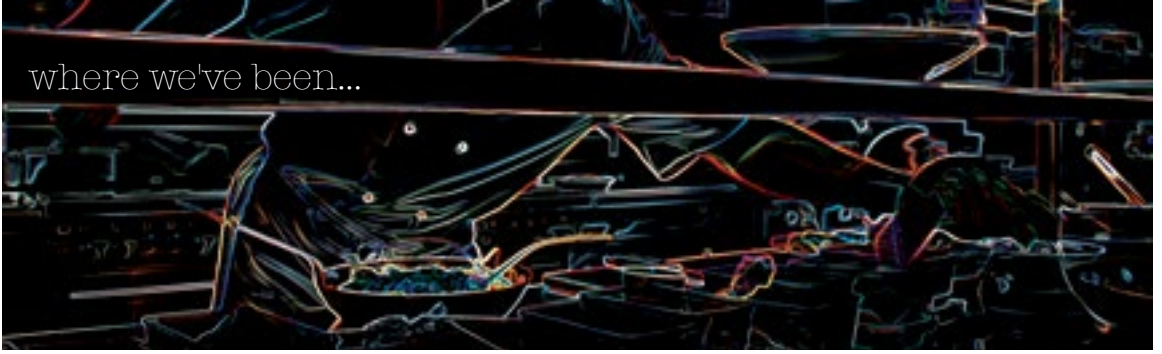


where we've been...



Mount Annan Chinese

Regular readers will know that music is important to me. If I owned a restaurant/bar/cafe, deciding on the playlists for day and evening would occupy a serious amount of my leisure time.

When I 'long lunched' with my son Chad at the exotically named Mount Annan Chinese, we were inflicted with a flow of performers like Celine Dion, Barry Manilow and Air Supply. These names might appeal to you and I am certainly not judging you (very much) for your taste in music. I would rather listen to cats mating than this type of music. Well, I would much prefer traditional Chuigushou ensemble (yes I googled that).

Anyone who has been to an Asian city will also know that these performers are stock standard radio fodder. So this karaoke style music has become quasi-authentic in respect to your dining experience in the modern era. I had "You know I can't smile without you," swimming around in my head all afternoon. "Aaaaaargh!"

Oh yes, lunch? It was very good. Well two dishes were very good, the other was just good. In suburban Chinese restaurant world, that's a great strike rate.

We started with my standard Chinese 'tester' dish... San Choy Bow. This was one of the winners. Yummo! All the ingredients came together for a mouthful of fresh flavours and wonderful textures. It was a simple, clean version of a Chinese standard, but a very

good one nonetheless. This automatically gives the restaurant a pass in my books. I love San Choy Bow.

On to our mains and again a Chinese standard came up trumps. Mongolian Lamb is hard to go past in Australia. Lamb is one of our finest inventions and adding Genghis Khan's favourite sauce works a treat. Mount Annan Chinese served up an extremely tasty interpretation - on a sizzling platter,! That's always worth a few bonus points.

The final dish was the "just good," one. Garlic King Prawns was good but not great. There was not one skerrick left when we finished though. Too big blokes having 'a slap up Chinese feed'. Not really, but it was great to spend some time with my boy eating food that we both love.

I had Chinese Tea with my meal. I love this stuff. This restaurant serves it well. Loose leaf tea in a pot and those cute little bowl/slash cups.

Mount Annan Chinese is a good suburban Chinese restaurant. The music is modern traditional karaoke. The decor is slick. The food is good and it's BYO. Take along your fave chilled Aussie white and enjoy.

"If you only knew what I'm going through I just can't smile without you..."