



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **CO-OP EVENT CONTINUES TO GROW**

MORE than 25 beer, wine, spirits and food producers will delight foodies at Wauchope Showground on Friday night (March 11) for Hastings Co-op's Twilight Tastings event.

The second annual event, which showcases producers from near and far, has a particular focus on the Hastings' farm-fresh produce, free tastings and exclusive offers.

Event organiser, Lisa Attkins, who manages Hastings Co-op's Timbertown and Wauchope Supa IGA Liquor Plus stores, said she has been overwhelmed by the response from local producers.

"Last year we had around eight producers involved, but the numbers have swelled to more than 25 this year and we have a range of new partners and attractions," she said.

"As well as being able to sample premium beer, wine, spirits and food, there will be live music from Hannah Pead, a fundraising barbecue run by Wauchope Lions Club, a bar operated by Wauchope Show Society and lots more.

"It's all about celebrating beer, wine, spirits and food in a relaxed environment where suppliers can share their products and locals can try something new.

"This is a totally family-friendly event, with a jumping castle, slushies and a popcorn machine and Saxby's soft drinks for the kids."

Delights will range from organic chocolates, Meltique Beef and local strawberries and cheeses to award-winning wines from local wineries, well-known spirits and boutique beers.

"It will be a great opportunity to talk directly with producers and grab a great deal, which is usually reserved for the stores," Mrs Attkins said.

The event was established by Hastings Co-op last year to celebrate its 99<sup>th</sup> year with a new and unique event.

Mrs Attkins said the concept was so successful the co-operative decided to do it all again, "even bigger and better".

"We are celebrating our 100<sup>th</sup> birthday this year, so what better time to do what we do best – give back to the community," she said.

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