



Chinese  
Heritage  
Association of  
Australasia

澳洲華人歷史文物會

Exploring and Sharing  
the History and Heritage of  
Chinese who have come to Australia

Dear Members and Friends,

### Lunar New Year Talks

A reminder that CHAA's Lunar New Year talk, *The Yin and Yang of the Rat*, will be presented by Marilyn Sue Dooley at 2:30 pm on Saturday 1st February 2020 in the Mitchell Theatre, Sydney Mechanics School of Arts, 280 Pitt Street. Check the flyer at the end of this newsletter for details.

This will be preceded by CAHS' Lunar New Year talk, *Lunar New Year Traditions and Memories*, at 12:30 pm in the same venue. Check the attached flyer for details. Bookings to [lowekelley@bigpond.com](mailto:lowekelley@bigpond.com) or 0417 655 233.

Again in the same venue, the Chinese Women's Association will be presenting *Contemplations in Southern Song Art* on Saturday 8th February. The speaker is Dr Richard Wu. Time: 12.00 for 12.30 pm start. Cost is \$10 members; \$12 non-members. Bookings to Rose Wong 0418 838 737 or Marie Chan 0410 582 338. Please note that bookings are essential. For further information, contact Mei-Lin Yum at [meilinyum@gmail.com](mailto:meilinyum@gmail.com).

### 82-84 Dixon Street

It is our understanding that 82-84 Dixon Street has passed all the requirements for heritage listing by the City of Sydney; however, it has not yet been made official. There is currently a development application (DA) in for the two shopfronts:

82 Dixon Street: Repair and repaint existing internal walls and ceiling; relamp existing lighting fixtures
84 Dixon Street: Demolish the existing internal swing door on ground floor. Repaint existing double swing door and to install new lock to it; Repair and repaint the existing walls on ground floor; Repaint the existing ceiling on ground floor; Repaint the existing shopfront.

Surely demolishing existing fittings and repainting without taking into account the historical value of what is already there goes against the spirit and the fact of heritage listing. CHAA and its sister associations are concerned that the person/people who submitted the application may be trying to get in before the listing is officially recognised. It is our understanding that they are not heritage specialists and the DA does not appear to be sympathetic to the heritage needs of the building.

Unfortunately, CHAA, CAHS and MOCA only found out about the DA by accident. The closing date for submissions or objections is 25th January – this in itself is a concern because it is so close, although the day being a Saturday, the closing date will be extended to the next working day i.e. Tuesday 28th January, as Monday 27th January is the gazetted public holiday for Australia Day.

CHAA will be submitting an objection as will CAHS and MOCA.

To read the DA, go to [cdn.online.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/dasearch/onexhibition/1460558-11939473.PDF](https://cdn.online.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/dasearch/onexhibition/1460558-11939473.PDF). If you would also like to make a submission, in support or *otherwise*, it can be sent to [dasubmissions@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au](mailto:dasubmissions@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au).

## **Art Exhibition**

The Australian Chinese Painting Society will be presenting its Lunar New Year art exhibition at The Shop Gallery, 112 Glebe Point Road, from 23rd – 29th January, from 11 am – 4 pm every day. Opening night, Thursday 23rd January, will be from 6 – 8 pm. Lilian Lai will have a number of paintings for sale, the proceeds from which will benefit MOCA. Please come along and support both the artists and MOCA.

## **The Museum of Chinese in Australia**

CHAA has heard that an announcement about the Haymarket Library site may be imminent. We remain hopeful that it will be a positive decision for MOCA.

If you would like to find out more about a museum that speaks to us about us, please check MOCA's website – <https://moca.net.au>.

## **Chinese Women's Relief Fund**

Some of CHAA's members may be aware that the Chinese Women's Relief Fund was formed in the 1930s for the purpose of raising money and supplying goods for China's refugees, displaced by the Japanese invasion. Some of you may even be related to members of the CWRF.

Peter Hack unexpectedly came upon a major find last year – a forgotten file with the most amazing collection of photographs and information related to the CWRF and its work. Peter will be presenting a talk for CAHS on Saturday 21st March at 2:30 pm in the Mitchell Theatre, Sydney Mechanics School of Arts, 280 Pitt Street and he has issued a personal invitation to CHAA members to come and find out what was hidden away in that file.

For more information, please see the attached PDF and Peter's invitation.

Peter was CHAA's guest speaker in July 2017 when he presented *The Art Deco Stores of Shanghai*, giving us an insight into the stores which were established by ex-patriot Chinese Australians.

That's all for now.

*Cheryl Cumines*  
President

2020 2020 2020 2020

**Chinese Australian Historical Society**  
*Invites you to*  
**Sydney Lunar Festival associated event**  
**LUNAR NEW YEAR TRADITIONS AND MEMORIES**

In addition to the Chinese, the Lunar New Year is celebrated by a number of other Asian communities. For this lunar new year, the Chinese Australian Historical Society has invited a panel of speakers to talk about how the lunar new year is celebrated in Vietnam, Korea and Malaysia. It will be interesting to note how many of these traditions and customs are still observed by families and communities from these countries who now live in Australia.

First speaker is **Mai Nguyen-Long** who will speak on Vietnam's Lunar New Year (Tet), followed by **Dr Frank Alafaci** on Korean and then **Colin Lee** on Malaysian Lunar New Year customs, traditions and memories.

Comparing and contrasting similarities and differences will result in a fascinating presentation. To get you into the spirit, Mai has provided this old Tet ditty.  
*Fatty pork, pickled onions, red parallel sentences;  
 Tet pole, red firecrackers, green rice cakes.*  
 However, modern living has brought some changes to this endearing ditty!

Please RSVP (this helps us with numbers for catering) or you can just turn up on the day.



**Mai Nguyen-Long**,  
 visual artist and  
 Vice president of  
 the Vietnam Centre Australia



**Dr Frank Alafaci**,  
 academic, founding member  
 and past president Asian  
 Australian Business Council



**Colin Lee**,  
 President of the Australian  
 Malaysian  
 Singaporean Association.

**Date:** Saturday 1 February 2020  
**Time:** 12.30 pm  
**Venue:** Mitchell Theatre,  
 Sydney Mechanics Schools of Arts,  
 Level 1, 280 Pitt Street, Sydney  
**Cost:** \$10 (including refreshments)  
**Bookings:** [lowekelley@bigpond.com](mailto:lowekelley@bigpond.com)  
 or 0417 655 233



**SYDNEY LUNAR FESTIVAL 2020**  
 25 JAN - 9 FEB  
[sydneylunarfestival.com](http://sydneylunarfestival.com)



**CHINESE AUSTRALIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY inc**  
 歷史協會  
 澳洲華人

Designed by Michael Quan

**AUSTRALIAN CHINESE PAINTING SOCIETY**  
**CNY ART EXHIBITION 2020**

**Celebrate New Year with Art**  
**Exhibition of rice paper paintings**

Art exhibition by members of the Australian Chinese Painting Society  
 Exhibition of works by:  
 Xiuying Chen, Nicole Gastrell, Lilian Lai, Penny Pan, Mo Shen, Patrick Siu,  
 Kit M. Tammy Szeto, Lucy Wang, Albert Wong

Opening day event, support and contribute to Museum of Chinese in Australia (MOCA) and get a painting by Lilian Lai

**The Shop Gallery**  
**112 Glebe Point Road, Glebe NSW 2037**  
 11am to 4pm everyday  
 23 Jan 2020 to 29 Jan 2020  
 Opening Thurs 23 Jan 2020 6pm to 8pm




**Australian Chinese Painting Society**

# The Yin and Yang of the Rat



**SATURDAY 1st February 2020 2.30 pm**

For the eighth successive year, the Chinese Heritage Association of Australia will present an informative, entertaining and illustrated talk on the Yin & Yang of the Chinese Zodiac.

The Zodiac Cycle returns to the first of its twelve totems in 2020 - the Rat - from 25 January 2020 until 11 February 2021. In this Year of the Metal Rat, CHAA member Marilyn Sue Dooley will consider many rats from the 'fire-rat', an imaginary creature of ancient China, thought to live in volcanoes of the South China Seas, to the so named "Ratty" of *The Wind in the Willows*.

The Yin and Yang of this year's Rat will be considered in aspects of Literature, Language and Legend, Myth, Religion and Society, in addition to its many-faceted personality.

**Mitchell Theatre, Sydney Mechanics School of Arts  
280 Pitt Street Sydney**

**Bookings essential.  
\$10 M; \$15 V – includes light  
refreshments**

📞 **Kathie – 4861 3078**  
✉️ **dblunt@bigpond.net.au**



<https://whatson.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/major-events/sydney-lunar-festival>



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