

# Anthony's Tidbits Sept 2014

My Fellow N5 Lions, Lioness' and Leos

Wow, this has been an amazing journey thus far!

First of all, many of you may be aware that International President Joe Preston and his lovely wife Lion Joni visited our District on 3-7 September. We organised a series of visits and functions for them and shared many memorable moments.

They were with us throughout the whole day and evening on 6 Sept when we had our inaugural Skills Sharing Expo in the day time and a Gala Dinner in honour of the Prestons in the evening. Around 100 Lions took part in the Expo and 200 Lions and Leos showed up for the dinner. Many thought that they learnt a lot at the Expo. Some said that the Expo was a great idea and it was a good day. Others thought that another Expo should be organised some time down the track including a session exclusively for Club Presidents. I have booked the Castle Hill RSL Club for Saturday, 12 April for this purpose. Watch this space for more details.

An inaugural PR Forum was called during the Expo and was well attended, with participants forthcoming with their views and ideas. My aim is to build a strong PR team with no less than 20 team members under the leadership of District PR Coordinators Derek Margerison, Peter Robin, Maureen Flanagan and John Luo. Anyone interested in becoming part of the team could email either Derek or I.

A BIG Thank You to all those who at-

tended the Expo and all those who have worked so hard to put this together. A special thanks to Lion Chris Bowles, GLT Coordinator for his great effort in leading the team as Chair of the Expo Committee.



The 200+ Lions, Leos and Lionesses who attended the Gala Dinner would probably agree that it was a resounding success. Some commented that it was an evening of fun and music and that everyone there enjoyed themselves immensely. Citing a senior Cabinet Officer, "Congratulations on a wonderful day, one which I honestly believe was enjoyed by all who attended ...The day culminated with an excellent evening with new members experiencing the fun and fellowship, which can be derived from belonging to an organisation that can do so much to assist their communities. The music was inspirational and an example of how young people enjoy quality from dedication and hard work. Thank you for the opportunity to be part of that experience."

Also, a BIG Thank You to all those who attended and particularly to all those who have put in great efforts to make it happen. The success of the event is the sum total of our collective effort and our total dedication.

For those who were unable to attend the Expo and/or the Gala Dinner, yes, you have missed out big times. However, all is not

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lost - what Lions experienced at the Dinner was merely a taste of things to come at the District Convention on 14-16 November. Although IP Joe will not be there then, the music, entertainment and arrangements is promised to be even more diverse and more spectacular.

To register for the Convention, simply download the Rego Form from the District website [www.lionsclubssydney.org.au](http://www.lionsclubssydney.org.au) (select *Conventions* under *News and Events*).

The Skills Expo Day and Dinner were a fitting finale to IP Joe's visit. The Prestons first arrived in Sydney on Wednesday, 3 Sept after a brief 2 day visit to our New Zealand neighbour following ANZI. Prior to the Expo, they visited the Sydney Eye Hospital, Hornsby Lions, Headquarters of the Australian Red Cross (NSW), had a luncheon at the President's Room of the NSW Parliament co-hosted by Lion Steve Bromhead, President of NSW Parliamentary Lions, took a ferry ride from Circular Quay to Manly and inspected facilities donated by LCIF in the Maternity Ward at Manly Hospital.

For Emma and I, Club visitations have gone wild - at the time of writing, we have visited Carlingford Dundas, Hornsby, Penrith, Sydney Markets Industries, Sydney Chinese, Ku-ring-gai, Beecroft-Cheltenham, Epping Eastwood, Sydney Inner West, St Ives, Strathfield Han Ho, Balgowla and Berowra.

On top of these, we've attended a Joint ChangeOver of eight Chinese Australian

Clubs, our District ChangeOver, the 50th Anniversary of West Pennant Hills Cherrybrook, the Camp Lionheart Dinner of Carlingford-Dundas, the ANZI Forum in Adelaide, BBQ at the Mangos Auctions at Sydney Markets, the Service Award Presentations of Ku-ring-gai, the 20th Anniversary of Burwood and the week long 50th Anniversary celebrations of the of Norfolk Island Lions.

In between, there were our DG Team meeting and first Cabinet Meeting in early August and the first Council Meeting in late August in Adelaide.

Sounds like a pretty a hectic schedule, doesn't it? Well, it is indeed but I'm having the biggest fun ride of my life to date. Nothing gives me greater satisfaction to know that I am pushing ahead to advance Lionism in our District with so many of you behind me, backing me up along the way.

It is beyond doubt that as a District, we are having a flying start in the initial stages in this Lions year. Let's keep up our efforts and good work to ensure that this continues. Let's keep up our high spirits while realizing my theme - "Serving in Dedication"! *By Lion Anthony Cheung*



***Serving in Dedication***