

Wednesday 11 January 2017

RYDE WELCOMES NEW CITIZENS ON AUSTRALIA DAY

Australia Day, Thursday 26 January, North Ryde School of Arts Hall, 201 Coxs Road, North Ryde, from 3.00pm (*please note new time*)

Ryde's Mayor, Cllr Bill Pickering, will welcome 50 new Australian citizens at a Citizenship Ceremony on Thursday 26 January at the new time of 3.00pm as part of this year's Australia Day celebrations.

The new citizens hail from diverse backgrounds in 21 countries, and include four family units of three people from the United Kingdom, Sri Lanka, the Phillippines and Iran.

"Our country is enriched by people from all corners of the globe," the Mayor said. "It's fitting we welcome these new Australians on the day we celebrate our community and our rich and diverse culture.

"There are people from many different nations living in our city, and their languages, customs and backgrounds are part of what makes Ryde such a vibrant place to live."

The Australia Day Citizenship Ceremony will take place at the North Ryde School of Arts Hall, 201 Coxs Road, from 3.00pm and will see the new citizens sing the national anthem for the first time as Australians. They will then be invited to enjoy a traditional morning tea with lamingtons and sausage rolls.

**Media Contact: Lee Kirkland City of Ryde Media Officer p●99528083 m●0434306444
e●lkirkland@ryde.nsw.gov.au**