

Issue 1 April 2021

Sine

The Publication of the
Scotland-China Association

新年
快乐



£3

苏格兰中国协会

Sine

CONTENTS

Issue 1: April 2021

- 5 **Janice Dickson, 1944-2019**
- 17 **The Nine Nines**
 by David Osman
- 29 **Chinese Herbal Medicine 3: Rhubarb**
 by Tony Butler
- 35 **The Onset of Covid-19 in Shanghai**
 by Betty Barr
- 37 **Events**

Síne is Gaelic for China

Editor

Dale K.A. Finlayson

Editorial Address

10 Queens Crescent
Edinburgh EH9 2AZ
E-mail: sine@scotchchina.org

ISSN: 0307-5303

Sine is the official publication of the Scotland–China Association
and is free to all SCA members

Unsolicited manuscripts are welcome but must be accompanied
by an s.a.e. or they cannot be returned

Material for this issue was edited by Dale K.A. Finlayson,
who accepts full responsibility for any errors and omissions.
The views expressed are those of the individual contributors
and do not represent any official policy of the Scotland–China Association

SCA Website: www.scotchina.org

Copyright © Sine and contributors

The Scotland–China Association is a society of people, generally based in Scotland, who have an interest in all aspects of Chinese life and civilisation. It exists to foster friendship and understanding between the people of Scotland and China. The Association is non-political and non-sectarian.

National Office Bearers

President

Vice-Presidents

Colin Chinnery

Eddie McGuire

Convener

Dr Valerie Pellatt

Secretary

Tom Nisbet

Treasurer

Bill Halliday

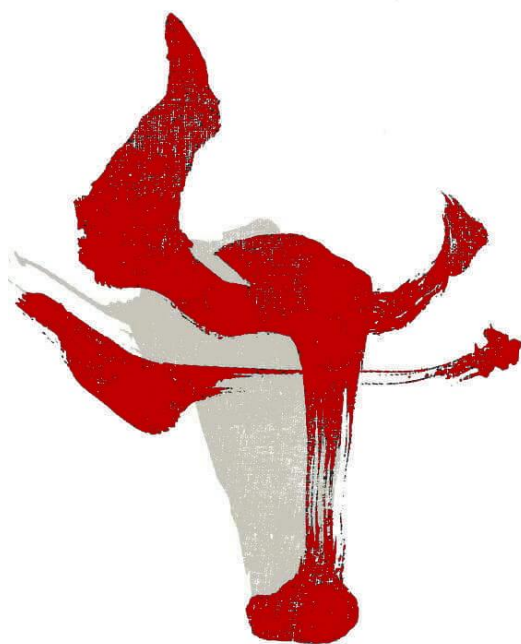
For information about SCA activities contact:

Tom Nisbet

11 Jeffrey Avenue

Edinburgh EH4 3QY

Email: t.nisbet@scotchina.org



Remembering Janice Dickson (1944-2019)

Chairman, Scotland–China Association, 1991–2019



With Consul-General Pan Xinchun, SCA 50th anniversary

When Janice died on 3 December 2019, it felt as though the world had fallen in. Those of us who were in frequent contact with her knew she was very ill, that her cancer was a serious one, and that she was running her business from home; but she appeared to be very much in control of things (including the SCA!) and under good medical care – and we hoped all would be well. Unfortunately, it was not to be and the SCA will never be the same.

Janice joined the SCA in 1987 when Ian Dickson Travel (IDT) made the arrangements for a Ladies Delegation to China led by Catherine McKay, wife of the Edinburgh Lord Provost at the time, accompanied by several other notable Scottish women. She quickly became actively involved. In 1991, when John Chinnery resigned as Chairman, becoming Honorary President and subsequently moving to London, she replaced him as Chairman, a position she held until her death.

Janice grew up in England, having been born in Harrow, the only child of Doris and Charles Arkell. She attended Harrow Weald Grammar School and Sussex University, where she studied German and History and graduated BA (Hons) in 1965. Her passion for travel was inspired while at university when she took a holiday job with a coach tour operator as a courier for travellers between London and the Austrian resorts, aided by her fluency in German. In 1970 she met Ian Dickson when she went to work for the travel company, he had set up in Edinburgh in 1965, becoming responsible for hosting German tourists to London. They married in London in 1972 and at their wedding reception at the Savoy, Janice – wearing a ‘60s-style shocking pink knee-length dress, shoes, and hat – displayed the taste for chique and colour that made her such a glamorous figure throughout her life. In 1974 their daughter, Miranda, was born. More recently, she became the grandmother of two beloved grandchildren, Violet Elizabeth and Zachary.

Janice and Ian were fascinated by travel, in particular to new and out-of-the-way places. They honeymooned in Prague before the city became a “go to” destination, built a house in Portugal when it was still untouched by tourism, and she and Miranda fell in love with Egypt in the 1980s. But it is for her fascination with, and IDT’s focus on, China that we in the SCA will remember her and which was a great boon to us for nearly three decades. During the 1980s Janice travelled extensively in China and, as she did with every destination, she developed a broad knowledge of China’s history, culture, and customs, and fostered relationships with the Chinese People’s Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC) as well as with provincial friendship associations throughout China. It is not surprising that IDT was involved in arrangements for the Queen’s visit to China in 1986, which Ian accompanied.

Janice was also involved with other China-oriented organisations, including the China Britain Business Council, the Great Britain China Centre, the Scottish Parliament’s China Group, the Scotland China Education Network (SCEN), and the Confucius Institutes in Scotland. She fostered close ties with the PRC’s Consulate in Edinburgh (whose representatives often attended SCA AGMs) and the Embassy in London. IDT were responsible for arranging travel to China by many business and trade delegations, for cultural and educational groups, as well as for

individuals. She organised and led several SCA delegations to China, including a visit to Tibet not long after the rail line to Lhasa was completed. She was frequently called on to issue invitations for visits by official groups from China, which SCA members frequently met and entertained, often in Janice's home in Drummond Place.



1998 party in Drummond Place

Janice and Ian were always generous hosts, and many a festive gathering was enjoyed by SCA members at their home in Drummond Place. Those who received invitations to their annual Hogmanay party, with an elaborate spread prepared entirely by Janice, who was a wonderful cook, met a wide variety of Edinburgh's artistic and intellectual community. Many of us wondered how she found the time (and energy!) to run a travel business, to arrange (and often lead) group and individual travels to China and other parts of the world, to keep the SCA organised, as well as to read extensively (she always seemed to have read the latest book on China) and to be involved in the cultural life of Edinburgh. For many years IDT sponsored a travel-related author at the Edinburgh International Book Festival and she seemed to attend all the major events of the annual Edinburgh International Festival, with the final Fireworks including invitations to the Consulate and

a few lucky SCA members. She loved art and opera, of which she had an extensive knowledge – not surprisingly, her memorial service featured two arias by Puccini.

There is little doubt that Janice helped the SCA to flourish when she took over from John Chinnery. Her death is a great loss and she is and will be greatly missed and long remembered.

Tom Nisbet remembers

I have known Janice since she joined the SCA in 1986 and five years later became our Chairman, a position she held with distinction. She remained fully engaged and active to the very end. I spoke with Janice on SCA business just 24 hours before her death. She sounded perfectly normal, apart from saying that she was having trouble eating. When I learned of her death the following day, it came as a complete shock.

It is difficult to know where to start. From any angle or perspective, Janice was a very attractive woman, of considerable intelligence, commitment and energy, who managed to multi-task effortlessly.

She and her husband Ian owned a prestigious travel agency in Edinburgh which, following Ian's death in 2011, she directed on her own. In addition to being the managing director of the business and Chairman of the SCA, she was an active member of other organisations including the Merchants Company of Edinburgh and the New Club.

Ian and Janice were very much part of the Edinburgh social scene, and an invitation to their annual New Year party was much sought after. This was always a memorable event, at which her remarkable social and culinary skills were highly admired and enjoyed. Janice and Ian were a striking couple as they stood behind a richly spread table that echoed the collage painting behind them, marking a similar occasion in bold shades of red, by their friend, the artist Edith Simon.

Our association benefited enormously from Janice's encyclopedic knowledge of China travel, her contacts, and her close relationship with the Consulate, not to mention her smooth handling of our committee meetings

and National AGMs. I don't think Janice was ever badly wrong, and although we had our differences, they were few and far between.

I know that as a businesswoman and Director of IDT her abilities were greatly admired. The shock and dismay felt by her staff, who provided daily support to the end, are testament to the regard and love they had for her.

Janice was always prepared to listen, and her patience, good humour, and advice are still sorely missed. The extent of her generosity was not widely known – including the designing and underwriting of the SCA's annual New Year cards; support for sales of Scotland China tartan ties and scarves; the purchase of mugs to mark the SCA's 50th anniversary; endless photocopying for meetings and leaflets – but it was considerable.

It is often said that no one is irreplaceable, but Janice may be an exception. The SCA's loss has not become easier. Janice was not only our Chairman. She was a wise, loyal and generous friend whose absence remains keenly felt.

Tom Nisbet is Secretary of the SCA National Committee and Chairman of the Edinburgh Branch.

Peter Lindow

I joined the SCA in 1993, when Janice had already taken over as Chairman of the SCA from John Chinnery, who had become Honorary President. When John moved to London, it marked the dawn of a new regime.

Janice was a quiet-spoken woman, with a style of costume and hats that concealed a rigorous intellect and an impressive range of knowledge. Originally a historian and Egyptologist, fluent in German, she became absorbed with China and developed a range of contacts through her travel business (in which she arranged visits to the PRC for VIPs, schools, and political and cultural organisations) and a valuable and close liaison with successive Consuls-General after the Chinese Consulate opened in Edinburgh.

Janice had an in-depth knowledge of the history and current affairs of the country and was a most valuable resource in helping the SCA's branch officers in arranging lectures and events. Her contacts with the National

and Provincial People's Associations for Friendship with Foreign Countries generated invitations for SCA delegations to events and places in China which enabled many of us to share privileged and extensive insights into the country. We should, perhaps, record more fully some of these, from Gyantse (Gyangze) and Lhasa in Tibet, Urumchi and Turpan on the Silk Road, to Shanghai, Nanjing and Beijing.

While of great personal charm, her incisive mind would pounce on any vagueness or inaccuracies presented in committee, and I, more than once, had the benefit of an acerbic remark. However, we enjoyed a warm personal relationship, and it was a delight to help her with the mammoth spread she prepared at her house in Drummond Place for her annual Hogmanay party. There is a lot to miss about Janice.



At the Chinese Consulate

Peter was for many years Secretary and then Chairman of the Edinburgh Branch and a Vice-Chairman of the SCA.

Angela Petrie

I first met Janice in 1987 when I joined a 20-women delegation to China, led by the Lady Provost of Edinburgh, Catherine McKay, and beautifully co-ordinated by Janice Dickson. Our itinerary was via Paris and Delhi to Beijing, then Xi'an, Chongqing where we boarded a boat

and cruised down the Yangtze to Wuhan, on to Shanghai, then back to Beijing for flights via Karachi to London – quite a challenge for any travel consultant, particularly in the days when fax and landlines were the norm. We were a diverse group of strong-minded women, including Sheena McDonald of the BBC, the Countess of Rosebery, The Hon.

Mrs Elizabeth Fairbairn, Mrs Kathleen Dalyell, and Antonia Reeve, to name a few, but Janice handled the many challenges of the trip with her customary cool head, good humour and attention to detail.

Janice's connections and expertise in the Far East were second to none, and in 1990, when I was responsible for securing sponsorship for Scottish Ballet, it was a joy to have Janice and her team in charge of organising travel for the company's tour to Japan and Hong Kong. She worked with many arts organisations and knew exactly what it took to get over 70 dancers, technical team, admin staff, Board members, and music staff safely there and back. As if that wasn't enough work, she also organised and accompanied a group of Friends of Scottish Ballet, who holidayed in Hong Kong and attended a performance of the ballet.



Credit: Esther Robertson

I continued to work with Janice on various projects after I started my own arts and events consultancy, and we became firm friends over the years. Outside of work, we enjoyed many trips together. In Egypt I had a wonderful experience in the Museum of Cairo, where Janice took me around translating the hieroglyphics on the various artefacts. We visited the Giza Necropolis and Saqqara, all without guides as she was so knowledgeable about the history of Egypt. Another time, we travelled to New York, where we had a memorable brunch in the “Windows on the World”, one of the greatest restaurants New York had ever seen, located on the 107th floor of the World Trade Centre with soaring views of Manhattan, Brooklyn and beyond.

My husband, Euan Petrie, also had the great pleasure of working closely with Janice during his 19 years as National Secretary of the Scotland–China Association. They hosted many delegations visiting Scotland and represented the Association on numerous visits to China, where Janice’s experience and expertise shone. He too was pleased to count Janice as a close friend, and we are both grateful to have such memories of fun, laughter and time spent together.



In the Taklamakan Desert (*Credit: Esther Robertson*)

Angela Petrie was formerly of Scottish Ballet and Angela Petrie Associates, Arts and Events Consultancy.

Elizabeth Leith

I first met Janice in the early 1970s at a residents' Garden Party in Drummond Place Gardens. I expected this gathering to be a fairly sedate affair, but it turned out to be anything but. During the day, the gardens were quiet, with the only noise coming from some little dogs yapping after a ball, or some children playing. But the party was glamorous, and the most glamorous person there was Janice. From then on, I was aware of the Travel Agency and increasingly, as my own interest in China grew, in Janice's role in China travel and in the SCA.

Later, as Telford College became increasingly involved in the teaching of English to growing numbers of Chinese students, IDT became the travel agency of choice for the College to make arrangements for the various trips and delegations involved. My own first visit came about at short notice, in fact at such short notice that it was very doubtful whether tickets, hotel bookings in the various places I had to visit, and above all the visa, could be arranged in time. I made a whirlwind visit to the lower floor of IDT one lunchtime and was amazed as, in the midst of ringing phones, people dashing in and out, Janice and a colleague multitasked – someone was sent off to the Consulate, hotel bookings and directions to them seemed to appear from the printer as if by magic, and all the time Janice was giving me advice about cities which a day or two before I had barely heard of. In no time I was off and became hooked on what has become a never-ending journey of discovery, sometimes through travel, but more often through language classes and reading, through films and friendships. All made possible by Janice!

Elizabeth is a member of the SCA National Committee. For many years she has taught English to Chinese students and has taken Chinese classes with the Confucius Institute.

Betty Barr

Both my husband George Wang and I were born in Shanghai and have spent a large part of our lives here. We, especially George, thought we knew our city well. But Janice showed us parts of it we might never have seen without her.

On one occasion, when she had brought a group from Scotland here, she kindly invited us to join them on a tour of Thames Town, a suburb of Shanghai that was specifically modelled on an English town. It has Tudor black-and-white houses and even a church in the centre. Shanghai brides and grooms love to go there to have photos taken outside. That was our first visit and at that time it was quite new. We have now been there several times and have seen that it has become a popular tourist attraction in the city.

Another part of our city she took us to that same year was Shanghai's Yangshan deep-water port. As can be imagined, it is far away from the centre of the city and we went in a tour group bus. It too was new at that time but has now developed into one of the world's largest deep-water ports. The statistics of the number of containers passing through it every day are, I'm sure, available on the internet. We have not returned there since that visit with Janice.

Her leadership of the SCA involved many aspects. One that we, as teachers, especially appreciated was her organisation of school visits to China from Scotland. On several occasions we were invited to join such groups for lunch in the middle of their busy sightseeing day. We were impressed by their liveliness and their interest.

One time, on a flight back to Scotland, we met a similar group of secondary school students returning to Glasgow. One girl was wearing a T-shirt saying, "I ❤️ Shanghai". "I want to marry a Shanghainese!" she cried.

Betty was Secretary of the SCA for several years before 1984, when she followed her heart back to her birthplace and married George Wang.

Ian Dickson Travel memories

Janice was a perfectionist and set herself very high standards in both her personal and her business life. So important was her business life to her that it was inexorably linked with her personal life. Her passion for travel, linked with an inquisitive mind and an adventurous spirit, led her to all corners of the world where she experienced and absorbed many different cultures but also had fun. Her sociable nature, and a quick and easy sense of humour, combined with a love of entertaining, all contributed to her legendary parties, particularly at New Year. A love of books, music and the arts enabled her to find common ground for conversation with anyone she met. Janice was a colourful and unforgettable character.

The business truly cemented Janice and Ian's relationship – they were both equally committed and incredibly hard working - and they ran it together for over 40 years, with offices also in Tranent, Haddington and North Berwick. Whilst Ian Dickson Travel definitely took priority, they did still manage to enjoy individual interests. For Janice, the arts played a significant part in her life and she had subscriptions and memberships to over 20 museums and opera houses around the UK. She enjoyed opera especially and the Edinburgh International Festival was always the highlight of the year for her, and while she indulged herself at the Festival, opera was something she enjoyed at any time of the year. Having said that, opera wasn't the only music she enjoyed, she also loved jazz, musicals and, of course "cool music".

Her daughter and grandchildren were extraordinarily proud of Janice – for all that she achieved in life and for her strength, courage and realism, particularly in the face of overwhelming odds. Her fight against cancer was short, but she gave no indication of slowing down or giving in, nor did she wallow in self-pity, being firmly of the view that that would only hinder her recovery, leaving her less likely to get through it. She expressed her appreciation to those who supported her through her illness and was especially grateful to her colleagues at work, all of whom she considered friends, and who kept things going at the office while she was in hospital.

Today Ian Dickson Travel continues to operate as a family-owned enterprise with Janice's daughter, Miranda, committed to continue to support the legacy of her parents.

“Just as my parents pioneered and embraced the possibilities of travel from Scotland in the 1980s, taking groups from Edinburgh to far-flung places such as the Falkland Islands, and then achieving great national recognition as specialists in travel to China, so today I am committed to adapting the business to support the future needs of travel in today’s very new environment.” Miranda Dickson, Director, Ian Dickson Travel



The Nine Nines (1949–2029): Continuities & Dis-continuities in China from 1949 onwards.

by David Osman

Introduction

This article is based on a discussion at the SCA Edinburgh Branch meeting on 10 March 2020 and examines:

- How far China has developed in the last 70 years.
- How China might develop over the next decade.

I subtitled the talk “Continuities and Dis-continuities in China from 1949 onwards”, reviewing key economic, social, political, and international developments in the final year of each decade from 1949 to 2019. This is followed by consideration of the continuities that might be predictable and could throw some light on how China could develop over the next decade. It concludes with some predictions for 2029 (my ninth nine), based on the World Bank 2030 report and some other forecasts.

The First Nine: 1949

• Political developments – The Communists win power:

In 1949 the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) came to power, defeating the Nationalist forces of the Kuomintang (KMT) and ending over two decades of on–off conflict and civil war between the Communists and the Nationalists. On 1 October 1949, Mao Zedong declared the creation of the People’s Republic of China (PRC).

• Economic developments – The Chinese economy was in ruins:

After several decades of upheaval and military conflicts (including the Second Sino–Japanese War from 1937 to 1945), the Chinese economy was devastated. In 1950 China’s population was about 550 million and nominal Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita in US dollars was estimated to be only US\$30 per head (i.e. the estimated average annual income, by dividing the size of the whole economy by the Chinese population).

- **Socio-economic developments – Life expectancy was short:**

In 1949 life expectancy in China was only 35 years, whereas in the UK it was 68 years. In addition, most Chinese people were illiterate, with only 20% of adults and youths able to read and write.

- **International developments - USA suspends diplomatic ties:**

After their defeat by the CCP, Chiang Kai-shek and his Nationalist army fled to the island of Taiwan to regroup and make plans to retake the mainland, while the USA suspended diplomatic ties with the PRC. This early rift between the US and China was aggravated by the prolonged Cold War between the Soviet Union (and other communist countries) and the Western bloc of democratic countries, which lasted from 1947 to 1991. (NB: In 1949 trouble was brewing in Korea and Tibet.)

Key question: How much of what happened in 1949 would have been predictable in 1939? Probably not much other than the levels of poverty and illiteracy in China.

The Second Nine: 1959

- **Socio-economic developments – Progress restricted by political considerations:**

In 1959, nominal GDP per capita was US\$55.31 (+84% in 10 years). China's population had risen to 670 million (+22% in 9 years). Average life expectancy by 1960 was 44.6 years, an increase of 29% in about 12 years (as compared with 34.7 years pre-1949). From 1949 to 1954 rural literacy campaigns developed rapidly throughout China, although there were some problems with the level of disruptive political interference by the CCP with respect to such matters as literacy planning and development. By 1959, illiteracy among youth and adults in China (ages 12–40) had fallen from 80% in 1950 to 43%.

- **Government policy developments – The Great Leap Forward and the Great Famine:**

The first Soviet-style Five-Year Plan (1953–1957) set out ambitious targets for infrastructure and production, particularly in heavy industry. The second Five-Year Plan (1958–1962) contained overly ambitious targets with disastrous consequences. Mao's "Great Leap Forward" (GLF) was a misguided attempt to accelerate China's economic development, causing the Great Famine. Between 1958 and 1961, it is estimated that 30–45 million people died in the countryside, mainly of starvation (but including 2–3 million killed by the CCP).

- **Regional political developments — The uprising in Tibet:**

Following the invasion of Tibet by the People's Liberation Army (PLA) in 1950, a rebellion against Chinese rule broke out in some Tibetan regions in 1956. In March 1959 a revolt erupted in Lhasa, which had been under the control of the CCP since 1951. The Dalai Lama fled into exile. It is estimated by Tibetan exiles that approximately 430,000 died during the uprising and the subsequent 15 years of guerrilla warfare that lasted until the US withdrew its support.

- **International developments – The Cold War:**

The legacy of the Korean War (1950–1953), and China's intervention in that war, was a major influence on China's international relations in the 1950s and 1960s, in part because it was an important element in the Cold War between the Western democracies and the communist countries that dominated geopolitical relationships from 1947 to 1991.

Key question: How much of what happened in 1959 was unpredictable in 1949? Certainly the Great Leap Forward and the consequent famine.

The Third Nine: 1969

- **Economic developments – The third Five-Year Plan delayed:**

In 1969 nominal GDP per capita was US\$79.71 (+44% in 10 years), while China's population was 800 million (+19% in 10 years). China's third Five-

Year Plan was delayed as a result of the failure of the Great Leap Forward and only began in 1966.

- **Socio-economic developments – Life expectancy continues to improve:**

Average life expectancy by 1970 was 49.5 years, up from 44.6 years in 1960 (+11% in 10 years).

- **Political developments – The Cultural Revolution:**

The Cultural Revolution (1966–1976) was introduced by Chairman Mao in order to re-establish his authority after the failure of the Great Leap Forward and the resulting famine. China's youth formed Red Guard groups around the country, leading to many violent incidents. The Cultural Revolution damaged the economy, as millions of people were persecuted and up to 20 million people were killed.

- **International developments – The Vietnam War (and the US moon landing):**

Both China and the Soviet Union were strategic allies of the North Vietnamese during the Vietnam War, which lasted from 1954 to 1975. By the end of 1969, it was starting to become apparent that the mighty American military, along with the South Vietnamese army, could not defeat the less well-equipped (but more determined) North Vietnamese army.

Key question – How much of what happened in 1969 would have been unpredictable in 1959? Certainly, the Cultural Revolution and the Vietnam War (particularly the evolving supremacy of the North Vietnamese army). Let alone, the US moon landing in July 1969 with its global impact.

The Fourth Nine: 1979

- **Political developments – CCP leadership changes after Mao's death:**

Following Mao's death in September 1976, his wife Jiang Qing and the other three members of the "Gang of Four" leadership were arrested in October 1976, marking the end of the turbulent period of the Cultural Revolution (1966–1976). Hua Guofeng became chairman of the CCP after

Mao died, but by 1979 the real power had gravitated towards Deng Xiaoping.

- **Socio-economic developments – Most Chinese people are still living in poverty:**

In 1979 nominal GDP per capita in US dollars was US\$263.70 (+231% in 10 years). China's population was 0.97 billion (+21% in 10 years). In 1981, 84% of the population were living in extreme poverty (defined as living on less than US\$1.25 per day), as compared with 60% in India.

- **Government policy developments – China's One-Child Policy:**

The One-Child Policy (1979–2015) was designed to slow the rapid growth of China's population. Due to various exemptions, many families were allowed to have two children. To ensure compliance with the policy, provincial governments could require the use of contraception, sterilisations and abortions, as well as imposing large fines for violations. The policy was therefore criticised for its denial of basic human rights.

- **The Opening Door – The Four Modernisations and the Open Door Policy:**

China's fifth Five-Year Plan began in 1976, but within a couple years there was a radical change. In 1977 Deng Xiaoping implemented the "Four Modernisations" to strengthen agriculture, industry, defence, and science and technology. These were first proposed by Zhou Enlai in 1963 but were deferred by the advent of the Cultural Revolution. Officially launched in December 1978, the core tenet of the "Four Modernisations" was the rejection of the "iron rice bowl" that guaranteed jobs and income, particularly in state-owned enterprises. The new idea was that "workers should be paid according to their productivity".

Key question: How much of what happened in 1979 would have been unpredictable in 1969? Certainly, the One Child Policy and the Open Door economic reforms.

The Fifth Nine: 1989

- **Socio-economic developments – Progress on alleviating poverty:**

In 1989 nominal GDP per capita was US\$456.29 (+73% in 10 years), while China's population had risen to 1.12 billion (+15% in 10 years). By 1990, average adult literacy in China was 78% (up from 66% in 1982).

- **Economic developments – Currency reform begins:**

During the seventh Five-Year Plan (1986–1990), in 1988 China set up semi-official currency swap centres to allow firms to trade the renminbi at an exchange rate that better reflected market demand.

(NB: Currency reform became a more important factor in the 1990s.)

- **Political developments – Tiananmen Square:**

The student-led Chinese democracy movement that flowered in April 1989 (calling for democracy and freedom of the press, as well as an end to official corruption and nepotism) ended in tragedy in June 1989. It remains a dark stain on the history of the CCP. Although the CCP General Secretary Zhao Ziyang urged a softer line (at the expense, later, of his job and his freedom), Paramount Leader Deng Xiaoping, Premier Li Peng, and other, older CCP leaders ordered the PLA to clear Tiananmen Square with lethal force. Estimates of those killed ranged from an official figure of 300 to several thousand. Discussion or commemoration of what happened in Tiananmen Square on the 3rd and 4th of June is forbidden in China today.

- **International developments – The fall of the Berlin Wall:**

The unexpected fall of the Berlin Wall in November 1989 marked the end of the “Iron Curtain” and the start of the fall of communism in Eastern Europe. In October of the following year, East and West Germany were reunified. *(The collapse of communism in Europe was an alarming development for the CCP, already shaken by the events at Tiananmen Square in June 1989.)*

Key question: How much of what happened in 1989 would have been unpredictable in 1979? Certainly, the Tiananmen Square massacre and the collapse of the Berlin Wall.

The Sixth Nine: 1999

- **Economic developments – Reforms spur rapid economic development:**

The ninth Five-Year Plan began in 1996. By 1999 nominal GDP per capita was US\$1,094.00 (+140% in 10 years). China's population had risen to 1.25 billion (+12% in 10 years, with the lower rate of increase reflecting the impact of China's One Child policy).

- **Socio-economic developments – Further progress in reducing poverty:**

In 1999 36% of the Chinese population were living in extreme poverty (as compared with 84% in 1981). By comparison, extreme poverty in India was 35% in 1999 (versus 60% in 1981).

- **Government developments – The return of Macau (and Hong Kong):**

The return to Chinese sovereignty of Macau in 1999, preceded by Hong Kong in 1997, under the concept of “One Country, Two Systems”, was (and is) a major source of pride for the CCP and the Chinese people. However, the degree of autonomy that the CCP has actually allowed for Hong Kong is a source of concern. A question that was asked in the 1990s was: “Would Hong Kong become the tail that wagged the Chinese dog?” Given the recent political unrest in Hong Kong and the CCP's uncompromising response, the worst fears about Hong Kong's future freedoms under Chinese rule may be realised sooner rather than later.

- **International developments – The aftermath of the Asian Financial Crisis:**

China was not a victim of the Asian Financial Crisis (AFC) in 1997/1998, although it was arguably one of the main causes because of the impact of China's big currency devaluation in 1994 on the competitiveness of other Asian economies. The robust response of the Chinese Government to the crisis was due, in part, to the Chinese currency already being cheap and thus not needing to depreciate further. This stood China in good stead as it negotiated membership of the World Trade Organisation (WTO), which it eventually joined in 2001.

Key question: How much of what happened in 1999 would have been unpredictable in 1989? Certainly, the Asian Financial Crisis.

The Seventh Nine: 2009

• Socio-economic developments – Adult literacy reaches 95%:

In 2009 nominal GDP per capita was US\$5,110 (+367% in 10 years), while China's population had increased to 1.33 billion (+6% in 10 years). By 2010 only 12% of the population were living in extreme poverty, down from 36% in 1999 and 84% in 1981. By comparison, extreme poverty in India in 2010 was 33%. By 2010, average adult literacy in China was 95% (up from 91% in 2000 and 66% in 1982).

• Economic developments – China and the Global Financial Crisis:

During the eleventh Five-Year Plan (2006–2010), the onset of the Global Financial Crisis (GFC) in 2008–2009 led to a strong response by the Chinese government. A combination of substantial fiscal and monetary policies supported the economy at a time when the demand for Chinese exports was sharply reduced.

• Geopolitical Developments – China and the GFC:

In the aftermath of the GFC, China's belief in its model of an authoritarian social market economy was strongly reinforced by the perceived failure of Western democratic capitalism. So much so that China began to move gradually away from a path of socio-political liberalisation in favour of a greater degree of centralised decision-making than was previously anticipated.

• International developments – China and the WTO:

China joined the World Trade Organisation (WTO) in December 2001, after a prolonged period of negotiations that required significant changes to the Chinese economy. After the 1997/1998 Asian Financial Crisis, China merged or sold off many loss-making state-owned enterprises (SOEs). The process of joining the WTO helped to broaden and deepen the restructuring of the Chinese economy that had been ongoing since the late 1970s under the Open Door policies.

Key question – How much of what happened in 2009 would have been unpredictable in 1999? Certainly, the Global Financial Crisis.

The Eighth Nine: 2019

- **Socio-economic developments – Average annual income rises above US\$10,000:**

In 2019 nominal GDP per capita in US dollars was about US\$10,098.87 (+98% in 10 years), while China's population had grown to 1.43 billion (+8% in 10 years). In 2019 average life expectancy in China was 77 years (versus 35 years in 1949), whereas in the USA in 2019 it was 79 years.

- **Government policy developments – Unrest in Hong Kong and Xinjiang.** In 2019 the CCP's responses to the political and social unrest in both Hong Kong and Xinjiang have been criticised for being too authoritarian and heavy-handed. The consequences of the student unrest in Hong Kong and the harsh treatment of the Muslims in Xinjiang are unclear at this point in time. The failure of "One Country, Two Systems" in Hong Kong has significant (and potentially dangerous) implications for China's future relationship with Taiwan and with the USA. It may also have an important influence on the future leadership of the CCP.

- **Socio-economic developments – Covid-19 pandemic:**

China's initial response to the outbreak of the novel coronavirus in Wuhan in late 2019 has been criticised for the early suppression of important information. If the CCP had been more open, it could have contained the epidemic at an earlier stage with substantially less adverse costs, especially in terms of the number of lives lost and the economic damage, both in China and around the world, as the epidemic evolved into a global pandemic. The subsequent robust response of the CCP has been praiseworthy, but it has also depressed the economy in 2020 and may have longer lasting socio-economic (and perhaps political) ramifications. It is still much too early to make a proper assessment of the consequences of the Covid-19 global pandemic.

- **International developments – The Belt and Road Initiative:**

The twelfth Five-Year Plan began in 2011, and in 2013 the Chinese Government launched the “Belt and Road Initiative” (BRI), a global development strategy to boost trade and investment by reviving the old Silk Road and maritime trade routes and to extend China’s influence by land (the “Belt”) and by sea (the “Road”) through Central Asia to Europe, Africa, and even South America. By 2019, the BRI involved China in infrastructure developments and other investments in about 70 countries. However, China’s growing global influence was clearly a factor in America’s stepping up its attempts to contain China by introducing various trade restrictions, most notably by imposing tariffs on a wide range of Chinese imports into the USA. The signing in December 2019 of a phase one Sino–US trade agreement has paved the way for a potential de-escalation of the trade frictions, although the issues have been complicated by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Key question: How much of what happened in 2019 was unpredictable in 2009? Certainly, the emergence of the Covid-19 virus with its consequent damaging worldwide ramifications. Relative to expectations 10 years before, the conduct of the CCP under the leadership of Xi Jinping has been more authoritarian, with particularly damaging implications for Hong Kong and Xinjiang.

Conclusions – What are obvious Continuities and Dis-continuities from 1949–2019:

- The key continuities are China’s rapid economic development from an extremely low base in 1949, guided by a series of Five-Year Plans, with the 14th Plan due to begin in 2021. Over the whole 70-year period there have been substantial improvements in educational attainment, poverty alleviation, and life expectancy. However, this progress has been achieved alongside the denial of human rights and free speech and the suppression of religious beliefs. The CCP has maintained a firm grip on power, accompanied by widespread corruption – as the CCP is supreme and often seemingly above the law, despite occasional anti-corruption campaigns.

- The various crises of global capitalism over the past half century have progressively reinforced the CCP's belief in its own authoritarian approach to controlling a socialist mixed economy with Chinese characteristics. Since 1949 the CCP has proved to be very ambitious and determined (even ruthless), but not always in control of events. There have been periods when misguided political and other objectives have resulted in sub-par economic growth and too many deaths, such as during the Great Leap Forward, the Great Famine, the Cultural Revolution, and the Tiananmen Square Massacre.

- More recently, medical emergencies/epidemics (SARS in 2002–2004, Covid-19 from late 2019 onwards) raise questions about China's food distribution and preferences, as well as questions about the CCP's restrictions on the freedom of information.

- Over the past seven decades, China has emerged from the chaos of 1949 to become a global superpower, capable of such major international initiatives as the Belt and Road Initiative. China's foreign policy could be described as having a yin–yang approach to war and peace – being both at war and at peace at the same time – with the potential in future for proxy wars in third countries, military manoeuvres in India (and elsewhere, where old border disputes still exist, such as the South China Sea), cyber warfare, and industrial espionage – albeit not only by China, but also by the USA, Russia, etc.

The Ninth Nine: 2029 – What are the implications for the next decade?

- **Economic developments:**

The Chinese economy will be bigger, greener, more evenly balanced, but not necessarily stronger (because of structural concerns, such as high levels of debt). Nominal GDP per capita in US dollars is forecast to be about US\$15,900 in 2030 (+57% in 11 years). China's population is forecast to increase very slightly to 1.44 billion. (NB: The UN forecasts that China's population will be close to a peak in 2029, before declining to 1.36 billion

by 2050 and 1.17 billion by 2065). Hence, China will become more of an ageing society, with implications for both its economy and its society.

• **Socio-economic developments:**

China's population will be better educated and should be healthier. Indicators of education, life expectancy, and poverty alleviation are all expected to rise gradually in the next 10 years. China will also become more of a consumer-orientated society, with the consumption/GDP ratio predicted to increase to 66% by 2030 (as compared to 55% in 2018).

• **Government developments – Xi Jinping:**

In the next decade, the pros and cons of Xi Jinping's presidency are likely to have become apparent. Xi could be president for life, but his legacy may not be the right system for choosing future leaders. By 2029 the CCP will be looking forward to its 9th and 10th decades in power, but it should also be prepared to change with changing times and adjust to new realities, both at home and abroad. However, it will likely fail to attract Taiwan into a "One Country, Two Systems" relationship without significant political reforms on the mainland. As such, the risk of a military confrontation across the Taiwan Strait is high and rising.

• **International developments:**

China will be more powerful and more influential (in both absolute and relative terms). According to an HSBC report entitled "The World in 2030", published in 2018, the Chinese economy will become the largest in the world, overtaking the US, with India rising to third place (from seventh in 2018). This assessment of China's future progress is based on six factors: catch-up potential, population (size and shape), human capital (education and healthcare), politics, openness, and technology.

David Osman is an independent Economics and Financial Markets Consultant with links to the Independent Research Forum. He has been a member of the Society of Professional Economists (formerly the Society of Business Economists) for over 40 years and in May 2020 became a Director of Halkin Services Limited, a global risk analysis and asset allocation service based in London.

Chinese Herbal Medicine 3: Rhubarb

大黃

by Tony Butler

Looking back over the history of medicine, in both east and west, it emerges that two of the most popular treatments were bleeding (venesection) and purging. Chinese physicians did not use bleeding – presumably they thought it violated the body – but purging was as popular in China as anywhere. There is an old, rather earthy, Chinese proverb: “Sickness comes from the top, while rescue comes from the bottom”. Some of the inorganic materials used in European medicine for purging, such as Epsom salts, magnesia and antimony, are horrifying and must have been very unpleasant for the patient.

Chinese physicians tended to favour botanical materials as purgatives, of which the commonest was rhubarb. Two out of every ten older prescriptions contained rhubarb, and what was used was not the stem, certainly not the leaves, but the root or, more correctly, the rhizome. It was harvested during the autumn from plants growing in the wild and dried to give a yellow powder, hence the Chinese name for rhubarb of *da huang* (big yellow 大黃). In some prescriptions rhubarb was an integral part of the herbal mix, but in others rhubarb was added only when the patient was constipated. The quantities used meant purgative action was inevitable. Rhubarb was described as having the ability to demolish walls, and by the time of the physician Tao Hongjing (452-536 CE) it was known as the “the General” due its galloping charge. One commentator described it thus: “It expels the stale and occasions renewal, pacifying rebellion to bring about universal peace.” It would be difficult to find as poetic a description in Western literature.

Rhubarb in the *Ben Cao*

The earliest mention of a medicinal role for rhubarb in the Chinese literature occurs in the *Shen Nong Ben Cao Jing*, supposedly written by the legendary originator of Chinese herbal medicine, Shen Nong. It is generally described as bitter and cold. The most comprehensive description is given in the great compendium of herbal remedies, the *Ben Cao Gang Mu* of 1578 CE by Li Shizhen. Modern research has shown that it is also an antibacterial

agent as well as an effective purgative, so it is not surprising that it finds a place in a large number of prescriptions. It is claimed that it was particularly effective in the treatment not only of constipation but also of gastrointestinal indigestion, diarrhoea and jaundice. Identifying diseases in terms of modern understanding from the Chinese description is not always easy, so these suggestions should not be taken too seriously. It was also used externally for the treatment of burns, probably because rhubarb contains tannins. The role of tannins in accelerating the healing of burns will be discussed in the next instalment.

What's in a name

The name rhubarb appears to have two etymologies. The Greek word *rheon* (Latin *rheum*) comes from the Persian word *rewend*. The Greeks named the Volga River in Russia Ra and rhubarb was cultivated there. The Chinese name *da huang* comes partly from the colour of the powder and partly from the association of the colour with the powerful emperor. One of the seminal books on the doctrines of traditional Chinese medicine is *The Yellow Emperor's Classic of Internal Medicine* (*Huang Di Nei Jing*). The *da* (big) in the name presumably reflects the importance of the herb in traditional Chinese herbal medicine. The commonly grown rhubarb in Britain is a hybrid that includes *Rheum officinale*, but in China it is common to find *R. tanguticum* and *R. palmatum* as well. The colour of rhubarb is due to the presence of a group of compounds called anthraquinones, and they are present as glycosides. The first one to be extracted and examined chemically, in 1844, was chrysophanol, and subsequent work extracted many others. It is this group of compounds that is responsible for the purgative effect of rhubarb. The relative amount of each anthraquinone varies from one species of rhubarb to another and also varies according to cultivation and the time of harvesting. It is this variability that makes herbal medicine so unreliable. There is a synthetic laxative, Danthron, used in treating constipation in the terminally ill, that is based on the same chemical structure as an anthraquinone.

Rhubarb from the East

Rhubarb native to Europe was used as a laxative from earliest times, but there was on the market in more recent times a more powerful form of rhubarb that was rumoured to come from the mysterious East. It was one

of the commodities that travelled along the now famous Silk Road. Such was the trade in rhubarb – there were few other botanical materials with as strong an effect on the body – that the trade route could have been called the Rhubarb Road. However, that title does not have quite the glamour of one suggesting plodding camels laden with silk. When the Silk Road closed due to the encroachment of desert, it was ships that brought rhubarb to Europe. Eventually trade was concentrated in the East India Company and some of the rhubarb came via Russia. If you would like more details of this trade it is covered exhaustively in a book by Clifford Proust entitled *Rhubarb: The Wondrous Drug*. Such was the interest in this vegetable medicine from the East, so much more effective than its European counterpart, that explorers set out to find the True Rhubarb. It became almost like the search for the Northwest Passage. Unfortunately, at that time, China was closed to most foreigners and the search was frustrated. Marco Polo claimed to have seen rhubarb growing wild in China, but as it is likely that he never got to China proper, we can base very little upon this. However, the Scottish physician and adventurer John Bell, who accompanied a Russian expedition to China (1719-22) reported the same. A missionary, Père Vinco, gained access to western China through the mountains that separate Sichuan and Shaanxi and obtained a rhubarb plant while in Sulinfu. It was sent it to Paris, where it was cultivated in a botanic garden, but turned out to be *Rheum officinale* and in no way superior to rhubarb of French provenance. The Russian explorer with the glorious name of Nikolai Mikhailovich Przheval'skii visited the Tangut people in northwest China, where wild rhubarb is common. It turned out to be a known variety, *R. palmatum*.

The Edinburgh Connection

The most significant contribution to the search for the True Rhubarb came from a Scottish physician. James Mounsey (1709/10–1773) studied medicine in Edinburgh but did not graduate. This lack of qualification did not stop him getting a job in St Petersburg and then as a doctor in the Russian army. After an exciting military career, he was eventually sacked by Catherine the Great on the grounds of ill-health. He returned to Scotland and brought back a packet of rhubarb seeds given to him by a trader who travelled between Russia and China. Mounsey settled in Lochmaben and gave the seeds to Sir Alexander Dick of Prestonfield House, then President

of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh. Sir Alexander sowed the seeds and soon had in his garden a fine bank of rhubarb that became quite famous. It did not survive the “improving” activities of Sir Alexander’s son, who inherited the property, but you can still dine in the Rhubarb Restaurant in Prestonfield House.

In the mid-18th century there was a wide interest and enthusiasm for rhubarb, both as a medicine and as a culinary ingredient, among the general public. As mentioned previously, the East India Company brought quite large quantities of dried rhubarb rhizome to Britain by sea from both Russia and China. The London Society for Promoting Arts and Commerce (the RSA) felt this trade was not necessary, as rhubarb grew well in Britain. Its Chemistry Committee was asked to arrange for medals to be awarded to anyone contributing to the improved cultivation of rhubarb. Both James Mounsey and Sir Alexander Dick received the award. The craze for imported rhubarb eventually calmed and it was generally agreed that there was nothing special about Chinese rhubarb and that its power and splendour were just a matter of the right soil and harvesting at the right time of year.

Modern rhubarb cultivation

Rhubarb is cultivated extensively in domestic gardens but the most tender comes from a small area of the West Riding of Yorkshire known as the Rhubarb Triangle, where it is forced. This type of cultivation was started in the 1800s and the rhubarb is grown in open fields until November, when the rhizomes are moved into long, low sheds heated with coal from the local coalfields. Because the coal was locally mined, it was quite cheap. The rhubarb plants were grown in complete darkness and were even harvested by candlelight. The result is a tender, sweeter product and it was greatly prized. Today the Rhubarb Triangle is much reduced in size and encompasses the towns of Wakefield, Morley and Rothwell. When yields were larger, trains known as rhubarb specials carried the harvested product from Yorkshire to the markets of London, rather like the camels of the Silk Road without the romance. There are over one hundred varieties of rhubarb available to growers and a selection of them can be seen in the garden of Kellie Castle in Fife. The National Rhubarb Collection is located at Clumber Park in Worksop.

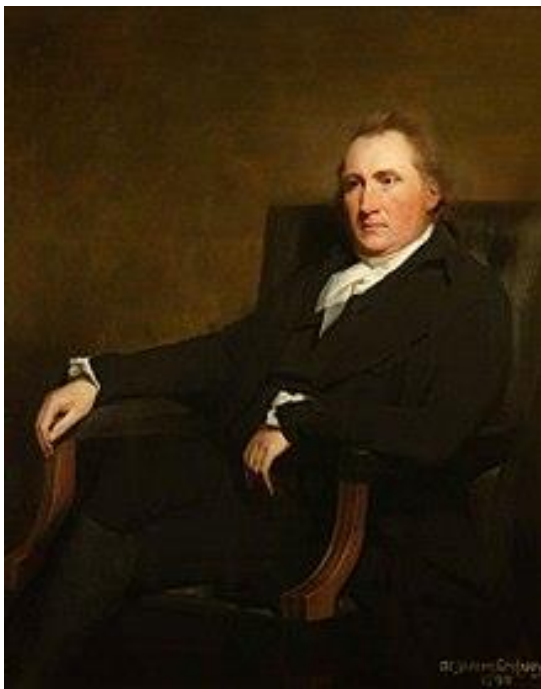
Gregory's Powder

It is impossible to write about rhubarb in medicine without mentioning its most memorable manifestation.

James Gregory (1753–1821) was a distinguished Edinburgh physician who wrote a prescription for a mixture that came to be known as Gregory's Powder. It contained rhubarb, magnesia and ginger. Graphic descriptions of taking it are universally unfavourable. It has been compared to swallowing brick dust. Gregory's motives for developing this prescription are not clear, but the consequence of ingesting it is fairly

rapid purging. It was frequently given not as a treatment for constipation but as a prophylactic. Children, generally boys, were given a dose on Friday evenings to provide the "inner cleanliness" that previous generations felt was so desirable. Girls ("sugar and spice and all things nice") appear to have been, to a certain extent, exempt from this procedure.

As a foodstuff, rhubarb is no longer as popular as it once was, possibly to the detriment of the nation's health. For devotees, it is possible to have, when rhubarb is in season, a meal with rhubarb in every course at selected hostelrys in the West Riding. However, the Chinese appear to have left rhubarb in the pharmacy and it seems not to have played a part in their cuisine.



James Gregory



The onset of Covid-19 in Shanghai

by Betty Barr

The Covid-19 virus struck China just at the time of the most important festival of the year, Spring Festival or Chinese New Year. My husband, George Wang, and I had been visiting his nephew, who lives in the Shanghai suburb of Songjiang. On the third day of the new year, he was to drive us to Jiangyin, George's father's hometown, about an hour and a half drive upriver on the southern bank of the Yangtze.

We were about half an hour away from the city when we saw a queue of cars on the highway. We had to join it, of course, and soon discovered that it was because we all had to have our temperatures taken before we could enter the city. On arrival at our five-star hotel, we checked in with no problem and our nephew departed in a hurry to get home.

We had planned to stay for two weeks – but it turned into a month! Much of the time we were the only guests there. They gave us excellent service, even cooking special noodles for diabetic George's breakfast. Breakfasts were brought to our room and we were provided with face masks every day. Other meals were eaten either out in one of the few restaurants open or in our room, using the leftovers from the restaurant meals or instant noodles from the hotel shop, which remained open. We spent most of the time in our room on the 31st floor, enjoying the view of the river.

Finally, the hotel helped us to find a car that would take us home, door to door. The queue on the highway to get back into Shanghai was at least twice as long as the earlier one had been and there was a delay of about an hour as we lined up with cars and countless trucks, mostly empty, to register names and addresses and to have our temperatures taken.

Back home in Shanghai in February, we found that there were little red tents dotted around the neighbourhood, in which volunteers from the neighbourhood committee sat to keep an eye on people's comings and goings. There was a new lock on the gate of our small compound and we were provided with a new key to open it. One morning I went out twice to buy milk and groceries at our little local store across the street, and the

volunteer on duty kindly helped me with the new lock. We were not quarantined, we were able to do our grocery shopping when and as we liked, and we could go out for walks whenever we wished.

The big change was, of course, the wearing of face masks. In fact, all over northern Asia the wearing of face masks was common, even before Covid. People here were mystified as to why it became a political problem in the West. Eating out in restaurants has also not been forbidden. Most people stayed at home most of the time, but we occasionally had large parties around the traditional round Chinese table. Schools and colleges were closed for several months but are now open. Shanghai has gradually returned to normal, with shops and offices mostly open, but with “social distancing” still maintained, meaning that, as far as possible, we should keep away from other people.

Like the rest of the world, we hope for a peaceful and healthy 2021.

Events . .

The advent of Covid-19 and subsequent lockdowns and restrictions brought a (hopefully temporary) end to in-person SCA events. The last in-person meeting in Edinburgh, on 10 March 2020, was David Osman's talk on "The Nine Nines", looking at China over nine decades from 1949 – an edited version of his talk is reproduced in this issue of *Sine*. Subsequent talks, and our 2020 AGM, were cancelled, and *Sine* was not published.

As the restrictions continued longer than we had ever imagined they would, members of the National Committee became personally familiar with on-line web platforms, such as Zoom, and by November we felt able, with the support of some of our more tech-savvy members, to begin a series of talks on Zoom. These have been very successful, increasing attendance and enabling members outside of Edinburgh – even as far away as Southeast England, Manchester and Canada! – to attend. Unfortunately, our contacts in China will be asleep at the time of our meetings. Also, regrettably, this has meant that some loyal members, perhaps hesitant about logging on, or unwilling or unable to use Zoom, have not joined the talks. Anyone who has the technology but needs a little help to join in future is invited to contact the Secretary and a practise session can be arranged.

Forthcoming talks on Zoom – In April and May, our Convenor, Valerie Pellatt, will give two talks on "Drama in China: Famous, foreign and ancient".

Tuesday, 13 April – Part 1: An introduction to traditional drama in China from early times to the end of the Qing dynasty. This will cover three major periods of foreign influence and the form and conventions of the two major strands of drama: southern style *kunqu* and northern style, which developed as *jingju* or Peking Opera.

Tuesday, 11 May – Part 2: An introduction to 20th and 21st century drama in China. This will cover the introduction of European-style spoken drama, the model operas (*yangbanxi*) of the Cultural Revolution, and experimental and contemporary drama.

A link will be sent to those who have registered the day before the talk. Please sign on before 7:25 so the talk can begin promptly at 7:30. If you are not a member and would like to attend, please contact the Secretary.

SCA National Annual General Meeting

Tuesday, 8 June 2021

To be held on Zoom, starting from 7:15pm

Further details will be sent in due course

Past talks on Zoom

Wednesday, 18 November – Christopher Cash on "Education in China: The Good, the Bad, and the Challenges Ahead". Based on his personal experiences teaching in China, he looked at education in China and the West, the challenges facing education in China, international schools and foreign education, Chinese developments in education, and how Chinese schools coped with Covid.

Tuesday, 9 February – “John Thomson and China” by Betty Yao, Co-Curator, Wellcome Library. Photographs taken by legendary Scottish photographer and travel writer John Thomson (1837-1921) during five years travelling in China. His photographs form one of the most extensive records of any region of China taken in the 19th century and mark him out as one of the most important travel photographers.

September 2021 commemorates the centenary of Thomson’s death and discussions are under way to exhibit his China photographs in Edinburgh. To see an interview with Betty Yao and some of Thomson’s photographs, go to: <http://www.johnthomsonexhibition.org/fascination-china-betty-yao-victorian-photographer-john-thomson/>

Wednesday, 10 March – David Rosier on “Heaven’s Embroidered Cloth: The History and Development of Chinese Imperial Silk”. The Neolithic origins of and myths surrounding imperial Chinese silk, the early Imperial workshops and court costume, the expansion of the silk industry, the Silk Road, its peak in the Ming Dynasty, its deterioration in quality during the Qing, and the impact of mechanization.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE SCOTLAND-CHINA ASSOCIATION

Membership of the Scotland-China Association is on an annual basis, renewable in April or October, depending on date of joining. We also offer a 10-year membership at a special price of £110. Or you can renew automatically by standing order. For information on paying your subscription by standing order or bank transfer, contact the Membership Secretary.

Annual subscription (please tick):

Individual	£15	☐
Student/Young person/Unwaged	£10	☐
Retired	£10	☐
*Country membership	£12	☐
10-year membership	£110	☐
*Corporate membership	£50	☐

* Country membership is open to anyone in the UK living over 50 miles from Edinburgh or Glasgow. For details of Corporate membership, contact the Membership Secretary.

To: Mrs Dale Finlayson, Membership Secretary
Scotland-China Association
10 Queens Crescent
Edinburgh EH9 2AZ

E-mail: sine@scotchchina.org

Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

_____ **Postcode** _____

Telephone / mobile _____

Email _____

Amount enclosed: £ _____

Cheques should be made payable to “**The Scotland-China Association**”.
Receipt will be acknowledged by e-mail; please enclose a stamped addressed envelope if you wish your subscription acknowledged by post.



Monkey	1908	1920	1932	1944	1956	1968	1980	1992	2004	2016
Rooster	1909	1921	1933	1945	1957	1969	1981	1993	2005	2017
Dog	1910	1922	1934	1946	1958	1970	1982	1994	2006	2018
Pig	1911	1923	1935	1947	1959	1971	1983	1995	2007	2019
Rat	1912	1924	1936	1948	1960	1972	1984	1996	2008	2020
Ox	1913	1925	1937	1949	1961	1973	1985	1997	2009	2021
Tiger	1914	1926	1938	1950	1962	1974	1986	1998	2010	2022
Rabbit	1915	1927	1939	1951	1963	1975	1987	1999	2011	2023
Dragon	1916	1928	1940	1952	1964	1976	1988	2000	2012	2024
Snake	1917	1929	1941	1953	1965	1977	1989	2001	2013	2025
Horse	1918	1930	1942	1954	1966	1978	1990	2002	2014	2026
Goat	1919	1931	1943	1955	1967	1979	1991	2003	2015	2027

