

Australia China Friendship Society  
ACT Branch Inc



澳中友好协会

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**Bulletin**

**2021/7 July 2021**

**Coming events**

**Talk by Robert Macklin**

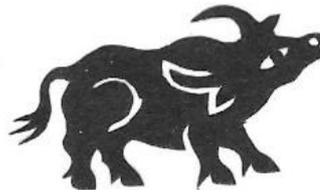
**3 August**

**Hidden treasures: The First Chinese**

**19 Sept**

**ANU Classical Chinese Music Ensemble concert**

**early Oct**



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*Promoting friendship and understanding between the Australian and Chinese people*

## Talk by author Robert Macklin

Our function for August will be a talk by Robert Macklin about his book *Dragon and Kangaroo*.

Robert Macklin was born in Queensland and educated at University of Queensland and the Australian National University. He has worked as a journalist at the *Courier-Mail*, *The Age* and *The Bulletin*, and was associate editor of *The Canberra Times* until 2003. Robert is the author of 27 books, including *Dark Paradise*, *Hamilton Hume* and four works focusing on the SAS and Australia's Special Forces: *SAS Sniper*, *Redback One*, *SAS Insider* and *Warrior Elite*. He lives in Canberra and Tuross.

### ***The Dragon and the Kangaroo***

The fascinating story of the Chinese presence in and influence on this country - our intertwined history from colonial times to today.

Chinese 'presence' in Australia extends from well before the time of Captain Cook - trading with northern Australia long before Europeans came here - right through to the present day, with Chinese activities ranging from being the main customer for our iron ore, to their very extensive intelligence operations here.

The talk will be on Tuesday 3 August in the Catchpole Room at the Southern Cross Club, Jamison, at 7.30. Those who wish may join others for dinner at 6.00 in the bistro. Please book by emailing [acfsevent@gmail.com](mailto:acfsevent@gmail.com) by 28 July.

**Help, please:** Mr Macklin has requested a lectern for this event, but the Southern Cross Club Jamison has advised there is not one available on the night. Can anyone help? Please contact Carol Keil on 6247 9231 or [cjkeil@proforte.com.au](mailto:cjkeil@proforte.com.au).

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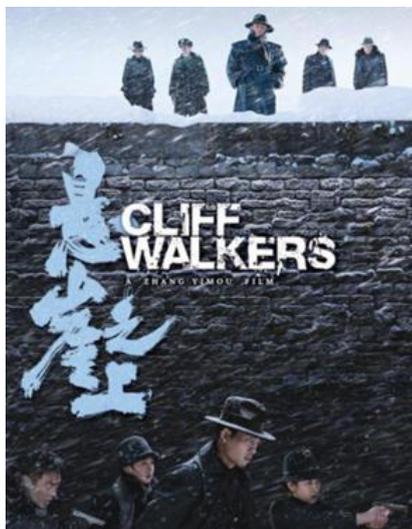
## Film screening (ANU Film Group)

There will be a screening of *Cliff Walkers*, a 2021 Chinese thriller film directed by Zhang Yimou by the ANU Film Group on Wednesday, **11 August 2021 at 7:30** at the Cultural Centre Kambri (downstairs of the aMBUSH gallery).

## Fast facts from the *Beijing Review*, July 2021

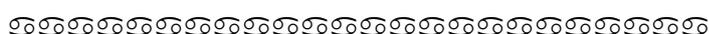
- Private wealth in China has steadily expanded. A report by China Merchants Bank and Bain & Company found that by the end of 2020, the investable assets of Chinese citizens had hit 241 trillion yuan with a compound annual growth rate between 2018 and 2020 of 13%. In 2020 the number of high net-worth individuals with investable assets over 10 million yuan had reached 2.62 million.
- In 2020 net profits of companies listed on the Shanghai exchange were down 5%, those listed on the Shenzhen were up 38% and on the Shanghai (STAR) Science and Technology Innovation Board 59%. Investment in R&D on those 3 Boards was up year on year by 16%, 11% and 23% respectively. There were 66 companies with R&D investment exceeding 1 billion yuan and 5 exceeding 8 billion yuan annually.
- On 28 June the first 2 units of the Haihetan Hydropower Station became operational. It is located on Jinsha River, the upper section of the Yangtze. When completed it will have the world's second largest installed capacity of 16 gigawatts. Only the Three Gorges Dam project is larger. When fully operational it is expected to save the equivalent of 19.7 million tons of coal annually. Which would emit 51 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub>, 170,000 tons of sulphur dioxide and 150,000 tons of nitrous oxides annually.

**Thanks to Neil Birch for compiling these.**



*CLIFF WALKERS* is director Zhang Yimou's first foray into the spy genre. The film is set in the Imperial Japanese puppet state of Manchukuo in the 1930s before World War II erupts. Four anti-Japanese fighters embark on a secret mission. Sold out by a traitor, the team find themselves surrounded by threats from all sides.

Film Classification: MA 15+.



## **Hidden treasures: The First Chinese – a Walk in Queanbeyan Sunday 19 September 2021**

Tony Maple from the National trust (ACT) has kindly agreed to repeat this tour for Society members on Sunday morning 19 September. It was originally run as part of the Heritage Festival.

It will be a roughly 2 hour mostly urban walk of about 3.5km, with some hilly parts and unpaved sections in a cemetery. There is also the option of having lunch in a Chinese restaurant in Queanbeyan afterwards. If you are interested in coming on the walk and/or the lunch would you email [acfsevent@gmail.com](mailto:acfsevent@gmail.com) so we have an idea of potential numbers. The cost will be approximately \$20, with lunch extra.

Further details will be available in the August newsletter.

### **Tour information**

The tour will cover the fascinating story of one of this area's earliest migrant populations, and visit some associated heritage sites. Access to skilled and reliable labour was a problem in early New South Wales, and particularly so after convict transportation ended in 1840. A plan to contract Chinese mechanics and labourers was proposed as early as 1837. Some of those from the Canberra area that backed the plan were Charles Campbell, George Thomas Palmer, and Thomas McQuoid. Later, the gold rushes attracted thousands of Chinese miners. Inevitably, some Chinese men married European women, had children and settled down. They went on to run a network of gardens, stores, eating houses and boarding rooms essential to life in towns across the colony. Henry Lawson celebrated them, and Braidwood's Quong Tart became as well regarded as the Governor.

One Chinese-European family became part of the commercial, journalistic and religious fabric of Queanbeyan and Canberra. The Tankey family story will illustrate the contributions of the early Chinese to the Queanbeyan district, one of whom became the business partner of a militant Canberran that led a national political party



# ANU Centre on China in the World: events

Visit <http://ciw.anu.edu.au/events>

27 Jul 2021 [Remembering Taiwan's Martial Law Conference 憶起戒嚴](#)

Conference

Martial Law (1947–87) lies at the heart of narratives shaping Taiwanese identities, criss-crossing foundations of contemporary society. Experiences of Martial Law are relived through expressions of individual and collective memories, through arts and literature, language and politics, and everyday minutia.

27 Jul 2021 [\[Online\] Writing about Sex and Politics: From authoritarianism to democracy](#)

Public Lecture

From the early 1980s, with the *Meilidao* 美麗島, or Kaohsiung, Incident fresh in the memory, my writing has focused on sex and politics. Fear of being shot or jailed meant that I had to hide any political comment behind symbols and metaphors, as in "The Lost Garden 迷園" (1991) where the theme of Taiwanese national identity is cloaked under a love story.

27 Jul 2021 [Film Screening: Detention 返校](#)

**103 mins, 2019 (M)**

**Directed by John Hsu 徐漢強**

28 Jul 2021 [\[Online\] 1970s-80s Taiwan: What led to the end of martial law?](#)

Public Lecture

This lecture offers insights into the domestic factors and international politics that ended the martial law period in Taiwan.

29 Jul 2021 [\[Online\] Rethinking Modernist and Realist Photography in 1970s Taiwan](#)

This talk attempts to re-examine modernist as well as realist photography in Taiwan in the 1970s, two major photographic practices during the later period of Taiwan's martial law era.

30 Jul 2021 [\[In-person & online\] Memory and Resistance: The martial law period and Taiwan's future in the...](#)

Public Lecture

In the last decade, the long legacy of Taiwan's period of authoritarian rule (1949-1987) has moved to the centre of Taiwan's political and cultural imaginary.

31 Jul 2021 [Floor talk by the curators](#)

In this floor talk, *Wayfaring* exhibition curators, Shuxia Chen and Olivier Krischer, provide an overview of the exhibition themes and context, with more background into some of the individual artworks and trends at the time.



## Member honoured

Our warmest congratulations to **Jean Isabel Bennet** who received the OAM for service to the Canberra community.

She graduated from the Canberra College of Advanced Education (CCAЕ) with a Graduate Diploma in Education in 1974, and was formerly a science teacher and Experimental Officer with CSIRO.

Ms Bennet is the President of the Pan Pacific and Southeast Asia Women's Association, Australia. She has a long and active involvement with the Country Women's Association of New South Wales – Canberra Evening Branch, serving as its President (1995 to 1997), and currently, the Visiting Speakers Officer.

From 2003 to 2008, she was the President and Committee Member for Radio 1RPH and, in 2011 became a Founding Member of the Growing Old Disgracefully (GOLD) Seniors Dance Group at Canberra Dance Theatre.



## Committee News – 12 July 2021 meeting

The 'China Tea Club' in North Lyneham continues to be the venue of choice for our committee meetings.

It was good to see so many members and friends at the June Yum Cha. Was extremely busy in general at the restaurant, and we talked about the need to consider noise levels in future – unfortunately it was extremely difficult for Carol to talk over the general chatter in the room and for the society's guests to hear her well prepared speech.

We planned the final details for Robert Macklin's talk about his book 'the Dragon and the Kangaroo' on the 3 August 2021 at the Southern Cross Club in Jamieson. We hope that as many of you can join for dinner first and then for what will be an interesting talk.

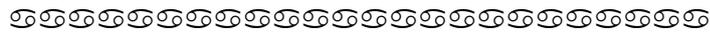
The September and October events were also discussed – starting with a Heritage Walk by the National Trust: 'The first Chinese' and lunch on 19 September 2021 in Queanbeyan, We hope that many of you and your friends will be able to join us for this event – the walk will be approximately 3.5km and mostly flat.

A tentative date of 3 October 2021 has been set for the society's annual ANU Chinese Classical Music Ensemble Concert. We will be letting you know of updates to this in future newsletters.

The final part of our meeting was used to talk through a few aspects for the school awards and Panda Competition. Amanda, the committee's school coordinator, has been busy coordinating dates with schools and Carol has been equally busy negotiating venues. We are delighted that the Embassy has offered to host the Panda Awards again and we have been offered the use of the O'Malley former Cultural Office site for the School Awards.

Our well-earned meal following the meeting was delicious as always – we had a few of our favourites and a few less well known dishes – my favourite was the beef and scallop.

Stay safe and warm, your Secretary, Tanja



## **Grant for purchasing shields for the best and most improved students of mandarin for two additional schools**

I mentioned in the last newsletter that we had received \$500 to purchase 2 shields for each of 2 additional schools to reward students of mandarin.

The two schools which have agreed to participate in the Awards are Merici College and St John Paul II College which have both been teaching mandarin since 2013. This brings the number of schools participating to 14 however Hawker College does not have a mandarin program this year.

As part of the acceptance conditions we have been asked to provide a list of our members who belong to the Southern Cross Club so that the Club can get an idea of how often our members use the Club. The list will not be used to allocate Club points.

Thank you to all who replied and I am asking again just in case you may have overlooked replying and I would be most grateful if you could let me know your membership number at [cjkeil@proforte.com.au](mailto:cjkeil@proforte.com.au) if you are a member of the Southern Cross club.

**Carol Keil**



## **The CPC has shown a remarkable ability to effectively govern a country of 1.4 billion people**

By Jon Taylor · 2021-06-24 · Source: *Beijing Review* NO.27 JULY 8, 2021

The story of the founding of the Communist Party of China (CPC) in 1921 is one of humble beginnings, when China was in shambles, dominated by foreigners, semi-feudalist, impoverished and run by corrupt warlords. Meeting in a traditional Shikumen house in Shanghai, 13 men dedicated to the purpose of carrying out a Marxist-Leninist revolution designed to end imperialism within China and bring about both modernity and prosperity to the Chinese people, would change the course of China and the world forever. They believed that China had to change and that the Party was the instrument to achieve that change.

It is a story of suffering, struggle, sacrifice, heroism, mistakes, and, ultimately, economic prosperity and international prominence. It is also a compelling story that is not well known in the West.



Sculptures of Chen Duxiu (left) and Li Dazhao, founders of the Communist Party of China (CPC), at the memorial of the First CPC National Congress in Shanghai (XINHUA)

### **Mission focused**

Led by a group of young, idealistic and often ill-equipped revolutionaries fighting both the Japanese during World War II and the Kuomintang in the Chinese civil war, the Party endured and arose victorious. Through the tumult, poverty and national traumas of the pre-reform period, the Party persevered and emerged to reform both itself and China. Out of hardship came a determination to improve the country and restore China to preeminence in the world. The Party's resolve would lead to China's long-term growth and development in the post-1978 reform period.

The disciplined, mission-focused and adaptive leadership of the Party has delivered on its promise of modernization and moderate prosperity-- something that the Chinese people have dreamed of for over a century. Through a century of turbulence that saw the expulsion of numerous foreign invaders, a civil war, political chaos and momentous political reforms that built one of the largest economies in the world while also lifting 700 million people out of poverty, the Party has demonstrated both its persistence and success.

The CPC has produced tremendous economic results. They've created a burgeoning middle-class and have massively invested in measures designed to provide social support. With successful performance comes citizen satisfaction. Western opinion surveys consistently show high levels of satisfaction and support for the CPC's governance of the country.

The 100th anniversary of the founding of the CPC provides a great opportunity to discuss both the durability and relevance of a political party that has survived a century of turbulence and come out of it more powerful than ever. Over the past 100 years, the CPC has evolved from a small party

with only a handful of members to the largest and most powerful party in the world with more than 91 million members.

Under the pragmatic leadership of the Party, China found a development path practically suited to its own national conditions. Reform and opening up created the necessary mechanisms that made the achievement of national prosperity, national rejuvenation and citizen satisfaction possible. The CPC has produced one of the greatest economic achievements in human history by lifting hundreds of millions of people out of poverty while also restoring China's place as a powerful global power. Continuous progress toward these goals is assuring that the Chinese dream of a modern, powerful and prosperous nation will be attained on or before the centennial of the founding of the People's Republic of China in 2049.

The Party has shown a remarkable degree of determination to adapt and recover from setbacks. If there is a lesson to be learned about the Party's history--for both Chinese and Westerners alike--it is this: Under the leadership of the CPC, China cannot be easily defeated, nor can or should it be disengaged or isolated from the world. Minimizing or marginalizing China is at best counterproductive, and, at worst, downright foolish.

### **Strong resilience**

One of the longest-held assumptions by Western scholars, policy makers and commentators is that the CPC's rule is soon to end. Some have peddled this drivel for decades because it's quite profitable and plays well with certain audiences. With all due respect, they have based their belief of a coming collapse on a flawed combination of historical comparisons, biased interpretations, ideologically tinged expectations and overly bold predictions, confidently assuming that the CPC would go the way of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU). Year after year they make the same self-assured prediction. And year after year the CPC remains firmly in place and popular among the Chinese people. At the risk of upsetting those who regularly predict the end of the Party for either fun and/or profit, I don't think that it's too far of a stretch to let them know the following: The CPC will remain in power now and for the foreseeable future. Simply stated, the CPC is not the CPSU and China is not the Soviet Union.

The CPC's strong resilience was born in revolution and war. Decades of fighting toughened the Party, making it more flexible and thereby able to mobilize, respond and adapt to rapid changes. In contrast to the CPSU and Eastern European communist parties, the CPC has regularly demonstrated a notable level of pragmatism and adaptability in policy solutions. When necessary, the CPC has engaged in mass mobilization campaigns and created short-term organizations or committees to deal with policy challenges.

The CPC's experience and history are quite different from that of the former Soviet Union or Eastern Europe. Unlike the CPSU or other parties, the CPC's style of mass mobilization developed during the long years of the revolutionary period regularly involved ordinary people in the Party's operations, even if those ordinary people were not necessarily CPC members themselves.

It's important to understand the role that mass mobilization continues to play within the Party and its governance style. It's a hallmark of the CPC's approach to governing the country and profoundly differs from the Soviet Union or other communist nations. From natural disasters to health

emergencies to extreme poverty eradication, the Party has regularly used this method to successfully mobilize civil society. Nowhere was this approach more critical than in the fight against COVID-19, where Wuhan rapidly engaged in a mass mobilization to lock down the city and protect the rest of the nation from a massive spread of the virus. The success in containing COVID-19 is emblematic of the CPC's willingness to incorporate ordinary people into the Party's policy implementation efforts and helps explain the durability and resilience of the CPC.

China today is governed by a party that was forged in revolution and war, an experienced and capable party that has guided the country from poverty and weakness to prosperity and strength. Under the leadership of the CPC, China is now an economic powerhouse and poised to become a fully self-sufficient and secure military and geopolitical power by the mid-21st Century.

Anniversaries and birthdays are a great time to recall where we've been and where we hope to go. The CPC is no different in this regard. The CPC's centenary is a time to remember both its struggles and humble beginnings. From the early days that saw threats to its very existence on several occasions due to attacks from the Kuomintang and the Japanese invasion to an earth-shaking revolution to its leadership transforming China into a global economic power with a growing middle class, the Party has shown a remarkable ability to survive, adapt and effectively govern a country of more than 1.4 billion people.

The Party has faced numerous challenges along the road to transforming China into a modern socialist country. The road has often been quite arduous and posed tremendous difficulties on the path to modernization. But the Party has proven that it can--and will--persist.

**The author is a professor of political science and chair of the Department of Political Science and Geography at the University of Texas at San Antonio**



中国文化中心  
CHINA CULTURAL CENTRE

## Online Chinese Culture Talks

Although we are experiencing isolation, a series of high-quality online content is coming up for you to enjoy remotely!

This week, CCC has organized exclusive online talks about *Bronze Culture* and *Chinese clothing* through experts from China. We can't wait to share the well-made and refined videos with you based on the most updated research on traditional Chinese culture.

Visit [https://cccsydney.org/2021/07/14/online-chinese-culture-talk/?mc\\_cid=4adb61cebe&mc\\_eid=19cad14a55](https://cccsydney.org/2021/07/14/online-chinese-culture-talk/?mc_cid=4adb61cebe&mc_eid=19cad14a55)

## Chinese Clothing: Past and Present

Let's dive into the elegant costumes of different periods in China over a thousand years, and discover the innovative power of modern and contemporary China that integrates ancient and modern, open and inclusive, and connects China and the West.



**Lecturer: Chu Yan**

Associate professor at the School of Fashion Art and Engineering of Beijing Institute of Fashion Technology. One of China's top ten fashion designers



## Bronze Culture and Chinese Civilisation

This talk focuses on three representative bronze artefacts: Square Zun with Four Sheep, Chime-bells from the Tomb of Marquis Yi of the Zeng State, and Sword of Gou Jian, King of Yu. Explore the ancient Chinese Civilizations from a bronze artefacts' perspective.



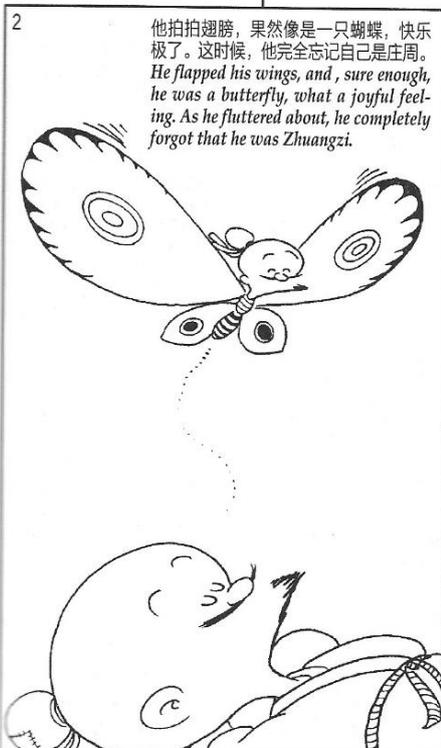
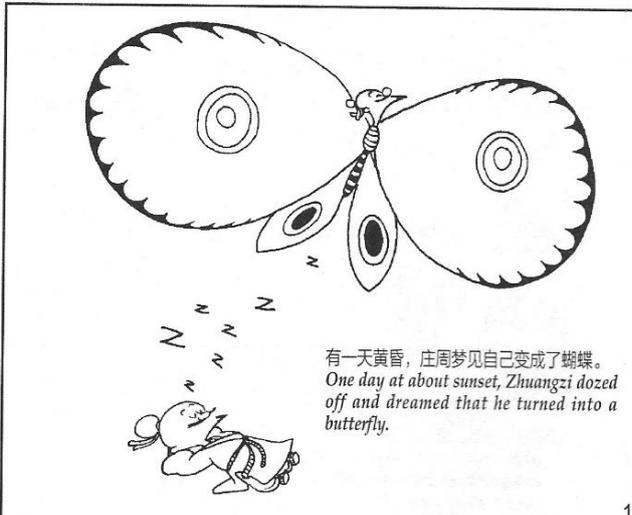
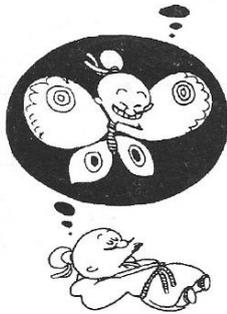
**Lecturer : Peng Lin**

Senior professor of School of Humanities of Tsinghua University  
Director of the Research Centre of Chinese Ritual of Tsinghua University





庄周梦见蝴蝶  
The Dream of the Butterfly



From Zhuang Zi Speaks: The Music of Nature

# 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.

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**PO Box 530**  
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ACT Branch Bulletin