

Wednesday 16 June 2021

## COUNCIL ANNOUNCES THE 2021 GRANNY SMITH CARNIVAL

City of Ryde will once again celebrate the life and legacy of Maria Ann ‘Granny’ Smith later this year with a three-day carnival full of fun and exciting activities.

The Granny Smith Carnival (as it will be known in 2021) will take place at Eastwood Oval in the traditional timeslot of the third weekend in October (15 – 17 October).

The carnival will feature kids rides such as the popular ferris wheel as well as new rides never seen at a Granny Smith Festival before.

There will also be a large stage showcasing a mixture of traditional Granny Smith entertainment such as community performances and dance groups, along with kids’ shows and professional entertainers.

Food trucks will also be on hand to serve up some carnival favourites, while the popular Cider Bar will make a return for the adults.

Also included will be roving entertainment, carnival games and showbags. There will of course be Granny Smith apples, apple pies and a special appearance from Mrs Granny Smith herself and her sidekick Sweetie Pie.

Each session of the Granny Smith Carnival will be ticketed and the site will be completely fenced to create a COVID-safe event. This format will spread out the expected crowd over the three days. Unfortunately, there will be no street parade or street stalls at this year’s event.

City of Ryde Mayor, Cllr Jerome Laxale, said this year’s Granny Smith Carnival would feature lots of the fun and excitement of traditional Granny Smith Festivals.

“It was a priority for us this year to ensure Granny Smith celebrations were held in person. I’m over the moon that we can celebrate together over three days in a COVID-safe manner,” Cllr Laxale said.

“The carnival atmosphere will be great for families and by having a cider bar and roving entertainment we’re ensuring that adults can have some fun too. This festival is all part of our commitment to bringing together our community and livening up our town centres.”

Tickets for the Granny Smith Carnival will go on sale in early September.

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