



WA STREET FOOD NEWS

The Official Newsletter for Perth's Best Mobile Food Vendors



Issue 1, February 2017



FROM THE PRESIDENT
SEAN BRYCE, OWNER OF SUNNY JIM'S MOBILE WOOD FIRED PIZZA

Welcome to the first edition of WA Street Food News - the official newsletter of the WA Mobile Food Vendors Association (WAMFVA). At present WAMFVA has 144 members owning approx. 110 mobile food businesses. The Association was formed a year ago and we have received great support from the local community, state and local government bodies and event organisers.

The Association was formed in February 2016 at our first AGM and we hope to become incorporated in the first half of 2017. The Association was formed so mobile food vendors had an organisation that could work with other key stakeholders to improve communications and improve the way we do business. All the while working toward eliminating some of the Government red tape we are encountering.

Some of the main issues facing the WA Mobile Food Vendor Industry are inconsistent fees, charges and inconsistent conditions from one local council to another. Every time a mobile food vendor attends a public event they need a Temporary Food Licence from the local council where fees differ. Vendors regularly attend 4-5 events a week in different authorities meaning much time is spent filling in forms. In a year, a vendor could complete 250+ local Government forms plus forms event organisers also need us to fill out.

We are required every time we lodge an application to supply a number of documents (i.e. public liability insurance, site plans, Food Registration Certificates, previous health reports, sometimes tag and testing information for gas and electrical equipment just to name a few). These documents must be attached with each application because local Governments do not yet have a centralised database where they can view this information online. There is a need for the development of a set of standard conditions, which can be developed for all mobile food vendors so no matter the local council a vendor is registered in they know the conditions.

We look forward to working with all key stakeholders to try and achieve our goals in the coming years.

DISCUSSIONS WITH DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

In 2016, the Association met with representatives from the Department of Parks and Wildlife to discuss the possibility of food vendors being able to obtain a commercial operations licence from DPaW to work out of some of WA's best National Parks and Reserves. The Department advised that they do have a small number of vendors that have already been granted permission to use our beautiful parks. They also advised that they are not opposed to more vendors using DPaW managed land but they will need to be assessed on a case-by-case basis and there would need to be strict conditions that vendors would need to follow. Having mobile food vendors in the parks may add to people's experiences in the parks.

DISCUSSIONS WITH DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

The Association made contact with the Department of Fire and Emergency Services to offer the services of mobile food vendors to feed the hungry volunteer firefighters if vendors are not booked. Discussions went well and while we understand that the Salvation Army is contracted to feed the volunteer firefighters, the DFES representative indicated they might look to reviewing procedures for next fire season by using Association members as a back up to the great work already done by the Salvation Army should they not be able to attend a particular fire. Our Association would just need to be contacted by email with the relevant information and the Association can get in contact with all our members very quickly in our WA Mobile Food Vendors Forum to see who is available to help out.

WAMFVA MEMBERS ENCOURAGED TO USE FOOD RESCUE FOR EXCESS FOOD



Food waste is an important topic to our members. There are always times where our members can end up with excess food left over from an event. As a result the Association has also been in contact with Food Rescue, which is run by Uniting Care West. Food Rescue is a not-for-profit organisation that helps distribute food to at least 76 different charities including shelters for men, women, children, the homeless plus much more. Food Rescue have the ability to pick up some food from our vendors who cannot get the food to them.

If you are a food vendor and would like to donate some food to this great charity, please contact Lyndon Nilsson on 0437228470 to work out the best way to get the food to the warehouse.

WAMFVA WEBSITE

In October we launched our website. Go to www.wamfva.org to check it out. You will find information on:

- Who we are
- The benefits of joining the Association
- Online Application Form
- Our current goals
- Key documents
- List of our members and
- A list of Food Truck Locations.



Need a mobile food vendor?

If you are looking for a mobile food vendor to attend your next event, Corporate function or special occasion go to: www.wamfva.org/members or email us to post a member request on our private forum.

WHERE TO FIND PERTH'S BEST MOBILE FOOD VENDORS

There are many great food truck locations in Perth and if you visit one which isn't on our list we would like to hear from you. The Association does not run any of these locations, but we fully support them as many of our members utilise these spots. Go to www.wamfva.org/food-truck-locations and you will find links a number of Perth's Best Mobile Food hubs.



WAMFVA EXECUTIVE MEET WITH PERTH'S EVENT ORGANISERS

On 17th January 2017 the Executive Committee invited event organisers to come together for the first time to discuss some of the issues with events and problems affecting the mobile food vendors. Mobile food vendors rely on event organisers for venues to trade and many event organisers also need food vendors to help them have a successful event - making it an important relationship. Some of the issues discussed were:

- Power costs and usage and noise levels of Generators
- Fees and Charges applied to event organisers to run events
 - Rubbish costs
- Inconsistent fees charged by council to mobile food vendors
- Inconsistent conditions for food vendors and the red tape issues for food vendors.
 - Costs involved to run an event.
- High Fees charged by Councils for running large scale events.
- Mobile Food Vendors pulling out of events at late notice and what can be done by the Association to help find a replacement vendor.
- WAMFVA to look towards developing minimum standards

GUIDELINES FOR EVENT ORGANISERS USING MOBILE FOOD VENDORS

One of the first things the Executive Committee did when elected was develop a set Guidelines for Event Organisers using Mobile Food Vendors. The Association consulted with a small number of event organisers and some event staff at local councils prior to finalising the document. It was felt that such a document if given to inexperienced event organisers would help minimise some events becoming a flop.

To view this document please go to www.wamfva.org/key-documents

ADVERTISING / SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES

In our first year the following businesses have come on board and supported the Association by advertising on our website.

- Elders Metro North
- West Oz Food Distributors
- Spudshed and;
- Jim's Test & Tag

The Association would like to thank Elders Metro North for giving our members a 30% discount on business insurance packages and 15% off workers compensation packages. When times are tough for a lot of vendors this really has helped our members and some did save thousands of dollars.

Jim's Test and Tag also give our members a 15% discount if we get our electrical equipment and fire equipment tagged and tested at the same time. Thanks guys!

OUR 2016/17 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Sean Bryce – President
Sandra Bahbah – Vice President
Mat Williams – Vice President
(Memberships)
Mike Thomson - Secretary
Khoa Mai – Treasurer
Craig Mauger – Sponsorships
Manu Lassere – Compliance/Events
Officer

Our next AGM is to be held on
Tuesday 7 February 2017.



CONTACT US

WA Mobile Food Vendors Association

Email: admin@wamfva.org

Website: www.wamfva.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/wamfva

Twitter: [@wamobfoodassoc](https://twitter.com/wamobfoodassoc)