



Sydney Chinese Lions

## Wealth Management Forum November 2012

**A Financial Forum** that is free and non-promotional just sounds too good to be true. But, it did happen on Saturday, 24 November, 2012. Sydney Chinese Lions organised this very successful Forum at which five high profile financial specialists interacted with some 100 members of the general public. At the conclusion of the Forum, nobody wanted to leave. The audience all congregated around the speakers asking questions and seeking more information. For those who attended, it was such a wonderful and educational experience.

"Unspoken Secret" was from Raymond, who is a business partner of RBS-Morgans. He explained how Investment Banks, Fund Managers and Stock Brokers operate and the risks when dealing with them. As he unveiled the reasons why Facebook's share value plummeted by 50% in less than six months after its IPO earned a loud round of applause from the audience.

Dr Wang is a Professor from the University of Technology and Science. His findings are most intriguing - in terms of long term return in the stock market: those with high IQ and good educational background have an advantage; single females perform better than males (excluding P.R.C.); individual buyers cannot win over finance companies or Foreign Funds. I was so glad that I always hold that opportunism does not pay - so individuals like myself do need to think twice before taking a plunge into the stock market.

Cindy is a CPA from Tax Master. She touched on many topics regarding taxation and negative gearing. Most members of the audience own investment properties or are planning to



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purchase some more. Cindy was made to work extra hard as there were numerous questions from the audience in her FAQ segment. She also stressed that it is important to keep an eye on any possible changes in negative gearing policies imposed by the government.

Steven Yu is the Managing Director of Sunstar Capital/Longton Properties and an experienced lawyer. He focused on a major topic: Sino-Australia Cross-Border Investments. To our delight, he presented in a most interesting and easy-to-understand manner. Thanks to Australia's stable economy, its friendly multicultural environment, its well established and legal system, Australia continues to attract Chinese investors. Steven shared with the audience a couple of Mining and Property Development cases. He gave suggestions on how to avoid misleading input as well as demonstrated ways to minimise risk and maximise return.

Financial Planner Diana works for AMP. She identified common errors in personal wealth management: some people do not have a

good knowledge of their personal assets, others have poor journal or budgeting while some others neglect long term planning. Diana suggested that the last thing you want to do is when you see others have a promising return and follow suit without considering your personal financial circumstances.

The highlight of the Forum were the Panel Discussions. The five speakers sat down together with MC Duncan and Elaine on the stage, sharing their points of view on the stock and trade markets, funds and personal assets management, tax and legal matters as well as the Australian economy. At the conclusion of the Forum, as stated above, the speakers were surrounded by the audience who swamped them with questions.

I am so grateful that Sydney Chinese Lions has organised such an impressive educational event for the public. The Lions' motto is "We serve". My tribute to these dedicated Lions is, "Go Lions go! The fragrance always stays in the hand that gives the rose."

Reported by Lion Sophie He