MEDIA RELEASE

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Thursday 19 January 2012

CELEBRATE THE LUNAR NEW YEAR

The City of Ryde will welcome the Year of the Dragon with a spectacle of colour, flavour and excitement!

The month-long program climaxes in a Grand Celebration Day of performances, art, feasting and fireworks in Eastwood Plaza on Saturday 4 February.

"Everyone is welcome to join the celebrations," said Mayor, Clr Artin Etmekdjian. "You can meet members of our local Chinese, Korean and Indonesian communities, try a new activity such as tai chi or ballroom dancing, taste delicious delicacies from around the world and enjoy traditional performances and fireworks.

"The dragon is the ultimate auspicious symbol of success and happiness. May the celestial dragon bring great good luck and good fortune to everyone in our City".

Eastwood Chinese Seniors

Celebrate the Lunar New Year with singing, dancing and games Wednesday 25 January, 10.00am – 12.00 noon St Philips Anglican Church Hall, cnr Shaftsbury Road and Rutledge Street, Eastwood

Lunar New Year Seniors Lunch

The Australian Asian Association of Bennelong is hosting a special lunch for City of Ryde seniors Bookings essential, email <u>info@aaab.org.au</u>. Friday 27 January, 11.00am – 4.00pm Ryde Ex-Services Club, 724 Victoria Road, Ryde

Lion Dance and Fireworks

Carlingford Village welcomes the Lunar New Year with traditional lion dance and fireworks Saturday 28 January, 12.00 noon – 2.00pm Carlingford Village Shopping Centre, cnr Marsden and Pennant Hills Road, Carlingford

Community Cooking Competition

Local amateur chefs put their woks and skills to the test at the annual cooking competition. Free food tasting and cooking demonstrations Sunday 29 January, 11.00am – 2.00pm Eastwood Plaza, Rowe Street, Eastwood

Ballroom Dancing

Ballroom dancing under the arbour. All welcome. Sunday 29 January, 7.00 – 9.00pm Eastwood Plaza, Rowe Street, Eastwood

Lunar New Year at Eastwood Library

Morning tea, games and other activities Monday 30 January, 11.00am – 12.00 noon Eastwood Library, cnr Hillview Road and West Parade, Eastwood

Italian Women's Group of Marsfield

Morning tea and a visit from the God of Good Fortune Tuesday 31 January, 11.00am – 12.00 noon St Anthony's Church Hall, 54 Agincourt Road, Marsfield

Korean Women's Group

Morning tea and a visit from the God of Good Fortune! Thursday 2 February, 11.00am – 12.00 noon West Ryde Community Centre, 1A Station Street, West Ryde

Korean Seniors Club

Morning tea and a visit from the God of Good Fortune Thursday 2 February, 11.00am – 12.00 noon St Philips Church Hall, cnr Shaftsbury Road and Rutledge Street, Eastwood

Ballroom Dancing

Ballroom dancing under the arbour. All welcome. Thursday 2 February, 7.00 – 9.00pm Eastwood Plaza, Rowe Street, Eastwood

Eastwood Croquet Club

Morning tea and a visit from the God of Good Fortune! Friday 3 February, 9.30 – 11.30am Eastwood Croquet Club, cnr West Parade and Wingate Avenue, Eastwood

Grand Celebration Day

Music and dance performances, pole-jumping lions, food stalls, fireworks and Eastwood's longest dragon parade Saturday 4 February, 10.30am – 5.00pm Eastwood Plaza, Rowe Street, Eastwood

Indonesian Welfare Association

Morning tea and a visit from the God of Good Fortune Tuesday 21 February, 10.00am – 12.00 noon Argyle Hall, 33 Blaxland Road, Ryde

For full details of the Lunar New Year Celebration Program go to <u>www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/lunarnewyear</u>

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