A Warm Welcome for our Zhejiang Friends!

ACFS WA welcomes Zhejiang representatives accompanying high school students from the sister state education exchange programme, “Experience WA”. An enjoyable banquet dinner at Shanghai Tea Garden restaurant brought together many old and new friends. Roz Hanley, a long time friend of Zhejiang Youxie, reports on the visit, page 2.

Photo courtesy of Australian Asia Business Weekly.

Upcoming Events:

Mid-Autumn Moon Festival

National Day Picnic / Bushwalk

Details on Page 7
Zhejiang English Language Competition Winners Delegation visit to Perth
5 - 10 August 2013

Delegation Report by Roz Hanley

The delegation comprised of 25 Zhejiang high school students and 6 adult delegates who were representatives from Zhejiang Provincial People’s Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (ZPPAFFC), Zhejiang Provincial Education Association for International Exchange, Zhejiang Department of Education and Zhejiang TV Station.

Mr Zhu Xin, the delegation leader has been involved with ACFSWA in his position as the interpreter and liaison person for a number of Perth visits by ZPPAFFC delegations and is a valued friend of the Society.

It was a joyous occasion for the Society to welcome and host a dinner for 6 members of this special group from our Sister State in China. Our guests and members enjoyed a delicious meal with many toasts to “good health and friendship” and much reminiscing on past meetings.

Experiencing WA - English Language Competition of Zhejiang High School Students

The Sister State relationship between WA and Zhejiang Province was established in 1987. Since that time, many exchanges and projects involving trade, resources, culture and education have had mutually beneficial outcomes.

One success story is the establishment of the “Experiencing WA – English Language Competition of Zhejiang High School Students” program which is jointly sponsored by the WA and Zhejiang Provincial Governments. The competition, held annually, commenced in 2005 and the prize being a free trip to WA. More than 300,000 students now compete each year for this prize and after elimination competitions, only 25 are selected for the winning prize.

The 25 winners of this year’s competition experienced home stay with local families and attended classes at 5 metropolitan high schools. These schools offer Chinese Studies as part of their curriculum. The students were able to make friends with WA students, improve their English language skills and experience Australian customs and the WA lifestyle.

Activities included a tour of Parliament House, Kings Park Botanic Gardens and a visit to Caversham Wildlife Park.

After Perth, the delegation will tour the highlights of Sydney before they return to China.
Lindsay White entertains Ms Zhou Zhaoxing, ZPPAFFC and Mr Xu Tieming, Zhejiang TV through “universal language”, at the ACFS WA hosted banquet dinner for Zhejiang Delegates.

SOCIAL NEWS

The Dragon Boat Festival, Duan Wu Jie (端午节) falls on the fifth day of the fifth month of the Chinese lunar calendar. This year, the festival fell on the 12 June in the Western calendar. The Chinese Consulate joined members, friends and guests for a fun BBQ with beautiful Swan River vistas at Heathcote Reserve, Applecross on 8 June.

Deputy Consul General Dr Liu Yutong, represented Consul General Madame WANG Yinger at the members’ event. Heartfelt thanks to Deputy Consul General Dr Liu, Consul Madame Deng Fang, Mr Dong Jie and Mr Li Jiangwei, and their families for making a very memorable Duan Wu Jie in 2013.

William (left) sharing BBQ cooking fun with Chinese Consulate friends, Mr Dong Jie and his wife.

An Evening of Warmth and Friendship

ACFS members shared a lovely spicy hotpot night in July, at Ding’s Fresh Bun Restaurant.

Well Done to Tierney for organising a brilliant social occasion to meet some newer members over delicious aromas!
Ancient Chinese Observatory Revealed in Perth, Western Australia

Local Historian Lynda Nutter, a member of ACFS WA, shares with us how she has uncovered the remains of an Ancient Chinese Astronomical Observatory in the hills near Perth - one of the Nanhai locations in the Four Seas Sun Shadow Survey conducted by Guo Shoujing and others, under Emperor Kublai Khan.

Ten years of research has concluded that an unusual Stone Walls Site near Mundaring, was built as part of the Prime Meridian Survey, centred on Beijing during the Thirteenth Century, to refine the scale by which all was measured and to begin the detailed mapping of the World. Lynda's analysis of terrestrial survey data by the Midland Survey Company in 2007, indicates that the extensive stone walls built on a steep hillside in the Helena Valley, have the same dimensions as the giant observatories built during the Yuan dynasty - and are comparable to the “half size” observatory tower still standing at Deng Feng, in Henan Province. (The Deng Feng Observatory was referred to as Yaang Chen during the Yuan era.)

An engraved stone on top of the hill near the stone walls in Helena Valley, has a mysterious and complex message, but the Chinese Characters “Da Bai”, meaning Venus, as well as the Yuan character are identifiable on the stone.

Lynda has gathered evidence from Chinese, European and Aboriginal historical records in order to support her hypothesis. These included the Chinese characters featured on the final pages of the Mao Kun chart used by Admiral Zheng He, which relate to a mountain or Hill of Stone Walls in the area previously identified by Professor Zhiqiang Zhang of Beijing University, as being situated in the area of Western Australia.

Lynda is convinced that the Helena Valley Observatory Walls site can be matched exactly to the historical accounts of Nanhai, which describe it as a Southern Ocean location, said to be situated beyond the Vermillion Cliff, which she thinks to be Red Bluff near Kalbarri.

Lynda also believes, the Matteo Ricci World Map* was drawn from primary data gathered in the 1270’s during the Chinese Nanhai Survey Years, not only in the Helena Valley, but also at another location in Tasmania at the Bay of Fires.

*Matteo Ricci was a Jesuit Missionary to Beijing who in 1601 is said to have drawn “The Impossible Black Tulip of Cartography”. Held at the Library of Congress, the “Ricci Map” is a comprehensive world map in Chinese, containing information that dates largely from the Yuan Dynasty and features detailed coastlines for continents Europeans had yet to discover. Notes in the margin say it was drawn from actual sundial, as far away as the south polar regions.
Currently working on the interesting relationships between European and Yuan Chinese measurement and mapping conventions, and how the Nanhai Survey data informed later European cartography, Lynda hopes for greater public awareness of her vital discoveries.

“It is quite incredible to realise that one of the most significant places on earth, related to geographical measurements and to astronomy is right here on our doorstep. We don’t have to travel to Egypt, South America or Samarkand, for one of the most significant places in the history of measurement is right here in Perth, and is a testament in stone to the long history of Chinese visits to Australia and the expertise in astronomy, which the Yuan dynasty Chinese possessed some 738 years ago in 1275.”

Further to the 2007 terrestrial data analysis, Lynda Nutter and the Swan Valley Nyungah Community applied for Lotterywest funds to conduct a Laser Survey of the site, which was carried out in early 2013 by Dr Petra Helmholtz of Curtin University Spatial Sciences Department.

Lynda has received the support of the Swan Valley Nyungah Community to share this insightful research with the Chinese Consulate in Perth. Following a personal site visit with Lynda, the Chinese Consul General in Perth is endeavouring to assist her with establishing academic contacts in China. Lynda was able to introduce Bella Bropho, spokesperson for the Swan Valley Nyungah Community to Consul General Madame Wang Yiner during the Consulate’s host dinner to thank all those involved in Lynda’s research and making the Consulate site visit possible.

On July 28th 2013 Bella Bropho, the spokesperson for the Swan Valley Nyungah Community, presented Consul General Madame Wang Yiner with the Laser survey data. This Gift of Friendship endeavours to share information with Chinese astronomy experts interested in further research on the Helena Valley Ancient Observatory walls.

Photo Courtesy of the Chinese Consulate in Perth.

Article courtesy of Lynda Nutter
The following is an excerpt of the poem Lynda has written to preface the future publication of her important findings at a scientific conference in 2014. The formal paper is expected to raise controversy among the academic scientific community:

Yin Yang

Lynda Nutter

First draw upon the earth a square of 81 degrees
The ultimate expression of the Yang
From Beijing to Bay of Fires, then it’s 45 degrees
To where longitude was solved in Samarkand

Then draw another square inside of 72 degrees
The distance from Helena to Beijing
And yet another square inside dimension 66.5
The distance from Helena to Yaang Chen

The nappe of the conic of the sundial we can see
And the minutes and the seconds all covert conveniently
The number of the meter is the measure of the Li
And the height of the gnomon stands in for Gravity

With Venus to agree upon a certain point in time
And Mercury to measure off the days
And Jupiter to put it in the context of the count
And Mirrors to enhance the sundials ways

But before we start to measure
On the Chi we must agree
At 24.525
Then all is harmony.

I feel a bit like Ricci* must have felt back in Beijing
When he came across the numbers and the measures of the thing
And how they must have struggled to keep the story stum
Hoping we would never notice the Elephant in the room

Europeans never visited those continents they mapped
They’d never sailed those coastlines
They never drew those maps!

And now we see the truth of it
The method in their ways
How the Earth was really measured
And how to count the days

How they came to West Australia
And Tasmania to measure
With great men like Roussi Guo Shoujing
And for the Khan’s great pleasure

The minutes and the seconds
In a method most sublime
Yin Yang Astronomy
A measure for all time
### Mid-Autumn Festival Cultural Event

The Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival, *Zhong Qiu Jie*, the 15th day of the 8th Lunar month, falls on 19 September this year. Mooncakes symbolise this traditional family reunion celebration.

In Perth, a *Mid-Autumn Chinese Martial Arts & Cultural Festival* will be held on 14th to 15th September. This cultural exchange event is jointly organised by Yarn Yee Tong Kungfu Academy of WA, Chung Wah Association and the Chinese Language and Cultural Centre. [See attached event flyer for details.]

A delegation from the Guangdong Chan Wu Cultural Centre in China will be giving two performances at the Octagon Theatre, on Saturday 14 September.

The Society has nominated the **3.30pm** performance for a members’ social with a casual dinner at a nearby Chinese restaurant to follow.

**Afternoon Show (3.30pm – 5pm) – Octagon Theatre, 14 September.**

Tickets for purchase directly from the Chung Wah Association, 128 James Street Northbridge.

Contact: Jade Zhang - 9328 8657
Email: chung wah@chungwh.org.au
Payment by cheque, cash or credit card. Credit card payment available over the phone

**Special ACFS seating reserved for booking until 6 September.**

The Chung Wah Association has kindly reserved an excellent block of seats to enable ACFS members and friends group seating together for the afternoon show. Available seating covers Rows F- G ($25) and H – J ($20) at the Octagon.

When booking, please advise if you wish to join the special ACFS seating arrangement. These reserved seats are available for purchase up until 6 September. For members unable to collect their paid tickets during Chung Wah's office hours, ACFS WA Secretary Teresa is happy to collect them on your behalf. Please inform the Chung Wah Office and Teresa will collect your paid ACFS group tickets on 6 September to hand over to you at 3pm on 14 September.

**Other Ticket Preferences**

Jade can also book other seat preferences or evening show tickets for you, which are outside of the ACFS reserved seating block.

**Dinner (5.45pm)**

Dinner Venue: University Asian Restaurant, 88 Broadway Nedlands.

Cost: Casual dinner with costs divided amongst table diners for shared dishes.

Contact: Tierney McPartland. Mobile: 0423 930 820  Email: mcpolandti@gmail.com
RSVP appreciated by 6 September.

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### National Day Picnic & Bushwalk

The People's Republic of China celebrates its National Day on 1 October.

Our Society will celebrate this festive occasion with a National Day Picnic and scenic bushwalk at Mundaring Weir on Sunday 6 October, from 11am to 3pm.

Members, their families and friends, together with staff and families from the Chinese Consulate General in Perth are cordially invited.

Please bring a Picnic luncheon.

**Venue:** Mundaring Weir Picnic area, situated near the walkway. Parking available.

For further enquiries, please email acfswa@gmail.com or leave a message on 0404 154 474 for a return call.
Membership Application/Donation Form

Please send this slip with your remittance to PO Box 62 KELMSCOTT WA 6991

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Mobile: .................................  Email: .................................

Membership Subscription (Please Circle)

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- Family $35.00
- Family Concession $25.00
- Concession $15.00
- Associate $45.00
- Corporate $55.00

And/or donation to support Scholarship Fund $ ............

Membership year 1st January to 31st December.

AUSTRALIA-CHINA FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY of WESTERN AUSTRALIA
Our Aims:
To promote friendship and understanding between the peoples of Australia and China and to provide assistance to educational and social welfare projects in China.

Our Activities:
We recruit, send and support teachers to work in schools and tertiary institutions in China.
We organise special social events for members and friends.
We assist Chinese students and delegations visiting Western Australia.
We arrange lectures and talks on China.
We publish a quarterly newsletter.
We publish a website at www.acfswa.com.au that contains information relating to the Society.

The Language Centre
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