

Tuesday 6 January 2015

RYDE CELEBRATES AUSTRALIA DAY 2015

Local heroes, Aussie icons and our way of life

Come and celebrate what's great about the City of Ryde at our Australia Day celebrations on Monday 26 January 2015. On a day of ceremony, tradition and family fun, we will:

- **Honour** our most admired citizens and welcome new ones at a special civic ceremony
- **Hear** about what makes Australia great from Australia Day Ambassador Tracey Spicer, news reporter and journalist
- **Enjoy** a traditional Aussie morning tea or sausage sizzle
- **Rock** on the Common with the Whispering Jack Show's tribute to the King of Rock 'You're the Voice' John Farnham, at the annual Aussie Day Family Concert at West Ryde Common.
- **Be amazed** as the night sky lights up with a spectacular fireworks display in a fitting tribute to our national holiday.

And it all happens right on our doorstep, here in the City of Ryde.

Mayor Bill Pickering said: "Our celebrations are a real reflection of local people, the values we share and the freedom and enviable lifestyle we enjoy here in the City of Ryde.

"The day has special significance for those attending our civic ceremony in the morning, while many residents will get together with family and friends in the time honoured tradition of a backyard barbeque or gathering in one of beautiful riverside parks.

"We're expecting thousands to turn up at our traditional free Family Concert and Fireworks Spectacular at North Ryde Common – the perfect, relaxing way to end off a special day of celebration, as it is designed to be hassle free, safe for families and there's no long trip home afterwards."

Organisers are urging kids and adults to get into the spirit by dressing up as their favourite Aussie icon. So come as a bushranger or a crocodile tamer, your favourite sporting hero or wrap yourself in the flag. Just make sure you and your family are part of our great Aussie-Ryde celebration.

Australia Day 2015 Program of Events

Civic Ceremony

Civic Hall, Ryde Civic Centre, 1 Devlin Street, starting at 10.00am

Australia Day Ambassador address

News report Tracey Spicer is the City of Ryde's official Australia Day Ambassador. She will speak about what is great about Australia and being Australian.

Citizen and Young Citizen of the Year Announcement

Meet the seven local heroes whose actions mirror our national values and have been nominated by residents for our top civic honours.

Citizenship Ceremony

Witness their pride when fifty local residents become Australian citizens. The band will play *Waltzing Matilda* and there will be lamingtons and sausage rolls for all.

Australia Day Family Concert & Fireworks

North Ryde Common, Cnr Twin & Wicks Roads, 5.00 – 9.30 pm

Come dressed as your favourite Aussie icon. Children's rides, hot food and refreshments. Don't miss it!

Performance Schedule

5.00 - 5.45pm Katie & Ben

5.45 - 5.50pm *Mayor's Welcome and National Anthem* Jdance

5.50 - 6.10pm Jdance

6.15 - 7.15pm Band Down Under

7.45 - 9.00pm *The Whispering Jack Show – a tribute to the music of John Farnham*

9.00pm *Xtreme Fireworks*

Make a Splash! on Australia Day

Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre, 504 Victoria Road, Ryde, 8878 5111

Immerse yourself in Australia Day fun at the Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre. There'll be pool inflatables, games, prizes, giveaways and plenty of fun for the whole family. There'll be a free sausage sizzle (one per person, while stocks last). 11.00am – 3.00pm

Full details www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/australiaday

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