



Chinese  
Heritage  
Association of  
Australia

澳洲華人歷史文物會  
Exploring and Sharing  
Australian Chinese Heritage and History

PO Box 1136  
Campbelltown NSW  
Australia 2560

Dear Members and Friends,

I hope you had a merry and joyful Christmas and a happy New Year. I hope you enjoyed the fireworks as much as I did.

### Chinese New Year



The City of Sydney Chinese New Year celebrations run from February 6th – 21st. New Year's Day is February 8th. A wide variety of events have been planned and information should be available soon at [www.sydneychinesenewyear.com](http://www.sydneychinesenewyear.com); as announced last year, there will be no twilight parade in 2016, due to the closure of George Street for the construction of the light rail.

“The festival’s main feature in 2016 will be Lunar Lanterns, with giant lanterns representing animal signs of the Chinese Zodiac at locations across the city centre from 6–14 February. Each location will be brought to life with colourful and lively performances by community groups for 9 days and nights. Lunar Lanterns will provide more opportunities to celebrate the lunar festival throughout the city centre, as well as its traditional heart in Chinatown.”

Source: <http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/explore/arts-and-culture/chinese-new-year>

### The Yin and Yang of the Monkey

Marilyn Dooley will be continuing her series on the Chinese Zodiac when she welcomes the Year of the Fire Monkey with her talk on February 6th at the Museum of Sydney. Join us in the Warrane Theatre (formerly the AGL Theatre) at 2.30 pm. Cost is \$10 per person. For bookings, contact Kathie Blunt on 4861 3078 or [dblunt@bigpond.net](mailto:dblunt@bigpond.net).



### Chinese New Year with the City of Sydney Libraries

The city’s libraries are undergoing a technology revolution in the way that their collections are accessed by borrowers – as they are unable to guarantee when each library, in turn, will be closed for updating, there will be no talks at Customs House Library this year.

There will, however, be a series of six posts on the City of Sydney Libraries Facebook page over the course of Chinese New Year under the CHAA logo. These posts will cover the years 1910 – 1942 with photos taken from the albums of Richard, Albert and Edward Cumines, including some featuring major historical events in Sydney’s life from a Chinese perspective – you will be able to find the posts at <https://www.facebook.com/coslibraries> after the City of Sydney Chinese New Year celebrations start.

### Chinese New Year with Australasian Arts and Stageworks

Australasian Arts and Stageworks, is presenting two productions for Chinese New Year.

Saturday, February 13th – **Monkey Magic Tales** presented by Daphne Lowe Kelley, Derek Quan and Trystan Go. Mitchell Theatre, Sydney Mechanics School of Arts 3 – 4 pm. This performance is free although donations are welcome. For bookings contact Daphne on 0417 655 233 or [lowekelley@bigpond.com](mailto:lowekelley@bigpond.com)

Saturday, February 20th – **Chinese Opera – Monkey King** - see the attached flyer.

Bookings are available for Parts I & II or Part II on its own. English sub-titles will be provided to enable non-Chinese speakers to enjoy the performances.

The role of the Monkey King is a highly specialised part - this will be played by Chinese actor HuaMin Mo, who will be coming to Sydney especially for this performance.

### Chinese New Year with the Chinese Women's Association

Join Dr Michael Williams at 12.30 pm for 1 pm on 13th February at the Sydney Mechanics School of Arts. Dr Williams will be discussing selected objects from **Chinese Australian History in 88 Objects**. Cost is \$8 – members, \$10 – public. Bookings are essential for catering purposes – call Marie Chan on 0410 582 338 or email [meilin@eftel.net.au](mailto:meilin@eftel.net.au)


### In Between Two

Performance 4A is presenting *In Between Two*, Joel Ma's recollections of his family, and in particular, his grandmother Edith Ma and her time at Chequers. This is a rare glimpse into Sydney's Chinese past, and is part of the Sydney Festival.

From January 21st – 24th at Carriageworks, 345 Wilson Street, Eveleigh. Tickets – \$35. Book at:

<http://www.sydneyfestival.org.au/2016/in-between-two>

**THE GLAMOUR OF CHINATOWN AT SYDNEY FESTIVAL**



Edith and Charlie Ma were well known in Sydney's Chinatown from the 1930s. Like many Chinese, they were involved in the fruit and veg business. After the war, Edith went into partnership with Keith and Dennis Wong in their sensationally successful nightclub Chequers. Edith greeted guests as they arrived and was eye witness to dramatic events, including a fatal shooting, that would eventually influence the family's destiny.

Their grandson Joel Ma reveals some of the behind-the-scenes story of the Ma family in Performance 4a's show IN BETWEEN TWO at Sydney Festival, with more wonderful photos like this, and some rare home movie footage too.

Jan 21-24  
Carriageworks  
345 Wilson Street, Eveleigh

Tickets \$35 BOOK NOW:  
<http://www.sydneyfestival.org.au/2016/in-between-two>

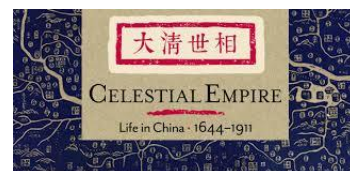
performance 4a

**SYDNEY FESTIVAL**  
7-26 JAN

### Celestial Empire – Canberra Exhibition

The National Library of Australia (NLA) is hosting an exhibition about life in China from 1644 to 1911, open from January 2nd to May 22nd. This is a not-to-be-missed event which features 300 years of Chinese culture and tradition from two of the world's great libraries – the NLA and the National Library of China. From life at court to life in the villages and fields, this is a glimpse into the world of Qing, China's last imperial dynasty and its wealth of cultural tradition.

The exhibition includes drawings and plans for Beijing's iconic palaces from the Yangshi Lei Archives, listed on UNESCO's Memory of the World Register in 2007 and never before seen in Australia. Also included is the NLA's Chinese Collection, including rare items from the London Missionary Society that offer a unique view of early western impressions of China.



The Chinese Women's Association is hoping to host a bus trip to Canberra for the Celestial Empire Exhibition, possibly in April. More details as they come to hand. CHAA members have been invited to participate if the trip is viable.

## Postage

Australia Post announced that domestic postage increased on Monday January 4th from 70¢ to \$1.00 for normal size letters. Oversized mail increased from \$1.40 to \$2.00. There has been no change to the subsidised postage scheme for pensioners. There are also new delivery schedules, with normal domestic mail taking up to 6 days for delivery; anything more urgent may be sent either by Express Post (special envelopes available at Australia Post shops) or by Priority Mail with a 50¢ priority sticker attached for delivery within 2 business days.

## Gold Opal card

I hope everyone who is eligible for a Gold Opal card has one as pensioner excursion tickets ceased to be sold on December 31st. You do not have to be an age pensioner to have one – anyone holding a Seniors Card or a DVA Widow/Widower Card is also eligible. You can use your Gold Opal card everywhere you used your pensioner excursion ticket.



If you still have not got yours, you can apply for one at one of 40 Opal card kiosks across the Sydney transport network; you should also be able to apply for one at a Service NSW centre or at a Service NSW booth in a shopping centre – I have seen booths at Macarthur Square and at Westfield Bondi Junction, and I am sure there are more around. If you are not sure, go to <https://www.opal.com.au/en/get-an-opal-card/find-an-opal-card-kiosk/> to find your nearest kiosk. You can also apply at <https://www.opal.com.au/> or on 13 67 25 (13 OPAL).



If the Opal card is new to you, you must make sure there is enough money on your card to pay for your fare. You can add from \$2.50 up to \$60.00 to your card at most newsagencies, some petrol stations, convenience stores, supermarkets and 7-Eleven stores. To find an Opal card retailer in your area, go to <http://www.retailers.opal.com.au/>

Once you have money on your Gold Opal card, simply tap on with your Opal card on the Opal card readers at train stations, ferry wharves, light rail stops and on buses to begin your first journey of the day. At the end of your journey, always tap off on a reader\* and the system automatically deducts \$2.50 from your card. On each subsequent trip on the same day, you will need to tap on and off again but no further fare will be deducted. **If you forget to tap off, you will be charged the full adult fare.**

\* *There's no need to tap off on Manly Ferry services because there's only one possible stop.*

Note that the access fee for a Gold Opal card for either of the airport railway stations (International or Domestic) is \$11.60 which is charged in addition to your fare.

If you have friends from interstate or New Zealand who hold a National Seniors Card, a Queensland Seniors Business Discount Card, a Commonwealth Seniors Health Card or a New Zealand SuperGold Card, they can also apply for a Gold Opal card two weeks before they intend visiting NSW. The application is processed on receipt and the Gold Opal card they are issued with is good for 90 days. If they are staying for longer than 90 days, they will need to reapply two weeks before the expiry of the current card.

The form is available at <https://www.opal.com.au/asset/a8adeb27-89c6-4069-abe4-714dec3ab087>.

## **New Branch of the Asian Australian Alliance**

Roland Sintos Coloma is Professor of Teacher Education and Global & Intercultural Studies at Miami University (Ohio, USA). His research interests include history and education; race, gender, and sexuality; Filipino/a and Asian diaspora. Professor Sintos Coloma will be officially launching the newest branch of AAA — the Asian Australian Academics Alliance (AAAA) on Saturday, January 16th, at the Sydney Mechanics School of Arts, 2 – 3.30 pm. AAAA will be the think tank for AAA but with a social advocacy component. Professor Sintos Coloma will also be speaking about the Asian diaspora, culture and identity and social movements and advocacy.

If you would like to attend the launch, please RSVP at: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/asian-australian-academic-alliance-launch-race-identity-advocacy-tickets-20197746002?ref=estw>

That's all for now.

*Cheryl Cumines*

President