Season’s Greetings
& Best Wishes for the New Year to all our members and friends!

Members and friends are invited to join us to celebrate the end of yet another great year for our Society!

Our VIP guest is, once again, our beloved Patron Professor The Honourable Dame Marie Bashir, AD CVO.

11.30am Wednesday 7th December
at the Eight Modern Restaurant
Level 3, Market City
(above Paddy’s Markets)

Please call Margaret Kelly on 9810 4298 to see if any places are still available. Payment must be made by Monday 28 November.
President’s Report
What a wonderful experience it was for me to spend 20 days with a great group of members enjoying the scenery and the cultural treasures of Spain and Portugal. Highlights for me were elegant Madrid with its more than 90 fountains, buzzing Barcelona, the Prado and Picasso Museums, the Gaudi architecture, the intimate flamenco show in Seville, and of course the amazing awe-inspiring cathedrals. We had a lot of laughs along the way and my thanks to the tour members who looked after each other and especially me!

Back in Sydney we had a most delightful Greek night out dinner for the new Chinese Consul General to Sydney HE Mr Gu Xiaojie, his wife and other Consular staff. Then there was the State Theatre ‘Warrior Women of Yang’ performance by the China National Peking Opera Company, a most spectacular show with sumptuous colourful costumes and acrobatic excellence.

Our November day meeting featured Miranda Ho giving a very interesting talk on her ‘Spirit of the Long March’ tour, and we enjoyed and shared her experiences through her photographic slides.

ACFS AGM was on the 18th November and the official results are printed in this Bulletin. Dr Richard Wu gave us a wonderful and fascinating insight into Chinese Ink Painting through the decades. He also presented the Society with a recently published book ‘Psycho-

analysis and Psychotherapy in China’ in which he contributed an article “Xie Yi Painting: A Chinese Cultural Therapy”. We will be putting the book into our ACFS library for members to borrow.

I hope to see many of you at our annual Christmas party lunch on Wednesday 7th December.

Best wishes for a happy holiday season to all members.

Margaret Yung Kelly,
President, November 2016

Year of the Rooster
The Annual Yin and Yang of the Chinese Zodiac talk for next year, the Year of the Rooster, is on Saturday 28 January 2017, 2-3pm, Warrane Theatre, Museum of Sydney, cnr Philip and Bridge Streets, Sydney, $10 ticket. Talk by Marilyn Sue Dooley.

Bookings to Kathy Blunt, Chinese Heritage Association of Australia, mobile 0401 209 093.
Email: dblunt@bigpond.net.au

ACFS Silk Road Tour 2017:
Expressions of Interest are being invited for Silk Road Tour in October 2017. This tour will be led by our Peter Weitzel. Please contact Peter to express your interest.
Mobile: 0402385481,
Email: peterweitzel@hotmail.com

‘Welcome to Sydney’ dinner for HE Mr Gu Xiaojie and his wife, at Steki Taverna.
Dates for your Diary:

ACFS Regular Activities

Qigong: Every Wednesday, 10am, Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts, 280 Pitt Street, Sydney, exercise class $15. Call Miranda Ho on 0402 918 383

Mandarin: Every Tuesday. General Language class 10.30am-12noon in our ACFS Rooms, $17. Contact Mark Seeto, ph. 0417 691 988 or email: mseeto@bigpond.net.

The Warrior Women of Yang at the State Theatre

Committee members at Steki Taverna with our VIP guests

Miranda Ho’s talk on the “Spirit of the Long March” tour

The ACFS Bulletin is kindly sponsored by:

CTS Australia

Ph: 1300 764 224; email: ctstours@chinatravel.com.au
Chinese Style -- Traditional Chinese Paintings Exhibition

“Chinese Style -- Traditional Chinese Paintings Exhibition of China National Academy of Painting” brings together 40 pieces of artworks from eminent Chinese artists of China National Academy of Painting, such as Daoxing Zhang, Baolin Li and Gengxi Zhan, representing the national level of Chinese art and showcasing the brilliance of Chinese culture.

Exhibited items are part of the “Chinese Style -- the International Touring Exhibition of China National Academy of Painting Collection of Fine Arts”, which has been held in the US, France, the UK, Germany, Russia, Bulgaria, Thailand, Mauritius and Malta successively together with forums, lectures and sketching activities to promote a mutual understanding between Chinese and foreign art.

**Image credit:** - Zi Kong, *Summer Shadow*, 2016.

**Date:** 16 December 2016 - 18 January 2017 (except Sundays, Mondays, 27 & 28 December and 3 January)

**Time:** 10am - 1pm & 2pm - 5pm, Tuesdays - Saturdays

**Venue:** China Cultural Centre (Sydney)

**Entry:** Free
Dr Richard’s Wu’s talk to ACFS

Below are some notes from Dr Richard Wu about his talk, and a report by Jennifer Jungheim.

The classical ink art (xie yi) contains many elements that are well suited to the emerging 21st century consciousness of one-ness. Xie Yi ink painting has been fostered by the Wen Ren, or scholar gentlemen, over a thousand years, and became a form of secular spiritual communion with Nature, authentic self and the legacy of other Wen Ren over time. The artist surpasses the mundaneness of worldly existence by drifting into Nature and visually capturing rhythm and metaphors that resonates between his inner self and Nature.

Contemporization of Chinese ink art risks replacing this connectedness with replication of Western modern art movements. We are therefore at risk of losing this cultural heritage that is well suited to the needs of the 21st century.

Xie Yi imagery takes the form of ‘between like and unlike’ so that it is tangible enough to represent one’s inner world and still leaving room for both the artist, as he continues painting, and the viewer, as he ponders the incompleteness of the imagery, to meander in his inner world.

- Richard Wu

Dr Richard Wu spoke of the history of Chinese ink art, which has recently become the style of choice for contemporary Chinese artists. In his view their move away from their historical precedents is not a good thing in its end form, as heir experimentation seems to result in more chaos, ugliness and, importantly, lack of rhythm. Rhythm is the expression of flow of being, oneness, balance. The blockage of this flow may result in the stultification of artistic creativity, and lead to mediocrity: experimentation for its own sake, without artistic merit.

Richard spoke of modern and post-modern art. He compared a work by Zheng Xie and Jackson Pollock’s Blue Poles, pointing out their similarities but also mentioning the latter’s possible loss of rhythm in having an extraneous pole!

Zheng Xie’s beautifully planned painting of bamboo has symbolic meaning as well as being a beautiful painting. The artist had come to terms with his shame at being relieved of his position, so that the work was painted in tranquility and illustrates this calmness and “in the zone” quality. In contrast, the work of his colleague, who had not reconciled himself to his similar situation, shows his disturbed mood in its jagged forms and distorted rhythmic structure. I understand this to mean that the best work is done when the artist is in a calm, meditative state, “in the zone” and peaceful – not tense, angry, aggressive.

Rhythm and texture are important. Much contemporary work has lost this rhythm; has it contributed anything to this world?

What was claimed to be the Easternization of Western art appears to have turned out to be actually the further Westernization of Eastern art.

- Jennifer Jungheim.
This is an overview of our recent trip. For the sake of brevity some omissions have been made.

We found Spain an ethnically diverse and interesting country with no obvious signs of financial distress. We started in Madrid and noticed how dry the land was as we drove from the airport. Our guide explained that no rain had fallen for 5 months. We broke the drought! But only for one day, and it did not interfere with our sightseeing. The Prado art museum was worth more time but our guide showed us the highlights and was very informative on the subject of art. We later learned that he taught Art History in a school and guided in his spare time.

We drove south to Granada through flat agricultural land and stopped at Toledo, a hilltop town whose river was the beginning of the Tagus. This we later saw as a wide river near the sea at Lisbon. We continued to a small town which was known for the setting of a movie. This was the most comical incident of the tour. Our driver said (or so we thought) that the movie was Donkey Shot. We looked a bit mystified and I commented that I must have missed that one. Then the penny dropped. He was using the French pronunciation for Don Quixote (Don Quichote). If he had used the Spanish we would have understood. This was turning into a game of Chinese Whispers!

On we pressed to Granada and the Arab influence in Andalusia. For my daughter Marian and myself the highlight of the tour was the morning spent at Alhambra. It was raining the day before but we saw it in sunshine and air fresh from the rain. No large crowds and a pleasant stroll through the gardens with a view from every position because it is situated on a hill.

There were obviously many memorable moments, and the trip to Cordoba was one. (Thanks to Amy at CTS for including this at my and Margaret’s request). The old mosque superimposed on a cathedral was tastefully done and reflected the culturally diverse history of southern Spain. A more alarming incident here was the near loss of a tour member’s wallet to a pair of gypsies. Thankfully he felt the small tug as he took a photo and retrieved the wallet from the ground before it disappeared. The flamenco show at Seville was another memorable moment. The passion and agility of the dancers was amazing. This city is noted for its style of flamenco and hosts many foreign students learning flamenco and the Spanish language. The regional accent is distinctive according to our guide so many foreign students go home with a strong Sevillian accent.

The landscape changed as we neared the Mediterranean at Malaga. Rocky outcrops, some quite high, reminded one of the coastline further east on the Riviera. We visited the cathedral here which was never finished to the architect’s plans and saw a wedding party when we came out. We stopped to watch the elegant young bride.

A stop at Ronda was remembered for the bullring we visited and the attractive situation of the town, with its bridge spanning a deep gorge. Civil War massacres took place on the bridge but our guide did not mention this. The memories are still controversial and bitter in Spain despite the passage of eighty years.

Our journey took us into Portugal where we saw fields of cork trees. The bark can be stripped without harming the tree and is adapted to many objects besides bottle corks. My daughter bought a cork handbag, spectacle case and purse. The fashion for cork flooring is probably the biggest use for this product.

We stopped at Evora in Portugal. It is an interesting town which specializes in ceramics. I have never been near a potting wheel but appreciate this craft with its many colours and shapes. While looking at the ruins of a Roman temple here we heard what sounded like an air raid alarm just behind us. The noise was deafening and stopped, only to start again. The guide explained that one alarm was for fire in the town. Two alarms meant fire outside the town. No sign of smoke but it got our attention.

On to Lisbon. It was much hillier than I had imagined and we entered over the stunning 25th April suspension bridge which spanned the deep and wide gorge of the Tagus. It is compared to the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco because of the similar colour and design. This is a city which would be interesting to visit again.

We drove to Sintra near the coast. It is a hilly town popular as a holiday destination and an easy train ride from Lisbon. Here we visited a royal palace which was huge, with old tapestries and furniture. The large kitchen had two unusual chimneys which narrowed at the top. Then on to the Atlantic coast at Cascais. This is an old fishing town, now popular with expatriate Britons and boating enthusiasts. The yachts in port showed signs of a wealthy population.
Then north to Fatima and Porto with a brief look at Coimbra, a university town. Fatima, like Lourdes in southern France, is very commercialized.

Preparations were in place for the Pope’s imminent visit and the capacity for a huge crowd was obvious. An unusual object on display here was a large chunk of the Berlin Wall.

Pamplona was also part of the pilgrimage trail to Santiago di Compostella to the northwest. There is no single trail but a network, with the main one starting in the French Pyrenees through the Roncevalles Pass and ending at the Atlantic at Finisterre. We saw a few pilgrim walkers but our guide said the peak season was over until next summer.

And on to Barcelona, our endpoint for the tour. This is a port city with many cruise ships. Even in October it was quite warm and humid. We saw the Olympic stadium for the 1992 Games and had a panoramic view of the city. The architect Gaudi lived here and left his mark on early 20th century buildings we visited. His style was very functional and iconoclastic for the time. The use of coloured tiles resulted from his experience in his father’s factory and give an almost fairytale look to the exterior. We visited Casa Guell (pronounced “Way”) which was built for a wealthy businessman. It was fascinating but we were not sure we could have lived there. Perhaps too stark, but certainly full of light. Gaudi’s aim was to bring nature into his buildings, a great contrast to the old 19th century architecture. Barcelona’s famous basilica La Sagrada Familia is another example of his work, and still to be finished. The interior is surprisingly modern and filled with light and colour from the stained glass.

Another highlight was the visit to the Picasso museum. The collection covered his artistic development from the earliest traditional drawings and paintings when he was mid teens to the later abstract paintings we know today. The antimonarchist Picasso satirized the well known Velasquez painting of the Spanish royal family. We had seen the original in the Prado in Madrid.

Our tour ended in the cosmopolitan city of Barcelona. In just over 18 days we covered a lot of territory and saw the great diversity that is Spain’s historical legacy. Our short stay in Portugal was a taste of what that country has to offer. Thanks to Margaret for guiding and initiating the trip, to Amy at CTS for organizing a great itinerary and to my congenial fellow travellers. We all appreciated the enthusiasm of our local guides and their passion for their subject.

Julie Pakes, October 2016
President's Report to AGM 2016

Our ACFS 2015 Christmas Party was a resounding social and financial success, with 85 participants. Our VIP guests included our Patron Professor The Hon. Dame Marie Bashir, Chinese Consul General H.E. Li Huaxin, and Ms Amy Rae representing Mr Jian Sun of China Travel Service. Our thanks to all members and friends for their presence and the donations to our fun raffle/auction.

In 2016 ACFS held a variety of meetings featuring guest speakers sharing their passions with us. Our sincere thanks to the following:
- Cleo Lynch talking about her book 'Careering into Corrections'
- Contessa Hajinikitas on Introduction and Benefits of Meditation
- Howard Smith's musical journey 'From Sea Urchin to Stravinsky'
- Professor Colin Mackerras on his '50 Years of Teaching at the Beijing Foreign Studies University'
- Liwanna Chan on 'Traditional Chinese Paper Cut'

Other events attended included:
- Marilyn Sue Dooley's talk 'The Yin and Yang of the Monkey at the Museum of Sydney'
- Haymarket Chamber of Commerce Chinese New Year Banquet
- Tempo of China photography exhibition at China Cultural Centre in Sydney
- Book launch of 'Falling and Flying: Poems on Ageing' by Dr Richard Wu at the Kolling Institute
- Chinese Women's Association's Canberra Bus Trip to view the 'Celestial Empire: Life in China 1644-1911'
- Excursion to the NSW Art Gallery to see 'Tang Treasures from the Silk Road'
- ACFS Dragon Boat Festival Yum Cha
- Macau Youth Symphony Orchestra's Violin Concerto Op. 8' Four Seasons, at CCC

Some highlights were:
- The special dinner for ACFS members at the Chinese Consulate General in Sydney
- Spectacular Shaanxi Folk Dance performance at the Sydney Town Hall
- Chinese Chamber Music Ensemble at the Chinese Garden of Friendship
- Central Coast Chinese Association and Madame Wu Gosford Chinese Performing Arts concert
- Seymour Centre panel discussion on 'If You Are The One' TV show
- ACRI's 'What Does China Want?' With Linda Jacobson and Bob Carr
- Buddha's Birthday Multicultural Festival at Tumbalong Park, Darling Harbour
- Imperial Bells of China spectacular show at the Capital Theatre
- Friends of the ABC 40th Anniversary dinner at Cello's
- Reception at the Chinese Consulate General in Sydney to welcome new Consul General to Sydney H.E. Mr Gu Xiaojie and his wife Ms Guo Peihua
- The Hon. Paul Keating in conversation with Kerry O'Brien at Australia-China Relations Institute
- AUSCOCO China National Day and Moon Festival Gala Dinner at the Marigold restaurant
- Reception at the Chinese Consulate General to celebrate the 67th Anniversary of the Founding of the People's Republic of China

ACFS Regular Activities
Our thanks to Haiou Liu for teaching the weekly Mandarin language class, and to Mark Seeto for organizing it and also for his looking after Library requests.
Our thanks to Miranda Ho for the weekly Qigong exercise class.
**ACFS Tours:**

We had two very interesting tours this year, Miranda Ho’s *The Spirit of The Long March* and my *Spain and Portugal Tour*. Our ACFS tours are the friendliest around, and excellent value for money. Our thanks to all members who joined us this year. Peter Weitzel will be leading a *Silk Road Tour* in October 2017, and Christine Wong will lead a *Trans Siberian Railway Tour* in 2018. Our thanks to Amy Rae of China Travel Service for organizing our tours and looking after our interests so well.

China Travel Service has been sponsoring the printing of our monthly Bulletins for many years. I would like to formally thank Mr Jian Sun, Managing Director of CTS, for his generous contribution this year, for which we are extremely grateful.

My personal thanks to the 2016 ACFS Committee for their considerable help and support, especially to Vice President and Editor of our ACFS Bulletin Georgina Black, Vice President Peng Tow who looks after our website, and Treasurer Christine Wong who not only looks after our finances but also maintains our membership data base and prints out the monthly labels for the Bulletins.

A big thank you to Peter Weitzel, Pete and Kaye Bannister, Yvonne Khoo, Robert Dodgson, Mailis Wakeham and all the other members who come and help with our Bulletin mail out every month, and Fay Briggs for also helping with our banking.

To all members of the Society, thank you for your loyalty and support of our aims of friendship and understanding between the peoples of Australia and China.

*Margaret Yung Kelly, November 2016*

---

**ACFS COMMITTEE 2017**

The 2016 Committee offered to serve again in 2017. No other nominations were received and therefore the 2017 ACFS Committee is as follows:-

- **President:** Margaret Yung Kelly
- **Vice Presidents:** Georgina Black and Peng Tow
- **Secretary:** Lesley Heath
- **Assistant Secretary:** Mailis Wakeham
- **Treasurer:** Christine Wong
- **Committee Members:** Sue Allen, Pete Bannister, Kaye Bannister, Faye Briggs, Patricia Curtis, Robert Dodgson, Laurel Dyson, Miranda Ho, Peter Weitzel.
Why it is in US interests to accept China as an equal in the Asia-Pacific

PUBLISHED : Monday, 31 October, 2016,

By Rick Tang

The traditional world of trade and commerce was built on a system of developed nations buying cheap products exported from developing ones. Low labour costs in the emerging economies made it possible for families in the West to own affordable washing machines and dryers, microwave ovens, refrigerators and TV sets. The savings from buying these cheap products were ploughed into their own economies to create healthy domestic consumer markets.

Emerging economies also benefited; they increased their employment, eased poverty and improved the quality of life for ordinary folk. China is a notable example. It has lifted half a billion people out of poverty in less than 40 years and created a vibrant middle class that can today afford to not only buy imported products but also travel overseas. They have become the new demand in overseas markets.

But now, leaders in emerging economies are questioning the assumptions that underlie the traditional model, especially after the 2008 global financial crisis. The biggest question is: is the traditional model fair?

It is worth noting that while a major share of production has been outsourced to developing countries, multinationals from the West continue to transfer lower-grade technology to their outsourced factories but keep sophisticated technology in their home countries.

Then came the 2008 crisis. How could a scam that started in the United States spread like wildfire to the rest of the world? Isn’t the US a land of sophisticated financial institutions and vigilant regulators? America put its credibility further at stake with its rescue plan. The Federal Reserve’s quantitative easing effectively meant printing money, and printing lots of it. Low interest rates have kept the US economy afloat but created new problems for the rest of the world. Cheap money has flowed to emerging economies in search of better returns and created asset bubbles.

The world has now become a tri-polar economy, the poles being America, China and the EU. What happens when the Fed raises its interest rate? Will hot money flow back to the US, resulting in financial chaos in the international monetary markets?

With diminished credibility, the US wants to continue to write the rules of trade in the Asia-Pacific. It has engineered the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) but China has been intentionally left out. This makes no sense at all as China is the growth engine for the Asia-Pacific.

The US refuses steadfastly to accept China as an equal regional leader in Asia, never mind a world leader. China has retaliated by excluding the US from the Regional Comprehensive...
Economic Partnership of Asia-Pacific countries, which it leads. Again, it does not make sense to exclude the US as it is a significant trading partner for all members of the proposed agreement.

Simultaneously, China is rolling out its "One Belt, One Road" vision, investing in infrastructure in Central Asia in order to connect China with Europe, as the ancient Silk Road did. This ambitious strategy carries huge political, financial and social risks. But China is embarking on this hazardous journey because it has to. It is a necessary gamble.

China can no longer rely on the old trade and commerce model to produce and export products to the West. The markets will be saturated sooner or later.

China must ignite new markets in a virgin territory, namely, Central Asia. The Belt and Road strategic plan creates better traffic and flow of products in both directions and is good for international trade and commerce.

China holds the key to meaningful recovery from the present zombie state of the world economy. Not a day passes without news about Chinese investment in North America, the European Union or elsewhere. Chinese are now the biggest investors in many countries. This is also great for world trade and commerce. While this is happening, the EU has suffered a series of setbacks. Yes, the near-bankruptcy of Greece, Portugal and Spain was avoided, but only to be replaced by Brexit. The effectiveness of the EU is being challenged. Problems with the EU have propelled China to the forefront as a co-leader with the US in global trade and commerce. Indeed, the world has now become a tri-polar economy, the poles being America, China and the EU. Japan has become irrelevant in being a weak engine to join the three. The BRICS countries (other than China) have long faded from the league table. This tri-polar reality is difficult for the US to swallow, having enjoyed sole leadership for a long time. But the paradigm shift is not stoppable.

In the Asia-Pacific, the same-old dominance by the Americans is being replaced by a shared leadership between China, Asean and Japan, with China in the driver’s seat.

The China-led Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership will be signed shortly, while the US-led TPP is heading for failure as neither US presidential candidate supports it. The China-led pact will become the rule book for trade and commerce in this region.

But this new Asia-Pacific partnership has an alarming void which must be cemented sooner rather than later - and that is the inclusion of the US. The ship is big enough for two captains to steer it. The two countries must learn how to co-lead in the Asia-Pacific and then globally with the EU. If not, the economic challenges in the US, EU and China, Brexit, stagnation in Japan, and the insolvency of Latin American countries will be a cumulative overload to sink the world economic ship.

But we have a catch 22 here. If America continues to insist on their "pivot to Asia" narrative, China will never invite the US to join the trade pact it leads. Is the US willing to be a little humble and accept China as an equal leader, at least in this region?

Rick Tang is a private investor and non-practising California lawyer who has lived in the US, Canada, London, Singapore, Thailand and Hong Kong.
The Australia-China Friendship Society is a non-profit organisation, run completely by volunteers. It was founded in the early 1950s to promote friendship and understanding between the peoples of Australia and China.

In keeping with that objective we engage in the following activities:

- We hold regular meetings each month at which we hear speakers who have expert knowledge about China.
- We organize tours to China and other countries, at the lowest possible cost.
- We host delegations from China.
- We conduct classes in the Chinese language and organize language, painting, cultural and other specialist tours in China.
- We organize excursions and social occasions for members and friends.
- We raise money to support the education of disadvantaged children in China’s poorer areas.

Membership is open to anyone who supports our aim of promoting friendship and understanding between Australians and Chinese.

DISCLAIMER: The views expressed in articles published in the Bulletin are not necessarily those of the ACFS.

Australia-China Friendship Society NSW Membership Application Form

To renew your membership or to join, please complete this slip and send it in with your cheque. Donations welcome!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$30 Individual member</th>
<th>$35 Family</th>
<th>$25 Concession (pension/student)</th>
<th>Donation $________________</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Post to the Secretary, ACFS, Suite 524, 5th floor, Pacific Trade Centre, 368 Sussex Street, SYDNEY, NSW 2000
Direct Deposit: Commonwealth Bank
BSB number 062 099; Account Number 1021 3918 – Please make sure you indicate your name!

(Please PRINT!)
Mr/Mrs/Ms......................................................................................................................
Address ...............................................................................................................................Postcode..............

Telephone..................................................................................Email.........................................................Date...................................

☐ Renewal   ☐ New Member

Please tick this BOX if you would like to receive the Bulletin via e-mail only ☐