



Genuine designer sportswear.

window sets, café sets and curtains, in a range of colours, the back area houses a counter where the off the roll items can be cut to size. They have been on the market for twenty five years and commented, 'it's great here. We have lots of regular customers.'

Now a completely new market concept to me, but certainly not new to Kempton Market is Your Specs, the business of Roland and Cathy Christian for the last 28 years. Roland is a qualified lens maker by trade and customers bring

in their prescription, choose from their selection of his and hers frames and the next week, they're ready to collect. Unfortunately, when Roland retires there's no one to carry on the business. He said, we love doing this, we have really got to know our customers well over the years, some are like family.'

The prize, in my opinion, for the most unusual product on sale was from Bill Watson of Affordable Memorials. As well as selling plastic flowers for graves, he sells real granite headstones. He has been working on markets for twenty years and ten years ago saw this side of the business as a unique opportunity and decided embraced it. As well as supplying to trade, he takes orders and can design plaques with photographs added. He has his own team of graphic designers and will show customers the design for approval before going ahead.

It's impossible to cover every trader and commodity at Kempton Park Racecourse Market, but the range of items available to buy is impressive and varied. Judging by forward bookings, Lew Hughes, Director of Hughmark is confident that 2016 looks at being an even better year than the previous one. Of course, with an outdoor market, this is also very weather dependant. He commented, 'The success of Kempton is due to a number of factors. One of which is steady consistent management over a number of years that our company has given, with trading policies that do not vary from year to year. We do our very best to help good, honest



A colourful array of bedding plants.



Hot Chinese food from Royal Chef.

traders to sell genuine goods at affordable prices. We state in our trade advertising that we do not want counterfeit goods. Knowingly allowing goods like that to be sold it drives all the genuine traders away because they cannot compete with it. We are not infallible but we are doing our best in this regard.'

'Another factor for the success of the market is a good team effort. We run the market operation, CPPS provide the back up from a car parking and cleaning perspective and the Jockey Club provide excellent and attentive site management from management to maintenance.'

To ensure that a huge market maintains its high standards and letting capacity for an out of town event in midweek is no mean achievement. It has taken years of effort and our company is justifiably proud of its achievement at Kempton. It is still the largest and cleanest out of town midweek market in Southern England' □

General notes

Trading hours are Thursday from 09.00 to 15.00. Site opens at 06.00 and casuals are allocated pitches from 08.00.

All new traders must provide public liability insurance when registering as must all casual traders.

For enquiries about trading at Kempton Park Racecourse Market, call 0118 945 1799 or fill in the online application form on the company website: www.hughmark.co.uk.

