



Stallholders' Newsletter

Cotters and Willows Markets

15 November 2009

The first Queensland Country Credit Union Strand Night Markets

Last Friday Rotary operated its first Strand Night Markets which are now sponsored by QCCU. We know that many stallholders attended the Night Markets, so we are looking for feedback on how it went.

Bookings method

In particular, we trialled a new method of taking forward bookings, and receiving prepayments. Rather than stallholders visiting the administration tent, Rotarians walked around and visited all the sites. This was in response to feedback in our survey a month or so back.

Did it work? Do the stallholders want us to continue walking around to the stalls, or revert to the old method of taking bookings. Please come to the meeting this afternoon and let us know what you think, or otherwise tell a Rotarian today.

Prebookings for May

At the December Strand Night Markets, do stallholders want us to accept payment for the May Strand Night Markets. It is a long way off, so perhaps we should wait until March or April before accepting bookings. What does everyone think?

Safety at the Markets

Just a reminder that everyone is responsible for safety at the Markets. If you see something you consider dangerous, you have a duty under Workplace Health and Safety legislation to do something about it.

That something will usually be to tell a Rotarian.

The Wet Season

The wet season will soon be upon us.

The Markets are an open air environment, and we can't guarantee it won't rain. Even under the awnings it may leak. Stallholders are responsible for protecting themselves and their goods from whatever the weather throws at us.

In general, Rotary will only cancel the Cotters and Willows markets if conditions are dangerous- eg in the midst of a cyclone. If you are in the markets when trading begins (8.30 at Cotters and 7am at Willows) you have to stay until the end, unless you walk your gear out. During the open times of the Markets, vehicles will almost NEVER be allowed in the markets due to safety reasons.

Last Sunday there was an unexpected downpour at the Willows Rotary Markets, and the Rotary Markets Coordinator of the day allowed some stallholders to bring their vehicles in to rescue their stock. From this point on however, we must always expect the possibility of rain and stallholders should ensure their stock is protected. Vehicles will not be permitted into the Markets until closing time unless the whole Markets is cancelled (which is unlikely).

Stallholders who think that the weather is too threatening and decide not to attend will not be penalised as far as their regular site status is concerned.

If you do decide to come, and start trading, full site fees will always be payable.

The Strand Night Markets

The Strand Night Markets will be cancelled if wet weather means that the park is not accessible to traffic. If we do cancel the Strand Night Markets, we will put a message on the Markets Phone, so you can call that to see if the Markets are still on.

Markets Rules

Some stallholders have requested a copy of the Rotary Markets Rules so we attached a hard copy for your information.

Insurance

Rotary has organised public liability insurance for all stallholders attending the three Townsville Rotary Markets from QBE. The cost will be only \$10 per annum per stallholder, and is compulsory, even if the stallholder has other (much more expensive) insurance. It will come into effect on 1 December, and a copy of the policy will be available on the web site.

Rotary will pay the first year's premium for stallholders, and will collect the annual stallholder premium in twelve months time.

This is very cheap insurance, and will make sure that all stallholders are fully protected.

XMAS Markets in December

Ho Ho Ho.

We plan to run three XMAS Markets in December. The QCCU Strand Night Markets on 4 December will be promoted as a Christmas Markets, Willows on 13 December, and Cotters on 20 December. Rotary has an events planning team putting all the pieces in place, so we can promote the Markets as the place to be to buy XMAS presents, and have a good time. There will be all the usual Christmassy things, and we would like stallholders to get involved by decorating their stalls and dressing in a XMAS theme.

Next Stallholder's Meeting

Next Stall holders meeting will occur this afternoon November 15 at 2:30pm at the Council's Mayoral Reception Room in Walker Street. Everyone is invited to come along and give feedback.