

Media Release

13 August 2018



Jingellic Show is no more, but enthusiasm growing for future activities and new events planned for the grounds

The Jingellic Show is no more, after recent overwhelming consensus agreed that the event should be scrapped in favour of other activities at the showgrounds.

Jingellic & District Pastoral, Agricultural and Horticultural Society Inc. (Jingellic DPAH Society) held a special meeting on Tuesday, August 7, to discuss the future of the show after numerous factors including declining participation levels, cast doubt over the viability of the event.

The 2018 show was held in March this year, and marked the 90th annual show of its kind.

Twenty four people attended the meeting held last Tuesday, including guest facilitator, Tim Farrah, Regional Manager - Hume & Riverina Australia Industry Group.

The meeting was opened by President of the JDPAH Society, Mary Hoodless. The President gave an overview of the vision and mission as per the JDPAH Strategic and Concept Plan devised by the user groups in 2016. **The presentation included a brief about the origin of agricultural shows before highlighting national trends and issues impacting on small rural agricultural shows.**

Mrs Hoodless went on to explain that the governing body of the agricultural societies, the Agricultural Societies Council NSW (ASC), determines the criteria of all shows and both the ASC and the insurer insist on a vast array compliance requirements and statistical data.

Statistics for the 2018 show were presented at the meeting. Including organisation and sponsorship, program compilation, running of show day coupled with the administrative, risk and compliance requirements totalled over 2,500 volunteer hours for committee members and volunteers.

Other information presented included the decline in membership and volunteers, the ongoing financial loss of the annual show, the ageing and declining population of the area and low number of enrolments at the local school.

Following the presentation, Tim Farrah facilitated a discussion, assessing the pros and cons of the question as to whether to proceed with the annual show.

Mr Farrah congratulated the committee on their efforts to ensure that the community was well informed and encouraged to attend the meeting and have their say.

There was some valuable discussion to highlight the concept that although the show's future was on the line, there was still plenty of potential to proceed with other events, which would be less resource-hungry, more relevant and appealing to the community and visitors and more financially viable.

After the discussion, the attendees were asked to vote "yes" to proceed with the Jingellic Show, or "no", no annual show, but to proceed with other events and activities on the showgrounds.

Of the 23 people who voted, 21 voted to discontinue the show, 17 of which were JDBAH members. Just two people voted to keep the annual show going.

"Strong attendance and voting at the meeting indicated that it was clear that the JDBAH Society would not proceed with an annual Jingellic Show," the President said.

Since announcing the decision on the Jingellic Show Facebook page, there has been feedback indicating that some within the community are disappointed that the show is not proceeding. "This is understandable given its rich and highly valued history" added Mrs Hoodless.

The committee is welcoming ideas for the use of the new facilities and idyllic grounds. The new pavilion is already proving to be popular hosting Friday Fun Night once a month, family reunions, training days and birthday celebrations. The next big event is jamming@jingellic – 'Brew with a Beat' planned for Saturday 13th October. The event will feature a home brew competition, local and regional musicians and a sensory feast of craft beers, gourmet food and wine, as well as a photography display of the local picturesque Upper Murray. Enthusiasm is already growing for other activities, with around 20 ideas presented so far.

The JDBAH Society AGM will be held at 7pm in the new pavilion on September 11, 2018.

Contact:

President Mary Hoodless

Mobile: 0428 104 482