

Sustainable Agriculture & Gardening Eurobodalla Inc

PO Box 911
Moruya NSW 2537

www.moruyafarmersmarket.org.au



10 December 2013

To all SAGE Farmers Market Stall Holders

Christmas Eve and New Years Eve markets

As mentioned in the last notice, our market day this year falls on both Christmas Eve and New Years Eve. You need to be aware, there is a slight complication regarding the Christmas Eve market.

In recent years, the weekly Saturday Moruya Country Market has held a Christmas Eve market, regardless of which day of the week it falls, in addition to the Saturday market. Council has decided that both the Farmers Market and the Moruya Country Market should trade on Christmas Eve this year.

Moruya Country Market has been informed that they must cease trade at midday and everyone be removed by 1pm, to allow our market to commence setting up at 2pm.

This presents a couple of concerns. Firstly, stall holders who regularly trade at both markets will make their own decision whether they trade at either market or both. For those of you in this situation, can you please let me know your decision? Secondly, there will be some confusion amongst the public about which market is which and when and where they will be able to get their fresh, local produce for Christmas Day.

I have already asked a few businesses in Moruya to put a poster in their window about the Christmas Eve market and I have copies of the poster if you would like to take some to put up in your local area. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

We will also be actively promoting the Christmas Day market through Facebook, which has quite a large reach. Please remind all your customers that you will be here and trading from 3pm on Christmas Eve (if that is the case). We are also working with local media to generate some publicity for the market that will mention the Christmas Eve market starting at 3pm.

Obviously, this clash won't happen again for a number of years. It's unfortunate that it has occurred on our first Christmas Eve, but we will do what we possibly can to strongly promote the 3pm start time to the public.

Christmas Spirit!!

Oh yes. Ho ho. Deck the halls and all that. We've organised for Moruya Preschool to come along this week and engage kids in creating some Christmas decorations. Isabelle is providing a tree that we can put up each week until Christmas, so come on!! Get on board!! Let's see some Christmas decorations on those stalls and some silly hats! But please – no Christmas carols, at least not loud enough to hear beyond your own stall.

Santa will also visit the market on Christmas Eve and we would like him to offer healthy gifts to the children, rather than scatter lollies. We will gratefully accept any ideas and contributions from stall holders of small, healthy gifts that Santa can hand around. Get ready for the sound of small people complaining.

SFM Online & ANZ Seeds of Renewal grant

Next Tuesday 17th December at 2.30pm, there will be a short presentation to SAGE President Fraser Bayley and SFM Committee Chair Stuart Whitelaw from representatives of the ANZ Seeds of Renewal Grant Program to formally announce our successful grant application. If anyone would like to join in the photo opportunity, we'd love to get a group shot of smiling stall holders.

River Cottage film crew

The SFM Committee have given permission for the River Cottage film crew to shoot some footage at the market next week on the 17th. If you would prefer NOT to be filmed, please make sure you inform the crew on the day.

Redrafting of Rules 11 and 53

Please note below two proposed rule changes that will be adopted at the next SFM Committee meeting. This is your opportunity to comment on the changes before they are adopted and implemented. The changes for both rules comprise an addition, ie. 11.1 and 53.1 (highlighted in bold) with renumbering thereafter. Please speak to me or any of the SFM Committee members if you would like to discuss either of these changes.

11. Power is available in limited supply. Stall holders must indicate their power requirements on the SFM Stall Holder Application Form and must confirm their request for access to power with the SFM Site Coordinator at least 24 hours before the market commences.

11.1. Generators are not permitted to run during the market. All stall holders requiring refrigeration must utilise on-site power and switch off all generators.

11.2. Any leads, fittings and associated objects forming part of the power supply for any site shall be positioned so as not to create a nuisance or danger to the health or wellbeing of the public or any other persons. Generally, all leads shall not be allowed to cross the road or footpath unless suitably elevated, such as being attached to the underside of an awning. All electrical cables are to be OH&S compliant and are to be tagged as approved by Workcover.

53. All containers and packaging used for ready-to-eat or -drink products should be biodegradable or recyclable, in keeping with the Eurobodalla Shire Council's efforts to reduce landfill waste and the stated aims of SAGE Inc to promote more sustainable behaviour.

53.1. Tertiary producers may choose to sell products in re-usable containers and packaging. The cost of the re-useable container or package should be built into the price of the product and may not be sold separately.

53.2. *Tertiary producers* are required to provide a receptacle for disposal of the packaging for their products.

Christmas drinks for stall holders

A few of us thought it might be a nice idea to have an informal gathering following next week's market (17th). The committee will chuck in a case of beer and we'd love to spend some time chatting and relaxing. It's a good opportunity for newcomers to get to know other stall holders, so we hope you can spare an hour after the market next week. If the weather's good, it's a really pleasant time if day to hang out at Riverside Park.

Regards,

Kate Raymond
Site Coordinator
on behalf of the
SAGE Farmers Market Committee

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PS. Don't forget, every week Alda is here with boxes collecting any excess and unwanted produce, or anything else for that matter, to distribute to 3 different community organisations in town. Donated food goes to the women's refuge, the adolescent refuge and a local pantry club. Together with the produce harvested from SAGE's "backyard" garden, we are providing a significant quantity of healthy food to people who would otherwise go without. Thank you to everyone who has contributed so far.