



澳洲雪梨華人獅子會

The Lions Club of Sydney Chinese Inc.

District 201N5 of Lions International
P.O. Box K422, Haymarket Sydney NSW 2000, Australia

media release

For the fifth year running, **The Lions Club of Sydney Chinese Inc.** is offering *The Sydney Chinese Lions Humanitarian Scholarship*, and invited for applications in February 2007. The purpose of the Scholarship is to encourage and recognise the humanitarian services undertaken by university students.

This year the response to the Scholarship offer was overwhelming, . The quality of the applications, compared to previous years, was the highest ever. The reported humanitarian services performed by the applicants included volunteer work for such local charities as St Vincent de Paul Society, World Vision, Macquarie Hospital at North Ryde, Villawood Detention Centre, St Canice's Kitchen in Kings Cross, overseas work for remote and poor villages in Africa, South America, Fiji, Thailand, India, Indonesia, and others. These services are all highly commendable. As such, in addition to the original award of one winner receiving a scholarship of \$1,500, the Club also offered two consolation prizes of \$1,000 each.

The adjudicating panel comprises Lion Dr. Anthony Cheung, Lion Wanty Kerr, Lion Sylvia Chong and Lion Arthur Kwan. The selected **Scholarship Award Winner** is **Ms Angela Titmuss**. The **Consolation Prize Winners** are **Ms Marianna Leishman** and **Mr Mark Longhurst**.

Ms Angela Titmuss is from the University of New South Wales. She has been extensively involved in humanitarian activities over the last ten years, particularly with Aboriginal health and reconciliation issues. In 2002 she was President of 'Rural Allied Health and Medical Society', a society at the UNSW with the objective of increasing the health workforce for remote rural Australia. Since 2003 she has been volunteering with the 'National Rural Health Network', undertaking rural high school visits, health programs promotion and running Croc Fest workshops for Indigenous school students. She also undertook publication of a mental health guide for university students, and co-convening a national forum on rural, remote and Indigenous health issues. In 2005 she volunteered in Walungurru, 550 km west of Alice Springs, coordinating youth activities that aimed as a diversion against petrol sniffing, as well as training local youth there, and promoting health programs. Earlier this year she received Janie Dade Smith Award for Outstanding Contribution to Rural, Remote and Indigenous Health. Furthermore she ran kids camps, undertook

Night Patrol and youth program development for the 'St Vincent de Paul Society'. She was the 2002 Youth Ambassador for the Baulkham Hills Shire Council, and helped developing events to encourage and promote diversity. In the next 12 months, she will continue to be involved in the humanitarian activities with National Rural Health Network and St Vincent de Paul Society.

Ms Marianna Leishman is from University of Sydney. Whilst studying she has undertaken numerous pro-bono tasks. She volunteered with 'Mahboba's Promise', a charity that provides food, shelter and education to widows and orphans in Afghanistan. She also volunteered at Warringa Baiya Aboriginal Women's Legal Centre working on domestic violence and sexual assault cases. She drafted submissions for the 'Refugee Advice and Casework Service' and 'NSW Young Lawyers for Human Rights', and published articles on experiences of Muslim women as victims of discrimination and harassment. In early 2007 she interned with UNIFEM Australia, the National Committee for the United Nations Development Fund for Women, researching expert discussion papers on 'The Elimination of all forms of Discrimination and Violence against the Girl-Child'. She also has voluntarily assisted in projects for the 'Homeless Persons Legal Service', the 'Stolen Wages Project', the 'Sydney Children's Hospital' and 'Cana Communities Darlinghurst Shelter'. Next year, she is going to travel to remote rural Australia for the Aurora Native Title Internship.

Mr Mark Longhurst is from the University of Sydney. While still in high-school in 2004, he single-handedly ran the World Vision Forty-Hour Famine at Newington College, raising over \$6,000. He volunteered in South Africa for six months, caring for ninety-three Zulu children who were affected by HIV/AIDS and domestic violence. He also volunteered as an assistant manager of the 'Koori Kitchen Project', assisting Aboriginal teenagers in the Redfern to learn about meal preparation and healthy eating habits. He spent some three months in Manila, the Philippines, volunteering as Regional Office Manager of an organisation named 'VOICE', providing legal services to stateless Vietnamese refugees. In the next ten months, he will be travelling to the headquarters of VOICE in Washington DC to continue work in refugee-resettlement and counter-trafficking of Vietnamese nationals in South-East Asia. He will also be actively involved in a university society's humanitarian project in Uganda.

The Scholarship and Consolations Awards were presented to the winners by Lion Dr. Anthony Cheung, the Club's President, during the Changeover Ceremony & Dinner on 6 June 2007. Also a special letter of appreciation was sent to all applicants commending them for the good and valuable humanitarian work they had undertaken for the community, and encouraging them to keep up the good effort.

Another offer for the Scholarship will be made in February/March 2008.

Date: 6 June 2007