

20 March 2025

Mayoral Message



Dear Residents,

There are many places around the world that claim to be a melting pot of culture, but, for me, our City is one of the greatest.

With over 380,000 people from more than 170 countries, one of the things we love to do together is celebrate our cultures.

We are in the final days of Lakemba Nights during Ramadan, where over a million people from across our City, State and beyond tasted food from five different continents at over 60 stalls.

In just a few days, the Greek flag will fly over Earlwood as our Greek community celebrate Greek Independence Day. Earlwood Senior Citizens Centre will be at the centre of the celebrations, with traditional Greek music and dancing and delicious Greek food on offer.

On **Sunday 16 March**, our community came together in beautiful Mirambeena Regional Park for I RUN, our first ever running festival. Over 300 people laced up their trainers

for events ranging from a 21.1km race to a short Harmony Day Fun Run (or walk!).

With so many cultures in one place, and our enthusiasm for celebrations, it's no surprise that Canterbury-Bankstown also attracts significant events from further afield.

In April, we will host the 2025 Australian Sikh Games, the premier sporting and cultural event for the Australian Sikh community. More than 100,000 people from across Australia and overseas will watch more than 5,000 athletes take part in 15 different sports over three days.

These are just a few examples of the fantastic events happening in our area in just the next two months.

Fantastic events that do the same thing: bring us all together.

Regards,



Clr Bilal El-Hayek
MAYOR

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