

Toodyay Agricultural Society Inc.

Alison Wroth

Succulents and cacti have become so retro lately that they are sure to attract many entries at this years Show. Plants that our Grannies had growing around the corner of the house are now being grown by everybody in fancy pots. The varieties of cacti and succulents now are amazing, so please enter the best you have in the Show this year to stun the Judge, add a bit of competition to the Floriculture and see how you go. If not succulents, which are great for kids to enter as well, try putting a hanging basket together, as they just add so much colour and greenery to the entire section of the hall. We have been a bit short on hanging baskets in the last few years, there is always the worry that the class may be cut from the Schedule if it is not entered frequently. If the season and the parrots have been working with you, the roses will be ready just in time, so consider entering them, come on people, lets liven up the Floriculture section and give the Stewards some work to do.

Mention of Asian Greens and Giant Sweet Potatoes, which have been left in the ground just for the Show are making all the children (and bigger kids) quite keen to enter these two new classes in the Fruit and Vegetables. **Taking no time to grow, the variety of Asian Greens that you can plant is endless, plant soon around the 9th July**, a bit of TLC and you will hopefully have a Best Exhibit to enter. To exhibit the plant, half fill a small jar with water when you get to the Show and stand the trimmed base of the vegetable in it. Also remember that the Sweet Potato class is being judged on size alone. For this class, size does matter!!

The Cookery benches will be all new and renovated this year, owing to the donation by the Toodyay Op Shop of \$2000 to continue the maintenance in the Lee Steere pavilion. Since this section will be so new, we will definitely require exhibits to display on top! Now baking can be done anytime if you are busy as the exhibits can be frozen. Bread however is a different story and most regulars, prefer to bake their loaves on the morning or the previous night. Either way, there is nothing like seeing many loaves, machine or hand made in competition. So, think about entering the cooking section, new classes this year, so a lot of variety to bake. After competition, you can leave it for the auction or take home for the family.

Remember our Annual Exhibitors Workshop coming up on Saturday, 25th August. The sections covered are Floriculture, Needlework (which includes Knitting, Crochet & Sewing) and finally Patchwork & Quilting. Qualified Show judges giving advice and tips all day on what they look for and how to improve your skills to obtain that Best Exhibit sash. Bring your pens & paper!! Definitely a day to mark on the calendar :)