



Sydney Chinese Lions

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THE LIONS CLUB OF SYDNEY CHINESE INC.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- A renewed focus in the new Lions Year
- Welcome to Janet Hung and Timothy Yuen
- Quality members urgently needed
- Club Twinning process with LC Järvenpää /Ainot, Finland, completed
- Welcoming new DG on 6 August
- Visiting the elderly at CASS on 22 September
- Handover Ceremony of ambulance on 13 October

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President's Message

My Fellow Lions

This month sees the beginning of a brand new Lions year. I would like to see all of us having a renewed focus on Serving our community — to continue doing those things that we have been doing well in the past and to explore new ways and venues so that we can collectively Serve even better than before.

At our July Members Meeting, we are again further strengthened by Janet Hung and Timothy Yuen being inducted as our newest members. To date, our membership has grown well over the 60 mark. At the beginning of each Lions year with new annual membership fees due, it is common to have a small membership drop. However, with the way that our Club is going, hopefully, similar to the previous 3 years, we'll be able to set off this loss after the first half of the Lions year and enjoy a net membership growth from January onwards.

At our Board meeting on 17 July, approval was given to Irene Chau and Marnie Raranasena to join us as new members and for Lion Belinda Wan to transfer over to us. We look for-

ward to welcoming them at our Members Meeting on 5 September.

A club is as strong as the sum total of its members. I wish to appeal to all of you that we need quality members. If you know of anyone who are like service-minded individuals like



Sydney Chinese Lions at July Members Meeting

ourselves, please tell them about us and invite them to our dinner meetings. This way, we may be able to entice them to become one of us, thereby further developing and strengthening our Club.

In the June Bulletin, I reported that we are in the process of formalizing our International Club Twinning process with LC Järvenpää/Ainot (Finland). Recently, we received a Letter of Congratulations and a Club Twinning patch from LCI HQ. This signifies that the twinning process is now complete. A full report on how this Club Twinning has come about is provided on Pages 2-3.

On Monday, 6 August, we are having a joint meeting with Lions Clubs in our Zone to welcome Lion Carol Alderson, our new District Governor at Zilver Restaurant. It is essential to RSVP Secretary Crystal by 27 July.

On 22 September, we are visiting the elderly at CASS, Campsie. If you wish to attend and/or entertain the elderly there, please contact VP Simon Leung on 0411 868 033 for further details.

Our District Convention will be held on 13 October at Town Hall, Sydney. It would be a wonderful opportunity to meet other Lions from our District and exchange Lions experiences. Please ask Secretary Crystal for registration forms.

I'll be away on an overseas trip in August. As 1st VP Mei is also currently away, 2nd VP Sylvia will be looking after the Club's affairs in our absence. I look forward to seeing you again upon my return in September.

Yours in Lions
Anthony

International Club Twinning

LC Sydney Chinese, Australia
with
LC Järvenpää/Ainot, Finland

Recently, Sydney Chinese Lions (the Club) received an International Club Twinning patch and a Letter of Congratulations from LCI Headquarters dated 20 June 2007. This signifies that the Twinning process between LC Sydney Chinese (Australia) and LC Järvenpää/Ainot (Finland) had been completed and formalised.

Below is an account of the sequence of events which led to the completion and formalization of Club Twinning between the two



IDE Tapani Rahko and Helena at Members Meeting of Sydney Chinese Lions in February 2007

Clubs.

On 21 November 2006, the Club received an email from a Lion Helena Rahko. Helena stated that she is a member of LC Järvenpää/Ainot, Finland and that she had just arrived in Sydney working for the NSW Ombudsman's Office for a few months. She indicated that she would be very much interested in visiting the Club. As

their Christmas Party was just round the corner, the Club invited her to go along as their guest. And when she did but when she turned up at the party alongside 200 other attendees, she was pleasantly surprised and thrilled at what she saw. That evening, she had a great time with the members and guests. She subsequently attended the Club's January Members meeting and exchanged club bannerettes and other niceties with them.



Helena Rahko at Christmas Party of Sydney Chinese Lions

Helena also attended the Club's February Members meeting. But this time she was accompanied by her husband Lion Tapani Rahko. Only when Helena introduced Tapani to the Club, then the members realized that they had an International Lions leader among them. Tapani is an International Director Elect and a Past Council Chairperson of the Finnish Multiple District. They also exchanged bannerettes and badges with Tapani at the meeting.



Helena Rahko at Members Meeting of Sydney Chinese Lions in January 2007

Chinese New Year this year fell in



IDE Tapani Rahko, Helena and Minna Rahko at Chinese New Year Parade with Sydney Chinese Lions

early February. On 11 February, the Sydney City Council organized its annual CNY City Parade. It was a colourful event attracting tens of thousands of spectators. The Rahkos, together with their daughter Minna, were invited to march alongside the Club's members. When the time came, they were on location, soaking in the atmosphere and enjoying themselves. When it was the Club's turn to move, the Club Banner led the way, then there were two ceremonial lions dancing in the midst of the rhythmic beats of the drum and cymbals, followed by the Club's members marching alongside their Finnish friends.

A week later, at the request of Minna, who had to conduct a research project on Leos in Sydney, President Anthony organised a dinner meeting with the Rahkos and President Michelle of Oatley Leos during which they discussed a number of interesting Lions issues. Amongst these, they discussed the possibility of International Club Twinning between LC Sydney Chinese and LC Järvenpää/Ainot.

All of them thought it would be a great idea if the two clubs should decide to go ahead with the project to set up a valuable international tie. Helena promised to

raise the matter with her club as soon as she returned to Finland.

So soon after Helena's return to Finland, an email from LC Järvenpää/Ainot reached the Club expressing their willingness to go ahead with the Twinning process. At a meeting of the Club's Board in May, a resolution was passed to go ahead with the project. Following several rounds of correspondence between the two clubs and LCI HQ, the process is now completed and formalised.

The two clubs can now look forward to fruitful social and cultural exchanges ahead.



The Rahkos, President Anthony and VP Mei with Oatley Leos



Members of LC Järvenpää/Ainot
 Web address: <http://www.lions.fi/district107-CI/jpaaAinot/>



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We Serve

The Lions Club of Sydney Chinese Inc. is a member of Lions Clubs International, an international non profit community service organization, upholding a common motto "WE SERVE". Today, there are Lions Clubs in 200 countries and geographical areas all over the world. In District 201N5, which covers the Sydney area and Norfolk Island, there are some 80 Clubs with around 1,800 members. Amongst these, there are around 7 Chinese-based Clubs. Sydney Chinese Lions is the first of these Chinese-based Clubs chartered in April 1995.

Over the past thirteen years, under the leadership of President Dr. Anthony Cheung and other Past Presidents, in conjunction with the relentless effort of its members, and on top of all these, the generous donations and sponsorships received from the community, the Club has raised and donated over two hundred thousand dollars to a number of charities including St John Ambulance, the Australian Red Cross, the Sir David Martin Foundation, the Fred Hollows Foundation, 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, since 2003, it has been offering its humanitarian scholarships.

www.sydneychineselions.org.au

Upcoming Events

Function	Venue/ Dress Code	Date & Time	Cost per person
Joint Lions Clubs Dinner Meeting Welcome to new District Governor — Lion Carol Alderson (regular meeting on 1 August postponed to Monday, 6 August)	Zilver Restaurant Club Uniform or Lounge Suit	Monday 6 August 2007 7:00 for 7:30pm	\$35 per person
Visiting the Elderly at Chinese Australian Services Society (CASS) 華人服務社	44-50 Sixth Avenue Campsie	Saturday 22 September 2007 1:00 — 4:00pm	Free of Charge
Handover Ceremony of Ambulance St John Ambulance & LC of Sydney Chinese Inc.	University of Sydney	Saturday, 13 October 2007 2:00pm	(By invitation of St John Ambulance only)
District 201N5 Convention	Sydney Town Hall	Saturday, 13 October 2007	Free of Charge

For bookings please contact:
Secretary Crystal Siu (ph: 9570 8900, mobile: 0400 228 823, email: ccsiu@hotmail.com)