

MEDIA RELEASE



3 February 2009

Chinese Lions Club of Sydney chooses St John Ambulance as Charity Ball beneficiary

St John (NSW) will be the main beneficiary of the Lions Club of Sydney Chinese Inc.'s Charity Ball, to be held on 7 March 2009 at the Sydney Convention & Exhibition Centre in Darling Harbour.

Sean Gavin, CEO of St John (NSW) said that the support of organisations such as the Sydney Chinese Lions is vital for the work St John puts into the local communities.

“St John is a self-funded charity that does not rely of Government grants. Our main source of revenue comes from the sale of our first aid courses and kits. In turn, these proceeds fund our many community activities.

“However, there are times when demands on our services are greater than the resources available. That is when organisations such as the Sydney Chinese Lions play a vital role”, Mr Gavin said.

According to Dr Anthony Cheung, President of the Lions Club of Sydney Chinese, St John's voluntary work involves the Chinese community in many ways.

“St John volunteers not only provide first aid at events our families attend but also maintain Community Care initiatives, such as the Program to Aid Literacy (PALs) designed to help children learn to read in schools. Many of these children are from non English-speaking countries such as China”, Dr Cheung said.

St John (NSW) was also nominated Recipient Charity in 2007, and as a result of their remarkable fundraising success, the money raised contributed substantially to a patient retrieval vehicle that is now a critical part of St John's first aid operations.

“We are honoured to be chosen once again as charity recipient of the 2009 Ball. Their support and generosity will support our volunteers to continue to provide the highest calibre of service in the local communities”, Mr Gavin said.

For more information on the Charity Ball please visit www.sydchineselions.org.au, e-mail sydneychineselions@yahoo.com.au or call President Dr Anthony Cheung on 0414 330 887. To find out more about St John (NSW) please contact 1300 360 455 or visit www.stjohnnsw.com.au.

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Notes to the editor:

MEDIA OPPORTUNITY: A media conference will be held Thursday, 12 February 2009 at 11:30am, Zilver Restaurant, Level 1, 477 Pitt Street, Chinatown.

For further information please contact:

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