

MEDIA RELEASE

Issued: Thursday 15 February, 2018

New exhibition features ancient treasures and QVMAG celebrates Chinese New Year

A marvellous exhibition featuring ancient Chinese objects opens this week at the City of Launceston's Queen Victoria Art Gallery at Royal Park.

Our Chinese Treasures: the Wong Collection is a generous gift to QVMAG from Professor Wong Shiu Hon and Mrs Nancy Wong.

The collection includes Chinese ceramics, glass and wooden antiquities acquired over four decades by the donors and represent a history of Chinese culture from the earliest Neolithic pottery to outstanding works from the earlier 20th century.

An object of particular significance is a beautifully preserved Painted Pottery Horse, dated to the Tang Dynasty (618-907 CE).

Professor Wong is an acclaimed artist, and was formerly Professor of Chinese Studies at the University of Hong Kong and a lecturer at Murdoch University in Western Australia. He and Mrs Nancy Wong, previously Associate Librarian of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University Library, now live in Hobart.

In conjunction with the exhibition opening, QVMAG is celebrating Chinese New Year with a party on the lawns of the Art Gallery from 5-8pm tomorrow.

Launceston Mayor Albert van Zetten says QVMAG has worked closely with members of the local Chinese community on this event, and looks forward to delivering a fun experience for families.

"Bring a picnic blanket, find a spot on the grass and enjoy food and refreshments available for purchase from a range of stalls."

"Entertainment will include a Lion Dancer, Tai Chi demonstration and music. Partygoers are invited to follow the Lion inside the Art Gallery and tour *Our Chinese Treasures: the Wong Collection* from 6pm."

The Mayor and QVMAG Visual Arts and Design Curator Ashleigh Whatling will be available for comment today at 11am on the lawns of the Art Gallery. They'll be joined by the Lion Dancer, Wei-Siong Liang.