

March 1, 2010

Main Street Markets Capitalise on Crowds.

Downtown Barcaldine is expected to be alive with people and activity on both Saturday and Monday mornings of the Tree of Knowledge Festival, and so offers the perfect opportunity to host the Main Street Markets.

Market organiser, Mrs Sandra Chillcott, said everyone from barbers to buskers prospered at the 2009 event and expects this year's markets, to be held in conjunction with the Festival over the May Day long weekend, to be supported by an event greater number and variety of stalls.

"Every year we have seen the markets grow," said Mrs Chillcott.

"Last year particularly, the markets were very popular and generated a lot of business for the vendors who came from far a field as well as locally."

This year the markets have been purposely set to coincide with two major festival events and hence are expected to enjoy the patronage of a large crowd.

The Saturday morning markets, May 1, will complement an exciting new shearing display the Festival Committee is currently in the process of organising.

There are plans that this display will replicate all the action of one "run" in a shearing shed and is set to generate significant interest from both visitors and locals alike.

On the Monday, May 3, the markets will precede the traditional May Day parade which sees a host of floats, decorated bikes, and May Day princesses take to the main street with even greater numbers gathering roadside to take in the fun.

Mrs Chilcott said the markets work to support these two events and build on the interest and activity occurring in and around the main street of Barcaldine at these times.

She said having the two days of markets also makes it more viable for those vendors who have travelled long distances to Barcaldine and that both days are equally profitable.

To add atmosphere to this year's Saturday morning markets, the organising committee is encouraging both stall holders and individuals to dress in period costume and will be awarding prizes for the best dressed.

The cost to hold a stall on either of the days, Saturday or Monday, is very reasonable with the proceeds supporting Barcaldine's Sacred Heart Parish.

Those interested in securing a stall in the Main Street Markets should contact 46511518 or visit the website: www.treeofknowledge.com.au for more information.



Photo supplied by Dianne Merchant

Gay Gesch dresses up for the Tree of Knowledge Festival 2009 Main Street Markets



Photo supplied by Dianne Merchant

Business of the barber shop kind at last year's Tree of Knowledge Festival Main Street Markets