

## President's Report 2024-25

Presented at the Annual General Meeting of the Circular Head Agricultural Society Inc. on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2025 at the Stanley Recreation Ground, Stanley.

It is with pleasure that I present my tenth President's report. A successful 114<sup>th</sup> Circular Head Show was held on the 30<sup>th</sup> November 2024 considering the weather with rain setting in approximately 2.30 causing the cancellation of the Grand Parade. Thankfully most other events were finalised by then.

The 114<sup>th</sup> Show again received positive feedback. There was a mixture of attractions for all ages with Eddie Freeman having to cancel at the last minute.

- Sheep shearing demonstration & *Sea Eagle Spinners*
- Dog high jump organised by the North Motton Rural Youth
- A scale model steam engine and Fairground mechanical organ provided by Pearn's Steam World, Westbury
- Burnie Highland Pipe Band
- *Almost Heaven Clydesdales* offering free rides
- Blacksmith Demonstration
- Edith Creek Working Bullocks
- NW Snake Catchers
- Flowerdale Lobster Ponds
- Animal Nursery organised by Radford Family *Funny Farm*
- Andrew Grey (Singer)
- Lynden's Laser Tag (Free to patrons)
- Sheep dog demonstration – *Pandara Kelpies*
- Historical Machinery Club/Veteran Car Club/NW Bird Club
- Show girl/boy Competition
- Damien and working model display

It was great to welcome back Josh Perry and his *Graze the Region* segment which attracted a good audience all day. Josh also opened the Show along with Premier Jeremy Rockliff who was in attendance. Another popular event was the sheaf tossing competition which has not been seen at the show for many decades. Thanks goes to Sean Vinar, who was the Australian Champion in 2018 with a throw of 13.5m, for organising on the day. Ferrets also made an appearance and a Guess the Weight competition of a bull and Highland calf provided by Alexander Poke created some interest.

The area on the ground in front of the Secretary's office worked well with the Sheep Dog demonstration, Dog High Jump and Sheaf Tossing competition which meant there was something happening most of the day.

Unfortunately the chopping did not go ahead this year due to the wedding of one of the axemen but will return in 2025.

The Shorthorn Feature Breed organised by the Tasmanian Branch of the Australian Shorthorn Society and stud beef classes both had good entries. There were 75 entries in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Hoof

and Hook Competition which offers approximately \$10,000 in prizes through sponsorship. Congratulations to all winners, particularly the Bruce Family with Western Plains Beef winning both the Fergus Medwin and Cyril Wells Memorial Trophies. Interstate judges included Bethany Bayliss (Trade Cattle), Peter Kylstra and Callum McPhee (stud beef and dairy interbreed classes and State Young Paraders). Dairy numbers were on a par with last year. The Young Parader and Judges competition, with the Circular Head Show competition culminating in the State judging is always a highlight.

For the first time equestrian entries were via Nominate with many thanks to Hayley Atkins for completing both the set up and follow up required.

The **Smithton and Districts Community Bank** Exhibition Hall was once again a highlight. Improvements are continually made to the way exhibits are displayed and it is a credit to all volunteers involved with special thanks to Chief Steward, Cheryl Lardner. The judges commented on the quality of the home made produce and it was pleasing to see some new exhibitors in this area. Thank you to the Circular Head Garden Club and Jenny Newman for their continuing support in the Floral section and to all the schools who participated. Their work is always of a high standard and interesting.

The Society was again successful with a State Government 2024-25 Agricultural Show Development Grant for \$17,373. This has allowed for the purchase of three portable grandstands that will be utilised at the 2025 Show. We were also successful with a grant to purchase an eID Stick Reader as it is mandatory from 2025 to have tags on all sheep and goats that are on site.

Maintenance during the year included renewing the plumbing for the cattle wash area and improving the weather protection at the cattle yards. A new horse jump was also constructed.

The major joint raffle was held again with the Smithton Football Club, the Rocky Cape and Smithton Lions Club and the Show Society all sharing in the proceeds. Approximately \$100,000 has been raised over eight years. Thanks goes to the sponsors of all prizes in conjunction with Hammond Family/Greenham Tas, Temma Farm and Perry's Quality Meats.

No event is possible without sponsorship and the Society is grateful to each and every one of our 100+ sponsors who sponsor across all areas of the Show to the tune of approximately \$22,000 plus in-house and product contributions. With rising costs including insurance premiums, the committee reluctantly increased the admission price to \$15 for adults and \$10 (\$8 On-Line) for 5-14 Years. There has not been an increase for some years while on-line ticketing was also introduced for the first time this year.

Thank you to Milton and Gaylene for again hosting a social get together after the Show. John Bruce had the honour of presenting Life Membership to Gaylene de Jonge who has been involved with the Trade Cattle competition, along with her husband Milton, since inception. Gaylene is one of those quiet workers in the background helping out in the Exhibition Hall, working bees and other areas over many years. A presentation was also made to Marie Bruce for her ongoing dedication to completing beautifully the prize cards for the over 200 classes in the Exhibition Hall.

Thank you to our hard working committee members, volunteers and supporters for your dedication and commitment to organizing a successful event every year. Also thank you to exhibitors and patrons; there would not be a Show without you.

We look forward to again organising and holding the 115<sup>th</sup> Annual Show on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2025.

A.E. (Tony) Hine  
28<sup>th</sup> May, 2025