

Welcome to 2019. It certainly has been a wet start to the year, and I thank all those stall holders who have still managed to come along and provide a market to the small number of people who have been here.

I guess the wet season is not over, but at this time of the year, the shoppers are almost all locals who value the Mossman Market and the stall holders.

NEW FACEBOOK TRIAL

In the past there have been a few Facebook pages set up by various people about the market. In a couple of cases they have been used by a few people to vent their anger at something that has happened and have been less than positive. All of these pages have been closed down and a page linked to the Anglican Church Facebook page has been set up. The problem has been that no one, other than Fr Kenneth, has been able to post things.

It is with some degree of trepidation that a Facebook group has been created. It's an "open" group which means that anyone can see the page and also what's on it. Once you have joined the group, you are able to add your own posts. This group will run for a trial period of six months.

There are a couple of things that need to be considered when posting.

- 1. Keep your posts positive. Anyone in the community can see the page (though only members can post). This is not the venue for airing your concerns about the market (parking, dogs, smoking etc)
- 2. Don't flood the page with posts about your own stall. There are an average of 50 stalls a week during the year, and the page is for all of us.

The easiest way join the group is:

• From your News Feed click Groups in the left menu. In the search bar at the top, enter some keywords for the group you're looking for. (Mossman Market) Select the group then click + Join Group below the cover photo.

Other than that you can go to the page and ask to join: www.facebook.com/groups/941185939425116

Your request to join will be answered as soon as possible, and after that you will be able to add posts at any time.

Membership of the group is only open to stall holders, but make sure you let your Facebook friends know that it exists. If this group is successful the old page will be deleted.

BUSINESS CARDS

Have you got one of the Market business cards? Or maybe you have lost the one you had. They include phone numbers for both Joan and Fr Kenneth (landlines and mobiles). If you don't already have one, or can't find yours, please pop over to the Op Shop at some time and ask for one. They are on the cash register.



OUR STALL FEES

Quite regularly, people comment about how low our stall fees are (especially when compared with other markets in the area). Yes, we are a small market, and yes the fees are very low. But we also have limited overheads for our market. At present our stall fees just cover the costs of running the market and, although we revisit this issue on a regular basis, there is no need at the present to increase the fees. The list of fees is printed on the other side of this newsletter.

You should almost know that a sizeable portion of your stall fees is donated to a local charity each month. In 2019 these charities will include groups such as:

Mossman Kindergarten, Mossman Community Centre, Port Douglas Kindergarten, Blue Care, White Ribbon Day, Port Douglas Neighbourhood Centre, KIND, Mayor's Christmas Appeal and Pink in the Tropics.

Just a reminder that your stall fee is a hire fee for the site and should not be dependent on how successful your sales are on any particular Saturday.

WE HAVE SOME NEW STALLS

Most of the regulars will have noticed a few new stalls who are coming on a regular basis. At the moment, these stalls move around the market, depending on where spare places are available, as they wait for a regular spot to become free. Over the next few newsletters, I hope to be able to "introduce" some of these stalls.

One of the great comments about the Mossman Market we regularly hear is that we are a friendly group. So maybe you can pop over to one of the new stalls and say "hi" and "welcome"