

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

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 Edited by: Michael Williams

Coming up in August



124 Crown Street, Darlinghurst (1901)

Voices of Sydney's Chinese Furniture Factory Workers, 1890 - 1920

Presented by Peter Gibson

PhD student, University of
Wollongong

Chinese furniture factory workers were the focus of much furore that helped shape 'White Australia'. Seen as a threat to European workers, they were subject to various accusations about their activities, which led to discriminatory laws. While the claims of Europeans, and to some extent Chinese elites' counterclaims, have been examined by historians, Chinese workers' own voices have not been heard. Drawing chiefly on bankruptcy records, this presentation explores the world of Chinese furniture factory workers in Sydney between 1890 and 1920, and provides a more nuanced view of 'White Australia'.

DATE: Saturday, 20th August 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)

Thanks to all who made donations, or paid their membership or became life members.

Remember membership is only \$10 and contributes to the continuation of the CAHS.

9th International Conference of the International Society for the Study of Chinese Overseas



Key Note address given by Professor Wang Gungwu

Held in Vancouver this month ISSCO had an extremely strong Australian contingent this year thanks largely to efforts of Paul MacGregor. In addition to the papers given by Australians there were also many papers of relevance to those interested in Chinese-Australian history given by scholars outside Australia. These included papers on Mandarin/English bilingualism, the decline of Cantonese and research on Chinese students in Australia.

For example:

Points Test: Policies, Strategies, and Dilemmas on the Journey to Permanent Residency among Young Chinese in Australia

Linling Gao-Miles (Washington University in St. Louis)

Bilingualism for Everyone? Chinese Bilingual Program Debates in Metro Vancouver

Ai Mizuta (The University of British Columbia)

Other papers on coolies, restaurants, workers, and the Chinese diaspora given in English or Mandarin made for an exciting and informative three-day conference in (mostly) sunny Vancouver.

For more details and abstracts see:

<http://2016issco.sites.olt.ubc.ca/panel-abstracts/>

Chinese-Australian Family History

The CAHS has established a Family History Group to encourage and assist those who have an interest in tracing their Chinese family history.

All are welcome to attend the first meeting on:

**Saturday October 15th between 2-4pm
Sydney Mechanics School of Arts
Level 1, 280 Pitt Street, Sydney**

For bookings and other enquiries please contact Kerry Choy:

krchoy@gmail.com or 0401 993 020



Juanita Kwok delivering her interesting and informative talk to the CAHS last month

Appeal for information about Chen Ah Teak

Michael Adams of Willoughby Library is researching about Chen Ah Teak.

A prominent businessman, Chen Ah Teak, owned a number of market gardens around Sydney in the late 19th century. Chen Ah Teak gave evidence to the 1891 Royal Commission on Alleged Chinese Gambling and Immorality. He also often served as a court interpreter and married in Sydney.

If any one has more information about Chen Ah Teak could you please contact:

Michael.Adams@willoughby.nsw.gov.au