



澳洲塔省華人聯誼會

Chinese Community Association of Tasmania Inc.

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2013 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear Members and Friends,

Welcome to this year's Annual General Meeting, 2014. As we look ahead to new opportunities and prospects, I am pleased to say that 2013 proved to be a highly eventful year for our Association. Serving my second term as Club President, it was a privilege to oversee CCAT's active involvement in a variety of cultural and charitable causes which were well-received and commended by the community. I would like to thank all members and volunteers for your contribution to the success of CCAT events and ongoing programs over the past year.

Providing care and support are core values upon which CCAT was founded, and we have continued to work on incorporating these into our club efforts:

- In response to the Sichuan Lushan Earthquake that occurred on 20 April 2013, CCAT launched the Earthquake Relief Appeal to help raise funds in support of victims of the disaster. Thanks to the generous donations of club members, a total of \$3,000.00 was raised and presented to the Consulate General of the People's Republic of China in Melbourne.
- Locally, we were pleased to have increasing interactions with other community groups and societies like the Launceston Chinese Association, Chinese Art Society, Chinese Cultural Society, Chinese Han Transmission Esotericism Academy and Families with Children from China-Australia. CCAT was again a proud sponsor of the UTAS Chinese Students and Scholars Association's annual Mid-Autumn Karaoke Contest 2013.
- Our ongoing support of the great work done by our friends at the Migrant Resource Centre (MRC) saw our clubhouse being the host-venue of regular MRC activities organised for CCAT senior members, for whom we were also able to provide subsidies for their several lunch outings.
- Congratulations to committee member Kim Phong who was inducted into the Tasmanian Honour Roll of Women in March 2013 for her service to multicultural affairs. As Principal of CCAT's Chinese Language School for the last 17 years, Kim has successfully held many school events such as the "Chinese Cultural Day" and the "Chinese Show" last year to showcase the students' skills to parents and friends.
- CCAT's annual celebrations of the Dragon Boat and Full Moon festivals, as well as the Christmas party, have always been a great opportunity for members and friends to get together and 2013 was no exception. The great efforts by our members have been recognised as our inaugural "2013 Chinese New Year Festival" has won the Hobart City Council 2014 Australia Day "Community Event of the Year" award.
- As part of what I hope to see become a new club tradition, CCAT hosted our second Chinese New Year Festival on 2 February 2014, officiated by Premier Lara Giddings, Lord Mayor Ald Damon Thomas and attended by many politicians and distinguished guests. We appreciate the support from the Chinese Consulate General Office in providing the Chinese lanterns, drums and flags and a congratulatory message from Consul General Yumin Song. Thanks to Chairperson Margaret Chung and all the members and volunteers, State and local Governments and Corporate sponsors in making this second public Festival a big success.

On 5 August 2013, CCAT was advised of its success in the "Building Multicultural Communities Program" grant application for \$44,000.00 offered by the then Department of Immigration and Citizenship (now Department of Social Services – DSS). Unfortunately this offer was withdrawn on 12 December 2013 by DSS due to tight federal budget. We are hoping that through the help of MPs and the Settlement Council of Australia, the grant offer can be reinstated.

Having received recognition for our efforts in promoting multiculturalism, it is important that we continue reaching outward for more opportunities to engage younger generations and interact with the wider community. As with our Chinese School and New Year Festivals, cultural stewardship – through charity, education and festivity – will be imperative to CCAT's relevance in the future. This can only be achieved through the introduction of sustainable community programs and events, steered by innovative, passionate people.

It is on this note that I would like to extend a warm welcome to the incoming Management Committee for 2014, and wish everyone a happy, healthy and prosperous Year of the Horse!

Daniel Chan
President