Rotary Opens Opportunities

ROTARY CLUB OF BALLARAT SOUTH Inc.

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Rotary Club of Ballarat South – Community Fund Raffle

Update July 2020

The Rotary Club of Ballarat South has organised a major Raffle to support local community groups for over 30 years. This is a risk-free opportunity for groups to raise funds for themselves via the support of the organisation of the RCBS club members. Last year community groups raised approximately \$175,000 for their own projects.

The current situation In Victoria and Australia has been a great disruption to all service and community clubs and organisations, but also us individually and as a community. Whilst there was some hope in recent time that we might quickly to some normality, the current information indicates this may be the norm for some time yet.

The Rotary Club of Ballarat South would like to conduct the community fund raffle in 2020. We will wait for at least another 8 weeks to see what happens and how this might impact on our ability to run the raffle.

The Club has been concerned for some time of the cost of raffle to our Club, recognising the overall benefit to our community clubs and organisations through this great fund-raising initiative. This year our Rotary Club, like all our partner Clubs and Organisations have not been meeting, have had little or no fund-raising opportunities and have had very little interaction with our members and the community at large.

The Rotary Club of Ballarat South is committed to conducting the raffle in years to come and we may also have the opportunity to conduct the raffle this year. However, the way in which the raffle is conducted will change to ensure it is as near to cost-neutral to the Rotary Club of Ballarat South as possible. Partner Clubs would be aware that RCBS contributes more than \$20,000 per year (over and above the 20% return on ticket sales) to the cost of conducting the raffle including prizes, permits, advertising and printing.

The changes we envisage making are to revise the percentage your club/organisation retains from ticket sales. Currently you retain 80% of the ticket value and you forward 20% of your ticket sales to us at the end of the selling period. Depending upon your advice we believe that we may need to change the percentage of funds returned to us. We anticipate that it will be necessary to change this ratio to 75%/25%. The second change will be the total prize pool for the raffle to reduce the financial risk, but we remain committed to the first prize of a car.

We hope you understand our need to consider these changes and we will keep you informed of our progress in running the raffle in 2020. We have concerns about the ability of clubs to sell sufficient tickets to make this community project viable. There we need to establish the ability of all of us to cover the costs of the prizes. Hence, we ask you:

- a) your ability to be a seller if the raffle does proceed in 2020
- b) any feedback you have on the raffle and the changes we are contemplating introducing for the next Raffle
- c) your optimal selling period, given that the usual start-date for the Raffle will be considerably later than the usual commencement date in September.
- d) The number of books of tickets (10 tickets per book) you anticipate wanting in your allocation.

Please send your responses via email to raffle@rcbs.org.au

Maree Roache President – RCBS 30th July. 2020 Andrew Pipkorn Community Raffle Chair