

Lions Movement Coming of Age in the Chinese Australian Community

Ever since the first Chinese Australian Lions Club was chartered in District N5 (Sydney) in 1995, to date, there are some eight Chinese Australian-based Lions Clubs with over 300 members. Currently, the total number of Lions in N5 is around 1,670. This means that one out of every 5 or 6 Lions in Sydney is a Chinese Australian.



On 19 July 2014, over 350 members and guests from the eight Chinese Australian-based Lions Clubs got together for an unprecedented Joint Clubs ChangeOver Dinner. It was a hugely successful and memorable occasion for all those who attended.

The participating Clubs were Sydney Chinese, Sydney Pacific, Sydney Inner West, Sydney North West, Sydney Waratah, Sydney Central, Western Sydney and Chatswood Executive Business. The function was officiated by



Immediate Past International President and Chair of Lions Clubs International Foundation Lion Barry Palmer, our very own Australian Past International President. PIP Wing Kun Tam had plans to come as Guest of Honour but had to extend his sincere apologies last minute as his flight was held up by inclement weather in Beijing. Other VIPs attending the Ceremony included Council Chairman Lion Warren Latham and wife Marilyn, together with the majority of members of DG Anthony's Team and their partners.



A Collection of the Gongs and Gavels from the eight Chinese Australian Clubs made ready for the historical Joint Changeover Ceremony - a marvellous Symbol of Solidarity

Lions Movement Coming of Age in the Chinese Australian Community (contd)



Incoming Directors of the eight Chinese Australian Lions Clubs Lining up orderly for their Induction Ceremony officiated by IPIP Barry Palmer AM

Representing the Presidents and members of the eight Clubs, President Jason Zhang of Sydney Chinese Lions made this remark in his Welcome Speech, " ... Tonight we celebrate THREE milestones ... First, the successful completion of his Year of Service of the first Australian International President of Lions and his commencement of Office as Chair of the Lions

Clubs International Foundation in Lion Barry. Second, the commencement of his year of Service of the first Chinese born District Governor of our N5 District in Lion Anthony. And third, the commencement of their year of Service as Board Members of the eight Clubs in our soon to be inducted Board Members..."



Presidents of the eight Clubs Exchanging Bannerettes and Presents with IPIP Barry Palmer AM, Council Chair Warren Latham and District Governor Dr Anthony Cheung

Lions Movement Coming of Age in the Chinese Australian Community (contd)



In addition to inducting the new Boards of Directors of the eight Clubs, Lion Barry also inducted 15 new members into Lions during the function.

There were many happy "customers". After attending the dinner, Lion Helen Loseby-Bowles, Editor of Sydney News wrote, "Chris and I thank you for inviting us to the Change-over Dinner tonight. It was a great success and I'm sure a lot of hard work went into the organisation of such a special event. Well done."

Lion Elizabeth Lessells, Chairperson of Youth of the Year Program says, " I would like to thank you and the Chinese Lions Clubs of Sydney for a wonderful dinner last night. The organisation, atmosphere, food, entertainment were great. They combined to make an inter-

esting and enjoyable evening."

Indeed, the Lions movement has come of age in the Chinese Australian community in Sydney. For Lion Anthony who is the first Chinese Australian District Governor of N5, this is a dream come true. This historical event is a marvelous outcome of months of hard work between him in conjunction with leaders and members of the Clubs.

Through the positive energies generated at the Joint ChangeOver, a convincing message is relayed to the general public. This helps to promote Lionism and hopefully, will attract more like minded individuals to join our ranks and files and become Lions.

By Lion DG Dr Anthony Cheung



A Historical Gong Striking of Presidents of the Eight Clubs at Joint Clubs Changeover 2014

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VIPs



VIPs with Sydney Pacific Lions



VIPs with Sydney Inner West Lions

Lions Movement Coming of Age in the Chinese Australian Community (contd)



VIPs with Sydney Waratah Lions



VIPs with Sydney North West Lions



VIPs with Sydney Central Lions

Lions Movement Coming of Age in the Chinese Australian Community (contd)



VIPs with Western Sydney Lions



VIPs with Chatswood Executive Business Lions



VIPs with Sydney Chinese Lions