



10 September 2010

Local Chinese Mooncake Festival Celebrations

Dr Mike Nahan, the Member for Riverton is co-hosting a unique family-oriented cultural event to celebrate the Chinese Mooncake Festival in conjunction with the Parkwood Chung Wah Chinese Language School at the Willetton Sports Club on Sunday 19 September from 3pm onwards.

"The Chinese Mooncake Festival, or Lantern Festival as it is often also called, is one of the most important and celebrated events on the Chinese social calendar," said Dr Nahan.

"It dates back over 3,000 years and celebrates the end of the summer harvest and the movement of the moon in the Northern Hemisphere. Many people from Asian countries, such as China, Singapore, Malaysia, Taiwan, Indonesia, Japan, Vietnam and the Philippines who are now living in Australia also celebrate it here."

Dr Nahan said the Parkwood Chung Wah Chinese Language School has over 400 students from kindergarten age through to Year 12 who attend courses every Saturday morning.

"The school runs classes in Chinese Mandarin but it also provides classes on cultural dancing, calligraphy and painting, Chinese Chess, Martial Arts and Chinese musical instruments," said Dr Nahan.

"The Chinese Mooncake Festival will provide a great opportunity for local children and their families from all backgrounds to come together for a pleasant and entertaining event, and to develop a greater understanding of Chinese culture," said Dr Nahan.

"Activities will include a play by the students in English explaining the history of the Mooncake celebration, Chinese singing and dancing displays, an exciting Lion Dance and a colourful lantern procession at the end of the evening for everyone to participate in."

"Entry is free. Chinese finger food, Mooncakes, which are tasty Chinese pastries and a selection of battery-operated paper lanterns, will be on sale. I encourage everyone to come along and participate in the celebrations for the Chinese Mooncake Festival."

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