



Speech By  
**Mark Ryan**


**MEMBER FOR MORAYFIELD**

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**ADJOURNMENT**

**Multicultural Association of Caboolture and Surrounds**

 **Mr RYAN** (Morayfield—ALP) (10.28 pm): About this time last year the member for Murrumba, the member for Pumicestone and I attended the official opening of the then new offices of the Multicultural Association of Caboolture and Surrounds. At the time, all three of us had just witnessed on television and in the newspapers the excitement, colour and brilliance of the Chinese Lunar New Year community celebrations taking place all over Queensland—all over Queensland except for the Caboolture region. So from that day we made a commitment to the members of the Multicultural Association of Caboolture and Surrounds to support them in hosting the inaugural Moreton Bay Chinese Lunar New Year community celebrations in Caboolture in 2016. From that day, we all got to work building connections, helping with grant applications and brainstorming ideas about how we could make the inaugural celebrations a success.

The good people of the multicultural association worked very hard to bring these celebrations to Caboolture. On 6 February 2016, the first ever Moreton Bay Chinese Lunar New Year community celebrations were held in Caboolture in the town square. It certainly was an event to be remembered. The association's vision was to make the Moreton Bay Chinese Lunar New Year the best Asian infused event in the region through delivering quality, family friendly entertainment that maintains pace with changing community needs and allows patrons to experience the sights, sounds and tastes of Asia. On my count, thousands of people attended the event and many of them stayed for the entire event to enjoy the music, dancing, food and fireworks. It was brilliant. I loved every moment. The entertainment included traditional line dancers by Morayfield's Red Dragon Martial Arts, the AusOriental Chinese Orchestra, Taiwan Aboriginal dancing, traditional fan dancing, John Chen live, Queensland's largest Chinese choir and folk dance group, the Sino Sound Group, Chinese folk dancing by Tian Shan Girl, Chinese line dancing, the Voice of Harmonie, Japanese drumming by Toko Ton and a huge fireworks display.

Once again, I am extremely grateful to MACS for stepping up to hold this event. To the MACS committee members, Nooreen, Bernard, Di, Selvi, Eddie, Syd, Lina and Siti, thank you. I am also grateful to the sponsors, the member for Pumicestone, the member for Murrumba, Lewis Lee OAM, Ken Lai and his team, Melody Chen, Susan Yang, Maggie Lu and the team from World Arts & Multi-Culture Inc., Stanley Hsu and all the performers, entertainers, stall holders and food providers. Well done.