



Creating the *MAGIC* of *SIDESHOW ALLEY*

# The Showmen's Guild of South Australia

◆ Sideshow Games ◆ Thrill Rides ◆ Kiddie Rides ◆ Carnival Food



MEMBER



"The Show must go on"

Submission by The Showmens Guild of South Australia inc

Dear Mr Billson

"Small Business and Family Enterprise" That sums up perfectly what Showmens Guilds around Australia stand for. Traveling Showmen and Women have been supporting Country Shows all over Australia for many years. In South Australia our Guild was formed in 1936 on the Crystal Brook Showgrounds. Almost 100% of current Guild members are descendants of original members. My Grandfather started our business back in the late 30's, Dad in 1945 after serving his country in WW2. My brother, sister and I in the 1970's and my nephews in the 1990's. This story is reflected over and over with other Guild members.

Apologies for making the first paragraph so personal, but I'm trying to get across what this business means to us. There are no millionaires or corporate Showmen. We are all small businesses operators who love what we do. I fear this lifestyle is in danger of being taken away.

At the moment we are at the mercy of insurance companies. They are deciding who is going to stay in business and who is going on the dole queue. For close to a year millions of dollars worth of class 4 and 5 rides were sitting in sheds unable to operate because executives in London decided insuring rides in Australia was not profitable.

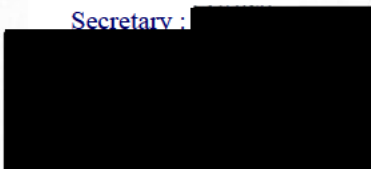
Coincidentally or not, after your report was made public some policies have started to be written. But at what cost. Only yesterday I was informed that the minimum premium for a \$20m policy would be close to \$34000. Compare that to the \$3750 I paid in 2019 and the \$7950 in 2020. In my opinion only a few operators could afford to pay those kind of minimum premiums.

In closing, on behalf of The Showmens Guild of South Australia, I am asking you to do your very best to help get a mutual fund over the line. We believe this to be the long term solution to this problem. If we continue as we are, not knowing if we can get affordable insurance, our industry and in turn country shows who rely on amusements to get people through the gates will be in danger of collapsing.

Kind Regards



Secretary :



President :

