

Boonah Show Society Newsletter

Boonah Show Society, PO Box 1 Boonah Q 4310

Ph (07) 54631124

boonah showsoc@westnet.com.au

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Welcome to new members

Julie Parker, Tricia Stinson,
Daniel Milano, Paul Milano,
Jayson Schonknecht, Bernadette
Lines, Grant Petras, Anne-Marie
Petras, and Mark Eather.

MEETINGS

QCAS Chamber meeting Boonah 20th September
Management meeting 28th June
Show Meeting 13th September

UPCOMING EVENTS

Proposed Threatened Species Workshop in September
(date to be confirmed)

Dinner Dance Roadvale 8th October

Cycle Queensland visiting Boonah 16th September

Show Feedback

The 2011 Boonah show is over and so is the wash-up meeting where the committee reflects on the issues involved in running the biggest annual event in the district, and one of the biggest team efforts our community ever manages. This year was our first three day show and the weather turned on grey skies and rain for Sunday. However, the final outcome was judged an overwhelming success by most present. The hiccoughs were noted and will be discussed further at the next show meeting on 13th September. Meanwhile here are some of the highlights.



President Jim Harvey opened the meeting by congratulating everyone on a well presented and well organised show. Jim commented that, as he escorted the show girls around, everything looked magnificent.

Secretary Beth Hern endorsed his remarks and reported the following comments as special among the many examples of positive feedback she had received:

- ❖ By email from a sponsor – *“Wow! What a show for a small community to see.”*
- ❖ From one of the showman’s guild – *“One of the best shows on the Queensland circuit”*
- ❖ From Christopher Trotter – *“LONG LIVE THE JET BLITZ.”* ”
- ❖ From Uniting Church National Thanksgiving Day Committee:

“On behalf of Fassifern Uniting Church, we wish to congratulate your committee on a successful 111th show (bigger and better than ever this year) and to convey our appreciation to all the members of Boonah Show Society for their hard work and commitment to our district.

We know that successful events do not just happen. They are underpinned by months of planning, and countless hours of hard work by many different people. You run what is probably the largest event within the district and then, before the dust settles, start to plan the next one. That takes real commitment, organisation, and years of experience. It also demonstrates how well the society has enlisted the cooperation and support of its community to be able to sustain this effort each year. “

Beth also thanked her office team – Jeanette Wilson, Gayle Van der Veen and Barbara McGovern, Sue Oates for doing the trophies and Doreen Brasington for all the work she does in the lead-up time. Beth has passed on 300 photos to be uploaded to our website so that will be worth checking out.

Treasurer David Woolgar reported that the final figures are not yet available but numbers were higher on Saturday than in previous years and he had received a great deal of verbal feedback on what a great show it was.

Stewards Reports:

Many stewards were present to give their reports and the overall feeling was that the show was very successful. Here are a few extracts.

1. Prime Cattle

There were around 330 entries in the **Prime Cattle** with Tom and Joy Surawski being the most successful exhibitors. The Cattleman’s Dinner on Friday night was a big success. Thanks to Terry Foote for his sponsorship and to Lorelle and her team for the lovely meal. Brett Brasington was chosen as the Young Auctioneer.

2. Fruit and Vegetables

Fruit and Vegetables had a highly successful year – 410 entries altogether which was 130 more than last year. Chief steward Ashley Haag, who was given a round of applause to mark his thirtieth year of stewarding, commented he might need a couple more stands in the future.

3. Horticulture

Horticulture keenly felt the loss of 3 major exhibitors but still had beautiful roses and a good display. The Garden Club were given a special thank you for growing the petunias which defined the horse rings. Apparently they looked wonderful in the aerial photos.

4. Foods

The Foods section increased its entries to 358, 42 more than last year. Rosettes were awarded to winners. Steward Glenys Humphreys said she had received a very nice letter from one of the judges and thanked her stewards for their hard work.

5. Textiles and Craft

Textiles steward Fay Perrem has been stewarding for forty years and this year took charge of two sections- **Textiles and Craft**. For Fay, the highlight was the 16 entries received from juniors – a healthy sign for our show’s future.

6. Chainsaws

The National **Chainsaw** Championships attracted visitors from as far away as Sydney to watch their favourite win by a mere two hundredths of a second. Officials were really pleased with the timber provided which they said was the best they had ever seen used at a show.



7. Wine

Steward David McMaugh reported 74 entries in the **Wine** section which increased from 49 last year. Kooroomba winery won the overall champion in a very close competition with Bunjurgen Estate. David also reported strong interest in the fruit wine section and one vegetable wine, actually made from pumpkins. There will be a class for vegetable wines next year as a result.

8. Endangered Species Display.

Adrian Stephan reported on the **Endangered Species Display**, a new area unique to Boonah which attracted a lot of attention. Tammy the Tamworth pig turned out to be a very cantankerous female who used sore feet as an excuse for staying close to her pen and being moody. (Haven't we all used that excuse, girls?) It was interesting to see the signs comparing the animals on display with pandas in terms of their numbers – the Tamworth breed for example is ten times rarer than pandas. Here visitors could touch and interact with the animals and hopefully learn to appreciate and value threatened species. Adrian hopes to make this a more robust exhibit in the future and has formed a committee to organise a workshop later in the year (see Upcoming events).

Special Events

1. Night Show

This was very successful. Night Show steward Anthony Niebling described his Hilux Heroes ride as "awesome". Beth had been to the Sydney show this year and congratulated the night show committee for what she felt was a better display than Sydney put on. Anthony has a crippling work load over the show (on Saturday for example he put in a 4a.m-11p.m. day) and commented he was a little short of workers this year.

2. Friday Family Night

Trevor Collins reported that the Friday night program organised by the Junior Show Society had run like clockwork and some members returned to help out in various areas on Saturday. President Jim acknowledged their help.

3. Show Ball

President Trevor Collins reported the ball to be "a fantastic success" with 240 attending. Trevor congratulated the committee particularly Secretary Kate Schossow. He also complimented Lorelle and Katrina on a great job with the catering. In fact, Trevor said the night was so good the band told him it was the best organised show ball they had ever been to. High praise indeed. Well done to all involved.

4. Catering Report

Convenor Lorelle Schonknecht reported that in the week before the show she had no power for 2 days and the stove needed repairs. This put her well behind in preparations but thanks to a small hard working group, they managed to feed the members, workers and judges and took \$5000 in food sales as well. Lorelle thanked her helpers for a big job well done. Lorelle

was also short of workers particularly for the early morning shifts (starting at 6am) and around lunch time on Saturday. Next year please consider helping out for a little while in the dining hall if you possibly can.

THANKS FOR THE HELP



THANK YOU! Lorelle also wants to say a big thank you to everyone who helped cater for this year's Anzac Day lunch. A sit down meal for 80 requires a lot of help and as Anzac Day fell at the end of a long weekend, it was great to see so many people there helping out in the kitchen.

New Members

We have had 25 new members join us this year and many of them helped out in one capacity or another over the show period. The show cannot operate without volunteers who give their time without expecting any pay for the hours of work they do so this is a very pleasing trend and one most local organisations would envy. If we had to pay workers, we could not possibly continue, so thanks everyone, and we hope our new show committee members enjoyed the experience.

2012 Show Theme

QCAS has advised us that 2012 will be "The Year of the Farmer" so we have our show theme ready for planning to start on September 13th at the next show meeting. See you there.

CYCLE QUEENSLAND VISITING BOONAH

On Friday 16th September 2011 Cycle Queensland will be visiting Boonah as part of their annual Bike Ride. 1500 bike riders will be camping at the Showgrounds. We will be operating a canteen at the dining hall between 11am – 4pm for snacks, drinks etc. Please mark this date on your calendar if you can assist with the catering.