

Sydney Chinese Lions - a Model Club

Over 100 years ago in 1917, a rather successful and influential businessman in Chicago named Melvin Jones founded the first ever Lions Club. It is an organisation that aims to offer “unselfish service to others”. Little did he know then that today it has grown into the largest international humanitarian organisation serving over 200 countries with 1.4 million members worldwide.

History fast tracks to April 1995, Sydney. A group of Chinese Australians, out of the love for the country and community that they lived in, determined to uphold the common motto of “We Serve” of Lions and founded the first ever Chinese-based Lions club in Australia - Sydney Chinese Lions Club.

Over the past 27 years, Sydney Chinese Lions have raised and donated close to AUD \$1 million much needed funds to a good number of charities including the Royal Flying Doctors, St John Ambulance, CareFlight, Australian Red Cross, Lions Clubs International Foundation and others.

We are delighted to have Guests of Honor including HE General the Hon David Hurley AC DSC (Ret'd) then Governor of NSW, the Hon Gladys Berejiklian MP, then Premier of NSW Lion and Past International President Gudrun Yngvadottir of Lions Clubs International, then Chair of Lions Clubs International Foundation attending our recent fundraising events at the International Convention Centre, Sydney.

Under the leadership of Dr Anthony Cheung OAM, Sydney Chinese Lions raised and donated AUD\$40,000 to Lions Clubs International Foundation in 2020 to help solve some of the urgent problems humanity is facing, like life threatening diseases and diabetes.

As the Membership Chair and Board Director of Sydney Chinese Lions, I'm very proud to announce that our Club, with some 70 members strong and 6 Past International Presidents of Lions as our Associate Members, has recently been awarded the Campaign 100 Model Club by Lions Club International Foundation.

Sydney Chinese Lions Club has been recognised as “*leaders among leaders*” and they are “*an example for all clubs*”.

In recognition of his dedicated service to Australia and the community over the past decades, PDG Dr Anthony Cheung, President of Sydney Chinese Lions Club was awarded the Medal of The Order of Australia (OAM) in June 2021 by the Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, with the approval of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Second, Queen of Australia and Sovereign of the Order of Australia.

Today, for us Sydney Chinese Lions members, these recent recognitions only mark the beginnings of a renewed dedication in serving our community. We will continue our endeavour in transforming and exemplifying the incredible power we as Chinese Australians Lions have, in making a positive impact on the community, far and near.