

Meet-up Cogitamus

21 April 2018



Penrith MUSEUM of PRINTING

The Penrith Museum of Printing
presents recitation around
letters and printing

Presentation

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Chinese printing
history
Early development
of printing In
China and Asia

Meet-up Cogitamus (thinking) is a forum for people interested in graphic art, letters, books and design.

The Penrith Museum of Printing organises regular informative presentations, which will each highlight a single aspect within the target audience.

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The presentations are set in the atmosphere of the museums 1940 letterpress print house.

Through a multitude of good visual content presentations it will provide the audience, food for thought and to consistently push the boundaries around one's own knowledge.



Stephanus Peters
Dr Chinese
Philosophy

Chinese printing history

Early development of printing in China and Asia

Dr Stephanus 思凡 Peters **Managing Partner PEGRAS**

Senior executive with extensive leadership and operational experience driving sales, marketing and business development across Europe and Asia-Pacific.

Recognised strategist with unique technical and commercial skill sets with extensive knowledge of all aspects of the Printing industry with main focus on the Newspaper production and all surrounding aspects of Media.

Takes personal responsibility to look for opportunities for self and team improvement, to energise teamwork to meet and exceed growth expectations.

PEGRAS (Peters Global Research and Analytical Services).

Extensive management and line experience in executing successful business development strategies into Asia Pacific as part of the PEGRAS network. Including business restructuring and optimisation for supply partners to extract maximum value from joint ventures.

Specialties:

- Asian business-cultural and languages expertise
- Business transformation / Efficiency optimisation.
- Strategic Planning / Technology Management
- Agency Development / Agency Logistics
- Research & Development

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Chinese printing history

Early development of printing in China and Asia

Before the introduction of printing in Europe, around 1450 AD, The dark art of reproducing text and images was already well established in East Asia.

Traders around the Silk Road had broad already for many centuries' products and developments from the east.

Marco Polo, the Italian merchant, explorer, and writer, recorded in his 1300 AD, "*Book of the Marvels of the World*", the wealth, technology and great size of China and its capital Beijing.

Books, writing on bone, shells, wood and silk was prevalent in China long before the 2nd century BC, until paper was invented in China around the 1st century AD.

Texts were reproduced by woodblock printing, the diffusion of Buddhist texts was a main impetus to large-scale production. The format of the book evolved with intermediate stages of scrolls folded accordion-style, scrolls bound at one edge ("butterfly books") and so on.

Although there is no exact date known, somewhere between 618 and 907 AD in the period of the Tang Dynasty, the first printing of books started in China.

The oldest extant printed book is a work of the Diamond Sutra and dates back to 868 AD, during the Tang Dynasty. The Diamond Sutra was printed by method of woodblock printing, a strenuous method in which the text to be printed would be carved into a woodblock's surface, essentially to be used to stamp the words onto the writing surface medium. Woodblock printing was a common process for the reproduction of already handwritten texts during the earliest stages of book printing. This process was incredibly time-consuming.

Because of the meticulous and time-consuming process that woodblock printing was, **Bi Sheng**, a key contributor to the history of printing, invented the process of movable type printing (1041-1048 AD). Bi Sheng developed a printing process in which written text could be copied with the use of formed character types, the earliest types being made of ceramic or clay material.

By the 10 century, 400,000 copies of some sutras and pictures were printed, and the Confucian classics were in print. A skilled printer could print up to 2,000 double-page sheets per day.

Where as the east was printing already for 1000 years the first printed books appeared in the west around the 10-century inspired by trade links between East and West

With Marco Polo and later Jesuit monks the technology had been transferred to the west.

Penrith Museum of Printing

NEWS

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Chinese printing history,
- Printing in early Australia
- Gutenberg verses Coster
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The Penrith Museum of Printing is located in the grounds of the Penrith Showground / Paceway, Ransley Street Penrith, NSW Australia.

www.printingmuseum.org.au
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