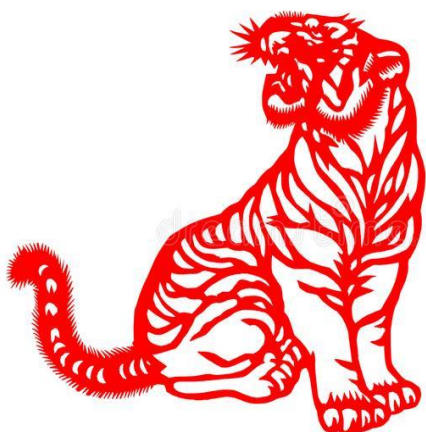




ALMA NEWS

DECEMBER 2021

LUNAR NEW YEAR 2022 - YEAR OF THE TIGER



In 2022 Lunar New Year begins on the 1st of February. In China, and in many other countries around the world, the Lunar New Year is the most important and most festive holiday of the year. In China it is customary to clean your house thoroughly in preparation for the festival and to decorate with red lanterns and door couplets (red signs pasted on each side of the door with black writing that express wishes for the year ahead).

2022 is the year of the Tiger. Recent years of the Tiger include 1938, 1950, 1962, 1974, 1986, 1998, and 2010. People born in years of the Tiger are considered to be vigorous and ambitious, daring and courageous, enthusiastic and generous. They are thought to be self-confident with a sense of justice and a commitment to help others for the greater good.

NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

What a year it has been! Firstly, I would like to thank everyone who attended the ALMA AGM via Google Meet on Tuesday the 19th of October 2021. The 2020/2021 committee was dissolved and the new committee appointed. The 2021-2022 committee is a mix of existing and new members.

The 2021-2022 committee comprises:

President: Cassie Gleadhill

Vice President: Charlotte Foster

Treasurer: Hester Chen

Assistant Treasurer: James Marr

Secretary: Marion Carey

Assistant Secretary: Mandy Scott

General Members: Rosa Di Munno, Margareta Sugianto, Adelina Tan and Clare Dahlstrom.

I'm looking forward to working with this lovely group over the next year. Among other aims, one of the committee's major focus areas this year will be on finalising an enterprise agreement for our fantastic staff.

Thank you to all our members for your ongoing support this year, particularly given the last year was at times quite challenging.

We wish everyone a lovely safe happy holiday season.

Cassie Gleadhill
President, ALMA

CHINESE AUSTRALIAN EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTRE (CAECC)

At CAECC – as for everywhere else in Australia - it has been a “special year”

Sadly all the celebrations that we had planned with our families had to be cancelled. This included our end of the year concert which we have recorded and sent to the children’s families via our app StoryPark.

On the bright side the children had so much fun learning, preparing and performing for the concert.

This year we also celebrated receiving our Exceeding Quality Rating from the Australian Children’s Education and Care Quality Authority. This due to our dedicated educators, who continue to give exceptional quality education and care to the children at the Centre.

We nearly have full numbers in our infant and toddler room next year; our preschool room has a few more places available.

We wish everyone all the best for the new year.

Annette Chemin
Director, CAECC

ALMA ACTIVITIES

Mandarin Community Tutoring Project

Our free volunteer tutoring project is continuing much as reported in the September ALMA News, though the easing of COVID 19 restrictions means that tutors and learners can now meet in person again rather than online.

Although arrangements to meet usually change with the end of the academic year and as the thoughts of participants turn to Christmas/New Year celebrations and plans for the summer, some tutoring does continue over the December and January period.

So, if you are interested in taking part, either as a tutor or a learner, you are welcome to contact us at Canberralma@gmail.com For more details about the project and how to register, visit the [Mandarin Community Tutoring page](#) on the ALMA website.

Mandarin program on community radio 2XX

The program presenters, Mandy from ALMA and Xiaohui from the ACT Chinese Australian Association, are now again broadcasting the program live from the 2XX studio in the city.

Tune in through the radio on 98.3 FM every Friday evening from 7pm to 7.30pm – or listen online at www.2xxfm.org.au You can also hear recordings of previous programs through the ‘On Demand’ link at the same web address.

If you listen to the program, please feel free to write a short note to let us know. Our email is canberraalma@gmail.com It is great to get feedback. For example, we recently received this from a listener:

老师们好，感谢你们的广播节目。我以前学习汉语，可是我忘了词很多！ I like your show very much, and it reminds me that I must practice every day.

We also welcome recordings of your children singing a song or reading a short story or poem in Mandarin for inclusion in the program. Hearing themselves on the radio is a great way to encourage children to speak and practice the Mandarin they are learning at home, preschool or school. Just send the recording (MP3 preferred), with a transcript if possible, to the email address above.

Finally, ALMA would like to acknowledge community radio 2XX and the Community Broadcasting Foundation for supporting this weekly Mandarin language program.

NEW ALMA MEMBERS

We are very pleased to welcome the following new ALMA members:

- LIEW Ying Ying and family
- JOHNSTON Yuchen and family and
- ISAYEVA Yaoyao and family
- LIU Shasha and family
- BARRY Amanda and family
- MANLAPIG Arbie Kaychelle and family

OTHER NEWS

China in the World (CIW) at the ANU

中华全球研究中心

The Australian Centre on China in the World (CIW) at the ANU provides a wealth of interesting news, discussions and information about all things Chinese. Most events are free and open to the general public. Keep an eye on their website at <http://ciw.anu.edu.au/> for more information.

Special coins for the Year of the Tiger

To celebrate the Lunar Year of the Tiger (arriving Tuesday 1 February 2022) the Royal Australian Mint has released a collection of coins featuring the Tiger with pine branches and the Chinese character 'hǔ' 虎. The pine tree is a symbol of strength, which ties in well with people born in the Year of the Tiger.

The \$1 coin comes in two designs, one with the tiger and the other with the Chinese Lunar Calendar represented in a wheel format, with the 12 animals running across a water pattern. This symbolises the traditional story of the race across a river to decide on their order in the calendar. The animals' place on the coin are rotated one place each year so that the Tiger is at the top for 2022. In the centre of the design is the symbol 'Fu' for good luck, surrounded

by clouds that represent the heavens. 'Fu' and clouds shown together symbolise never ending fortune.



CONTRIBUTIONS TO FUTURE ALMA NEWS WELCOME

Please email items for the next newsletter to canberraalma@gmail.com by 15 February 2022.

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