

Smaller show defies the mud

By MAUREEN BATHGATE

THE rain and mud failed to stop hundreds of district residents from attending this year's scaled down Kerang Show.

Although there was no horse, sheep, cattle or poultry judging and many of the scheduled activities, including the pet show, animal nursery, solo aircraft aerobatic display, harness racing and an emergency services display had to be cancelled, there was still enough fun and activity to keep patrons amused.

Kerang District Agricultural Society was forced to call off much of the show because of the weekend downpour which saturated Alexandra Park.

It is believed to be the first time since about 1933 that the show could not proceed as scheduled.

In that year the show was postponed for a fortnight because of extensive flooding

throughout the district, which closed many roads and forced people to carry out flood-banking work.

The highlight of this year's scaled down show was undoubtedly the magnificent pavilion.

Most successful exhibitor in the pavilion was Mrs Audrey Wood, of Kerang, who had more than 80 entries including preserves, jam, herbs, cooking, homecrafts, pickles, relish and sweets.

Mrs Wood said her mother, Mrs Ida Peacock, now 97, had submitted entries to the show for 74 years without missing a year.

She said that when her mother moved into Northaven hostel for the elderly, she decided to continue on the family tradition.

"Dad always said you should put something in the show," Mrs Wood said.

"I've entered things for as long as I can remember."

Champion art exhibit was a pastel drawing of a teddy bear, done by

Mrs Gail Ryland, of Kerang. Mrs Ryland was presented with her championship trophy by trophy donor, Mrs Pat Ibbs.

Champion rose was exhibited by well-known show entrant, Mr Frank Holmes, of Barham, with a yellow and pink fancy or bi-color rose.

The Nan Brayn Perpetual Memorial Trophy for jams and jellies was won by Maisie Connelly, of Kerang, for a jar of grapefruit peel and pulp marmalade.

Apart from the pavilion, the showgirl judging took place on Monday night, with Kerang hairdresser, Caroline Moore winning the main title, The Weekly Times Country Showgirl Quest.

As well there were a limited number of show bag and refreshment stands, sideshows and thrilling rides which were well patronised on Monday and Tuesday despite the sloppy conditions.

Disappointing

Other features on Tuesday included the Kerang Woodcrafters woodcrafting exhibition and highland dancing competition.

Show secretary, Mrs Sue Paul said the cancellation of the poultry and livestock sections was particularly disappointing, given that overall entry numbers had increased this year.

"All competitors and judges in the horse, cattle, sheep and poultry sections had to be contacted by phone so they knew not to come," Mrs Paul said.

"Fortunately we only had one judge who had travelled all the way."

Society president, Mr Stan Kerr said both he and the committee were extremely disappointed that the show had to be scaled down to such a large extent, particularly after all the hard work that had gone into preparing it.

However, he said, it was tremendous to see such a large turnout of people at the show, despite the weather.

"The pavilion entries were tremendous. The flowers, especially, were magnificent," he said.

"There were also a lot of new entrants this year which was pleasing to see."

"In fact, the entries right throughout the show would have been tremendous, thanks largely to the show office in Victoria street."

Mr Kerr said it was unlikely at this stage that the show would be restaged either later this year or early next year.

He said an event such as a horse show or livestock show might be held with added attractions.

However, he said, such an event would not be a "full show" because it was unlikely the society would receive permission from the Victorian Agricultural Societies Association.

"The committee will have to meet and discuss it," he said.



Show stopper... sloppy sideshow alley.

Prizes for early rates

KERANG Borough Council will run its successful rates incentive scheme again this year for people who pay their rates in full by December 17.

First prize in the scheme will be \$1000 from the ANZ bank, second prize will be \$200 cash and \$300 in paint accessories from Kerang Timber and Hardware and third prize will be \$250 cash and \$50 in paint and accessories.

In addition, there will be other draws for free car services from Arnoldt and Greenwood and vouchers from McCurdy's Engineering and hardware firm, A.G. Adams and Sons.

Kerang Taxi Service and Ellis and St Clair Plumbing have also supported the scheme with cash donations.

Town clerk, Mr Brian O'Dwyer said council was delighted with the extensive support local businesses had given scheme this year.

Mr O'Dwyer said rate notices were expected to be sent to ratepayers during the first week of November.



Miss Midi placegetters were, from left, second, Lucie Henderson, 7, of Kerang; first, Tara-Lee Moon, 9, of Kerang; and third, Bernadette Mannix, 9, of Kerang. PAGES 11-13: Pavilion results, pictures.

Bring your garden to life



Paper Cascade

This magnificent display of cascading blooms is ideal for potting up into hanging baskets or in garden beds. 15 cm pots.

Zero Weed Spray

The economical weed killer that's easy to use. It's concentrated so it's ready to mix or attach to a weeding wand.

\$6.95
200 ml

zero WEEDSPRAY

GREAT DISPLAY
\$5.95
each

DELIGHTFULLY SCENTED
\$4.95

Boronias

Choose from our selected varieties of these well grown plants. In 15 cm pots.

Mitre Gardener A.G. Adams & Sons
Yes, you can.
Catalogue out now
35 Scoresby st, Kerang.

GET YOUR HOME LOAN OK



The home loan OK card from the Bendigo is here. It's the go-ahead you get before you go ahead and buy your new home.

Like the Bendigo Blue Visa Card and all the Bendigo's products it's

designed to make things easier for you.

See the Bendigo now for your home loan OK.



Bendigo Building Society
Better than a bank, for sure.

PHONE 008 633 522 FOR YOUR LOAN OK FROM THE BENDIGO BUILDING SOCIETY

42 VICTORIA STREET, KERANG. TEL: 52 2833