

'Year of the Rat begins with a roar'
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Year of the Rat begins with a roar

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Picture: CLARE GREEN

A BATH landmark was full of eastern promise as crowds gathered to celebrate the dawning of the Chinese new year.

Chinese communities up and down the country have been celebrating to mark

the Year of the Rat, which began on January 29.

And visitors to the Assembly Rooms yesterday were greeted with a great roar of pageantry.

Bath's Museum of East Asian Art hosted a

traditional Lion Dance to mark its 15th year since opening. The event fea-



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tured performers from the renowned Nam Yang Pugilistic Association and the local Fun Mandarin Dance Group.

Children celebrated by taking part in a range of traditional craft ac-

tivities which included writing spring couplets and making dancing dragons.

The event was part of CHINA NOW, the largest festival of Chinese culture ever in the UK.