

Wellington Eisteddfod Canteen

(recent history)

In 2009 Gill Taylor with a group of her Christian friends decided to run the Wellington Eisteddfod canteen. Their vision was to provide a warm welcome for visitors to Wellington, as well as members of the local community, by serving good quality, well presented home baked food at an affordable price. The money raised would then go to a worthwhile cause. All the local Churches as well as the wider Wellington community became involved in providing food and volunteer workers, making the canteen a great success.

In 2009 50% the proceeds went to supporting a Christian Education (SRE) teacher in the Wellington High School with the other 50% providing 2 Christian families who had faced adverse circumstances a much needed holiday.

In 2010 50% of the proceeds again went to WCECI with the other 50% to Iris ministries who run orphanages in Africa.

From 2011 the Wellington Christian Education Council Inc (WCECI) became the primary organisation running the canteen, with the continued support of Gill, Geoff Ross, many of her original group of Christian friends along with the combined effort again of all the churches in Wellington and the Wellington Community in general. Wellington Fundraisers Inc once again provided many workers and donations of food. It was decided at a WCECI meeting that because of the wonderful support given to this canteen over the last few years by the Wellington Fundraisers that 20% of proceeds be given to them to pass on to another worthy cause...they nominated Maranatha House an aged care facility in Wellington.

The canteen has always provided all meals and refreshments for the adjudicators and scribes, as a way of donating back to the Eisteddfod committee, however, in addition to this in 2012 the canteen increased the overall donation to 10% of its total profit.

In 2014 it is our aim to also give 10% to the Wellington Men's Shed group, who are trying to raise funds for a new block of land and a shed, giving them more room for their wide variety of activities.

A mention must be made of the support given each year by students from St Mary's Central, Wellington High School as well as a few that are 'home schooled', all doing community service. We couldn't be prouder of these students and the way they conduct themselves as they provide an excellent level of hospitality in the Canteen and service to the Eisteddfod's general committee each year.

From congratulatory emails and thank you cards received each year we have been told that the canteen itself, affords Wellington the reputation of one of the best Eisteddfod's to go to in the area, which is something all those who work there are extremely proud of.