

Boonah Show Society Newsletter

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What a wonderful show!

**Congratulations to everyone
for working so hard to make
our 2016 show the
huge success that it was.**

**SHOW DATE FOR 2017
2ND & 3RD JUNE**

Meeting Dates

**Management Committee Meetings :- Tuesday
26th July and Tuesday 23rd August**

Show Meeting :- Tuesday 16th August

**Horse Stewards Meeting:-Wednesday 6th
September**

AGM:- Tuesday 27th September

All Meetings commence at 7.30p.m.

SHOW NEWS:- The 2016 Show can go down in history as a record breaker!. The increase of 40% in the gate takings over our record 2014 gate was astounding. We think it was a culmination of our change of date, having a full 2 day-2 night show, the extra advertising which we did, the promotion of the theme of bringing back the trots, bringing back the woodchop and bringing back the sheepdog trials, and all the hard work which everyone put in to make all this work, really paid off. The change of date was certainly the reason behind having so many wonderful show rides. We were able to tap into a different group of Showmen who are usually still in NSW following the Sydney Royal show, so this should continue to work in our favour. Having these rides appear on Boonah's skyline was probably the best form of advertising we could get!. It certainly drew in the young people, and the Showmen were very impressed with Boonah and happy with the results!

THANK YOU BBQ:- This was very well attended, despite the cold weather. All the Stewards reports were extremely positive, with most sections reporting higher entries and requests for more space! Following is a brief analysis of the Stewards Reports.

PAVILION DISPLAYS:- Shortage of space was most evident in the Fruit & Vegetable and Agriculture Sections, which both had a large increase in entries, hence a magnificent display. Pumpkins were most plentiful, and great to see the large Cattle Pumpkins back on display. A great display of hay & chaff, and a huge variety of fruit and vegetables. The Agriculture Section had 314 entries, nearly double of last year, and Fruit & Veg had a record of 340 entries. The flowers and cookery both reported lower entries, but they were still able to present a great display.

The main pavilion was full of exhibits, just a few stats, :- Photography 320 exhibits, up from 284 last year, Textiles 250 entries, up from 175 last year, Craft entries were well up on previous years, Lego entries went up from 42 entries in 2014 to 64 entries. Fine Art had an increase in Junior entries, and the entries were of a high standard and very colourful. Made a great display!. The Schools are always to be congratulated on the wonderful displays and they used the Theme very well. Boonah will have 4 entries for the Make & Model Competition to go on to represent us at the Exhibition, and they usually do very well there. The Spinning section always do a wonderful display, and demonstrate their skill throughout the Show. The Woodwork display was once again outstanding, with the numbers continuing to grow, and the quality of the work on display is a credit to everyone involved. They also had higher entries. Overall, the displays in the Pavilions was excellent and the Stewards are to be congratulated.

LIVESTOCK:- Prime Cattle had 320 entries, and the Judge from Kilcoy Meats was very impressed with the cattle, the yards and the stewards. The Prime Cattle Auction was also very successful, as was the Cattlemen's Dinner and presentation of trophies.

The Stud Cattle reported 300 entries, which included 65 led steers and 130 Droughtmasters for the Feature Show. Entries were received from Rockhampton, to Wallangarra and west to Chinchilla. It was the largest group of Stud Cattle that Gary, the Chief Steward had seen in Boonah in his 24 years association.

We were very happy to still have Dairy Cattle represented, with all breeds being on display. Thanks to Heather Wehl, she works very hard to keep this going!

The Dairy Goats and Miniature Goats were well represented and reported a very successful showing.

We did not get figures from the Poultry, Caged Birds or Pigeons, but we know their entries were very good, and everyone was happy!

The Horse Section in the main arena is always a pleasure to sit and watch. It's one section I get to see a bit of from my office window!. Numbers were down slightly this year, especially in the Jumping program, which was disappointing.

Change of date may have some influence of this, as competitors now miss out on obtaining points for the Ekka for the current year. We now need to remind them that these points are used towards the following years Ekka!

OTHER SECTIONS:- The other sections of the Show which we must not miss, being the Utes, with over 40 entries, up from previous years, a huge display in the Vintage Machinery and a good representation of 30 "Cool Cars". Not sure if this is to be the new name for this section!.

The Chain Saw Races were extremely popular, with 22 competitors, making it the largest since we hosted the National Championships. Trevor Baker has done a wonderful job as Steward for this section, and unfortunately has indicated that he can not continue, so we are looking for someone else to run this event.

Our new events, the Woodchop, Trotting and Sheepdog trials were all very successful. Steven Goan is to be congratulated on running his first Woodchop Competition, and with 18 Competitors, he did a wonderful job. He is very happy with the position for the Woodchopping and hope that he can keep this spot. The Harness Racing Board and the Trotters were extremely impressed with the Trotting Track. Nominations were good, with 10 entries in the first event, resulting with 2 heats and a final, and 15 nominations in the 2nd event, with 3 heats and a final. We welcome Peter Horan who will take over the role as Trotting Steward, and we will be working on extending this program. We feel sure with some more promotion for the Friday evening, we can build on this event in the future. The Sheep Dog trials performed throughout both days, as well as Friday & Saturday evening, and they were a welcome return to Boonah Show.

NIGHT PROGRAM:- Unfortunately, a few incidents marred Saturday Night. The major one was the Motor Bike Stunt Rider who had a major accident on his first jump, and broke both legs. This delayed the night program considerably, which was very unfortunate. Thanks to St John's and our local Ambulance Service, the rider was quickly attended to but could not be immediately moved, hence the delay to the program. What was a tremendous Night show program eventually was completed, and despite the windy conditions, many people stayed until the end.

The fiasco we have with the Animal Liberation Group and Calf Scruffing has also been very unfortunate. The Committee will be looking at options regarding this event for the future. Fireworks on both Friday & Saturday Night were spectacular.

SPACE & FOOD:- The showgrounds was busting at the seams with food stalls, a huge variety of trade stalls and market stalls, the most we have ever seen, which was handled well by the new Space Steward Darryn Bader. The Muller Building was full of fine Food and Wine, and is always a popular spot to visit.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP AND STEWARDS HONOUR BOARD:- The Show Society will be presenting a Life Membership to Ray Maguire for his 15 years service to the Show Society. Ray has held the position of Vice President, Space Steward and Workplace Health & Safety Officer, as well as being our Mr. Fix It for many years. We also presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Annette Turner for her service as a Steward for over 15 years, and will be presenting this also to Margaret Roden and Trevor Baker in appreciation of their years of Stewarding for the Show. Their names will be added to the Stewards Honour Board.

JUNIOR SHOW SOCIETY:- The Junior Committee continues to grow in numbers, with 180 members this year. They have already elected their Office bearers for next year, and we welcome Claire Joyce as President, Michael Colyn & Gwendoline Behrendorff as Vice Presidents, Jonah Webber as Secretary & Brittney Wright as Treasurer. Congratulations and thanks to Jordan Holdorff and her team for all their help for this years show.

CAMPDRAFT:- The Campdraft had been postponed due to rain, but was held on 3rd July. It all went off well, without any incidents.

CLYDIE SPECTACULAR:- Congratulations to Rick & Greta and their team for organising a very successful event. This continues to grow in popularity and is a great event.

RURAL AMBASSADOR:- We congratulate Toby Worley on winning the Rural Ambassador Award at the W.M.B.V. Regional Awards dinner at Togoolawah last Saturday Night. He represented Boonah very proudly, and now goes on to represent us at the State Awards, to be judged at the Ekka and announced on Saturday Night 6th August. We also thank Natasha Smith for representing us as our Miss Showgirl runner-up. Unfortunately, Liza Foelz was unable to attend owing to work commitments.

CARAVAN PARK:- The Caravan Park continues to be extremely busy. A lot of Clubs have bookings over the next few months, so we can look forward to this continuing.

FASSIFERN GYMNASTICS:- We welcome the Fassifern Gymnastics as tenants in the Muller Building. They have moved from Church Street, and we hope that they settle in well at their new home!.

2017 SHOW:- Our first meeting to begin planning our 2017 Show will be held on 16th August. This will be a workshop, where we will look at what worked and what didn't from this years' show, and mock up a program for 2017, so we need lots of people, lots of ideas and lots of enthusiasm!

STRATEGIC PLAN AND SHOW BUSINESS PLAN:- Both of these plans are up for review. Kay Stegeman will facilitate this for us, and we will set the dates for these workshops after our AGM in September.

THANK YOU:- Once again, a big thank you to everyone for a job well done. Whether you are a Chief Steward, a Steward or one of the many volunteers you come back every year to give a hand, or a Junior Member, we sincerely thank you. A special thankyou to Jeanette for the tremendous job she does as our Admin Officer. This has become a huge job, managing the finances of the Caravan Park, the Show and the Showgrounds, and preparing everything for the annual Audit. Her skills and expertise in this area is greatly appreciated.

Regards,

Beth Hern
Secretary