



ABOUT JOHN ADAMS:

"John Adams is a local historian, author and heritage consultant well known for his historical walking tours [www.discoverthepast.com] around Victoria.

His books include *Old Square-toes and his Lady: the Life of James and Amelia Douglas*, *Historic Guide to Ross Bay Cemetery*, *Ghosts and Legends of Bastion Square*, *Christmas in Old Victoria*, *The Ker Family of Victoria, 1859–1976: Pioneer Industrialists in Western Canada* and *Chinese Victoria*."

Source: <https://continuingstudies.uvic.ca/instructor/117570>

WHAT JOHN WILL TALK ABOUT:

Title of his presentation: Chinese New Year Customs

"The Year of the Water Rabbit begins on January 22, 2023 and marks the beginning of the fifteen-day Spring Festival. John Adams, author of *Chinese Victoria*, will explain how the date of the annual event is calculated, how the twelve Chinese zodiac animals were chosen and show many of the items popularly used in the celebrations. Learn the reasons for the lion and dragon dances, the purpose of lai see (lucky red envelopes), the symbolism of holiday foods and many of the customs and legends associated with the event."

Source: <https://continuingstudies.uvic.ca/humanities-and-social-sciences/courses/chinese-new-year-customs/>

NOTE: John Adams approved UVRA's use of the two sources cited above.