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Thousands flock to Garden City for 'best ever' Easterfest

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By Nikkii Joyce

MORE than 10,000 people are estimated to have turned out to hear Easterfest 2008 headline act Newsboys on Saturday night.

Organisers have declared this year's event, formerly called AGMF, as one of its best yet with the former Sunshine Coast band kicking off their Australian tour with Toowoomba's appearance as did fellow beach band, the Gold Coast's Alabaster Box.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of its launch at Toowoomba's Empire Theatre with a sold out James Morrison concert.

A spokesperson from the festival said yesterday they were overwhelmed with the support shown by people who had travelled from across the country for this year's newly titled Easterfest.

"It's been another very full day; it's been fantastic," he said.

"There were people even coming through the door to buy tickets just for today."

He said special guest speakers who brought the crowds included XXX Church pastor Craig Gross, with more than 500 people estimated to have attended his talks on the degenerative effects of pornography on society.

Former SAS Brigadier and Australian Christian Lobbyist Jim Wallace spoke of the relationship between politics and religion.

The three-day festival went out with a bang last night with band Jars of Clay, and the "Fancy Pants Ball" courtesy of the weird and wonderful array of clothing available at the on-site Lifeline Thrift stall.

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