

Eurofest Cultural and Sporting Association Inc.

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Since 1992, family fun festival celebrating cross cultural relations

VALE EUROFEST

As a founder member and the President of the Eurofest Cultural and Sporting Association it am sorry to inform you that the Eurofest Festival, which has entertained families on the Northern Beaches for 26 years, and was Warringah Council's Event of the year in 2012, is no longer able to continue. This wonderful family fun festival has fallen to the same 21st century do-good-no-matter-what-it-costs bureaucratic rule that is possibly also sending some major festival Interstate.

As with all festivals, our success is not only dependant on the community attendance and business support, but also the support of the local authorities and mother nature. Although Eurofest is 98% self-funded, we were always grateful for a grant from Council. For the past 2 years this has not happened, although the regulatory minimums in requirements and costs imposed by Council have tripled. In spite of the fact that we have not had a serious incident in all the 27 years of our existence, our security costs have soared with the ever-increasing requirements of the Police. We continued to battle the odds but unfortunately, we sustained financial losses each year, resulting in all our donations, to performers and RFS, being given from the holding account.

In 2017 Eurofest suffered a \$20,000 loss. The roadworks were a huge factor towards this with the Bantry Bay Road and Hilmer Street being closed. We were unable to have any directional signs close to the entry to Bantry Bay Road and this hurt us. In 2018 we suffered a \$30,000 loss, despite all roads being open. Bad weather on Saturday and Sunday morning kept crowds away and the imposts on stall holders meant that from a previous 100+ we were down to 44. Those figures are after donations have been paid.

Since November 2018, the Eurofest executive team have discussed, debated, contacted and even begged every person/business/government official in the attempt to keep Eurofest going, but the foreseeable future wasn't what we wanted to agree on.

So, *with sadness in my heart, and no funds in our account, we very regretfully have to say – Goodbye.*

There has been an enormous input in terms of volunteer labour, both from the Eurofest Committee and its helpers and the surrounding local Rural Fire Service (RFS) HQ and Branches which is our partner organisation. I would like to thank them for their work over the years. If we could go on, we would. We have exhausted every avenue, and to put it bluntly – have run out of heart.

We would also like to thank the many Multi-Cultural Associations & Performers who have taken part over the years. We would especially like to thank the Community, who have supported us by attending. We hope you enjoyed the festivals as much as we enjoyed putting them on for you all.

Auf Wiedersehen, Adieu, Ts'tesut'yun, Viszontlátásra, Adjö, Adios, Adeus, Adio

Kindest Regards

Jenny Wandl
Eurofest President

Organising Clubs

Austral-Armenian Assn.

Austrian Club Sydney

Czech Sokol Assn.

D.A.S. Neerlanda

Proudly supporting the local RFS branches