



昆士蘭華人論壇

QUEENSLAND CHINESE FORUM

澳洲華裔軍人紀念碑

紀念碑籌委會

在華人社區中，甚至是廣大澳洲人心目中，對於華裔人士曾經為澳洲在大小戰事中服役捐軀的事蹟，所知甚微。為了提高社會人士對此有更多認識，早於 2007 年三月，「昆士蘭華人論壇」聯同「國泰會」及「新畿內亞志願步槍隊及新畿內亞志願步槍隊退役隊員協會」，在聯邦、州及市政府的資助下，在 Fortitude Valley 唐人街安放了一枚表揚華裔軍人的紀念鐘。

2009 年 5 月 19 日，昆州華人為著名華裔軍人 Billy Sing 死忌六十六周年舉行簡單而莊重的悼念儀式。Billy Sing 是第一次世界大戰軍中出名的神射手，他個人射殺了 150 名土耳其士兵，獲軍方頒發傑出品格獎章。在悼念儀式中，聯邦議員 Graham Perrett 提議在華人聚居的 Sunnybank 區建立一座澳洲華裔軍人紀念碑 (Australian Service Personnel of Chinese Heritage War Memorial)，地點是位於 Gager Street 的 Sunnybank 澳洲軍人聯會 (Returned and Services League of Australia – RSL) 會所的退伍軍人紀念園 (Veterans Memorial Garden) 內。

為了建造這座紀念碑，本地華人及軍人聯會會員組成了一個籌備委員會，其中主要成員包括 Graham Perrett 議員，Sunnybank RSL 會長 Robert Lippiatt，國泰會的 Tom Seeto、Ralph Seeto、徐錦城，昆士蘭華人論壇的 Peter Low OAM，Kuraby 獅子會的 David Forde，布里斯本華人獅子會的 Lewis Lee，昆士蘭華人博物館的張奇、Ray Poon，及 Douglas Ng，Jesse Chee，Reg Walls，Merc Chong，Wayne Ko，Adam Lo，Robert Zee，Frances Wang，Jack Sun，Keneda Puang，Choe Lam Tan，Grant Musgrave，Leong Teoh，Phil Lep，Chek Ling 等 (華人社團先後有不少人士參與了籌委會會議，姓名不能盡列)。

籌委會在 2009 年十月為紀念碑舉行了公開設計比賽，由退五軍人事務部長 Hon Alan Griffin (Minister for Veterans' Affairs & Defence Personnel) 拉開比賽序幕。參賽者年齡限制是 16 歲至 25 歲。勝出者可獲獎金一千元。由於獲 Griffith University 支持，參賽人數踴躍，共有四十五份作品 (其中四十二份來自 Griffith University 學生)。參賽作品在 Sunnybank Plaza 商場展出，歡迎市民向喜愛設計作品投票。籌委會亦委托一個五人小組 (Robert Lippiatt，Lewis Lee，Douglas Ng，徐錦城，張奇) 在 2010 年四月按參賽綱領，選出入圍作品，向籌委會提供得勝者名單。

建造紀念碑費用估計需要一萬五千元，籌委會在 2009 年 12 月舉辦了一次籌款晚宴，籌得四千多元。下一次籌款晚宴將於 2010 年 5 月 22 日晚上在楓林酒家舉行，門券可向籌委會各成員購取。退五軍人事務部長 Hon Alan Griffin 將會出席這個晚會，並公佈紀念碑設計比賽勝出作品。

紀念碑對爭取華人在澳洲多元文化社會的地位意義重大，希望大家鼎力支持。



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The Australian Service Personnel of Chinese Heritage War Memorial

Up until now, there is little appreciation or awareness in the Chinese community and the wider Australian community in Queensland of the contribution of Australian Service personnel of Chinese heritage in Australia's past armed conflicts. In order to improve on this lack of recognition, the Queensland Chinese Forum with the support of the Cathay Community Association and the New Guinea Volunteer Rifles and Papua New Guinea Volunteer Rifles ex Members Association, and funding from the Federal Government, State Government and Brisbane City Council, installed a Commemorative Bell in the Fortitude Valley Chinatown in 2007.

On 19 May 2009, the day which marked the 66th anniversary of the death of one of Australia's most famed Chinese-Australian war-time heroes, Billy Sing, community leaders on Brisbane's southside gathered to pay respect in a simple but solemn ceremony. Billy Sing was the top Australian sniper in War World I, claiming over 200 victims, and was awarded the D.C.M. In the ceremony for Billy Sing, the Federal Member for Moreton Graham Perrett proposed a southside memorial to Australian Defence Force personnel of Chinese descent. The memorial is to be established in the Veterans Memorial Garden of the Returned and Services League of Australia, at Gager Street, Sunnybank.

A Steering Committee was formed to plan for the proposed War Memorial. Members of this committee include Graham Perrett MP, Robert Lippiatt -President of Sunnybank RSL, Tom Seeto, Ralph Seeto and Rank Tsui of the Cathay Community Association, Peter Low OAM of Queensland Chinese Forum, David Forde of Lions Club of Kuraby, Lewis Lee of Lions Club of Brisbane Chinese, Kee Cheung and Ray Poon of the Chinese Museum of Queensland, as well as Douglas Ng, Jesse Chee, Reg Walls, Merc Chong, Wayne Ko, Adam Lo, Robert Zee, Frances Wang, Jack Sun, Keneda Puang, Choe Lam Tan, Grant Musgrave, Leong Teoh, Phil Lep, and Chek Ling (many persons from the Chinese community joined the Committee at various stages and their names cannot be fully listed).

In October 2009, the Hon Alan Griffin, Minister for Veterans' Affairs & Defence Personnel, launched the War Memorial design competition. The competition was open to 16 to 25 year olds, and the winning designer will receive \$1,000. Because of the support from the Griffith University, the competition received 45 entries, 42 of which were the work of Griffith University students. To raise awareness of the War Memorial, the designs were displayed at the Sunnybank Plaza and the public had the opportunity to vote on their preferred entries. A judging panel of five (Robert Lippiatt, Lewis Lee, Douglas Ng, Rank Tsui and Kee Cheung) was also commissioned by the Steering Committee to short list the entries and to recommend to the Committee the winner.

The project budget is estimated to be around \$15,000. In December 2009, the Steering Committee hosted a dinner to raise funds for the memorial. This function raised about four thousand dollars. The next fund raising dinner will be held on 22 May 2010 at the Landmark Restaurant, Sunnybank. Tickets are available from members of the Steering Committee. The Hon Alan Griffin, Minister for Veterans' Affairs & Defence Personnel, will officially announce the winning designer of the War Memorial in this function.

The War Memorial has significant implication to the roles played by Australians of Chinese heritage in the Australian multicultural society. We should all support it.