



**Donating \$2,500 to
the Myanmar
Cyclone Relief**

Presenting a \$2,500 Cheque to Pastor Nataniel Pereira

A Helping Hand for Cyclone Victims in Myanmar

On 2 May 2008, Tropical Cyclone Nargis, one of the largest and most devastating cyclones ever recorded, with 120-mile-per-hour winds and a 12-foot water surge swept over the Bay of Bengal and hit five divisions and states in Myanmar (Burma). It killed more than 84,000 people and left another 53,000 missing. A total of 2.4 million people were affected by the disaster and more than 1 million of those are in need of help, mostly in hard-to-reach spots in the Irrawaddy delta.

While grieving and praying for the victims, aid in a multitude of forms from the international community have been channeled to Myanmar to lend a helping hand to the survivors of the cyclone. In this regard, the Lions Club of Sydney Chinese Inc., Australia, is also doing its part. At a Board meeting of the Club held in May, it was resolved to donate a sum of \$2,500 to the cyclone relief. The Board instructed then Treasurer Robert Chu to investigate and recommend an appropriated organization to direct the funds to the Myanmar victims.

At the Club's Board meeting in June, the Waitara Seventh-Day Adventist Church was recommended and selected. This decision was made as Pastor Nataniel Pereira of the Adventist Church stated in his letter that they were currently doing work to help the victims of the disaster in Myanmar and that there was no administrative cost involved with every cent going to the affected areas."

Subsequently, Pastor Nataniel was invited to attend the Club's Members meeting on 2 July. A cheque for the

sum of \$2,500 was presented to him by President Anthony at a brief ceremony witnessed by the Club's members. Hopefully, the donation could, through the work of the Waitara Seventh-Day Adventist Church and its volunteers, reach the victims and at least helping them in a small way.

The Lions Club of Sydney Chinese Inc. is one amongst 45,000 member clubs of Lions Clubs International, sharing a common motto "We Serve". Since the Club's charter in 1995, under the leadership of President Dr. Anthony Cheung and other Past Presidents in conjunction with the relentless effort of its members, together with the generous donations and sponsorships received from the commu-



President Anthony Presenting a \$2,500 Cheque to
Pastor Nataniel Pereira for the Myanmar Cyclone Relief

nity, the Club has raised and donated over \$250,000 to a number of charities including St John Ambulance, the Australian Red Cross, the Sir David Martin Foundation, the Fred Hollows Foundation, the Westmead and Concord Hospitals, the Children's Mobility (Hart Walker) Foundation and the Elderly Australian Chinese Homes. Thousands had reaped the benefits. The Club is also mindful of encouraging young adults to participate in humanitarian services, hence, it has been offering the Sydney Chinese Lions Humanitarian Scholarships annually since 2003.



In the past Lions year alone, ie, 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008, the Club has raised and donated a total sum of AUS\$80,500. This includes donations of \$57,000 to the Royal Flying Doctor Service of Australia, \$15,000 to the Sichuan Earthquake Relief, \$2,500 to the Myanmar Cyclone Relief, \$2,000 to the Chinese Australian Services Society and \$4,000 was awarded to Sydney Chinese Lions Humanitarian Scholarship winners. These, together with the ambulance that the Club handed over to St John Ambulance in October 2007, have broken yet another record in the Club's 13

years' history - a remarkable collective achievement indeed! Meanwhile, the Club plans to raise more funds in the current 2008-9 Lions year which has just commenced to further SERVE the community.



waitara adventist church online 



Pastor Nataniel Pereira with Sydney Chinese Lions and guests at the Club's July Members Meeting