

2020 Theme  
**Play!**



Loxton's  
63<sup>rd</sup> Mardi Gras

## **Chairperson's Report**

**AGM 25<sup>th</sup> June 2020**

I would like to acknowledge the Riverland Community and specifically Loxton for their enthusiastic support of our 63rd Annual Loxton Mardi Gras. This family festival again helped people come out to 'Play' over the last weekend in February and in the process show the community's appreciation to our heroic fire fighters in the wake of last summer's bushfires with donations totalling over \$4,000. From the Westbrook Agriculture/Scouts SA sponsored outdoor screening of "Finding Nemo" on Friday night to the moving Appreciation Service at the Rotunda on Sunday morning it was embraced by the community.

Saturday morning the streets came alive with food and market stalls, children's entertainment and bands, thanks to the massive effort by our Stalls co-ordinator Nola Schulz. We are particularly grateful for The Mitolo Group's sponsorship towards the entertainment. When the parade began I was impressed by the many ways this year's theme "Play" was interpreted and the creativity and colour the 61 floats displayed was delightful. Combined with the nod to Loxton's 125 years of farming and the cavalcade of older cars all tastes were catered for. Particularly heartening this year was the sponsorship for every category of float prize by local businesses.

Best overall float donated by Tankard Dental Riverland: Loxton Lutheran School

Best Ambassador Float donated by Directional Finance & The Bill Ebert Family:  
Matthew Puckey

Best Themed Float donated by Loxton Health Centre: Loxton Primary School

Best School Float donated by Riverland & Mallee Conveyancers P/L: Loxton Lutheran School

Most Humorous Float donated by Altschwager Family Funerals: Loxton Ladies Probus

Best Rural Community Float donated by Ronco Motors: Ray Edwards

Special thanks to Parade Co-ordinator Peter Magarey, ably assisted by Yasmin Lewis, Butch Schubert, Lachie Singh and last but not least Tom Fielke and his Parade Marshals. SAPol Sgt Mark Howie and fellow officers combined with LWDC workers to ensure safe road closures and heavy vehicle diversions. There are so many people who take on roles just over the Mardi Gras weekend to ensure that every task is taken care of and I am extremely grateful for their assistance as every little bit helps and lightens the load for the committee. The support provided by Loxton Waikerie District Council and their employees in many ways is very much appreciated.

The Nippy's Great Main-Street Downhill Underarm Orange Bowling Event was again well supported and what a fun promotional event for the citrus industry and Loxton.

The Loxton News Shop Window display entries also showed lots of creativity which gave competition judges a hard task when deciding the winner, which was Little Vibes. We thank The Loxton News for their support and sponsorship over many years.

Congratulations to all our Ambassadors and their sponsors and I thank them for their participation and efforts. I am sure Nicole, Melissa, Ray and Amelie will do a great job promoting and representing Mardi Gras in their various roles.

Due to the smaller amount of funds to distribute this year and the difficulties posed by Covid-19 restrictions the committee decided not to make Grants available at this time but will quarantine the funds to be added to next years total.

I am thankful for the support of our dedicated little committee of 10, who have worked so hard to make this years festival something for the community to be proud of. I especially thank our retiring members Yae Schoenhenzel and Craig Dowling for their huge contribution over past years and assure them they will still be part of the extended team required on Mardi Gras weekend.

I look forward to the 64th Loxton Mardi Gras to be held on 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> February 2021.

Thank you all so much for your support.



Liz Dymmott

### 2020 Loxton Mardi Gras Sponsors

