

Sydney Chinese Lions Silver Jubilee Ball

On 7 March 2020, Sydney Chinese Lions held their Silver Jubilee Ball in the Grand Ballroom of the International Convention Centre Sydney. The function attracted some 300 members and guests, with IPIP Gudrun Yngvadottir and PIP Barry Palmer AO as Guests of Honor.

Every year, Sydney Chinese Lions select a worthy charity organization as the Major Beneficiary of its charity balls. As this is their Silver Jubilee year, the Club is doing the right thing by Lions. They chose the Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) as their Major Beneficiary. Having the LCIF Chairperson Lion Gudrun attending the function in person gave the function an astounding morale boost. Among the many other Lions leaders who attended were Past LCIF Board Trustee Nigel Jeny OAM, CC Kim Forrest, PCC Philip Johnson, PCC Lou Onley, DG Jennifer Touzel, DG Frankie Tang, PDG Ron Gattone and others.

Proceedings of the evening went exceptionally well. Biddings for open and silent auction items were somewhat flat compared to previous years, due to the downturn of the economy caused by the impact of the new corona virus. Nevertheless, towards the end of the evening, the Club presented a cheque for \$40,000 to IPIP Gudrun and PIP Barry. This donation is regarded as an excellent outcome, in light of the less favorable circumstances all around.

2020 is actually the third occasion in eight years that Sydney Chinese Lions have donated handsome amounts to LCIF. The first time was when Lion Sid Scruggs was LCIF Chair in 2012. He attended the Sydney Chinese Lions Ball 2012 and received a cheque for \$50,000. The second time was 2015 when Lion Barry Palmer was LCIF Chair and the Club decided to lend him support by donating to the Foundation. Although Lion Barry was unable to attend the Ball



Presentation of a \$40,000 Cheque to LCIF



Birthday Cake Cutting

due to a clash in Board meeting dates, the Club donated a sum of \$40,000. This amount led the Club to being recognized as one of the "Top Ten Donor Clubs" to LCIF globally that year. With their donation of \$40,000 to LCIF this year, Sydney Chinese Lions are hopeful of becoming one of the Top Ten Donor Clubs worldwide once again.

At a post Ball review, President PDG Anthony Cheung concluded, "Despite the massive number of guests pulling out during the final days prior to the Ball, due to uncertainties created by Covid-19, an actual attendance of some 300 guests is an excellent turn out! This is largely attributable to the very worthy course in LCIF that we are supporting. Also, the presence of Lions Gudrun and Barry certainly helped. We believe all our guests had a great time enjoying the sumptuous cuisine, glamorous entertainment and fantastic company at the Ball."



Sydney Chinese Lions with VIP Guests