

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

2023/10 October 2023

Coming events

Film screening

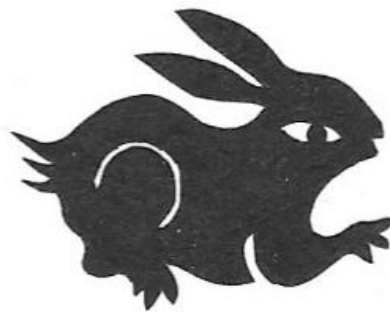
8 November

Panda competition presentation

1 December

Christmas dinner

6 December



Committee

President

Carol Keil

6247 8231

cjkeil@proforte.com.au

Secretary

Tanja Naeher

6259 5539

Treasurer

Neil Birch

6287 4602

Bulletin editor

Jean Norman

0405 617 222

jjnorman46@iinet.net.au

Committee members

John Wong

6294 0068

Alex Olah

0490 660 738

Amanda Andrews

0452 323 520

Corinne Zhang

Promoting friendship and understanding between the Australian and Chinese people

Film screening

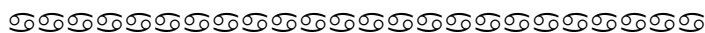
Our function for November will be a film screening on Wednesday 8 November at the Southern Cross Club, Jamison. The screening will begin at 7.30 and, as usual, members and friends can meet for dinner beforehand, from 6.00. Please book by emailing acfsevent@gmail.com by 3 November. Admission to the film is by gold coin (or more!) donation.

The film is ***American Dreams in China*** ([Chinese](#): 中国合伙人) and is a 2013 Chinese comedy drama film co-produced and directed by Peter Chan and starring Huang Xiaoming, Deng Chao, and Tong Dawei.^[2] It was shown at the 2013 Toronto International Film Festival.^[3] It is based on the story of New Oriental.

Three young Chinese men from poor backgrounds achieve success by establishing a reputable English teaching school. The film begins in 1985, during China's national study-abroad craze, a time when undergraduates became infatuated with America and believed that studying abroad was their only hope for a prosperous future.

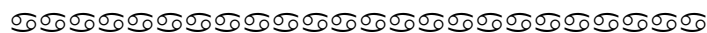
Cheng Dongqing (Huang Xiaoming), Wang Yang (Tong Dawei), and Meng Xiaojun (Deng Chao) are three friends studying at Beijing's prestigious [Yenching Academy](#). and simultaneously prepping for American visa interviews. Wang is the first to be granted one but forfeits it to stay with his Western girlfriend, while Cheng is repeatedly denied one. Only Meng actually gets a study visa, and as he's leaving, he tells his friends he has no intention of returning to China.

The film won Best Picture, Best Director and Best Actor awards at the 29th Golden Rooster Awards and was nominated in three other categories.



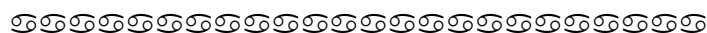
Panda Competition presentation

The award ceremony for the 2023 Panda Competition, with the topic 'The Dragon Boat Festival', will take place on 1 December at the Embassy of the People's Republic of China. This is a joyous occasion for the children and their families and we are grateful to the Ambassador for making the Embassy available for the ceremony.



Christmas dinner

The final function for the year will be a Christmas dinner on Wednesday 6 December at a venue to be decided. Please book by emailing acfsevent@gmail.com by 1 December.

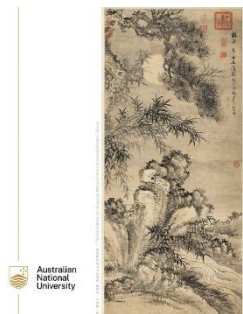


Fast facts from the *Beijing Review*, October 2023

- In autumn, job fairs are held across China to promote employment of college graduates, they are expected to feature over 10 million jobs for graduate this year. There will be a record 11.58 million graduates in 2023. China aims to create about 12 million new urban jobs to keep the surveyed urban unemployment rate at about 5.5%.
- The 5th International Daoism Forum kicked off on 24 September in Daoist Maoshan Mountain in Jiangsu Province. The establishment of the World Federation of Daoism was announced at the forum, with 52 Daoist organisations from 20 countries and regions being its founding members. Daoism originated from the Chinese philosopher Laozi who lived around the 6th to 5th century B.C.
- Several of Beijing's underground railways will participate in a pilot project to transport express parcels during off peak hours. The aim is to reduce road congestion. There are about 15 million express parcels every day in Beijing, delivered using roads. Beijing's rail network now has 27 lines with a total distance of 807 km.
- China's foreign trade January to August was 3.24 billion tons up 9.7% year-on-year, 16.9% up on 2019. International air cargo and mail (Jan-Aug) was 10.32 million tons up 4.9%.

Thanks to Neil Birch for compiling these.

Australian Centre on China in the World



陽關曲·中秋月
蘇軾
暮雲收盡溢清寒，
銀漢無聲轉玉盤。
此生此夜不長好，
明月明年何處看。

As the full moon symbolises family reunion, CHL PhD student Linfang Wang shares with us Mid-Autumn Moon by Su Shi (Song Dynasty).

陽關曲 中秋月 / 蘇軾
暮雲收盡溢清寒，銀漢無聲轉玉盤。
此生此夜不長好，明月明年何處看。

The evening clouds draw back with a flood of pure cold;
The river of stars silently spins a plate of jade (moon).
This life--this night--is not long enough for our joy
The next moon--the next year--from where will we see it?
--- Translated by Dr Esther Sunkyung Klein

This poem was written by one of the Northern Song leading literati and great talent Su Shi 蘇軾 (1037-1101). This poem was probably written in the year 1077. It was the first time in seven years that Su Shi had a chance to spend the Mid-Autumn Festival with his younger brother Su Zhe 蘇轍 (1039-1112). However, after a short reunion, they had to part ways again due to their official duties. Therefore, this poem is also called '陽關曲', which is a transitional farewell song with particular rhymes.

'清寒' in the first line can also represent the moon, when the sunset clouds scatter, the full moon (indicated by the character '溢') appears. Su's usage of '收盡' rather than '散盡' implies that Heaven bestows its blessing by removing all the clouds so that we can view the full beauty of the moon. The second line evokes Van Gogh's 'Starry Night': the river of stars, being quiet, yet at the same time spinning the moon! Such a pleasing night, however, does not last forever. The Su brothers would soon depart without knowing when to meet again. This is an eternal sentiment in Chinese poetry: nothing is permanent. Carpe diem.

Events



Film Screening | *Untold Herstory* 流麻溝十五號

Directed by Zero Chou 周美玲 | 2022 | PG

6pm, 31 October 2023 | CIW Auditorium

Untold Herstory tells a story of three female political prisoners at the concentration camps on Green Island—an islet off the east coast of Taiwan—in the 1950s. Light refreshments at 6pm for 6:30pm start. The film screening will be followed by Q&A with film producer Pasuya Yao.



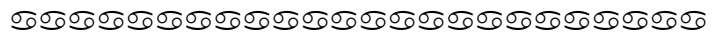
**Yuri Pines | Hebrew University of Jerusalem
5:30pm, 9 November 2023 | ONLINE**

One of the most notable features of Warring States-period (Zhanguo 戰國, 453-221 BCE) political discourse is the extraordinary self-confidence of intellectually active men-of-service (*shi* 士). In this lecture, Professor Pines will explore the counter-discourse aimed at undermining intellectuals' authority. **Registration essential.**

**Exhibition | *Florilegium: Distant Memories*
24 July – 15 December 2023 | CIW Gallery**

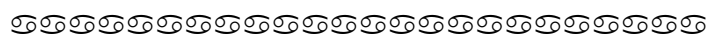


Florilegium: Distant Memories is an autobiographical, multi-component, immersive exhibition featuring an on-site installation by Taiwanese Australian artist Ruth Ju-shih Li 李如詩. Paired with porcelain pieces made in Jingdezhen—the ceramics capital of China—*Florilegium: Distant Memories* offers a fresh exploration of the revered ceramic medium.

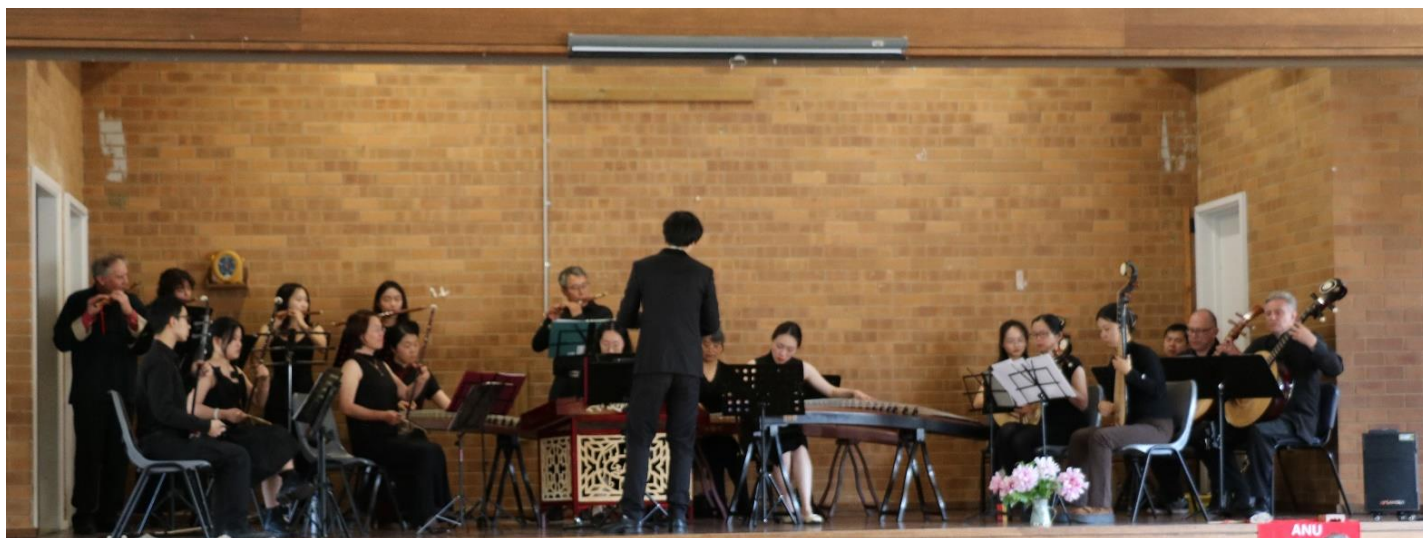


Talk by Jocelyn Chey

In September 28 members and guests gathered at the Jamison Southern Cross Club to hear Professor Jocelyn Chey AM give a talk on 'Is there a Chinese Sense of Humour'. Jocelyn's presentation was quite short and a number of questions were asked at the end. Afterwards she shared some entertaining examples of Chinese humour.



Travelling with Clouds – ANNUCCME concert 23 September 2023



The concert this year was held at the Cook Community Hub as the Centre on China in the World was unavailable. The hall had excellent acoustics and the Ensemble just managed to fit all 20 members onto the stage. The program was in two halves with the first half being pieces by the entire Ensemble and the 2nd half had Ensemble pieces followed by duets and solos finishing with Ensemble pieces. The duets and solos gave us a good appreciation of the sounds of individual instruments. During the 20 minute interval a free, excellent afternoon tea, organised and set out by Tanja and Corinne, was provided.

There were two interruptions to the program - the lights suddenly went out, which was a little perturbing for the musicians, but there was just enough light on the stage for the music to be readable. It turned out to be a suburb-wide blackout which fortunately didn't last too long. The second interruption was the fire alarm going off and fortunately a former teacher at Cook primary was in the audience and knew where to turn it off!

We had 62 people in total attend, not counting the musicians, but it was disappointing that only 6 Society members came - excluding the committee.

Over time the Ensemble has gone from strength to strength and it was a most enjoyable afternoon.

Thanks to Neil, Tanja and Corinne for all their help on the day.

Carol Keil



24 Solar Terms: 8 things you may not know about Cold Dew

chinadaily.com.cn | Updated: 2023-10-07 09:32

The traditional Chinese solar calendar divides the year into 24 solar terms. Cold Dew, (Chinese: 寒露), the 17th solar term of the year, begins this year on Oct 8 and ends on Oct 23.

At this time, temperatures are much lower than during White Dew in most areas of China. The dew is greater and colder and there will be less rain. Autumn crops will be ripe.

Here are eight things you should know about Cold Dew.

Foggy mornings

Temperatures drop significantly in October. When the cold air encounters autumn rain, the abundant water vapor in the air soon reaches saturation, and then it turns into misty rain or fog. When the humidity is high, there will be foggy regions formed in many areas of China.

Season for fishing

People always say that fishing in shallow water in autumn makes sense. That's because during the Cold Dew period, temperatures decrease quickly and sunshine doesn't reach deep water thoroughly. Fish swim to shallow water areas where the water temperature is relatively high.

Season for eating pomegranates

Pomegranates are ripe during Cold Dew. Pomegranates have been cherished for their exquisite beauty, flavour, colour, and health benefits for centuries.



Season for drinking chrysanthemum wine



Chrysanthemum is the iconic flower of Cold Dew. To prevent autumn dryness, many regions in China have the custom of drinking chrysanthemum wine. This is a tradition of the Double Ninth Festival (on the ninth day of the ninth month in the Chinese calendar), which often falls around Cold Dew. According to ancient records, drinking wine made with chrysanthemums, poria cocos mushroom and pine oleoresin grants people longlasting youth.

Season for eating hawthorns

There is a saying that goes "It is time to harvest hawthorn during Cold Dew." Extracts of the berries have long been used in herbal medicine. The antioxidants in hawthorn are thought to boost heart health by strengthening blood vessels and stimulating blood flow.



A great time for hiking

During Cold Dew, North China takes on a look of late autumn with white clouds, red leaves and early frost. On the day of the Double Ninth Festival, people often climb hills with cornels, a kind of plant. This custom aims to dispel evils, and originated in the Eastern Han Dynasty (AD25-220).

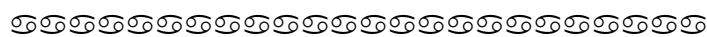


Season for making kippers

People of the Dong ethnic group in western Hunan province have the custom of making kippers during Cold Dew. It is said that kippers made on the day of Cold Dew with accessory foods, such as rice wine, salt, glutinous rice, pepper powder, paprika powder and ginger, are especially delicious.

Season for picking camellia seeds

Southern Hunan province is a famous area for producing tea seed oil. People are not allowed to go to the mountains to pick the seeds until Cold Dew comes around.



Sip 'moonlight' with mooncake

By Li Hongrui | chinadaily.com.cn | Updated: 2023-09-28 08:02

As the significantly important traditional festival Mid-Autumn Festival falls on Sept 29 this year, it is a perfect occasion to indulge in delicious mooncake alongside family members.

To enhance the sweet taste of these cakes, a cup of red tea is the perfect companion. Red tea, known for its honey flavor and floral aroma, adds an extra touch of delight.

A great choice to elevate the Mid-Autumn Festival family get-together would be Yue Guang Jin Zhi, also known as moonlight gold leaves. This tea is grown and produced in the old tea forests of the Jingmai Mountain in Yunnan province and is made up of one leaf and one bud, a new member of the red tea family produced in Yunnan.

The Cultural Landscape of Old Tea Forests of the Jingmai Mountain in Pu'er, Yunnan province, was recently declared a World Heritage Site at the 45th Session of the World Heritage Committee of UNESCO in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, on Sept 17. This makes it China's 57th entry on the prestigious list.



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.....

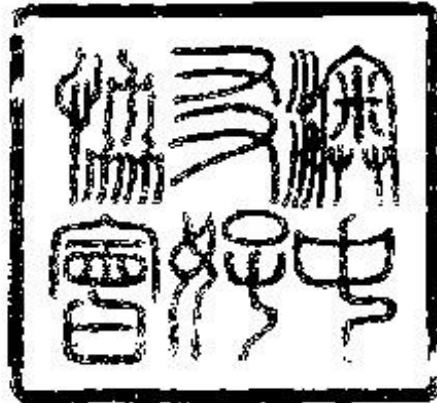
..... Postcode

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