

**TAIPEI REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE IN THE UK**

駐英國台北代表處

**MESSAGE FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE**

With President Tsai's recent praise for Taiwan-UK bilateral ties, February has begun on a very positive note.

I would like to echo her praise of the new representative of the British Office Taipei, Ms Catherine Nettleton. Having had the pleasure of meeting Ms Nettleton myself last October, I can say that the British Office is in the hands of a very experienced and capable diplomat, who we can be confident will work tirelessly to promote Taiwan-UK relations.

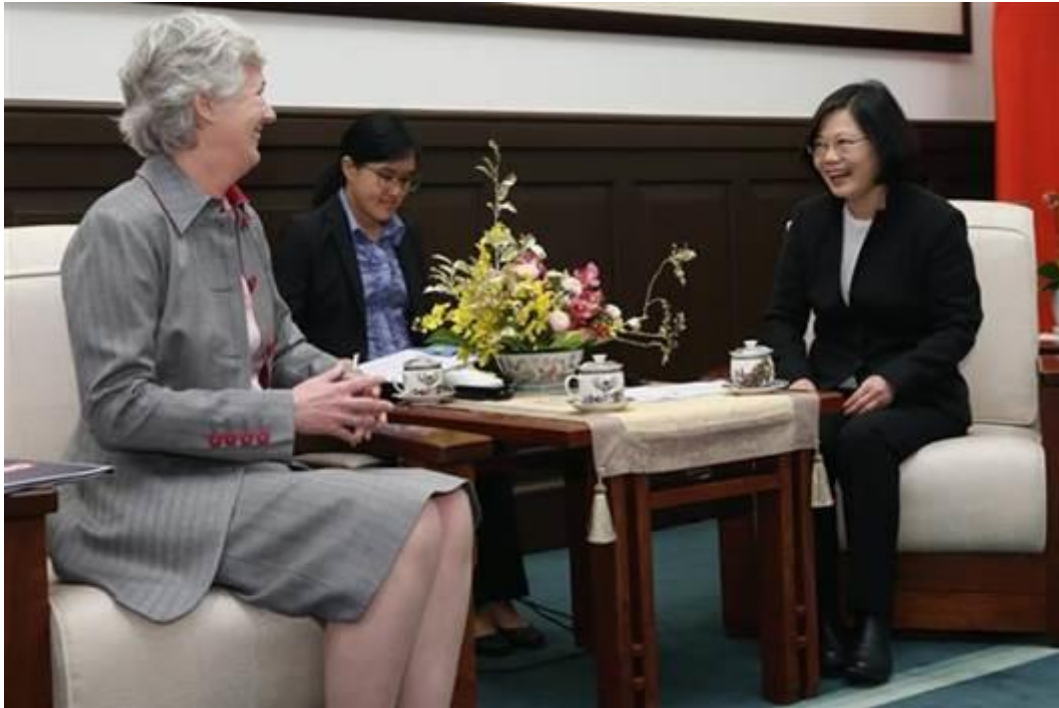
Back in London, I greatly appreciated the opportunity to meet with the Archbishop of Westminster, when we held constructive discussions on Taiwan and the Holy See's efforts in combatting cross-border crime. The recent delegation I led to the Borough of Greenwich Council has also provided my office with much food for thought, as Taiwan and the UK prepare to pursue more dialogue in smart cities.

In the cultural field, it was a pleasure to see the work of the renowned Taiwanese artist Tu Wei-cheng on display at London's Victoria and Albert Museum. Meanwhile, I was also heartened to co-host an award ceremony with Taiwan's Chou, Ta-Kuan Foundation at our office.

**Representative David Y. L. Lin**

**PRESIDENT TSAI MEETS REPRESENTATIVE CATHERINE NETTLETON OF**

## BRITISH OFFICE TAIPEI



On 24 January, President Tsai Ing-wen met with a delegation led by Catherine Nettleton, the new representative of the British Office Taipei. During the meeting, the president lauded Taiwan-UK ties and outlined her government's plans for Taiwan's greater international participation.

President Tsai told the delegation that Taiwan holds its British ties in high regard, and said she is pleased to see the continued development of bilateral exchanges between the two countries. Expressing her hopes for the continued enhancement of economic and trade relations, the president said she was confident there will be many opportunities for cooperation between Taiwan and the UK in the so called '5 plus 2' industrial development projects including the Internet of Things, biotech and pharmaceuticals, green energy, smart machinery, national defence, new agriculture, and the circular economy.

Highlighting her objectives to achieve greater international participation for Taiwan, the president cited her commitment to international collaboration on economics, security, and humanitarian issues, as well as her will to share Taiwan's experience in the development of democracy, science, human rights, and the economy. She added that Taiwan and the UK can build upon existing foundations by enhancing cooperation, facing challenges, and

making contributions to global society in unison.

The president also praised Representative Nettleton as a 'highly qualified and seasoned diplomat' who is no stranger to Taiwan, referring to her study of Chinese in the country 30 years ago. President Tsai expressed much confidence in the appointment of the new Representative and wished her an enjoyable tenure in the post.

Also included in the delegation were Damion Potter, Deputy Representative of the British Office Taipei, and David Snower, head of the British Office Political Section.

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## **TRO HOSTS AWARD CEREMONY FOR WINNERS OF THE 'FERVENT GLOBAL LOVE OF LIVES AWARD'**



On 26 January, the Taipei Representative Office in the UK (TRO), and Taiwan's charity organisation Chou, Ta Kuan Foundation co-hosted a ceremony for the 'Fervent Global

Love of Lives Award'.

At the ceremony, Representative David Y.L. Lin presented Mr Martin Pistorious, Mr Felix Finkbeiner, and Ms Sacha Dench with the award, which is given to individuals recommended for one of four virtues: braveness, love, endeavour, or achievement.

The Representative paid tribute to the moving and inspiring stories of each award winner, while also congratulating the Chou, Ta-kuan Foundation on their outstanding work.

Martin Pistorius (bottom, centre), won the award after making an extraordinary recovery from 'locked-in syndrome', having spent over a decade unable to move or communicate. While Felix Finkbeiner (centre, right) and Sacha Dench (right) were both nominated for their endeavours in environmental conservation, with Mr Finkbeiner having founded the Plant-for-the-Planet Campaign in 2008, and Ms Dench working tirelessly to conserve swans and their wetlands through the Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust.

To date, 380 people from 53 countries among all continents have received the Chou, Ta-kuan Foundation's award. The Foundation was established in 1997 by Chou Chin-Hua (far left) and Guo Ying-Lan, whose son, Chou Ta-Kuan, died aged nine after a long and brave fight with cancer.

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**ARCHBISHOP OF WESTMINSTER WELCOMES TAIWAN'S EFFORTS IN  
TACKLING CROSS-BORDER CRIME**



On 2 February Representative Lin met with the Archbishop of Westminster, Cardinal Vincent Nichols, exchanging views on a range of challenging global issues, such as human trafficking and modern day slavery.

In the meeting at Archbishop's House, the archbishop welcomed Taiwan's participation in global anti-trafficking and slavery mechanisms. He also detailed the Holy See's contribution to international anti-trafficking efforts through the Santa Marta Group, a catholic organisation that has brought bishops, police chiefs, and law enforcement agencies together to eliminate the practice.

Representative Lin said Taiwan's is deeply committed to combatting such issues through participation in international efforts, citing its collaboration with the Holy See and the United States in providing humanitarian assistance worldwide. Representative Lin also highlighted Taiwan's efforts in cooperating with neighbouring countries in the Asia-Pacific and praised the Archbishop's achievements in helping to establish the Santa Marta Group.

The meeting preceded a reception held at Archbishop's House on 6 February, where

Representative Lin and the Archbishop of Westminster were both present at the farewell reception for Archbishop Antonio Mennini, the Holy See's Apostolic Nuncio in Great Britain.

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## **REPRESENTATIVE LIN LEADS DELEGATION TO VISIT GREENWICH SMART CITIES TEAM**



On 3 February, a delegation led by Representative Lin visited 'Digital Greenwich', a multidisciplinary team specialising in smart cities that was established in 2015 by Greenwich Borough Council.

The delegation was greeted by Trevor Dorling, the director of Digital Greenwich (DG), and Denise Hyland, the leader of Greenwich Borough Council, before being given an introduction to the aims and structure of the DG team, and DG's current smart city projects. They were also briefed on council's position on smart city innovation, and local



development challenges in the borough.

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## **REPRESENTATIVE LIN ATTENDS APPG ON SMART CITIES' NEW YEAR RECEPTION**



At the invitation of Mark Prisk MP, Chairman of the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Smart Cities, Representative Lin attended the group's New Year Reception on 1 February. Held in parliament's Churchill Room, the reception celebrated the UK's current smart city expertise and export potential, while looking ahead to future developments and areas for cooperation.

Rt Hon. Greg Hands MP, the UK's Minister of State for International Trade, was present at the event, where he delivered a speech highlighting the UK's expertise in smart cities. Mr Hands, who chaired the recent Taiwan-UK annual consultation on economics and trade, said the UK had put great effort into the development of smart cities. He also stated

that there was great potential for cooperation in this field with Taiwan.

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## TAIWANESE ARTIST JOINS EUROPE-THEMED EXHIBITION AT THE V&A



The work of Tu Wei-Cheng, one of Taiwan's leading artists, has featured at an exhibition at London's Victoria and Albert Museum. The 'Collecting Europe' exhibition, which ran from 1-7 February, asked 12 artists to imagine what it would be like to live in the year 4017 and observe artefacts from 2017.

Tu Wei-cheng approached the question by designing a distorted and corroded installation set. Posing as an archaeological site discovered in 4017, the fragmented metal plate intrigues the archaeologists of an imaginary future as they ponder what sealed the fate of European civilisation.

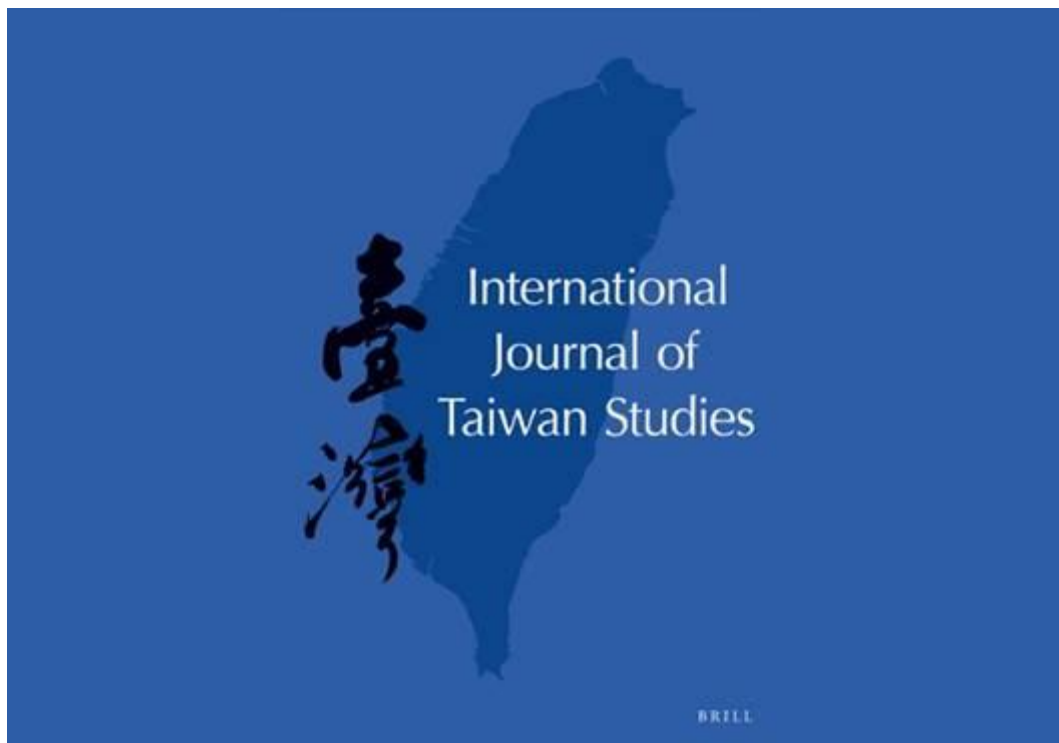
Mr Tu's installation, entitled 'Enfolded World: Mysteries of Lost Civilisations' employs his characteristic practice of creating parallel or re-imagined worlds. Tu invited 50 members of the Taiwanese public to bring 10 to 15 items that held a connection to Europe, and



those items were pressed in a clay mould and incorporated into the design.

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## NEW TAIWAN STUDIES JOURNAL TO BE LAUNCHED IN MARCH 2018



A new peer-reviewed academic journal on Taiwan studies, 'the International Journal of Taiwan Studies' (IJTS) will be launched in March 2018 by Brill, a Dutch international publishing company specialising in the humanities.

The IJTS, cosponsored by Academia Sinica and the European Association of Taiwan Studies (EATS), aims to be a principal outlet for the dissemination of cutting-edge research on Taiwan. Once launched, IJTS will be published in the Spring and Autumn of every year. It will work to create a space for discussion among international scholars working across disciplines in the social sciences, arts, and humanities.

The theme of the inaugural edition will be 'Taiwan Studies: State of the Field', with Dr

Ming-Yeh T. Rawnsley as Editor-in-Chief. It will follow a double-blind peer review system and intends to cover as wide a range of disciplines as possible. The deadline for submissions in the first edition is 31 March 2017.

IJTS welcomes submissions that are localised in focus, as well as research that is more global and comparative. 34 Authors are encouraged to position Taiwan and Taiwan-related issues within different global, regional, and local contexts and processes.

Please follow [this link](#) to download a copy of the submission guidelines.

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## TAIWANESE NATURE WRITER TO DELIVER TALKS AT SOAS



Mr Liu Ka-shiang, a prominent Taiwanese nature writer, will give two talks at SOAS on the 13 and 15 February.

The first talk entitled '*Gifts from the black-faced spoonbills—A case in my latest nature writing*', will concern the author's efforts to raise awareness of the endangered black-faced spoonbill, of which no more than 3000 exist worldwide.

His second, '*Change and transformation of a mountain village in Taiwan*'; will focus on Liu's encounter and friendship with the people of a Taiwanese mountain village, and his work to develop the village, build better homes and teach others about farming.

The talks organised by the SOAS Centre of Taiwan Studies and the Taipei Representative Office in the UK will begin at 7 pm on their respective dates. They will be held in room KLT and DLT in the Russell Square College Buildings.

Liu Ka-shiang is an award winning Taiwanese nature writer with a passion for bird ecology. He has long been a pioneer of nature observation and writing in Taiwan, earning him the nickname 'Birdman.'

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**TAIWANESE GRAPHIC ARTIST TO DELIVER TALKS AT SOAS**



Taiwanese graphic artist, Mr Sean Chuang, will deliver two talks at SOAS on 9 and 10 February.

The first talk, entitled 'The Window – A Genetic Mutation of the Graphic Novel', will focus on the creation of Chuang's alternative graphic novel '*The Window*', which uses the cinematic storyboard technique to tell a story without dialogue.

The second talk is entitled 'A 1980s Chronicle – Taiwan's Adolescence'. Chuang will reflect upon Taiwanese adolescent culture following the end of martial law in 1987. He shares memories of his childhood and adolescence following the advent of MTV, contrasting the liberal Taiwan that emerged after 1987, with the Taiwan that existed under martial law.

The talks organised by the SOAS Centre of Taiwan Studies and the Taipei Representative Office in the UK will begin at 7 pm on their respective dates. They will be held in room KLT in the Russell Square College Buildings.

Sean Chuang has 20 years of experience as an advertising director, directing more than 500 works. As a well-known Taiwanese advertisement director, his works span Asian

countries such as Singapore and Japan. Still active in advertising circles, he continues to shoot videos and draw comics.

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### Taiwan in the news:

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- [Bicycles make a comeback in busy Taiwan](#)
- [Taipei Book Fair 2017: Taking the Pulse of Taiwan's Book Market](#)
- [Taiwan looks south as it seeks to reduce reliance on China](#)
- [Taiwan to build 66 jet trainer aircraft by 2026 to bolster defenses](#)



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