

'New Year starts with a squeak'
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Host: Curator Michel Lee

New Year starts with a squeak

THE Year of the Rat got off to a squeakingly good start yesterday.

The rodent is considered lucky and its year is seen as a prime time for self-renewal, hard work and opportunities.

In Bath it was greeted by Michel Lee, curator of the city's Museum of East Asian Art, as he hosted a talk to introduce a new exhibition centring on Chinese deities.

The exhibition runs until April 13 in conjunction with China Now, the largest celebration of Chinese culture ever to take place in the UK.

Later this month the museum will mark its 15th birthday with a spectacular lion dance in the city.

The free event will take place at the Assembly Rooms between 2.30 and 5.30pm on February 18.

As well the dances, there will be a range of traditional craft activities.

In Bristol yesterday martial arts, firework displays and dancing dragons helped welcome the Year of the Rat.

Tomorrow and next week the University of the West of