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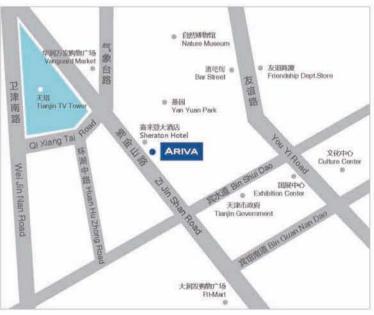




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中国特色的圣诞节



People ACoffee and a Cup(Cake) 伊森好商机



Lifefeature

中国年轻消费者的购车需求

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Letter from the Editor

any people get excited as December approaches because of Christmas and New Year, which means a lot of celebrations. I'm one of them as my birthday also falls in this month.

Many people start to plan for the celebrations from the beginning of the month because to them it really is a big deal. In the mass media and new media forums such as weibo and Wechat, what events hotels and restaurants are planning and information on special Christmas sales are constantly reminding us it's time to part with some money and have some fun. Some people take every opportunity to indulge themselves in the spirit of the season.

Although not many Chinese really "celebrate" Christmas, the festive atmosphere in Tianiin is no less than in most parts of the world. If you have ever spent a Christmas in Tianjin, I believe you would have been amazed by the spectacular lights on show in winter. Tianjin is always very beautiful this time of year. The question is though, do the Christmas scenes make you feel a little less lonely or even more homesick?

If you are in Tianjin over Christmas, I doubt your celebrations will be the same as those in your hometown with family and friends.. But what I'm sure about is there is no reason to feel bored as there will be a lot of things going on. Whatever your budget Tianjin has it all: from a luxurious Christmas Eve dinner with a one night stay in a fancy five-star hotel or just spending the evening letting your hair down in one of the many bars.

However, what is more important than any material celebration is the "Christmas Spirit" as described in our feature story. It is the spirit of helping, caring and giving. We should always think of the less fortunate people especially at this time of year. It is not a sacrifice to do something for them. Spreading your love on special occasions like Christmas will give you more happiness and peace of mind. That is what Christmas should truly be about.

God bless you!

很多人都非常拥待12月的到来,因为圣诞节和新年又给了他们很多吃喝玩乐的机会。他们 从12月初就开始把它当成件大事一样策划。各大媒体、包括微博微信也都会不停地推送着各大 **餐厅、酒店的圣诞节活动信息和各大商场的圣诞打折信息。这些都在提醒你,是时候花点钱** 找点乐子了。人们都喜欢抓住各种机会纵情狂欢!

虽然中国人过圣诞节只是照猫圈虎,但大街上的节日气氛却丝毫不逊色于世界上任何一个 地方。如果你會经在这里度过一个圣诞节,那美丽的夜景一定会令你难忘。这样的景色是会减 经你的强效磁环是让你的思乡情结加重了呢?

即使你不能回家过节,你在天津也不会觉得无聊。不管你的节日预算有多少,你都能找到 适合自己的庆祝方式。但是比物质上的庆祝更为重要的是一种叫做"圣诞精神"的东西。它号 召人们在这样特别的日子里更多她去帮助、关心和给予。在你幸福的时刻多想想那些不幸的 人, 把爱摄微出去, 你才会感受到更多的幸福和内心的平静。

Monica W



Got a passion for Tlanjin? Want to share your China experience? Are you a veteran expat with tips and tricks of the trade?

In tune with the expat community?

JIN Magazine is looking for freelance writers to contribute articles to the magazine in all areas. If you are interested, please get in touch with editorial@linmagazine.com.cn



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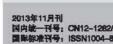
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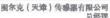
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以上荣誉顺向按姓名首个字母顺序排列,排列不分先后。

TIANJIN NEWS

Girl, 17, Cares for Disabled Mother in Tianiin College

■ 17岁天津财大女生带着瘫痪母亲上学 孝心感动身边人

天津射经大学17岁的大二女生袁锦梦来自河南省,她有年幼的弟弟、父亲 在外地打工,母亲瘫痪。她没有被困难打倒,带着妈妈一起上大学。今年8 月,小袁独自背着妈妈到了学校,为她找了周边的养老院。她每天在学习与照 顾妈妈的同时,还要挤出时间兼职,以囊够妈妈住养老院的费用。小麦说,不 论遇到多大困难,她会永远照顾妈妈。小袁的同学和老师纷纷向她伸出摆手, 为旅源客了后三个目的转表院费用。

A 17-year-old girl called Yuan Jinmeng from Kaifeng City in central China's Henan Province has been caring for her disabled mother while studying in college.

Yuan was only 12 years old when her mother became partially paralyzed due to hypertension. To support the family, Yuan's father left home to find a job in the city and her grandparents took care of Yuan, her mother and Yuan's younger brother.

Yuan managed to finish middle school and was accepted by the Tianiin University of Finance and Economics in north China's Tianiin Municipality this August. She decided to bring her mother with her.

Yuan's mother now lives in a nursing home near the university. Yuan visits her every day after class to take care of her.

To help cover her mother's expenses of more than 1,600 yuan (US\$ 262.6) a month at the nursing home as well as her living expenses, Yuan gets up at 4 a.m. every day to work at a breakfast stand, earning 20 yuan (US\$ 3.28) a day. She also spends her weekends working.

Yuan's classmates and teachers have donated some money to her, helping to cover her mother's expenses at the nursing home for the next three months.

Family healthcare offered to Tianjin eco-city

■ 家住中新天津生态城 享家庭医生上门服务

从11月15日起,家庭医生服务开始对天津中新生态域的居民开放。生态域 将按照每个全科医师团队服务300-500户的标准为居民配备家庭医生,通过积 极主动地上门服务,为居民建立电子健康档案,并定期进行健康评估和个性化

家庭医生机制是天津中新生态城生态型社区发展方案的其中一部分、该方 案还包括绿色能源公交、节能型住宅和厨房垃圾的回收中心。

A family doctor service was made available to residents of Tianjin's developing eco-city on November 15 as part of an effort to build a Singaporean-style community in the northern China port

A doctor will be assigned to care for every 300 to 500 households, and each resident's health records will be monitored electronically.

The service, along with green-energy buses, apartments with energy conservation systems and a recycling center for kitchen garbage, is part of a development plan for an eco-conscious community.

The Tianjin eco-city, which is to serve as a model for future Chinese cities, was jointly planned by the Chinese and Singaporean

"We are expecting more households to move in as more infrastructure is built," said Cui Guang'an, deputy director of the city's administration committee.

Management Method of Organic **Product Certificate**

■ 有机产品认证管理办法: 伪造冒用产品证书罚3万

国家质检总局网站上获悉、该局出台的《有机产品认证管理办法》将于 2014年4月1日起施行。办法明确、国家推行统一的有机产品认证制度、实行统 一的认证目录、统一的标准和认证实施规则、统一的认证标志。此外、办法明 确了违反规定的罚则,对于伪造、变造、冒用、丰法买卖、转让、涂改认证证 书的,她方认证监管部门责令改正,处3万元罚款。

Management Methods of Organic Product Certification issued by the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine of China will be valid from April 1, 2014.

It has now been confirmed there will be a unified organic product certification system with unified certification categories, standards, specifications and certification labels.

In order for a product to gain certification, the Method will allow only processed products containing 95% or more organic ingredients (by weight or liquid volume, excluding water and salt) to be labeled "Organic".

The Method regulates that in seven circumstances the certificate can be revoked. For example, in the production or processing procedures, if forbidden substances are added to or contaminate the certificated organic food or if the applicant is found to have forged or hidden any information in the certificate application.

At the same time, products without an organic certificate will not be able to print any label or text that indicates the organic property of the product, A product will not be certified organic if it is processed or split packed in places other than those stated on the certificate.

There will be a 30,000RMB fine for Illegal use of the certificate.

Wanda's Private Club "Club Reign" Settled in Tianiin

□万达集团名仕会落户天津

"名社会"作为万达酒店及废保村管理有限公司为城中至尊精英而专设的 会员制顶级豪华私人会所,设立于天津万达文华酒店25、26层。会所拥有私人 专属电梯、私人餐饮管家,其中极尽奢华的娱乐设施以及绝佳的城市美妙风 景,为其贵宾会员提供私密、专属的商务空间和高端休闲场所以及无限尊崇。

Perfect in Every Detail to Create a Profound Sense of Dignity "Club Reign", grandly opened on 25 September 2013 as Wanda's 3rd luxury private club after Changsha and Shenyang, locates on the top floors of Wanda Vista Tianlin.

The private and exclusive "Club Reign" is established for elite members. The private and extravagant "Legend" Chinese Restaurant, "Universe" KTV, "SHUI" Spa, "Galaxy" Bar and wonderful views of Hai He River will create an intimate business environment and generate a profound sense of dignity for VIP members.

Offering 4 luxurious private dinning rooms with independent kitchen and pure privacy, "Legend" Chinese Restaurant features superb Cantonese and Hunan culsines, attentive service and world-class tableware. The private and luxurious "SHUI" Spa offers a variety of beauty and spalitems for quests. It has 4 private rooms equipped with steam room, independent hot and cold water massage pool, Mahjong room, independent shower, rub back rooms, aromatherapy massage room and lounge.

Galaxy Bar, which is called "City of Sky" provides world-calss wines and the supreme cigars in a private and really relaxing space with the wonderful view of Hai He River. Experience a pure pleasant moment by yourself or with your friends.

Sina-Italian Education Base of Creative Design Established in Tianjin

TIANJIN NEWS

■ 中、意创意教育基地成立 两国硕士生将联合培养

日前、中国、意大利创意教育基地在河北区北宁文化创意中心成立、未 来、来自意大利和本市的硕士研究生物在这里共同学习、交流、并有机会在 这里打造自己的创意企业。

基地负责人李云飞告诉记者,中意创意教育基地是中国、意大利两国高 校针对创意设计领域的教育合作项目。首批合作高校为天津大学和意大利5所 高校。现在,他们正思绕"硕士生联合设计"、"硕士生1+1联合培养"等模 式进行课程设置研讨。意大利将为这个基地贡献他们的师瓷和技术力量。有 几个意大利的音乐学院、艺术学院都参与了这个项目,会引进更多意大利大 学的参与。

A Chinese-Italian Creative Education Base was recently founded at the Beining Culture and Creative Center in Hebei District, Tianjin. In the future, graduate students from both Italy and Tianjin will be able to study there.

According to Li Yunfei, the head of the new center, it is a cooperative education project for creative and design majors students from Chinese and Italian universities. The universities participating include Tianjin University and five Italian universities. Currently they are working on a collaborative design project and a "1+1" collaborative education program for graduate students. The Italian universities will contribute some teachers and technology. A selection of Italian conservatories and art academies are participating in the project and more are expected.

According to Sun Yuhong, Director of Science Committee of Hebei District, the local authority is trying to make the Beining Creative Center a theme park that will integrate tourism, recreation, entertainment and creative business.

Bombardier Aerospace & Tianjin Airport to establish maintenance facility

■ 庞巴迪集团在华首家公务机维修中心落户天津

22日中午,加拿大庞巴迎李航集团与天津港保税区合作框架协议签约仪 式在四宾馆举行。市长黄兴国会见了庞巴迪宇航集团客户服务总裁艾瑞克-马迪 尔一行并共同出席签约仪式,对项目落户天津表示祝贺,希望进一步深化在航 空航天、融资租赁等领域合作,实现共享发展。

根据协议、废巴迎宇航集团与保税区合资成立公务机绩够公司、在空港经 济区内建设庞巴迪宇航集团在华首家公务机维修中心,计划引入里尔、挑战 者、环球快车全系列公务机维修业务。项目计划用地4万平方米、并同时建设 联通机场第二跑道的联络道。

Bombardier Aerospace and the Tianjin Airport Economic Area announced that they have signed a letter of agreement to increase aircraft maintenance services in Mainland China. This is the first step which should see the creation of a joint venture company. The new facility is expected to open in 2016. The facility will support the maintenance, repair, overhaul, and associated activities and services for all Bombardier business aircraft and, subject to certain conditions, on Bombardier commercial aircraft.

"China is an important market and we are excited and honoured to collaborate with the leaders of Tianjin," said Eric Martel, president, Customer Services and Specialized and Amphibious Aircraft, Bombardier Aerospace. "We are eager to have the opportunity to show customers our strong commitment to bringing OEM-backed services to their doorstep. Tianjin Airport Economic Area's experience and strong leadership reinforce the fact that this is the right partnership that will lead to an amazing customer experience."

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12/1-17

The exhibition of Korean master of fine art

Date: Dec. 1 to 17 Venue: Western Art Gallery 天津西洋姜术馆 Add: 2F, No.79, Jie Fang Bei Road, Heping 和平区解放北路70号后楼2楼 Tel: 23303255







12/6

Shaoxing Opera Price: 380/280/180/120/80

越剧《柳永》 天津大剧院 歌剧厅

12/13

Soprano Solo Concert

静心聆听——王静个人音乐会

No.3 Youyl Bel Lu, Hext

Tel: 022-23263505 西岸艺术馆 河西区友谊北路3号

Culture Center, Pingjiang Dao, Hexi 天津大尉院 河西区平江道文化中心

12/7

Shaoxing Opera Price: 380/280/180/120/8

越剛 (玉蜻蜓) 天津大剧院 歌剧厅

Culture Center, Pingjiang Dao, Hexi 天津大尉院 河西区平江道文化中心

12/8

Lance Whitman Plano Solo Concert

月光梦幻曲——兰斯·怀特曼钢琴独姿 管乐会

No.3 Youyi Bei Lu, Hexi Tel: 022-23263505 和半世界館北朗西哥麦寶斯等網外馆



12/14

From Baroque to Romanticism - Tianjin Grand Opera Orchestra 2013-2014 Series No.5

Price: 180/150/120/80/50

从巴洛克风格到浪漫主义—天津歌剧院交响乐团(天津交响乐团)2013-2014系列 音乐会5 天津大剧院 音乐厅

Culture Center, Pingliang Dao, Hext Tel: 83882000 天津大尉院 河西区平江道文化中心

12/14

Stage Drama Price: 180/120/80/50

小剧场话剧(彼岸) 天津大剧院 多功能厅

Culture Center, Pingjiang Dao, Hexi Tel: 83882000 天津大尉院 河西区平江道文化中心

12/21 简介: 一所名为"被岸"的公寓。一群 想要到达彼岸的年轻人, 一座以为是被 岸的城市。一股寻找彼岸的旋程。彼岸 到底在瞩儿? 也许过河上岸? 也许回头 Chinese lute solo concert Price: 280/180/120/80/50

李光祖琵琶独奏音乐会 天津大副院 音乐厅

Culture Center, Pingjiang Dao, Hexi Tel: 83882000 天津大副院 河西区平江道文化中心

12/24

Christmas Eve Concert Price: 280/180/120/80/50

平安夜-世界经典名歌合唱音乐会 天葬大崩院 音乐厅 演出:中央音乐学院音乐教育学院合

Culture Center, Pingjiang Dao, Hexi Tel: 83882000 天津大鼠院 河西区平江道文化中心

12/27

Jazz Night

摇摆劈士衣——大提琴、萨克斯、钢琴合奏爵士音乐会

No.3 Youyi Bei Lu, Hexi 西岸艺术馆 河西区友谊北路3号



12/27-29

La Dame aux camélias

威尔第歌剧《茶花女》 天津大剧院 歌剧厅

Culture Center, Pingjiang Dao, Hexi Tel: 83882000 天津大剧院 河西区平江道文化中心

12/29 Tianjin New Year Concert by GERMAN HAMBURG SYMPHONY ORCHETRA

Venue: Tlanjin JIN WAN Grand Theatre

Add: 4F, Tianjin JIN Wan Plaza 津湾广场4楼 Tel: 23219966/23219969







12/28

Kun Opera

似水流年——西岸昆曲清唱会

No.3 Youyl Bel Lu, Hexi 西岸艺术馆 河西区友谊北路3号



12/30

2014 New Year Concert by Vienna Orchestra

维也纳管弦乐团2014年新年音乐会 指挥: 拉斐尔·施卢瑟伯格 演出: 维也纳管弦乐团 简介: 新年之际录听施特劳斯家族的图舞曲,已经逐渐成为中国观众的一种习惯。 由维也纳本土音乐家组成的维也纳管弦乐团简多次来净,高超的技术、多彩的音 乐、原汁原味的演奏风格让人难忘!

是岸? 也许…

Culture Center, Pingliang Dao, Hext Tel: 83882000 天津大尉院 河西区平江道文化中心

FEATURE FEATURE



"由于我们在圣诞节都要上班,只能把庆祝活动放到下班以后。我们会邀请同事和朋友及他们的家人到家里吃圣诞大餐,交换礼物。去年我们还买了"圣诞炮竹",它能发出炮竹的声音但并不是真的炮竹。在建华的学校和办公室,我们会悬挂圣诞装饰,同事之间互换礼物。每年我们都和其他几个慈善机构一起组织一场圣 in China

By David Wong, Paula Taylor

中国特色的圣诞节

在北美地区、当你听到商场里开始播放圣诞歌曲、你就知道圣诞节要来了。一 夜之间,大街小巷都穿上了节日的盛装。商店里的服务员都装扮成圣诞老人的模样 招摇赋客。而在中国,临近圣诞节的时候外面也是同样的景象。中国人对圣诞节的 狂热丝毫不逊色于世界其他国家的人。在所有的圣诞庆祝方式中, 互送礼物是中国 人最为热衷的, 所以商家们都在圣诞节期间大力促销。很多中国人不知道圣诞节的 起源,只认为这是个圣诞老人发礼物的日子。

很多在中国的北美企业都没有圣诞假期。他们只能在圣诞节之后的那个周末来 庆祝节日(今年的12月25日是周三)。那些没有孩子或没有假期回国的外国人可 以考虑在中国庆祝这个节日。这个时候不会有公共长假期间汹涌的人流,春运也还 没有开始,你可以趁这个时间旅旅游。各个餐厅酒店也会推出圣诞大餐,不但有美 食还有礼品, 让你有的吃有的拿!

我们一直以来都非常关心的建华基金会每年也会推出圣诞庆祝活动。Carol Woodward女士向我们介绍了建华基金会是如何在天津庆祝圣诞节的。

挂圣瓷装饰, 同事之间互换礼物。每年我们都和其他几个鼓笔机构一起组织一场圣 **凝晚会。我们的孩子们会表演很多节目,向家长展示他们一年来的学习成果和才**

即使在外国人中间也不是每个人都特别拿圣藏节当回事儿。因为圣诞节是一个 宗教节日,非基督教人士往往不会特别庆祝。但是有些人虽然自己不过节,却会花 很多心思让周围人拥有一个完美的圣诞节,在天津从事酒店管理的乌里干布就是这 样的一个人。他自己是土耳其裔的澳大利亚人,信奉的是清真教,妻子是马来西亚 人,信奉佛教。他们在家并不庆祝圣诞节,但是他的成长和工作环境让他很了解圣 诞节的意义以及不同国家的庆祝方式。他说: "相比于圣诞节,新年对我家来说是 个更大的节日。我们会请很多亲朋好友来家里拷肉庆祝。"我很欣赏他口中的"圣 诞精神"。"我会邀请在新年不能回家团圆的'孤儿们'来我家一起跨年,希望他 们不会感到孤单。我们不想让任何人落单"乌里干布说道。

作为一个酒店的总经理, 乌里干布同样要为他的客人们花费心思, 呈现一个独 一无二的圣诞节。如何布置酒店,举办什么新额的活动让大家参与进来,怎么让孩 子乐在其中, 他的目标就是要让客人们度过一个欢乐的圣诞时光。

作为一个外国人,在中国生活的这段时间本身就是值得珍藏的记忆。这段经历 一定伴随着开心和不开心的回忆。但糟糕的事情会随着时间慢慢变漫。留下的都是 愉快的时光。而某个在天津度过的圣诞节一定也是其中一个有趣的片段。虽然圣诞 节每年只有一次,但希望你每天拥抱"圣诞精神",做有意义的事,对身边的人报 以微笑。这些事情是中国人倍加珍惜的,所以你不妨问问自己。我对中国人来说是 怎样一份礼物呢?

n Canada and the United States, you know Christmas is near when you hear Christmas Carols playing in the shopping malls and Christmas decorations and store keepers are dressed with Santa Claus outfits, usually by late November after the USA Thanksgiving Day, What about China?

Christmas is the major holiday of the Western countries and celebrated by gift giving, decorations, Christmas meals and singing Christmas carols. It started as a Christian celebration in the 1700's and was referred to "Christ's mass". It then became Christmas, and celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ on December 25.

This holiday became popular as a public holiday in the United States by the late 1800's and evolved into a commercial event. From this developed a character called Father Christmas, also named Saint Nicholas and in Dutch, Sinterklaas, which the Americans Anglicized to 'Santa Claus' 圣诞老人 Sheng Dan Lao Ren.

Nowadays, the religious celebrations are still held in Christian churches, holding Christmas mass and Nativity pageants commemorating the birth of Christ. But the majority of people will look to Christmas as a holiday at the end of the year, with Boxing Day as a holiday following Christmas and stretching to New Years Day, almost ten days similar to the Chinese Spring Festival, And also similar to China, businesses will basically close for this period with the exception of retailing. What about in China during Christmas?

Similar to North America, we are starting to hear Christmas carols being played in shopping malls and hotel lobbies. The idea of gift giving during Christmas is becoming popular and retailers are all for promoting Christmas sales during this period. Most of my Chinese friends do not know the origin or meaning of Christmas just that it is a holiday with Santa Claus giving gifts.

There is no holiday for North American companies operating in China. So it is business as usual, expats will likely celebrate Christmas dinners on the following weekend since December 25th falls on a Wednesday this year. Most expat children will be off for the Christmas period because the International schools observe the holiday. Most families will take advantage of this and book their vacations to return

home celebrate Christmas and New Years with their relatives

If you are an expat in China that doesn't have kids in school or do not have enough vacation to return home, this would be a good time to consider a holiday in China or within the region. You will not encounter the huge crowds of Chinese tourists that are prevalent during local holidays such as the recent National Day or upcoming Spring





International hotels will promote Christmas dinners and New Years Dinners featuring gifts and prizes and some even have a quest appearance from Santa.

Traditional Christmas dinners feature a roasted turkey with stuffing, usually breadcrumbs or rice with chestnuts. The stuffing is slow cooked in the cavity of the turkey for several hours and absorbs the flavor of the turkey. Each family has its unique recipe.

Other unique Christmas dishes are cranberry sauce, pumpkin pie and ginger bread cookles or ginger bread houses. I have seen all of this available in China but very seldom see Christmas pudding or plum

> pudding. It is a dry pudding with dried fruits and nuts preserved in brandy or rum and very sweet. Most likely because of the sweetness, this

> > pudding is not popular in China since the Chinese palate is not sweet as westerners, Turkey also not regarded preferred meat in China compared to chicken, duck or goose.

Franz Geyling's memories of the Club Concordia at Christmas in 1937



"Perhaps the most significant festivity in the German-speaking community in Tientsin was the celebration of Christmas at the school, the social club and, last but not least, at home. Preparations would get underway with the beginning of November and always included some stage productions by the school children of the German club. The subject of the plays always revolved around the Christmas theme. The stage setting involved angels, dwarves and biblical figures galore. The overall direction [sic] was usually the music teacher, and practices were mandatory. Costume design and fabrication was left to the imagination of the various ladies (my mother was always enthusiastically involved) while the fathers constructed the sets. The calibre of the landscape painting was outstanding. Occasionally the ambitions of the set designers overreached themselves, as for example one year's production included a live donkey which could not control nature's call. Over the years I acted as elf, shepherd, wise man and some other mythical figures. The whole German community watched the performances, even the bachelors, who frequented the bar at the club. The traditional Christmas carols were sung by all present, and a cookie and cake party followed."



FEATURE



You may recall an earlier Jin Magazine article about the Jian Hua Foundation. A charitable organization with several projects in China, the largest "cluster" is in Tianjin and has over a dozen expat associates. We contacted Ms. Carol Woodward, leader of the Tianjin cluster and asked her about their operations during Christmas. (Carol is from USA and has been in China for over ten years.)

Jin: How will you personally spend this Christmas?

Carol: It is not a holiday for Jian Hua Foundation, so we will be working as usual; most of the expats are teachers and will be working. Our local church will have the usual Christmas mass and special Sunday service.

Jin: How will the staff at JianHua celebrate Christmas?

Carol: Some staff will have a Christmas dinner at home and invite colleagues, expats and local staff with families to exchange gifts and share a Christmas meal, but likely nothing too formal. Last year we had some "Christmas crackers" (a form of noise maker like firecrackers but no lighting or fireworks, just the sound) and someone brought some "British Cake" (see above description of pudding). These were brought by a colleague that just returned from England, not sure what we will have this year.

Jin: Is there anything special prepared at the offices and schools?

Carol: We will have some decorations and probably have a gift exchange between the staff. No special event will be held at the office

and schools of Jian Hua but the Foundation will sponsor an annual pageant that is organized by us but will include several other organizations.

Carol is being modest, I looked at the photos and newsletter of last year's event and it was an impressive pageant performed by the students and staff of several local charity organizations, coordinated by Jian Hua Foundation. There were several different dances and performances by the children, parents and teachers. The theme last year was "We Stand Together" and the photos show a wonderful event. I know I will be there this year.

This year's event will be held Saturday December 14 at 7PM at Legend Wedding Hotel, Nan Kai Qu Cang Qiong Dao 8 Hao. The tickets are free and you can contact Jian Hua Foundation at Tel: 022-2392 6614 or email: jhf.specialkids@ihf.china.org

Jin: Thank you Carol and we wish you and the Foundation a successful event and Merry Christmas.

Carol: Thank you and Happy Holidays to Jin and all your readers.

It was obvious from our discussion that Carol has adjusted to living in China and celebrating western holldays and traditions is not a major Issue. No use trying to live a way of life that may not be available here. Most of us that have been in China have accepted this or else we would not still be here.

The Chinese have a saying equivalent to our "When in Rome, do as the Romans do" It

Just try to enjoy it and don't complain too much, they may not have Christmas pudding but the Gou Bu Li Bao Zi 狗不理包子 are great when they are hot from the steamer.

is "Ru Xiang Sui Su"入乡随俗 literally it means "when entering a local place, follow the crowd". Good advice, so you don't try to change the world.

So although the Christmas carols started playing in October and usually at several decibels higher than we are used to, and decorations are sometimes hung backwards or have been around longer than normal; and no one knows what why we celebrate Christmas – just accept it and use the often overused phrase: "It's China". Just try to enjoy it and don't complain too much, they may not have Christmas pudding but the Gou Bu Li Bao Zi 狗不理包子 are great when they are hot from the steamer.

CHRISTMAS? BAH HUMBUG!

I can scarcely believe that it is that time of year again, Christmas has crept up with frightening speed. It is at times like this that we realise yet another year is almost under our belt. Anything that happens at this time of year has added poignancy, particularly those big happenings like births, deaths and marriages.

Have you found that being away from home has made you more patriotic, more nostalgic for familiar holidays and festivities? Many people fondly remember things that previously they didn't particularly care for, for instance if I go into an import shop, particularly in Beijing where they tend to have a few English foods, I whoop with delight when I see a brand from back home, even if I never used to eat it because I didn't like it.

Some people get quite teary eyed at the thought of spending Christmas or Thanksgiving here, obviously because they are far away from family and friends. If you are staying here during the Christmas period do you try to have Christmas festivities here? Can you find everything you need, or do you feel that it is not worth the bother as it is so different from what you are used to?

Christmas - you either love it or hate it and unfortunately the commercial aspect reigns supreme. I am in the hate it brigade. I have very clear memories of my mother uttering dire warnings a few days before Christmas, that when she was a child she was grateful for a few tangerines and nuts in her Christmas stocking, not like us Ingrates that got too much, and that Father Christmas does not come to naughty children like me. By the time Christmas actually arrived I was so afraid of ending up with nothing, that even a few tangerines and nuts would have been welcome. Christmas is stressful for kids too! I also remember partially waking up when Santa was delivering my presents and being amazed that he looked a lot like my dad.

I think people here have a strange idea as to what the Western idea of Christmas is. For instance many do not actually know why many Westerners celebrate Christmas, I say many Westerners, because not everybody celebrates it. Many people here know that Christmas is a time when people put decorations up, set up a Christmas tree and give presents. They also know about Father Christmas, but that is about it. They think that as Father Christmas is a very important part of the equation he must be accorded due respect. However few know the myths that



People are also unaware of the traditional idea that it is unlucky to leave trees and decorations up for too long, they are supposed to be taken down six days after Christmas.

have grown up around him i.e. that he is supposed to live in Lapland and that on Christmas Eve he sets off in his sledge to deliver presents to all the children all over the world. Hence he is a mysterious figure and there should only be one of him. However when my friends from England came to see me, they were surprised to see around ten Father Christmases standing together as part of a Christmas display in a street here. "Don't they know there is only supposed to be one?" they asked. Yes indeed if a little child who still believed in Father Christmas saw that lot, they would have had their little illusions shattered. The other problem was it was not even Christmas, it was well after that in the middle of January! People are also unaware of the traditional idea that it is unlucky to leave trees

and decorations up for too long, they are supposed to be taken down six days after Christmas. There are some shops and restaurants here that still have them up from last year. I asked someone about this and they said it is because they look pretty so it would be a shame to take them down. Maybe they looked pretty when they were first put up, but now almost a year later they are covered in dust and faded, they do not look pretty at all. think that any restaurant or coffee house that has not cleaned some areas since last year is best avoided. No doubt they think it is also very convenient, once again Christmas is almost upon us, but they have no need to prepare, they can continue to use last year's stuff. Also recently I had the strange experience of seeing the staff at a Pizza restaurant dressed in Halloween costumes. whilst they were playing Christmas songs, Perhaps they think that Western festivals are all the same and for convenience sake they can be melded into one.

At Christmas time I receive many texts from Chinese friends wishing me a happy Christmas. I think it is really sweet of them that although they don't really understand Christmas, they still think of me. Part of their texts always contain the thought that they feel sorry for me being so far away from home and family at this time. They say things like "Merry Christmas! Don't you miss your family? You must be very lonely, your parents must really miss you, how are they coping? I must say that I don't always appreciate receiving such texts reminding me of my poor abandoned parents and siblings.

FEATURE

Getting back to my Christmas preparations, I have none, hence being here is very convenient. So we have some people that celebrate it and have preparations to make, others like me that give it a miss, and still others that do not technically celebrate it, but have to make preparation so that others can enjoy it. Once such person is Lee Kanbur. the General Manager of a five star hotel in Tianiin. His family is quite diverse, being Turkish, but they emigrated to Australia. He is a Muslim and his wife is Malaysian and a Buddhist so they don't really celebrate Christmas in their house. He said "When I was a child growing up in Turkey, my family was sponsored by a Christian couple to go to Australia, and so through them and my many other Christian friends | knew all about Christmas. I met my wife when we were both working for a hotel in Kuala Lumpur. She was the PR Manager and I was the Food and Beverage Director. My wife also studied in the UK and so she obviously knows what Christmas is all about. We never had a Christmas tree in our house, and our family tradition is more like the Turkish culture, we give gifts on New Year's Eve.

I have noticed that in some Asian countries they have a countdown at Christmas and have fireworks etc. They don't do that at Christmas in the West". This again I think is a mistaken idea as to how Westerners celebrate Christmas. Lee continued 'At New Year I go back to either Australia or Malaysia, and wherever I am we have open house. We have a huge barbecue and everyone is welcome to come, the house is always full of family and friends". Then Lee told me something which I think shows a very generous spirit, and, although it is not Christmas that he celebrates, still he manifests what people like to call the Christmas spirit, he said "I also like to invite "Orphans" to celebrate with my family, that is people who are separated from their own families and who at this time of year would be feeling particularly lonely. We do not like to leave anyone out. Also I really feel that we should help others that are less fortunate, and so my family and I send money to Turkey to pay for a goat or two, the goats are sacrificed and then the meat is distributed to those who need it".

Apart from his family's non-Christmas celebrations, Lee's job means that it is vital the hotel is a welcoming place and makes guests feel as though they are in a home-from-home. If they are in Tianjin and away from their country and family, making sure that they have a good Christmas is all part of the hotel's plan. Hence at this time of year Lee is extremely busy putting the finishing touches



Leave your mark
here, leave the
local people with a
good impression
of you, although
Christmas comes
but once a year,
have the
"Christmas spirit"
every day and try
to do something
worthwhile, even
if it is only smiling
at the person who
sweeps the streets.

to events that have been months in the planning. He told me some of the arrangements. One of the plans is to have a huge gingerbread house, although it will not be a traditional type house. They plan to feature one of the mansions from Wu Da Dao. Of course the reason behind this is not just for aesthetic purposes, but rather a desire to help their chosen charity. Another plan is to have a Christmas tree for which the guests, for a donation to the charity, will be able to choose a Christmas ball to put on the tree and write down a wish.

The hotel reception will also be a very welcoming place and guests will be able to partake in various activities. Even the hotel's Chinese restaurant is going to attempt to cook Christmas fayre, but with a Chinese twist, so it seems that no-one will be left out. The kids will be delighted to find out that there will be a candy wonderland, although their parents may not be so delighted. Yes despite the fact that Lee doesn't celebrate Christmas, he wants to make sure that those of you that do will have a wonderful time at his hotel.

People say that Christmas should also be a time to reflect about others that are less fortunate than us. One of the reasons I don't like Christmas is that my mother made me think about people starving in Africa just before serving up the Christmas dinner, which was guaranteed to take away my appetite, and she also reminded me several times throughout Christmas Day that I had too many toys and that some kids didn't even have shoes to wear. Actually my mother didn't only tell me this on Christmas Day, it was almost her daily litany, so I hoped that for one day at least I would be spared thinking about the less fortunate, however she was even more vocal then, so Christmas was a time to

However now I am all grown up, I think my mother was right, we should think about those less fortunate than ourselves, and right now every day my thoughts and prayers are with the poor people in the Philippines who have just gone through that terrible typhoon. Many Filipinos celebrate Christmas, but this year will be a terrible one for many of them. I expect you too have kept them in your thoughts.

Going back to Christmas preparations. how are yours coming along? We have many fine import shops selling a wide range of imported goods here so you should be able to find most things that you need, and if not, this is where using your imagination and improvising will stand you in good stead. Obviously it is not the bits and pieces and the food that makes people think they are celebrating Christmas, or is it? Some of you will see Christmas as a secular festival and so maybe these things are important. For those of you that have children, that will probably be the biggest reason that you will want to keep Christmas intact with all the trimmings. because so doing will make home seem a little

Perhaps the most difficult part in Christmas improvisation will be finding suitable gifts and this is not as easy as it sounds. Just veering off the subject a little, we sometimes have problems buying things here, but so do Chinese people when they buy things abroad. As an example, several friends went to Hong Kong and purchased iPads, as they are a lot cheaper there. They then found that the plugs are English style so to use them on the Mainland requires also buying adaptors. They happily used them in Hong Kong and didn't realise until they came back here that there was a problem. Actually one or two complained that they found it confusing to change the setup from English to Chinese. Yet another friend had a problem with a smartphone that she purchased abroad, but which developed a fault when she returned to the Mainland. With no after care service In place here she was left with the problem of having to get It repaired at her own expense. So my point is, it is not easy for any of us!

You may by now have realised that you don't necessarily have to do a lot of hard work sourcing Christmas paraphernalia when so many hotels and restaurants provide Christmas already prepared. It is at this kind of time that it will hit you that Tianjin is really a great place to live, and it has definitely come out of the shadow of its bigger and richer cousin, Beljing. If you don't really have an idea about what to do and what to buy etc. then you definitely need to check out Dr. Jin our companion small magazine, which contains a lot of information about what is on offer here. We have done the hard work so you don't have to.

Our wonderful International Schools, as no you are surely well aware, are also busy with their preparations and they are doing a great job in helping the students to realise that Christmas is not all about receiving gifts. No doubt the teachers are glad of the chance of the long hollday to head off home and celebrate with their families. I don't go home at this time, I go home in the summer when the heat and the mosquitoes combine forces to drive me away. It seems strange talking about heat and insects now, summer seems

so far away.

If you are staying here and are not too happy about it, think about the consumer madness that will be going on back home. Every year the British government advises people not to get into debt to finance Christmas. The shops there have been selling Christmas stuff for months and when I think of the frenzied buying and how there is nothing of the sort going on here, it really feels quite strange. My friends regularly send me emails telling me about how the shops, streets and public transport are hell, and that makes me even more glad that I am here.

However it has to be remembered that we endure something similar at Spring Festival, although I think one good aspect of Spring Festival is that, although they do give gifts, they don't bankrupt themselves in order to do so, and they usually only give gifts to family and extremely close friends. A gift will be presented to a family from a family, there is no requirement to present each person with an individual gift. I like the fact they have the right idea, that the festival is mainly an occasion to get together for precious family time.

Yes it is definitely strange being on the other side of the world, which is mostly celebrating Christmas, when it largely passes people by here. Whatever your views, whatever your plans, being able to have the privilege to come to China and live here should be something that we are grateful for, as for most people, we have been handed a one-off once in a life time opportunity. One day most of you will go home and you will take with you many wonderful and not so wonderful memories. In time the bad memories and experiences will pale and you will fondly remember being in Tianjin as one of the most interesting phases in your life. No doubt you will long remember how you prepared for Christmas and how you spent it here. Time is indeed more precious than money. Once spent money can be made again, money can come back. Time, once spent is gone forever, likewise when you leave here you may never have another opportunity to come back. Leave your mark here, leave the local people with a good impression of you. although Christmas comes but once a year. have the "Christmas spirit" every day and try to do something worthwhile, even if it is only smiling at the person who sweeps the streets. Things like that are remembered and treasured by Chinese people, who don't have Christmas, but they do have us, temporarily that is. Maybe you can ask yourself; this question: What kind of gift am I as far as local people are concerned?



伊森好商机

好商机的定义是满足供需标准,在特定的时间地点做没有人做的生意。伊森·格兰特在奥域就有这样的一家不只实咖啡的咖啡屋。咖啡屋名叫Wonoman,意思是无需男人的世界。他们与众不同的地方是室内所有的一切都有价签,可以出售。如果你喜欢这个咖啡杯,立即可以买回家。伊森告诉我他想通过不断更新家具和装饰让这个咖啡屋的格调不断变化。

我觉得伊森的营销理念十分有新意,并且也有幸了解一点他本人的故事。他是美国人,但是熟您已经在全球转过了一遭。第一次我去他家店的时候,他竟然在说韩语。他告诉我他父母是韩国的大学老师,他从小在韩国长大,可以说流利的韩语。正因为如此,他在韩国相当于中国的"大山"。他在广州住过十年,有位中国妻子和六岁的女儿。刚刚到天建俩个月,他就已经开始用自己的方法融入当地生活。

此前他做过时装的生意,这就是为什么咖啡店里还出售质量上好的羊毛大衣和很多时尚配饰。所有的服装都是韩国进口的,他之后还想从美国和英国进口更多的服装。我很喜欢他这种少而精的服装销售概念,从来不贪图很高的交易额。纸杯蛋糕十到十八元不等。我从来不吃纸杯蛋糕,总觉得它们太甜了受不了。但是伊森家的纸杯蛋糕十分美味,就连觉得西方甜点过甜的中国顾客都觉得不错。这些蛋糕的外观十分诱人,我朋友觉得蛋糕太漂亮了不舍得吃。

有新意的生意可以招揽客户,但是这还远远不够。伊森很聪明的把蛋糕店,咖啡屋,家具店,时装店等功能合并成一家精品店;而且每个部分都做得十分出色。这里的咖啡很不错,纸杯蛋糕也越来越受欢迎。他们的开放式厨房可以让顾客看制作纸杯蛋糕的全过程。这里的家具也都是精心挑选放置进来的。服装部分更不用说,十分精心考究。质量很不错。

伊森希望在天津开更多家这样的咖啡屋。我相信分店一定会像这家一样成功。在这么短的时间内咖啡店已经建立了自己的客户群,我觉得用不了多长时间伊森戴会发现自己店太小了,而粉丝太多了。你一定听说过精品酒店吧,那么伊森的这家店便是精品咖啡屋了。

A COFFEE AND A CUP(CAKE)

By Paula Taylor



good business opportunity is one that A fills the supply and demand criteria. The best business opportunity is something that no-one else is doing at that moment in that place. Cue Ethan Grant who has a coffee shop at Magnetic Capital (Ao Cheng). Actually I shouldn't really describe his establishment as a coffee shop, as it is so much more than that. For instance the name, Wonoman (WM) has a story behind it, it was originally supposed to be a café for women, no men needed, so it is a play on words, woman-no-man. Do we need another coffee shop at Magnetic Capital, as we are not short of them there? This place is very different. For a start he is offering cupcakes with your coffee. Absolutely nobody else has thought of that idea there. For another thing, his place is also selling a lifestyle. He sells fashion and "things". Everything can purchased. If you like the cup you are drinking from why not buy it? If you like the chair you are sitting in, buy it and take it home with you. As we sat at our table drinking coffee my friend noted that the table had a price tag on it. Ethan told me that he plans to keep everything fresh and new by selling the furniture and buying new pieces so that the shop will always look different.

As this concept is cutting edge here, I was interested to find out a bit more about Ethan. He is originally from America but seems to have been wandering the globe a long time. The first time I went to his shop he was talking fluent Korean to a colleague, which was really confusing as the colleague was Chinese and Ethan can speak Chinese too. I sensed that there must be yet another story behind this, and he told me that he grew up in Korea as his parents were university teachers. Because of his skill with the Korean language, as a child he was quite famous, regularly appearing on Korean TV. In fact he was the Korean equivalent of Da Shan, the Canadian man famous for his excellent Mandarin and cross-talk skills. I can see that it must have been fascinating for them to have a Western child speak Korean like a native. Korean is notoriously difficult to master as they have different words depending on who you are speaking to, age and status needs to be taken into account. Chinese is a little like that but Korean is much more so, hence when learning Korean you have to learn several sets of words. Ethan has also lived in Guangzhou for ten years and has a Chinese wife and a six year old daughter. He arrived in Tianjin just two months ago and is currently dazzling the locals with his eclectic style.

Although he reminds me of a king

presiding over his very own small kingdom, I think it must be impossible to find a more laidback businessman. The shop is filled with bric-a-brac and memorabilia which reflect his many travels. I felt very nostalgic looking at all the bits and pieces from England.

I asked him why he decided to come to Tianjin and he told me that his partner's wife is from Tianjin and she suggested it would be a good place to open his café. Previously he was in the fashion business and that is why the café also sells very good quality clothing like pure new wool coats and a host of stylish accessories. In keeping with the Korean connection, all the dothes are from Korea and he has plans to go to the States and England and import fashions from there. I liked the fact that he does not want to do deals with big fashion houses, he wants to keep everything small and individual. Ethan has some radical ideas on what kind of food he wants to offer quests in the future and he has lots of ideas for the shop itself, in fact WM looks set to get more and more interesting as time goes on.

Thus WM will appeal to many people on several levels. It also has the added attraction of being a little cheaper than most coffee shops and his cupcakes are priced from 10rmb for an ordinary cupcake, to 18rmb for a fancy decorated one. I had never eaten cupcakes before, I always avoided them as they look too sickly sweet, but I have to say that Ethan's are delicious and even my Chinese friends liked them. This is a big deal as Chinese people think our deserts are far too sweet. In fact one of my friends said that her cake was too pretty to eat, she wanted to keep it. She had to satisfy herself by taking its picture, as you do.

People here like new things so they will be attracted by that, but newness in itself is not enough to sustain regular business. Another attraction of this shop is its sheer differentness. Is it a coffee shop, a cake shop, a furniture shop,

In fact one of my friends said that her cake was too pretty to eat, she wanted to keep it. She had to satisfy herself by taking its picture, as you do.



or a clothes shop? It is all of these and more. Ethan has cleverly managed to combine all these functions without any one of them being compromised. They are all separate entities, but one entity, if that is not a contradiction. The coffee shop part is definitely a coffee shop, offering very fine coffee. The cupcake side of the business is already popular and the kitchen is very easy on the eye and in open view. Many restaurants hide their kitchens but WM are quite proud of theirs and they have nothing to hide. If you want to watch the cupcake making process you are quite welcome to. The fumiture and furnishings are all so different to what you can see elsewhere, it is obvious that a lot of time and effort has been spent on choosing each piece. It is a very surprising place and if you are looking for an unusual gift. this is a good place to start. The clothing section has not been neglected and everything is of a very high quality. There is no need to ask if the shoes and boots are leather, as you have to do in other places, of course they are leather.

Ethan expects to open other shops across the city in due time and I am sure that they will be just as successful as this one already seems to be, having already established a regular clientele in such a short space of time. It will be exciting to see what kind of menus they finally come up with, and although Ethan told me a few ideas of his, I don't want to spoil it for you, it is best if you go along and see for yourself. I suspect it will not be too long before Ethan finds that the current premises are too small for his growing fan base. In answer to my original question, do we need another coffee shop at Ao Cheng? Yes Indeed. You no doubt have heard of boutique hotels, well Ao Cheng now has its very own boutique coffee shop.

BUSINESS BUSINESS

4DX电影走进天津市场

随着电影里男主角坠落在一个神秘的宇宙空间,影厅的座椅就如地置般剧烈地震动,大力神都连躲闪着火 球,座椅里的内置层动条拍打着现众的背部,屋顶的额内灯发出闪电般的强光,大风扇吹出的风使空气中弥漫着 烟雾和火药味。这些电影特效就是出现在4DX版本的《雷神2》中。这就是量近我在天津东马路乐天百货而层的

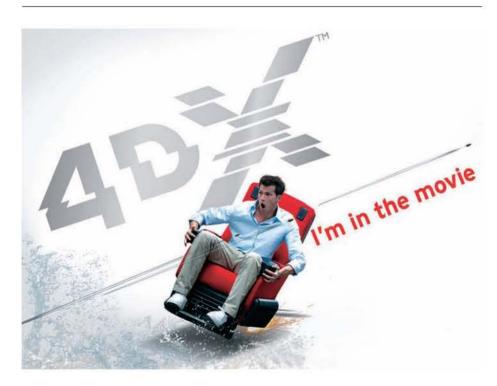
一个好的影院能更传神岩达电影内容,和一部好电影相得益影。你可以舒适地坐在柔软的精子里,鵩上放着 一罐香甜的爆米花,环绕声音响系统在耳际众音缭梁,这一刻对于很多人来说都是美好时光。

目前是。4DX现在在韩国开设有13家。北京鸟巢旁边的CGV旗舰店成为中国国内首家拥有4D影厅的专业电 影院,另外与2011年开幕的CGV天津东马路影城和2012年开幕的CGV沈阳中街影城都拥有这样的4DX影厅。 4DX电影票的价格在韩国约为12美元,在天津的票价为140元人民币,会员卡特有人可享受优惠。

4DX是在世界首次亮相的未来型4D影厅。4D电影是超越3D电影,带来生动和多样感官体验的电影效果。在 放映电影的同时,影厅内的设备会根据电影中的情况提供多种特殊效果。通过刮风、喷香、喷水、座椅上下,前 后,左右摇动、灯光等特殊效果。即使是座椅摇晃也会模拟到船在海上飘荡,过山车翻腾的失重,寝车的风驰电 型的感觉: 气味、除了最被人害爱的有花香、咖啡味、还有在爆炸场景时配合到的火药味、安装在影厅顶部的频 闪灯可以橡拟闪电。爆炸的强光效果。除了顶部风扇模拟出的自然风之外,还有前转麻椅小孔喷射出模拟子弹从 脸旁接过的气流。4D电影将100多年来银幕内的虚拟世界和银幕外真实世界的界限开始被打破, "看电影"是以 一个旁观者的角度去看,去听,而在CGV的4DX影厅是以第一人称的"我自己"到电影院用全身感受电影:电影 里的风会将你的长发吹起。电影里汹涌的波涛会弄薄你的衣裳。电影的花香阵阵会将你醉倒…

当然必须说明的是,这种刺激的经历并不适合每一个人。心脏病,背部疼痛的患者,孕妇,身高低于一米的

4D CINEMA



■ ust recently I had even more proof that ■ Tianiin is really keeping up with technology as far as the rest of the world is concerned. 4DX cinema has arrived! I took a trip to the CGV cinema at the top of the Lotte Mall at Dong Ma Lu, and was pleasantly surprised by the luxurious atmosphere. For the uninitiated 4DX cinema is where you are made to feel part of the action, which is

achieved by various things happening to you in your seat. I have to say it was a very realistic

The theatre itself is relatively small and this is quite deliberate, it makes the experience even more special. At 140 rmb the tickets are not cheap, but if you buy a VIP card at 300 rmb, you will be able to watch 2D and 3D movies at the vastly reduced rate of 25

For the uninitiated 4DX cinema is where vou are made to feel part of the action, which is achieved by various things happening to you in your seat.

rmb, and you will also be able to buy 4DX movie tickets at a very low 50 rmb. If you are a regular cinema goer it will be worth your while to do this. I also think that the tickets being on the expensive side is a good thing, as after paving so much, only people who genuinely want to see the film will be there. Hopefully it will keep out those who are not really interested in watching the film. I have heard horror stories of Chinese cinemas. where some people smoke and many use their mobile phones as if they were the only ones there, thereby totally spoiling the film for others. However I am happy to report that in this cinema there is no unsociable behaviour.

As you walk into the entrance you will be given the 3D glasses, which are all nicely wrapped, this was a relief as I always worry about who has been wearing them before me. My friend offered to buy me some refreshments and was relieved when I said I only wanted a bottle of water, priced at a reasonable 4 rmb. Other snacks and drinks range from the affordable to the luxury treat price, but if you are going to spend this much on a ticket, you may as well go the whole hog and enjoy the whole experience. There are several theatres in this complex and the films change on an extremely regular basis, so you will have to be sure to check what film is playing on the day you wish to go, as they may not be showing the films that they were playing the day before.

The actions films that are popular now are particularly suited to 4DX. The film I saw involved a scene with a giant stone man, when he walked the earth shook - and so did we. When the heroes were flying up through the universe, it seemed as if we did as well. Not only did our individual seats move, the whole section did. I thought at first that someone was kicking the back of my seat and

I kept turning around to look, but of course there was nobody kicking me. It took a while for me to realise that it was all part of the 4D effects. My friend kept on taking her 3D glasses off and I couldn't understand why. When I asked her, she said "Oh you can still watch the film without the glasses!" I patiently explained to her that the whole point of it is that you are made to feel part of the action, and if you watch 3D or 4D films as though they are normal 2D, you have totally wasted your money, you may as well just go and watch a 2D film.

As she did not understand the 4D concept, I wonder if others will, but strangely enough, this new technology is only widely available throughout Asia at the moment, there only seem to be limited theatres in Europe that are using this technology. Have you ever seen a 4DX movie in your country? If you have perhaps you can let me know. I would be interested to find out. In 2010 the first audiences to be Introduced to 4DX cinema were in Korea. They were quickly followed by Beijing, and after that many other Asian countries followed suit including Thailand and then Israel, Hungary, and in April of this year, Tokyo. Altogether worldwide there are 43 4DX cinemas.

Some countries are having advanced discussions about the possibility of having 4DX cinemas, and these include Australia, Canada and the US. Strangely enough the UK does not seem to figure in these plans and I wonder just what the criteria is.

In 2010 when 4DX first appeared, in that year alone audience figures reached 70 million. Just one year later that figure had grown to a 160 million, and by 2013 total

worldwide audience figures had reached a staggering 600 million.

Why is this cinematic experience so popular? Let us take a closer look at the special effects involved. Water effects such as mist and rain can be felt, although some people may not be particularly enamoured of this. Explosions fog and smoke seem to come through the screen, obviously this particularly suits action movies. Weather effects such as a gentle breeze or a storm can be felt from the comfort of your seat. Flashes of lightning from a thunder storm are just inches away. If you are watching a nice gentle film, sometimes bubbles fill the auditorium creating a fantastical atmosphere and a variety of scents and aromas can be smelt, In the film that I saw two characters were

I felt it was an interesting experience and if you choose the film carefully the expense is well worth it. I think it should be experienced at least once, and as the UK has no 4DX yet being in Tianjin has enabled me to see what all the fuss is about. If you want to go on a special date or just want to try something different and want to impress a friend, then take them to this cinema, they are sure to appreciate it, although as I said you need to choose the film carefully. If you are a fan of action or horror films and your companion is not, introducing them to this cinema medium may be a little too much for them as it is so full

The cinema management told us *Chinese people are not well acquainted with 4D movies yet but that will change in the near future. CJ4DPLEX is the only company which provides the full service that maximizes the value of the movie from properly programmed motion chairs and environment effects. The 4DX key slogan is "I'm in the movie" and most audiences agree. 4D is the core of the future film industry".

4DX is described as an absolute cinema experience and I would have to agree with this. I don't usually go to the cinema to watch films as I can't be bothered, I just wait until they come out on DVD, however this time I was glad that I made the effort. Hereafter sitting at home watching a DVD will never be the same again.

For more further Information, please consult Mr.Li Yuan Long (李元龙) by phone 132-4172-4250 or email: yongvic@cj.net





INVESTMENT

零里看花

在中国经商的这几年,我很少通过代理做生意。在制造业,这些代理基本上都是帮厂家寻找潜在客户,从中默取佣金。

如果你没有十足的把搵最好不要轻易找代理,因为这里可能会有很多你不了解的内幕。比如,他可能是某个厂家的亲戚朋友,所以如果发生纠纷,他只会站在厂家这一边。

有一次我在一个展会上认识一个代理,我们相谈甚欢并互留联系方式。过了一段时间,他联系我说有一批产品 根适合我们,问我是否有兴趣看一下,我当然欣然前往。他带我参观了一个陈列室,里面有各式各样的产品样品, 这样我可以亲眼看到我需要的样品,这通常是一个很好的预兆。

看到样品的种类那么齐全,我猜想这个厂家的规模和能力一定也错不了。量让我欣赏的是产品的加工非常精良,这在现在的市场上都很少见。但是,这个代理却说我不能参观工厂,只能由他在中间联络。我当然会拒绝这个提议,因为我必须确保工厂保证生产质量。这个代理的说法我简直阿所未闻!

看到我断然拒绝,这个代理就给了另一个提议。他让我们先签订一个协议,规定我们只能通过他来购买产品。然 后我们可以视察工厂,但是只能去一次。当然,这我也不能同意。最后他说,去工厂也行,但必须提前30天通知他。

我就恨不明白为什么事情要这么复杂,既然我跟他签了代理协议,我肯定会从他这里订货,那他为什么害怕我 去工厂呢?我的采购团队也对这个问题百思不得其解。于是我联系了美国商会和德国商会,相关产业的负责人最终 解答了我的橱间。

他们告诉我,如果代理提出这样的要求,说明他背后没有任何实体工厂。那些样品都是他从市场以很低的价格 买回来的二手琴部件,经过打磨加工后伪装成新产品。这就解释了为什么他们的成品看起来那么好。另外关于提前 30天通知的问题,这位商会人员说,因为这样他才能有足够的时间找一个厂家临时赶制出我要的产品。怪不得他愿 意给我这么低的折扣。就算我最后能发现这个陷阱,但其中浪费的时间和精力肯定是得不慢失的。

所以,总的来说,还是尽量不要和代理打交道,除非是自己认识的或者由可靠的人牵线搭桥。

The Agent and Showroom Illusion

t's been a while since I spoke to a manufacturing agent in China. For those who've never met a manufacturing agent, these agents are basically sales net-workers working on commission from factories to connect them to potential customers.

Now for those who've never dealt with them before, heed this warning. It is not an easy task to be taken lightly. The agents have track records of very shadowy business doing. In most cases they are more on the side of their manufacturer contacts than the client. It might be because the manufacturers are the ones who pay them or maybe because of allegiance or friendship or being a relative of some degree but the important thing is that they probably take the manufacturing plant side if for any reason a dispute arises between the parties.

I've been in contact with many agents through my experience but one of them caused an unusually large amount of hassle so I wanted to tell the story. I met the agent at an industrial fair during which we spoke about current business opportunities in China and we exchanged contact details to get together in the near future.

A couple of weeks later, I was contacted by

the agent asking me if I am interested in a special rate for components that I need for producing my finished product. Of course I was interested and was glad to meet him a couple of days later. I was further interested when I got there and he told me that we can visit a showroom containing samples of the product so I can see real examples of what I need. This is usually a good sign so I was optimistic.

When we reached the showroom, I was astonished by the extreme amount of different samples which usually pointed to the size and ability of the production facility. The product finish was also great and seemed much more sophisticated than products that I have seen so far in the market. I had the purchasing team with me and they themselves seemed very happy about the product.

BUT, there's always a catch, isn't there? I told the agent that he got our attention and I wanted to visit the facility. This is where I got the first shock. I was told that I can't visit the facility because the agent was working with them on a commission basis and so I will work with him and he will in turn work with the producer on a contract manufacturing basis.

Of course I rejected the idea because I level to make sure the factory can make the

need to make sure the factory can make the required product at the correct quality and the code followed has to abide to the requirements of the market to which I am exporting. What the agent was proposing was something that I have never heard before.

When I seemed annoyed by the idea and the purchasing team where already thinking about leaving the agent thought of another idea. He proposed that we sign a contract between myself and the agent that he will be the only point of contact between our company and the manufacturing company after-which we can visit the facility and freely discuss the technical aspects with the manufacturer during a one time only visit.

This was also not acceptable to me because I needed continuous access to the production facility in case there was any deviation or quality drop or modification that I would require or just to keep an eye on everything going on. This seemed to anger the agent but he appeared composed and thought of one more solution. He proposed that I get access to the facility upon informing him 30 days

I would have discovered the issue later of course through testing and performance trials but it would have been a long and tedious process with much time, money and effort lost in a pointless endeavor.

before the visit.

Again, this was too complicated for me and I just didn't understand why someone restricted my visit to the plant if I sign a partnership contract with him obliging me to buy through him only. Also I thought that the factory would honor the agreement and refuse to deal with me directly. In any case, I told him that we will study his offer and get back to him and the following day at the office we started studying the proposal and thought about it from various points of view.

We always stopped at the same question: why would the agent insist that I get a 30 day

permission in advance to visit the factory? Was he hiding something or was the factory hiding something that I wasn't supposed to know? Or didn't he trust us and feared that we would disclose details about the visit to some third party. This was a very difficult thing to understand in all cases so I decided to get some help.

I contacted the American Chamber of Commerce in Shanghai and spoke to a contact there who was recommended to me as a resource about such issues. I told her the whole story and she seemed interested in the part about the showroom and the agent and seemed even more interested when I reached the part about the permission to visit the factory.

When I got to that detail, she told me that she has a contact at the German Chamber of Commerce who had such an experience before and I should contact her to get some more information. So I contacted the German Chamber of Industry and Commerce in Beijing and spoke to the contact about my story and it was a bull's eyel

The chamber officer knew exactly what I was talking about the told me what the whole thing is about. It seemed like a very difficult thing to believe but it was logical as well. She told me that these agents are not always legit and sometimes they didn't have actual factories

to deal with and based their business model on the showroom. What they did was buy recycled or returned second rate products from the market at extremely discounted rates (nearly scrap pricing) and spend a bit more on finishing, paints, packaging and other easy to fake appearances to fool the customer into buying.

That explained why the finish was so much better than normal parts in the markets, it was because the whole product is fake and only the finishing was real so the agent could afford to spend more on finishing because he didn't spend much on the product itself. What I wanted to know was what he was going to do when I ask to see the factory even if I get to do so after 30 days.

She simply answered "he'll have time to fake it! When you go, the factory will actually be making prototypes for your product for just those hours you're there!" I was shocked by the simplicity by the answer. But it was actually very possible. I mean if a factory has the correct equipment, they can easily prepare a "demo!" of my product's manufacturing to show me that they are making it. I can do it in three weeks if I wanted to do so!

Of course once I understood that issue I was clear that the big discount I was going to get was for a severely lacking product and that the deal is off. I would have discovered the issue later of course through testing and performance trials but it would have been a long and tedious process with much time, money and effort lost in a pointless endeavor.

As a general piece of advice, try to avoid working with agents as much as you can and make direct contact with manufacturers if at all possible. If you have no other choice but to work through an agent, then make sure through strong contracts and through networked information that you're choosing the correct partner to avoid a long and painful process of correction down the path.

Of course I don't want to say that all agents are like that but it is always a good idea to be wary when you first meet an agent with a showroom who insists on keeping the manufacturing process out of bounds from your team since it is usually an indicator that something is wrong.

As for my agent, I sent him a brief emall saying that "we have studied your proposals and we find them incompatible with our company's ethical conduct" after which I didn't hear back from him so I think that brief message was both strong and clear.

Please send your comments and questions to Moe via moghareeb@gmail.com

The Profit Hunter® Dia

The Profit Hunter® Diary continues with more real-raw-unedited business & technology management and entrepreneurship digests from China and emerging markets brought to you by Moe "The Profit Hunter®"

PROMOTION

激情 热情 细节 挑战

众所周知,餐饮部是酒店运营的关键部门之一。而餐饮部总监这一职位,往往对整个酒店业缴起到至关重要的作用。最近,来自北京的刘彦俊先生作为餐饮部新任总监,正式加入天津君爵威斯汀酒店团队,期望再创佳缴。通过交谈得知,刘先生学习的是酒店管理专业。自1997年开始在北京某高级酒店客房都实习一年。由于客房部的性质很少直接接触到客人,而刘先生本人更愿意和客户面对面直接沟通。所以,经过一段时间的观察各部门运营情况,慢慢发现餐饮部比较适合自己的发展和兴趣,因为每天无时无刻都会与客户交谈。

順后,1998年实习期结束,刘先生正式进入北京Peninsula Palace的餐饮部开始工作。时至今日,已经有将近15年的从业经历。并且,先后曾经进入北京、深圳多家高端酒店工作。 其中,最令他感到自豪的是那段在北京东方君悦酒店等备处的工作经历。看着高楼一步步建成、从空空如也的大楼变成一家酒店,整个团队从只有一个人到几十人。

同时,我们还了解到2014天津君隆威斯汀酒店发展计划重点在于把平民消费带入星级豪华酒店。为了让高级酒店餐厅更加亲民、更加接地气,酒店团队集体讨论之后,进行升级菜单,菜单配备菜品图片,价格合理,并且添加30元金餐菜单等

酒店餐厅和本地餐厅在价格与硬件设施同样的基础之上,酒店还可以提供更多的附加服务,比如在中餐厅的 传统乐器表演等,希望带给客人与众不同的用餐体验。这样做的目的只有一个,就是让更多的消费者、或者说高 中低预算的消费者都可以在天津君能威斯汀酒店餐厅找到适合自己的菜品。



Passion, Enthusiasm, Detail, and Challenge

As we all know, the Food & Beverage Department can be crucial to the hotel business and the director of this team will be the key person taking the hotel business to a new level. Recently Mr. Robin Liu, a typical Beijing man with years of hotel experience joined The Westin Tlanjin and now is working with the whole team.

JIN: First of all, could you please introduce your working experience and tell us when you started your career in the hotel industry.

Robin: As you can recognize from my accent, I am a typical Beijinger and my major was hotel management when I was in school. In 1997, I started my hotel internship in the housekeeping department in Beijing. During the one year internship, I found that this position cannot allow me to meet hotel quests face to face often, because most of them were leaving or had not yet arrived when I was working. I prefer to interact with quests directly and after my observation of other departments, I discovered that the food & beverage department is what I wanted, because I would be able to talk to guests everyday. Therefore, I started to work in the Beijing Peninsula Palace officially after one year internship.

JIN: What is the biggest benefit you have received from the hotel industry so far?

Robin: I should say joining the pre-opening team of the Beijing Grand Hyatt extremely enriched my working experience. I was very proud of what I did and acquired a great sense of accomplishment. I saw that a building came from nowhere; empty rooms became comfortable guest rooms and a one person team developed into dozens of people.

JIN: What's your strategy in the food & beverage department at the Westin Tianjin?

Robin: We are planning to attract more guests next year, and we would like more local customers to come to the hotel restaurant, this is the key ambition for 2014. After the discussion among all departments in our hotel, we are confident and able to compete with local restaurants, no matter the price, menu, facilities, and faculty. As you can see, we have even added photos of the dishes on the menu with lower prices to make them clearer and easier for customers to order. Moreover, we also provide extra service with no extra charge, such as traditional instrument performances in the Chinese restaurant, etc. We hope to provide a wonderful dining experience and guarantee that there are a variety of options for every customer with

different budgets. Therefore, come and try our new menu, business lunch or 98RMB set menu.





ADD TEDA MSD No.62 2nd Avenue TEDA Tianjin Tel:6527-1111 Hrs:11:00-21:00(Restaurant 11:30-22:00)



Past events

2013 Fall Property Market Update and New Hotel Tour

Thursday, October 24 - The Ritz-Carlton Tianjin

On Oct 24th, AmCham China Tianjin hosted this Tianjin property market update with **Michael** Hart and **Durrell Mack** from Jones Lang LaSalle at the newly opened the Ritz-Cariton, Tianjin.

Hart and Durrell Mack from Jones Lang LaSalle at the newly opened the Ritz-Carlton, Tianjin.

30 audiences attended this event and shared their questions or observations with regards to the

presentation that analyzes the ongoing rapid development of the Tianjin real estate market featuring the construction and completion of new projects and traditional areas transformation.

Following the report, a tour of the new Ritz-Carlton Tianiin was arranged.

Upcoming events

2013 China Tax & Business Seminar: Challenges and Opportunities During Reform

2:00-5:00 PM, Friday, December 6 - Renaissance Tianjin Lakeview Hotel

AmCham China, Tianjin, in conjunction with European Chamber, German Chamber, Hongkong Chamber, Swiss Chamber and PricewaterhouseCoopers invite you to join this China Tax & Business Seminar.

During this event, we will bring together our leading professionals to share their insights and comments.

Highlights

- Steering clear of the "Mine Held" under Customs Valuation
- Tax and foreign exchange Issues of service fee remittance out of China after the implementation of Circular 40
- Transfer pricing intercompany service and year-end adjustment
- Tax considerations when handling equity transfer of a legal entity in Tianjin
- Impact of turnover tax reform to manufacturing companies and the possible response
- Update on the PRC social security, entry and exit administration laws and individual income Tax planing strategies

Please note: The speech will be given in Chinese. 此次活动语言为中文。 Speakers:

Kelvin Lee, Director, Tianjin, China Tax & Business Advisory Services PwC

普华永道天津中国税务及商务咨询总监,李志云先生

Zhanjun Wang, Senior Manager, Tianjin, China Tax & Business Advisory Services PwC

普华永道天津中国税务及商务咨询高级经理、王湛君女士

Sophia Li, Senior Manager, Tianjin, China Tax & Business Advisory Services PwC

普华永道天津中国税务及商务咨询高级经理,李迎女士

Peter Zhang, Senior Manager, World trade Management Services PwC

普华永道国际贸易服务高级经理,张阔先生

Frank Liu, Manager, Tianlin, Transfer Pricing Services PwC

普华永道天津转让定价服务经理,刘繁先生

Hao Dong, Manager, International Assignment Services PwC

普华永道个人税务咨询经理,董昊先生

Program:

2:00 - 2:30 PM: Registration and Networking 2:30 - 5:00 PM: Presentation and O & A

2:30 - 5:00 PM; Presentation and Q & A

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Conference Room 1+2, 2nd floor, Renaissance Tianjin Lakeview Hotel 万丽天津宾馆2楼会议室1+2

Bin Shui Rd, Hexi District, Tianjin

天津市河西区宾水道 Tel: 86-22-58223388

Registration:

Cardholding members pay in advance: RMB100

Cardholding members pay at the door: RMB100

Employee of member companies: RMB100

Non-members: RMB200

Registration deadline is at 12:00pm, Thursday, December 5.

Dialogue with the Tianjin Government & 2013 AmCham China Tianjin Annual Appreciation Reception

5:30 - 8:30 PM, Thursday, December 12 Renaissance Tianjin Lakeview Hotel

AmCham China Tianjin cordially invites you to attend this year's Dialogue with the Tianjin Government and the Annual Appreciation Reception on December 12 at the Renaissance Tianjin Lakeview Hotel. This is the Tianjin chapter's most important government relations event of the year. The evening will provide an opportunity for members to communicate with the Tianjin government officials on the current economic climate and development trends in Tianjin. It is an opportunity for the American business community in Tianjin to discuss issues and concerns. The event also provides an opportunity for members to meet with US Embassy officials and celebrate the achievements made this year.

This year, AmCham China President Mark Duval, who took the position in July, will attend the event. He will be joined by Patrick Wang, AmCham vice president for Government Affairs, and others from the Beijing Office. We have extended invitations to Tianjin Vice Mayor Ren Xuefeng and Dan Kritenbrink, Deputy Chief of Mission from the US Embassy.

Corporate Sponsors (limited to 10): Member Companies – RMB 9,000

Benefit

- -VIP room access for one representative
- One page advertisement on the AmCham China Tianjin's 2014 calendar
- -Table with 10 seats (AmCham China reserves one seat per table for a government official)
- Prime table position near stage and VIP tables
- Promotion backdrop next to the registration table (size:1.2m * 1.8m)
- Company logo on the backdrop at the stage area
- Company logo on the table cards and event program
- Company name mentioned in post-event write-up in Business Now and China Bulletin, plus logo inclusion in Business Now

Tables are reserved on a "first pay first serve" basis, so sponsors who pay in full first will be entitled to tables with the best seating.

Registration

Members advanced online payment RMB 450 Members at the door RMB 500 Employees of member companies RMB 600 Non members RMB 900

Address: Room2918, Exchange Tower 2, No. 189 Nanjing Rd, Heping District, Tianjin 300051

TEL: 86-22-23185075 Contact person: Amanda He amandahe@amchamchina.org Website: www.amchamchina.org



Past Event

1st German Chamber Soccer Cup Tianjin 2013 Sunday, October 20, 2013

Eight companies, 120 players, one champion – on Sunday, October 20, 2013 the German Chamber of Commerce invited Tianjin's business community to its largest event of the year: the 1st German Chamber Soccer Cup Tianjin attracted more than 250 spectators! Tianjin's local German companies Bauer, Continental, Siemens Mechanic United (a union of Siemens Mechanical Drive Systems & Winergy Drive Systems), Siemens Electrical Drives (SEDL), Stiebel-Eltron, Turck, Volkswagen and Würth challenged each other at the soccer fields of the International School of Tianjin (IST).

Winner of this spectacular tournament was the team of Würth which triumphed over Siemens SEDL in the final round with a total score of 2:1!

Besides the happening on the soccer field, Chinese and German visitors gathered together, enjoying the warm and sunny October day. Children played at the school playground with a bouncy castle while culinary specialties from the Chinese and German cuisine were served in the nearby picnic area. At the target shooting competition "Torwandschießen" every visitor could try his luck to win special prices.

For pictures and more information, please visit our website at: www.deutscher-kammerpokal-tianjin.de.





















Upcoming Events:

December 6, 2013: InterChamber Tax Seminar - Challenges and Opportunities During Reform, Renaissance Tianjin Lakeview Hotel December 8, 2013: German Christmas Market, The Astor Hotel Tianjin

December 10, 2013: Seminar - A Case Study on how to implement a Manufacturing Execution System (MES), NWS - Tianjin New Wei San Industrial Co., Ltd.

December 25, 2013: Kammerstammtisch Tianjin, Drei Kronen 1308 Brauhaus Tianjin

German Chamber Tianjin Office:Room 1502, Global Center, No. 309 Nanjing Road, Nankai District, Tianjin 300073

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TIANJIN HR CLUB



HR CLUB Training: Deep Explanation on Labor Contract Law

In the afternoon of Nov. 1st of 2013, the training named "Deep Explanation on Labor Contract Law" was held in the meeting room of Winner Law Firm. This training is one of the series of monthly activities of HR CLUB, delivered by Lawyer Xu Yong Ge, the senior lawyer and Labor Law expert of the Winner Law Firm, More than 30 HR Professionals joined training,

Mr. Xu explained current implementation of Labor Contract Law Amendment, pointed out the key points which HR professionals must pay attention. With his rich knowledge and experiences in Labor Contract Law, a lot of practical solutions were delivered to all participants.



Upcoming Event

▶ HR CLUB Certified Course: HR Best Practice

▶ The Best HR Manager Awards Show

► HR CLUB 2013 Year-End Party

▶ HR CLUB Certified Course: HR Master Course

HRCLUB Members Activity Plan of 2014 has been launched. There will be at least two activities for club members each month. (Log on HRCLUB website to see the details)

If you are specialized or interested in HR Profession

If you would like to communicate and share with others If you agree on HR CLUB Membership relative Rights and Obligations

Welcome to join us — The most dynamic and professional HR Organizationsl Grow Up Together!





EDUCATION

家庭教育

美国文学之父华盛顿·欧文曾说:"让孩子感到家庭是世界上最幸福的地方,这是以往有涵养的大人明智的做法。这种美妙的家庭情感,是大人赠给孩子的那些最珍贵的礼物。"父母是孩子的启蒙老师,良好的行为举止、得当的教育方法、和谐的家庭气氛对孩子的心理成长至关重要。然而,目前的现实却相反,大量的调查显示。家庭教育的始失已经成为导致问题者少年的关键因素。

在中国生活这几年,我结识了许多中国朋友,也亲眼看到许多中国式的豪庭教育之下,有不少成功的豪教例 子,但中国式的家庭教育的缺点也很明显。

首先,中国家庭教育存在着一个很大的误区: 教孩子学"乖"。评价孩子时,动不动就说"你真乖"或者 "你不乖",将"乖"当成了教育标杆,具体就是听话,按师长和家长要求敬事。但值得一提的是,"乖"在英语当中并没有相应的词语。 而在塑造这样一批批"好孩子"的过程中,往往也剥夺了孩子建立自信和良好自我形象的独立空间,甚至无形中扼杀了他们的创新能力,这是一种片面强调孩子社会性的教育理念。

另外,家长对孩子的溺爱和对孩子的要求永远说"是"的结果,就是下一代的生存能力、适应能力和解决问题的能力逐渐被剥夺。当然,中国家长对子女的宠爱让人感到家庭的温暖,但是凡事都有一"度",超过太多也造成严重的后果。

WHERE WILL IT ALL END?

by Paula Taylor



where all know that Chinese people love their children to death, and we all know that this is not necessarily a good thing, especially if that love manifests itself by giving in to every wish and desire expressed by their children. Parents and doting grandparents do absolutely everything for their offspring, thereby effectively rendering them practically helpless. By the time they leave home to go to university, a large number of them are unable to do simple tasks like clean up after

themselves.

Many of the students do not know how to cook, although strictly speaking, whilst they are at university there is no requirement for them to have this kind of skill as there are no cooking facilities, hence many students rely on the student canteens or buy such delicacies as pot noodles, full of MSG and chemical flavourings. This sets some of them up for a lifetime of bad eating habits, if their mothers are not around to cook for them

However, once they are abroad, even though flying back is relatively easy and lasts just hours, they do not come home that often.

when they leave university they simply carry on eating outside. When I asked my friend why she always ate junk from the street vendors, she was surprised at my question. Although she had left university three years before, it had not occurred to her to start cooking for herself so she still eats things that I would not feed my dog on, and consequently she always has stomach problems.

Of course this cossetting by family members means that many students do not make good roommates. They suddenly find that when they take their dirty clothes off, there is no-one to wash them and they have to do it for themselves. Some can't and even go to the extent of visiting home regularly and taking their washing with them. For the ones that live too far away from home to go back often, they make use of the post office and send their dirty clothes back home, which are then laundered and posted back.

They find that their roommates are not interested in cleaning up after them, as they too are used to someone else doing it for them. They are not trained to think about other people, and they find that whereas at home they are the centre of the universe, their roommates do not give them the worship that they think they are entitled to, as the roommates themselves are puzzled that their status has changed too. Consequently conflict is rife. The university rooms commonly have 6 or 8 people to a room. One friend told me that her roommates are all fighting because of unsociable habits. Apart from the cleaning problems, there are some that think nothing of phoning their friends at 12.00 a.m. even though the lights have already been switched off, and others are trying to sleep. Darkness does not deter the selfish and complaints include watching films or using QQ late at night. Some of my friends are always exhausted because of they can



only get to sleep when all in the room are ready to do so.

These parents are not actually helping their children. They think that they are making life easier for them, but all they are doing is making a burden for others, which makes their children disliked. One friend found a job but was not pulling her weight at work. The supervisor criticised her and she came to me in tears. I tried to get her to understand that the supervisor was justified, but she just felt that it was unfair, probably she was not used to being criticised.

Many parents are also under pressure to send their children abroad to study. This is a massive sacrifice and not just a financial one. As far as the financial side is concerned, I have known of parents who have sold their house to fund their children's education abroad. It is not always appreciated and some just concentrate on having a good time. Finally let of the leash and being free of the constraints of family, friends and teachers, they have a whale of a time, don't get the good grades they need and effectively waste their parents' money. When they come back and cannot get a good job, their parents find excuses for them.

There is though a far greater sacrifice, they have to let go of their only child. Whereas here they would have been involved in their child's life even in making miniscule decisions, they find themselves cut completely out of the picture when their child goes overseas. If that child does study well and manages to secure a coveted job abroad, the parents will be lucky if they see their child once a year. Here, their children are willing to

endure horrendous train journeys lasting days just go home for spring festival. However, once they are abroad, even though flying back is relatively easy and lasts just hours, they do not come home that often. As far as Spring Festival is concerned, we can understand as it occurs during term time and so they are not able to just take time off to come back. However once they are working and are free to take holiday, there is no guarantee that they will do so.

Of course we have the solutions, don't spoil your child, don't always say yes, make them learn to be independent from a young age, impose family rules etc. etc. I give my friends this advice, but they tell me they are

not able to stick to it as their own parents will forbid them to discipline their child. I think that secretly they are happy that they can use this excuse as they really don't want to enforce discipline, even if they didn't have to factor their parents into the equation. They shudder at the thought of even light physical punishment. When I tell them stories of my own childhood they think that my parents should have been put in prison because of regularly dishing out physical punishment, (I will have to tell my parents this). I tell them that what my parents did they did for my own good and it resulted in me being independent from a young age, which in turn made me self-confident. Anything I wanted I had to get myself with absolutely no help from them, and I am a better person for it, I was also aware of the boundaries which they warned me not to cross.

It is heart-warming that Chinese parents love their children so much, but it is a shame that their desire to pander to their child's every whim is ruinous. My friends with children tell me that they admire people like Bill Gates, who has told his children there will be no inheritance for them as he is donating all his wealth to charity, but they also think it is terrible that his children, despite having such a rich father, will have to make their own way in the world. Still, one or two of my friends are attempting to bring their children up to have manners and I applaud them for it, as it is not easy with even their own parents disapproving of this.









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FOLK ART



Chinese Style Morning Exercise

Tianjin people, and indeed all Chinese people like morning exercise in their own way, this is known as "Chinese Style Morning Exercise". It takes many forms and there are unique methods employed by the participants. This "Chinese Morning Exercise" was invented by ordinary but enterprising citizens. The fitness forms vary a lot from person to person, The sheer scale of this spontaneous exercise activity is rarely to be

found anywhere else in the world. The participants who are over 60 years old have become the main part of the group, and they aim to pursue health and happiness. Therefore, "Chinese style Morning Exercise" for the old Chinese can be the way to find themselves, show their personality, entertain, and even communicate with each other. Someone have even described it as the "Olympic Games That Never End".



中国式晨练









CULTURE

入乡随俗会更好

在中国生活的大卫和我有着不同的经历。他大多数都是美好的,而我的却差强人意。以下是我们各自的意见。大卫。

我妻子是山东人,她常常跟我说让我向当地人寻求帮助,他说因为我是外国人所以大家一定都特别想帮我。 总的来说,我觉得中国人特别热情好客。我的理论是中国不像西方社会外国移民那么多,中国削削对外开放不 久,大家对这些西方来客投以好奇的目光也是自然的。但是这往往会让我们觉得很不舒服,但你想一想,你身边 的所有人都是黑头发黑眼睛,突然出现了一个高大的黄头发人,你也会盯着他看。现如今,中国已经不再贫穷和 落后,中国人想把自己的自信和骄傲展示给外国人,热情帮助别人也成为他们的品质之一。

有些时候中国人根爱拳比,他们总会问一些关于年龄和收入方面的问题,让我们觉得不礼貌。在我看来其实问年龄就是规知道怎么礼貌的称呼你。

关于排队和拥挤这方面,我觉得现在好多了。至少现在乘公交,飞机等交通工具都会有秩序的排队,但是你一定要紧跟前面的人以防丢掉自己的位置。开车的时候,好多车等着开到你前面挤你,更到提上下电梯了。中国人有十三亿,是个你一打盹就会输的地方,所以你一定不要觉得他们做这些是在侮辱你,他们没有别的意思。 要拉:

我觉得在中国,一个外国人的身份意味着被人利用和无助。我和大卫的经历完全相反。我并没有获得太多当地人的帮助,他们经常耸耸肩说一句"我不知道"。我打车经常被司机锦路,我对道路很熟悉,所以每次都和出租车司机捆理力争,每当我指出司机绕道的时候,他们总会很生气。我觉得没有一天是平静的,我去哪里买东西哪里就涨价,而且我知道我的房东故意抬高我的租金,因为我问了我的邻居,他们付的都比我少。

正如大卫说的,西方社会是有许多移民的,并无标准的外现外貌。在这里,即便小小的问题像是'你从哪里来'都会引发争执。我告诉商店的一位女店员我来自英国,她却说,'你可不像是英国来的,英国人应该是金发碧眼的。'我礼貌的告诉她不是所有英国人都是金发碧眼。她却还固执己见和周围的人大声讨论说我不是英国人,她仔细打量我像是她能看情所有事儿一样。我受够了,我说,'你见过几个英国人?'她说一个没见过。我非常生气为什么我会卷入一场无聊的争执。

如果大卫认为一张外国人的面孔是敲门砖的话。那为何我这张脸却总吃闭门囊呢?

Look out There's A Foreigner About

By David Wong and Paula Taylor

A s foreigners here David and I have had different experiences, his have mostly been good, whilst mine......have not always been good. Here are our respective opinions.

David says:

My wife, who is from Shandong, is constantly asking me to ask for help from local Chinese. The assistance is in the form of directions, prices in a department store and service in restaurants. The request is for help from Chinese service providers so I do not understand why I should ask rather than my wife, since my Chinese is not that good. My wife explained that it is because I am a foreigner and people would be more willing to help a foreigner compared to helping a fellow Chinese, who they would be less

Since respect to elders is important, they need to know if you are older or younger in order to address you properly.



inclined to help, or even ignore. Why is that?

Generally speaking, I find that in China, the local citizens are very hospitable to foreigners, treating them as guests. My theory is China has only opened to foreign visitors a relatively short time ago, compared to western countries that are mainly comprised of immigrants, so everyone is literally a foreigner. However in China foreigners are the minority and in some smaller cities or rural areas, a foreigner is unique, which can lead to stares which some of us may find offensive. But think of it, if you grew up all your life with local neighbors who all have black hair and are 160 metres tall and a 190-metre, blond haired person shows up, you would stare too.

China has also gone through a long period of poverty, being the "Sick man of Asia" from the 1800's to 1900's and is now emerging as a powerhouse and world leader. Under this scenario, Chinese are proud and confident and wanting to show the world, and especially the foreigners here that they have reached this stage. Therefore they are generous with offering help and assistance to positively reinforce this image. However, there are other Chinese characteristics that need explaining.

Age and costs: How many times have your Chinese friends asked you: "How old are you? What is your salary or how much did you pay for that?" Some of us will find these questions to be too personal or even rude. My explanation is they are very competitive and always striving to compete and compare to see how well are they doing. The age guestion is related to this and to see where they are in respect to their stage of life. Since respect to elders is important, they need to know if you are older or younger in order to address you properly. This is very common in China, where the older person is addressed as "Little Wang, Xiaoyoungerg 小王" if younger or "Older Wang Lao Wang 老王"if older than you.

Line crashers and crowding: It is getting better now, but I remember 20 years ago, line ups we unheard of in China. At least now, there are orderly lines for buses and airline counters. However you have to be on your guard, if you leave a space between you and the person in front, someone will quickly butt in. Also if you drive, cars are always forcing in front of you. Not to mention getting on or off elevators, if you are not careful, you will be left behind or at least jostled. The only excuse I can offer is, with 1.3 billion people, if you are not aggressive, "You snooze – You lose". Remember they are not doing It to insult you personally.

Paula says:

I am slowly becoming convinced that I have an invisible sign on my head that tells people to abuse me and be as unhelpful as possible to me. My experiences are the total opposite to David's. People take great delight in telling me that as I am a foreigner I can't do this or can't go there. If I ask a question in a supermarket, the stock answer of the sales assistants is to shrug their shoulders and say "I don't know". I frequently get into arguments with taxi drivers because they always try to cheat me by going on detours, I am very familiar with the streets around here so most taxi journeys that I take end in conflict. I got a taxi from the airport to home which usually costs 72rmb, but today it cost 113rmb. When I

I was in a shop and a woman came in and immediately asked me where I was from. I told her England. "You don't look as though you are from England", she said suspiciously and loudly whispered to the shop assistant "She's not from England". I ignored her but she insisted "You don't look like you are from England". asked her what people from England look like. They all have yellow hair and blue eyes, everyone knows that", she said, her eyes narrowing. "Not everyone in England has blue eyes" I said politely. She again said to the shop assistant, this time without bothering to lower her voice "She doesn't look like she is from England*. By this time the shop assistant was eyeing me up, as obviously as far as she was concerned, if someone could lie about where they are from they are capable of anything.

CULTURE



politely asked the driver "Aren't we going a different way" he became angry. However when my Chinese friend told me she got cheated by a taxi driver that made me really happy. It made a big difference, because as long as everyone gets cheated, that's fine, but once I know that I have been cheated because I am a foreigner that is definitely not fine.

Not a day goes past without something happening. You probably know from experience that if you buy things from a market the price goes up, and I know I am paying more rent than my neighbours because I asked them what they are paying. I figure if they can ask me personal questions, I can also delve into their private affairs.

As David stated, in the West many countries are made up of immigrants so there is hardly a standard look, however they don't know this here. Even polite enquiries about where I am from seem to turn into arguments.

had had enough "Exactly how many English people do you know?" I demanded. "None!" the woman admitted. Honestly! Why do I have to get into verbal battles about where I am from? No doubt after I left the shop she persisted in telling everyone that she met a lying foreigner.

On the aeroplane they announced a special reward card that could be used to buy cheap flights. I asked for a form. The Stewardess gave it to me, but when she came back to collect it, I hadn't filled it in, as it was obvious only Chinese people could apply for it, ok fair enough BUT she definitely had a smirk on her face when I returned the pen she had lent me but not the form. David finds that being a foreigner opens doors — I find that it closes them,

EXPATS HISTORY IN TIANJIN

天津的两家外国人俱乐部

天津的冬季带来了干冷和荒凉。但是当年的各大俱乐部却形成了特别的社交中心,带给这城市不一样的活 力。就像拉斯礁森说的。在社交俱乐部,会员们可以谈天说笑、彼此加油打气、打打扑克或者看着图书馆藏书。

天津俱乐部是津城历史最悠久的俱乐部,始于老租界时期。它最初位于大沽路,之后成为了伦敦传道会和蹇 肯齐纪念医院。俱乐部集阅读室、吸烟室、台球室、酒吧、和保龄球馆于一身,为当时身在津城的一半以上的外 国人提供娱乐社交活动。在19世纪末,一些外国人对墨守成规的独裁式俱乐部小园子表示不满,他们退出了俱乐 部并组建了网球和马球俱乐部。剿下的这个小俱乐部虽有影响力,却早已满足不了越来越多种类的兴趣活动和逐 渐消长的会员数量。当时的利廉值大饭店主席安德森先生决定把它运营成会员倒俱乐部。随后俱乐部搬到了利顺 德大饭店的旁边、许多大饭店的股东都是天津俱乐部的会员。新的天津俱乐部由上海建筑师阿尔加和比斯利设 计,于1903年奠基,入口处有宽敞的大厅,里面有酒吧、台球室、阅读室、棋牌室、图书馆和保龄球馆。虽然 它位于英租界里,但是它从来不以英国俱乐部自居,也并不是只有英国人才能入内。拉斯穆森说,俱乐部吸引了 来自世界各国的会员,看重的是民主、平等和团结。

德国俱乐部: 肯考迪娅俱乐部

始于20世纪之前,位于维多利亚路上,德国俱乐部经历过1896年的狂风暴雨和1900年的义和团运动。1907 年撤进一栋由德皇成康一世出资兴建的新罗马式风格建筑里(在现今的解放南路)。如今它还毅然伫立在那里, 上面写着"肯考迪娅",拉丁语的意思是所有人为了同一目标努力。虽然它叫做"德国俱乐部",但是里面都是 英国会员,只不过和天津俱乐部相比没有那么强的英伦感觉。除了俱乐部委员会成员只讲德语以外,俱乐部有着 国际化的豪切交流气氛。当时,它以有能容纳300人的带舞台娱乐室而闻名,并在外面有五个网球场,和现代化

现如今,这个独特的建筑成为了政协俱乐部。周围的德式建筑结构大部分已被拆除,当年社交中心的活力早 巳不在。

Two Tientsin Clubs.

By Andrea Klopper

ome the Tianjin winter with its dry cold and bleakness, the various expatriate clubs - of which there were several in the city became particularly significant social centres. Rasmussen noted: "Membership of a social club enables a resident to meet his fellows, cheer them up with libations, play a little mahjahng, bridge or poker and borrow a book from the library" (1925: 304).

The Tientsin Club.

This was the oldest club, having its roots in the early days of the concession areas. It was originally located on the Daku Road in what became the London Missionary Society compound with the Mackenzie Memorial Hospital. It consisted of three rooms for reading, smoking and billiards and had a wide verandah at the end of which was a bar and then a bowling alley. Clearly this was a place that predominantly provided for the recreation of the many men stationed in the town with its 50 to 60 foreigners. In the 1890s a number of foreigners revolted against "a little hidebound coterie of Clubland autocrats, who inflicted their selfish and warped ideas on a long suffering community" and broke

away to form various other clubs such as the Tennis Club, Polo Club (Rasmussen 1924: 108). The small but influential group running the club (and many of the business enterprises in the town) could no longer represent the increasingly diverse interests and demands of a growing membership so in the 1890s, as frictions developed, Mr W. Anderson (chairman of the Astor House Hotel board from 1897-1916) suggested turning it into a Members Only club. Later it moved alongside the Astor Hotel, many of whose shareholders were members. It is said they donated the silver used there. Designed by Shanghai architects A.E. Algar and P.M. Beesley, assisted by F Howard Ford, the foundation stone was laid in 1903. The new club was described as

"... a large entrance hall, bar, billiard, reading, card and board rooms and library. The billiard room contains five tables and the board room can be used for concerts and dances. A bowling alley is attached" (Twentieth Century Impressions of Hongkong, Shanghai etc. 1908).

Electric lighting was installed throughout as was hot and cold water, and there was a steam-heating plant. It was a

Although referred to often as the 'German Club', there were British members although they did not use it as widely as the Tientsin Club with its more British feel.





model for what modernisation had to offer.

Despite being located in the British concession, it was never known as the British Club and was not exclusively British, Members were drawn from all nationalities and a high value was placed on "...democracy, national equality and practical good fellowship* (Rasmussen 1925; 304).

Today this distinctive building is office buildings for the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of Tianjin.

EXPATS HISTORY IN TIANJIN





The German Club: Concordia.

Originally started before 1900, this club was located on Victoria Road. The Peking and Tientsin Times anticipated its opening on Christmas Eve 1896, having had considerable damage done to part of its wall by a "tornado of considerable violence" with lightning, hail and rain (PTT Sept 1896: 115). It was to be damaged again during the Boxer rebellion of 1900 as it was such a visible though small target. In 1907 it moved into a building of neo-Romanesque style favoured by Kaiser Wilhelm I and was on Kaiser Wilhelm strasse (later Woodrow Wilson Street, now Jiefang Nan Lu). It still stands proudly as "a fine and handsome building and a Latin inscription on a second floor wall explains the choice of the name 'Concordia' - 'all the people join their efforts for a common purpose". Although referred to often as the 'German Club', there were British members although they did not use it as widely as the Tientsin Club with its more British feel. There was a "cordial interchange of patronage" and an international air except that members of the committee had to speak German (Woods p191), It was known for its entertainment hall seating 300 with stage, and there were five tennis courts outside. Modern extinguishing appliances were fitted in case of fire.

The distinctive building has remained as a club but for Communist Party cadres and no longer has a feel of being in the centre of a vibrant community as most of the surrounding German-style structures have been demolished.











There was also the French Club known as the Cercle d'Escrime which began in the 1890s and was built in 1911 on its current site on Jiefang Bei Lu. It had a large hall for fencing, boxing and gymnastics and offered rooms for bachelors to rent. Today it is the Chinese Museum of Finance.





The Japanese and Italians similarly had their own clubs, as did the Jewish community with their Kunst Club. These provided accommodation, recreation, networking opportunities and contributed to building and maintaining a sense of community: participation in club life meant participation in communal life and playing by communal rules.

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LIFEFEATURE

中国年轻消费者的购车需求

中国汽车市场的需求量早在2008年就已经超过美国,使得中国迅速成为全世界汽车行业的老大。如今,在中国的马路上行驶着大概七千万辆汽车,而且到2020年这个数字预计会再翻三倍。我不禁在想,那时候交通状况有会多精糕啊】因为,目前我就住在北京,也经常自己开车穿接于这座城市,或是往返于京津两地,所以我对这里路况非常了解。

当然,北京政府也已经出台许多相关法案,用于控制汽车的增加率,但是对此我并不感到乐观。似乎大家都一个共同的中国梦,买车买房=幸福生活。其中,大部分中国年轻人更加热衷于给自己买辆车,因为他们认为这是拥有一定社会地位的体现。虽然有很多年轻人收入不多,但为了自我满足甚至不惜购买高价车的人。例如,每月工资在月内花完的"月光族"、为购买高价汽车,经济面临困境的"车级",或者干脆向父母要钱。

除了汽车价格之外,汽油价格上涨、停车位紧张、交通拥堵等诸多客观因**章**的日益突显,都在时刻提醒中国 年轻消费者们,要认真考虑之后再决定。

Young Drivers – To Buy or not?

by David Wong



hina surpassed the United States as the world's largest market for cars in 2008. China roadways now have almost 70 million cars and it is expected to triple this amount by 2020. Is this possible, when traffic is already so bad now? I live and drive in Beijing, where there are presently over 5 million cars on the roads and adding 240,000 vehicles each year. It was just announced that this amount would be reduced to 150,000 for next year.

The demand for cars is certainly prevalent, because even with the existing lottery system restricting owners to obtain car license plates; meaning that your

chances to obtain a plate is 1 in 36, and there are over 500,000 applications in the walting pool. In the USA, there are 700 cars for every 1000 persons, Beijing is 70 for every thousand and as people become more affluent, there will be more car owners. It seems that everyone's China Dream is: owning a home and owning a car.

I first visited China in 1986, at that time there were no privately owned vehicles on the road. My, that has changed, but so has the economy. China is now the second largest economy in the world and has over one million millionaires with the average age of these millionaires under 40. For them,

owning a car is a status symbol and showing that they have made it to the top. This status symbol is usually in the form of a luxury car, and the luxury car manufacturers know this and have expanded sales in China, which has become the second largest market in the world for luxury car sales.

Last year 1.25 million luxury cars were purchased in China and 1.7 million in United States. The trend in China is growing and expected to equal USA by 2016 and forecasted to be 3 million in 2020 compared to 2.25 million for the USA. Britain's Bentley dealers have seen this trend and have opened 12 dealerships in China. I certainly see more Bentleys on the road here than in Canada. The Bentley and the Rolls Royce is probably the top of the luxury cars. The Bentley Spur is over 4 million rmb and the Royce Dragon Phantom is over 8 million rmb. More Rolls Royce cars are now sold in Beijing and Shanghai than in London and Beverly Hills.

The Chinese consumer may be cheated because most luxury cars sold in China are at least 30% - 50% higher than abroad. Although China has a 25% import duty, this does not explain such a large differential. For example, the BMW X5 is almost 2 million rmb in China but only half this amount in Canada or the USA; just as the Ferrari is 4 million rmb in China but only \$230,000usd elsewhere. But even with such a difference, there is a waiting list for luxury cars and dealers are expanding to have more outlets to try and meet this increasing demand.

The average age of the Chinese luxury car buyer is 10 years younger than the North American buyer. McKinsey & Company estimates that the Chinese car market will grow ten fold between 2005 and 2030. As major cities implement more restrictions on the number of vehicles, growth will come in the smaller cities. GM General Motors will expand its 2900 dealers to 3500 locations by this year, selling Buick, Chevrolet, Cadillac and their new Chinese Baojun brand. Chinese car manufacturers are presently supplying the regular car market and export about one million vehicles annually, mostly to developing countries.

However, a recent study by the University of Michigan showed that the respondents, who were under forty and did not have a driver's license, had no intention to obtain a license or a car. One third indicated that they were too busy; another third said owning a vehicle was too expensive and the final portion said that they were able to catch a ride. The survey authors indicated that there was a cultural shift and people were moving from the suburbs to the

cities where public transportation was available.

One has to keep in mind that this was a survey of Americans and probably the emphasis on owning a car, as a status symbol is not a major factor. I would agree that in China, there are a segment of young people that do not have any intention to buy their own car for all the reasons indicated and as the traffic congestion is becoming worse; it is faster and cheaper to use a bicycle, bus, subway or taxi.

The purchase of a car is the worst investment anyone can make. Once you drive your car off the dealer's lot, the value has depreciated by 30%. The price of gas is always rising: there are regular and unforeseen maintenance and repair bills. There are annual insurance and license fees and car inspection certificates, every 2 years for a new car and annual inspections after that. Depending on the type of car you buy, the annual costs can be about 40,000rmb and that is not including any depreciation or lost capital costs, which translates to over 100 rmb each day, whether you drive or not. You can take a lot of taxis for this and not have to worry about finding a parking space. So why own a car?

As I mentioned, it is a status symbol. Why do people buy an expensive Rolex watch? Since everyone has a cell phone, who needs a single function device such as a watch? It's "face" 面子 Mian Zi, this is an important factor in China.

What other method can a young Chinese businessman demonstrate the status that he or she has attained other than

Traffic Congestion

The average age of the Chinese luxury car buyer is 10 years younger than the North American buyer. by having a luxury car? Although the prices are exceedingly high, for the upper end of China's young one child protégés, the cost is attainable. Auto financing is available but only 20% of buyers use this debt. Their preference is to borrow from their parents and with no competition from siblings, this is an easy option.

But the traffic congestion problem will get worse. Cities have implemented several types of restrictions. Beijing has the license lottery but this can be circumvented if you buy a second hand car that has plates. This has also resulted in a second hand car market that is in turmoil. One can see a used car priced more expensive than a new car just because of the plates. Shanghai has implemented an auction for plates and the most recent price was almost 80,000rmb. about the price for a car. Major cities have implemented daytime restrictions of large trucks into the inner city. However logistic companies have reverted to using smaller vans - "bread cars" (because the vans look like a loaf of bread) 面包车Mian Bao Che. So instead of one large truck, there are ten small vans delivery goods during the day.

Still this traffic factor will not overcome the need to express one's status. One common solution is to hire a driver to contend with driving and no need to worry about finding a parking space; he will just wait or come and pick up the owner on call. During the drive, the owner can do his business via his or her smartphone and show off in their overpriced luxury status symbol.



蜀南竹海

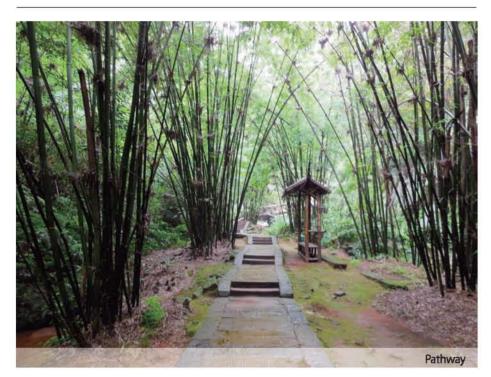
墨甲天下的蜀南竹海,位于四川南部的宜宾市谯内,面积120平方公里。景区内共有超过58种竹子,可以称 得上是中国最大的原给"绿竹公园"。听朋友介绍,那部普经在西方红极一时的中国电影《卧虎藏龙》就是在这

怀着对中国电影朝拜的心情,我徜徉在一片连一片的竹海当中十分惬意。其中蜀南竹海素道让我印象深刻, 它有别于其他风景区的索道,是一条典型的观光家道,上下连接两处主要景区,全长2742米,相对高度350米, 全程将近花了30分钟。坐在家道里,就像乘坐一叶小舟,在波涛汹涌的大海里航行,时而直冲云霄,时而滑向谷 庭。 檢驗与乐趣、 尽在其中。

虽然此次旅途多有不顾,大多情况都是我的决策和判断失误导叛走了很多冤枉路,但是我从中收获很多。生 活就这样充满很多起起落落,不管你选择住在哪个国家、哪个城市。但是低潮时请不要放弃为自己找寻一条出 路。总而言之,"竹海之族"真的收益良多。

The Yibin Bamboo Sea

by Kyle Knutson



ustling leaves followed by a light wind n gently wobbling hordes of bamboo amongst a vast expanse of green were my overall impressions as I was riding down the creaky cable car over the Yibin Bamboo Sea in Southern Sichuan province. It was the end of the day, and for the first time in all my traveling in China, I found that taking a cable car was worth the effort. Seeing the bamboo from high above, I felt almost like a bird passing through its migratory flight. Ok, although we were going slow, and the cable car windows needed some washing, the view was still worthy of a nature documentary. As hill upon hill, overflowing with bamboo continued to pass underneath me, my mind drifted back to the heartache it took to get here.

"Where are you from?" a rather large young Chinese girl with huge glasses randomly asked me. I was at the Chengdu Xinnanmen bus station (成都新南门汽车站) examining the departure gates to see which one we were supposed to check in at, until she suddenly thrust her face in front of me. In a split second, I knew this was more than a curiosity call. Her eyes told me she wanted something and that something was money.

I'll admit I was rude. I told her sorry, left and didn't even answer her question.

It was time to board the four hour bus for Yibin (宜宾) at 9:20am. I purchased my tickets one day ahead to avoid any hassle since my sister and father were with me. Another group of tourists from Europe were also boarding the bus and to my dismay, that same



big eyed Chinese girl got on. I wondered what tricks this girl wanted to pull.

excited chatter about the bamboo forest. But after about 2 peaceful hours, that big eyed girl made her move, starting with the Europeans. "Where are you from?" she said. They answered her and the conversation continued to be friendly enough. "Do you need a hotel? We have English service." She began to push them a little and then some more. We stopped at a gas station for a break and she asked again. Finally, the Europeans said, "If we need a hotel, we will ask you."Then, she started to ask the other tourists on the bus. I thought to myself, "We have to put up with this while being trapped on the bus for two more hours!" When she got to us, I said, "We don't need a hotel."

Eventually, the bus passed Yibin city, where our hotel was, and went directly to the bamboo forest, about another hour's drive up some windy beautiful green hills. I didn't realize that we passed Yibin until it was too late. So now we will need a new hotel after all. But I certainly didn't want that girl's hotel.

Finally, we arrived at the main entrance, and a crowd, which seemed almost as large as the bamboo sea itself, surged around the bus waving business card after business card for guesthouses located inside the forest. A driver wanted us to employ him for 300 yuan for the entire day. With a little bit of maneuvering, we were able to safely distance ourselves from them and entered the ticket office.

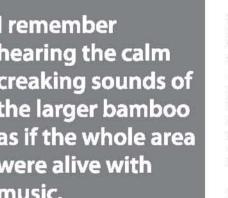
There were maybe a half dozen government employees behind the main ticket desk. We bought our tickets and I asked how far it was to Wanli village, where we were planning to spend the night and whether or

that all hotels accepted foreigners but before they could tell me how far it was to the

enveloped by the neon green bamboo.

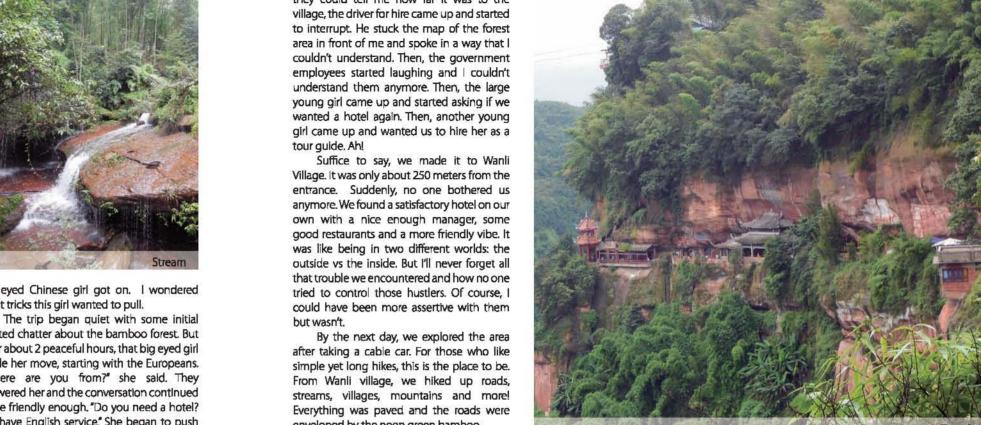
Probably the best area was the Emerald Corridor. I remember hearing the calm creaking sounds of the larger bamboo as if the whole area were alive with music. Families were excitedly taking pictures of their children playing amongst the groves. At the end of the corridor, we took a free van ride up to another cable car, which spanned a magnificent gorge and opened up into a valley. As the cable car made its way to the other side, we just sat there, thankful that we paid the extra money for the trip. Even more thankful, was when we arrived at the other side, descended some stairs and undertook a trail that was cut right into the cliff with a multitude of carved statues and temples to

I remember hearing the calm creaking sounds of the larger bamboo as if the whole area were alive with music.



admire (Don't worry there was plenty of room to avoid falling off the cliff). On the other side, we continued to have a great view of the valley. The trail meandered on and on, much longer than we anticipated. More bamboo greeted us at the end of the cliff and eventually parted way to Fairy Lake, a not quite as magnificent but good way to end the day. We went back to the highway and made our way back to the first cable car station and descended back to Wanli Village.

Which lead me back to my reminiscing in the cable car described in the introduction to this article. I still couldn't believe what happened when we first arrived here. By the end of that day, I was tired, depressed, and wanted to leave. I was a complete embarrassment to my sister and father who were with me at the time, as an inexperienced and gullible traveler. But after today, it was as if all that hardship never happened. It suddenly occurred to me that this is what traveling is all about and why its so worth it. You will always face ups and downs wherever you go. But if all you face is downs, don't ever let that discourage you from finding your ups. The Bamboo Sea, overall, was definitely an "up" experience.



not the hotels accepted foreigners. They said

带好装备去滑雪

冬天是冬眠的季节吗? 当然不是 | 带好你的装备,我们去滑雪 | 这是一项能够呼吸新鲜空气、锻炼筋骨同时放松心情的运动。天津及周边共有4个滑雪场,可以满足不同水平滑雪者的需求。

蓟县玉龙海雪场是天津地区首家山地滑雪场,主要以初级雪道著称,适合滑雪初学者,价格便宜,早先有着一定得群众基础。玉龙滑雪场并不大,有一块儿童独戏区、一块平坦区、初学者滑道、中高级滑道、雪圆滑道。

發洲国际滑雪中心每年12月份至来年3月份营业。引进和装备了进口造雪机、机雪车、安全舒适的底毯、滑雪 家道、雪地摩托、全新大头滑雪板和滑雪鞋;设有高级、中级、初级及老少皆宣独特经典的戏器区;尤其是安全舒适的S型高山雪道是滑雪界独有的亮点项目。

資具盘山清雪场隶属于前具盘山风景名胜区,风景秀美怡人,滑雪场依山而建,是仅次于前州国际清雪场的,一般清雪爱好客可以选择一下。

水滴滑冒乐园位于天津奥体中心,交通便推。这是一个竞在足球场里的滑冒乐园,所以所有的滑冒坡道都是人造的,自然没有以上几个滑雪场玩得刺激。所以这里更适合儿童和初学者。每年除了滑雪之外,这里还都引进一些 其他好玩的游戏项目,值得期待!

Ski! Ski! Ski!

By Paula Taylor

Just when you thought it was safe to bed down and hibernate through Tianjin's long winter months, we go and give you a reason not to: skiing! Skiing is a great way to get some fresh air and exercise and fend off your perennial seasonal-affective disorder. Here we offer four recommendations for ski resorts outside, around, and even inside the city of Tianjin.

1) Yulong Ski Resort

Yulong is Tianjin's first large-scale ski resort, featuring slopes for all ages and skill levels. They've also hired ski instructors from the famous Yabuli Ski Resort in Harbin so you can brush up on your skills, or learn a new one. And if you can't ski, or just want to take a load off, rent an inner tube and fly down the slopes in style. Come on a weekday for the best savings.

Add: Yulong Ski Resort, next to Jinwei

Gong Lu, Hongshuizhuang Village, Luozhuang Township, Ji County, Tianjin

地址:天津市近郊蓟县罗庄镇洪水庄村津 围公路旁,玉龙滑雪场

Tel: 022 2272 8166

Opening hours: Dec 1-Mar 10 (weather permitting), 9:00-16:00

Price: 20 RMB (entrance fee), 80 RMB (4 hours, weekday), 110 RMB (full day, weekdays, 110 RMB (4 hours, weekends and holidays), 140 RMB (full day, weekends and holidays)

Getting there: take a bus from Tianjin Hebei Coach Station (天津河北客运站) leaving every 15 minutes from 6:00-19:00 to Ji County Coach Station (蓟县客运站) then taxi to Yulong Ski Resort (玉龙滑雪场)

2) Jizhou International Ski Resort

The only ski resort in Tianjin to include beginner, intermediate, advanced, and circular ski slopes, Jizhou is equipped to meet the level of skiers is generally higher here than Yulong, so if you're a complete beginner you may want to learn the ropes elsewhere before coming here.

Add: Jizhou International Ski Resort, next to Jizhou Cong Ly, Hongebuighung Villege.

needs of almost any skier. However, the skill

to Jinwei Gong Lu, Hongshuizhuang Village, Luozhuang Township, Ji County, Tianjin

地址:天津市近郊蓟县罗庄镇洪水庄村津 围公路旁,蓟洲国际滑雪场

Tel: 022 2272 7555; 2272 7666

Opening hours: Nov/Dec-Mar, 8:00-16:00 Price: 60 RMB/day (Nov 24-30 only), 148 RMB/day (weekdays), 188 RMB/day (weekends and holidays)

Clothing rental: 30 RMB

a bus from Tianjin Hebei Coach Station (天津河北客运站) leaving every 15 minutes from 6:00-19:00 to Ji County Coach Station (蓟县客运

站) then taxi to Jizhou International Ski Resort (動洲国际滑雪场)

3) Panshan Ski Resort

Located very close to Jizhou, Panshan is also equipped for a wide range of skill levels. However, beginners will appreciate their careful separation of bunny slopes and advanced courses, so you won't have to worry about slowing anyone down (or being slowed down). There's also a designated ski lesson area for absolute beginners plus a play area for children.

Add: Panshan Ski Resort, 500m west of Guanzhuang Township, Ji County, Tianjin

地址:天津市近郊蓟县城西8公里处官庄 镇西500米 魚山滑雪场

Tel: 159 2223 7057

Operating hours: beginning in Dec,

9:00-16:00

Price: 60 RMB/day (Nov 24-30 only), 148 RMB/day (weekdays), 188 RMB/day (weekends and holidays)

Clothing rental: 30 RMB (used), 40 RMB (new)

Tube rental: 60 RMB

Getting there: take a bus from Tianjin Hebei Coach Station (天津河北客运站) leaving every 15 minutes from 6:00-19:00 to Ji County Coach Station (蓟县客运站) then take a bus or taxi to Panshan (盘山)

4) Shuidi Ski Center

Located in the Olympic Center inside the city limits, Shuidi is easily the most convenient place to ski in Tianjin. Because these slopes are completely manmade, you won't find too many of them here. For that reason Shuidi is

perhaps best suited to children and beginner skiers. Every year they introduced some fun games besides skiing slopes and it's worth expecting what they will have this year.

DISCOVERING TIANJIN

Add: Shuidi Ski Center, Olympic Center (near Lingbin Lu), Binshui Xi Dao, Nankai District, Tianjin

地址:天津市南开区宾水西道奥体中心(近 凌宾路),水滴滑雪场

Tel: 022 2382 0533; 2382 0483

Operating hours: beginning at the end of Dec. 9:00-17:00

Price: 150 RMB/day, 68 RMB/day (group buying price, visit http://tdianping.com/)

Tube Rental: 125 RMB/hour (group buying price, visit http://t.dianping.com/)

Getting there: take bus No. 8, 301, 302, 306, 快速1, 快速2 to Sport Center (体育中心站)





Korean Air offers 'Premium Arrival Shower Service' for first&Prestige passengers

Korean Air has introduced the "KAL Premium Arrival Shower Service," offering First and Prestige Class passengers arriving on international flights at Seoul (Incheon International Airport), complimentary use of the showers and saunas at the airport's Hyatt Regency Incheon Hotel.

To take advantage of this service, available from 5 a.m. to 11 a.m., First and Prestige Class passengers take the free shuttle bus from Arrivals at Incheon Airport to the Hyatt Regency Hotel located a few minutes away. Large luggage can be left at the hotel's concierge desk. Passengers then proceed to Club Olympus (fitness center) on the second floor and present their identification and boarding pass. Both

dry and wet far-infrared saunas are available with individual shower stalls, and cold and hot bathtub facilities for refreshment, rest and relaxation.

Korean Air makes every effort to provide premium service to its passengers. KAL Premium Care Service for First Class passengers at Incheon International Airport includes a member of staff accompanying and guiding passengers from the check-in counter to the boarding gate. There is also a complimentary baggage wrapping service using plastic covers to protect baggage against potential damage and contamination.

'Nurturing Dreams With Korean Air'

An official of Korean Air is talking to children in a hangar of the company in Gonghang-dong, southwestern Seoul, on Sept. 27. Korean Air invites third- to six-grade students to its office twice a month to help them learn about the avlation industry. During the tour, the children observe several facilities such as the control center, a hangar and the training institute for in-flight attendants, and experience diverse services offered by the company.



Korean Air's first home-building project in Southeast Asia

Korean Air, the leading global carrier, has been actively conducting a wide array of CSR (corporate social responsibility) activities at home and abroad over the years. To further extend its community support over Southeast Asia, the airline has recently partnered with Habitat for Humanity Philippines to support the Habitat builds for the underprivileged in the Philippines. This marks the first Korean Air's home-building project in Southeast Asia.

On Oct. 19, a group of 20 Korean Air Philippines employees and outsourced staff gathered at the Manila office and volunteered with Habitat for Humanity Philippines to help build homes for lowincome families and informal settler families (ISFs) living in the poor dumpsite areas in Payatas, Quezon City. At the construction site at Bistekville 1, the volunteers worked together under sweat and smile as they carried bricks, sand water and cement around the site. With their great efforts in mixing mortar, making roofs and woodwork, huts started to come into shape bringing hopes and homes to the community.

Apart from lending the physical support from its staff members, Korean Air also offered various construction materials and donations for Habitat for Humanity Philippines in building the houses. Once the donated housing unit is completed, the Korean national flag carrier will be invited to attend the formal turnover ceremony.



Bloggers Participate in Korean Air's 'Asian On-Air Program'

Co-organized by Korean Air and the Korea Tourism Organization (KTO), the second "Asian On-Air Program" was held successfully in Seoul on Oct. 17-21 with bloggers from Asia attending. Twelve power bloggers from the six different Southeast Asian countries - Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Indonesia, Philippines and Vietnam - selected by Korean Air and the KTO, attended.

Korean Air invited the bloggers to join the Korean Air facility tour at its Headquarters which showcased some of the world's best aviation facilities, such as the operation control center, hanger, FTD (flight training device) and the cabin crew training center. Moreover, they even experienced a complimentary medical checking service at Inha International Medical Center, which is conveniently located five minutes from Incheon International Airport.

The five-day "Asian On-Air Program" also covered the bustling metropolis and suburbs of Seoul. In this Korea domestic tour, participants experienced the Korean traditional culture and beautiful scenery through visiting Bukchon Hanok Village, Changdeok Palace, Jeongdongjin and Gyeongpo Beach. Moreover, the bloggers explored the K-pop, shopping and beauty culture, visiting some famous

shopping venues in Seoul such as Apgujeong, Iteawon, Myeong-dong and Hongdae.

Throughout the exciting trip, the bloggers shared live moments and encounters from their journey with their viewers through their popular blogs and SNS channels.



Korean Air to expand code-share with Etihad Airways

Korean Air has announced an expansion of its code-share agreement with Etihad Airways, to include the Middle East and Africa.

Since mid-September, Korean Air has put its airline "KE" code on the Abu Dhabl-Johannesburg and Abu Dhabi-Muscat routes operated by Etlhad Airways. In addition, the code share will be extended to Include Abu Dhabi-Khartoum (subject to approval from the Sudanese government). The code-share flights between Abu Dhabi-Muscat operate twice a week and the flights between Abu Dhabi and Johannesburg operate three times a week. Abu Dhabi-Khartoum flights will operate five times a week.

The expansion of the code-share agreement on the additional Middle-East and African routes, including Johannesburg, brings greater convenience and choice to passengers travelling to these regions.

Korean Air has implemented a mileage partnership with Etihad Airways, allowing Korean Air Skypass members to earn frequent flyer points with Etihad Airways.

Code-share is an aviation business partnership through which a flight operated by one airline is jointly marketed by one or more other airlines. The purpose of code-share is to facilitate travel for customers by

allowing them to travel across the networks of multiple airlines with a single reservation, in order to reach their final destination.

Korean Air also has code-share partnerships with 30 other airlines worldwide, including Delta Air Lines, Air France, KLM, China Southern Airlines and Saudi Airlines, providing the most convenient schedules for its passengers.



5.7

LOCALEVENTS LOCALEVENTS

2013 Marriott Hotels Global Customer Appreciation Ceremony



Since 1993. Marriott International starts to hold the GCAW activities in every autumn. The Global Customer Appreciation Week is simply a chance for us to personally thank our quests and ... customers, and to give something back to ... the communities we live and work in. As * Marriott International has rapidly grown up in the global market, this activity already becomes an organizational

year, Marriott International has planned for a week-long festival of community engagement, known as Global Customer Appreciation. Anniversary has become an attractions of which taken photos by staffs, Week (GCAW), from the 28th of October to the 1st of November in a no matter they are Chinese employees or from foreign country. Before the thanking our customers for their business.

Renaissance Tianiin Lakeview Hotel has held the cluster GCAW Ceremony on the 31st of October, 2013, the Halloween Night. There are 🗜 Excom Team service every staff as waiters on that day, it fully displays the more than 300 quests came to the event, which are from our business \$\cdot\$ core culture of Starwood - Care. partners, top customers General Managers of Marriott Tianiin hotels and sales team from Beijing, Tianjin, Sanya and Shanghai, To be mention. of that Richard Beh (Director of Sales and Marketing, North China), Petr ... Raba (Director of Operation, North China) and Betty Lang (Director of National Sales Office) has joined us in that night, to deliver the sincere appreciation to everyone.

Everybody was jazzing up in the Halloween party, and ready for screams of delight. This is frightfully fun and meaningful Halloween Party ever. People have dressed in their favorite costume and get ready to trick or treat, all the Vampires. Zombies, Mr. Bones, ahostly pumpkins and ghoulishness have made this Halloween spook-tacular. entertainments throughout the entire



event, everyone has found their secret gift under their chair. The ! mysterious magic and amazing cocktail show has brought the exciting level to the event and when quests were enjoyed the wickedly good Halloween feast also can be enchanted by the joyful music from our Philippines live band. The lucky draw time is the most exciting part during the event that the winners have went back with their hotel vouchers from different Marriot Hotels, which can discover more wonderful things in your life.

Global Customer Appreciation Week is a tradition at Marriott and an important part of our culture and strong focus on the guests. We will continually offering the best service to our quests and business partners, which bring you the delighted experience to see the world in the whole new way. You mean the world to us!

ASCOTT CHINA Won 25 Prizes of Tourism Industry in Business Travller China



Recently, the largest serviced residence owner and operator of CapitaLand Group won 25 prizes of 3 Business Traveller Asia-Pacific, including * World Travel Awards and Travel Awards in * Asia-Pacific Area. With so many awards, • ASCOTT China consolidated its leading area and Europe.

Sheraton Tianjin 26th Anniversary



Sheraton Tianjin Hotel has celebrated its 26th anniversary by hosting a staff party at its Terrace Cafe Garden on Oct 25, 2013. More than 300 employees and ExcomTeam participated in this anniversary party and witness the outstanding achievements of 26 years together.

At 10,30 am in the morning, the anniversary party started sweetly at its Terrace Cafe Garden. Every staff show their

tradition to lead each brand and sales team to participate in it. In this 🖁 excitement that could have this chance to gather together to celebrate this wonderful moment. The banner that written "Sheraton Tianjin 26th party, every staff writes a blessed card to show their best wishes to hotel. Meanwhile, hotel set up the buffet table in the garden. More interestingly,

> Sheraton Tianjin Hotel was opened in 1987 of which the first 5 star international hotel in Tianiin. 26 years later, all employees celebrate this wonderful moment by getting together no matter they are old ones or new.Surrounded by a pristine garden, Sheraton Tianjin Hotel is a source of comfort and relaxation on your next trip to China's third largest city. Even though we are only five kilometers from the Tianjin city center, you'll feel the worlds away. 296 guest rooms, including an executive floor and serviced apartments, are fully equipped to meet your every need. Gather with friends or colleagues and enjoy our variety of wining and dining options, ranging from international delights to an all-day buffet. Plan your next event in our wide selection of multi-purpose conference rooms, from small boardrooms to the Grand Ballroom, which seats 400 for a conference or dinner.

Royal Romance Wedding Fair at The Ritz Carlton Hotel, Tianjin



As the curtain is rolled up, a Rolls-Royce car appeared in the hall, in a real wedding, the couple are supposed to get off from the car and walk the aisle. The wedding fair is a joint work among the hotel, Special wedding planning company and Yumi Katsura, which showcased its latest designs.

Jacky Zhang Appointed Executive Chef of Tianjin TEDA International Hotel



Chef Jacky Zhang has been appointed as Executive Chef of Tianlin TEDA International Hotel in November

Chef Jacky has been in Crown Plaza Beijing Zhongguancun Hotel previously as the western restaurant chef and has more than 21 years of cooking experience in Beijing hotels. With a wealth of experience in the culinary industry and passion for

position of tourism industry in Asia-Pacific : food, his goal is to bring new, fresh and innovative food for the distinguished guests in TEDA Binhai New Area.

Hyatt Regency Tianjin East Appointment News



Mr. Kan Du has been appointed Executive Chef at Hvatt Regency Tianiin East. Chef Du started his culinary career at the China World Hotel under the Shangri-La Hotel Group in 1990. In 2001. Chef Du joined Grand Hyatt Beijing as Chef de Partie, and later was promoted to Chef de Culsine. In this capacity, he was in charge of the Italian restaurant, Café, Room Service, Lobby Lounge and :

Banquet Kitchen at Grand Hyatt Beijing. Due to his leadership and commitment to culinary excellence, Chef Du was promoted to " Executive Sous Chef at Park Hyatt Beijing in October 2008. After over four years at Park Hyatt Beijing, Chef Du joined the pre-opening team of Hvatt Regency Tianiin East. In his new role, Chef Du will lead the culinary team to offer the most sophisticated gourmet food to exceed guests' expectations.



Mr. Matthew Huang has been appointed Director of Food & Beverage at Hyatt Regency Tianiin East, Matthew joined Grand Hyatt Beijing as a Food & Beverage Team Leader in October 2001. Upon completion of Management Trainee Program at Grand Hyatt Hong Kong in 2006, Matthew was promoted to Assistant Director of Food & Beverage at Grand Hyatt Beijing, Grand Hyatt

Guangzhou and Park Hyatt Beijing respectively. Prior to joining Hyatt Regency Tianjin East, Matthew joined the pre-opening team of Hyatt Regency Jinan and has worked in the capacity of Director of Food & Beverage for the past two years. With over twenty years' experience in the hospitality industry, especially in the food and " beverage area, Matthew will work closely with the culinary team to keep providing unforgettable dlning experiences to our quests.

New Executive Chef in the St. Regis Tianjin



The St. Regis Tianiin is pleased to announce that Frank Koppelkamm has joined the hotel as its new Executive Chef. Chef Frank Koppelkamm has : extensive experience in the hospitality industry over 25 years in award winning restaurants, boutique hotels and 5 star international hotels in Europe, Caribbean and Asia.

The StRegis Tianjin is excited to have a hospitality veteran join the hotel with extensive knowledge of kitchen and customer orientated service management. With Frank Koppelkamm as our Executive Chef, the St. Regis Tianiin will keep continuing to offer quests to Tianjin distinctive epicurean experiences at our riverfront restaurants and bar.

The St. Regis Tianiin, an iconic new landmark on a rapidly evolving city skyline is fast becoming Northern China's most prestigious gateway for business leaders, society tastemakers and discerning travelers.

The Astor Hotel, A Luxury Collection Hotel, Tianjin won four top media <u>awards within one month</u>



With 150 legendary history and glory, The Astor Hotel, A Luxury Collection Hotel, Tianjin was awarded 4 top media awards and highly recommended by mass media recently. There are The Best Design Hotel of 2013 China Travel Awards by Travel+. 2013 China's Top 100 Hotels Award by

Travel + Leisure, The Best Boutique Hotel Award of 2013-2014 City Traveler Best Hotel Awards and The Best Boutique/Design Hotel of National Geographic Traveler. The great news inspired every staff in the hotel, and made an unbelievable record of this hotel - 17 top media awards from January 2013 until now. All rewards show this first international hotel in China is still the Business Card of Tianjin and always the representative of top luxury hotels in China's hospitality.

Hollywood stars stayed at The Astor Hotel, A Luxury Collection Hotel, Tlanjin.



The Hollywood famous movie stars -Nicolas Cage and Hayden Christensen came to Tianjin for their new movie OUTCAST, and stayed at The Astor Hotel, A Luxury Collection Hotel during their visit to Tianjin. Nicolas Cage has high reputation in Chinese audiences by his movies like Lord of War, City of Angels, Face Off etc. Hayden Christensen becomes a world famous star by movie Star Wars.

General Manager of The Astor Hotel, A Luxury Collection Hotel, Tianjin -Mr. Christian Metzner (on the left) warmly welcome Nicolas Cage and his shooting team.

Tangla Hotel Tianjin won "2013 Best of the Best — the Most Oriental Style Business Hotel" of Robb Report



Tangla Hotel Tianjin was recently awarded as the "Most Oriental Style Business Hotel* during the annual awarding ceremony "Best of the Best" of Robb Report magazine. This award reflects the unique qualities of Tangla spirit, translated into state-of-the-art facilities, unmatchable luxury, and warm and impeccable service.

Robb Report "Best of the Best" is the quintessential guide to the finest new hotels, restaurants, automobiles, yachts, watches, wines, and much more. Tangla Hotel Tianjin is proud and honored of having been selected and recognized among exclusive high brands. The "Best of the Best" luxury collection was launched in 1987 by the magazine Robb Report and it is committed to recommend the annual best not to be missed products, service and locations.

As the flagship of TANGLA, the high-end hotel brand of HNA Hospitality Group, Tangla Hotel Tlanjin carries out Tangla brand core values of "Harmony, Elegance, Excellence and Serenity", and successfully launched the uniquely personalized Tangla Ambassador Service. By delivering the oriental hospitality, Tangla Ambassador Service brings every quest an exclusive cultural and luxury experience. It is the Tangla Ambassador Service, a new luxury hotel operating system that enhances hotel service quality to the highest standard and makes Tangla Hotel Tianjin stand out from the selection.

PARTING SHOT

老当益壮

在上公交车的时候,我这个大块头经常会被瘦弱的老太太挤到一边。她们总是在车门打开的一刹那突然窜到你前面,迅速上车,直奔空座位冲过去。其实她们大可不必如此,我如果看到她一定会让她先上车,也不会和她抢你位。

千万别小看这些外表孱弱的老人家! 你在自己的国家见过这么大年纪的人还骑自行车吗? 在中国他们可以,而且还是在这么危险的道路上。

我问我的中国朋友,为什么这些老人总是那么着急,什么都要抢。他回答说,因为他们经历过物资匮乏的年代,所以是不是能够站在队首往往是一天一地的差别。但是我没有要和他们争抢的意思啊?我朋友说:"他们不了解你的想法,他们只看到一个大个子将在他们前面了。"

好吧,我明白了!以后远远看到他们我就先让出一条道,让他们顺利上车,不用再推来挤去了!

Old But Tough

By Paula Taylor

he other day, not for the first time I may add, I was jostled out of the way by an old lady of 70 plus years as I was trying to get on the bus. She had come from nowhere, slipped into a gap in the queue and shoved her shopping trolley into my guts with the strength of Hercules. She actually prevented me from getting on the bus before her, and even though she looked as delicate as a sheet of paper, once on the bus she charged up the aisle desperate to get to a free seat before I did. The thing is I have been taught to give way to my elders, and had I seen her before, i.e. had she been actually queuing, I would have let her get on the bus before me, and of course I would have let her sit down. It amazes me they also shove each other in the fight to be first.

Don't let their frail appearance fool you, have you seen seniors of 60 and 70 years old in your country still riding bikes? They do here, and they have more courage than I do, fearlessly wending and weaving their way through the hazardous traffic. The first time I got on the metro in Beijing, I was first in line, but suddenly, I don't quite know how, as the doors opened the old folk behind me seemed to gain wings and they rushed on from all directions - I was left standing up for the whole journey, which was fine, but I was really mystified as to where they had come from, as they weren't behind me in the queue, and I couldn't fathom out how they had managed to board the train with such speed. Having beaten me to the seats they sat there smiling in satisfaction. I was much younger, than them, much taller and heavier AND I was a foreigner - and I was outwitted and outrun by the septuagenarian mafia.

I asked a Chinese friend "Why are these old people so "active" when it suits them?" No sweet old lady or gentlemen- like behaviour for them. The answer is this, they come from a time when they had to fight for everything. Being the first in the queue meant the difference between life and death. "But I will let them get on the bus before me, they don't need to shove me out of the way", I protested. My friend said "They do not know you will let them get on before you, all they can see is a big person in their way". The strange thing is, although they fight to get to the front of the

my seat to them – only for them to let their strapping grandchild sit in it.

These folk of mature years are actually stronger than I am, I can't push and shove. However now that I know the reason for their determination to be first, that they have lived through turbulent times and come out the other side, I admire their resilience. Next time I see an old person in the queue, I will step out

of the way before they can shove me and I will say "nín xiān shàng" which means "You first". It will be safer in the long run and that way I won't need to spend the journey fuming.

queue and fight to get to the seats, if I am on the bus and sitting down and see an old

person get on, I immediately get up and offer

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