion Dance Troupe (ages 7-10) and are beyond delighted that the Chung Wah Lion Dance Troupe continues to grow and share the culture and history with the next generation.

Article written by: Emily Tjung



CAR SCAVENGER HUNT

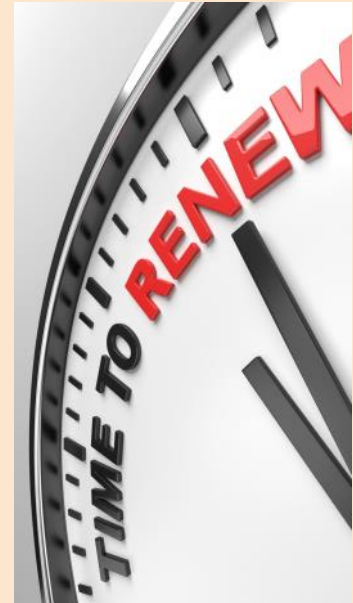


Includes sausage sizzle and soft drinks after the hunt.

See registration email sent out to the Membership for registration form and team entry fee payment instructions.

MEMBERSHIP AND CARPARKING RENEWALS

Membership and carparking fees are due by 30 June 2024.



WELCOME WEE LITTLE ONES

Welcome Camilla Majella Griffiths, born on 16 April 2024. Congratulations to Rhys, Liv, Penelope and Lucia.



Blake and Brooke Timms are delighted to announce the arrival of Lachlan Blake on 23 April 2024 - little brother to Logan and future lion dancer.



A TIME FOR 90s BIRTHDAYS! - THE GOOD OLD OLDIES...

Congratulations to Norma Fong Lim, who turned 95 in February! She celebrated her birthday surrounded by her girls and family.



Congratulations to Ray Yee, who turned 90 in March! He partied with his children and extended family in Sydney. Uncle Ray was a past President of Chung Wah.



Congratulations to Leila Chin, who turned 90 in March! She celebrated her birthday with all of her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. Many would know Auntie Leila as our master chef at Chung Wah's Seniors luncheons.





CONDOLENCES


The Committee and members of the Chung Wah Society extend our deepest sympathy and condolences to Po and extended family on the passing of Daniel Chow on 14 November 2023. Daniel will be remembered for his valued contribution to the Society as the Chinese Secretary for the past 13 years.



Chung Wah Society vales Alan Graham Moy who passed away on 4 April 2024. The Committee and members of the Chung Wah Society extend our deepest condolences to the Moy family and friends.



CONTACT US

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DARWIN CHINESE TEMPLE THE CHINESE YEAR OF THE DRAGON



FESTIVALS AT THE TEMPLE

Saturday 10th February	New Year Official service at midnight Friday 9th February
Tuesday 13th February	Hoy Yin (Opening seals) Official services at 0800 hours
Sunday 18th February	Yook Wong Di Official services at 0800 hours
Sunday 25th February	Chin Lo Kwan Official service at 0800 hours
Thursday 28th March	Kwan Yin Official services at 0800 hours
Thursday 11th April	Buk Di Official services at 0800 hours
Tuesday 23rd April	Yuen Hun & Yee Ling Official services at 0800 hours
Thursday 18th July	Lu Bun Official services at 0800 hours
Wednesday 24th July	Kwan Yin Official services at 0800 hours
Monday 29th July	Kwang Sing Di Official services at 0800 hours
Sunday 25th August	Toy Buk Sing Goon Official services at 0800 hours
Monday 9th September	Ho Wong Official services at 0800 hours
Monday 21st October	Kwan Yin Official services at 0800 hours
Wednesday 30th October	Wah Kwong Official services at 0800 hours

OTHER FESTIVALS

Sunday 31st March	Ching Ming Festival Official service at Memorial Chapel at 0900 hours Then at the Chinese Memorial Cemetery – Stuart Park
Saturday 17th August	Yee Lun Festival Official service at Memorial Chapel at 1900 hours Then in the open space between the hall and Temple

<u>Other Festivals Observed</u>	Monday 10th June	Dragon Boat Festival	No Official service at Temple
	Tuesday 17th September	Moon Festival	No Official service at Temple
	Saturday 21st December	Doong Festival	No Official service at Temple

NORTHERN GATEWAYS CONFERENCE: 150 YEARS OF CHINESE IN THE NORTHERN TERRITORY



Conference Announcement

Chinese Heritage in Northern Australia Incorporated (CHINA Inc.)

in association with

Chung Wah Society's NT Chinese Museum

The 9th CHINA Inc "no fuss" Conference

Northern Gateways: Chinese Heritage and History in Northern Australia

Darwin, Northern Territory – 20th to 23rd September 2024

On 5th August 1874, the SS *Vidar* arrived in Port Darwin with 186 indentured Chinese labourers onboard. To mark this sesquicentenary of Chinese settlement in the Northern Territory, the Chung Wah Society's NT Chinese Museum will be co-hosting the CHINA Inc 2024 biennial conference in Darwin.

Under the broad theme *Northern Gateways: Chinese Australian History and Heritage in Northern Australia*, the conference aims to explore sub-themes relevant to the Chinese in north Australia, such as: Chinese families and family history; ports, travel routes and connections; objects as tellers of history in collections, art and archaeology; direct action and courts; welfare, repatriation and war; scattered legacies of objects and language; and worship and temples.

As with previous CHINA Inc conferences, this is a forum and networking opportunity for history and heritage researchers, archaeologists, academics, museum and collection managers, family historians and emerging scholars. The conference is open to all who wish to attend to see and hear these illuminating presentations.

Conference fees will be kept to the absolute minimum and advertised when formal registrations open.

Key Dates

1 June 2024	Open conference registration and preliminary conference program.
1 July 2024	Confirmation of conference program and final call for registration.
20 August 2024	Registration close.

Join the Conference 2024 mailing list by emailing museum@chungwahnt.asn.au