



ANNUAL REPORT of the PRESIDENT

2019-2020

INTRODUCTION

Welcome and thank you for attending our 2020 Annual General Meeting, as per our Corona Virus Plan, please follow the instructions as directed.

It has been a great honour and a rewarding experience to have been bestowed the position of President of for the past ten years.

The Chung Wah Society of the Northern Territory was started 71 years ago by our forefathers and I know they must be pleased with the way the Society has progressed to the standing that we have achieved among all the other ethnic communities not only in the Territory but indeed, the rest of Australia.

I am extremely proud of my Chinese heredity and of our achievements and contribution to the country that we call home. We have always respected not only the Law of the Land but it's wonderful multicultural makeup and beliefs.

This will be my final report as your President as ten years is double the term as stated in our Constitution. However as typical "Chinese ingenuity" may have it, they of course, included a "Loophole" which stated that a person may stay on as President if no one else nominates for the position. Uncle Adam, my predecessor served for 11 years.

Over the past decade I have discovered a fabulous group of people past and present who receive great pleasure in helping others as volunteers utilising their personal skills and professional experiences.

Chung Wah Society is looked upon as "Big Brother" by many of the other Chinese Associations and Community Group. We are proud of the this respect and we hope to show the people of the Territory the meaning of Cultural Friendship.

"Diversity is one of our greatest strengths."

I would like to thank the following Office Holders of 2019-2020:

EXECUTIVES

Mr Richard (Dick) Griffiths	Patron
Mr Alfred On OAM	Vice Patron
Mr Daryl Chin	Vice President
Ms Jade Schembri	General Secretary
Mr Roland Chin	Treasurer and Public Officer
Mr Daniel Chow	Chinese Secretary

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Subcommittee Co-ordinators

Mr Andrew Chin	Building and Maintenance
Mr Dennis Low	Temple Officer
Ms Mikayla Chin	Senior Lion Dance Troupe
Mr Desmond Yuen	Building and Special Projects
Ms Tina Griffiths	Major Events Project Management, Membership and Car Parking Administrator
Ms Natasha Yuen	Jade Dragons and Event Management
Mr Nathan Tam	Senior Lion Dance Troupe
Mr Stephen Pearson	Senior Lion Dance Trouper and IT Management
Mrs Lyn Tam	Special Projects Support
Dr Randall Chin	Special Projects Support

OTHER POSTS

Mr Eddie Lai	Auditor
Melanie Chin/Leila Chin	Seniors Group
Neville Jones	NT Chinese Museum

I must mention that many of the above people have served the committee for many years, generously giving up many hours of their personal time and in many instances their personal finances whilst doing their duties.

CHUNG WAH SOCIETY 2020

2020 the Year of the Rat was plagued by the start of the COVID-19 Pandemic. The spread of the virus has impacted the daily lives of the Global population. It has changed life as we know it, however what it also did, was it made us appreciate the things that we had always taken for granted, the most important things such as family and friends. The very make up of our Society.

As with the rest of the World, Chung Wah Society also went into “Lockdown” in the attempt to control the spread this most aggressive virus. Therefore our Society was unable to conduct many of our regular functions.

- **2020 Chinese New Year**

The Second Chinese New Year Festival was another resounding success being held at the New Netball Stadium at Marrara. Fortunately, it occurred just before the Pandemic took hold in the Territory. The Festival is planned to go ahead for next year providing all stays well with the Virus situation.

- **Building**

As you will have noticed Work is ongoing with upgrading of the Kitchen and Ladies Toilets thanks to the assistance of dollar for dollar grants. We are also currently in the process of upgrading security of our premises. More information will be given as we progress.

- **Darwin Chinese Temple**

The Temple remained open to both Worshippers and Visitors under a strict Corona Virus Plan. The Moon Gate Project on Woods Street is completed and a submission to the Council has been submitted to upgrade the Verge in anticipation of an official opening.

- **NT Chinese Museum**

The Museum remains closed due to the age and vulnerability of our regular volunteers. However, the Museum remains available for viewing by

appointment. We have had several visits by groups school students as restrictions eased.

- **Lion Dance, Dragon Dance and Jade Dragons Cultural Dance**

Training and performances have been continuing with a Corona Virus Plan. The Troupe continue to be requested for performances and Blessings.

The Lion Dance Troupe is currently preparing for the 2021 New Year Shop Blessings.

- **Moon Festival**

The Moon Festival was a great success this year with fewer guests due to the Corona Virus Guidelines. The night was very intimate with the smaller crowds. Many thanks to the many supporters who helped on the night in supplying a wonderful selection of dishes.

- **Seniors Group**

Due to the vulnerability of the Seniors, we have decided that the group's Friday lunches will not start up again until 2021. The annual Seniors Christmas Party has also been cancelled.

- **Children's Christmas Party**

We are pleased to say that this important event will proceed under a Corona Virus Plan. Please refer to our website for details.

In Closing

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Mr Dennis Low on receiving the Bill Wong Award this year as he is indeed another one of our quiet achievers and it is a pleasure to show him the thanks and recognition that he deserves.

Also, as part of the AGM every year the Society invites members to nominate any members who should be considered for Life Membership to the Society.

This is in recognition for extraordinary service and dedication to the society and is not given out lightly.

One person has been submitted for consideration and the CWS Management Committee has approved the nomination as appropriate for consideration and acceptance in the General Business part of our AGM.

To all our supporters, volunteers and Major Sponsors, especially the NT Government, Darwin Office Technology and Alfred's Gift Shop, I say thank you for your continued support.

I must mention again, a big thank you to the Chinese Language and Culture Centre of Darwin for their recent most generous donation towards our Chinese Temple Moon Gate Entrance Project, the Lion Dance Troupe, Jade Dragons and our NT Chinese Museum.

Once again, thank you all for your kind support during my tenure of this most wonderful community group, the Chung Wah Society of the Northern Territory.

I commend this report to all our members, please forgive me if I should have accidentally made any omissions.

Yours sincerely



Austin James Chin

President

Chung Wah Society NT

15th November 2020