



Queensland Ag Shows

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Newsletter

March 2024

Qld Ag Shows Awards

The Annual Queensland Ag Shows Awards were held on Saturday 16th March 2024 at The View Hotel in Brisbane.

Over 85 people celebrated the achievements of our Queensland Show community.

Thank you to our judges - Bronia Henty-Smith, Gallagher Insurance Brokers, David Peters, Secretary NSW Ag Shows and Lucy Kinbacher, Editor Qld Country Life. Congratulations to Catherine English & Marricka Clancy and the Young Gen Sub Committee for their organization of the Awards and Gala Dinner.

What a wonderful showcase of nominations.

Best Innovation in a Local Event

- Boonah Show Society – Scenic Rim Clydesdale Spectacular
- Crows Nest AH&I Society – Show Camp
- Dalby & District Show Society – Pioneer Park Museum
- Dalby & District Show Society – Swap Meet
- Fraser Coast Show Society – Young Farmers Challenge
- Gympie & District Show – The Haystack
- RASQ (Toowoomba) - Young Leaders Lunch
- Mudgeeraba Show – Farmers Feast
- Tully & District Show – Fashions on the Field



Emerging Leaders

- Adam Tokely – Dayboro Show
- Bethany McDonald – Mudgeeraba Show
- Brianna Hurley – Cooyar Show
- Matthew Hillier – Fraser Coast Show Society
- Jasmine Bethell – Sunshine Coast show

Outstanding Individual Contribution

- Amanda Palmer – Wondai Show
- Beth Hern OAM – Boonah Show Society
- Carol Lyall – Allora Show
- Frank Chiverton – Dalby & District Show
- Kerri Denning – Pittsworth Show
- Lex Cowell – Fraser Coast Show
- Malcom Veivers – Gold Coast Show
- Melanie Bryson – Mudgeeraba Show
- Nancy Marsilio – Tully & District Show
- Nicole Collins – Dalby & District Show





And the winners are-

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Emerging Leader

Winner: Adam Tokely - Dayboro A.H. & I. Association Inc.

Adam Tokely, has been actively involved with the Dayboro Show for over 20 years, starting as a volunteer in his early teens. Initially helping in the canteen and office, he progressed to become a ground announcer and later an Ag Show Announcer across Queensland. He revitalized the 'Kids Passport' activity and introduced the Agri Education Pavilion, winning awards for innovation. Adam served in various roles, including Vice President and Next Gen coordinator, showcasing his commitment to the show community. He initiated new incentives like the 'Show Shirt' for volunteers and the 'Dayboro Pineapple Toss' for evening entertainment, demonstrating his dedication to enhancing the show experience.



Runner Up: Matthew Hillier - Fraser Coast Agriculture Show Society Inc.

Best Innovation in a Local Event

Winner: The Haystack - Gympie District Show



In October 2023, Mikaela Sima and Hannah Johnston launched "The Haystack," an innovative event within the Gympie District Show framework, featuring fine dining, auctions, and live entertainment. The event showcased local manufacturing and produce, emphasizing mental health and wellbeing while raising funds for GDS. With 150 attendees, the event at Chatsworth Hall featured local cuisine and presentations on agricultural engineering, equine therapy, and psychological well-being initiatives. The event's media campaign, sponsorships, and auctions raised over \$30,000 for GDS, earning acclaim as a standout success in the region's agricultural calendar.

Runner Up: Fashions on the Paddock - Tully & District Show

Outstanding Individual Contribution

Winner: Melanie Bryson - Mudgeeraba Show Society

Melanie Bryson passionately led the organization to success, attracting over 22,000 visitors in 2023. Her exceptional contributions revitalized the society, emphasizing community engagement and governance. Melanie's initiatives include volunteer recognition, with the introduction of annual awards and the co-founding of the 'Division 9 Community Hero Awards'. She actively engages with the community, attending various events and supporting local businesses. Melanie's visionary 'Farmers Feast' event showcased local produce, garnering significant social media attention. She also manages the society's online presence and dedicates over 40 volunteer hours weekly, balancing her role as an active Wildcare carer.



Runner Up: Kerri Denning - Pittsworth Show Society Inc.



Special Encouragement Award

Nancy Marsilio - Tully & District Show Society

Nancy, with 68 years of dedication to the Tully & District Show, embodies a legacy of commitment at 90 years old. From stewarding in the Horticulture section since 1955 to her current role as Orchid Steward, she tirelessly promotes and supports local participation. Nancy's expertise extends to the Sugar Cane section, where her selections consistently excel. Even as a past Fruit and Vegetable steward, her influence diversifies exhibits. Beyond agriculture, Nancy's culinary prowess enriches the event, providing sustenance to volunteers and patrons alike. Her unwavering support, from pre-show preparations to event days, earns her deep appreciation from the community and committee members, testament to her invaluable contributions.



Qld Ag Shows Annual General Meeting

Queensland Ag Shows held its Annual General Meeting on Saturday 16th March 2024 at The View Hotel, Hamilton in Brisbane.

The Executive Board was returned with no further nominations received.

President – David Wilson

Senior Vice President – Rowan O'Hara

Junior Vice President – Monica Skerman

Honorary Treasurer – John Brent OAM



Queensland Ag Shows Board, 2024

Laura Maeyke (Burnett) Leanne Thomas (North Qld), Lisa Walsh (Southwest Qld), Brett Boatfield (Darling Downs), John Brent OAM (West Moreton & Brisbane Valley), Rowan O'Hara (Near North Coast), David Wilson (Southeast Qld), Monica Skerman (Near North Coast), Lyndell Neal (Darling Downs), Kylee Matthews (Central Highlands), Ken Landsberg & Vere Wyper (Central Qld)



Service Dogs

A guide dog, hearing dog or assistance dog is specially trained to perform specific physical tasks and behaviours to assist a person with a disability and reduce their need for support to promote independence for the person to participate in the community.

The [Guide, Hearing and Assistance Dogs Act 2009](#) (the Act) came into effect on 1 July 2009. The Act ensures that every person who relies on a certified guide, hearing or assistance dog has the same access rights as others to public places and public passenger vehicles.

Dogs must be certified and be able to pass a Public Access Test to ensure they are safe and effective in a public place, public passenger vehicle, or place of accommodation, and are able to be controlled by the handler/s in all situations.

Certified dogs can be almost any breed and will be easily recognised by the badge on their coat or harness.

Handlers accompanied by a certified dog, as well as trainers, are required to carry a handler's identity card.

A guide, hearing or assistance dog is not a pet or a 'companion' dog. Most people are familiar with the guide dogs used by people with a vision impairment. However, there are many other dogs that assist people with a disability in their day-to-day activities, including dogs that:

- alert people with a hearing impairment to a sound (hearing dog)
- pull wheelchairs, carry and pick up items, or help people with mobility impairments, or alert and support people with medical conditions or psychiatric disorders when experiencing 'at risk' situations (assistance dogs)

Under the Act, handler(s) and their certified dog have access rights to public places (such as restaurants and shops), public passenger vehicles (such as trains or taxis used to transport members of the public), and places of accommodation (such as hotels and campgrounds).



It is unlawful under the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1991* (Qld) to discriminate by refusing entry or access to a public place because a person relies on a guide, hearing or assistance dog.

For more information please go to:

<https://www.dcssds.qld.gov.au/our-work/disability-services/guide-hearing-assistance-dogs/about-guide-hearing-assistance-dogs-legislation>

"Show Model Rules" Taskforce – Expressions of interest

An initiative of Qld Ag Shows to create a constitution which can be used by shows and sub chambers is about to begin. The aim is to provide a "standard" Show Constitution that shows might be able to adopt as a "Show Model Rules" which would be show specific and address some of the difficulties that shows were having.

A taskforce committee of comprising of 7 members is to be set up of both internal and external representatives to help create a "show model rules".

An expression of interest has been sent to shows and sub chambers. Applications close 14th April and it is anticipated that they can begin work by the end of April to have it completed later this year. The meetings of the group will be conducted by ZOOM and email with no intention to meet in person.

If you are interested in being part of this group, or know someone who might be, please forward personal details (Name, phone number, email address and details of any relevant experience – no more than 1xA4 page) to admin@qldagshows.com.au



Quilts across Queensland

Quilts that win a First prize at an affiliated show are eligible to enter the Quilts across Qld competition at the EKKA.

The competition's closing date is set for the 21st of June 2024

See the entry details on the EKKA webpage, Quilts across Qld or just click on this link.

<https://www.ekka.com.au/competitions/arts-cookery-fashion/quilts-across-queensland/>

Class 11 Open - Representative Quilt submitted by an Affiliated Show Society Entries must be submitted by and under the name of the nominating Show Society. Quilts entered must be 'Best of Show' or equivalent from the most recent show and only one quilt per Show Society can be entered in this class.



Shows held after the RNA closing date for nominations may submit an entry form prior to their show judging in the name of the Show Society. Details of the entry may be forwarded with the quilt. Quilts judged in Shows after 21st July 2024 may be entered in the following year. Class 11 is an open class including both non-professional and professional.

Entries close 21st of June 2024. All posted quilts must reach the RNA by Friday 19th July or can be delivered on Friday 26th & Saturday 27th July. The quilts arrive quite early, but this early delivery is essential to allow for their safe storage and protection. As the Ekka's preparations progress, space becomes limited, and the area gradually transforms into a construction zone. The early date allows for the safe and convenient delivery of quilts, most of which are brought in by hand and competitors require parking. This schedule also ensures that there is adequate space for the judging process.

The EKKA takes the storage and handling of these quilts extremely seriously. When quilts are delivered, it is requested that each one be enclosed in a labelled, closable fabric bag (see schedule for guidelines). The judging takes place on the following day to minimise handling. The quilts are then placed into a dedicated crate, exclusively used for this purpose, and locked with a unique lock and key that only security possesses. These quilts are stored with great care until they can be transferred to the Upper RICC and hung for display.

It is essential that each quilt has a rod pocket attached to its back to help with hanging of the quilts., as detailed in the schedule.

Next Generation Committee

What is Next Generation?

Next Gen are the Queensland Ag Shows youth steering committee whose aim is to advocate for and encourage young people within the show movement to celebrate the legacy and protect the vibrant future of local ag shows. Next Gen helps its members and affiliated Queensland Agricultural Shows either directly through contact with members at initiatives, and also indirectly from the flow on effects of providing assistance to the Queensland Agricultural Shows Board.

Next Gen is for young people between the ages of 18 and 35 within the Queensland Agricultural Show Movement

The Next Gen committee is involved in the Brisbane EKKA assisting in various State Final competitions. The Queensland Ag Shows Awards are an initiative of the Next Gen committee and are run, funded, and co-ordinated by them as well as organizing the annual Awards Gala Dinner.



Applications were recently called for Management Committee positions of the Queensland Ag Shows Next Generation Committee. Young Representatives from most Sub Chambers across Queensland attended a workshop on the morning of the AGM in Brisbane.



Office Contacts

Please remember that you can contact us between 9am and 4pm Monday to Friday on 07 3277 7747.
Our email address is admin@qldagshows.com.au
Website www.qldagshows.com.au
Facebook page - Queensland Ag Shows
Facebook closed page - Committee Members of QLD Ag Shows (you need to apply to be on this)

State Competitions



The finals of the 2024 Qld Ag Shows Young Judges and Paraders will commence soon.
Meat Sheep State Finals will be held at the Toowoomba Show on Friday 19th April.
Ag Force Merino Sheep & Nutrien Wool Merino Fleece will be held at the Barcoo Show Saturday 11th May.
The EKKA will host the Prime Beef Young Judges -Tuesday 6th August, Stud Beef Young Judges and Paraders - Thursday 9th August, Poultry Young Judges - Sunday 11th August.
Dairy Young Judges and Paraders will be held at Beaudesert Show on Saturday 7th September.

Entry forms must be sent immediately following the Show competition.

Please ensure you are using the correct entry forms which can be downloaded from our website and that they are filled in correctly and legible. If they are not on the correct form or details can't be read they will be returned,
Stud Beef Young Judges and Paraders, Prime Beef Young Judges - Please ensure that entry forms are sent to your Sub Chamber for processing for Sub Chamber finals.
Dairy Young Judges and Paraders, Poultry Young Judges and Meat Sheep Young Judges are sent to the Qld Ag Shows Office admin@qldsagshows.com.au
Dark Rich Fruit Cake - Please ensure that entry forms are sent to your Sub Chamber for processing for Sub Chamber finals.
Showgirl and Rural Ambassador entry forms are sent to your Sub Chamber.

Out and About

With the Show season underway Trevor Beckingham (General Manager) and the Executive of the Qld Ag Shows have been out and about. Our aim is to get to as many Shows and Stakeholder meetings as possible.

- 2nd March Bell Show – Trevor and Tomas
 - 3rd March Millmerran Show
 - 8th March Pittsworth Show
 - 9th March Tara Show
 - 16-18th March AGM, Gala Dinner, governance workshop, Board meetings – all staff
 - 22nd March National Competitions Young Judges & Paraders meeting, Sydney – Trevor & Monica Skerman
 - 23rd March Warwick Show – Trevor and Tomas
 - 30th March ASA meeting – Sydney – Trevor and David Wilson (President)
- Plus various other meetings with stakeholders



If you have an event you would like a representative to attend, please do not hesitate to contact the office.
If you would like us to promote your Show or Show event such as your Show Ball, please let us know and we will post on or Facebook pages for you.