

The Sheffield Chinese Lion Dance Team: Preserving Heritage, Inspiring Community



雪埠華人醒獅隊：承傳文化，凝聚社群

谢菲尔德华人醒狮队：传承文化，凝聚社群

For decades, the Sheffield Chinese Lion Dance Team has stood as a vibrant emblem of cultural heritage and community spirit, its history shaped profoundly by the leadership of the late Jimmy Wan. Deeply respected and affectionately known by nicknames including Fei Je and Wong Fei Hung, Jimmy was a pillar of the Sheffield Chinese community and a dedicated member of the Sheffield Chinese Community Centre Committee. His warmth, discipline, and commitment to traditional arts have left an enduring legacy carried forward by those he taught.

The team was initially formed by dedicated members of the Sheffield and District Chinese Association who came together to train and perform. A period of exciting growth followed from the late 1990s as the community developed. During this time, the group welcomed respected martial arts practitioners, including Peter Allsop as well as new members James Angel, Tommy Lau, and David Johnson.

數十年來，雪埠華人醒獅隊一直是本地華人文化與社群精神的鮮明象徵，其發展深受已故溫日球（Jimmy Wan）師傅的領導所影響。Jimmy 在社區中備受尊敬，也因其外號「黃飛鴻」而為人熟悉。他一直是雪埠華人社區的中流砥柱，並曾任雪埠華人社區中心委員會成員。他的熱誠、嚴謹，以及對傳統藝術的堅持，至今仍深刻影響著後輩。

舞獅隊最初由雪埠華僑工商聯誼會的成員組成，大家聚首一堂訓練與表演。隨著社群發展，於 2000 年代初期經歷重組，並在雪埠中文學校旗下成立了青年舞獅隊。在這些轉變中，Jimmy 始終是謝菲爾德舞獅界的核心人物，他身邊也有多位資深隊員鼎力相助，包括已故南伯(鼓手)、William Ng 吳先生(钹手)及曾先生 Nicky Tsang(鑼手) (鼓手)、吳偉廉 (钹手) 及曾國基 (鑼手)。縱然他們已退下表演舞台，其藝術風格與節奏基礎仍深深影響著今日的隊伍。

数十年来，谢菲尔德华人醒狮队一直是本地华人文化与社群精神的鲜明象征，其发展深受已故温日球（Jimmy Wan）师傅的领导所影响。Jimmy 在社区中备受尊敬，也因其外号——「黄飞鸿」——而为人熟知。他一直是谢菲尔德华人社区的中流砥柱，并曾担任谢菲尔德华人社区中心委员会成员。他的热忱、严谨，以及对传统艺术的坚持，至今仍深刻影响着后辈。

舞狮队最初由谢埠华侨工商联谊会的成员组成，大家聚首一堂进行训练与表演。随着社群的发展，队伍于 2000 年代初期经历重组，并在谢埠中文学校旗下成立了青年舞狮队。在这些转变过程中，Jimmy 始终是谢菲尔德舞狮界的核心人物。他身边也有多位资深队员鼎力相助，包括已故南伯 (鼓手)、吴先生 William Ng (钹手) 及曾先生 Nicky Tsang (锣手)。尽管他们已退下表演舞台，其艺术风格与节奏基础仍深深影响着今日的队伍。

The early 2000s saw some restructuring and the team evolved further to establish a separate youth team under the Sheffield and District Chinese School. Through all these changes, Jimmy remained genuinely at the heart of the Sheffield lion dance scene. He was steadfastly supported by a dedicated group of senior performers, including the late Nam Bak (drummer), William Ng (cymbals), and Nicky Tsang (gong). Though they are now retired from performing, their significant influence continues to shape the musical and rhythmic identity of the team today.

After a period of strength from the 1990s through to 2010, membership declined sharply between 2011 and 2015, leaving the team close to disbanding. Its revival began in 2015, a pivotal year in which Carl Ngo, one of Jimmy's senior students, stepped forward to take over leadership as Sifu and breathe new life into the group. With the support of fellow senior students James Sheun and Selina Wong, the team entered a phase of rebuilding, welcoming new members and re-establishing its presence within the community. This marked the beginning of a renewed era, grounded in Jimmy's teachings but driven by fresh energy and vision.

Training has continued to evolve under this new leadership. Traditionally, lion

華人醒獅隊於 1990 年代至 2010 年間處於強盛時期，但於 2011 至 2015 年間面臨嚴重萎縮，甚至一度接近解散。真正的復興始於 2015 年——Jimmy 的高徒**吳小龍 (Carl Ngo) **在此年挺身而出，正式接任師傅 (Sifu)，為隊伍注入新生命。在高徒 James Sheun 及 Selina Wong 的支持下，華人醒獅隊重新招募新血，重建訓練體系，再度活躍於社區之中。這標誌著舞獅隊進入一個嶄新的時代：既承傳 Jimmy 的教誨，也注入了新一代的活力與視野。

訓練方式也在新領導下逐漸演變。傳統舞獅與中國武術密不可分，講求步法、馬步及身法。然而現今訓練更具包容性，不再要求新成員具武術背景，而是著重角色演繹、音樂配合及團隊合作。隊伍以 Jimmy 的佛山傳統流派為基礎，再融入 Sifu Carl 採用的現代佛山及馬來西亞風格，使表演更具層次與動感。

舞獅文化的象徵意義仍是每個演出的核心。隨著鼓、钹、锣的節奏，瑞獅驅邪避凶、帶來好運，為商戶及社區送上祝福。生菜、橙與利是等傳統道具蘊含深厚寓意，而獅頭的設計則源自嶺南文化，包括佛山傳統樣式及三國人物色系。

华人醒狮队在 1990 年代至 2010 年间处于鼎盛时期，但在 2011 至 2015 年间遭遇严重萎缩，甚至一度接近解散。真正的复兴始于 2015 年——Jimmy 的高徒吴小龙 (Carl Ngo) 于这一年挺身而出，正式接任师父 (Sifu)，为队伍注入新生命。在高徒 James Sheun 及 Selina Wong 的支持下，华人醒狮队重新招募新成员，重建训练体系，再度活跃于社区之中。这标志着舞狮队进入一个崭新的时代：既传承 Jimmy 的教诲，也注入了新一代的活力与视野。

在新领导下，训练方式也逐渐演变。传统舞狮与中国武术密不可分，讲究步法、马步及身法。然而，现今的训练更具包容性，不再要求新成员具备武术背景，而是着重角色演绎、音乐配合及团队合作。队伍以 Jimmy 的佛山传统流派为基础，并融入 Sifu Carl 所采用的现代佛山及马来西亚风格，使表演更具层次感与动感。

舞狮文化的象征意义仍是每场演出的核心。随着鼓、钹、锣的节奏，瑞狮驱邪避凶、带来好运，为商户及社区送上祝福。生菜、橙子与利是等传统道具蕴含着深厚寓意，而狮头的设计则源自岭南文化，包括佛山传统样式及三国人物色系。

dance training was closely intertwined with classical Chinese martial arts, emphasising strong stances, footwork, and discipline. While these foundations remain, today's approach is more inclusive, allowing individuals with no martial arts experience to participate. Performance character, musicality, and teamwork now sit at the forefront, maintaining tradition while embracing modern accessibility. Stylistically, the team's roots in Jimmy's Foshan lineage remain central, enhanced by Carl's incorporation of modern Foshan and Malaysian elements.

Cultural symbolism remains a core part of every performance. Guided by drum, cymbals, and gong, the lion wards off negativity, brings luck, and blesses businesses and communities. Traditional props such as lettuce, oranges, and red packets carry deep cultural meaning, while the lion costumes reflect southern Chinese heritage, including Foshan styles and colour themes inspired by the Romance of the Three Kingdoms.

Today, the Sheffield Chinese Lion Dance Team is one of the city's most recognisable cultural ambassadors. Their annual Chinese New Year street parade draws hundreds who follow the lions through Sheffield City Centre and along London Road. The team also performs widely at festivals, schools, universities,

如今，雪埠華人醒獅隊已成為全市最具辨識度的文化象徵之一。每年新春，隊伍均帶領群眾從市中心遊行至 London Road，場面熱鬧非凡。隊伍也經常受邀前往各大節慶、學校、大專院校及社區活動演出，足跡遍及整個地區。對謝菲爾德華裔年輕人——乃至不同文化背景的參與者——舞獅不僅是一項表演藝術，更是一種建立自信、認同及文化連結的重要途徑。

展望未來，醒獅隊將繼續透過工作坊、開放日及跨文化合作，鞏固其文化橋樑的角色，確保這門珍貴的藝術能繼續為下一代帶來自豪、團結與文化認同。

如今，谢菲尔德华人醒狮队已成为全市最具辨识度的文化象征之一。每年农历新年，队伍都会带领群众从市中心游行至 London Road，场面热闹非凡。队伍也经常受邀前往各大节庆、学校、大专院校及社区活动演出，足迹遍及整个地区。对于谢菲尔德的华裔年轻人——乃至来自不同文化背景的参与者而言——舞狮不仅是一项表演艺术，更是一种建立自信、身份认同及文化连结的重要途径。

展望未来，醒狮队将继续通过工作坊、开放日及跨文化合作，巩固其作为文化桥梁的角色，确保这门珍贵的艺术能够继续为下一代带来自豪、团结与文化认同。

and community events across the region.

For younger members of Sheffield's Chinese community—and for participants from diverse backgrounds—lion dance offers confidence, identity, and belonging. Looking ahead, the team aims to strengthen its role as a cultural bridge, running workshops, open days, and collaborative projects to ensure that this powerful tradition continues to inspire unity, pride, and cultural understanding for generations to come.