



Showtimes

Please share with committee members, chief stewards and your volunteers

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Life Membership – Sue Hood OAM

AgShows NSW congratulates Sue Hood OAM on being awarded Life Membership in recognition of her exceptional service to the agricultural show movement.

For more than 23 years, Sue has championed the Showgirl, now Young Woman, Competition, mentoring young people and nurturing future leaders. She has also served as a Group Delegate for the western region, ensuring regional Shows have a strong voice at state level.

We warmly congratulate Sue on this well-deserved honour and thank her for her outstanding dedication and leadership.

President's Message

It is an honour to write my first President's Message since being elected following our Annual General Meeting on 24 June 2026.

I am pleased to be joined by Vice Presidents Hugh Southwell and Catriona McAuliffe, Immediate Past President Jill Chapman, Honorary Secretary David Peters and Honorary Treasurer Brett Kenworthy. Together with our Board and staff, we remain committed to supporting our members and strengthening agricultural shows across NSW.

I sincerely thank Jill Chapman for her outstanding leadership and dedication as President over the past three years, and Kelso Looker for his valued contribution as Vice President.

Having served on the Board since 2019, I am honoured to take on the role of President. Our purpose remains clear: to sustain and strengthen agricultural shows across NSW so they continue to thrive for generations to come.

Our new Strategic Plan will be central to this vision. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the recent survey. The strong response demonstrates how invested our members, stakeholders and wider show community are in shaping our future.

We were deeply saddened by the passing of Life Member Wal Blezard. Wal gave outstanding service to our organisation as a Group 8 Delegate and later as Company Secretary. His knowledge, dedication and friendship will be greatly missed, and we extend our sincere condolences to his family and friends.

I also warmly congratulate Sue Hood OAM on being awarded Life Membership in recognition of her exceptional service to agricultural shows and their communities.

Thank you to everyone who participated in our online conference and the 2026 AgShows NSW School Auctioneers State Final. It was inspiring to see our talented young auctioneers demonstrate such confidence and skill.

Congratulations also to our 2026 award recipients and nominees. Our volunteers are the heart of the show movement, and these awards recognise those who give so generously of their time, knowledge and energy.

As the spring show season gets underway, I wish every Society a safe, successful and enjoyable Show. Thank you to the committees, volunteers, exhibitors, competitors, sponsors and supporters who make these events possible.

I look forward to working together to support agricultural shows and the communities they serve.

Jody Nelson-Gleeson

Welcome to our New Directors

AgShows NSW warmly welcomes two new Directors to the Board – Daryl Holder (Goulburn) and Kevin Townsend (Eugowra).

We look forward to their contribution to the Board and to working with them as they support the broader NSW agricultural show movement.

AgShows NSW Patron and Vice Patrons

AgShows NSW is pleased to confirm its 2026–2027 Patron, Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC KC, Governor of NSW, and Vice Patrons John Bennett OAM and the Hon Tara Moriarty MLC.

We thank them for their continued support of agricultural shows across NSW.

Office Contact Information

Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9:00AM – 3:00PM

1800 025 387 or T: 02 9879 6777

E: hello@agshowsnsw.org.au

- Nicky Seeto | EO
- Katie Stanley | Member Services
- Sarah McGregor | Member Services – Accounts
- Lyndy Cornwell | Member Services – Insurance

Thank You to Emily Scrivener

AgShows NSW acknowledges Emily Scrivener following her resignation from the Board, which was accepted at its recent meeting.

Emily served as President of ASC of NSW Next Generation and Group 15 Delegate, representing the next generation of the agricultural show movement.

We thank Emily for her involvement and wish her every success for the future.

Celebrating a Milestone

We are proud to celebrate a special milestone at AgShows NSW. Congratulations to Sarah McGregor on 10 years of dedicated service as a highly valued member of our team. We thank Sarah for her commitment and contributions and look forward to many more years together.



PROTECT OUR PRODUCTION

Avian Influenza Update – Advice for NSW Agricultural Shows

DPIRD advises that agricultural shows may continue as planned. Each Show Society should decide whether to proceed with poultry and bird exhibitions based on local risks.

Shows proceeding should ensure birds appear healthy, minimise contact with wild birds, and maintain good hygiene and biosecurity practices.

AgShows NSW has collated current information and resources from DPIRD and the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF), including bird flu information, preparedness resources, a short information video and posters suitable for display at Shows and poultry pavilions.

These resources are available on the [AgShows NSW Biosecurity webpage under Disease & Pest Information](#).

As the situation continues to evolve, we will keep stakeholders informed of any changes to advice or requirements. If there are any significant developments that may impact agricultural shows, we'll make sure you receive that information as soon as possible.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you or any of the committees have any questions.

New Online Entry Process - 2027 RAS/AgShows NSW Country Champions Fleece Class

There is an important change to the entry process for the NSW Champion Show Fleece Competition.

Paper entry forms will no longer be used for the Sydney Royal competition. Instead, Champion Fleece winners from eligible Agricultural Shows will enter online.

Following their Show, Show Societies will be provided with entry codes to circulate to their Champion Fleece winner/s, together with instructions on how to complete their online entry.

Show Societies are asked to ensure their winning exhibitors receive the relevant code and are made aware of the new online entry process.

Entry instructions: Entries are to be submitted online via myras.org.au. Please select the Sheep & Fleece Section when lodging entries. A code will be provided via your show society to allow entry submission. Entries close: Wednesday 17 February 2027 Entry into Class 572 is free of charge.

Further information about the NSW Champion Show Fleece Competition is also available on the [AgShows NSW website](#).

Revised Disciplinary Rules and Procedures

AgShows NSW has revised its Rules for Discipline and Disciplinary Procedures Manual, effective 1 September 2026.

The revisions provide greater clarity following the first practical use of the Early Guilty Plea (EGP) process, particularly around the roles of the Executive Officer, Disciplinary Committee Chair and Disciplinary Panel. The intent of the disciplinary framework remains unchanged.

Member Societies are encouraged to familiarise themselves with the updated documents:

- [Rules for Discipline V14 – Revised August 2026](#)
- [Disciplinary Procedures Manual V2 – Revised August 2026](#)

The revisions support a clear and consistent process while maintaining natural justice, proportionality, impartiality, transparency and confidentiality.

ASA Conference – Bursary Opportunities

Agricultural Shows Australia (ASA) is holding their National Conference 'Stronger Together: One movement. One voice. Many communities'

from the 17-19 February 2027 at the Rex Hotel [Canberra.

AgShows NSW is pleased to be offering 5 bursaries to attend the conference. To apply click [the link](#).

Applications close October 29, 2026.

Vale Wal Blezard



AgShows NSW acknowledges the passing of Life Member Wal Blezard, whose service to agricultural shows spanned more than 50 years.

Wal made an enduring contribution to the Albury Show Society, AgShows NSW governance and Young Judges Competitions. His wisdom, generosity and commitment leave a lasting legacy.

President's Award

AgShows NSW congratulates Vice President Catriona McAuliffe on receiving Immediate Past President Jill Chapman's President's Award.

Catriona was recognised for her considered contribution to the Board and commitment to the agricultural show movement.

Have You Submitted Your 2026 Show Statistics?

If your Show Society hasn't yet submitted the statistical information from your 2026 Show, we'd really appreciate your help. Please email the details to Sarah at sarah.mcgregor@agshowsnsw.org.au
Thank you!

Show Announcers Academy

Aspiring to be an announcer at rural events? Show Announcers Academy is the answer. A guide for new show ring announcers or commentators at agricultural, equine or rural events. Your Encyclopedia of all things in the show ring is ready to go.

The Academy includes:

- Breed profiles you can pull up on your phone at ringside, mid-show
- Templated scripts for the predictable parts of every show program
- Interview techniques for local characters, champions and legends
- How to handle delays, disasters and the unexpected (like the time I pulled in a portable speaker because nobody could get the arena sound system to work)
- The unwritten rules that experienced announcers know, and nobody writes down

Special offer for Celebrating AgShows 2026 delegates, use code 50PC at checkout:

- Normal price: \$995
- Sale price: \$497.50
- Lifetime access

If you're announcing now, or thinking about it, it's worth a look.

ENROL NOW

<https://www.showannouncersacademy.com/courses/show-announcers-academy>



Surcharging on debit and credit cards ends from 1 October 2026

This applies to debit, prepaid, and credit cards on the EFTPOS, Mastercard, and Visa networks.

You are no longer able to add a card surcharge for payments via EFTPOS, Mastercard, and Visa.

Options available include increasing all ticket prices by a small margin to cover the current surcharges or absorbing any merchant fees. The price advertised must be the price paid for all payment methods.

For full details on the changes visit

<https://www.rba.gov.au/payments-and-infrastructure/review-of-retail-payments-regulation/2026-03/>



Event Tips & Ideas

Looking for practical ideas to make ticketing and event management a little easier?

Our ticketing partner 123 Tix regularly shares useful articles for event organisers through its online blog, covering topics such as ticket types and pricing, promoting your event, improving the customer booking experience, event branding, scanning and on-the-day ticketing.

There are plenty of practical tips that can be applied to Agricultural Shows of all sizes, so we encourage Member Societies to have a browse and check back for new articles.

[Visit the 123 Tix Blog](#)

Celebrating the Leadership of Immediate Past President Jill Chapman

AgShows NSW thanks Immediate Past President Jill

Chapman for her leadership from 2023 to 2026. Throughout her presidency, Jill travelled extensively to visit Member Shows, listen to volunteers and ensure their experiences informed Board discussions and decisions.

Jill continues to serve as Immediate Past President and Director, bringing her extensive grassroots knowledge and commitment to agricultural shows across NSW.

Updated Documents to Support Member Societies

AgShows NSW has developed a suite of updated documents to help Member Societies strengthen compliance, safety and participant behaviour, while clarifying how each document applies and reducing duplication.

Member Societies are encouraged to review and adopt:

- ✓ [Master Definitions and Glossary of Terms](#)
- ✓ [Code of Conduct](#) – expected behaviour and values for everyone.
- ✓ [General Regulations](#) – requirements for exhibitors, competitors, traders, volunteers and officials.
- ✓ [Conditions of Entry to Showgrounds](#) – conditions for patrons and visitors.
- ✓ [Complaints Policy](#), [Complaints Form](#) together with [Complaints Directional Guidance Procedure](#)
- ✓ [Standard Exhibitor Declaration](#) – acknowledgement by exhibitors, participants and competitors that they will comply with the relevant requirements.
- ✓ [Additional Member Information about The Standard Exhibitor Declaration.](#)

The Word templates can be customised with each Society's logo, name and event details. Other changes may be made to suit local circumstances, provided they maintain or strengthen the documents' intent and do not detract from their content.

Together, these resources provide a clear and consistent framework for the safe and effective conduct of agricultural shows.

Is Your Showground Adequately Insured?

Underinsurance is an increasing issue across property insurance, particularly as building, labour and material costs have risen significantly in recent years.

If buildings or structures are insured for substantially less than their full replacement value, an insurer may apply a co-insurance (or underinsurance) clause when a claim occurs. This can mean the insurer pays only a proportion of any loss, large or small, leaving the Show Society responsible for a potentially significant shortfall. Member Societies are encouraged to regularly review the buildings and structures they own and ensure sums insured reflect current full replacement costs, rather than original construction costs or market value. An independent valuation may assist in this process.

As part of your review:

- identify all buildings and structures owned by the Society, regardless of who owns the land;
- consider other insurable assets such as fencing, pathways and roadways, etc;
- determine the current full replacement cost of each asset;
- consider obtaining an up-to-date replacement cost valuation from an accredited property valuer; and
- seek advice where ownership or insurance responsibilities are unclear.

Reducing sums insured may reduce premiums in the short term, but it can have significant consequences at claim time.

You may consciously decide to not insure a particular building or structure (dilapidated, damaged, etc). If so, the declared value should be Nil and an audit trail to this effect would be appropriate.

Importantly, you do not need to wait until your annual insurance renewal to review your cover. If you identify that your current building replacement values are inadequate, contact AgShows NSW to

discuss updating your sums insured during the year.

Please take the time to review your property sums insured and ensure they accurately reflect today's replacement costs.

Preventing slips, trips and falls under 2 metres

Slips, trips and falls are among the most common causes of injury at Agricultural Shows. Our Showgrounds present some unique challenges, including uneven ground, mud and wet grass, power leads, hoses, temporary infrastructure, livestock areas and changing weather conditions.

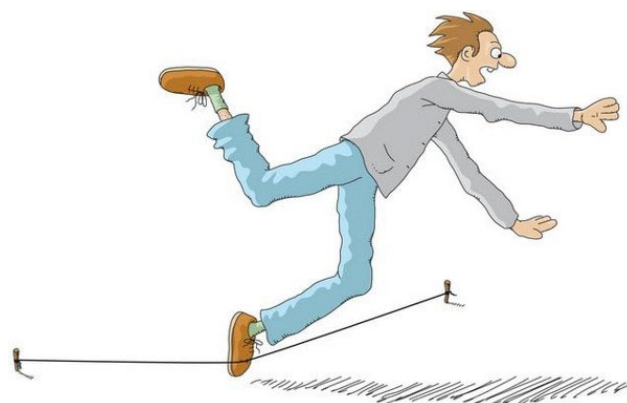
Good planning and regular monitoring can make a big difference. Check walkways, address uneven or slippery surfaces, keep cables and equipment clear, ensure adequate lighting and promptly respond to hazards as conditions change. Regular inspections throughout Show Day are particularly important.

Useful resources:

Visit the [Safety Compliance](#) section on our website for

- practical guidance specifically developed for Agricultural Shows.
- Safe Work Australia – Slips and Trips at the Workplace – guidance and hazard checklist.
- Preventing Slips, Trips and Falls Under 2 Metres – detailed checklist and practical controls.

A few minutes spent checking your Showground can prevent an injury later.



Young Judges Update of regulations

AgShows NSW has provided greater clarity in the Young Judges Rules and Regulations regarding eligibility for Group Finals. While this was already reflected in the intent of the regulations, page 1 now clearly confirms that competitors are not required to qualify through a local Agricultural Show to be eligible to compete at a Group Final. Competitors may enter and compete at any Group Final conducted within NSW or the ACT, regardless of where they reside. This clarification is intended to ensure a consistent understanding across Shows, Groups and Competitors.

<https://www.agshowsnsw.org.au/competitions/stat-e-competitions/young-judges-competition>



Key Dates 2026

31 Aug	Parkes Show
4-5 Sept	Tamworth Show, Narromine Show + Grenfell Show
5 Sept	Lake Cargelligo Show + Molong Show
6 Sept	Finley Show + Woodstock Show
8-9 Sept	West Wyalong Show
11-12 Sept	Wagga Show + Hay Show
11-13 Sept	Quirindi Show
12-13 Sept	Forbes Show
13 Sept	Cudal Show + Arian Park Show
17-19 Sept	Silver City Show
18-19 Sept	Merriwa Show + Eugowra Show
19 Sept	Ardlethan Show
19-20 Sept	Nimbin Show
20 Sept	Menangle Park Show, Young Show, Jerrawa Show
25-26 Sept	Kyogle Show + Canowindra Show
25-27 Sept	Singleton Show + Hillston Show

26 Sept	Dapto Show + Temora Show
27 Sept	Lockhart Show
3 Oct	Tooraweenah Show, Culcairn Show + Bribbaree Show
4 Oct	Berrigan Show + Griffith Show
Mon 5 Oct	Labor Day Long Weekend
	Morongla Show + Walbundrie Show
9-10 Oct	Leeton Show + Casino Show
10 Oct	Illabo Show, Trunk Creek Show
	Taree Show
11 Oct	Corowa Show
15-17 Oct	Lismore Show
16-17 Oct	Cowra Show, Cootamundra Show
	Barham Koondrook Show
17-18 Oct	Morisset Lake Macquarie Show
17 Oct	The Rock Show
23-24 Oct	Alstonville Show
24-25 Oct	Camden Haven Show +
	Picton Show
24 Oct	Junee Show
25 Oct	Bungendore Show
30-31 Oct	Albury Show +
	Murwillumbah Show
31 Oct	Carcoar Show
1-5 Nov	RASC Conference
7-8 Nov	Mullumbimby Show +
	Queanbeyan Show
13-14 Nov	Bangalow Show, Dungog Show
14 Nov	Neville Show +
	Murrumburrah Harden Show
20-21 Nov	Bulahdelah Show
22 Nov	Minto Show
27-28 Nov	Dorrigo Show
24 Dec	Christmas Eve
25 Dec	Christmas Day

These details are accurate at time of print however may change due to unforeseen circumstances.

Acciona Sydney Royal AgShows NSW Young Woman 2027 Zone Finals

Zone 1	Wauchope 30 Jan
Zone 2	Hawkesbury 13 Feb
Zone 3	Cooma 23 Jan
Zone 4	Glen Innes 16 Jan
Zone 5	Cessnock 16 Jan
Zone 6	Nyngan 13 Feb
Zone 7	Cootamundra 6 Feb

Please note: Cooma will host the Zone 3 Final, not Cobargo as previously advised.

We wish all of our host Societies and 2027 Young Woman entrants the very best for the upcoming Zone Finals.

Acciona Sydney Royal AgShows NSW Young Woman 2027 Competitions and Guidelines and Forms

Are now available on our website. Go to <https://www.agshowsnsw.org.au/competitions/stat-e-competitions/young-woman-competition>

Shows that have held a Young Woman competition and have an entrant participating in a 2027 Zone Final are asked to send the entrant's completed Forms A, B and C, together with a photograph, to their Zone Host Coordinator and hello@agshowsnsw.org.au as soon as possible.

With the 2027 Zone Finals being held early next year, it is essential that this information is received promptly to allow sufficient time for planning and preparation.

Young Woman Professional Development Opportunities

Several upcoming professional development days are available for current and prospective Young Woman entrants. These sessions offer a valuable opportunity to build confidence, develop skills and connect with other participants:

- **Crookwell Show Society:** 17 October 2026
Rosemary Seary
secretary@crookwellshow.com.au
- **Nowra Show Society:** 18 October 2026
Jessica Apperley
social@nowrashow.org.au
- **Griffith Show Society:** 14 November 2026
Veronica Cudmore
veronicacudmore@gmail.com
- **Dubbo Show Society:** 9–10 January 2027
Sue Hood
secretary@dubboshow.org

Member Societies are encouraged to share these opportunities with their Young Woman entrants and anyone considering entering the competition.

Please contact the relevant host society directly for further information and registration details.

Cheques to be phased out in Australia

The Australian Government has announced that Australia's cheque system will be phased out. From **30 June 2028**, personal, commercial, government and bank cheques can no longer be written. Cheques issued before this date may still be deposited until the cheque system closes on **30 September 2029**.

Member Societies that currently use or accept cheques are encouraged to begin planning for alternative payment methods and speak with their bank about suitable options. Some financial institutions have already reduced or withdrawn cheque services.

Think Before You Click

Phishing emails are designed to look genuine and often create a sense of urgency to encourage a quick response. Before clicking a link or opening an attachment, take a moment to check the sender's actual email address and consider whether the request is expected.

The **Phishing Defense Guide** provides four simple checks to help identify suspicious emails and protect your Show Society's information and accounts.





2026

Pearl Picnic

WEST WYALONG SHOW

WED 9 SEPTEMBER

1.30 PM
following OFFICIAL OPENING at 1pm

Join us at the 125th West Wyalong Show for the 2026 Pearl Picnic.
A celebration for all past, present & future showgirls/young women.

Come together to mix & mingle, celebrate & connect and share stories with women involved in the show movement throughout New South Wales over the past 64 years.



Scan the QR code to RSVP for catering and purchase your prepaid Show gate entry ticket. Enquiries ph 0429 534 534



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