

President's Report 2025-26

Presented at the Annual General Meeting of the Circular Head Agricultural Society Inc. on 27th May 2026 at the Stanley Recreation Ground, Stanley.

It is with pleasure that I present my first President's report. A successful 115th Circular Head Show was held on the 29th November 2025 with the public car park filled by lunchtime, a good indication of the attendance on the day.

Once again there was something happening all day

- 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
- Blacksmith Demonstration
- Edith Creek Working Bullocks
- NW Snake Catchers
- Ferrets and Poultry display
- Animal Nursery organised by Radford Family *Funny Farm*
- *Majick Feathers*, interactive bird display
- *Unique Chainsaw Sculptures*
- Jeff Power (Singer)
- *Graze the Region* with Josh Perry
- Lynden's Laser Tag
- Sheep dog demonstration – *Pandara Kelpies*
- Sheep dog trials (new)
- Historical Machinery Club/Veteran Car Club/NW Bird Club
- Show girl/boy Competition
- Damien and working model display

For the first time for a number of years, the equestrian was held over two days (Saturday and Sunday). Thanks to the Atkins family and their helpers for organising. New sponsors were sought with the two days working out even.

It was great to have the sheaf tossing competition for the second year with the added incentive of *Champion of Champions* across the three areas: sheaf tossing, shot putt and weight for distance competition with Matthew Boyd winning the inaugural Champion of Champions. Ladies, Novice and Open classes were held. Thank you to Sean Vinar and Stephen Clarke for organising and the sponsors of this area. It is hoped the competition can be built upon in 2026.

The sheep dog demonstration was again popular along with the dog high jump, both complemented again by a first of sheep dog trials. This involved approximately 100 sheep. The organisers are keen to hold regional or statewide competition at Stanley during another time of the year when more of the ground could be utilised.

The wood chopping was back this year and always proves popular. The three new grandstands, with thanks to a State Government Agricultural Show Grant, situated at the chopping, dog high jump/sheaf tossing and cattle competition area were all very popular and at capacity most of the day.

There were a high number of entries in all areas of the cattle competition particularly stud beef with numbers improving in the dairy cattle with the addition of more heifer classes. The best dressed calf class was a big hit and very pleasing to see improved entries in all calf classes. Thank you for the time and effort Tony Hine, John Bergman, Judy Johns, Judy Fry and Anna Morrison have put into encouraging local schools to be involved with calf rearing and lead classes. It was great to see students from St Peter Chanel and Forest School participate.

The highlight of the day in the cattle arena is the State Judging of the Young Paraders with Edward Dudfield winner of the Dairy section and Ruby Rayner the State Beef Parader.

There were 63 entries in the 43rd Hoof and Hook Competition which offers approximately \$10,000 in prizes through sponsorship. The hoof judge this year was Thomas Febey, an experienced Elders livestock agent and cattle breeder. Congratulations to all winners with Milton and Gaylene de Jonge winning the Rabobank Trophy; Helen Brock's Bayswater Red Angus won the Fergus Medwin and Cyril Wells Memorial Trophies. In the Carcase section, Western Plains Beef won the Rex Frankcombe Memorial Trophy and Highest Scoring Animal while Michael and Wendy Berechree won the Greenham Tasmania Trophy and Charlie Payne the Junior Development Trophy.

The beef stewards facility area was improved with two new windows; thank you to Clark Windows for donating one window.

Again, the **Smithton and Districts Community Bank** Exhibition Hall exceeded all expectations with the large number of school entries a highlight. The final display is a credit to all volunteers involved with special thanks to Chief Steward, Cheryl Lardner and her helpers and the Circular Head Garden Club for their continuing support in the Floral section. Thanks to Brian Stokes, Alan Smedley and Andrew Wells for the new display boards that were a big asset to this area.

Gavin Pearce, local Member of Parliament and State Minister for Primary Industries and Water, opened the Show.

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. Over \$100,000 has been raised over nine years. Thankyou 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.

At the forefront of the committee is the aim to provide a budget family day while providing an outlet for all things rural. I believe we are the epitome of what a rural show entails and aim to showcase the country feel of Tasmania and allow visitors to get back to that rural

feeling and appreciate what happens on the land and value the work producers put in to produce their food.

There were no sideshows operating this year; the feedback was minimal.

Thank you to our hard working committee members, volunteers and supporters for your dedication and commitment to organizing a successful event every year. Packing up on the day after the show was completed by lunchtime on Sunday; a testament to the work over previous years endeavouring to make manual processes not so labour intensive and streamlined. Also thank you to exhibitors and patrons; there would not be a Show without you.

Again a memorable social evening was enjoyed by all who attended earlier this year with thanks to Milton and Gaylene.

We look forward to again organising and holding the 116th Annual Show on 28th November 2026.

Craig Dwyer
President
27th May, 2026