

President's Report 2022-23

Presented at the Annual General Meeting of the Circular Head Agricultural Society Inc. on 24th May 2023 at the Stanley Recreation Ground complex, Stanley.

It is with pleasure that I present my eighth President's report. It was very pleasing for the Society that the 112th Circular Head Show was held on the 26th November after a two year recess due to Covid. It was considered a very successful event with lovely weather and record gate takings. This was vindicated when the Show was awarded the Event of the Year 2022 at the Circular Head Australia Day Awards 2023. The Society's Vice President, Milton de Jonge, was also awarded Senior Citizen of the Year which was a reflection of his life time commitment to the community including the Show Society.

Work on the beef shed continued from the previous year, in collaboration with the builder, Jason Gofton of **Goffo's Builders**. The roof was removed as well as the front of the existing shed. A new raised roof and new wall with larger sliding doors was constructed while the cladding on the rear of the building closest to the stockyards was replaced. John Bergman had the idea of an exit door from the shed to the stockyard area so livestock had direct access to the arena or loading ramp. In honour of John's 50 years service to the Society, this gateway has been named and sign posted "Bergman's Way". New sliding doors were also installed at the front of the shed – one on each side. This two year major project was funded by \$51,400 from the State and Federal Governments and \$42,020.42 from the Show Society. Gratitude for major sponsorship towards the beef shed project goes to **Circular Head Dolomite; LJI Excavations and Lardner Family; Michael Hardy and Clark Windows**. Over 1,000 volunteer hours was contributed by Society members and supporters, a mammoth effort. The recladding of the rear of the dairy shed was also continued including the high gable area along to the last door.

The Premier, Jeremy Rockliff, opened the Show and Beef Shed on Show Day as well as presenting Life Membership to long term members, John Bruce and Ian Wells. Pam Gorringer and Cheryl Lardner were also recognised for their contribution to the organising of the Exhibition Hall over many years with Certificates of Merit at the social barbecue.

The major joint raffle was held again with the Smithton Football Club, the Rocky Cape Lions Club and the Show Society each receiving \$6,425.32. Approximately \$70,000 has been raised over six years. Thanks goes to the sponsors of a record 30 prizes in conjunction with Hammond Family/Greenham Tas, Temma Farm and Perry's Quality Meats. Sadly, Kevin Radford, a founding Rocky Cape Lions Club (RCLC) member passed away during the year. Kevin dedicated a vast amount of time to selling tickets every year and was a wonderful supporter of the Show Society. It was pleasing that we were again able to help with parking at the RCLC "Top Gear" Car Show in March.

As mentioned the 112th Show was very well patronised with some new additions:

- The Poultry display organised in conjunction with the Burnie Poultry Society
- Sheep shearing demonstration
- Dog high jump organised by the Circular Head Rural Youth
- A scale model steam engine and Fairground mechanical organ

- Return of Burnie Highland Pipe Band
- *Troppo Bob* Magic Show
- Blacksmith Demonstration

Graze the Region presented by Josh Perry of **Perry's Quality Meats**; Ritchie and his Edith Creek Working Bullock team; the Animal Nursery organised by the Radford family are always popular and well supported. Thank you to everyone for all their efforts in supporting the Show.

The Dairy cattle and A1 Horse entries were down this year but pleasing to have good numbers in the beef sections and horse jumping arena. The Young Handlers and Judges Show and State competition is always a highlight while the **Community Bank Smithton and Districts** Exhibition Hall lived up to its usual high standard. For the first time the wood chopping was organised by the NW Axeman's Association in exchange for \$3,200 sponsorship which went towards the prizemoney and providing the chopping blocks. Thank you to all the sponsors in this area; this now means the labour intensive task of obtaining and preparing the blocks has been relieved of the Society members.

Next year will be the 40th year for the **Greenham** Trade and Export Cattle competition. The hoof judge this year was Greenham Gippsland Livestock Manager, Sean Kallady. The Champion Show Group was won by Isaac McGlone, which awarded him the prestigious Cyril Wells Memorial Trophy. Unfortunately, in the Prime Beef Steer class of the carcass section, there were no entry groups that met all the carcass specifications required, so no prizes were awarded. This was a first. Winner in the Yearling Class was Western Plains Beef.

It was very pleasing to welcome **Saputo** as a Platinum Sponsor sponsoring the Country Showgirl/Boy competition as well as the Dairy section. Thank you to Rebekah Frankcombe for Emceeding the former competition.

A huge thank you to committee members, volunteers and supporters for your dedication and commitment over the last two years on maintenance tasks and large projects like the beef shed. Then to also bounce back from a recess of two years due to Covid and organize a very successful show has been a credit to everyone involved. Finally, thank you to all the Society's loyal sponsors in all areas across the event. **Smithton and Districts Community Bank** and **Woolnorth Renewables** were both elevated to Premium Platinum sponsor. Also to exhibitors and patrons; there would not be a Show without you.

We look forward to again organising and holding the 113th Annual Show on 2nd December 2023.

A.E. (Tony) Hine
24th May, 2023