



# Sydney Chinese Lions

Monthly Bulletin

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28 JULY 2011

*We Serve!*

1 July 2011 marked the beginning of the 95th year of Lions Clubs International. Congratulations are due to Lion Wing-Kun Tam on his installation as International President, to Lion Sid Scruggs III on his appointment as Chairman of the Lions Clubs International Foundation, to Lion Wayne Madden on his installation as International First Vice President and to Lion Barry Palmer on his installation as International Second Vice President.

On the domestic front, congratulations to Lion Stephen Coleman on his installation as the new District Governor of N5. We would also like to congratulate our Past President Anthony on his re-appointment as Zone Chairman. In the new Lions year, ZC Anthony is charged with the care of 5 clubs in Zone 4 - Sydney Chinese, Sydney Pacific, Sydney Inner West, NSW Parliamentary and Sydney Executive Business.

On Tuesday, 2 August, the first Zone 4 meeting will be held at Emperor's Garden. It is hosted by Sydney Inner West Lions. Members from all the 5 clubs are expected to attend. They will have the opportunity to meet up with DG Steve. New

## Editorial

members are expected to be inducted while Lion Greg English, Chair of the Australian Lions Children's Mobility Foundation will be making a brief presenting on his portfolio.

In early July, led by ZC Anthony and President Mei, a group of enthusiastic members attended the Lions Clubs 94th International Convention in Seattle. They had a fruitful and enjoyable time there. They participated in the making of 2 pieces of Lions history as they voted the first Chinese born Lion in Wing-Kun Tam into the office of International President. They also voted the first Australian Lion in Barry Palmer into the office of International Second Vice President. Of course, they also voted for Lion Wayne Madden as International First Vice President and other nominated Lions as International Directors.

On 7 July, inside the Key Arena in Seattle where the Plenary sessions were held, a brief but solemn Induction Ceremony took place. Then International 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Wayne Madden and PID Tapani Raho were inducted into Sydney Chinese Lions as Associate Members. The ceremony was officiated by Club

President Mei. Many international

Lions leaders including then PID Barry Palmer, PID Bob Coulthard and others attended the Ceremony.

Prior to the Convention, the group visited San Francisco and on 2 July, attended a joint dinner meeting with their Twin Club, San Francisco Chinatown Lions. They had a most enjoyable time there. Both the food and the company were fantastic. The day after, President Johnson of SF Chinatown Lions and members kindly took the group touring sight-seeing spots around the city and showed them direct sales outlets where they could get leading brand products at hefty discounts. The group had a great time and brought back fond memories of their visit. They very much appreciated the hospitality shown to them by their host and were greatly inspired.

Are you interested in planting trees? International President Tam has challenged Lions the world over to plant 1 million trees in the 2011-12 Lions year. Watch this space as we unfold our plans to help achieve this goal.



Sydney Chinese Lions and Guests at July Members Meeting

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# Wing-Kun Tam

## International President 2011-12

### **Embrace Members Like Family**

In July, Wing-Kun Tam became Lions Clubs International's 95th international president and its first from China. Born in Guangzhou, China, Tam was educated in Hong Kong where he began his international cargo company and raised his family. His Chinese background is an integral part of his identity, but his story is universal. His life decisions shaped him and led him to Lions' highest office.

When Tam was 20, his company sent him to the United States to learn the business. He continued his education in San Francisco. After several years he returned to Hong Kong. "In one year, I made the three most important decisions of my life," says Tam.

### **Decision #1**

In 1981, he started his own business. "For me being a Hong Kong person, we are born with entrepreneurship in our blood. If you really want to make some good money, you to have to start your own business," he said. Today, Tam's transportation company has 200 employees in 20 offices worldwide.

### **Decision #2**

In 1981, Tam also decided to marry his wife Irene. "She was very pretty, a very kind heart," said Tam. "We became good friends." Together they had three children – Alvin, Tiffany and Andrew. Tam's devotion to his family didn't diminish his attachment to his job – or later to the Lions.

### **Decision #3**

In 1981, Tam noticed a pin with the letter L on the lapel of a business associate. "What's that?" Tam asked. "If you join Lions, you elevate your status," the associate told him. Tam decided to join. Tam was the youngest member of his club; the president was 94. The president gave him his first assignment – providing gifts for senior citizens the club was taking on a cruise. Tam brought the seniors candies and other small gifts. "You wouldn't believe their reaction," recalls Tam, who told the president about their joy. "He said it wasn't the value of the gifts that meant a lot to them. It was the love and care I brought them."

According to Tam, it was then that he "started to understand the spirit of Lions. I understood and believed we are to help the needy and share our happiness with others. My club treated me like a family member. As a new Lion I was like a baby and my club took care of me until I could stand on my own and be the one to nurture others. Our clubs need to treat our members like family," he says.



**International President  
Wing-Kun Tam**

# Wing-Kun Tam

## International President 2011-12 (contd)

Soon, Tam took on bigger projects, including the largest project ever undertaken by Hong Kong Lions. Under his leadership, Lions raised more than US\$2 million for a Nature Education Center. With each success, Tam and the Lions developed bigger plans.

Getting authorities to approve a Lions Clubs international convention with a parade of thousands was not easy. "When Tam came to me with the proposal to host the Lions convention and parade I was concerned because we've never done anything like it before," said Benny Ng, then a top official with the Hong Kong police. "Tam was confident Hong Kong could do it. I believed in him and everybody placed their faith in him. Events proved him right."

Tam was just getting warmed up. Millions of Chinese were blind because of cataract. Tam and other Lions began meeting with Chinese officials to request that they allow Lions to initiate a cataract campaign. Soon a pilot project was approved and funded by Lions, followed by Sight-First China Action, which helped 5.2 million people recover their eyesight.

While Tam recorded many successes in business and in developing Lions projects, his family's happy life was changed dramatically when they learned Irene had cancer. For 15 years Tam comforted his wife, took her to the doctors and helped her believe that she could conquer the disease. In many ways, cancer brought them closer together. But in time, Irene lost her battle.

After Irene died, Tam lay on the couch day after day, disconsolate and drained, watching the news. Then a devastating earthquake struck China's Sichuan Province in 2008, killing 70,000. The televised images of the shattered families galvanized Tam, who called Lions' headquarters and asked for assistance. Tam reached out to Lions in China too. Teams of Chinese Lions drove hours to aid victims. LCIF approved a US\$500,000 catastrophe grant.

"I lost my wife and it was so sad. But I believed I could help," says Tam. "He fought for funds and supplies," says Andrew, his son. "I could see in his eyes a spark I had not seen after my mom passed away." Tam believed in the power of Irene's fighting spirit and he believed in his ability to overcome past obstacles. He believes in Lions and our dream of service.

### **Wing-Kun Tam**

### **International President 2011-2012**

***Sydney Chinese Lions are privileged and honoured to have inducted  
International President Wing-Kun Tam as Associate Member on 26 June 2010***

# The High Flying Associate Members of Sydney Chinese Lions

On 7 July 2011, inside the Key Arena in Seattle where the Plenary sessions of the Lions Clubs 94<sup>th</sup> International Convention were held, a brief but solemn Induction Ceremony took place. Then International 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Wayne Madden and Past International Director Tapani Rahko (Scandinavia) were inducted into Sydney Chinese Lions as Associate

## Members.

Officiating the ceremony was Club President Mei who was flanked by Past President Anthony, Vice Presidents Jason and Wendy and a group of enthusiastic club members. Other Lions leaders attending the ceremony included Lion Linda Madden, then PID Barry Palmer (Australia) and Lion Anne Palmer, PID Bob Coulthard (Australia), District Governor Helena Rahko (Finland), District Governor John Harrison (Sydney and Norfolk Island) and Lion Tina Harrison, PDG Barbara Toosley (USA) and PDG Richard Silveira (USA) as well as PDG Nigel Jeny (Sydney and Norfolk Island) and Lion Genevieve Jeny.



International VP Wayne Madden & Lion Linda Madden at Induction Ceremony

Sydney Chinese Lions are greatly honored to have inducted Lions Wayne and Tapani as their fourth and fifth Associate Members. To date, Sydney Chinese Lions comprises 131 Active Members and 5 Associate Members. With a total of 136 members, the club enjoys top ranking in Australia in membership terms.

Sydney Chinese Lions' first Associate Member is Lion Barry Palmer. Lion Barry was inducted in August 2009. Their second Associate Member is Lion Sid Scruggs III. Lion Sid was inducted in October 2009. Their third Associate Member is Lion Wing-Kun Tam. Lion Tam was inducted in June 2010, just prior to the commencement of the Lions Clubs 93<sup>rd</sup> International Convention in Sydney. Their first three Associate Members were all inducted in Sydney.



PID Tapani Rahko & DG Helena Rahko with President Mei at Induction Ceremony

On 8 July 2011, as the International Presidency was passed on to Lion Wing-Kun Tam by Lion Sid Scruggs III, 3 pieces of Lions history were made. First, for the first time in the 95 years' history of Lions, a Chinese born International President in Wing-Kun Tam was installed. Second, the first ever Australian Lion in Barry Palmer was installed as International 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President. Third, Sydney Chinese Lions became the first ever club worldwide to have the unique honor and privilege of having the International President, the Immediate Past International President, the International 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President and the International 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President all enrolled in its membership as Associate Members.

Club President Mei couldn't hold back her joy as she gleamed, "It is such a great honor for Sydney Chinese Lions that we have the top International Lions leaders amongst us as our Associate Members. They certainly are a great inspiration to us all. We are grateful to our Past President Anthony for his initiative in inviting these Lions leaders to join us and securing their membership. As we conduct our service projects in the future, we'll always be reminded that we are closely associated with our international leaders and look up to them as our guiding lights. As International President Tam teaches us, we BELIEVE as we continually endeavor to make a difference in helping to make the world a better place."

# Twin Club Visit

**DATE: 2 JULY 2011**

**VENUE: FAR EAST CAFÉ**

**CHINATOWN, SAN FRANCISCO**

On 2 July 2011, President Mei and a group of enthusiastic members of Sydney Chinese Lions paid a visit to the San Francisco Chinatown Lions in San Francisco, USA. They were warmly received by President Johnson Lam, Immediate Past President Grace Chang, PDG Larry Wong and many other members of the club. All had a great time at the dinner, the food was good and the company was fabulous.

Sydney Chinese Lions and San Francisco Lions became twin clubs some 12 months ago in Sydney during the Lions Clubs 93<sup>rd</sup> International Convention. The twinning ceremony took place on 1 July 2010 at the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre. It was conducted by then International Second Vice President Wing-Kun Tam.

The dinner meeting on 2 July 2011 was the first joint

meeting of the twin clubs since their twinning ceremony. It was also the first official visit of Sydney Chinese Lions to their twin.

At the dinner, after consulting with the guests, President Johnson made arrangements to take them around sight-seeing spots and places of attraction on the following day. The guests were also taken to direct sales outlets where many of them bought leading brand products at hefty discounted prices, some products were even at a 75% discount! The hospitality that the San Francisco Lions demonstrated was truly inspirational. The Sydney Chinese Lions felt great warmth and were deeply touched. They brought home fond memories of their visit. Evidently, the bond between the twin clubs is further strengthened.



**Sydney Chinese Lions meeting and bonding with San Francisco Chinatown Lions in San Francisco, USA**

# 雪梨華人獅子會

## 2011頒獎典禮

大家好。多謝各位參與雪梨華人獅子會 2011-2012 年度頒獎典禮。以下是當晚盛會的一個簡告。

出席典禮的會員和朋友超過二百人。主持人是林奇恩醫生。在簡短歡迎致詞後，便由第二副會長施浩傑獅兄帶領全體與會者合唱澳洲國歌。

由洪小燕博士及溫萬儀獅姊宣讀過中英文國際獅子會規條後，頒獎典禮便由鄭美霞會長主持，正式開始。

首先是介紹本年度中藥研究生獎學金得主。接着就是頒獎于藍綠絲帶獎學金得主及雪梨華人獅子公益獎學金得獎主。

享用過美味豐富的晚膳和見證新會員加入儀式後，便由會長頒發獎項給過去一年為本會作出過努力和貢獻的理事及會員們，榮譽會長張俊明博士更獲頒授茂文鍾士大獎。其後，鄭會長便與一眾得獎者大合照留念。

接下來的就是抽獎和六月份生日的會員切生日蛋糕的時候。祝各位生日快樂！

下一次晚飯例會將在七月六日星期三，七時正於同樂軒舉行。而理事會議卻將於六月二十一日，星期二於八樂居舉行。

See You 再見！

虎年獅子座（蔡獅虎）



Sydney Chinese Lions and Guests at Awards Ceremony 2011

## ***Congratulations***

***to the Lions Club of Sydney Chinese Inc  
for having International President Wing-Kun Tam  
Immediate Past International President Sid Scruggs III  
International First Vice President Wayne Madden  
International Second Vice President Barry Palmer &  
Past International Director Tapani Rahko  
enrolled as its **Associate Members**.***

## ***A Gentle Reminder***

***The 2011-12 fees were due on 30 June 2011.  
If you are yet to pay the \$150,  
please do so at your earliest convenience.***

***By Direct Transfer:*** BSB: 012 071

A/C Number: 197614021

A/C Name: The Lions Club of Sydney Chinese Inc

***By Cheque:*** in favour of **The Lions Club of Sydney Chinese Inc**  
Post cheque to **PO Box K422, Haymarket NSW 2000**

## ***An Invitation***

***The Club Bulletin welcomes contributions from members. If you  
have written something interesting about the club, please share  
it with us and forward it to **sydneychineselions@yahoo.com.au**.***



## The Lions Club of Sydney Chinese Inc.

P.O. Box K422  
Haymarket NSW 2000  
[www.sydneychineselions.org.au](http://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 206 countries and geographical areas all over the world. In District 201N5, which covers the Sydney area and Norfolk Island, there are some 76 clubs with around 1,750 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 sixteen years, under the leadership of President Mei Cheng, Hon. President Dr Anthony Cheung 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 \$450,000 to a number of charities including the Royal Flying Doctor Service of Australia, St John (NSW), the Australian Red Cross, CareFlight, 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 encouraging young adults to participate in humanitarian services, hence, since 2003, it has been offering its humanitarian scholarships. In 2009, they set up the Sydney Chinese Lions Teal Ribbon Scholars Scheme to promote and facilitate experience sharing between medical doctors and medical personnel of the People's Republic of China and Australia.

Visit us at our Award Winning Website

## Upcoming Events

Function	Venue/ Dress Code	Date & Time	Cost per person
District Changeover LCI District 201N5	Renoir Room Conca D'Oro Function Centre Belmore Road, Riverwood	Friday 29 July 2011  7:00 for 7:30pm	\$60 per person
Zone 4 Meeting & New DG's Visit <i>(Club Meeting on Wednesday, 3 August cancelled)</i> Zone 4, District 201N5	Emperor's Garden Restaurant Chinatown	Tuesday 2 August 2011  7:00 for 7:30pm	\$30 per person for dinner
September Members Meeting Sydney Chinese Lions	Zilver Restaurant Chinatown	Wednesday 7 September 2011	\$30 per person
District N5 Convention LCI District 201N5	Norfolk Island	25-27 November 2011	Free Registration  Travelling, etc, extra

For bookings please contact:  
Secretary Janice Cheung (mobile: 0414 616 017, email: [awing83@hotmail.com](mailto:awing83@hotmail.com))