

Rotary



**Rotary Club of
Murwillumbah Central Inc.**



April 6 2017

The General Manager
Tweed Shire Council
PO Box 816
Murwillumbah NSW 2484

Attention Robyn Grigg, Manager Community and Cultural Services

Dear Robyn,

We have received the letter to our club addressed care of Michael Grisedale. Unfortunately the massive flood in Murwillumbah required urgent attention and a reply was delayed. I will advise you of the situation with regard to the Tweed Banana Festival.

First, thank you for the offer of sponsorship of \$7500 for the 2017 Festival. That is an increase of the 2016 sponsorship and we appreciate the assistance of Tweed Shire Council.

You are obviously aware from media reports that there has been a serious separation of our Rotary Club and the volunteer group who have so ably assisted with the running of the Tweed Banana Festival for some years. Our club members were responding to the need to make the festival much more professional to address serious concerns raised after the last event, such as traffic control, safety and garbage control. We were unable to bring the volunteers to the vision of a bigger and better festival, resulting in our club making a decision to cease all connection with the festival.

We have received some expressions of interest from not-for-profit groups and we have provided them with details they needed to consider taking on the festival.

To date we have not received any specific offer from any group, however we are hopeful that another organisation will come forward to become responsible for the festival. If the festival is to happen in 2017 any group needs to make a start on planning without delay.

We understand that Tweed Shire Council needs to be kept advised of changes to festival management. Our Rotary Club will not be managing a festival this year, but we still hope another group will proceed. As soon as we have some certainty, we will advise you of the details.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Denis Hallworth".

Denis Hallworth
Executive Secretary

President – Peter Kelly

Secretary – David Vickers-Shand

Treasurer – Michael Grisedale

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