

Chinese New Year Parade

On 11 February, a number of Sydney Chinese Lions took part in the Chinese New Year Parade organised by the Sydney City Council. They were joined by International Director Elect Tapani Rahko from Finland, his wife Helena and daughter Minna. They also had the helping hands of Master Boun Lee and his students who brought along two dancing Chinese lions, complete with cymbals and drum set.



Sydney Chinese Lions at CNY Parade

At 10 am, they gathered at Bathurst Street near Townhall. During the time that they were waiting for the Parade to begin, they were on location soaking in the atmosphere and enjoying them-

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ID Elect Tapani Rahko & Family at the Parade

selves. The Club was among the some 60+ teams participating in the Parade. The team from Guangdong, China was 700 strong. Due to crowd control constraints, the organizers capped the number of participants of each local team at 50.

The Parade started at 11 am. When it was the Club's turn to move, it was already 11:40. They had their Club Banner leading the way, then the two lions dancing accompanied by the rhythmic beats of the drum and cymbals, followed by Sydney Chinese Lions members. They paraded along George Street, turned left into Goulburn Street, then left into Sussex right through Chinatown and finished next to the Entertainment Centre. Some of them even went to Silver Restaurant to have Yum-Cha afterwards.

It was a colourful, happy and exciting event. All those who were there had a great time. President Anthony hopes more members will come to the Parade next year.

They took lots and lots of pictures. While only a few of these can be published here, there are plenty others that can be seen on the Club's website at <http://www.sydchineselions.org.au/PhotoGallery.html>.



Simon & Anthony with the Piggie Van