

Toodyay Agricultural Society Inc.

Looking back on the 164th Toodyay Show, even though cool enough to make us all consider putting another jacket in, the weather this year did not keep the crowds away or drive them out the gate like in previous years with rain and wind or a day so hot we resorted to removing the livestock from the grounds early! The gate takings were up this year on previous Shows and that puts a smile on every bodies dial!

The Toodyay Show was fantastic and everybody enjoyed themselves and appreciated what we as a Committee work so hard during the year to make available in the Entertainment, Trade Displays, Livestock displays, vintage displays such as that lovely Steam Engine, Emergency Service displays & the Exhibition Halls to name just a few. Generally, entries were down overall, especially in the Livestock, which is proving harder to fill the pens each year. If it were not for the regular solid displays by Cattle producer Charlie Wroth we would have had empty yards in that cattle section this year. The MLA LPA changes will affect the showing of livestock, but hopefully we can work with these new changes and still find ways to attract farmers to exhibit their excellent livestock. Show the city folk what we can really produce and promote in Toodyay.

The day began so well with the Official Opening and the presentation of Life Memberships to Kevin Hutchings and Kerry Knowles. Truly well-deserved by achieving so much for the Society over the years and heartfelt congratulations go out to the both of you. Mr Greg Warburton, Toodyay's Citizen of the Year was then invited forward and after an excellent speech; opened the 164th Toodyay Show to resounding applause. All sponsors and invited guests in attendance on the day then moved to our Morning Tea in the Sports Pavilion.

The Toodyay Agricultural Society would like to thank all those individuals, community groups and businesses from in town and out, who have generously supported the Toodyay Show this year through either some form of major sponsorship or the donation of Trophies and Prize Money. Without this sponsorship of the Show each year, the Committee would not be able to attract the type of entertainment or even consider the Fireworks that we close the Show with each year. Many community groups assist on the Show day and we are very grateful for this.

Our major sponsors this year were CSBP, Dunnings, REECE, Shire of Toodyay, and the Toodyay Op Shop. This year we began major restoration of the Lee Steere Pavilion exhibition benches and pinup boards. A lot of maintenance and restoration still needs to be completed in this building and we are hopefully continuing with this programme in the Cookery and Patchwork sections next year. Donations from wonderful individuals and groups play a major part in keeping this restoration programme going so that the interior of this building will soon be looking in its prime and the benches will be safe for the Stewards and school helpers to walk on, arranging their displays.

Thanking all the helpers, Curtin Volunteer students and our wonderful Committee would take more words than I'm allowed, but we are all looking forward to the 165th Toodyay Show in 2018, if we get the support, possibly even a Show Ball might be on the cards. The President and Committee hope you all enjoyed the Show this year and if you are interested in Stewarding, see me next year; I have a few spots available.

Alison Wroth

