

Australia China Friendship Society ACT Branch Inc



澳中友好协会

PO Box 530, Civic Sq, ACT 2608

ABN: 51 554 404 306
acfsact@gmail.com
www.acfs.org.au

Bulletin

2020/4-5 April-May 2020



Committee

President	Carol Keil	6247 8231 cjkeil@proforte.com.au
Secretary	Tanja Naeher	6259 5539
Treasurer	Neil Birch	6287 4602
Bulletin editor	Jean Norman	6254 7732 jjnorman46@grapevine.com.au

Committee members

John Wong	6294 0068
Teck Lee	6254 6814
Alex Olah	0490 660 738
Amanda Andrews	0452 323 520

Promoting friendship and understanding between the Australian and Chinese people

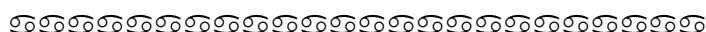
Corona virus

We are still being impacted by the corona virus and will continue to be so for a long time to come. Even with an easing of restrictions on the number of persons who can gather it will be difficult for us to hold any activities for some time.

We are holding the Panda competition this year but as yet don't know what form the presentation ceremony will be. Similarly for the School Awards for mandarin. We were awarded a grant for the Lantern Festival but have only used a portion of the funds as it had to be cancelled. We are in the process of applying to use the funds for an alternative project.

We will continue sending out our newsletter and look forward to the day when we can meet up with more than one other person outdoors.

Carol



Letter from a Project Hope student

Following is a letter of thanks from a student from Beijing Huairou No. 2 High School, who has received a scholarship under Project Hope, translated by Teck Lee.

Name: Zheng Yu Meng

Sex: Female

DOB: 04/07/2002

School year: Senior High School Year 3

School: Huairou No.2 High School

Family situation: Her mother has passed away. Her father works as a migrant worker.

Dear Honourable and Kindhearted Ladies and Gentlemen

First up, let me say "thank you!" I am very appreciative of your financial support for my education. Although it did not involve a large sum of money, nevertheless, it means a lot to me. There is no denying that my family is not well off by any means, and that I do not excel at school. However, I am still at an early stage of the journey of life, and I am determined to make something of it. Your assistance has encouraged me to study even harder so as to be better prepared to serve the communities. I shall carry your loving care like a torch to shine my way.

Yours sincerely

Zheng Yu Meng

Fast facts from the Beijing Review, March 2020

- Between 2016 and 2020 demand for natural gas in China soared. To reduce dependence on imported gas China aims to increase biogas production to 10 billion cubic meters p.a. by 2025 and to 20 billion cubic meters p.a. by 2030. Biogas is produced by the natural decomposition of organic matter in an anaerobic environment. Biogas can replace coal used by rural families for cooking and heating. This treatment of organic waste also contributes to the production of high-quality organic fertilizer.
- An artificial intelligence service to combat online fraud has recently been released in China. Call AI Robot the online service can warn people about suspicious online activity. The product was released by the police and designed by the internet giant Alibaba.
- Chinese brands increased their share of the global wearable market last year. Wearable products are mainly earwear which makes up 48% of sales, wristbands and smartwatches. Apple, Chinese firm Xiaomi and Samsung lead the market according to global market research firm International Data Corp.

Thanks to Neil Birch for compiling these.

Panda Competition 2020

The Panda Competition is conducted every year by the Australia China Friendship Society and is open to students from Pre-schools, Primary schools and High schools in the ACT and Queanbeyan and is open to children and grandchildren of members.

The topic for this year's competition is:

Chinese Mythical Creatures



China is noted for many mythical creatures such as the dragon, phoenix and Chinese lion. The most famous is the dragon but there are many others we have not mentioned that are worthy of investigation.

Students are asked to creatively focus on an aspect of this topic. This can be through a drawing or painting, creative works such as a collage or 3-dimensional construction, a poem or other creative individual effort, appropriate to the student's age and school grade.

Pre-school and year 1 and 2 students can also enter the colouring in section of the competition.

If the entry is in Mandarin an English translation must be provided. The entry should be the work of a single student. If a joint entry for more than 1 student is submitted only a single prize will be provided.

Only original entries will be accepted: photocopies or scanned copies will not be considered.

Conditions of entry are:

- Drawings and combination drawing/words should be **no larger than an A3 sheet**.
- Sculptures or collages must have a footprint **no larger than an A3 sheet**
- One entry per student. (Entry must be the work of only that student.)

All entries must have the following information provided on a label that is easily read. Entries will be not be accepted if the label is not securely attached to the piece of work.

Panda Competition 2020

School name:

Teacher's name

Student Name (First name plus Surname)

Gender

Age of student

School Year

Entries must be received by 5pm Sunday 27 September 2020

Entries should be sent to: The Secretary (Panda Competition)
Australia China Friendship Society
PO Box 530
Civic Square ACT 2608

Judging of the entries will take place early in the school holidays and the presentation of prizes will be on a date to be advised. **When sending in an entry please include a phone and email contact address so** that we can contact you with the names of the winners and details of the awards ceremony. If you are posting your entry please email acfsact@gmail.com so that we can ensure it has arrived.

For further information about the competition or, if you would like to deliver your entry, please email acfsact@gmail.com

~~~~~



中国文化中心  
CHINA CULTURAL CENTRE



During this health-and-safety-first time, China Cultural Centre in Sydney is going to bring you a series of virtual exhibitions named **Visiting China Online**, welcoming you to reach out of various fascinating Chinese scenery, culture and heritage, when you are at home.

Come to discover the **World Heritage in China** through our exhibition gallery!

## Humanity's Treasures: World Heritage in China

Have you ever been to or planned to visit the Great Wall, Forbidden City, Terracotta Warriors, Mount Taishan, Mogao Caves in Dunhuang, and Potala Palace? Do you know they are not only the globally popular tourist destinations, but also the World Heritage Site in China that embodied with the ancient Chinese's wisdom?

According to the UNESCO list, China has 55 World Heritage Sites by now, and



is one of the countries with the most World Heritage Sites. These sites are treasures of the humanity, open to global visitors to explore the splendid sceneries, inspiring civilizations and history, as well as abundant cultural wealth of this country.

<https://mailchi.mp/cccsydney/visiting-china-online-world-heritage-in-china?e=e8f11978d3>

## The Charm of Kucha, Xinjiang Visiting China Online

In the series of **Visiting China Online** this week, we will start the journey through the mysterious western region of China--**Xinjiang**. Along the ancient silk road, **Kucha** is no doubt to be one of the most worth-seeing destinations with numerous breathtaking spectacular natural and cultural heritage.

Kucha is located in the centre-west of Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, at the south base of the middle section of the Tianshan Mountain Ranges, and on the northern edge of the Tarim Basin. It was the political, economic and cultural centre of the ancient Western Regions, as well as the only place



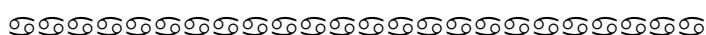
红山石林  
中国新疆库车市雅丹地貌

A Forest of Red Stone  
Yardang Landforms of Kucha City, Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China

where the four great civilisations of the world converged.

It bears the reputation of the "Entertainment Capital of the Western Regions", the "Home of Song and Dance", the birthplace of world renowned Kucha Culture, and a stunning gem of the ancient Silk Road.

Several of its monuments are inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List: the majestic Kizil Gaha Beacon Tower, a "red sentry-post" that has stood for thousands of years; the magnificent temple complex of Subashi, where the great Tang monk Xuanzang once lectured for several months; and the world-famous Kizil Cave, which is three hundred years older than the Mogao Caves of Dunhuang.



## Oriental: Art and Architecture

## Humble House Gallery exhibition

**[www.humblehouse.com.au](http://www.humblehouse.com.au)**

This exhibition features the work of our Chinese artists. Li Xinsheng is well known for his evocative ink and watercolour paintings of China's northern landscapes. Cheng Yu's figurative works skillfully executed with oil and palette knife has seen his reputation grow in his homeland China.

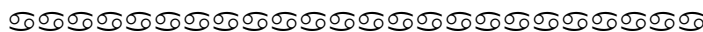
Juxtaposing the art are traditional carved panels. Lattice panels of individually crafted and joined pieces combine with fine detailed carving. For this exhibition we have included unique and very rare house feature carvings. These are important elements of the traditional Chinese house and contribute to the unmistakable character of Chinese architecture.

This is a rare opportunity to see contemporary Chinese art and traditional Chinese architectural pieces side by side. Li and Cheng prefer to leave it to the viewer to make their own interpretation of the art. On the other hand traditional craftsmen were less ambiguous about symbolism - assuming of course people were sufficiently educated to understand the message!

In light of the current pandemic this will be an online exhibition.



Li Xinsheng, *Celebrating Friends*, left and *A Loving Couple*, right.



**Australian Centre on China in the World <ciw@anu.edu.au>**

## The truth according to the CCP

To commemorate the UN's [World Press Freedom Day](#) (3 May), we would like to share insights from experts from the Australian Centre on China in the World community about recent issues and ongoing challenges with press freedom in China.

According to [Reporters Without Borders](#), China ranked 177 out of 180 countries in the 2020 World Press Freedom Index, with more than 150 journalists and citizen journalists imprisoned to date.

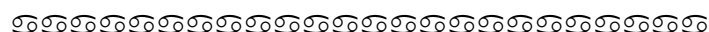
The COVID-19 crisis has further eroded press freedom in China as Beijing attempts to influence global media. In '[Expulsion of WSJ Journalists](#)' and '[Expelling Journalists](#)' from *Neican*, *The China Story Blog*, Yun Jiang and Adam Ni uncover Beijing's true motives and ambitions behind the expulsion. "Such deplorable actions by Beijing makes it harder for the world to know the 'real' China story," write Yun and Adam.

As the Hong Kong protests escalated in the second half of 2019, journalists covering the protests experienced increasing violence from the police and pro-Beijing protestors. In their chapter '[Hong Kong and the Tiananmen Playbook](#)' in the *China Story Yearbook: China Dreams*, Louisa Lim and Graeme Smith highlight how Chinese state-run media often use false accusations to distract people from the truth and facts about the protests, to the point where it labelled the protests as the works of western anti-China forces.

These recent events are only a glimpse of President Xi Jinping's efforts to tighten his control over the media. In '[Cooking the News: Xi's Digital Future](#)' from *The Little Red Podcast*, Graeme and Louisa, with David Bandurski and Qian Gang of the China Media Project, explore how the Chinese Communist Party projects its image in the Xi era through traditional and social media platforms.

Is there any hope for journalism in China, you may ask yourself?

In her interview with the editors of [Made in China Journal](#), Maria Repnikova claims that there are "grey zones where sensitive, but semi-permissible, issues continue to be probed by journalists and media activists in China", which allow for small pockets of creativity and for some testing of the boundaries.



## ANU Chinese Classical Music Ensemble news

Dear Friends

Like pretty much every other music group around the world our ensemble is locked up and unable to practice and perform together. And like many other ensembles we have adapted to the situation by playing at home and combining our efforts into a digital compilation. We would like to present our first effort - Yu Sui Jiangnan: <https://anuccme.com/news-recording>.

Yu Sui Jiangnan means something like "misty rain in Jiangnan". Jiangnan is the area literally "south of the (Yangtse) river" so the area around Shanghai, Nanjing, Suzhou and Hangzhou.

Our Bandcamp page contains more about the piece and the performers. We hope very much that you enjoy it.

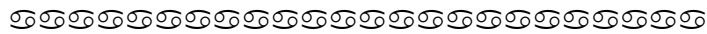
If you would like to receive more news – such as about our next project – please 'Subscribe' on our website: <https://anuccme.com/news-recording>. While you are there please have a look around: <https://anuccme.com>.



We are looking forward to sharing more music with you.

With all good wishes.  
Rupert

Dr Rupert Summerson  
Director  
ANU Chinese Classical Music Ensemble



## Global stars unite for 'One World' coronavirus special

Edited by Li Xiaoyang · 2020-04-20 · Source: China Daily

Lady Gaga, Taylor Swift, Paul McCartney, The Rolling Stones, Beyonce, Oprah Winfrey and Chinese pianist Lang Lang on April 18 headlined a special broadcast of music, comedy and personal stories celebrating those around the world on the frontlines of the coronavirus pandemic.

The two-hour "One World: Together at Home" event, broadcast across multiple television channels in the United States and overseas, featured a Who's Who of pop culture in the biggest celebrity gathering so far to mark the effects of the virus.



A special livestream event featuring pop, classical and rap musicians across the globe pays tribute to front-line health workers (CHINA DAILY)

Contributions, all filmed in their homes, also came from Elton John, Jennifer Lopez, Stevie Wonder, British soccer star David Beckham, former US first ladies Michelle Obama and Laura Bush, Andrea Bocelli, Celine Dion, Billie Eilish, Bill Gates and dozens of others.

"I'm so grateful for the healthcare workers, the medical workers, all the grocery store workers and delivery people, the postal workers, all the other nonprofits that are working so hard," said Gaga, who helped organize the



event. "This is really a true love letter to all of you all over the world, and I hope a reminder of the kindness that's occurring right now," she added.

The event, led by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the nonprofit group Global Citizen, told the personal stories of teachers and healthcare, grocery, delivery, postal and other workers. It showed social media postings and news clips of doctors and nurses being applauded by communities around the world, deserted world landmarks, families greeting each other through windows, and acts of kindness in support of those who are isolated and frail.

"We aren't asking for money tonight," said Stephen Colbert who hosted the broadcast alongside his US late night television rivals Jimmy Kimmel and Jimmy Fallon. Instead of seeking public funds, the event encouraged philanthropists and companies to contribute to the WHO's COVID-19 Solidarity Response Fund. Corporate and other donors have already contributed some \$150 million, organizers said.

"What I'd like tonight, if I can, is to give you the permission for the moment to... 'Smile'," said Gaga, kicking off the evening by launching into a version of the ballad made famous by Nat King Cole.

Beyonce did not perform but sent a video message in which she noted the disproportionately high death rates from COVID-19 in the black community. "This virus is killing black people at an alarming rate in America," she said, urging viewers to protect themselves.

Swift, on piano, gave an emotional rendition of her ballad "Soon You'll Get Better," which was originally written during her mother's battle with cancer.

The Rolling Stones, filmed in four separate locations, sang "You Can't Always Get What You Want," with Mick Jagger and Keith Richards playing acoustic guitars.

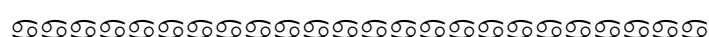
"We all appreciate the healthcare workers but never like now," Winfrey said in a video message. "They truly are the best of us... We need to ensure that governments step up now and provide healthcare workers with the equipment and the funds they need."

Wonder played the late Bill Withers's classic "Lean on Me," while McCartney, recalling that his mother was a nurse and midwife, sang "Lady Madonna." "You know the coronavirus is trouble when a Beatle gets involved," quipped Kimmel.

Earlier on April 18, pop, classical and rap musicians from the United States, Asia and the Middle East took part in a six-hour livestream that featured Latin star Luis Fonsi, R&B singer Jennifer Hudson, Chinese singers Eason Chan and Jacky Cheung, India's Vishal Mishra and Emirati musician Hussain Al Jassmi.

Celebrities called on people to stay at home, wash their hands regularly, practice social distancing and put pressure on their political leaders to introduce widespread testing for the disease.

**Thanks to Teck Lee for the link to this item.**



## Kids create masterpieces with fruit, vegetables

By Hu Dongmei in Yinchuan and Palden Nyima in Lhasa |

Source: chinadaily.com.cn



Primary school students at Yuehai Primary School in Yinchuan, Ningxia Hui autonomous region, created a whole new world for children using assorted fruits and vegetables. [Photo provided to chinadaily.com.cn]

Students at Yuehai Primary School in Yinchuan, Ningxia Hui autonomous region, completed some special homework recently for their art class while studying at home because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Second grade students in Class 1 at the school were instructed by their art teacher in their WeChat group to create interesting things by hand using assorted fruits and vegetables.

The teacher wanted to give the students a chance to exercise their creativity and make them feel happy. The kids immediately set to work using various fruits and vegetable — apples, bananas, oranges, broccoli, carrots and more — to create works of art such as an underwater world, a hedgehog's paradise and a peacock spreading its tail.

Because of the COVID-19 outbreak, the students of the school have been studying online from home. The art homework kept things interesting, their teachers say.







## Australia China Friendship Society ACT Branch — membership application form

Annual subscriptions are due on 1 January and are current until 31 December of the same year. The monthly Bulletin is included in the subscription and is distributed by email.

Subscription rates, payable to **the Treasurer, PO Box 530, Civic Square ACT 2608** are:

Single \$20 Family \$35 Centrelink Concession Holder: Individual \$15 and Family \$25

Name(s).....

Address.....

..... Postcode .....

Email.....

Phone (home) ..... (work) ..... Mobile .....

Renewal ☐ New Member ☐

### **Direct Credit Details:**

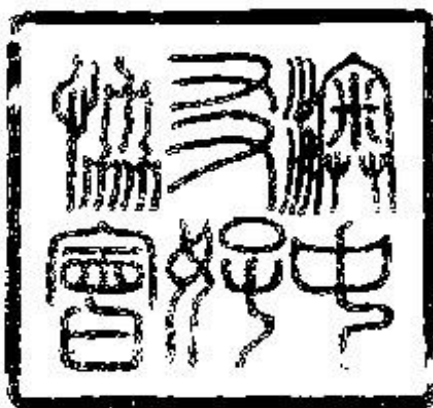
Beyond Bank

**BSB:** 325-185

**A/C No.** 03411481

**A/C Name:** ACFS ACT  
Branch Inc

**Ref:** Your name



---

Australia China Friendship Society  
PO Box 530  
CIVIC SQUARE ACT 2608 AUSTRALIA

ACT Branch Bulletin