

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

Patron

Mr Richard (Dick) Griffiths

Vice Patrons

Mr Austin Chin (Junior)
Mr Alfred On OAM

President

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 24 November, 10:30am - Annual General Meeting
- Friday 6 December, 10:00am - Seniors' Christmas Party
- Sunday 8 December, 10:00am - Children's Christmas Party
- Saturday 18 January - Eye dotting of the new Lions/Dragons and blessing out of Lions
- Wednesday 29 January - Chinese New Year
- Lion Dance Street Blessings
 - Friday 7 February - Casuarina Shopping Square
 - Saturday 8 February - Darwin CBD/Parap and Fannie Bay
 - Sunday 9 February - Palmerston and Coolalinga
 - Saturday 15 February - Northern Suburbs
- TBC - Chinese New Year Ball
- TBC - Chinese New Year Festival
- TBC - Cleaning of the Temple

FROM THE COMMITTEE

The Committee would like to wish all of our members a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. There are a number of Christmas events planned for members of all ages and we would encourage you to participate.



If there is anything our members would like to discuss or if there are ideas on things/activities you would like CWS to consider, please do not hesitate to get in contact with a Committee Member or better yet, come along to our Annual General Meeting and share your thoughts!





REMINDER NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Sunday 24 November, 10:30am

Chung Wah Society Hall, 25 Woods Street, Darwin

All members, past and present are invited to attend. New members are especially welcome.
For further information, please contact admin@chungwahnt.asn.au.

MOON FESTIVAL

On Saturday 14th of September, the Chung Wah Society Moon Festival was held at the Chung Wah courtyard where we saw around 350 guests celebrating with family and friends. It was a lovely night filled with festivities.

Entertainment on the night was provided by our talented Lion and Dragon troupe members. This year, the Kindy Lion Dance Troupe made their first Moon Festival appearance! Special thanks to Emily and Steve for your time and dedication put into training the young ones.

Congratulations also to Hannah and Brandon, who are the newest coordinators for the Intermediate Lion Dance Troupe this year who put on a fabulous performance. It is great to see the younger generations finding their passion in Lion Dance and we look forward to seeing many more performances in the future!

Special mention to Joseph and Roland for their leadership, support and guidance for the Senior Lion Dance Troupe and the Dragon Dance Troupe. At the end of the evening, we had a special presentation for our newest Senior Lion Dance Troupe members who were presented with their official Senior polo shirts. The performance they put on that night was their first performance as Seniors and we could not be prouder of their progression and dedication in their training.

The children's lantern parade was also enjoyed by everyone on the night and we had a great turnout of children (and adults!) participating in the parade.

The delicious dinner, desserts and moon cakes on the night were catered by the one and only, Antonio Tjung from Antonio's Kitchen. As always, thank you for your time and generosity at our Moon Festivals year after year. We would also like to acknowledge our many sponsors who donated some great prizes for the raffle draw on the night. Thank you to Darwin City Hotel, United Realty, NT Emporium, Happy Garden, Nightcliff Newsagency, Helen Menzies and Kopi Stop/Makan Stop.

Thank you also to our wonderful MC Frank Schembri for running the festivities on the night. Of course, we cannot forget to mention the Chung Wah Committee members, troupe members and many other volunteers who tirelessly volunteer their time into planning, setting up, training and preparing for what was a great night enjoyed by all.

All our spectacular performances on the night were recorded and available to watch on our Youtube channel <https://www.youtube.com/@cwsdarwin>.





MOON FESTIVAL CONTINUED...





MOON FESTIVAL CONTINUED...





MOON FESTIVAL CONTINUED...





MOON FESTIVAL CONTINUED...





NT CHINESE MUSEUM - CHINA INC. CONFERENCE - NORTHERN GATEWAYS: CHINESE HISTORY AND HERITAGE IN NORTHERN AUSTRALIA

In the end, 98 people registered for the conference, which was held over three and a half days from 20 to 23 September. This was the ninth biennial convened by CHINA Inc. and, in part, commemorated 150 years of Chinese settlement in the Northern Territory. This is the largest attendance at a CHINA Inc. conference.

By the way, CHINA Inc. is an acronym for the Queensland-based organisation Chinese Heritage in Northern Australia, and this was the first time its conference had been held outside Queensland. Attendees ranged from academics to family historians to ordinary people interested in their family or Northern Territory History. Conference papers must focus on Chinese history and heritage north of the Tropic of Capricorn. Of the 25 papers presented to the Conference, 16 dealt with Darwin and the Northern Territory.



But there is more to a conference than academic papers. Many people within the history fraternity are familiar conference participants, but others, including yours truly, only knew each other via email or Zoom and were meeting for the first time. Some people were returning to their family roots, such as the three Pak Poy sisters and their brother whose grandparents lived here until World War II. As Doug Fong from Broome said: "For many Chinese people in Australia, Darwin is their capital city."

About 100 people attended the Friday function, where the Lord Mayor, Kon Vatskalis, officially opened the conference. Allan O'Neil launched his book *Midwives, Merchants and Miners: The Hang Gongs of Darwin and Creswick - An Australian Family*. Adam Worrall, Director of the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, opened the Museum's Research Library. Having received an official welcome from a Larrakia representative, the crowd was entertained by the Chung Wah Lion Dance Troupe.

On Sunday, conference goers had a choice of two 'expeditions'. The first was a more sedate 'hop-on/hop-off' bus tour of Darwin's cultural institutions, such as the Military Museum, Aviation Museum, Fanny Bay Gaol and the Museum and Art Gallery. A group of 33 avid expeditioners paid for a tour of the 12-mile Chinese Settlement (near Brocks Creek) and Pine Creek, where Eddy Ah Toy entertained them. All described the tour as a long, hot day but thoroughly enjoyable. Many participants still had the energy to take advantage of the VIP facility at the Mindil Beach Markets to enjoy the food, a quiet drink and the fantastic sunset.



All in all, the conference was a great success, and the Museum has received many written accolades. While it will take a few months, the publication of the conference proceedings will demonstrate that significant contributions have been made to the historical record of the Chinese people in Northern Australia. A fantastic, hard-working team was behind the conference, and those people know that the Museum appreciates their efforts. Finally, the Museum records its thanks to the Northern Territory Government and the Community Benefit Fund for the financial assistance provided.





NT CHINESE MUSEUM - CHINA INC. CONFERENCE - NORTHERN GATEWAYS: CHINESE HISTORY AND HERITAGE IN NORTHERN AUSTRALIA CONTINUED...





BUDDHISM IN AUSTRALIA



Back in August, Dr Anna Halafoff (Curtin University) and Dr Sue Smith (Charles Darwin University) visited the Museum and Temple and interviewed (video recorded) Austin Chin, Dennis Low, and Neville Jones. Anna is the leader of a larger academic team whose research project is Buddhism in Australia: Wellbeing, Belonging, and Social Engagement. The project aims to develop new knowledge about the history of Buddhism in Australia and the contemporary lives of Australian Buddhists, Buddhist practices, social engagement and the flows of immigration across the Indian and Pacific oceans.

The most outward representation of Buddhism in our Temple is Guanyin, considered the Goddess of Mercy and the physical embodiment of compassion. Guanyin (also written as Kwan Yin, Kwun Yam, Kun Lam and other ways) originated from the bodhisattva Avalokitesvara, incorporated into the Chinese folklore, along with Taoism and Confucianism, when Buddhist missionaries began visiting China from India.

Another academic team member is the monk, the Venerable Dr Juewei Shi, who, along with Dr Halafoff, came to the Temple and Museum on 9 September. Juewei, originally from Taiwan, is the Director of Humanistic Buddhism at the Nan Tien Institute, Wollongong. This is the site of the Fo Guang Shan Temple. Besides being a monk with a PhD in Religious Studies, Juewei holds master's degrees in Business Administration and Computer Science and Engineering and began her career as an applied research and development engineer in artificial intelligence.

The Museum receives many interesting people, making it a joy to volunteer there, and Juewei was undoubtedly one of those. Typical of a Buddhist monk, Juewei exuded calm and peace.





NEW IN THE LIBRARY—MIDWIVES, MERCHANTS AND MINERS

Tucked away in the back of the Museum is a battered family tree scroll for Lee Hang Gong. The battered appearance stems from being one of museum visitors' most popular family trees. In 2018, this tree comprised 319 people; today, the computer database holds 845 records for 644 people.

At the recent conference, Darryl Low Choy, President of the Chinese Australian Historical Society, officially launched Allan O'Neil's book *Midwives, Merchants and Miners: The Hang Gongs of Darwin and Creswick—An Australian Family*. The book is the history of the second generation of the family - the five children born in Victoria and two in China. Lee Hang Gong was born in China in 1836, and in 1863, in Victoria, he married Sarah Ann Bowman, born in London in 1844. The family came to the Territory around 1880.



Midwives, Merchants and Miners

The Hang Gongs of Darwin and Creswick
- An Australian Family -

李挂锣

Allan O'Neil



Allan is the grandson of the third child, Jane Elizabeth, who is known to many Darwin people by her married name, Jane Tye. During the 1920s and 1930s, the midwife Jane delivered many Darwin Chinese babies into the world. After Mavis Moo's *Our Moo Heritage* and Glenice Yee's *Through Chinese Eyes*, Allan's book is the third detailed Northern Territory Chinese family history to be published. Allan spent over 25 years researching this book, and he now has the task of writing the stories of the third, fourth and fifth generations.

The book is available to read in the Museum's Research Library and is also available for sale.

SENIORS CELEBRATIONS

The Seniors Group has had an eventful two months of celebrations. So much food, fun and friendship was enjoyed on all occasions.

The Group had a belated Moon Festival luncheon on 11 October due to the many birthday celebrations. Thank you to Ah Yang and Mary Lei for your generous donation to provide lunch and the five tins of moon cakes. Much appreciation is given to Ah Yang to assist with preparing and cooking the lunch.

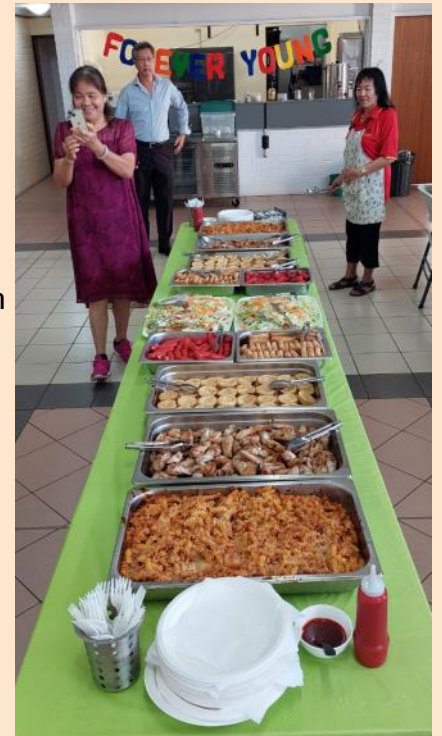




SENIORS CELEBRATIONS CONTINUED...



On 16 August the group enjoyed celebrating Seniors Month with the theme "Forever Young" and feasting on children style party food. A fun day had by all.



On 30 August, thank you to Mrs Bee Soong for hosting lunch to celebrate Mr Alfred On's OAM 91st birthday.



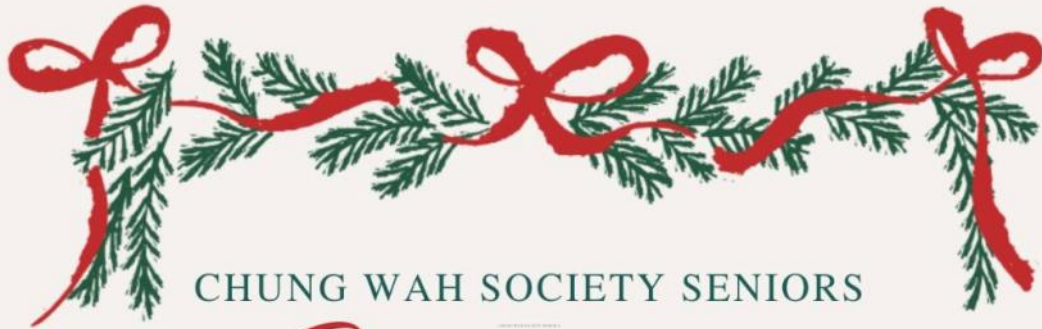
On 13 September, thank you to Mrs Mary Greenwood for hosting lunch to celebrate her 92nd birthday.



On 27 September, thank you to Eva Lowe's family for hosting lunch to celebrate their mother's 90th birthday.



SENIORS' CHRISTMAS PARTY



CHUNG WAH SOCIETY SENIORS

*Christmas
Party*

FRIDAY DECEMBER 6TH 10AM - 2PM

Chung Wah Hall, 25 Woods Street Darwin

RSVP for catering purposes by 2 December

Melanie 0412903980



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

**OH
WHAT FUN!**
• JOIN US FOR SOME •
Holly Jolly Fun
TO CELEBRATE
CWS Children's
Christmas Party
DEC 8 SUN 10am-2pm
Chung Wah Society Hall
25 Woods Street
Registration form and monies must be received
by **Monday 25 November 2024**
For more information please contact **Natasha Yuen** on: **0400 528 634** or **mullet2288@hotmail.com**



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY CONTINUED...



2024 CHUNG WAH SOCIETY CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY Sunday 8th December 2024, 10:00am – 2:00pm

Registrations must be received by Monday 25 November 2024
Details for children – 12 years old and under only

No.	Name	F	M	Age and DOB
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				


	Child member	Child non-member	Adult member	Adult non-member	Total
Number of attendees	x \$20	x \$30	x \$10	x \$15	\$

<p>Name:</p> <p>Address:</p> <p>Suburb:</p> <p>Postcode:</p> <p>Phone:</p> <p>No. of adults attending:</p>	<p>Payment can be made by:</p> <p>1. Cash or Cheque mailed to: CWS CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY Chung Wah Society Inc. GPO Box 1801 Darwin NT 0801; or</p> <p>2. Direct Deposit: CWS Account Details (WESTPAC Darwin) BSB: 035-309 Account No.: 250-796 Account Name: Chung Wah Society</p> <p>If paying by option 2, please uniquely identify your payment i.e. "J Smith Kids Xmas" and send a copy of your transaction receipt.</p> <p>For any queries, please contact Natasha Yuen on 0400 528 634.</p> <p><u>Registration forms to be emailed to</u> <u>Natasha Yuen – mullet2288@hotmail.com</u></p>
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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