

AustCham AT A GLANCE

#17 **SPRING 2023**



Building an Equal World

A trio of inspiring women explore what equity means to them in celebration of International Women's Day.

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

Let's Hear it for
Australia Day

Professor Tim
Bedding Shares
his Astronomical
Adventures

Australian
Global Peace
from the
Philippines by
Sir Billy Chan





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ANZAC DAY

DAWN SERVICE 2023

Tuesday, 25 April 2023
5:40am to 6:30am
Old Taipa Houses Amphitheatre

Light refreshments will be served at the Amphitheatre
immediately after the service
BYO coffee cup, mug and/or hip flask if possible

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

A Year of New Beginnings

Welcome to our Spring newsletter. What a few months it has been with the borders opening, Power Hour events, our Australia Day BBQ and our International Women's Day event, which was a great success. Thank you, to all of our members and friends for your support. The Board is working very hard to come up with interesting events – stay tuned for more information on what we have in store for April, May and June. Don't forget Anzac Day is coming up, so I hope to see you there.

With the borders now open, we have been able to get to know the leadership at AustCham Hong Kong and the Australian Consulate. We all feel very positive about getting to know each other and sharing events and information for the better of both Chambers.

Nothing stays the same in our world, and I am so happy to see Macau moving forward and thriving. I can't wait to see how the year unfolds. I hope you like our new format, but as always, please approach any of our Board members with feedback or recommendations on what you would like to see.

Janet McNab
Chair



Embracing Equity

This International Women's Day, we invited three women who are leaders in their industries to share their personal stories and explore the meaning of equality.



1. Jingbo Huang, Director of the United Nations University Research Institute in Macau
2. Joanna Tam, a palliative care specialist, teacher and advocate
3. Michelle Garnaut, M Restaurants Group Owner

Joanna Tam, a palliative care specialist, teacher and advocate; and Michelle Garnaut, M Restaurants Group Owner – who explored what equity means to them and shared meaningful stories from their lives.

“The IWD event was a wonderful opportunity to raise awareness among both men and women about equity as a topic – about bringing women to the front of the stage and having an equal world,” said Jingbo, who gave the first speech of the day.

Palliative care nurse Joanna shared a very personal story about her grandmother, who was diagnosed with cancer then suffered a horribly painful death – physically and spiritually – when Joanna was just a teenager. The traumatic experience inspired Joanna to pursue a career in nursing and help improve end-of-life care for families and their loved ones. During her speech, she spoke about her personal and professional journey, overcoming challenges in her career, and the work that still needs to be done to help young women achieve respect and equality in the nursing industry.

As the final speaker of the day, Michelle encouraged everyone to consider equity in a broader context, beyond men and women. “It’s also between races, between the rich and the poor – there’s a lot of inequity in the world,” she said.

Wednesday, 8 March 2023

For the third consecutive year, we teamed up with the British Chamber of Commerce (BritCham) to celebrate International Women’s Day (IWD) with a joint fundraising luncheon.

Co-hosted at The St. Regis Macao, our 2023 “Embrace Equity” fundraising luncheon welcomed about 190 people for a delicious gourmet meal and an opportunity to hear from a trio of inspiring women.

It was our honour to host three amazing speakers this year – Jingbo Huang, Director of the United Nations University Research Institute in Macau;

4. The AustCham and BritCham leadership teams gather for a photo with our IWD speakers, sponsors and special guests
5. Keith Buckley and Janet McNab present a joint cheque to Sister Pamela Villand

Women have come a long way from having “zero opportunity” to enjoying independence, literacy and many other things, she continued. “At one time, women were not allowed to read, so we have a lot to celebrate.”

Janet McNab, the Chair of AustCham Macau’s Board of Directors, echoed Michelle’s sentiment, adding: “Equity is not female-specific. It should be a 50-50 approach. The point is to make sure we all have a seat at the table,” she said, adding that women must also seize opportunities. “You have to want something in life, otherwise it will never happen.”

At the end of the event, we presented the Good Shepherd Sisters, a charity group helping women and children in crisis, with an MOP 70,000 donation. Of that, we raised MOP 30,000 from the luncheon, while Banco Nacional Ultramarino, Junpam Engineering,





Lord Stow's Bakery and AustCham Macau each donated MOP 10,000.

We are delighted that our event was fully supported by the diplomatic corps who travelled from afar, including the Australian Consul General Elizabeth Ward and British Deputy Consul General Sara Robinson. Elizabeth and Sara have made wonderful contributions to society and, as women diplomats, set a great example when it comes to promoting equality between women and men.

We also thank all of our guests, our co-organiser BritCham Macao and our generous sponsors, The St. Regis Macao, Banco Nacional Ultramarino, DFS Group, Wing Tai Properties and Macao News for making this year's IWD celebration a huge success.

Happy International Women's Day!

“

Equity is not female-specific. It should be a 50-50 approach. The point is to make sure we all have a seat at the table.

Janet McNab



To see more photos of the event, scan this QR code.



Saturday, 11 February 2023

Celebrated on 26 January, Australia Day marks the day Britain's First Fleet arrived in Australia in 1788. Taking on new meaning over time, the holiday now celebrates the country's diverse communities, land, lifestyles, freedoms – and what it means to be Australian.

This year, we commemorated the occasion on the 11th of February, with an authentic Aussie barbecue at the Grand Hyatt Macau's pool deck. Adding to the joyful atmosphere, we also served beers from Little Creatures, a beloved brewery hailing from Fremantle and lovely



We celebrated Australia Day with an Aussie barbecue, tipples from Western Australia and a live performance by The High Rollers

Skuttlebut wines from Margaret River in western Australia.

Around 140 local Aussies and friends of Australia attended our Australia Day BBQ, where energising local band The High Rollers performed nostalgic songs, including “I Am Australian”, “I Still Call Australia Home” and “Waltzing Matilda”. Frontman Billy Chan and keyboardist Stephen Berry are members of our Board of Directors, adding some Aussie flair to the stage!

And thanks to the reopening of Macau’s borders, we were thrilled to welcome Consul-General Elizabeth

Ward and her colleagues from the Australian Consulate in Hong Kong for the first time since 2020.

“Everyone is excited to be together. It’s such an outpouring of energy that really supports the city’s reopening and offers a chance to get back in touch with the world,” Elizabeth shared during her visit.

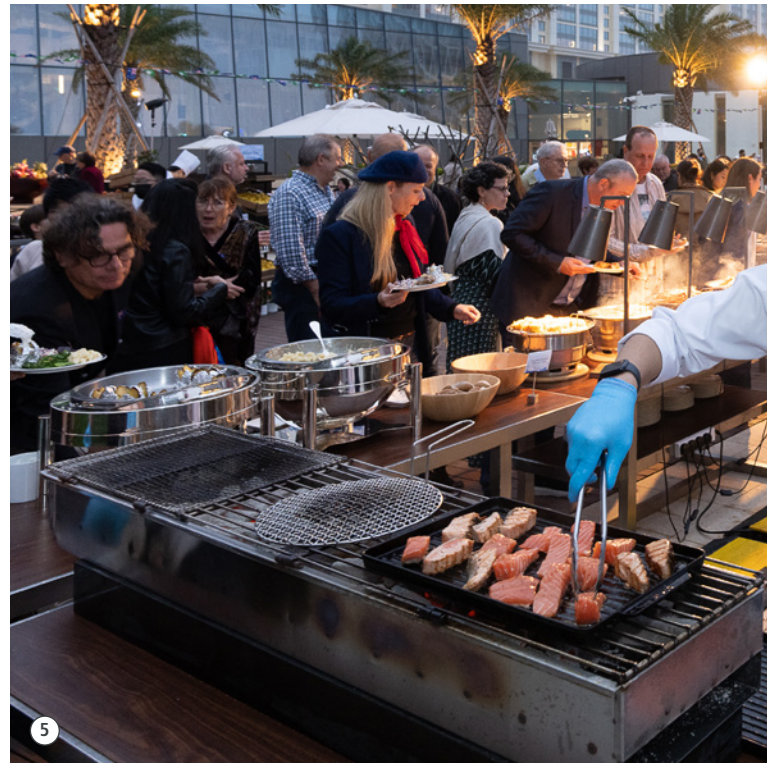
For Australians away from home, Australia Day offers a moment to reflect on “what it means to be an Aussie overseas and what we bring to an overseas environment,” Elizabeth added. “We’re can-do people – we’re fun, we’re efficient, we like having a good time, and we like doing a job really well and innovatively.”



Australia Day is also an opportunity to gather and celebrate the Australian community.

“It’s a great chance for everybody to get together, talk about the past year, look forward to the exciting things that are happening, and just to celebrate what it means to have the connection with Australia,” shared Pat Orchard, Consul for Political and Economic Affairs of the Australian Consul-General to Hong Kong and Macau.

Also in attendance was Macao Government Tourism Office (MGTO) Director Maria Helena de Senna Fernandes, who has always supported our events over the years.





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“It’s a good way to network and get to know one another, through which different ideas and businesses can emerge,” said Maria Helena.

During the festivities, we also presented a MOP 40,000 cheque to the Association of Rehabilitation of Drug Abusers of Macau (ARTM) as a culmination of funds raised during our inaugural men’s health awareness campaign last year. The campaign included two primary events: a fundraising Power Hour luncheon at The St. Regis Macao in October and the Movember Trivia Night at Galaxy Macau’s China Rouge in November.

1. AustCham Macau officials and special guests
2. Gilbert Humphrey (left) and Sharon Warron (right) celebrate together
3. MGTO Director Maria Helena de Senna Fernandes gives a speech
4. Local band The High Rollers wow the crowd
5. Guests enjoy an array of barbecued bites



6. Jolan Buckley, Janet McNab and Keith Buckley (left to right)
7. Our abundant buffet, courtesy of the Grand Hyatt Macau
8. Natasha Fellini, Rebeca Fellini McAulay and Luda Vysotskikh (left to right)
9. Janet McNab, Elizabeth Ward and Maria Helena de Senna Fernandes (left to right)
10. Patrick Orchard, Ramya Waran, Carlos Cid Álvares, Billy Chan and Luda Vysotskikh (left to right)
11. Patrick Liu from AustCham presents a MOP 40,000 cheque to ARTM





“

Everyone is excited to be together. It's such an outpouring of energy that really supports the city's reopening and offers a chance to get back in touch with the world.

Elizabeth Ward



We sincerely thank our members, the consular officers from the Australian Consulate in Hong Kong, MGTO Director Maria Helena and the broader Australian community who made the time to join us at our Australia Day celebrations.

In addition, we thank Seapower for supplying delicious Australian beer and Links Concepts for the excellent wine. We would also like to extend a special thanks to Timothy Bruce, General Manager of the Grand Hyatt Macau, and his team for sponsoring such a fantastic venue and delicious food for an unforgettable Australia Day celebration.

To see more photos of the event, scan this QR code:



Star Struck: Adventures of an Australian Astronomer

Wednesday, 22 February 2023

After a successful Australia Day BBQ, we were thrilled to host an inspiring Power Hour for our curious members. For our first Power Hour of 2023 we aimed for the stars, taking around 25 guests on an intergalactic journey into the world of astronomy.

We were honoured to welcome Professor Tim Bedding of the University of Sydney, who is known for his work on asteroseismology – the study of stellar oscillations – for a fascinating discussion, “Planets and Starquakes: Adventures of an Australian Astronomer”, via a live video conference held at the Astor Ballroom of The St. Regis Macao.

Professor Bedding has worked in the University of Sydney’s School of Physics since 1995 and was the school’s head from 2012 to 2018. In 2007 he even had an asteroid, “231470 Bedding”, named in his honour. As he noted in his talk, he is particularly interested in researching stellar oscillations, which can help us learn more about stars, including their sizes and ages.

One of our Power Hour guests, University of Macau student Daniel Putra de Jesus, believes that everyone should be interested in astronomy and what happens in the universe.

“We are part of a planet in a solar system, which is part of a galaxy. On a bigger scale, we are part of the universe. What happens to our universe affects us no matter where we are on this planet,” he said.

Studying astronomy can open many career opportunities, Professor Bedding explained, even if it is not in the field itself. Many of his students didn’t pursue jobs in astronomy but rather followed careers in data science, business and finance, which is one of the reasons astronomy has become more attractive to students in Macau and all over the world.



Daniel Putra de Jesus,
a student at the
University of Macau



1. Jon Seller, Rebecca Kennedy, Catherine White and Bernadette West (left to right)
2. Janet McNab, AustCham Macau Chair
3. Professor Bedding says the field of astronomy is full of opportunities
4. Patrick Liu and Luís Pinto
5. Stephen Berry emcees the Power Hour

To see more
photos of the
event, scan
this QR code:



Event emcee Stephen Berry, a member of AustCham Macau's Board of Directors, said that China's space programme has also sparked more interest in the fields of astronomy and space science over the past decade.

"With China's space missions, there's a lot of focus not just in this particular area of science but in astronomy in general. Space flights are becoming available in the private sector as well, and this is spurring further interest. There's a whole raft of things happening, which is quite exciting," Stephen shared.



Professor Bedding ended his talk with even more reasons to look up at the sky. For a few days after the power hour, he explained, we would be able to see Venus and Jupiter off to the west if the weather is clear – a beautiful sight to behold.

We would like to extend a very heartfelt thank you to our sponsor The St. Regis Macao for the fantastic venue, food, and drinks – the combination of which provided a stellar atmosphere for this illuminating evening.



When we look at the universe, planets and the stars, we find things that no one could have thought of until we discovered them, such as the amazing diversity of planets.

Professor Tim Bedding



Meet Stefan Renziehausen of SABA Hospitality Technology Solutions

When Covid-19 sent the hospitality industry into a tailspin, SABA Hospitality seized an unexpected opportunity to provide contactless, digitised guest experiences.

For our inaugural Member Spotlight, we're highlighting SABA Hospitality, an award-winning Macau-based company that's future-proofing the hospitality industry.

Executive Director of Operations Stefan Renziehausen, who set up the company with three friends in 2018, tells us about the inspiration behind SABA, navigating unexpected turbulence during the pandemic and his favourite AustCham Macau events.

Destined for Hospitality

Growing up in a happy, tight-knit family in Hanover, Germany, Stefan fell in love with hospitality from a young age. His mother, who worked in hotels, and father, a lawyer, loved to take Stefan and his younger sister to exciting destinations where they had an early introduction to great hotels and warm service.

Stefan earned a bachelor's degree in Hospitality Management from

Northern Arizona University and a "Diplom Betriebswirt" (akin to a master's degree) in Hospitality Management from the International University Bad Honnef in Germany.

During his time in school, Stefan took advantage of overseas internships whenever possible. For example, stints in Austria and Canada afforded him essential "hands-on" learning opportunities, which he says are needed to "understand how a hotel operates."

In 2010, the graduate landed his first job at the Villa Kennedy, a Rocco Forte Hotel in Frankfurt, Germany. At the now-closed boutique hotel, he moved up the ranks quickly, learning the value of strong leadership.

His admiration for his supervisor, under whom he spent nearly three years learning the ropes, made a lasting impression. "She was tough but always laid back at the same time," he recalls.

Moving to Macau

A call in 2012 from his best friend at university, Alexander Wessels, who moved to Macau to be part of the Sheraton Grand Macao hotel opening team, changed the trajectory of Stefan's life. Alexander suggested Stefan join him, and though moving from a 163-room hotel in Germany to a 4,000-room Sheraton in Asia felt like a giant leap, Stefan didn't hesitate.

From 2012 to 2018, Stefan thrived at Sheraton Grand Macao alongside a "great team, leadership and people," he says. During this period, he progressed from front office supervisor to rooms manager, gaining invaluable experience from industry leaders, including Josef Dolp, Janet McNab and Kathy Chen. "I was fortunate to have these leaders and to be given the opportunity to grow with them."

In 2018, a conversation with Alexander and two other friends about language barriers and hotel processes that could be automated sparked an idea. What if they could simultaneously improve the guest experience and solve everyday challenges in the hospitality industry?

By digitising the guest journey, they believed they could elevate guest and staff engagement, offer personalised experiences, improve communications, boost hotels' online ratings, overcome system bottlenecks and increase revenue.

SABA Hospitality Takes Shape

Later that year, Stefan left his full-time job at Sheraton, and the four co-founders went all-in on digitisation. They spent the next 1.5 years developing their business-to-business

hospitality products, remodeling the guest experience for modern travellers.

SABA Hospitality's tools offer guests more convenience and control while streamlining hotel resources. For instance, guests could use their phones for check in, room access and check out – eliminating the need for physical keys and queuing at reception. And, unbeknownst to the co-founders, an unprecedented global event would make their plans even more relevant.

When Covid-19 brought the world to a standstill in 2020, the hospitality industry was hard hit. However, despite the many challenges wrought by the pandemic, SABA Hospitality had an edge.

Stefan and his team understood the value and mechanics of sought-after tools, such as mobile-ordering platforms, AI-driven chatbot technology and digital compendiums (which enable guests to access hotel services via mobile phones).

This foundation enabled them to ramp up their contactless digital solutions and help businesses navigate the pandemic. For example, SABA Hospitality enables hotel guests to register pre-arrival and access keyless entry, check-in online, control the room's lighting or temperature, order food or drinks, book spa appointments, and ask a hotel chatbot for help or services – all from their mobile phone.

For guests, such solutions made travel during the pandemic feel safer and more convenient. And for hotels, these services save time and optimise staff resources while creating new revenue channels.

"Timing-wise, it wasn't ideal. We [would have liked to have] had more

traction in the market – it would have been a little easier,” says Stefan. But looking back, he adds, the business was well-positioned to respond to their clients’ rapidly changing needs.

Hitting their stride

Based in Macau, SABA Hospitality operates across 30 different countries and several sectors, including hotels, holiday rentals, casinos, senior citizen facilities, restaurants, serviced apartments and more. Their efforts have drawn industry recognition: For instance, in January 2023, the Hotel Tech Report, often called “The Grammys of Hotel Tech”, recognised SABA Hospitality as the top-rated mobile ordering solution.

As the executive director of operations, Stefan oversees day-to-day operations, including all finance, administration and legal matters. On the client side, he also works with the sales and marketing department and supports the onboarding team.

Working alongside Stefan on the leadership team are Alexander Wessels, co-founder and executive director based in Macau; Byron Webster, co-founder and executive director based in Australia; and Alex Aranchikov, co-founder.

Joining AustCham Macau

In 2022 they joined AustCham Macau as an SME member, renewing their membership this year.

“Two of SABA’s co-founders are Australian, so we are 50% Australian [on the leadership team],” says Stefan, adding that most of their clients are in Australia, New Zealand and Fiji. SABA’s team, clients, and



AustCham’s Power Hours are a great way to learn about other industries, other people’s careers – they really give you a different perspective.

Stefan Renziehausen

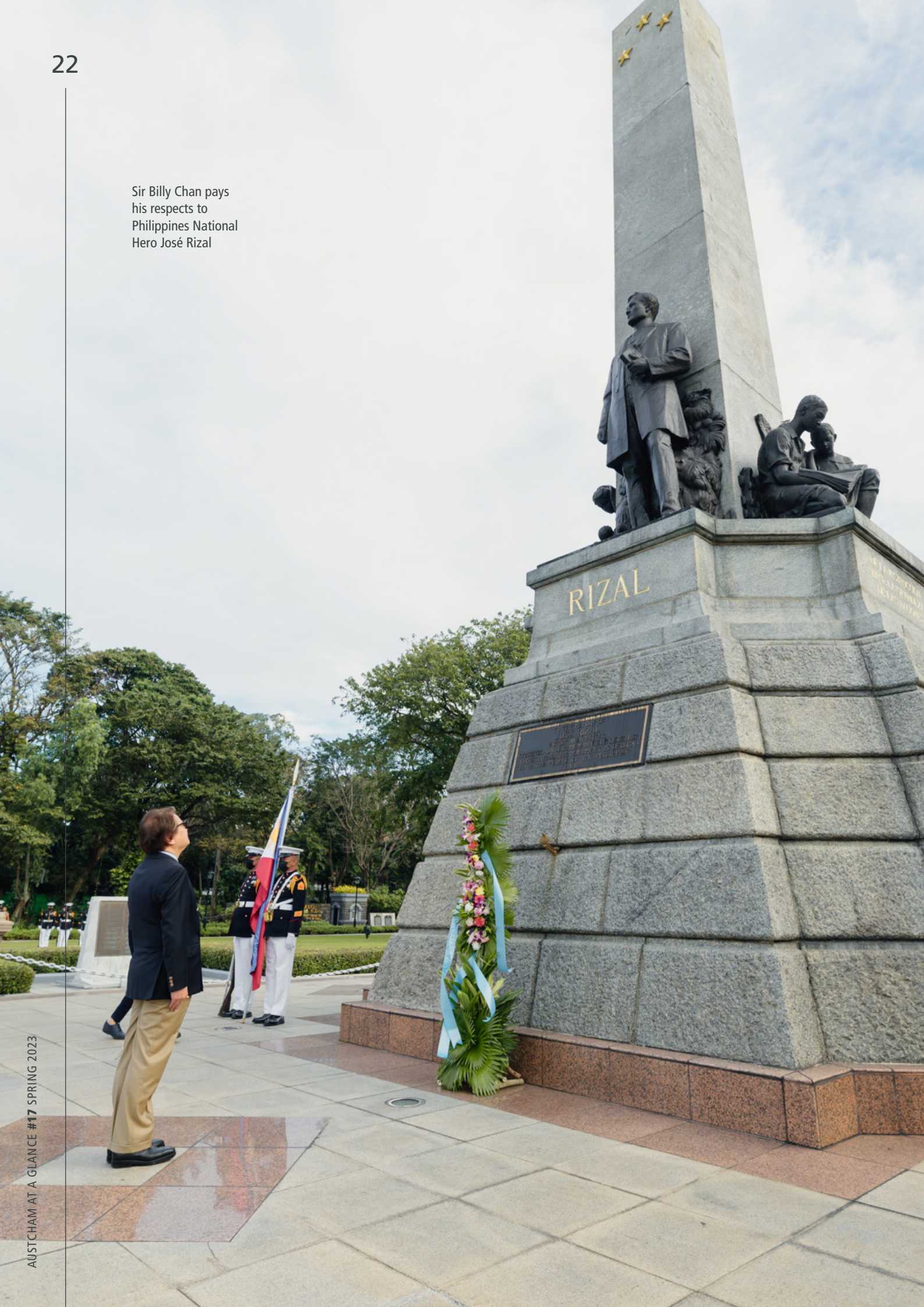
business are a natural fit for AustCham Macau’s opportunities.

One of Stefan’s favourite parts of being a member is the monthly Power Hour. “It’s a great way to learn about other industries, other people’s careers – it really gives you a different perspective. If you only stay in your company and don’t go out and network, you only ever focus on your own area.”

Stefan, who is married to a freelance events professional from Macau and has a two-year-old son, says the city has much to discover. When he’s not at work or enjoying Austcham Macau’s events, Stefan loves exploring child-friendly activities. For example, the Macau Grand Prix Museum was a huge hit with his son on a recent outing. “When you are open to exploring new things, there are plenty of possibilities,” says the entrepreneur.

Learn more about SABA Hospitality and the tech-savvy services that helped many businesses navigate the pandemic: sabahospitality.com

Sir Billy Chan pays
his respects to
Philippines National
Hero José Rizal



Australian Global Peace from the Philippines

By Sir Billy Chan

As an Australian medical simulation training pioneer, chairman and founder of the Sino Phil Asia International Peace Awards Foundation and standing Vice Chair of the Australian Chamber of Commerce, Macau, it was my honour to officiate the decoration of new laureates from the Philippines and around the world in a special 21-gun salute and wreath-laying ceremony at Rizal Monument, as well as a series of speeches and ceremonies at The Manila Hotel and Edsa Shangri-La, Manila on 27-28 January 2023.

My reason for founding this special foundation in 2015 is highly personal – as a son of Hong Kong and Macau, I became an Australian citizen decades ago in the Great Outback, in the city of Perth on the Indian Ocean, and have lived for regional peace my entire life.

Perth embodies regional peace with its close connections around Asia. Set on Australia's remote southwestern coast, the city isn't often on international radars, yet it is an incredible conduit for Australia in Asia – linking up our big cities of Canberra, Melbourne and Sydney with our ASEAN neighbours in Phnom Penh, Bangkok, Dili, Hong Kong, Jakarta, Kuala Lumpur, Macau, Manila, and Singapore, among many.

It has been three years since the "Great Disruption" consumed our lives. One of my good Aussie mates here in Macau during this time, Denise Lau, who is an AustCham member and the Director of Portuguese speaking countries for the Sino Phil Asia International

Peace Awards Foundation, summed up the era's new mood well. Ms. Lau said: "We are elated beyond belief to be able to reunite Macau and Manila. This is a golden time for all of us. Three years is too long, and I am so grateful that we can unite Iberian post-colonial identities. Conversations we are reinvigorating between what were once Portuguese and Spanish colonies are yielding creative plans for greater connectivity in this era of calm following tremendous turbulence. We are all fortunate to get back to our new normal and come together again."

Stephen Berry, a director at the Sino Phil Asia International Peace Awards Foundation noted that the peace awards event was a wonderful opportunity for people from a variety of cultures and fields of endeavour to come together in unity with a common goal of striving for peace.

Back in January 2020, we were preparing for a significant Sino Phil Asia International Peace Awards Foundation ceremony. And now in 2023, we have finally been able to meet face-to-face with friends from around the world. First, I'd like to tip my hat to three great laureates from the Philippines who tirelessly strive for peace: Former Speaker of the House Fernando Feliciano Belmonte Jr of the Philippines in the field of Public Service; Honourable Ambassador Adelio Angelito Cruz of the Philippines in the field of Public Service; and Dr Reghis Romero II of the Philippines in the field of Business Management and Leadership, who is now special Envoy to Japan.



Belmonte Jr is a Filipino politician who served as a member of the Philippine House of Representatives representing the Fourth District of Quezon City, most recently until 2019. From January to June 2001 and 2010 to 2016, he was also the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Philippines. In addition, he also served as the Mayor of Quezon City from 2001 to 2010, where he was hailed the “Most Outstanding City Mayor of the Philippines”.

We took notice of Honorable Adelio Cruz’s outstanding contributions in his various diplomatic positions held in foreign countries, especially his two-year duty in war-stricken Libya, where he helped rescue and repatriate around 5,800 distressed Filipinos and other nationalities. By blending his creative governance and active participation in all of his assignments, Cruz has created a unique model for the world to emulate.

We are also inspired by Romero’s decades of work to alleviate poverty and increase peace in the Philippines

– he is a stellar example for people around the world to emulate. From turning the Smokey Mountain poverty situation into a property success story to infrastructure projects for the Philippine Army Officers’ Quarters and Hospital to numerous public housing projects, his deeds and actions speak volumes. Indeed, the people of the Philippines heroically refer to him as the “Wonder Boy of Pampanga”, and Romero has been commended as the “Most Outstanding Kapampangan for Business with Civic Consciousness”. His work as Supreme Archivist and appointment as Supreme Commander of the Order of the Knights of Rizal have been noted and applauded, too.

We were also immensely grateful to honour the late former Senator Ramon Revilla Sr, who died in 2020, with the posthumous laureate award in the field of Performing Arts, which his son, Senator Ramon “Bong” Revilla, Jr, collected on his behalf. His entry into the world of show business proved

rewarding financially, plus his brilliant portrayals on and off camera as actor, producer, scriptwriter, and socio-civic leader made him a big-name in entertainment and social circles. His work earned many citations and awards, including the FAMAS Best Actor in 1973 for the movie *Hulihin Si Tiyaagong Akyat*; “Box Office King” in 1979 and the “Most Outstanding Actor of the Year” that same year; “Outstanding Producer of the Year” in 1976; and “Outstanding Film Production and Socio-civic Leader” in 1975.

For this we were happy to welcome the comments of former Sino Phil Asia International Peace Awards Foundation laureate and Philippines Senator Win Gatchalian.

Secondly, I raise a salute to our Global Laureates:

- **Mr Mher Baghdasaryan of Armenia in the field of Broadcast Public Affairs & Television.** His earnest years of television and media engagement work for the beautiful people of Armenia at home and globally is an inspiration. He has vastly improved the Armenian cultural conversation with his legions of social media followers within the United States, connecting Armenians and airing their concerns, passions, and powerful history.
- **Mr Yan Chunqing of the People’s Republic of China in the field of Humanitarianism.** His remarkable work has contributed towards creating more accessible clean water for those in need to solve the water problem of millions of people in Western Gansu

Province, notably through the Western Water Cellar Project. In a world of unstable water security and climate change, Mr Yan’s work serves as a model solution for the world to study. He has also helped establish the “Hope Education Project” to build hundreds of Hope Primary Schools in rural areas.

- **Professor Alok Sharma of India in the field of Humanitarian Medical Service.** Dr Alok Sharma’s untiring efforts working for people’s amelioration and for his decades of self-sacrificing services to humanity and peace. He has provided humankind hope, dignity and reduced suffering. He has helped numerous underprivileged people and contributed immensely in medical research, particularly in stem cell therapy and neurosurgical advancement. Dr Sharma has been bestowed with the highest honour in his native country of India, and overseas, the Bharat Gaurav Award for Distinguished Services to the Nation & Outstanding Individual Achievements at the House of Commons of the British Parliament in London, UK.





- **Mr Augusto Nogueira of Portugal in the field of Humanitarianism.**

We commend his lifetime commitment to public health and assisting those afflicted with substance addiction. His work stands tall on advocating changes to drug policy law to allow implementation of needle syringe programmes and methadone at the ARTM community centre. We are touched by Mr Augusto Nogueira's project "Hold on to Hope", a cafe and art gallery vocational training centre that improves social reintegration for those coming off drugs and his tireless contributions to various committees of The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. His praise from the Republic of Portugal and the Macau government further attests to the passion and professionalism he demonstrates in serving humanity.

- **Ms Sinem Yildirim of Turkey in the field of Journalism.**

We salute her career as an accomplished columnist and journalist and unique commentaries on human experience in arts, media, identity and community in Turkey and the Middle East. In our eyes, she is an exemplary person for the world to emulate.

- **Dr Patricia Thompson of the United Kingdom in the field of Fine Arts Education and Humanitarianism.**

We commend Dr Patricia's lifetime commitment to empowering youth and the public with new ways to imagine the arts. From her work as Head of Pedagogy at an Oxford college to Conservatoire President to CEO of The Croft and Royal Shakespeare Theatre Company, she has been a force of good for humanity. Carrying this passion worldwide, she



has received a British Citizen Award for exceptional contribution to society and as an inspiration to people across the UK and beyond. Indeed, the bestowment of the title Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Palmes académiques (meaning, "Order of Academic Palms") by decree of the Minister of Education of the French Republic in recognition of her tireless commitment to music and art education is a further testament to her unwavering endeavours to share the power of art with youth.

- **Professor Kevin "Kit" Thompson, Order of the British Empire (OBE), of the United Kingdom in the field of Performing Arts and Education for his lifetime commitment to music.** He has served with grace as Founding Principal Birmingham Conservatoire (now Royal

Birmingham Conservatoire), worked tirelessly as Director of The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, and led with passion as the Founding Master of the Moon Chun Memorial College (MCMC) of the University of Macau, decorated by the late Queen Elizabeth among many other achievements and recognitions. Indeed, Prof Kit Thompson's lifetime of actions, deeds and expertise are desperately needed in these troubled times to heal humanity and move forward to a brighter future.

- **Mr Martin Maciak of the United States of America in the category of Business Leadership.** His work in high-integrity banking at Bank of China and HSBC, among others, has instilled a great sense of stability and prosperity in Asia. For over 13 years, his influential decisions have elevated the performance of banking executives while making banking more humane and profitable for everyday people. Untold numbers of lives have found prosperity and peace through Mr Martin Maciak's business leadership.





- **Ms Shohreh Solati of the United States of America in the field of Music and Entertainment.**

Throughout her musical career, she has enchanted the world with glorious singing. From Shohreh Solati's early days singing in the 1970s in Iran to her new life rebuilt in New York, Los Angeles and beyond, she has empowered and inspired many people with songs in the beautiful Farsi language underscoring the heritage of Iran. Her major hit "Zan" is among many songs that have provided cohesion and community for overseas Iranians and Iranians at home. In our eyes, Diva Shohreh Solati is an exemplary person of the world to emulate.

Together with these great laureates, we also donated canned food, medicine and wheelchairs to 370 families at a small school in Quezon City. As observed by Philippines House Representative Bernadette Herra-Dy, who formerly represented Quezon City as city councillor: "I am very grateful you have supported this school with all of your warmth and passion. It really means so much to the community here." Indeed, we were elated to bring global harmony to the children and poor families of Quezon City and uplift their spirits. The school was so grateful, because they were in deep mourning over a student, a 13-year-old boy, who had been stabbed to death just a few days prior. Hearing that, many of us teared up.

I also thank our Sino-Phil Asia International Award Foundation Board Member and Chairman Emeritus US Georgia State Senator Emanuel Davie Jones for supporting me with a special

Georgia State Senate Resolution for my work with peace and medical simulation training in Asia, especially in the Philippines, spanning over three decades of my life.

Finally, let me add that peace is stressful to set in motion. It requires talking, oftentimes enraged folks, off the fence. I have thankfully been able to find peace in my own life despite all kinds of disruptions. From my heart, I hope that we, as Aussies

promoting peace globally, can continue to build common ground and extend our warm spirit to all. In fact, we are now erecting a 2.2-hectare property in the city of Campbelltown in New South Wales dedicated to the Revolutionary Founder of the Philippines, Dr Jose Rizal. It will be the largest such commemoration of this heralded author and physician in the world – done in a true Aussie-Philippines spirit!

May peace be with all of you.



Weiming Xie



Back on Track

As we ushered in 2023, a renewed sense of optimism washed over us, fuelled by the positive energy and favourable winds brought about by the lifting of COVID-19 restrictions. As the city's economy climbs back, it's high time to rekindle the development of the Guangdong-Macau In-depth Cooperation Zone in Hengqin, which was established in September 2021 but faced a number of COVID-related hurdles.

The first quarter brought policies and incentives related to the neighbouring island's framework and development. These include the rulebook issued and approved by Guangdong authorities, effective on 1 March, a set of 30 measures

endorsed by the People's Bank of China, China Banking and Insurance Regulatory Commission, and the State Administration of Foreign Exchange aimed at facilitating financial connectivity between Macau and Hengqin, and another package of financial stimulus to attract businesses from Macau to commercial buildings.

All these developments deserve our attention and focus, as they will most likely be followed by a trove of additional moves and measures aimed at being a game-changer regarding the development and integration of Macau-Hengqin. Of undeniable importance are moves towards seamless connectivity and hassle-free border crossing and towards adopting

an inclusive approach aimed at attracting Macau-based talent of all sorts (locals, non-locals, foreigners) to join the process and contribute to and benefit from Hengqin's development.

Beyond that, an improved legal framework, assured capital mobility, and flagship foreign investments would boost confidence and could create a much-needed virtuous circle. With the pandemic behind us, it's high time to put Hengqin's development back on track and take a more market-driven, pragmatic approach to meeting the targets set by authorities.

FIVE TAKEAWAYS

1 Mainland Chinese authorities have dangled another package of financial stimulus to attract businesses from Macau to commercial buildings in neighbouring Hengqin, with eligible enterprises to be given subsidies across a wide range of fronts including renovation, rent, and research.

2 Over 100 vocational training organisations, industry groups, and enterprises are now part of a Macau-Zhuhai alliance formed to place respective talent accreditations on the same par.

3 Temasek Holdings' chief for China Wu Yibing has expressed approval of the futures of Hengqin and the Greater Bay Area after a recent meeting with Macau leader Ho Iat Seng, the local government said.

4 Foreign consuls general and business leaders in Hong Kong embarked on a visit to several cities in the GBA from 19 to 23 March. The visit aimed to promote cross-border collaboration and explore new business opportunities in the region.

5 Authorities in Hengqin have opened what they call a "recruitment channel" for Macau residents, providing vacancies with annual incomes ranging from RMB 330,000 (MOP 383,103) to RMB 520,000.

Upcoming Events

What's on at AustChams
across the GBA this spring

MACAO

Anzac Day Dawn Service 2023

WHEN: Tuesday, 25 April 2023

WHERE: Old Taipa Houses
Amphitheatre

HONG KONG

In Conversation with Australian Minister for Resources, The Honorable Madeleine King MP

*Hosted by AustCham Hong Kong
and Asia Mining Club*

WHEN: Thursday, 20 April 2023

WHERE: Renaissance Hong Kong
Harbour View Hotel

Australia, Hong Kong and The Greater Bay Area

*Networking Dinner with ACBC
Australian Delegation*

WHEN: Monday, 24 April 2023

WHERE: Island Shangri-La Hotel



Elliv Aceron

Lamington

Janet McNab shares her delicious recipe for this iconic Australia cake – known for its airy sponge, chocolate frosting and dried coconut – so you can make it at home.

INGREDIENTS

Cake

- 125 grams butter softened
- 1 cup caster sugar
- ½ tsp vanilla extract
- 3 eggs
- 1¾ cups self-raising flour sifted
- ½ cup milk
- 2 cups desiccated coconut

Icing

- 3 ½ cups soft icing mixture
- ¼ cup cocoa powder
- 1 Tbsp butter, softened
- ½ cup boiling water

DIRECTIONS

STEP 1: Preheat oven to 180°C (160°C if you have a fan-forced convection oven). Grease a 3cm-deep, 20cm x 30cm (base) lamington pan. Line with baking paper, leaving a 2cm overhang on all sides.

STEP 2: Using an electric mixer, beat butter, sugar and vanilla until light and fluffy.

STEP 3: Add eggs, 1 at a time, beating well after each addition (mixture may curdle).

STEP 4: Sift half the flour over butter mixture. Stir to combine. Add half the milk. Stir to combine. Repeat with remaining flour and milk.

STEP 5: Spoon into prepared pan. Smooth top.

STEP 6: Bake for 30 minutes or until a skewer inserted in centre comes out clean. Stand in pan for 10 minutes out onto a wire rack. Cover with a clean tea towel. Set aside overnight.

STEP 7: To make icing, sift icing sugar and cocoa into a bowl. Add butter and boiling water. Stir until smooth.

STEP 8: Cut cake into 15 pieces. Place coconut in a dish. Using a fork, dip 1 piece of cake in icing. Shake off excess. Toss in coconut. Place on a wire rack over a baking tray.

STEP 9: Repeat with remaining cake, icing and coconut. Stand for 2 hours or until set. Serve.



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- .Net Developer Supervisor
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- .Net Developer
- Software Quality Assurance
- Analyst Programmer
- UX/UI Designer
- Cambling Engineer

- New Media Operation
- Official Account Operation

Zhuhai

- Project Manager
- QA Specialist
- .Net developer
- PHP Developer
- Cambling Engineer

- New Media Operation
- Official Account Operation

Hong Kong

- Analyst Programmer
- Assistant Engineer
- Air Traffic Control System
- Engineer, ELV
- Engineer, IP Network
- Engineer, Radio Operations
- Project Manager, ELV System
- Risk and Control Manager
- DevOps Engineer
- Test Engineer Specialist
- Analyst Programmer (Java)



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