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### **Hung Men Handbook 2002 ISBN 0 9578013 5 1**

A translation of a rare 150-year-old manuscript found in Bendigo.  
A 19<sup>th</sup> century booklet used by successive Hung Men group leaders, containing legends, poems, rituals signs & ceremonies, symbols, designs of flags, banners and other objects, philosophical teachings and applications, for instruction and discipline of League members.

### **Hung Men Handbook - Commentary and Annotation - Parts I & II 2005 ISBN 0 9750542 3 6**

-comprises 475 pages divided into Parts 1 & 2 containing 6 chapters and 3 appendices.

Chapter 1 considers a series of books published since 1866 dealing with the Hung Men the most outstanding of which are by Schlegel (1866) and Stanton (1900). It touches on the legitimacy and spread of the Hung Men in terms of the traditional myth of 九箭 *jiu jian* **nine arrows** 射 shooting down 九日 nine suns and scattering them throughout the 九州 Nine Provinces of antiquity China. The resident three-legged raven of each fallen sun is symbolised by a 鼎 *ding*, a three three-legged antiquity vessel with two ears (handles). It also gives a brief account of the Hung Men struggle against the Imperial Qing authority and the subsequent rise of the 清 Qing Pang (Green Pang) which was epitomised in the 19<sup>th</sup> century by the revolution led by Hung Xiu Quan, the self-proclaimed King of Tai Ping Tian Guo (the Heavenly Peace Kingdom, 1851-1868). This later evolved into support for the establishment of a Republic of China by Dr. Sun Yat San in 1911, and the peak of the Hung Pang (Red Pang) emerging as the Chinese Masonic Lodge or Society.<sup>1</sup>

Using the Hung Men Handbook and this Commentary and Annotation, and extracting the encrypted keys they reveal, it is possible to accurately interpret various artefacts or remnants of temples and cemeteries found throughout Australia, as well as documents in museums, State Archives or Record Offices, and private collections. This enhances deeper and broader understanding of the experiences of Chinese immigrants scattered throughout the eastern Colonies in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. This book can also serve as a reference dictionary and a decoder.

In addition the author also considers how the Handbook is structured, based in no small measure on association of ideas such as is found in The Romance of the Three Kingdoms, The Water Margin, The Three Hundred Tang Poems, Gu Wen Guan Zhi and Journey to the West.

Chapter 4 incorporates a brief account of a Caucasian Hung League formed by a group of Western Masons of Victoria and New South Wales in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. They had studied the Hung Men, based mainly on the texts produced by Stirling & Ward, and had the noble idea of reviving their "dying-out" teachings to present back to the Chinese. By 1950 this entire group was no more, although at a Masonic conference in more recent times an account was given of that Caucasian Hung League.

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<sup>1</sup> The Chinese Masonic Lodge has no direct affiliation with Western Masons.

## Chinese Cemeteries in Australia - Series 2002-2006

**Volume 1 November 2002 ISBN 0 9578013 7 8**

### **Campbell's Creek Old Chinese Section of Cemetery in Castlemaine, Victoria**

This volume includes author's remark, districts of origin, surname groupings, lineage and lodge formation, symbolism, deities.

-concerns Chinese burials at Campbell's Creek. There were over 90 Chinese gravestones in this part of the Castlemaine Cemetery. About a dozen of them date as far back as the 1860s. The majority of the interred were immigrants from the Si Yi (Sze Yap) Four Districts of Guangdong Province in China. The graves were grouped into a pattern symbolising a miniature China, in accord with the myth of nine 鼎 Ding, vessels of antiquity each with three legs and two ears (handles), which represented a transformation of the residential three-legged ravens of the fallen suns which scattered over the nine provinces of China. The study also shows that instead of the usual lineage formation, these Castlemaine Chinese immigrants formed same surname or clan lodges affiliated to the Hung League and that they venerated Guan-di with his Red Hare, and the Thunder God at their Joss Houses.

**Volume 2 2003 ISBN 0 9578013 7 8**

### **Bendigo Cemetery, Victoria**

Introduction, Pomelo tree, map, plot layout, cemetery records, comments on calligraphy & symbols, notes on name groups & origins, burial practices, death (dates of, age bands at, occupations at, causes of), naming practices.

-concerns 50 Chinese gravestones in Bendigo Cemetery, located in Carpenter Street, Quarry Hill. About two thirds of the gravestones bear the dates of death of the interred. Of the stone markers, 15 indicate the deceased died in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, mainly in the last decade, but the earliest in 1863. The book deals with a number of different issues eg. the place of origin (majority from the Four Districts) and surname groupings in addition to a study of names, naming Practices and symbolic references. Of interest are revelations about the existence of followers of 洪秀全 Hung Xiu Quan, the Heavenly King of the 太平天国 tai ping tian guo **Heavenly Peaceful Kingdom** encrypted in the inscriptions on Gravestone No. 5. On pp. 11-15 is a detailed plot layout of the Bendigo Cemetery complemented by 7 pages of 126 detailed entries of burials in the Cemetery Trust records.

**Volume 3 2003 ISBN 09578013 7 8 (series)**

### **Echuca, Avoca, Rutherglen, Yackandandah, Ararat, Vaughan, Pennyweight Flat, Cemeteries, Victoria**

Diagrams of Districts in Guangdong; Victorian towns; brief notes and layout of graves in each cemetery; short analysis.

-about Chinese sections of various cemeteries in Victoria.

An obelisk in Echuca Cemetery indicates the presence of the Chinese Masonic Society. The 聚宝炉 Burner for Assembled Treasures, akin to the Hung Men 拾宝堂 Ten Treasures (Collection) Hall, and the obelisk together indicate the Hung League was the origin of the Chinese Masonic Society.

As for Avoca, there remain a burner and five gravestones standing but with inscriptions eroded away, to mark the presence of over 120 Chinese in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.<sup>2</sup> Amongst them a few were already over 40 when they arrived in Australia, suggesting they could perhaps have been amongst some of the Batches of half pardoned convicts transported from the Crown Colony of

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<sup>2</sup> Entries in Death Register record.

Hongkong between 1842 and 1875. Alternatively they might have been mature members sent out by the Hung Men to provide leadership and to supervise Gold mining ventures.

Ararat Cemetery now has 13 Chinese gravestones to mark the thousands who once worked in the Ararat Mining District.

Apart from two dating around 1858 markers of Chinese graves in Vaughan are now just stumps. An important memorial monument was erected in this section of the cemetery by the Chinese Masonic Society (the Chinese Association) to commemorate the restoration of this burial ground in 1928.

**Volume 3 2nd Ed April 2004 ISBN 09578013 9 4 (series)**

**Echuca, Avoca, Rutherglen, Yackandandah, Dunolly, Ararat, Vaughan, Pennyweight Flat, Wangaratta, Victoria**

Diagrams of Districts in Guangdong; Victorian towns; Brief notes and layout of graves in each cemetery; short analysis.

Corrections **Dunolly (replaces Eddington), & addition: Wangaratta.**

corrects the misnomer of Dunolly (previously identified as Eddington, which has no Chinese gravestones remaining), expands the information on Yackandandah, and includes a new Section on Wangaratta. Of particular Interest is Gravestone No. 38 on which deference is paid to

- 康 *kang happy*, which also stands for 康王 *kang wang King Kang*, who was one of the lesser kings of the Heavenly King Hung Xiu Quan of Tai Ping Tian Guo (the Heavenly Peace Kingdom, 1851-1868).
- 杨 *yang willow* which may be short for 木杨城 *mu yang cheng Willow Wood City* of the Hung Men.

**Volume 4 2003 ISBN 09578013 7 8 (series)**

**Albury Pioneer Cemetery, Wagga Wagga Monumental Cemetery, Braidwood Cemetery, Tumut pioneer Cemetery, St Johns Anglican Cemetery Bolong, Jerilderie Cemetery, NSW**

Map of NSW towns, preliminary remarks, Plot layout, Comments, General analysis – name groups & origins, deities, cohesion of stones.

- concerns Chinese graves in various cemeteries in New South Wales.

It shows evidence of activities of the Green and Red Pangs and the Chinese Masonic Society in Albury, Wagga Wagga, Braidwood and Bolong.

Jerilderie has unique brick markers on its Chinese graves.

**Volume 5 2004 ISBN 09578013 7 8 (series)**

**White Hills Cemetery, Victoria**

Introduction, deities, cosmology & philosophy, heroes & legends, map of Guangdong districts, map of Bendigo, layout of cemetery plots, analysis – clans, names, origins, symbolism, the Four Districts, Glossary of Names.

Concerns Chinese graves in White Hills Cemetery, Bendigo, Victoria. It deals with 215 gravestones and an obelisk of the Chinese Masons. Similarly to Volume 2, many of the interred were surnamed 雷 Lei and about 50 % came from the Four Districts.

**Volume 6 2004 ISBN 09578013 7 8 (series)**

**Rookwood Cemetery, Chinese Section I (1868 – 1920), Sydney**

- concerns Chinese burials in Section 1 (1868-1920), and in Haslem Drive, of the Rookwood Cemetery in Sydney. This work provides an interpretation of the name 广善堂 Guang Shan Tang of the “Victorian style” pavilion and its function on ritual occasions, and documents about one hundred gravestones, matching many with Cemetery Trust Day Books (entries from which are appended) and providing a layout of the actual sites of the markers. The

book contains two essays, one at the front and one at the back which consider –

- Occupants of the cemetery
- Contemporary Population in the Colony
- Historical context
- Smallpox and other health issues
- Stability of Chinese population
- Summary and contemporary issues
- Revenue from Poll Tax

**Volume 7 Parts I & II 2005 ISBN 0 9750542 (Pt1) & (Pt2)**

**Rookwood Cemetery, Chinese Section III (1917 – 1945), Sydney**

Chinese Pavilion, Map of China, Cemetery grave plot layout, Analysis – name groups & origins, District associations, Clan lineage or lodge formation, calligraphy, Age bands, places of death, burial practices, prevalence of lodges in Australia, Hung Men folklore and history, Appendix: Cemetery Day Book entries; Appendix: Glossary of names.

- sequel to Volume 6, covering interments in Chinese Section 3 of the Rookwood Cemetery between 1917 and 1945. It concerns mainly the offspring of the early pioneer Chinese in Sydney. It presents an accurate documentation of some 597 gravestones. Cross matching of burial records with gravestones is provided, as well as discussion of each gravestone, and many more register entries are appended. This book demonstrates the role played by lodges or associations in repatriating the remains of members to native villages in China.

Of special interest are Gravestone Nos. 60, 525 and 589 –

- No. 60 relates to the Grand Master of the Chinese Masonic Lodge in Sydney who died in July 1919.
- Encrypted on No. 525 is the message that in the August Moon Festival one may deduce the identity of the old man in the moon who is repeatedly hacking down a solitary tree.
- No. 589 may be interpreted as the 侯公 Honourable Marquis 康王 Prince or King Kang of 廣西 Guangxi Province, a lesser King of Hung Xiu Quan, the Heavenly King of Tai Ping Tian Guo (Heavenly Peace Kingdom) who assumed the throne in southern China (1851-1864). In Atherton in Queensland there is a 侯王廟 Hou Wang Miao (temple) dedicated to King Kang.<sup>3</sup>

**Volume 8 2004 ISBN 09578013 7 8**

**Beechworth Cemetery, Beechworth, Victoria**

Introduction history (gold period), Aspects of Chinese Beliefs concerning Death, Records of 19<sup>th</sup> Century Chinese & their communities, Maps, Plot Layout; Beechworth Twin Towers – paper burners; Deities; Cosmology & philosophy, heroes & legends; Aspects of Chinese populations of Victoria & NSW, Gold production; Commentary on Monument to Pioneer Forebears; Name groups, origins & details on gravestones, made-up words, Hung Men terms and usages; Links between cemetery & other historical material in Beechworth. Appendix: Cemetery Trust Records, Commentary on tabulated materials; naturalisation; Glossary of names.

-published in 2004 to commemorate the opening of the Chinese Cultural Centre in Beechworth, concerns Chinese burials in Sections A & B of the Beechworth Cemetery. 461 Gravestones were meticulously documented and interpreted with commentary where appropriate. There is an explanation as to

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<sup>3</sup> See Volume 3 [Chinese Temples in Australia](#).

why two groups of gravestones are facing each other, which involves the fact that a great number of the interred were members of the An Qing Pang.

**Volume 9 2005 ISBN 9780-0750542-1-5 (Series)**

**Maryborough, Maldon, Inglewood, St. Arnaud, Warrachnabeal, Dimboola, Stawell, Beaufort, Smythesdale, Smythe's Creek, Linton, Buninyong, Blackwood, Heathcote, Bairnsdale, Omeo, Harrierville, Bright, Buckland, Chiltern and Daylesford Cemeteries, Victoria**

Map of Victorian towns; General remarks; Layout & analysis of each location; -concerns Chinese graves in cemeteries in various Victorian towns, including many photographs providing a more immediate and realistic context. Historical context provided wherever possible with statistical tables relating to population, naturalisation, occupation, and especially the numbers of Chinese in the studied districts.

**Volume 10 2006 ISBN**

**Chinese Graves at Weldborough, Moorina, Gladstone, Branxholm, & Lefroy, North East Tasmania**

**Chinese Graves in Cemeteries in Darwin, Northern Territory**

**Chinese cemetery, Broome, Western Australia**

- divided into three sections, on North East Tasmania, Darwin in the Northern Territory, and Broome in Western Australia. Wherever feasible a photograph is provided of the place under discussion and a photograph of each gravestone considered is incorporated, to facilitate visual appreciation of the object in question.

Five tables relating to Tasmanian produce (eg. gold, tin, wheat & wool), population and general economy as well as assisted & free immigrants in the Colonies are incorporated. In the case of Broome seven tables tabulate names and districts of origin of the interred, their ages at death, Western Australia population, Statistics from 1873 to 1881 and Chinese burial entries in Broome Cemetery Register.

**Volume 11 2005 ISBN 9 78097554260**

**Chinese Graves & Burners at - Bathurst, Gulgong, Dubbo, Parkes, Wellington, Nyngan, Cobar, Little Bay, North Head Quarantine Station, Cooma, Cowra, Hay, Narrandera, Hill End, Deniliquin, Sofala, NSW**

**& records of burials at - Cootamundra, Young, Wentworth, Balranald, Tumbarumba, Old Junee, Bega & Wilcannia, NSW**

Map of NSW towns, introduction 19<sup>th</sup> century historical context; consideration and analysis of location, plot layout, calligraphy, symbolism, Hung Men groupings, population statistics, places of origin, occupations pursued, deity references; Death Registry information; General remarks on Chinese in various NSW Districts in 19<sup>th</sup> century.

- concerns Chinese graves and burners and records of burials in various cemeteries in New South Wales. In this volume population details are provided for each town or district under discussion (if available). Here too, many photographs are provided to enhance the presentation.

- Gravestone No. 5 illustrates the Hung Men method of dissecting a character into its meaningful parts. Encrypted within the 梁 beam is the 亞 Ah generation.
- Three Chinese gravestones at the Hill End Museum possibly date from the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. But it is the little Chinese account book the museum holds which contains important information on various Hung League members sending gold dust and gold coins back to China via carriers.

## Chinese Temples in Australia – Series 2005-

### **Volume 1 2005 ISBN 0975 0542 01 (v.1)**

#### **Castlemaine, Maryborough, Bairnsdale, Daylesford, Bright, Harrietville and Beechworth, Victoria**

Volume 1 (published 2005) concerns former temples in Castlemaine, Maryborough, Bairnsdale, Daylesford, Bright, Harrietville and Beechworth – all in Victoria. Based on a few photographs, a small wooden shrine and a few remnants of 19<sup>th</sup> century Chinese Joss Houses – mostly wooden tablets and plaques – the author was able to demonstrate that in Australia –

- Many Chinese gold miners in the 19<sup>th</sup> century were members of the An Qing Pang or Hung Men League, which organisations were comprised of many lodge groups, with each lodge operating its own temple i.e. the members of the lodge comprised the congregation of the Joss House.
- Among the lodges in Australia were many followers of 洪秀全 Hung Xiu Quan, the Heavenly King (1851-1864) of the 太平天国 *tai ping tian guo* **Tai Ping Tian Guo (Heavenly Peace Kingdom)** (1851-1868) and possibly of one of his lesser kings.

### **Volume 2 2006 ISBN**

#### **Sze Yap Guan-di Temple in Glebe, Sydney New South Wales**

Volume 2 has long been in its final draft but priorities occasioned by urgent calls for other books have delayed its publication. Hopefully it will be available in 2006. It concerns the Guan-di temple in Edward Street Glebe, Sydney. Its format provides a guided tour of this temple built by the Sze Yap (Four Districts) people, and not only deals with it as a house of Gods, discussing their images and philosophies, but also touches on the Hung Men principle of temple philosophy dictating geomancy. One important aspect of this book is the methodology developed by the author of applying some key encoded phrases extracted from the Hung Men Handbook translated by the author (published 2002) and further developed in his Commentary and Annotation (2005). Using this methodology one discovers a completely different picture of a 忠义堂 *zhong yi tang* **Hall of Loyalty and Righteousness** and 潘祖黄氏庵 *pan zu huang shi an* **Patriarch Pan natal Huang Nunnery** – and observes the illusion of a temple within a temple.

### **Volume 3 2006 ISBN**

#### **Hou Wang Miao in Atherton Queensland**

This book is about a Chinese Joss House in Atherton, Queensland. The temple itself is titled “侯王庙” Hou Wang Miao – King Marquis Temple. Because the icon or portrait of the principal deity is absent one cannot immediately identify the deity to which the temple is dedicated, but in this book a study is made of the temple building and its contents, with a view to identifying its icons, its philosophy and congregation, in the process deducing its principal deity, and information about its followers in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

### **Volume 4 2005 ISBN 978 097505 4277 (v.4)**

#### **Lie Sheng Gong (Hall of Ranking Sages) in Darwin Wu Di Miao in Fisherman’s Creek, Darwin & Lie Sheng Gong in Pine Creek Northern Territory**

- concerns Temples in the Northern Territory (principally Darwin) in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. It deals with a long lost Warrior Emperor Temple. The only

surviving photograph of one Darwin temple enabled the author to some extent to reconstruct its past history. This too applies to a former temple at Pine Creek which served miners in the region when gold was discovered in 1873, only the floor of which can now be found. Importantly the photograph of the Pine Creek temple clearly shows a triangular flag and its design, enabling the author to establish its connection with the Darwin temple at Litchfield and Wood Streets, and the intimate relationship of each with the Hung League. Of equal importance, the work demonstrates the evolution of the Chinese Association or Society and its interconnection with the temple, providing insights into important aspects of the history of the Chinese in Darwin, and thus of both Territorian, and Australian history. It also demonstrates connections between Territorian Chinese who were sympathisers of the movement of the 太平天国 *tai ping tian guo* **Tai Ping Tian Guo (Heavenly Peace Kingdom)** of 洪秀全 Hung Xiu Quan. Its publication has been supported by the Darwin Chung Wah Society (Chinese Association) which celebrated its publication at Chinese New Year, January 2006.

**Volume 5 2006 ISBN**

**The Hall of Ranking Sages  
(Lie Sheng Gong) in Innisfail, &  
The Hall of Martyr Heroes  
(Lie Sheng Gong) in Rockhampton  
Queensland**

- concerns two temples in Queensland, the 列圣宫 Lie Sheng Gong (**Hall of Ranking Sages**) in Innisfail and the 烈圣宫 Lie Sheng Gong (**Hall of Martyr Heroes**) in Rockhampton.

- Section 1 documents, translates and interprets the principal artefacts of the Innisfail temple – 列圣宫 Lie Sheng Gong (Hall of Ranking Sages). Artefacts are dated so as to indicate the temple was built as late as 1897, about 25 years after gold was discovered in the Palmer River region in 1873. It was not gold which made the Chinese community flourish but agricultural pursuits.
- Section 2 concerns a little-known temple the 烈圣宫 Lie Sheng Gong (Hall of Martyr Heroes) presently housed at the rear section of the premises of the Rockhampton Chinese Association.
- The book deals with the evolution of temple custodians from lodges to Associations.

**Chinese Lodges in Australia 2005 ISBN 978 0975 054222**

Using previously unknown methods, documents the presence in Australia in the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries of over 90 separate Chinese associations or lodges, showing similarities and differences between them, listing their names, dates and localities, and demonstrates their links with others. It highlights philosophical, social and economic links between Australian colonies and overseas, and considers the functions of lodges, particularly having regard to traditional clan, lineage and kinship systems. It extensively discusses the organisation of Chinese miners in groups working on the gold fields, the ways capital was invested, the conditions under which labour was provided, how finance was raised and spent, and how profits were distributed. Provides consideration of historical context in China, South-East Asia & Australia; Reference to artefacts in Albury Sydney & Bolong in NSW, Bendigo Castlemaine & Melbourne in Victoria, Rockhampton & Innisfail in Queensland, Darwin in the Northern Territory, various towns in North-East Tasmania, and Broome in Western Australia; Translation and interpretation of temple panels, lodge membership certificates, accounting records, letters & gravestones.