



Sydney Chinese Lions

**MONTHLY
BULLETIN**

15 October 2014

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Editorial

This year, the Australian Red Cross celebrates its centenary year. We are honored to have our annual Charity Ball associated with the ARC.

Next year, it is Sydney Chinese Lions' turn to celebrate its 20th anniversary. Your Board of Directors has decided that the beneficiary of the 20th Anniversary Charity Ball shall be the Lions Club International Foundation. This is the second time the LCIF being a Charity Ball beneficiary (2013 being the first time).

LCIF is the charity fund on the international level for all the Lions Clubs. Its fund comes from all the Lions Clubs of the world. Various Lions Clubs as well as other organizations do raise funds for LCIF.

LCIF allocates its funds to its various programs including the saving vision Program, the hearing and speech conserva-

tion program, the diabetes awareness program, the Empowering Youth Program, the Disaster Relief program, etc. All these programs are international programs in the sense that they are not country specific but funds are allocated to where they are most needed.

In other words, the Lions Club that Chicago businessman, Melvin Jones, set up in 1917 to "do something for somebody else" has developed into the current structure of Lions Clubs raising funds for LCIF to allocate to the needy. Although Lions Clubs as community service organizations are not restricted to raising funds for LCIF only.

To mark the 20th anniversary of the Sydney Chinese Lions Club we call upon all Sydney Chinese Lions to support our Annual Charity Ball and LCIF.

The 20th Anniversary Charity

Ball is to be held on Saturday 14th March, 2015 at the Doltone House, Darling Island Wharf, G/F, Accenture Building, 48 Pirrama Road, Pyrmont 2009.

Before then, the Castle Hill District Convention (14~16/11/2014) is the very first District Convention to be hosted by our Club and we are looking forward to meeting many, many Lions at the Convention. Do book your attendance with President Jason Zhang or Secretary Sophie He if you have not already done so. See you all in Castle Hill.

Special Points of Interest:

> Next year is the 20th anniversary of Sydney Chinese Lions (SCL)

> Sydney Chinese Lions Club calls upon all Sydney Chinese Lions to support our Annual Charity Ball and the Lions Club International Foundation (LCIF).

> Charity Ball 2015 will be on 14th March 2015 at Doltone House Darling Island

> The first District Convention to be hosted by SCL



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Group photo at October 2014 Member's Meeting

A Message from International President

Lion Joe Preston

2014-15 President's Theme: Strengthen the Pride

Dear Lions,

As your International President it is my hope that we will work together this year to make the 98th year of our association a great one.

As you are aware, STRENGTHEN THE PRIDE is the theme I will use this year. We can strengthen the pride by bringing the full Lions family closer together, working in a spirit of cooperation and understanding, with each Lion member doing their share through our many meaningful accomplishments. I would like you to keep this in mind as you submit your recommendations for awards this year.

There are many Lions who are diligently working to provide hope to those less fortunate in their local communities who have never been recognized for their efforts. Please read carefully and follow the guidelines set forth in my **Awards Criteria Letter** and **Recommendation Forms** for submission of recommendations for awards from my office:

Click on this link for my Awards Criteria Letter: [2014-2015 Awards Criteria Letter](#)

Click on this link for my Presidential Award Recommendation Form: [2014-2015 Presidential Rec Frm](#)

Click on this link for my Leadership Award Recommendation Form: [2014-2015 Leadership Rec Frm](#)

Please note that the **deadline** for submission of recommendations forms is **February 20, 2015**.

Together in service,

Joe Preston
International President



Joseph "Joe" Preston, of Dewey, Arizona, USA, was elected president of Lions Clubs International at the association's 97th International Convention held in Toronto, Canada, July 4 through 8, 2014.

A Message from Chairperson, Lions Clubs International Foundation

Barry J. Palmer

Dear Lions

"Thank you Lions. You have saved my daughter's sight." These few words say so much about what our organization means to the people we help. Earlier this month, I heard those words from a mother that I met at a clinic in Cuba, where her daughter was being treated for retinopathy of prematurity (ROP). Her daughter was born prematurely. She was so small when she was born that her eyes did not develop properly, causing ROP. Through an [LCIF SightFirst grant](#) to provide special equipment, the clinic was able to detect the disorder, treat the condition and save the girl's sight. Thanks to this life-altering equipment and the contributions of Lions, we are saving the sight of premature babies at risk for ROP throughout the world. This is what LCIF and Lions are all about – **service where it is needed most**. You can [view a short video](#) below of my visit and meet the amazing little girl who was helped through the support of Lions. [LCIF efforts](#) like saving vision, as well as empowering youth, providing disaster relief and meeting humanitarian needs, cannot be done without your generous support. During my visits as Chairperson, I have been asking Lions to [support our Foundation](#) to increase these valuable humanitarian programs. And Lions have responded. Because of your generous support, **we will soon announce a new program to recognize District Governors and Coordinators who increase giving to LCIF**. Thank you for your support!

Sincerely,

Barry J. Palmer Chairperson, Lions Clubs International Foundation



Lions Clubs International
FOUNDATION

\$100,000 Gift to Celebrate 100 Years of Humanitarian Service

During his recent visit to Sydney, International President Joe Preston and wife Joni were invited to a special Plaque Unveiling Ceremony by the Australian Red Cross (NSW). The plaque recognises the contribution of Lions, particularly Sydney Chinese Lions over the past decade.

On 5 September, IP Joe and Lion Joni, accompanied by Council Chairman Warren Latham and Lion Marilyn, District Governor (NS) Dr Anthony Cheung and Lions Lady Emma, together with Club President Jason Zhang and a group of Directors of Sydney Chinese Lions paid a visit to the Headquarters of the Australian Red Cross (NSW) at St Andrews House, Sydney.

Awaiting there were Ms Jody Broun, Executive Officer of Red Cross and her full team of staff including Margaret Piper, National Board Member, together with Maureen Smith, Ann Rocca and Paul O'Sullivan, NSW Advisory Board Members. John MacLennan, Chairman of the NSW Advisory Board was an apology as he was overseas. They were given a warm welcome. A tea party followed and everyone mingled and had their photos taken in small groups.



Then the big moment arrived. Jody gave the first speech. She welcomed the Li-

ons and gave IP Joe and Lion Joni a special welcome. She thanked the Lions for their continuous effort and support in assisting the Red Cross to enhance their preparedness in emergency relief and life saving operations.

Club President Jason thanked Jody and her team for featuring the function and announced that Sydney Chinese Lions were going to donate a sum of \$30,000, being proceeds of the Club's Charity Ball 2014 when Red Cross was the Major Beneficiary. Clearly, Lion Jason's announcement was warmly received.



DG Anthony, being the lead liaison of the Club throughout the past decade with Red Cross,



was invited to speak. He stated that since 2006, Sydney Chinese Lions have been fundraising for Red Cross on numerous occasions. Including the \$30,000 donation, the total amount donated by the Club to date was just over \$100,000. He pointed out that this aggregate amount was somewhat fitting since 2014 was the year that Australian Red Cross celebrated their 100th year of humanitarian service in Australia.

IP Joe was invited to do the anchor speech. He praised the work of Red Cross, both worldwide and in Australia. He congratulated



the Australian Red Cross on their Centennial Year Anniversary. He expressed gratification that the contribution of Lions is being recognised. He also harked back to the MOU signed between Lions Club International and International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in March 2009 in Geneva - an agreement to join forces on a common goal : strengthen the essential role volunteers play in preparing for disasters and in responding to emergencies at community level. He pointed out the long



\$100,000 Gift to Celebrate 100 Years of Humanitarian Service (contd)

term relationship between the Australian Red Cross and Sydney Chinese is an extension of that spirit of cooperation. IP Joe's speech earned a fervent round of applause.



A brief Cheque Presentation followed as a \$30,000 cheque was presented to the Red Cross. The fi-

nal event of the Ceremony was a Plaque Unveiling ceremony officiated by IP Joe and Jody Broun. The plaque carries this citation, "Fundraising Achievement Award Presented to the Lions Club of Sydney



Chinese Inc. in recognition of your continued support and outstanding fundraising contribution to Australian Red Cross over the past decade. 5 Septem-



ber 2014"

The plaque is now permanently mounted inside the HQ of Australian Red Cross (NSW) paying tribute to the cooperation of humanitarian work of Lions and the Red Cross.

IP Joe's visit to Sydney has been most inspirational. It provided much encouragement and impetus for Lions in this part of the world to re-invigorate and rededicate themselves in their Service work to the less fortunate. We wish them God speed in IP Joe's International Presidency to lead us to further Strengthen the Pride.

By Lion DG Dr Anthony Cheung



Strengthening the 201N5 Lions Pride

On Saturday, 6 September, a Skills Sharing Expo of N5 Lions nicknamed *Lions Got Skills* was held at the Castle Hill RSL Club, Sydney.

The Expo was a new initiative that DG Anthony of N5 introduced. Over the past years, he witnessed Lions coming together at District training sessions. Ever so often the topics evolved around key Membership and Leadership issues. An elite group of senior Lions dominated the delivery of the sessions. While Lion Anthony recognises these are important bread and butter issues that Lions need to constantly address, he feels that room should also be made available for the less senior Lions so that they may have a platform to come forward and share with others their skills and knowledge on various topics. If done properly, this could benefit the District at two key levels: leadership - less senior Lions would be encouraged to come out from the wood work and be identified as future leaders; membership - Lions who get involved in the Expo may feel they have ownership of the event, thereby increasing their interest in Lions and a sense of belonging may be instilled in them.



As an innovative attempt, the outcome on 6 September was satisfactory. The sessions ran from 9 am till 6:15 pm. Apart from the two Plenary sessions, one given by International President Joe Preston in the morning and another given by DG Anthony in the afternoon, there were 17 break out sessions. Participants could choose from one of two strands - a skills sharing strand and a health awareness strand. There were 9 presenters for the former strand and 8 for the latter, making a total of 17. Details of the presenters and their topics can be found on the District N5 website -



Strengthening the 201N5 Lions Pride (contd)

www.lionsclubssydney.org.au. Over 100 Lions attended the sessions throughout the day. IP Joe also attended a good number of sessions and felt that the presentations were of excellent quality.

The final session of the Expo was an inaugural District Public Relations Forum. Four District PR Coordinators have been appointed this year under the leadership of Lion Derek Margerison. With the help of Zone Chairpersons, N5 has now assembled a team of PR experts/enthusiasts. To date, there are over 15 on the team and DG Anthony is hoping that the numbers will reach 20 by 2015. The Forum was well attended with many Lions voicing and sharing their views. Those who were there would agree that the PR side of things in N5 is moving along quite nicely - they are determined to help squash the myth - that Lions are the world's best kept secret!

The proceedings continued with a Gala Dinner in the evening organised in honor of the Prestons. It was a fitting finale to the 4-day visit of N5's International guests. Some 200 Lions, Lionesses and Leos attended the Dinner. At the high table were seated the Prestons, Coun-



cil Chairman Warren Latham and wife Lion Marilyn, DG Ian Warren (N4) and wife Lions Lady Marilyn, PCC Lou Onley and wife Lions Lady Kaye as well as DG Anthony and Lions Lady Emma.

At the dinner, they celebrated the success of the Inaugural Lions Skills Sharing Expo. They also celebrated the induction of seven new Leos, 14 new Lions and two Charter Presentations - the Lions Club of Sydney Ancho Sudan and the Lions Club of New South Wales Campus, both Clubs were chartered in early August (Sounds like *the 12 Days of Christmas*, doesn't it?) Of course, it was International President Joe who officiated the inductions and Charter Presentations. What a high privilege and distinct honour it is for those who were inducted and those who received their Club Charter



Strengthening the 201N5 Lions Pride (contd)

that evening! Congratulations!

After the inductions, all the new members of the Lions family were invited back to the dance floor again for a "family" picture. Take a look at the picture. Can you spot where IP Joe is? Certainly not at the back! Certainly not standing either!

When the group photos were done, the new members were asked to stay put. All the Lions seated were invited to come forward to shake their hands and welcome them. One doesn't have to be there to imagine the noise and bustle that followed!

IP Joe's theme is "Strengthen the Pride". Many of us are aware that he actually composed the song, wrote the lyrics and recorded the theme song himself. When the commotion was over and the auditorium became silent, IP Joe was invited to sing his theme song. What a treat it was for those who have never heard him singing before! Mid way through the song, he invited Joni to join him. N5 Lions had a double treat!

Their performance brought the house down. DG Anthony felt an urge to reciprocate and sang a well wishing song "May the Good Lord Bless and Keep You" which he learnt in his Pri-



mary School days. According to one senior N5 Cabinet Officer, "he [Anthony] gave a sincere rendition of a song he had learnt in his childhood. The applause was deafening."

The night concluded with exchange of bannerettes and gifts. DG Anthony was given permission to announce Lion Joni's induction into Sydney Chinese Lions as one of the Club's star studded line up of Associate Members. By



Strengthening the 201N5 Lions Pride (contd)

doing so, Lion Joni was actually following her husband's footsteps in Busan two years ago when Lion Joe was inducted as an Associate Member of Sydney Chinese.

Lions in N5 are extremely grateful for the opportunity to play hosts to IP Joe and Lion Joni. They feel honored and privileged. The Preston's visit has helped them to reinvigorate

themselves and renew their resolve to Serve the less fortunate. The Prestons have left them with numerous memorable moments. These will be cherished for years to come. N5 Lions wish Lions Joe and Joni well and hope that they will continue to have a productive and pleasant journey ahead leading the global Lions family to *Strengthen the Pride*.





The Lions Club of Sydney Chinese Inc.

P.O. Box K422
Haymarket NSW 2000

www.sydneychineselions.org.au

We Serve

The Lions Club of Sydney Chinese Inc. is a member of Lions Clubs International, an international non profit community service organization, upholding a common motto "WE SERVE". Today, there are Lions clubs in 208 countries and geographical areas all over the world. In District 201N5, which covers the Sydney area and Norfolk Island, there are some 70 clubs with around 1,650 members. Amongst these, there are around 7 Chinese-based clubs. Sydney Chinese Lions is the first of these Chinese-based clubs chartered in April 1995.

Over the past eighteen years, under the leadership of President Jason Zhang, Past President & District Governor Elect Dr Anthony Cheung, Past President Mei Cheng and other Past Presidents, in conjunction with the relentless effort of its members, and on top of all these, the generous donations and sponsorships received from the community, the club has donated over \$550,000 to a number of charities including the Royal Flying Doctor Service of Australia, St John (NSW), the Australian Red Cross, Lions Clubs International Foundation, Care-Flight, the Sir David Martin Foundation, the Fred Hollows Foundation, Westmead and Concord Hospitals, the Children's Mobility (Hart Walker) Foundation and the Elderly Australian Chinese Homes. Thousands have reaped the benefits. The club is also mindful of the well being and good health of the community, hence they have in place their annual health seminars, teal ribbon scholarships and traditional Chinese Medicine Research Scholarships.

Visit us at our Award Winning Website
www.sydneychineselions.org.au

Upcoming Events

Function	Venue/ Dress Code	Date & Time	Cost per
November Member's Meeting	Zilver restaurant	Wednesday 05 November 2014	\$30 per person
N5 District Convention 2014	Castle Hill RSL Club	14-16 November 2014	please RSVP Jason Zhang or Sophie He
Charity Ball 2015	Doltone House 48 Pirrama Road, Pyrmont 2009	14 March 2015	please RSVP Cab Sec Jennifer Touzel

For bookings please contact:
Secretary Sophie He (email:sophietinghe@gmail.com)