

March 2010 Market News

Fourth Saturday of each month (except for Christmas):
24TH April, 22ND May, 26TH June, 24TH July,
28TH August, 25TH September, 23RD October, 27TH
November and Sunday 19th December

FROM THE COORDINATOR

Good morning Stallholders,

Last month ended up being a pretty good market, although we were all reeling from the Council Rates rises: some reported a quiet one, with others reporting the best ever... You can never pick it eh? We had around 70 empty sites in February, mainly due to the weather, although it ultimately turned out to be quite lovely, with a fairly reasonable crowd turning up. It's always difficult for those whose stock is jeopardised by rain, however it was a busy day for those who made it, given the smaller number of sites. Once again we had heaps of cancellations late on Friday, with 8 No Shows and 9 cancellations on Saturday morning last month, so I'm looking forward to things settling down a bit now. Although, as my friend Lynda says, 'Normal is only a cycle on a washing machine!' Anyway, here's to a sunny, happy and busy day today.
Cheers, Jane ☺

FROM THE COMMITTEE

Last weekend the P&C Committee and our merry band of volunteers turned up at the Market Grounds to do some site maintenance. We spread crusher dust to keep the mud down behind the service station, as well as locating and fixing up site markers and cleaning the wheelee bins. It's great to see some new families in the area who are keen to get involved and help out. Thanks everyone! As mentioned last month, the Committee are keen to remove more table stalls before 2011, replacing them with gazebo spots. The tables that we set up are volunteer intensive and they are now in need of serious maintenance/replacement, as there are complaints at every market about stability etc. Initially, there was talk of removing B & C rows, however it is more practical to replace F row with gazebos, retaining B & C so that we keep some of the old market 'character'. We hope to talk to stallholders in F row over the coming months so that we can come to a mutually satisfying alternative.

STALLHOLDERS UPDATE

For February, we farewell two permanent stallholders: J12 Bev Ross and P2 Elinor. We also welcome four new permanent stallholders: E9 Linda Renouf with her yummy licorice, J38 Donagh Freeston with her cut exotic flowers, K31 Sheona with her tie dye and K30 Ray & Lucy with their wood work.

OBSTRUCTING WALKWAYS

Last month we received a written complaint regarding stallholders obstructing walkways with signage and stock. Rightly so too – in the past we have tried to get around to talk to people to stop this practice and will do so again this month. Most of you already stay within your boundaries, however (as the complaint pointed out) this will be an issue as the markets get busier each month heading towards Christmas, not to mention safety and fairness. Your cooperation in this matter would be appreciated as we do not wish to threaten fines or extra fees.

A reminder of our Terms and Conditions:

13. *Stallholders are required to keep their goods within their allocated areas. Sandwich boards or display structures must not be placed in the walkways.*

WEBSITE

Our Webmaster, Guy, will be updating our fantastic website over the coming weeks with new forms etc. We have also discussed a few new options to implement this year: Guy

is keen to incorporate stallholders input on our site and is in the planning stages of having a section where your wares can be advertised and updated, with specials etc. We have also discussed possible online casual bookings and payments – although this is difficult (and expensive) to set up and manage, so we will have to keep working on this one. Guy is also interested in having a proper site map on the website, so that eventually your customers can look you up and know where to find you – again, this is pretty complicated and one we will continue to look into. We will keep you posted.

CASUALS & PERMANENT WAITING LIST

An updated casual procedure document is now on the website and available from the Info Booth. There is an ever increasing demand for casual sites and, as you all know, we just don't have the room to expand. In any event, we don't want to add more stalls to an already huge market. Unfortunately, lots of casuals will miss out at Yungaburra and there is not a lot that can be done to fit everybody in. The Permanent Waiting list is hovering around 46 and we plan to close it off at 50, to avoid a never ending and unmanageable queue. Those at the top of that list have been waiting for 18 months, so we need to ensure that those consistent casuals do get a spot. Be warned, if you don't cancel or are late, you may also miss out! If you have people asking, please direct them to our website.

WET WEATHER PROCEDURES

For those of you who missed last month, we have made an amendment to this year's Terms and Conditions, making our policy clear to all stallholders. Whilst we understand that, for some of you, your stock simply cannot get wet; there are other stallholders who are not affected by bad weather, not to mention the local customers who are always prepared for any conditions. Please note that the Yungaburra Markets will **not** be cancelled, unless there is a cyclone warning (not watch) in place. We have also made it a policy to update Radio Far North ABC, when the conditions are wet. We still need your late cancellation message if you think the weather may affect your trading. Please don't ring the coordinator for a weather report, rather check out the Bureau of Meteorology website: www.bom.gov.au.

2010 TERMS AND CONDITIONS

For those of you who weren't here last month, this year's new rules are available, along with the new Registration form. Could you kindly ask your Money Collector today for the forms, read the Terms and Conditions and return the completed Rego form to us, which we must have on file for insurance purposes only. Please make sure you know about the two new policies regarding correct site fees available and wet weather.

DATE CLAIMER

The second annual Yungaburra Village Book Fair will be held on Saturday 18th September. There will be 1000's of rare, interesting and popular books, both new and secondhand. There will also be local and visiting authors, guest speakers and music, with a booksellers dinner will be on Friday night 17th. For further information contact: yungaburrabookvillage@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING

Once again, we are in the annual process of reprinting the stationery that this newsletter is copied on. The 8 advertising spots will be offered to the existing businesses however, there are always a few who cannot renew. Please contact Jane if you are interested in having a small monthly ad appear in our Market Newsletter.