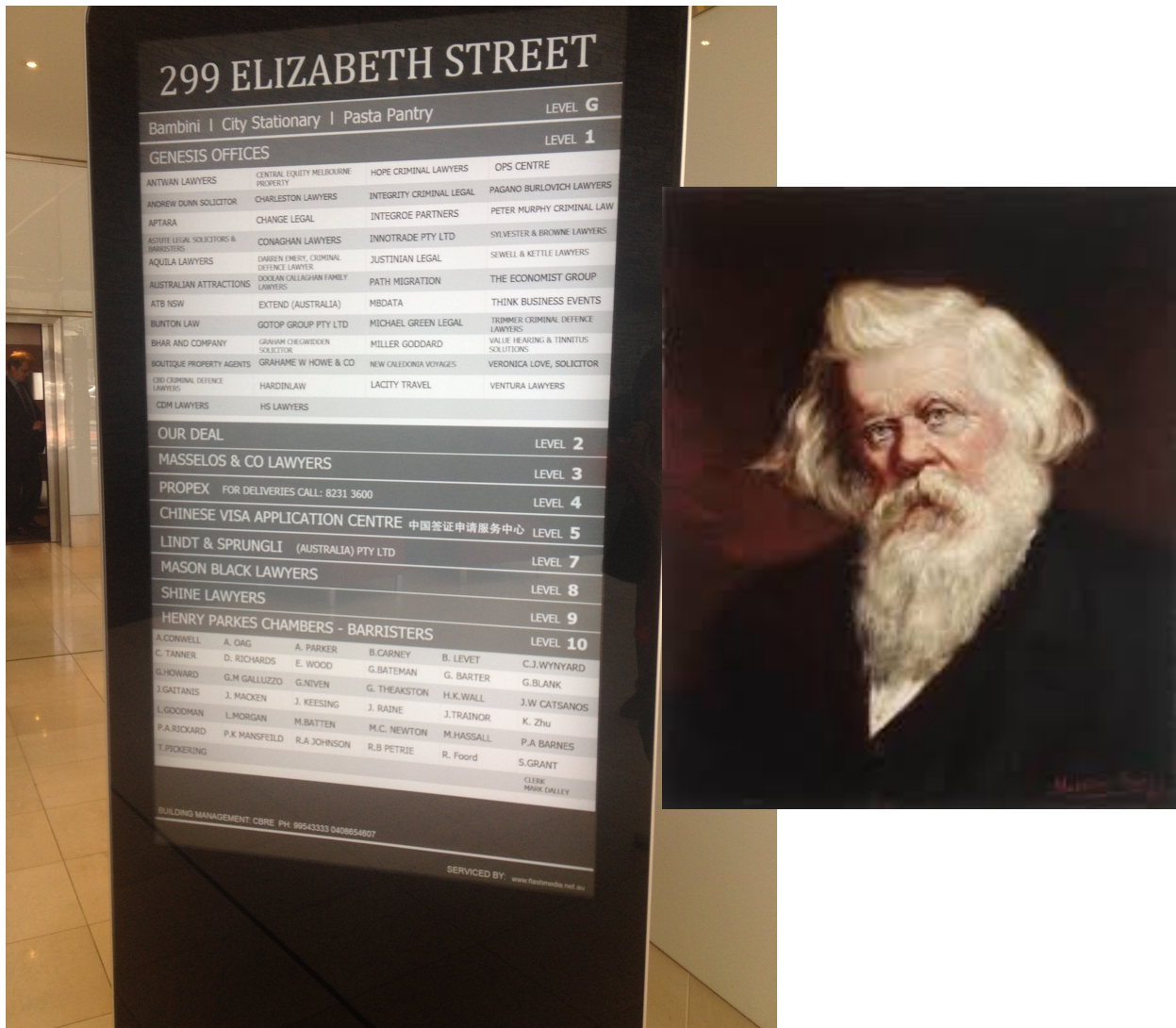


Members' Newsletter – April 2016  
 澳洲華人歷史協會會訊  
<http://chineseaustralianhistory.org>

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 Edited by: Michael Williams

## One of history's little ironies



Henry Parkes is nowadays perhaps most well-known for his role in introducing anti-Chinese immigration restrictions in NSW. Even his nominal title 'Father of Federation' was earned in part striving to ensure uniform Chinese restrictions around Australia.

It is ironic therefore to see that the large and very popular China visa office on level 5 shares its building today with the Henry Parkes Chambers on level 10.

## History series

Our presentation on the Dictation Test was a great success. Well attended and followed by many interesting questions.

Don't forget to keep your calendar free for the next in our series of historical presentations:

### The Beachams of Bathurst

### A Chinese Australian story

Presenter

**Juanita Kwok,**

**PhD candidate (Charles Sturt University)**

Arriving from Amoy as an indentured labourer, William Beacham was a gold seeker on the Turon before moving to Bathurst where he had a forty year career as a storekeeper, market gardener, tobacco farmer and court interpreter. Learn about the lives of Chinese communities in Bathurst through the story of William Beacham and family.

**DATE:** Saturday, 18th June 2016

**TIME:** 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

**WHERE:** Sydney Mechanics School  
of Arts

Level 1, 280 Pitt Street,  
Sydney

**COST:** \$15.00 non members

\$10.00 members

(includes Afternoon Tea)

|  |   |                           |         |   |
|--|---|---------------------------|---------|---|
| N <sup>o</sup> 12458                       |   | Name <i>Loon Ah Choon</i> |         | 6 |
| Date when Portrait was taken               |   | <i>29 7 1912</i>          |         |   |
| Native place                               | <i>China</i>  |                           |         |   |
| Year of birth                              | <i>1854</i>   |                           |         |   |
| Arrived in (Ship)                          | <i>Aldenhams</i>  |                           |         |   |
| Colony (Year)                              | <i>1912</i>   |                           |         |   |
| Trade or occupation previous to conviction | <i>Seaman</i>   |                           |         |   |
| Religion                                   | <i>Fagan</i>  |                           |         |   |
| Education, degree of                       | <i>Rand W.C.</i>  |                           |         |   |
| Height, without shoes                      | <i>5 feet 11 inches</i>                                     |                           |         |   |
| Weight (On admittal)                       | <i>124</i>  |                           |         |   |
| On Discharge                               |   |                           |         |   |
| Colour of hair                             | <i>Black</i>  |                           |         |   |
| Colour of eyes                             | <i>Brown</i>  |                           |         |   |
| Marks or special features                  | <i>Scar outside right forearm scar along side right eye</i> |                           |         |   |
|  | 13 A 18   |                           | 14 R 18 |   |
|  | (No of previous Portrait)                                   |                           |         |   |
| CONVICTIONS.                               |   |                           |         |   |
| Where and When                             | Offence   | Sentence                  |         |   |
| <i>Water Pk 2.6.12</i>                     | <i>Prohibited Immigrant</i>                                 | <i>6 months H.L.</i>      |         |   |

**Heads-I-win-tails-you-lose**  
**The test it was a crime to fail**



**Norman Beacham and son, Ross Beacham, circa 1915**

## What's new on the website

Don't forget to check out our latest in the **8 objects** series:

### Australian-Zhongshan History in 8 Objects

<https://au-mg5.mail.yahoo.com/neo/launch?.rand=2anbvsvanu0mn#5775494704>



#### No. 7: A Family Shrine

In the Sui family home in Guangzhou is an altar on which is set up images of various departed ancestors. Together the images make up a not unusual family group but one that also tells a story of interwoven families across time and continents that while not unique is one often forgotten even by the families themselves.

Thus Siu Chiuh Fong or Joseph Sin is flanked by his two wives, Chan Sui Fong and Annie Moran. The first wife was the Irish born Annie Moran from Central Queensland where she married Joseph while he worked as a market gardener. After her death he married Chan Sui Fong in Nam Wen, Zhongshan County. Joseph Sin, like many who left Nam Wen and similar villages throughout the Pearl River Delta, did so to help maintain his family in the village by working overseas and sending remittances. This he did, returning to visit on at least three occasions over the course of a working life in Australia and during one of which in 1912 he took with him two sons – Tom and Joseph – from his marriage with Annie.

It is this second Joseph who appears in the plate on the left. Joseph Sin junior remained in Nam Wen village, unlike his brother Tom who returned to Australia after a short time. Joseph did leave however after the change of government in 1949 and made his way to nearby Hong Kong where he stayed for several years before being granted permission to enter Australia as an Australia-born person. On doing so Joseph made his way to Queensland where he re-introduced himself to the Australian side of his family. Much to the surprise of his great nephew Warren Kinne who, until Uncle Joe's arrival, had not known he had any Chinese ancestry.

Warren was most intrigued to discover his Chinese Great Grandfather and subsequently made a number of trips to visit the family in Nam Wen. On these trips he found not only the ancestor shrine with the plates picturing his relatives, but also that, unlike his Queensland family, the China-based family was very familiar with all branches of the family in both China and Australia. This knowledge of family relations including an extensive jiapu or genealogy that takes the family links back to the Song Dynasty of the 12<sup>th</sup> century.

## Upcoming events of interest

### Chinese Family History and Migration to Australia

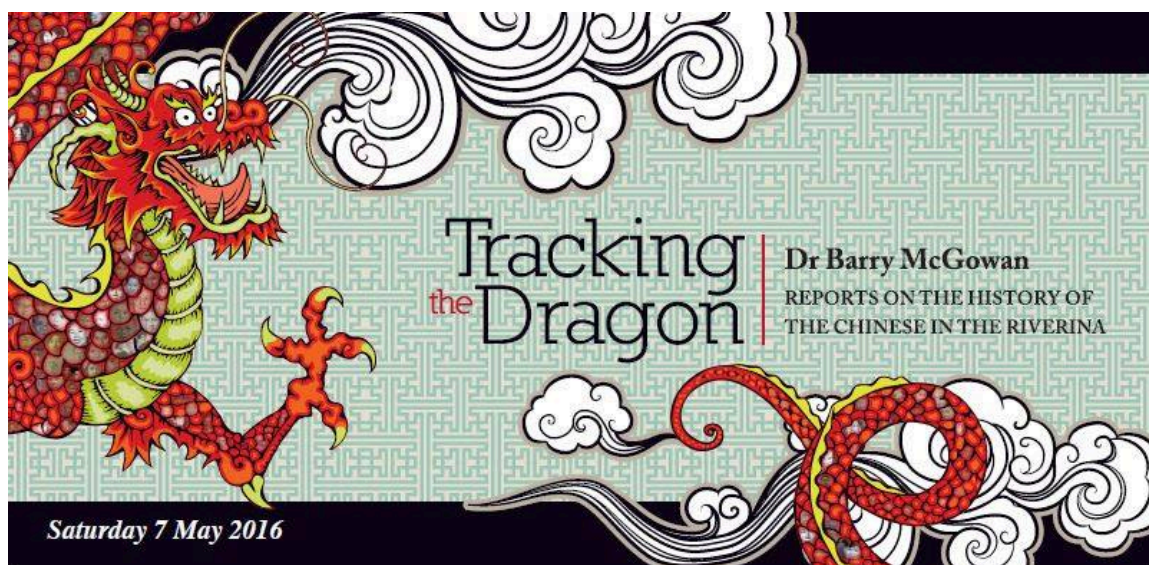
Saturday 30 April 2016, 10:30am - 12:30pm

Presenter: Dr Kate Bagnall

Kate will explore the different kinds of records you can use to uncover information about your Chinese ancestors.

She will also share tips about Chinese names and ideas for tracking family back to China.

Where: Richmond Villa, 120 Kent Street Sydney [sag.org.au]



For more details see:

<https://chineseaustralianhistory.org/current-events-news/>