

# The Presidents Report 2017/2018

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The year as I remember it;

**Our First Twilight Family Fun Festival;** happened in early January unfortunately the weather gods were not in our favour but the people that did attend had a great afternoon.

**The Cottage:** Was the first priority in early 2018. The tenant had to be vacated for many months while we undertook major renovations to a badly termite damaged wall. We replaced the carpet and painted throughout. The property is now tenanted, but we still have a fence and a carport to erect and some general garden tidy up to complete.

**Camping :** With the Cottage being vacated we needed to have a plan of attack as far as the Camping money collection was concerned. The executive agreed that signage and an honesty box system be put in place. Allan O'Neil who already cleans the Amenities Block was asked to keep an eye on the campers. This system has and is working extremely well and I would like to acknowledge Allan O'Neil for his continued dedication to the Cleanliness of the Amenities block and keeping an eye on the Campers flowing through.

The sign up the front (that I am sure you will have all seen on your entry to the Showground) looks great and is working. We have just last week put a sign up on the back gate, to direct campers around to the Batar Creek Road Entrance.

Also Jody organised flyers that are up and around and Elizabeth Watson approached iKew and they have kindly agreed to display them. Hence camping here at the grounds have been EXTREMELY BUSY and in recent months actually seeing the camping revenue increasing by over 150%.

**Grants:** Last year we applied for a Grant Community Building Partnerships for the Upgrade to our Ambulant Toilet. We received \$15,000. The Footpath is in and looks fantastic and the Ambulant Toilet should be worked on in the coming weeks.

We have applied for Ring Lighting earlier in the year and were unsuccessful.

We applied for a New Ride on Lawn mower through the Clubs Grant and just missed out.

C2Hills applied for a Crown Lands Grant for over \$190,000 to help correct the flooding etc with the back bridge and we were successful.

We were also approached by C2Hills in early January 2018 in regard to the proposal of 'The Mid North Coast Equestrian Centre' we are still waiting on feed back about this Grant.

**ZONE ASC MEETING:** Jody and I attended the Zone 2 meets at Wauchope Showground.

I was nominated to be on the Executive Board of the Zone and Accepted. We were nominated for The Woollen Knitted Article, The Cattle Junior Beef Judging. The Woollen Knitted Article was run at the 2018 Show and unfortunately due to lack of entries the Cattle Beef Judging did not go ahead. We have applied to hold the Woollen Knitted Article again in 2019.

**Council Meeting with Brett Jefferies: Regarding the tree line on Batar Creek Road:** Council conducted a scope of works and reported to the show society the large camphor laurel at the front gates it was completely removed. As will 4-5 other large trees.

I attended meetings both with Council and the developer of the WoodGlen Lifestyle Estate; This is in regard to the proposed development at the rear of the Show ground. At this stage it seems like everything is at a standstill.

**The First Ground Users Network Meeting:** Executives of ground users were invited along. It was a very positive and successful meeting. Things discussed were –Information Collection, Insurance, OHS, Responsibilities, Social Media and each group was handed their rent invoices.

**The Bunting Project;** The Vision was to create lengths of bunting to be used at the Show and other Events, as a symbol of our history and community. This project was completed and I thank Elizabeth Watson once again for her dedication to this project.

**Pavilion Signs;** Have been replaced and look awesome.

**Ground Hires:** We have had many and varied Ground Hires and I believe it is the most the Show ground has ever had. We have had Weeds Workshops, Camden Haven Rural Bush Fire Brigade have trained, to the Motor cycle Guys/Girls, Pony Club Days to Paint Horse Hires, Colour Run for the High School and a Cross Country.

**The Police** and emergency services used the grounds for a month, in a search for further information of William Tyrell.

**TAG Studio Opening-** I was invited and attended the Opening of the TAG Studio.

**RDA-** Sadly had to put a horse down, due to an unfortunate accident.

**AMC** – Motorcycle weekend is really starting to evolve and I thank everyone who was involved again this year I am looking forward to this event year after year growing and evolving.

**Markets** – This is our challenge for 2019. I would really like people to think about what events we could put on to encourage people to the grounds on these days so that we can value add to what we already have.

Joan's retirement from the kitchen has encouraged a new group of volunteers to step forward and give. I can see that with some new ideas the kitchen will continue to move forward.

**Carinda Drought Run;** Jody, amidst everything else, wanted to hold a drought run out west. We have completed 2 runs and in the coming weeks we will do our 3<sup>rd</sup>. We are proud to have received a mention in Parliament from Leslie Williams and received a letter of thanks also from Dr David Gillespie. Although of course, it is a BIG Thank you to the Shop Holders who helped us run this and a HUGE THANK YOU to the Generous people of the Camden Haven who supported our plight to get non perishable food and supplies to the small country town of Carinda NSW.

**Penrith ASC Seminar;** This was a great weekend very, very informative. We attended workshops for Insurance, marketing, Education, Volunteer Fatigue and management, WHS, entertainment and so much more.

**Adult Riding Days;** I have to say this is one of the highlights of my year. Seeing so many people out on their horses just having a great time. This day has a very special feel with everyone in FUN MODE!!! Let's keep doing these!! THANKS JEN & Camden Haven Pony Club!

**Shows Attended:** Jody and I attended Wingham Show, Gloucester Show, Wauchope Show, Bulahdelah Show & Taree Show.

This year was the 70<sup>th</sup> Show! So since 1948, the Camden Haven Show has recognised the achievements and skill of people in the agricultural, horticultural and industrial sectors. These industries are vital to this region and it's important to ensure we keep honouring the

people who grow our exceptional food, who employ local people, create innovative new products and ensure the traditions of home crafts, cooking, cattle handling, judging and horsemanship continue into the future.

It is the role of agricultural shows to bridge the divide between city and country; to educate people not only on how food is made, but how country life is always evolving and modernising.

There's nothing like the spirit of a country show to bring people together to catch up, learn from each other and honour achievements.

I would like to thank all of the companies, businesses and families that sponsored the Show and here I would like to make special mention to Staffan from Kew Corner Store. Staffan volunteered with his staff not only on the bikers weekend making coffees and cooking steak sandwiches but also at the Show. Staffan also supported the Fireworks and we thank him for his ongoing help.

It would be remiss of me not to mention Doug Pope, who was Jode's White Knight this year and Saved the day when he agreed to take on the Sponsorship Coordinators Role. You did an awesome job Doug and I see you already have your hand up for next year !!

Congratulations, to Elizabeth Watson on receiving the RAS Medal. Elizabeth your enthusiasm and tireless work has not gone unnoticed.

A welcome to the new stewards, Carol Hall (Cakes) and Jodie and Matthew Osborne (Chainsaws) Ben & Kellie (Pet Show).

To ALL the Stewards, I am not going to mention you all I would hate to miss someone..... but please take this as my personal thanks to the dedication you have to your section. This year's Show was a credit to you all! THANK YOU!

To my executive I would like to THANK YOU ALL for the Support and the extra miles we have had to go to make sure things are running smoothly.

What are we going to do going forward.....apparently SING??? Christmas Carols are just around the corner and I believe Santa is going to make a visit!! Looking forward to a very festive afternoon of family fun ☺

But, right now I would like to take the opportunity to THANK YOU!! Every one of you who have helped, in anyway shape or form. 2017/18 has been a HUGE year 2018/19 is shaping up to be just as BIG BRING IT ON!!

Sean Gleeson

President

Camden Haven PAH & I Soc Inc