

Tuesday 25 March 2025

## City of Ryde celebrates Nowruz with a vibrant community gathering

City of Ryde was alive with colour, culture, and community spirit as residents came together to celebrate Nowruz, the Persian New Year.

The event, held Thursday 20 March 2025, was a joyous occasion that highlighted the City's commitment to inclusivity and multiculturalism.

City of Ryde Mayor Trenton Brown reflected on the significance of Nowruz, an ancient celebration observed for over 3,000 years across the Middle East, Central Asia, and the Caucasus. Recognised by UNESCO as an Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, Nowruz represents renewal, unity, and fresh beginnings.

"Our city is home to people from many different backgrounds, and it is our shared traditions that strengthen the bonds of our community," said Mayor Brown. "We are proud to celebrate the contributions of the Iranian, Afghan, Kurdish, Azerbaijani, Tajik, Uzbek, Kazakh, Turkmen, and other Nowruz-celebrating communities that enrich our city. Your traditions and heritage are an integral part of the diverse community we cherish."

The event featured a range of cultural performances, traditional displays, and a warm community atmosphere. Guests enjoyed poetry recitations, music, dance, and the sharing of delicious festive dishes. The celebration provided a space for families and friends to come together, reflect on the past year, and embrace the opportunities ahead.

With Nowruz marking the Northern Hemisphere Spring Equinox, this year's celebration coincided with the precise moment of renewal on at 8:01pm.

"This year's Nowruz gathering is just the beginning," the Mayor continued. "We look forward to expanding and enhancing our celebration in the future, fostering even greater cultural exchange and community engagement."

City of Ryde remains dedicated to recognising and celebrating cultural traditions, including Nowruz, alongside other major cultural festivities such as Diwali and Lunar New Year.

"As we embrace the spirit of Nowruz, let us appreciate the beauty of renewal, the warmth of community, and our shared hope for a bright year ahead," Mayor Brown concluded. "To everyone, I wish you a joyous and prosperous New Year. Nowruz Mobarak!"

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