



**THE HON BILL SHORTEN MP  
LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION  
MEMBER FOR MARIBYRNONG**

**MESSAGE**

**CHINESE NEW YEAR – YEAR OF THE MONKEY**

On behalf of the Federal Labor Party, it gives me great pleasure to send my best wishes on the auspicious occasion of the Chinese New Year.

As we usher in the Year of the Monkey let us not only reflect on the year just passed, but the history of Chinese settlement in Australia.

It is indeed because of the peaceful persistence of the first Chinese settlers in Victoria, and right around the country, bit by bit, political, economic and social barriers came down for all migrants.

Because of their efforts, Chinese Australians like Caleb Shang, Billy Sing and Jack Wong Sue were inspired to serve with distinction in Gallipoli, Flanders and Borneo, earning a hallowed place in our history as war heroes.

Today, the change those early trailblazers wrought is visible in the countless Chinese Australians who run successful businesses, who continue to make medical breakthroughs in our hospitals and who serve as elected officials from local councils all the way to our Federal Parliament.

In this spirit of ambition and perseverance let us look to the Year of the Monkey as an opportunity to continue to champion the benefits of a diverse and vibrant multicultural Australia.

Happy Year of the Monkey!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Bill Shorten'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Bill Shorten  
Leader of the Opposition**