

Tuesday 21 August 2018

CORK AND FORK FESTIVAL HAILED A HUGE SUCCESS

A last minute venue change did not keep the crowd away from Sunday's Cork and Fork Festival, with more than 5000 people attending the City of Ryde event in Putney.

High winds forced the Cork and Fork Festival to be moved from Kissing Point Park to nearby Cleves Park late on Saturday.

But the new venue proved to be just as popular with festival-goers, who spent the day sampling terrific food and beverages from across more than 50 stalls.

The large crowd was also kept entertained with great musical acts playing throughout the day, while kids enjoyed pony rides and other fun activities. A cooking demonstration from 'My Kitchen Rules' stars Josh and Nic also proved extremely popular.

Those in attendance also dug deep throughout the day, donating \$2220 to the City of Ryde's fundraising appeal to assist NSW farmers impacted by the drought.

Last week, Council unanimously resolved to undertake the fundraising appeal which will utilise the charity Rural Aid and its 'Buy A Bale' initiative. Council has already donated \$20,000 to kick-start the appeal.

City of Ryde Mayor, Clr Jerome Laxale, thanked the local community for supporting the Cork and Fork Festival.

"We are so lucky here in the City of Ryde that we are able to stage such a successful gourmet food and wine festival that is quickly grabbing the attention of people from around Sydney, as was seen with the large number of people who attended Sunday from outside the local area," Clr Laxale said.

"While the tasty gourmet food on offer was a highlight it was also great to have the chance to listen to so many up and coming local artists perform on the main stage, and also raise vital funds for our farmers who are doing it tough due to the drought in NSW."

Cork and Fork Committee Chair Clr Roy Maggio said: "On behalf of my fellow committee members and the events team at the City of Ryde, we are delighted that so many of the community came out and enjoyed such a successful event.

"We look forward to seeing you all at an even bigger and better Cork and Fork Festival next year."

Media Contact: Michael East, City of Ryde Communications
p • 9952 8083 m • 0466 091 059 e • meast@ryde.nsw.gov.au