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THAT'S A WRAP - CINEMA IN THE PARK SERIES A HUGE SUCCESS

This year's Cinema in the Park series has been heralded as the most successful yet with a record 2,500 people attending the three screenings throughout April.

The City of Ryde free event was held throughout the school holidays and featured the popular films *Ferdinand*, *Jumanji: Welcome To The Jungle* and *Boss Baby*.

The success of the Cinema in the Park series this year coincided with the introduction of two new locations – Gannan Park and Anzac Park – which staged cinema screenings along with series regular Yamble Reserve.

The series also raised much needed funds for the Yang and Wang family who lost their Marsfield house and suffered serious injuries in a fire in March this year. Led by the Salvation Army, the fundraising drive raised more than \$2000 across the three events to help with the family's care and temporary housing.

City of Ryde Mayor, Cllr Jerome Laxale, said he was delighted that the Cinema in the Park series had been embraced by the entire community.

"The Cinema in the Park series continues to grow each and every year and it was great that so many people were able to attend over the three weekends this year. The true spirit of our community was on show as well with the tremendous amount that was raised for the Yang and Wang family," Cllr Laxale said.

"I would like to thank Ryde District Mums for choosing the films shown, our fantastic events team at the City of Ryde for ensuring each event ran smoothly, the Salvation Army for leading the fundraising drive for the Yang and Wang family and of course all the people of Ryde who attended one of the Cinema in the Park events and gave so generously."

Cllr Laxale said the City of Ryde had a range of family friendly events planned for the remainder of the year.

"This includes a special FIFA World Cup live site at ELS Hall Park, which will broadcast the Australia versus France game live on Saturday 16 June.