

Adelaide Hills Farmers Markets Chairs report -2023-24

The Adelaide Hills Farmers Market is held on the lands of the Peramangk People, and we acknowledge that they continue to be custodians of the region and pay our respects to their elders past and present

Thank you for your attendance at this AGM. We value your support and membership of the market. Market trade for stallholders has improved but we have struggled to keep stallholder numbers up. We have plans to strengthen the market by adding additional theme markets and have committed resources to increase the number of stallholders and customers. We acknowledge the passing of Kara-Jane Bennet, whose efforts can be seen in improving the documentation of our market processes and updating our policies. We did not keep up with all activities as well when Kara-Jane became sick again but have now put in place plans to recover and grow the market as well as implement some things that Kara-Jane wanted. You will see new membership cards in the coming weeks. Our financial position is strong, and we thank Janine for her efforts in getting our financial recording and reporting more professional.

This year we had our third winter indoor market. This was generally successful with a sense of community in the hall. It was testing for some stallholders but most likely been testing for all given the weather on Saturdays during July and August. We will most likely undertake another winter market indoors for a few months building on the experience of the first three years year. Hopefully a better and smarter winter market next year.

We do have one of the best markets for atmosphere during late spring and autumn with members and shoppers able to relax at the market on the lawn with great entertainment. We thank management for coordinating our buskers. We can continue to develop and expand our demonstration and education program including cooking, gardening, and environmental management. We thank Janine and her team that set up the children's toys for each market. I would like to acknowledge the work of Linden, Orland and Elwin for the market set up work. We thank all those who stepped in to be day managers and our volunteers who ensure the market day works well. We acknowledge the work of Sara who had to step in quickly and take on the role of market manager when Kara-Jane health prevented her from continuing. I do thank the committee for their support of me in continuingly managing change.

I would like to thank those committee whose term has expired or who have resigned. I thank Ruth and Matt who are not seeking re-election to our committee for their contributions. Matt taking over our social media has improved our presence. Finally, I would like to thank you, the members for supporting us through your membership and regularly shopping at the market. I would like to thank last year's committee for their efforts in volunteering their time in governing the market and making significant contributions to the running of the market.

Dr Geoff Page
Chair