



Members Lounge

April 2013

Planning for the future...

Claremont Showground

If the four recent workshops held to develop the concept and strategies for the future of Claremont Showground are anything to go by – opportunities are limitless.

Councillors, staff and external stakeholders with tactical visions delivered a cross-section of initiatives, paving the way forward to boundless and progressive prospects for a positive outcome of the Showground.

Following this 'think-tank' project the Strategic Planning and Project Committee is preparing a brief for the design of the Concept Plan.

We would like to thank workshop facilitators, Councillor Williams and Councillor Carter.

Concept Plan

The RAS is preparing a project charter - the foundation for the Concept Plan, to be finalised by December 2013.

The Concept Plan is a forerunner to a Master Plan that will outline the

general direction and intention as to how The RAS intends to implement a redevelopment.

This is a very exciting project. Claremont Showground is one of WA's most important community assets. Close to one million people visit the venue to attend and participate in the annual IGA Perth Royal Show as well as 250 other community and cultural events held each year.



Showground music festival **ends on a positive note**

Soundwave, the third and final music festival to be held recently at Claremont Showground proved to be a resounding success in more ways than one, attracting 50,000 enthusiasts to the sell-out event which boasted a stellar line-up that included top band Metallica.

The concert, which followed on from the Stereosonic (November) and the (January) Big Day Out events, received a thumbs-up from WA Police providing positive feedback to behaviour and crowd control.

The RAS, the Town of Claremont and the event promoter worked together to implement a joint traffic management plan that was successfully rolled out at each event.

The majority of Claremont residents' support for the concerts held at Claremont Showground was clearly demonstrated following surveys carried out by The RAS and the Town of Claremont.

The RAS will continue to work with the Department of Environment & Conservation, Town of Claremont, Police and promoters to ensure the impact on local communities is minimal.



Festival venue **is the best**

Claremont Showground is the only venue in Perth that has the infrastructure to support large crowds in a safe manner, is the one location in WA to have a train station on site and is proven to be an invaluable asset to patrons state-wide.

Its importance for cultural events cannot be denied. The Showground attracts national and international acclaimed artists. Music festivals produce significant economic benefits and create jobs for West Australians in the arts and hospitality industries. Tourism also receives a boost.

Music festivals are, economically, an important aspect of Claremont Showground, realising about \$16.2 million

annually to the WA economy, according to a recent report by PRACYS, an independently commissioned company specialising in economic impact studies.

Each large event with an audience of about 35,000 will generate an estimated \$5.2 million in economic activity while smaller music events generate approximately \$3 million.



Youth scholarship

Winning a scholarship to the tune of \$12,000 is music to the ears of Jessica Perrin, 17, who combines a commitment to agriculture with a passion for music.

The Curtin University student and budding singer/songwriter is the recipient of the inaugural Agricultural Youth Scholarship, introduced by The Royal Agricultural Society of Western Australia and the Bendat Family Foundation. Jessica is studying Agribusiness at Curtin University.

While attending Year 11 and 12 at the WA College of Agriculture, Denmark, Jessica claimed first place in the junior cattle parading competition at the 2011 IGA Perth Royal Show and won the junior wool judging event in

2012. Jessica will be competing in the national junior wool judging competition to be held in New Zealand this year.

The Royal Agricultural Society of Western Australia with the generous support of the Bendat Family Foundation offers an annual scholarship (paid over three years) to provide financial assistance to a worthy student to commence undergraduate tertiary study in an agricultural related discipline. Application forms for 2014 will be available from July on www.raswa.org.au.

Pictured: Jessica Perrin with President Hugh Harding and Dr Jack Bendat



In other **news**

RAS Brass Band

The Royal Agricultural Society of WA has extended its sponsorship of The RAS Brass Band that performs regularly during the IGA Perth Royal Show. The Band, an excellent ambassador for The RAS, performed at the National Band Championships held this year in Perth over the Easter weekend. It is the first time since 1979 the Nationals have been held in WA. The Band was extremely excited to be able to compete on home ground and were placed second!

As part of the quest for success Dr Robert Childs, international conductor and current associate conductor with the world famous Black Dyke Band, was invited to be the Musical Director for the week before and throughout the weekend of the Championships.

In-Line Hockey

This team game is one of the fastest growing sports in the world. The RAS has helped its popularity by supporting an In-Line Hockey arena at the Showground since 2007. Games are played in the Jim Horwood Pavilion from March to August and range in levels from Social to Elite. For further information visit: www.claremonthockey.com.

Bindaring Red Cross Sale

We say "Hats Off" to this annual event that has raised more than \$1million for vital WA Red Cross community services since its inception in 1963. This ever popular pre-loved and seconds clothing sale will be held on 25 May.

Long Table Lunch - Sunday 14 April

The RAS has been a strong supporter of the Long Table Lunch for many years - donating the venue and essential services. 2013 will be no exception. Always a fantastic affair of food, wine, fashion, friendship and fundraising, this month will see the celebration of the 10th anniversary of the lunch.





Council news

Congratulations and welcome to our three new Councillors Keith Lawrence, Stacey Grace and David Thomas who have been appointed to fill the three casual vacancies on Council.

Keith Lawrence

Managing Director of an advertising and marketing company with local and national clients, Keith has held a keen interest within the equine world. Keith owns and operates the Cardinal Australian Stock Horse Stud having been a member of the Australian Stock Horse Society for 35 years including a term as the WA Director and President. Keith has competed at the IGA Perth Royal Show for about 30 years and is also an ASH classifier and a senior panel judge for a number of breed societies.

Stacey Grace

A retired company director with 22 years experience in marketing and research Stacey, together with her husband, owns and operates a mixed livestock property incorporating cattle, sheep and horses at Bindoon. Stacey can also be found working alongside her 'other half' at the couple's feedlot business in Gingin. In between her busy schedules Stacey still managed to fit in volunteer work with the Red Cross, Esther House and Lady Lawley Cottage.

David Thomas

This man has left no stone unturned during his career having clocked up more than 37 years experience in hospitality, management and logistics in remote areas as well as globally. This includes the mining and resources sectors. A business owner, CEO and Director, David manages the first indigenous facility management company in the resource industry in remote WA. David also holds the position of director/ part owner of a facility management company in Mongolia which has ventures in agriculture and farming. David sits on the Board of Uniting Care West, is a Fellow of Leadership WA and mentors a junior executive. He has a family background within farming in Cunderdin and an association with Kendenup's Plantagenet Dorper Sheep Stud.



Pictured: Keith Lawrence, Stacey Grace, Hugh Harding and David Thomas



Honorary Councillor

Kevin Cahill's outstanding 28 years of contribution to The RAS Council has been rewarded - as Honorary Councillor. This retired sheep farmer from Merredin previously held the position of Councillor in Charge for many sections including some which are no longer in existence – Trade Pigs, Farm Day, Deer and Sheaf Tossing. Kevin continues to take a keen interest in District Displays and the Sheep section.

AGM

The 2013 Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 25 at 6.30pm in the President's Lounge at Claremont Showground.

And finally...

Congratulations to long time RAS member Hon Ken Baston MLC on his recent promotion to Minister for Agriculture and Food.



What's on at

Claremont Showground?

13 April	Face to Face Expo for Young Engineers	18 May -	
14 April	The Big Watercolour Paint-Out 2013	2 Sept	Persian Rug Sale
14 April	Celebration of Women Long Table Lunch	25 May	Bindaring Red Cross Sale
27 - 28 April	3 in 1 Market @ Showground	25 - 28 May	GFL Fine Arts
10 - 19 May	Clearance Sale, Camping Equipment		

Please visit our website for more events.
www.claremontshowground.com.au

Membership Renewals

Reminder that the 2013 Membership Renewals are due by 26 June 2013. If you have changed any details or have not received the Renewal Notice by mail please contact the Membership Coordinator via email membcoord@raswa.org.au or phone (08) 6263 3108.

Become a 10-Year Member

Membership is still available at an introductory price of \$1,000, so why not renew as a 10-year member today? For further information please contact the Membership Coordinator.

No Paper Trail

Just a friendly reminder that The RAS is keeping up with technology and phasing out the paper trail. So the quarterly newsletter will be emailed to members in PDF format.

Membership renewal payments can be made online. You will be able to pay your membership with your credit card online, saving you time and postage.

If you do not have an email account or have changed your email address, please advise details to the Membership Coordinator - membcoord@raswa.org.au.

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