

Australian Chinese Charity Foundation Inc. 2025 Chinese New Year Celebration Dinner



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Message from ACCF Chairman



Dear Friends and Supporters,

As we usher in the Year of the Snake in 2025, it gives me great pleasure, on behalf of the Australian Chinese Charity Foundation, to extend a warm welcome to our Chinese New Year Celebration Dinner. This festive occasion is a cherished tradition that brings family, friends, and the community together in celebration and unity.

The snake, a symbol of wisdom, adaptability, mystique and elegance in Chinese culture, reminds us of the importance of resilience and thoughtful actions. As we embrace these qualities, we also reflect on the spirit of Chinese New Year, which is deeply rooted in the values of family reunions, gratitude, and the joy of shared moments.

While we celebrate this auspicious season, we are also mindful of our mission to support those in need. This evening, we gather not only to honor tradition but also to raise funds for our Emergency Assistance Fund. This Fund provides support for individuals and families facing unforeseen or unexpected circumstances that result in financial or other hardships. Your generosity ensures that we can continue to extend a helping hand to those who need it most.

I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to our Vice Chairperson, Ms. Annie Tang, who has graciously taken on the role of Event Chairperson. Together with the dedicated members of our management committee, I am confident that tonight's celebration will be both enjoyable and successful.

Thank you for joining us in welcoming the Year of the Snake. Your presence and support embody the true spirit of this special time of year. Let us look forward to an evening of fellowship, celebration, and generosity.

Wishing you all a prosperous, healthy, and joyous Chinese New Year! Warm regards,

Dr. Michael Tse

Chairman

Australian Chinese Charity Foundation



MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER

CHINESE NEW YEAR 2025

Happy Chinese New Year to everyone celebrating in Australia!

This wonderful festival is one of our nation's great cultural celebrations. Filled with colour and energy, friendship and family, this festival is a wonderful reminder of our nation's rich diversity and the power of tradition to bring people together.

We all look forward to the vibrant and beautiful celebrations – special moments with loved ones, lanterns and lion dancers. Let us also take the time to celebrate the communities that make all this possible through their hard work, creativity and dedication to each other.

In 2025, we welcome the Year of the Snake. Representing renewal and transformation, the snake is admired for its wisdom and adaptability – characteristics that are so relevant to Australians as we continue to build a better future in this extraordinary country.

With these thoughts in mind, I pay tribute to Australians of Chinese heritage. The remarkable energy, ambition and drive brought by those who have come here is such an important part of our national story.

I wish you all a happy Lunar New Year and luck, happiness and prosperity for the Year of the Snake.

The Hon Anthony Albanese MP Prime Minister of Australia

January 2025



PRIME MINISTER

总理贺词

2025年春节

恭祝所有在澳大利亚庆祝春节的朋友们新春快乐!

春节是我们国家最重要的文化节庆之一。它充满了色彩与活力、友谊与亲情,生动地展现了澳大利亚多元文化的丰富内涵,也彰显了传统让人们凝聚在一起的力量。

我们期待这些活力四射、充满喜庆氛围的庆祝活动——与亲人朋友共度美好时光 ,观赏绚丽多彩的灯笼,享受欢腾热闹的舞狮表演。同时,也让我们向那些以辛 勤劳动、无限创意和奉献精神成就这一切的社区表达由衷的感谢。

2025年,我们迎来了蛇年。蛇象征着新生与蜕变,并因智慧与适应能力而广受推崇——这些特质也深刻反映了澳大利亚人的精神,激励我们在这个非凡的国度中不断创造更加美好的未来。

在庆祝这一节日的同时,我想向澳大利亚华裔同胞致敬。你们展现的活力、志向和决心,已经成为我们国家历史不可或缺的一部分,并通过无数方式持续丰富着我们的社会。

祝大家新春快乐,蛇年好运连连,生活幸福美满!

安东尼•阿尔巴尼斯阁下 澳大利亚总理

Thony Money

2025年1月



THE HON PETER DUTTON MP LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION

AUSTRALIAN CHINESE CHARITY FOUNDATION CHINESE NEW YEAR

To all the members and friends of the Australian Chinese Charity Foundation, I first want to acknowledge your fine work throughout 2024. Thank you for your fundraising initiatives and noble endeavours which have supported Australian charities and Australians in need. In particular, I commend your \$140,000 of grant funding across 20 community projects that are focused on mental health support. These services are incredibly important given the financial and emotional hardships Australians are facing amidst the cost-of-living crisis.

Secondly, I wish all the members and friends of your foundation a very happy Chinese New Year. As you know, 2025 is the Year of the Wood Snake. Contrary to its more malevolent symbolism in other cultures, in Chinese culture, the snake is associated with wisdom and change – and together with the element of wood – emphasises the importance of shrewd decision-making.

This year, Australians will again exercise the greatest gift democracy affords – the privilege of having a say in determining the destiny of our great country.

In my travels across the country, I've had the privilege of meeting many Australians of Chinese ancestry – in our cities, outer suburbs, regional towns and coastal communities. Each has a unique story of how they came to be Australian or how they have grown up in Australia as the children or grandchildren of Chinese migrants. Each has striven forward and given back through their chosen profession and contributions to their communities.

In hearing many individual stories, there are nonetheless commonalities: a devotion to family and one's children; a commitment to education and hard work; an entrepreneurial and aspirational spirit; and a desire for life to be affordable and for our streets and communities to be safe.

Australia has suffered setbacks in recent years. But the next election will be an opportunity for a change for the better. Your choice matters. And I hope you will lend me your support to help get our country back on track.

To all attending the Australian Chinese Charity Foundation's celebratory dinner at the Eight Restaurant, I wish you and your families a prosperous Chinese New Year.

Hon Peter Dutton MP Leader of the Opposition

January 2025



Premier of New South Wales Australia

Australian Chinese Charity Foundation - 2025 Chinese New Year

I extend my best wishes to everyone attending the Australian Chinese Charity Foundation's (ACCF) Chinese New Year Celebration Dinner.

In 2025, we welcome the Year of the Snake – a symbol of wisdom and personal growth.

Over the coming weeks, communities across NSW and around the world will come together to bring in the New Year and celebrate this important event on our cultural calendar.

In NSW, we are home to a large and growing Chinese community comprised of almost 250,000 people.

Chinese New Year is a fantastic chance to recognise the important contributions this community makes to our State. This includes the ACCF, which has been a pillar of our community, carrying out important charity work and fundraising drives for those in need.

I thank the ACCF for over three decades of service – this is something worth celebrating tonight. I wish you all a happy, safe and prosperous year ahead!

Chris Minns MP

Phris

Premier





Hon Mark Speakman SC MP Leader of the NSW Opposition NSW Liberal Leader

On behalf of the NSW Opposition, we extend our heartfelt greetings to the Chinese community across New South Wales as we welcome the Year of the Snake in 2025.

恭喜發財, 萬事勝意! May this Lunar New Year bring you, your family, and your loved ones wisdom, prosperity, and enduring good health.

In the Chinese zodiac, the Snake is a symbol of wisdom, intuition, and transformation. It reminds us of the mysterious forces of nature and the importance of thoughtfulness and insight in achieving harmony and success.



As we embrace these qualities in the year ahead, let us also celebrate the rich cultur traditions that unite us during this special time.

Lunar New Year is a joyous occasion for billions worldwide, and here in New Soul Wales, we take pride in hosting some of the most vibrant celebrations outside Asia testament to the strength and diversity of our multicultural society.

To all those celebrating, may the Year of the Snake be filled with growth, achievemen and opportunities. May it inspire us all to reflect on the wisdom of the past, embrac the possibilities of the future, and foster a sense of connection and unity throughour state.

Happy Lunar New Year!

A Genesis of Hope: The Birth of the Australian Chinese Charity Foundation



By Dr. Peter Wong AM

The year 1989 lingers in my memory like a distant echo, faint yet profound. It marked a pivotal moment that would forever change the lives of thousands and leave an indelible mark on Australia's multicultural tapestry.

That year, thousands of Chinese students, many of whom had come to Australia seeking education on borrowed hope and borrowed money, found themselves stranded—isolated, fearful, and uncertain of their future.

The Prime Minister at the time, Bob Hawke, famously promised they would not be sent back to an uncertain fate. But words alone could not erase their struggles. These young men and women, far from home and family, faced daunting challenges—language barriers, financial strain, and the heavy burden of knowing that their families back home could no longer support them. Some faced illnesses, accidents, and the unimaginable sorrow of losing loved ones, with no means to return their remains or to comfort those left behind.

It was during this time of despair that an opportunity arose. Senator Robert Ray, the then-Minister for Immigration, recognized the plight of these students and offered two Grant-in-Aid worker positions to assist them. One position found a home with the Indochinese Chinese Community Association (ICCA).

Together with Kek Tai, a social worker at ICCA, I approached Senator Ray and proposed to create an organisation dedicated to the welfare of these students. Thus, the Welfare Committee for Chinese Students was established, with Phillip Tsang as its first worker and our current Chairperson of Fund and Grant Committee, Ms Cecilia Tsai, as one of our volunteers to support the students to settle in Australia. Operating out of the Chinatown Promotion office, graciously provided by King Fong OAM, the Committee embarked on its mission with little more than hope and determination.

The challenges were immense. Without funding, we relied on the kindness of a few individuals and the solidarity of mostly Sydney's Indochinese communities and Christian groups. Every dollar raised was a lifeline. Yet, when tragedy struck—when someone fell ill or lost their life—there was still no system in place to provide emergency relief. Families, bound by the constraints of distance and bureaucracy, were left helpless.

It became clear that something more was needed. I envisioned a bridge—a broad-based, tax-deductible charity that could unite the Chinese community and support those in crisis, while fostering harmony in Australia's multicultural society.

With the guidance of Terry Bates from the Taxation Office, and the unwavering support of prominent Chinese community leaders, this dream took shape. Within a month, we had 20 trustees, including visionaries like King Fong OAM, Benjamin Chow AO, Robert Ho OAM, Mr Frank Chou OAM, Mr. P.T Tran OAM, Hudson Chen OAM, Mr Dennis Low, Dr Cyril Wong, Dr Lucia Bong and Mrs Catherine Wong. Their commitment and belief in the cause gave us the foundation we needed.

In 1990, the Australian Chinese Charity Foundation (ACCF) was born. From its earliest days, ACCF focused on providing emergency funding to those in need—offering solace and support during life's darkest moments.

Looking back, I am reminded of the wisdom of Mother Teresa: "Helping one person might not change the world, but it could change the world for that person." This sentiment has been our guiding light, a reminder that every act of kindness, no matter how small, has the power to transform lives.

The ACCF's journey began in the shadow of despair, but it grew into a beacon of hope. Today, it stands as a testament to what we can achieve when compassion meets determination, and when a community comes together to care for its own.

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FUNDS & GRANTS

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Dr. Ernest Chan OAM

Dr. Isabella Pak Ms. Susana Ng

Mr. Victor Yeung JP

Ms. Josephine Lam



Focusing on Emergency Assistance

By Ms. Cecilia Tsai
Funds & Grants Assessment Committee Chairperson

The ACCF Emergency Assistance Fund program, underpinned by ACCF's value of helping those most in need, supports individuals and their families who face emergency needs arising from unforeseen or unexpected circumstance, and where government and other assistance have been exhausted.

In January 2024, the Funds and Grants Subcommittee reviewed and rejuvenated the program by further defining the criteria and streamlining the assessment process. The review aimed at achieving a quicker turnaround time to meet crisis situations. It also further affirms the importance of collaborating with our partners in the community.

Since January 2024, ACCF has received 120 applications. Most applications have related to crisis accommodation, medical needs and unexpected circumstances the individuals or families came under such as accidents and fire.

Each case is assessed individually, taking into account of the complex situations the applicants may be in.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our partner organisations in the community. They play a major role in connecting ACCF with people who may benefit from the program. Importantly they help the assessment process by providing the necessary evidence and supporting documents. Thank you for supporting and enhancing the program.

Last but absolutely not the least, an especially big shout out to the team of committed Subcommittee members who have been extremely generous with their time and knowledge. As applications to the Emergency Assistance Fund are open all year, members frequently work on applications even during their holidays, here or abroad.



Message from Event Chairman

Welcome to the Australian Chinese Charity Foundation (ACCF) 2025 Chinese New Year celebrations!

As we embrace the Year of the Snake, we gather here tonight not only to celebrate our rich cultural heritage, and we also come together as a community to support one another.

This year, our festivities are particularly special as we aim to raise funds for our ACCF Emergency Assistance Fund. This fund plays a crucial role in providing immediate support to individuals and families facing unforeseen challenges. Your generous donations will help ensure that no one in our community has to navigate tough times alone, reinforcing our commitment to compassion and solidarity.

Throughout this event, you will experience vibrant performances, including the exhilarating lion dance and the delightful entertainment. Enjoy the delicious traditional dishes and the warmth of friendship that defines our gatherings. Let us take this opportunity to strengthen our ties within the broader community and spread goodwill.

Thank you for being here and for your unwavering support of our mission. Together, we can create a positive impact and make a meaningful difference in the lives of those who need it most

Wishing you all a prosperous, joyful, and fulfilling New Year!

Ms. Annie Tang JP

Vice-Chairman & Event Chairman

Programme

Master of Ceremony Mr. Victor Yeung JP

National Anthem Led by Dr. Peter Wong AM, Dr. Victor Tsang & Mr. Victor Yeung JP

Welcome Address Ms. Annie Tang JP, Event & ACCF Vice Chairman

Lion Dance Tommy Tong's Traditional Chinese Performing Arts Centre

Lucky Door Prize Mr. Ricky Chong, Director of Hong Kong Economic & Trade Office, Sydney

Chaiman Address Dr. Michael Tse, ACCF Chairman

Address by Guest of Honour

Ms. Sally Sitou MP, Member for Reid, representing
The Hon. Anthony AlbaneseMP, Prime Minister of Australia

Mr. Scott Yung, Federal Liberal Candidate for Bennelong, representing The Hon. Peter Dutton MP, Federal Leader of the Opposition

Mr. Jason Yat-Sen Li MP, Member for Strathfield representing
The Hon. Chris Minns MP, Premier of New South Wales

The Hon. Mark Speakman SC MP, Leader of the New South Wales Opposition

Photo Sessions

Induction of New Patrons and Trustee Dr. Michael Tse, ACCF Chairman

Speech by ACCF Emergency Funds Recipient

Ms. Frances Rush OAM, Chief Executive Officer, Asylum Seekers Centre Ms. Felicia Paul, Intensive Support Caseworker, Asylum Seekers Centre

Entertainment Ms. Roseanna Gallo OAM

Chinese New Year Toasting & Mr Fortune Greeting

ACCF Council Board & Management Committee

Raffle Draw

Raffle Prizes

| 1 | The Dior Gift Set - Donated by Polly Chan |
|----|---|
| 2 | Lancôme Advanced Genifique Skin Care Gift Set - Donated by Queeny Pun |
| 3 | Sculpture - Donated by Benjamin Chow |
| 4 | Hermes Parfums Scented Soap Set - Donated by Annie Tang |
| 5 | KitchenAid Premium Non Stick Induction 28cm Crepe/Pancake Pan |
| | - Donated by Victor Yeung |
| 6 | Christian Dior Gift Set - Donated by Eugenia Lieu |
| 7 | Chinese Leather Chess Wooden Box Gift Set - Donated by Anthony Ching |
| 8 | KitchenAid Premium Non Stick Induction Frypan 24cm - Donated by Joanna Yeur |
| 9 | T2 Gift Set - Donated by Luci Ozcan |
| 10 | Dolce & Gabbana Gift Set - Donated by Josephine Lam |
| 11 | Dolce & Gabbana Gift Set - Donated by Josephine Lam |
| 12 | Combo 1 Bottle of French Charles de Cazanove Champagne & 2 Hoyts Movie |
| | Tickets - Donated by Cherie Kam |
| 13 | The Cooks Collective Airtight 12 Piece Food Canister Set - Donated by Ruby Teng |
| 14 | The Cooks Collective Airtight 12 Piece Food Canister Set - Donated by Ruby Teng |
| 15 | Coffret Decouverte Hermes Parfums Jardins Discery Set - Donated by Michael Ts |
| 16 | Honghua Lang 10 Year Old Premium Baijiu - Donated by Heidi Han |
| 17 | Tea Set & Two Bags of Organic Tea - Donated by Faith Tan |
| 18 | Tea Set & Two Bags of Organic Tea - Donated by Faith Tan |
| 19 | 順德味道 \$100 Dinner Voucher - Donated by Taste of Shunde |
| 20 | 順德味道 \$100 Dinner Voucher - Donated by Taste of Shunde |
| 21 | Penfolds Bin 389 - Donated by Michael Tse |
| 22 | Myer \$100 Gift Card - Donated by Maria Chan |
| 23 | Coles & Myer \$100 Gift Card - Donated by Maria Chan |
| 24 | Penfolds x Thienot Champagne - Donated by Vincent Kong |

Golden Century At Crown \$100 Dinner Voucher - Donated by Linda Wong Golden Century At Crown \$100 Dinner Voucher - Donated by Linda Wong

28 Golden Century At Crown \$100 Dinner Voucher - Donated by Linda Wong
 29 Anna Sui Dreams Set - Donated by Anonymous

eBest Goodie Bag - Donated by eBest

25

26

27

30 Grown Alchemist Skincare Set - Donated by Anonymous

Raffle Prizes

| 31 | Malin & Goetz The Bright Side Hand & Body Wash - Donated by Emily N |
|----|---|
| 32 | Moet & Chandon Champagne - Donated by Victor Tsang |
| 33 | Penfolds Bin 28 Holiday Limited Edition - Donated by Victor Tsang |
| 34 | Timber Cheese Board, Cheese & Pate Knife Set & Wine Opener Gift Se |
| | - Donated by Queeny Pun |
| 35 | St Hugo Shiraz - Donated by Vincent Kong |
| 36 | Food Hamper Bag - Donated by Milly Yang |
| 37 | Food Hamper Bag - Donated by Milly Yang |
| 38 | Food Hamper Bag - Donated by Milly Yang |
| 39 | Food Hamper Bag - Donated by Milly Yang |
| 40 | Food Hamper Bag - Donated by Milly Yang |
| 41 | Food Hamper Bag - Donated by Milly Yang |
| 42 | Kowloon Café \$50 Voucher - Donated by Kowloon Cafe |
| 43 | Kowloon Café \$50 Voucher - Donated by Kowloon Cafe |
| 44 | Nanjing Royal Brocade - Donated by Megan F P/L 臻品之峰 |
| 45 | Red Packet - Donated by Ellie Huang |
| 46 | Red Packet - Donated by Linda Tang |
| 47 | Red Packet - Donated by Florence Chau |
| 48 | Penfolds Bin 28 Shiraz 2020 - Donated by Christine Mok |
| 49 | Oriental Merchant Gift Pack - Donated by Oriental Merchant |
| 50 | Oriental Merchant Gift Pack - Donated by Oriental Merchant |
| 51 | Oriental Merchant Gift Pack - Donated by Oriental Merchant |
| 52 | Oriental Merchant Gift Pack - Donated by Oriental Merchant |
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Artwork Design

Think And Grow Pty Ltd

Masters of Ceremony

Mr. Victor Yeung JP

Singing Performance

Ms. Roseanna Gallo OAM

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