

The History of the Wodonga Show Society The first 60 years 1947 – 2007

To 1997 compiled by Jean Whitla
from Society Records & Personal Contact.
Updated in 2007 by Uta Wiltshire

THE HISTORY OF THE WODONGA SHOW SOCIETY to 1997

Wodonga's Shire President, Cr. C. F. Pollard, called a public meeting at the Council Chambers on 5th May, 1947, for the purpose of discussing the forming of an Agricultural Show Society in Wodonga to raise funds for the proposed Hospital.

Those present: C. F. Pollard (Presiding), T. E. Snowden, R. Richardson, J. D. Turner, J. Street, J.A.H. McGeoch, R. Hall, T. Goonan, A. G. Richardson, E. B. Mann, A. Arnold, C. H. Ryan, P. Frawley, S. Hore, W. Marshall and M. J. Lambourn.

Apologies: C. G. Watt, V. C. Hempel, V. Edwards, C. C. Sheather, D. Watson, M. Martin, R. Snowden, D. C. Hartsman, J. R. Foster, A. E. Winnett, C. Gannon, J. A. Ford.

Object: Cr. Pollard outlined the object of the Meeting and pointed out although a Show Society was desirable he did not think that much money could be raised for the Hospital for some years.

Mr. Robt. Richardson endorsed Mr. Pollard's view.

Mr. T. E. Snowden thought we should make a start or at least go into the possibilities of forming an Agricultural Show Society.

Mr. J. A. H. McGeoch saw no trouble in holding a Show providing a suitable ground was obtained.

Mr. J. D. Turner endorsed Mr. McGeoch's remarks; he intimated that the country districts were solidly behind the formation of an Agricultural Show. Mr. Turner also advised that Mr. Arnie Ford had promised support and suggested catering for younger people who would be debarred from exhibiting at Junior Farmer's Field Days.

Moved: by Mr. Robt. Richardson, seconded by Mr. J. D. Turner, that we form a Show Committee and go into the possibilities of holding a show on Wodonga Racecourse within 12 months. Carried.

Mr. A. Arnold advised that Mr. K. D. Watson intimated that all dates between August and November were taken and suggested an Autumn Show.

The following were nominated as a Provisional Committee:

Mr. R. Richardson	Nominated	J. A. H. McGeoch
J. A. H. McGeoch	by	A. G. Richardson
J. D. Turner		J. S. Hore
W. McMullen		C. F. Pollard
J. Street		A. Arnold
T. Snowden		P. Frawley
P. Newbound		J. A. H. McGeoch
D. Watson		A. Arnold
C. Sheather		T. E. Snowden
J. S. Hore		W. Marshall
A. Arnold		E. B. Mann
P. Frawley		T. E. Snowden

B. Mann
A. G. Richardson
D. Martin
C. H. Ryan
M. Martin
John Schubert
R. Hall

T. Goonan
C. F. Pollard
T. E. Snowden
J. Street
R. Richardson
C. F. Pollard
A. Arnold

Chairman: C. F. Pollard nominated by Robt. Richardson
Secretary: M. J. Lambourn nominated by Robt. Richardson

It was decided to hold an inspection of the Wodonga Racecourse on Saturday, 10th May, and report to a public meeting on Monday 12th May.

Confirmed by Chairman on 12/5/47

At the 12th May meeting Mr. Pollard invited comments from those present on forming a Show Society and Mr. A. G. Richardson reported on the inspection of the racecourse saying an area of it would make an excellent show arena.

The opinion of the Trustees of the site were sought.

Mr. Robt. Richardson formally moved that a Show Society be formed.

Mr. J. Street moved that it be called The Wodonga Show Society.

After a ballot a Committee of 25 was appointed to make arrangements for the first Show. They were:

R. McGeoch
C. F. Pollard,
K. D. Watson
A. Arnold
C. Sheather
T. C. Snowden
A.G. Richardson
J. A. Street

J. A. H. McGeoch
R. Richardson
G. R. Hancock
P. J. Newbound
J. D. Turner
J. A. Ford
C. D. Klinge
C. H. Ryan

P. Frawley
E. B. Mann
B. McGeoch
J. S. Hore
R. M. Hall
R. W. Foster
V. C. Hempel
S. J. Manning
D. Martin

C. F. Pollard was appointed President and Chairman
K. D. Watson and R. Richardson, Vice Presidents
Mr. G. R. Hancock, Treasurer
Mr. M. Lambourn, Secretary

Rules generally governing the Show Society were submitted to the meeting of 9th June by Robt. Richardson and K. D. Watson submitted the regulations.

Membership was set at £1/1/-.

At a meeting on 20th August 1947, Mr. N. McGeoch presented a list of 76 new members and handed in donations of £28/4/- and two trophies valued at £6/6/-. He also donated a sheep for a weight guessing competition. Mr. J. B. Turner obtained 80 members and donations of 40 guineas.

Mr. J. A. H. McGeoch tendered his resignation as a member of the Committee because he was leaving town. He was awarded the Society's first honorary membership. That meeting also decided that exhibiting members be given the right to 10 exhibits free. Membership for ladies was set at 10/6d.

It was decided that 20 members be the quorum at annual meetings and 10 members at Committee meetings.

It was also decided the Secretary's salary- be £75 per year commencing with the date of the Annual Meeting in May. The salary would be paid quarterly.

Another decision was to print Members Tickets when the date of the Show was fixed. (All those Minutes were written on sheets of writing paper which were then pinned inside the cover of a Vana Education Department exercise book which then became the first Minute book.)

The 8th September meeting decided to approach the Trustees of the Recreation Reserve asking them to apply to the Public Works Department for a grant of £300 on a 2-1 basis. (The purpose of the grant was not specified in the Minutes).

The Committee needed concrete posts and the secretary submitted quotes from Rocla of 6/6 and T. Goonan of 4/11. Mr. Goonan's quote was accepted providing the contract was completed in three months.

(The concrete posts were to become a continuing saga.)

Kergunyah Sports Committee told the Show Society it had decided to hold its sports in February leaving the 6th March for the Wodonga Show. (That is the first mention of the date of the Show. No formal motion setting the date appears in the Minutes).

The only other reference to the 6th March is the Wodonga Chamber of Commerce and Albury and Wodonga Councils being asked to set aside Saturday, 6th March, as a public holiday.

A Schedule of the various sections of the Show was drawn up and responsibility for them allocated:

Thoroughbred horses	Mr. R. Richardson
Draught Horses	P. J. Newbound
Beef Cattle	N. McGeoch
Dairy Cattle	C. F. Pollard
Junior Farmers	J. A. Ford
Sheep	C. D. Klinge
Dogs and fowls	R. W. Foster
Produce	E. Snowden
Jams, Jellies etc.	M. Hall
Horticulture	J. Manning
Trotters	P. Frawley
Educational	A. F. Woollard
Art and Needlework	A. Arnold

At the 3rd October meeting the Secretary, M. Lambourn, said he hadn't contacted the Trustees of the Recreation Reserve about an application to the Public Works Department for a grant of £300. Mr. Robt. Richardson said he didn't think it was possible to get a grant for improvements, but Mr. J. A. Hore contended there was every possibility of doing so.

Mr. N. McGeoch suggested holding a round-table conference with the Turf Club and Mr. J. A. Ford understood it was possible to get the grant. Mr. Richardson suggested the Society apply to the Public Works Department and Mr. A. Arnold said the letter should have been written to the Trustees of the Reserve.

The outcome was that the Turf Club was asked for permission to use the buildings at the Racecourse on the day of the Show and asked what price they would charge. Mr. Sheather moved the Society go ahead and get the ground ready for the Show without applying for the grant.

The President called for the names of people willing to sign promissory notes for an advance of £600. Those who submitted their names were:

Messrs. A. Arnold, S. J. Manning, C. H. Ryan, A. G. Richardson, Robt. Richardson, C. F. Pollard, P. J. Newbound, C. C. Sheather, E. B. Mann, T. E. Snowden, J.A. Street, D. Martin, R. M. Hall, M. Mulqueeney, J. Hore, J. D. Turner, N. McGeogh, C. D. Klinge and J. A. Ford.

Mr. Richardson was asked to confer with the Manager of the Bank of Australasia and arrange for an advance of £600 by means of promissory notes. Members not present at the meeting were to be contacted with a view to joining in the scheme.

The credit balance at the time was £9.13.-.

Members appointed to draw up a program of respective sections submitted them and prize money as follows:

Light Horses £70, Draught Horses £5, Trotting £40, Dairy cattle £100, Sheep £20, Beef Cattle £78, Needlework £10, Dogs £9, Fowls £12, Produce £9, Horticulture £8 - a total of £361.

Mr. E. B. Mann promised to donate £12 towards a trotting prize. Younghusband Ltd. would donate either a cash prize or trophy for the draught horse section. John McNamara & Co. would donate a trophy as a prize and Mr. J. Mulqueeney would donate prize money.

At the 22nd October 1947 meeting Mr. Sheather and Mr. N. McGeoch said the Promissory Notes covering the advance from the Bank of Australasia would be for 12 months. Mr. K. D. Watson and Mr. V. C. Hempel indicated their willingness to sign. (There is no statement about what the money raised by Promissory Notes would be used for - possibly to finance the first show.)

The Wodonga Hospital Womens Auxiliary was asked to cater for the Show.

Mr. T. Goonan tendered £40 to improve the building at the Racecourse and it was accepted providing the work was finished before Christmas.

The same meeting heard that the Chamber of Commerce would donate £10/10/- towards prize money and Campbell & Sons would donate a trophy.

On 21st November the Committee accepted the offer of a building at the Racecourse and agreed to (unspecified) rental charges.

That meeting decided to make Mr. G. Wilson an honorary member "for this year" in recognition of services rendered.

A circular containing a Members Ticket was sent to prospective members and the tickets were to be paid for or returned by the end of January.

Mr. Sheather moved that fat cattle be deleted from the schedule but Mr. N. McGeoch moved that there be sections for Shorthorns, Herefords, Polled Herefords and Polled Angus.

Commonwealth Wool and Produce offered to donate £5/5/- for the Shorthorn Section. And Jersey, Illawarra and Friesian Sections were approved.

A discussion on what was meant by "district" resulted in a motion that District Events carry a radius of 50 miles.

The Light Horse and Draught Horse sections were approved and it was decided that there would be a Trotting meeting.

The sections approved were:

Sheep, Horticulture, Farm Produce, Jams and Preserves, Needlework, Fowls and Dogs.

It was decided to hold a Wood Chop with an entry fee of £1 and prizes of £25 for an underhand chop and £20 for the Standing Woodchop.

On 5th December 1947 the application for Space was received from Vee Jay Radio.

The Albury Field Shooters Gun Club advised it would donate £10 prize money for a District Bred and Owned Hack and sent along draft regulations to cover the class.

Subject to the consent of the Wodonga Turf Club, Trotting will be held on the race track.

That meeting asked the Chamber of Commerce to contact the Council regarding the gazettal of Saturday, 6th March 1948 as a public holiday in the Shire. Albury was to be contacted too.

The Committee was told the Pigeon Club was prepared to release a flight of approximately 200 Homing Pigeons at a time to be fixed by the Society - about 3 o'clock.

Mr. D. Martin promised to donate a mounted Hacking Stick for the Champion Lady Rider to be judged on exhibition at Show on Flat and Over Hurdles. He suggested conducting an R.A.S. Good Hands Competition.

That meeting was told the Wodonga Show Society had a debit balance of £18/5/10.

The meeting of 18th December discussed Judges for the Horse sections, and the offer of Mr. C. Reis to judge Horticulture was accepted. Albury Horticultural Society applied for advertising space.

This meeting amended "district" as being a 50 mile radius in favour of it including the Electorate of Benambra.

That meeting also set the rents for space:

Industrial Stands 1/- per foot. minimum of 15/-: Side show etc, 2/- per foot with minimum of 15/-.

Bank in credit with a balance of £4/12/10.

Mr. J. Street offered to pay the wages for a man for 1 week to prepare the Showgrounds.

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On 7th January 1948, the Committee was told that Mr. Jack Arnold would judge the Produce Section, Mr. Buchanan the beef, W. Ross the shorthorn and J. Swannell the ponies.

The Secretary reported on a proposal by 2AY to advertise the Show over the air, but it was decided to hold the matter over until charges were known. (The next meeting agreed to advertise 13 x 50-word advertisements on 2AY.) But there was also a decision to advertise in the Border Morning Mail and the Sentinel.

Public Risk Insurance and a Workers Compensation Insurance Policy would be taken out for £30.

The Secretary was instructed "to obtain quote for premium for Pluvius Insurance."

The Military Authorities were asked to burn off the long grass.

When it was known the Albury Racing Club proposed a race meeting on Wodonga's Show Day it was decided to send a deputation to ask them to change their date. (A later meeting was told it was impossible to do so.)

The Show Schedule was placed in the Printer's hands and it was decided to auction Privileges.

Mr. C. C. Sheather was appointed the Senior Steward.

That meeting also decided to contact the Albury Show Society about the loan of sanitary conveniences.

On the motion of P. J. Newbound it was decided to insure against rain for £300 for 2 hours – 9-11 a.m.

An application from Harry Johns for sole rights of boxing and wrestling was granted and put in the hands of the Space Committee.

Mr. Goonan submitted another tender for alterations and the erection of Ladies conveniences at the Racecourse. His tender of £25 was accepted. The rights for publicans, soft drink, ice cream and fruit booths will be sold at auction.

Sideshowes will go to the northern end of the ground.

The Committee decided to contact the Minister for the Army about marquees because there'd been no response from the local Army. In due course the Minister replied saying the request for marquees had been approved and Southern Command had been contacted.

The President, Mr. R. Richardson, told the Committee the Albury Show Society was prepared to make available to competitors the use of loose boxes at the Albury Show Grounds up to one week prior to the Wodonga Show.

An arena fence would be constructed, post and rail, and be completed within 14 days of acceptance of tenders which had to be returned on 9th February 1948. The 10th February meeting was told the Albury Racing Club had made all efforts to secure another date but the SORA would not sanction the change.

The secretary reported that the various booths were sold subject to acceptance by the Committee. Because of the uncertainty of obtaining the desired quota of beer, the rights for Publicans Booth was offered at so much per 18 gallons. Mr. Northey offered £1/5/-; soft drinks D. A. Northey £20; ice cream D. A. Northey £14; fruit £5 Mr. W. Lucas. The matter of the Publican's booth was deferred until the beer quota was fixed.

Mr. T. Goonan won the tender for the erection of the arena fence for £30.

The Showmans Guild was told the Show would not be handed over to them.

Mr. J. D. Turner was asked to commentate until 1 p.m.

Three stewards were appointed for each horse ring:

Horse events:	Robt. Richardson, M. Mulqueeney and P. Newbound.
Trotting:	Mr. P. Frawley
Marshall:	Mr. C. Sheather

Other stewards were, to appoint their own assistants and Mr. B. McGeoch was appointed Chief Steward of the Beef Cattle Section.

Dairy Cattle:	Mr. H. H. Knox
Dairy Section:	J. E. Hall
Chief Steward of Junior Farmer Section:	J. A. Ford
Chief Steward of Sheep Section:	C. D. Klinge
Dogs, Poultry and Pigeons,	Mr. R. W. Foster
Farm Produce:	Mr. T. Snowden
Flowers:	Mr. S. Manning
Jams etc. Cookery,	Mr. R. Hall
Needlework:	Mr. A. Arnold

Water would be provided for hoses and a measuring platform provided.

(As the Show date approached, meetings became more frequent and it was decided that the Show Secretary, Mr. Mel Lambourn must work full time for the 3 weeks prior to the Show at a salary of £7 per week and he must secure any assistance needed.)

Exhibitors tickets must be printed.

The Army must be asked if the Show Society could borrow telephones. Trophy cups must be inscribed if the donors hadn't done so already. Temporary yards had to be erected for horses. 750 Show catalogues had to be printed. They would sell for 1/- each. Donors who'd promised prize money and had not given it, would receive letters of reminder.

On 11th February 1948 the Committee asked the Albury Council if Sanitary Pans could be made available for the Wodonga Show.

The Wodonga Hospital Womens Auxiliary was given permission to conduct a competition. The Show Committee would charge 3d. for hot water.

An application would be made for extra Police to be available on Show Day. Senior Farmers sections would be open to Juniors and Mr. Mick Dwyer was appointed Assistant measuring steward.

Gatekeepers would receive remuneration at the rate of 30/- and the Secretary was told to find them.

Bus Proprietors were asked to provide extra services to the Show and a decision was made to allow "sufficient" cars in the driveway with space reserved for Committee and Official Cars.

Messrs. John McNamara & Co. Pty. Ltd. were thanked by letter for sponsoring the broadcast of the Show.

On 3rd March the Committee stood to observe one minute's silence for the death of Mr. N. McGeoch who had joined the Society soon after it began and had worked hard to ensure its success. Mrs. McGeoch was sent a letter of sympathy.

Payment was deferred on Mr. Goonan's concrete posts and he was told not to patch any posts until an inspection had been made.

Mr. H. E. Winnett was appointed Gate Steward.

There would be a section for dogs which would be arranged by Mr. R. W. Foster. Mr. Robt. Richardson would be the starter of gymkhana events and Mr. P. Newbound the timekeeper for the Trots.

W. A. McMullen was appointed the Show Society's auditor at a fee of £5/5/- per annum.

There is no record in the Minute book of the Show being held on 6th March but newspaper cuttings say £321 was taken at the gate and entry fees totalled £50. Newspapers also say the Show was a success.

The next meeting on 23rd March 1948, has the Treasurer reporting a Credit Balance of £789/15/1.

That meeting decided to send a sample of the faulty posts to the Public Works Department.

A letter of appreciation was sent to Mr. K. D. Watson for his action in donating prize monies to the Society's funds.

Accounts amounting to £288/12/1 were passed for payment.

Letters of appreciation were sent to R. Pertzel, the Ambulance, Police, Church of England Vestry, Young Farmers Clubs, Albury and Tallangatta Show Societies and Capt. Taylor.

Alan Turner was selected to represent Young Farmers in England and the Show Society sent him a letter of congratulation.

Letter was forwarded to the Trustees Recreation Reserve asking them to apply for a grant of £300 to the Public Works Department and another to Mr. T. W. Mitchell, the Member for Benambra, asking if there was any money available for this (unstated) purpose.

Mr. A. E. Winnett asked, on behalf of the Cycle Club if the club could effect certain improvements to the Show Arena for the purpose of conducting Cycle Races. The Grounds Committee was asked to confer with Mr. Winnett with a view to coming to some arrangement about the Cycle Track.

Mr. A. G. Richardson gave notice that he would move at the Annual Meeting that the Committee be increased to 30.

At the meeting on 27th April 1948, Mr. Goonan told the Committee he was prepared to replace all the unsuitable concrete posts and repair others where necessary. 105 posts were faulty. A working bee on 1st May would test them.

The Cycle Club was told the Society would alter the track and when the work was done the Club would be told about the top dressing. A meeting of all sporting bodies would be called.

The date for the annual meeting was set for 31st May, 1948.

Mr. V. Hempel tendered his resignation but was asked to reconsider. *He must have done so for his name continues in the Minutes.*

It was also decided to deal with the Notice of Motion that the Committee be increased, at a special general meeting on 14th May, 1948. *(There is no record of that being held.)*

The minutes of 20th May 1948 report that 111 concrete posts had been found to be faulty. Mr. Goonan's offer to replace them was accepted but the new posts had to conform to the sample post, no patching to be done and the posts and rails had to be re-erected, all within 6 months.

Seed and 2 bags of super were to be bought for the arena and the Ground Committee empowered to spend up to £50 for filling.

The 1st Annual Meeting was held on 31st May, 1948.

It showed a credit balance of £158/4/11.

The President, C. F. Pollard, presented his first annual report and balance sheet on the Show held on the Wodonga Racecourse and Recreation Reserve on 6th March, 1948. He said the Committee had been involved in a considerable amount of voluntary labour which was freely forthcoming and had transformed the area into a picturesque Showground with a splendid arena, graded and fenced. He reported the show as being "an outstanding success", with numerous exhibitors from as far away as Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide. There was "a splendid exhibit of horses and ponies, dairy cattle and an excellent showing by the Kiewa Valley Young Farmers

Club, whose enthusiasm was heartening to see, and these young exhibitors would be the adult exhibitors of tomorrow.” He commented favourably on the poultry and other exhibits.

"We look forward with confidence to the future. We feel that something has been successfully achieved which has never before been attempted in Wodonga. A goodwill has been created which will carry us on to bigger and brighter Shows and it is easy to visualise the Wodonga Show being one of the Premier exhibitions of the northeast."

He thanked Albury and Tallangatta Show Societies for their assistance and all others who helped make it such an outstanding success.

The initial expenses of the Society were necessarily heavy but after all those had been met a clear profit of £158/4/11 resulted.

The annual report shows that Mr. Percy Newbound was the only member with a perfect attendance record of the 15 meetings held.

A newspaper report published after the AGM states that 40 district farmers guaranteed £400 prize money.

The annual meeting also elected a new Committee of 35:

A. Arnold	C. D. Klinge	A. G. Richardson
R. C. Barton	C. Knapsey	Robt. Richardson
K. Chapman	H. Knox	C. H. Ryan
B. Cook	E. B. Mann	C. C. Sheather
J. A. Ford	S. J. Manning	T. E. Snowden
R. W. Foster	D. Martin	Ken Stanfield
P. Frawley	John Mitchell	J.A.E. Street
R. M. Hall	Michael Mulqueeney	D. Turner
G. R. Hancock	B. McGeoch	S. A. Turner
V. C. Hempel	P. J. Newbound	D. Watson
J. S. Hore	C. F. Pollard	A. E. Winnett
H. S. Jarvis	J. C. Reid	

On the 15th June there were two nominations for President: C. F. Pollard and Robt. Richardson - after a ballot Mr. Richardson was elected President, a position he was to hold for the next 12 years. Vice-Presidents were Messrs. K. D. Watson and C. F. Pollard; Treasurer G. R. Hancock and Secretary, M. Lambourn.

The secretary's salary was raised to £100 to include all assistance.

Preparation for the next Show, to be held 3 weeks before Easter 1949, were begun with the appointment of Committees for the various sections. Mr. Pollard raised the question of Society tenure of the Racecourse and Mr. K. Chapman offered to make enquiries at the Lands Office when he was in Melbourne.

The concrete posts were discussed again with Mr. Goonan saying he would accept £25 in full payment.

A decision was made to hold meetings on the night of the first cattle sale in each month.

The public began responding positively to the success of the first Show by offering donations and trophies for various sections of the 1949 Show.

On 13th July, 1949, the Lands Department was asked that the Recreation Reserve be further reserved to include 'for Show Purposes'.

Replies from Show Societies in the Upper Murray indicated support for a conference to set future Show dates.

It was at the meeting of 13th July that Mr. Robt. Richardson said an area of land had been inspected as a probable new Showground. Mr. J. Street moved that the question of obtaining a new site be left in the hands of the Finance Committee who would inspect sites and obtain purchase prices, investigate the financing of the purchase and report back to the next meeting.

Mr. C. F. Pollard suggested a new pavilion be constructed for exhibits, and it was decided the Sectional Committees for Pavilion Exhibits meet to discuss the size required and report to the next meeting.

Mr. Richardson reported on having purchased trestles and table tops for the Turf Club saying they would be available for the Show Society if required. Mr. Arnold moved that the Show Society purchase the balance of trestles and the President be empowered to purchase table tops for the Industrial Hall.

The 10th August 1948 meeting was told the Upper Murray Show Societies had held a conference and set dates for Shows in the area of Tallangatta, Jingellic, Tumbarumba, Corryong and Wodonga.

Mr. Richardson reported he'd inspected Mr. Trudewind's land as a possible Showground site. There were 15 acres at a price of £60 per acre. The area of the present arena was 140 yards wide x 220 in length. On the proposed ground it would be possible to have an arena 160 yards wide and 200 long.

A decision was deferred until an inspection of the ground and any alternative grounds by the whole committee on the following Tuesday afternoon.

Mr. Mann was asked to obtain prices of prefabricated buildings for a new pavilion.

WODONGA SHOW SOCIETY

First

Annual Report and Balance Sheet

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The Wodonga Agricultural Show Committee beg to submit the following Report of Show held on the Wodonga Racecourse and Recreation Reserve on 5th March, 1948.

As this was the inaugural Show of the Society, it is perhaps desirable, for record purposes, that events leading to the formation of the Show Society, be mentioned here.

In April, 1947, the Shire President (Cr. Pollard) was requested to call a public meeting to discuss the possibility of forming a Show Society in Wodonga. The suggested meeting was held on 5th May, 1947.

There were sixteen residents of the town and district present, and it was unanimously decided to form a provisional committee to explore the possibilities of holding an Agricultural Show.

Another public meeting was held on 12th of May, at which there were thirty-three present and it was then decided to hold an Agricultural Show on a date to be fixed.

A committee was then formed. Cr. C. F. Pollard was elected President, and Crs. Robert Richardson and K. D. Watson, Vice-presidents, and Mr. M. J. Lambourn, Secretary, and Mr. G. R. Hancock, Treasurer.

At a committee meeting in September, Saturday the 6th of March, 1948, was selected as the date for the first show.

The Committee was then faced with the task of preparing the ground for the Show. This work involved a considerable amount of voluntary labor which was freely forthcoming and the Recreation Reserve was transformed into a picturesque Showground with a splendid arena, graded and fenced.

Fine weather favoured the Society for the Show, and it is with a considerable amount of pleasure and satisfaction that we are able to report that it was an outstanding success.

Exhibits were numerous and came from as far afield as Melbourne, Sydney and Adelaide.

There was a splendid exhibit of horses, the pony classes being particularly well filled. There was also a very fine exhibit of dairy cattle, and included in these was an excellent showing by the members of the Kiewa Valley Young Farmers' Club. The enthusiasm displayed by the young members of this club was heartening to see.

We, as a Committee, realise to the full that these boy and girl Show enthusiasts of to-day will be the adult exhibitors of to-morrow, and it will be our aim, as circumstances permit, to cater more fully for these young exhibitors.

Poultry and miscellaneous exhibits were also excellent in number and quality, and we hope in the near future, to provide more accommodation, and to widen the scope for these exhibitors.

We look forward with confidence to the future. We feel that something has been successfully achieved which has never before been attempted in Wodonga. A goodwill has been created which will carry us on to bigger and brighter Shows, and it is easy to visualise the Wodonga Show being one of the premier exhibitions of the North-East.

Our thanks are extended to the neighboring Societies of Albury and Tallangatta from whom we received very valuable assistance, and to all others who helped to make the Show such an outstanding success, we say "thank you."

The initial expenses of the Society were necessarily heavy, but • even after all those had been met, a clear profit of £158/4/11 resulted.

It is with sincere regret that we refer to the death, just before the Show, of one of our keenest supporters and committeemen, Mr. Norman McGeoch, His passing left a gap in our numbers which will be very difficult to fill.

For the Wodonga Show Committee,

C. F. POLLARD.

President.

COMMITTEE ATTENDANCES (15 Meetings Held)

Arnold, A. ..	11	McGeoch, B. ..	2
Ford, J. A. ..	4	Newbound, P. J.	15
Foster, R. W. ..	7	Pollard, C. F. ..	13
Frawley, P.	14	Richardson, A. G.	11
Hall, R. M. ..	9	Richardson, R.	12
Hancock, G.R.	13	Ryan, C. H.	11
Hempel, V. C. ..	10	Sheather, C. C.	13
Hore, J. S. ..	8	Snowden, T. E.	10
Klinge, C. D. ..	9	Street, J. A. E.	5
Mann. E. B. ..	3	Turner, J. D.	9
Manning, S. J.	13	Watson, K. D.	3
Martin. D.	7	Winnett, A. E. (elected	
Mulqueeney, M.	8	1-3-48)	2
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WODONGA SHOW SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE 1947-48

RECEIPTS		EXPENDITURE	
To Members' Subscriptions	£389 0 6	By Postages, Telegrams,	
Donations	266 12 0	Telephones, etc. ..	£29 10 0
Advertising in Schedule	43 11 0	Duty Stamps on P/Ns.	1 1 0
Wages ..	6 0 0	Cheque Book and Bulk	
Exchange . .	5 6	Charges ..	2 9 3
Deposit (H. Johns)	1 0 0	Advertising ..	78 18 0
Lights – Publicans Booth,		Printing and Stationery	127 15 2
Ice Cream, etc. ..	73 5 0	Secretary's Salary	75 0 0
Entry Fees .	49 18 6	Gatekeepers, Clerical	
Space Rent .	49 17 0	Assistance, etc. ..	62 1 0
Trotting Insurance .	16 0'	Wages for repairs and	
Gate Receipts	321 10 6,	Additions ..	35 18 10
Sale of Catalogues .	23 16 3'	Material-Repairs and	
		Additions ..	.. 12 2
		Registration - Trotting	1 0 0
		Insurance-Rain, etc. ..	21 7 6
		Insurance-Trotting ..	16 0
		Rand and Bus Hire	9 0 0
		Freight and Cartage, etc.,	
		on Marquees	13 9 10
		Luncheons	3 12 0
		Ambulance ..	2 2 0
		Rent of Course	20 0 0
		Trophies and Engraving .	38 16 0
		Refund Deposit (H. Johns)	1 0 0
		Hire Water Cart	2 0 0
		Sanitary Service	3 0 0
		Badges ..	.. 2 15 7
		Prize Money ..	.. 343 3 0
		Judges' Expenses	.. 18 0 0
			£1067 7 4
		By Credit Balance	.. 158 4 11
	£1225 12 3		£1225 12 3
	Credit Balance as per Pass		
		£190 19 5	
Less	Outstanding Cheques	32 14 6	
		£158 4 11	

Examined and found correct,

W. A. McMULLEN, A.I.C.A.,

19-5-48.

Auditor.

C. F. POLLARD, President.

G. R. HANCOCK, Treasurer.

M. J. LAMBOURN, Secretary.

At the 7th September 1948 meeting discussions were held on the 'new' ground. The discussion was open but the price was not to be disclosed.

Those who favoured the Trudewind Ground were: K. D. Watson, C. F. Pollard, B. McGeoch, C.D.Klinge, D. Martin and R. M. Hall.

Those who favoured the present ground providing additional land could be purchased from Mr. Mitchell were: J. D. Turner, J.A. Ford, J. S. Hore.

Mr. Richardson said the proposed area of Trudewinds was an ideal site. He also gave his views on the purchase of a smaller area of Trudewinds. He did not favour the purchase of 17½ acres.

It was decided to obtain a further option of 2 months over Trudewinds and 5 or 6 acres of Mitchells land.

That meeting suggested the Secretary check up on members' attendance and anyone defaulting for 3 meetings would be expelled.

An Insurance cover of £200 against fire on the Show Shed and contents would be taken out.

On 5th October 1948, Mr. Richardson reported having purchased Rodeo Yards from Albury and his action was endorsed.

A plan for the cattle yards was left for the President to draw up and a working bee would be held in December.

Treasurer, Mr. G. R. Hancock formally tendered his resignation because he was being transferred from Wodonga. It was accepted with regret.

There was considerable discussion on Mitchells and Trudewinds land and it was decided not to accept Mr. Mitchells offer.

Mr. Richardson moved that it be recommended to a meeting of members to be called in the near future that the Society purchase 15 acres of Trudewinds and arrangements be made to finance the purchase.

Mr. E. B. Mann moved that the purchase be financed by debentures for £25 for a period of 10 years at 3%. The motion was lost and an amendment which was put by Mr. J. D. Turner that Debentures be for £10 for 10 years at 3½% was carried.

A sub-Committee was formed to decide on the erection of a suitable pavilion and given the power to act.

On 2nd November, 1948, a recommendation to purchase 15 acres of land from H. Trudewind for the Show area was accepted. The price was £60 per acre.

Members of the Committee were invited to attend the welcome home reception to be given to Alan Turner on his return from England.

A new Treasurer was appointed. He was H. D. Ferguson.

After a motion and 3 amendments it was decided the length of the new pavilion would be 60 ft.

It was at this meeting a decision was made for the Society to appoint a Solicitor and Mr. J. S. Harris was selected.

Mr. M. Mulqueeney's suggestion that a gymkhana be held was agreed to and a date set for December with half the proceeds going to the Wodonga Hospital Committee. A sub-committee was appointed. The Gymkhana was held and a cheque for £28.14.4 presented by the Society President to the Hospital President, C. F. Pollard.

A new rule was moved by J. S. Harris, the Solicitor "The Show Grounds is vested in 5 Trustees. In the event of any vacancy occurring the Committee shall nominate a successor."

On 14th December 1948, Mr. T. Butcher was appointed to survey land purchased for the Show Arena.

An advertisement was placed in the Border Morning Mail and Sentinel calling applications from persons interested in taking Debentures.

A publican's booth would be let at £3 per 18 gallons and soft drinks will be tendered for.

1000 posters would be printed advertising Cookery, Needlework, Jams and Preserves.

The sub-committee responsible for the new pavilion decided to get all the timber required for putting iron on the pavilion.

1949

At the 8th February 1949 meeting Mr. K. D. Watson was advised that he will remain a member of the Show Committee but be granted leave of absence from meetings.

The Chamber of Commerce was asked to close the shops on Show Day.

The second show was held and the Treasurer, at the meeting of 3rd May, reported a Credit Balance of £457/18/1.

A number of suggestions for improving the next Show were approved. Mr. E. B. Mann was made a Life Member.

On 17th May 1949, Mr. Rob. Richardson moved that the number of Committee members be increased from 35 to 40.

A recommendation was made to the incoming committee that water be taken to the new Pavilion.

The second Annual General Meeting of the Wodonga Show Society was held on the 31st May, 1949.

The President submitted a statement of receipts and expenditures and his report for the year ended 30th April, 1949. It showed gross receipts of £1,854/3/2 and expenditure of £1,412/6/3 leaving a credit balance of £441/16/11. Mr. Richardson said the Society's assets were valued at £731/16/-which included improvements to the value of £200 after allowing £50 depreciation. He said it was the largest assembly of people ever to attend a function in Wodonga.

Entries in all sections except beef breed cattle, were good.
For the first time Fat Cattle were exhibited and demonstrated just what this district can produce.

Although a building 60 feet by 20 feet was erected to house the industrial exhibits and 20 pens to hold fat cattle, extensions for future shows were imperative.

He also recorded the fact that the Committee had purchased approximately 15 acres of land from the late Mr. H. Trudewind for £900, paying a deposit of £90, and hoping to complete the purchase at an early date.

At the general meeting of 31st May, Mr. J. F. Turner resigned as a committee man owing to his departure from the district. His resignation was accepted with regret.

The Entertainment Branch of the Taxation Department asked for statements of Receipts and Expenditure for the previous Show and the Secretary advised having already sent them.

Albury Show Society notified having purchased a number of marquees and said they were prepared to sell two to Wodonga. The Society agreed to buy them at £57 each.

Secretary, Mr. Lambourn, tendered his resignation as he would be away from Wodonga during weekdays. It was accepted with regret and it was decided to call applications for the position at a salary of £100 per annum. The position could be filled by a male or female.

Under the sub-heading of Land Disposal, Mr. J. Street moved that it be a recommendation to Members of the Society in the event of the land being disposed of, Wodonga Council have first refusal and then any other Public or semi-Public bodies. (The purpose of the Motion is not stated nor the land referred to identified.)

Mr. J. Hore advised having made an inspection of the ground with the Shire Engineer and a grant of £500 would be applied for to effect certain improvements. (At which ground is not stated.)

The meeting of 9th August discussed Debentures to finance the purchase of the 'new' land. The Treasurer reported £630 in hand and a further £220 in definite promises. The land had been surveyed and an area was determined to be 19 acres 1 rood 21 perches. The cost of the land £1163 less £90 deposit already paid. Mr. Cook moved that debentures be taken out to the extent of £1200.

The Committee was told 7 applications had been received for the position of Secretary of the Society and a sub-committee of 3 was appointed to process the applicants and make an appointment.

Charges were set for advertising in the Show Schedule:

full page 30/-; half page £1.

Mr. Mann advised purchasing a suitable leather-bound minute book for the Society at a cost of £2.7.6.

Albury Show Society notified it was erecting one marquee in the near future for the purpose of ascertaining what poles are required. The Albury Society suggested the required poles be

acquired in conjunction with the Wodonga Show Society. The President, Robt. Richardson, was empowered to co-operate with Albury and was given power to act.

Mr. Richardson said he would make available the necessary posts; Mr. Pollard volunteered to cut them, Mr. Mann would make his truck available to cart them and Mr. Klinge agreed to assist with their loading.

A special meeting at Mr. Mann's residence on 19th August decided to recommend the appointment of Mrs. D. Lindsay for the position of Secretary. It also recommended that an office with telephone be secured for 3 months-6 weeks before and 6 weeks after the show.

The 3rd annual meeting was told the Society's financial position was sound. President, Robt. Richardson said, allowing for the value of improvements effected, the year ended with a surplus of £177. Allowing for depreciation, and excluding £1200 the value of land purchased, the Society's assets were £900.

Although light rain marred the show it was considered the best yet. He said the Grand Parade was equal to anything seen between the two capitals. Attendance was slightly down but pavilion entries were up.

The industrial hall had been extended a further 50 feet and painted. Two marquees had been bought at a cost of £114 and would solve the refreshment problem. The Committee completed the purchase of the land for the new grounds and debentures for £1200 have been taken up. The land was leased to Gippsland and Northern Co-op for an amount covering the interest on debentures.

Gate takings at the Show were £407/17/10 and the Society's bank balance £499/0/8.

The first minutes recorded in the "suitable leather-bound Minute Book costing £2/7/6" were recorded on 6th September, 1949, when the President introduced and welcomed the new Secretary, Mrs. Dot. Lindsay.

Mr. Richardson reported on the marquees which were 50 x 24 feet and required 3 14ft. poles and 22 8 ft. poles which had been cut and were ready for inspection.

300 dodgers about the Wool Section had been sent to Albury Wool Brokers and a copy in "The Sentinel" and Border Mail.

Mr. Richardson reported that the Trotting track had been filled with 95 yards of filling at 4/- a yard, and graded.

The date of the 1950 Show was set for the 18th March.

Judges were appointed for the next Show and additions to classes made.

On 4th October the Society was told the Public Works Department had advised the availability of £645 was available for amenities. It was necessary: for the Recreation and Show Societies to expend £215. There will be plans prepared for the next meeting.

Rayes Studio offered an enlarged photograph of Committee Members which was approved on the Motion of Mr. Pollard, seconded by Mr. Hore.

The meeting of 1st November 1949, discussed the installation of electric light power at the Showground. Discussions will be held with the Race Club. Debentures were fully subscribed at £1200.

13th December, 1949: The Wheelman's Society wanted the track put in order. The Grounds Committee will meet at the Race Course with the Wheelman's Society and report back to the next meeting.

Mr. R. W. Foster tendered his resignation but agreed to defer it and take leave of absence. Mr. J. S. Hore was appointed to take his place on the Grounds Committee.

The State Governor was asked to open the 1950 Show.

Plans for Conveniences were approved and tenders called immediately. Agreement to be drawn up with Gippsland and Northern to be the yearly tenants of the new Show Ground at a rate of £42 per year payable monthly.

1950

10th January, 1950 Meeting: A new Insurance for £200 on old buildings, £200 on contents, £200 on new building.

Mr. J. Mitchell resigned from the Committee because he was going overseas. However, he was given 'absence of leave' instead.

The Committee was told the Governor has a previous engagement (so it is assumed he cannot open the Show).

Again the Chamber of Commerce will be asked to proclaim a full holiday on 18th March. The Albury Chamber of Commerce will be asked to do so too.

The offer of the Homing Pigeon Club to release pigeons on Show Day was accepted.

Tenders were accepted for the sale of goods:

Frankfurts & Rolls £4 stall
Fairy Floss £1
Soft drinks and ice creams stall £30
Fruit and Sweets £5

A motion was approved that Registered beef cattle only be eligible to compete was approved.

Insurance was again taken out against rain £300 for 2 hours 9 - 11 a.m. on 18th March. Workers Compensation was renewed.

A special meeting was held on 21st February, 1950, at which the Trotting Control Board approved the trotting schedule and enclosed forms to be sent 9 clear days before the Show. The Albury Chamber of Commerce regretted it could not grant a half holiday on the 18th March.

T. W. Mitchell, M.L.A. said 2.30 would suit him to open the Show.

Stewards were appointed as follows:

Chief Steward for whole ring, Mr. P. Newbound
Ring 1: Messrs. K. Jenkins, H. Dwyer, C. Knapsey, P. Donnelly
Ring 2: Messrs. J. H. Smith, J. Parker, W. McDonald & K. Chapman
Ring 3: Messrs. C. W. Francis, T. Watson, M. Mulqueeney
Beef Cattle: Messrs. J. Street, J. Stapleton, K. Stansfield, H. Jarvis
Friesian Cattle: Messrs. T. Snowden, F. Godde
Jersey Cattle: Messrs. J. A. Ford, S. Turner, H. D. Hamilton, R. Winnett, R. Barton
A.I.S. Cattle: Messrs. H. Knox, M. Jamieson, J. C. Reid
Fat Cattle: Messrs. H. J. Brown, J. McHugh, R. Vincent
Dairy Supervision: Mr. J. A. Hall, Agricultural Department
Guernseys and Ayrshires: Mr. K. Cochrane
Sheep: Messrs. C. Scholz, G. Coyle, S. Clark, H. Draper
Wool: Messrs. B. Cook, R. Hempel, M. McIntyre
Poultry: Messrs. M. Foster, R. Purtzel
Pavilion: Mr. A. Arnold, Mrs. A. Arnold, Mrs. F. Hartwig, Mrs. F. Connell
Pigeons: Messrs. R. Foster, R. Purtzel
Horticulture: Mr. & Mrs. Manning, Mr. R. Manning, Mrs. Turner
Farm & Dairy Produce & Fruit: Messrs. E. B. Mann, C. Williamson
Dog Section: Messrs. J. Hore, W. Anderson, J.S.N. Harris
Trotters: Messrs. P. Frawley, P. Newbound, C. F. Pollard
Chief Parade Steward: Mr. A. G. Richardson
Ramp & Unloading Steward: Mr. P. Frawley
Measuring Steward: Mr. A. G. Richardson
Space Committee: Messrs. J. Hore, V. Hempel, J.S.N. Harris
Guessing Weight of Sheep: Mr. G. Fulford
Ticket sellers: Treasurer to arrange
Ticket Box from Sports Ground granted by Shire President.

Mr. Hore advised that 1000 feet of piping is available to purchase for arena fence on a grant which is 2-1 basis. Mr. Hore to ascertain cost of same.

Provision to be made for a Babies' Creche under the charge of members of the C.W.A. for babies under 12 months.

The meeting of 29th March accepted with regret the resignation of Mr. K. D. Watson because of ill health.

B. & M. Motors told the Committee part of their tent flap had been stolen on Show Day and various articles were stolen from the Caretaker. The Secretary was instructed to contact Wodonga Police and give them the number of a Queensland truck and caravan, and pass that information on to the Showman's Guild.

At the beginning of the Third Annual General Meeting held on 20th June, 1950, members stood in silence for two minutes to mark the death of Mr. T. Ryan and Mr. M. Martin.

For the year ended 30th April, 1950, Statements disclose a gross receipt of £2,129/1/5 and expenditure of £1,630/0/9 leaving a credit balance of £499/0/8.

President, Robt. Richardson said "The financial position of your Society is quite sound. Allowing for the value of improvements effected, the year ended with a surplus of £177. Your present Assets, allowing for depreciation, and excluding £1200 value of land purchased, are £900."

The Show, held on 18th March, 1950, although somewhat marred by light rain, was generally considered the best yet with the Grand Parade the most outstanding feature. Gate takings were £407.17.10 and prize money £512.16.9. The Debenture Account showed 34 holders averaging £35 held £1200.

The new Committee elected by ballot:

A. Arnold	V.C. Hempel	C.F. Pollard
R. C. Barton	J.S. Hore	J.C. Reid
K. Chapman	F.S. Jarvis	A.G. Richardson
B. Cook	M.B. Jamison	R. Richardson
R.S.J. Clarke	H. Knox	C.H. Ryan
W. Cottrell	C.W. Klinge	E.E. Schulz
G. Coyle	G.M. Knapsey	T.E. Snowden
H. D. Ferguson	E.B. Mann	K. Stansfield
J. A. Ford	S.J. Manning	J.R.O. Stapleton
C. Francis	J. Mitchell	J. A. Street
P. Frawley	W.H. McDonald	W.W. Schubert
R.M. Hall	P.J. Newbound	A.E. Winnett
H.W. Hamilton	J.H. Parker	R.A. Winnett
		I.D. Watson

On the motion of Mr. W. G. Richardson "the Show Society will ask the Shire President and City Councillors to invite the State Governor to the District and intimate that the Show Committee desires him to officially open the Wodonga Show on 3rd March, 1951."

On 4th July, 1950, Mr. Robt. Richardson was re-elected for his third term as President. Vice-Presidents: Messrs. A. G. Richardson and C.D.Klinge, Treasurer, Mr. H. D. Ferguson and Secretary Mrs. D. Lindsay at a salary of £100 per annum-. Auditor W. A. McMullen was reappointed at a fee if Committees were appointed.

M. R. N. Godde tendered his resignation because he had moved to Wangaratta. A letter of thanks was sent to him.

The Governor's private Secretary wrote that the Governor was hoping to visit the district but it was not possible to say at present if he can be at Wodonga on the 3rd March to open the 1951 Show.

The next meeting of the Society Committee on 1st August 1950 received another letter from the Private Secretary to His Excellency, Sir Dallas Brooks, saying a tour of Wodonga area was being planned and the Show Society would be informed of the date.

It was agreed to reduce the amount of the Debentures of £1200 by at least £50 yearly.

Following an inspection of needed improvements to various areas of the Showgrounds it was decided to construct 13 new cattle stalls, a dog pavilion 120 ft. by 36 ft. and fowl pavilion, 40 ft. x 15 ft. Estimates will be obtained about the cost of the improvements.

Meetings continued to be held in the Shire Council supper room and the Show Committee booked and paid for the room from 12th September 1950 to 30th April, 1951.

On 12th September, 1950 the resignation of Mr. K. Chapman was accepted with regret, and he was thanked for his assistance. Mr. J. Hamilton-Smith was elected to the Committee to take Mr. Chapman's place.

The 10th October meeting was told by the State Electricity Commission that the cost of installing electric light from the road to the Secretary's office at the racecourse was approximately £335/15/- and it was decided to refer it to the Chamber of Commerce.

The Trotting Control Board accepted the program for the 1951 Show at £1 fee. No action was taken on the tender of R. P. Docking to provide sewerage to the Race Course at a cost of £1196/15/-.

It was moved by Mr. A. G. Richardson that a minimum of £50 be transferred annually from the general account to the Debenture Account for redemption of Debentures and that all rents received, and to be received, be credited to the Debenture Account for payment of annual interest on Debentures.

It was decided to erect a building for dogs a fowl pavilion and also to extend the cattle pens.

On 7th November 1950 Mr. T. E. Snowden resigned from the Committee because of ill health. The Secretary was instructed to write a letter to Mr. Snowden thanking him for his help to the Society.

The 5th December, 1950 meeting received a letter from the Chamber of Commerce saying that business houses in Wodonga would donate £50 towards the cost of putting electricity on to the Show Grounds. The Finance Committee was asked to investigate the cost and report to the next meeting.

Mr. B. Cook was granted leave of absence owing to illness and a letter was sent wishing him a speedy recovery and given leave of absence. A letter was also sent to Mr. Mann and another to Mr. Knox, wishing them speedy recoveries.

The newly formed Wodonga Kennel Club asked permission to hold dog shows on the Showgrounds and offered to improve the dog ring and stalls. On the motion of Mr. Hamilton-Smith the Ground Committee agreed to inspect the site.

Colonel A. B. S. Collins was appointed to the Committee.

Members stood in silence to honor the death of Mr. T. C. Snowden, a valuable member of the Society.

1951

On the 2nd January 1951, the Victorian Showmans' Guild donated a Banner to the Society. It was accepted with thanks, but a strong reprimand went with the letter. The Guild was told "the Society threatened that if there was no improvement on last year, the Society would dispense with the Guild's services, but as the previous record at the Wodonga Shows had been good, it was decided to let the Guild do this Show." The Committee appointed a supervisor to act in connection with the rental collection from the Showmen.

At the same meeting the Finance Committee recommended:

- (i) that although the Society realised the need to install electricity at the Showground, it could not see its way clear to do so in view of other very important works in hand but will consider it in the near future.
- (ii) that arrangements be made to provide finance for septic tank systems if possible before the coming show provided a satisfactory quote was received.

The same meeting resolved to hire 180 pigeon pens from the Victorian Pigeon Club, Melbourne at 25/- per 100.

The Albury Show Society would be asked to hire poultry pens and Olympic Hunt equipment. If the Governor was not available to open the Show, Vice-Marshal Bostock, M.H.R. would be invited to open it.

On 5th February 1951, Vice-Marshal Bostock, M.H.R. accepted the Committee's invitation to open the Show.

Mr. A. Heywood sought leave of absence from the Show as he would be overseas.

The Albury Show Society notified its willingness to lend, not lease, any equipment wanted by the Wodonga Show Society and extended best wishes for a successful Show.

Stewards appointed for the 1951 Show were:

Chief Steward:	Mr. R. Richardson
Ring 1:	Messrs. P. Newbound, C. Knapsey, J. H. Parker
Ring 2:	Messrs. Hamilton-Smith, W. McDonald, Ian Watson
Ring 3:	Messrs. W. Schubert, M. Mulqueeney, J. Burns
Beef Cattle:	Messrs. J. A. E. Street, J. Stapleton, K. Stansfield, H. S. Jarvis
Jersey Cattle:	Messrs. J. A. Ford, S.A. Turner, R. Winnett, R. Barton
A.I.S.:	Messrs. H. H. Knox, H. D. Hamilton, F. J. Reid, M. Jamieson
Friesian, Guernseys, Ayrshires:	Messrs. F. Godde, K. Cochrane
Sheep Section:	Messrs. E. E. Schulz, G. Boyle, C.D. Klinge, R. S. Clark, H. Draper, Jack Parker
Wool:	Sheep stewards
Dogs:	Messrs. H. M. Harris, J.S. Hore & Members of Wodonga Kennel Club
Pigeons:	Messrs. W. Cottrell, W. Clarkson
Needlework:	Mr. & Mrs. A. Arnold, Mrs. Ferguson, Mrs. Harris, Mrs. J. Mitchell
Flowers:	Mrs. Manning, Mrs. A.B.S. Collins, Mrs. J. Mitchell

Jams & Preserves, Cooking: Mr. R. Hall, Mrs. Wolfe, Mrs. Maxwell,
Miss Hewitt
Fruit & Vegetables: Messrs. Williamson and D. Mann
Dairy Supervisor: Mr. Hall
Measuring Steward: Messrs. A. G. Richardson, Peter Frawley, Jnr.
Chief Parade Steward: Mr. A. G. Richardson
Trotting: Messrs. C. Pollard, P. Frawley, P. Newbound
Guessing Weight of Sheep: Mr. Claude Fulford
Guessing Weight of bullock: TBA
Space Committee: Messrs. H. Harris, V. Hempel, J. S. Hore
Gate Keeper: Mr. A. C. Winnett
Ramp unloading Mr. P. Frawley.
Bus Parking Policeman
Show Guild Supervisor Colonel Collins

Tenders:	Drinks & Ice Cream,	Stephens Bros.	£35
	Saveloys & Hot Water	Curukis	£4
	maximum charge for hot water 1/-		
	Fruit & Sweets,	Lucas	£5
	Public Address System	Mr. Proust	£12
	Broadcasting 2AY 78 announcements		
	& broadcast of show on 3rd March		£9/15/
	Fairy Floss,	Livingstone	£1/-

Insurance against wet weather £150 from 9-11 a.m. £150 from 12-2 p.m.

The Minutes of the meeting of 24th February 1951 show that Mr. Ford was delegated as steward to buy 60 flag poles for the area. The previous meeting approved the purchase of flags.

Mr. Manning was asked to purchase bottles for the flower section.

A letter was sent to the Chamber of Commerce protesting against their decision to open all shops in Wodonga on Show Day till 11 a.m.

Purchase of present site:

On the motion of Mr. Ford, seconded by Mr. Hore, a motion was carried: "That the Show Society purchase Crown Allotment 1, Section 5, Parish of Wodonga, County of Bogong, approximately 17 acres bounded by Mitchell Street on the west, Richardson St. on the south, extension of Wilson Street on the north, Racecourse on the east. Carriage right of way in Wilson Street from Mr. L. Mitchell at the price of £3, 300."

and:

On the motion of Mr. Ferguson, seconded Mr. Pollard: "That the Society proceed with the sale of that ground Part of Crown Allotment 3, Section 1, Parish of Wodonga, County of Bogong, containing 19 acres 3 perches. The sale to be left to the sub-Committee to dispose of with the Finance Committee".

and:

On the motion of Mr. Hamilton-Smith, seconded by Mr. Winnett, "that a deposit of £300 be paid to Mr. Mitchell."

On 1st April, 1951, Treasurer, Mr. Ferguson, submitted a statement covering the year's activities. Receipts totalled £1,475 and payments with improvements totalled £1382. The Bank Balance approximately £592. Accounts amounting to £990/9/4 were passed for payment.

Mr. Richardson thanked all who assisted in making the 1951 Show such a success. He particularly thanked Mr. George Wilson for his efforts. A letter of appreciation was to be sent to him and a Minute covering the same to be recorded.

The Chamber of Commerce was thanked for closing the business houses in Wodonga on Show Day!

£13/4/6 was raised by the sale of vegetables and a cheque for that amount sent to the Womens Hospital Auxiliary.

Sale of Trudewind land:

On 11th June 1951 the Finance Committee discussed the sale of the Trudewind paddock and decided that the property be offered by public auction as a whole.

On the motion of Mr. Richardson and Mr. Mann: that all Wodonga Auctioneers names be drawn, the first to act in conjunction as auctioneers. Auctioneers appointed: Gippsland and Northern and Younghusband Ltd. Reserve: On the motion of Mr. Mann and Mr. Hore that a reserve be placed on the property. The sale to take place within six weeks.

On the motion of Mr. Pollard, seconded by Mr. Harris: that the proposed plans of sale be placed before the Trustees.

Trustees meeting to take place before the Annual Meeting on 19th June at 7.45 p.m.

On 8th May 1951 Treas. Ferguson resigned from the Committee because he was leaving the district. A letter of regret will be sent with thanks.

The Murray Valley Autumn Show Committee notified Wodonga it had been allotted 22nd March 1952 for the next Show.

The Finance Committee was instructed to proceed with the disposal of Trudewind's land.

Mr. C. F. Pollard was appointed acting Treasurer to replace Mr. Ferguson until the Annual Meeting on 19th June, 1951.

The Trustees met on 19th June at 2.30 p.m. and Mr. Robt. Richardson reported that the Show Committee wished to sell Trudewind's block by Public Auction and asked this approval and consent.

On the motion of Mr. Klinge and Mr. Street the Trustees gave approval to the sale of Trudewind's land on a date to be fixed and left to the Finance Committee.

4th AGM

Mr. Robt. Richardson presented the Annual Meeting of the Society on 19th June 1951 with the Balance Sheet a statement of Receipts and Expenditure for the year ending 30th April 1951. Gross Receipts were £2,305/2/5 and expenditure £1,990/9/8 leaving a credit balance of £314/12/9.

Assets are £1104. Entries were 500 above the previous best. "The Society's ambition to see the arena packed with the district's best stock paraded in magnificent condition has actually been accomplished," President Richardson said. Improvements had been made to the Cattle Pavilion to accommodate 200 cattle. A new shed for dogs had been started and two septic systems begun. The Debenture account stood at £2,254/15/3 and paid for the deposit on the land purchase, fittings, cattle yards, fencing and hurdles and buildings.

The new Committee:

R. C. Barton	J. S. Hore	A. G. Richardson
B. Cook	H. L. Howard	Robt. Richardson
R. J. W. Clarke	F. S. Jarvis	C. H. Ryan
A. Arnold	J. B Jamison	W. Schubert
Col. A.B.S.Collins	C. D. Klinge	E. E. Schulz
G. Coyle	E. B. Mann	K. Stansfield
A. Fyfe	J. S. Manning	J. E. A. Street
J. A. Ford	J. Mitchell	A. E. Winnett
C. W. Francis	W. F. McDonald	I. D. Watson
P. Frawley	P. Newbound	R. D. Watson
H. D. Hamilton	J. H. Parker	G. Wilson
J. Hamilton-Smith	C. F. Pollard	R. A. Winnett
V. C. Hempel	J. C. Reid	

Mr. Robt. Richardson was re-elected President.

Vice-Presidents: A. G. Richardson, C. D. Klinge

Treasurer: Mr. A. Fyfe

Secretary: Mrs. D. Lindsay at the same salary as last year.

Auditor: Mr. McMullin at fee of £5/5/-.

Committees were appointed.

The General Meeting of 19th June decided to sell the Trudewind block by Public Auction and the sale to be conducted by Younghusbands Ltd., and Gippsland and Northern Co. on a date to be fixed.

The Royal Agricultural Society will be asked to advise on the laying out of the new grounds.

A conference to be arranged between the Turf Club and the Show Society regarding the new ground. A sub-Committee comprising representatives of the Grounds Committee will represent the Society.

On 17th July 1951 the Wodonga Show Society received a letter from the Royal Agricultural Society stating that its Architects would contact Wodonga re planning of its new Show Grounds.

However, it was decided to take no action when a letter from the Architects was discussed which stated the fee would be 40 guineas.

On 14th August a quote from W. Wilson for pigeon coops was put at £1.10.- per pen of 4. Mr. Hamilton-Smith moved that 25 sets be purchased and delivered before the 31st August.

Shire Engineer, Mr. Martin, submitted a plan for the new show ground and it was decided to put it to the Trustees and to the Turf Club Committee. If they approved, action would be taken to implement it.

A sub-committee would meet on 28th August to draw up a schedule for a "Back to Wodonga Week" Gymkhana, to be held 10th November.

The sub-committee met on 28th August 1951, and drew up a full day's program of events for the Gymkhana.

The 11th September 1951 altered charges for space:

Industrial space would be charged at 2/- per foot and Side Shows charged 2/6 per foot with a minimum of 15/-.

Mr. Pollard moved that the Society dispense with the Showman's Guild and have an Open Sideshow.

The 9th October meeting stood in silence for two minutes to honor Mr. K. D. Watson, one of the first Members of the Show Society, who had died. Members of the Show Society extended to Mrs. Watson and family their gratitude for services rendered and their deepest sympathy. (Mr. Watson had been a member of the Provisional Committee to form the Society and a First Committee member. At the time of his death two of his sons had joined the Society.)

A ballot was taken for the payment of five £10 Debentures:

Mr. R. M. Hall £10; J. K. Humphrey £10; W. Stephens £10; B. Cook £10;
C. H. Ryan £10.

On the motion of Mr. A. G. Richardson, it was decided that the 18 blocks of land surveyed on the new Ground, be sold.

The Finance Committee was appointed to fix the price and dispose of the blocks, but this was amended and a motion that the sale be deferred was accepted.

The newly formed Murray Valley Development League notified its meeting date on 16th November 1951 and asked for Society representation.

The Meeting of 4th December 1951 increased insurance on Show Ground buildings to £1,000.

From the Back to Wodonga Gymkhana £16/0/3 was paid to the Wodonga Hospital appeal fund.

Fees for grazing stock on the new grounds were set:

All agents were notified that the charge would be 6d. per head per night for cattle; 1/- per head per night for horses; 11/- per 100 sheep per night. Agistment fees will be paid into the General Account at the Bank.

A deputation from the Chamber of Commerce was received re the closing of all shops in Wodonga on Show Day, 22nd March, 1952, Mr. Gannon, Mr. Webb and Mr. Erlandsen suggested shops open at 8.30 a.m. till 11 a.m.

On the motion of Mr. Pollard and Mr. A. G. Richardson it was agreed that the Show Society take no action on closing on Saturday Show Day but leave it to the discretion of the Chamber of Commerce.

WODONGA SHOW

Saturday, March 3, 1951.

Specials- IN EVERY SECTION

£17/17/- for Young Farmers:- £5/5/- Champion Hack; £25 Licensed Victuallers' Trot; £10/10/- Mann's Trot; £10 Hicks' Trot; £10 Olympic Trot £15/15/- Motor Trader's Hunting Contest; £10/10/- District Hunters; £5/5/- Maiden Hunters; £5 Pony Hunters.

Special Trophies donated; by Maples; H. McKoy; .Mrs. N. A. McGeoch and the Estate of - Late N. McGeoch; "Border Morning Mail;" Mr. "and Mrs. F. Mitchell; J. J. McCarthy; "Golden. Milk Dairy,"

ALL PAVILION EXHIBITORS NOTE

FRUIT and VEGETABLES: 35 Classes, including £2/2/- for Collection of Vegetables. Sash Best Exhibit. Trophy Most Successful Exhibitor. JAMS and PRESERVES : 45 Classes. Eight Specials and two Trophies. COOKING : £1/1/- Iced Decorated Cake. £1/1/- Special Plain Sponge, £1/1/- Six Scones; 10/6 Specials: Swiss Roll, Fruit Cake, Rainbow Cake, Lamingtons. KNITTING and NEEDLE-WORK: 50 Classes. Champion Sashes for Best Exhibits and Trophies. Special Class is for Arts and Crafts.

CATTLEMEN NOTE

Shorthorn Breeders' Cup : Best Male and Best Female and Best Heifer in Hereford Section; Goldsbrough Mort Special Polled Herefords; Mabel Clay's, Special Aberdeen Angus; J. A. E. Street's, Special Best Beef Bull; The "Pivot," Special in the Fat Cattle .Section; J. D. Turner's Special, also C. Street and A. Arnold; also Specials in the Jersey Section. Win the big Grand Champion Sashes donated by all the Dairy Societies; Ribbons and Cards; Champion Sashes all breeds.

POULTRY AND PIGEON EXHIBITORS NOTE

Birds to be housed in proper show pens in large marquee, all under cover. 34 Classes for Poultry; 11 Champion Sashes; Special Prize for Best Bird -and Most Successful Exhibitor. 21 Classes for Pigeons; 5 Champion Sashes, 3 Special Trophies.

SHEEP EXHIBITORS NOTE

Champion Sashes and Trophies; 1st Prize £1, 2nd 10/-

TO ALL DOG EXHIBITORS.

Note: New covered over building. Shut up stalls for all dogs. Seating accommodation. 45 Classes covering all breeds; 12 Champion Sashes; 12 Valuable Trophies; Grand Champion Sash for Best Dog. Sanctioned by the K.C.C. Any dog can enter in more than one class. Puppies over 6 months can compete in Open Classes.

Prize Money All To Be Collected on the Ground

NO WAITING AT WODONGA SHOW.

DON'T MISS OUT!

ENTRIES CLOSE ON THURSDAY NEXT, 22nd FEBRUARY

With the Secretary, Mrs. D. LINDSAY, 59 HUME ST., WODONGA Telephone Wodonga 309.

1952

A bush fire on the 15th January delayed the Society president until 9 o'clock – attendance was only 16 members because of the fire, with apologies from A. G. Richardson, G. Coyle, J. Stapleton, C. D. Klinge, R. C. Barton, P. Newbound, H. S. Jarvis, S. Manning, G. Wilson, J. H. Parker, W. Schubert and the Watson brothers.

On 12th February 1952, the meeting debated the abandonment of the Show (because of bush fires.) However, it was decided to hold the Show as arranged on 22nd March 1952.

Stewards for the 1952 Show:

Chief Steward for the arena:	A. G. Richardson
Ring 1:	Mr. Newbound, Mr. R. Watson, J. Parker
Ring 2:	J. Hamilton-Smith, W. H. McDonald, Ian Watson
Ring 3:	W. Schubert, M. Mulqueeney, J. Burns
Beef Cattle:	J. A. E. Street, J. D. R. Stapleton, K. Stansfield, S. Jarvis
Friesians:	C. W. Francis Later replaced by Mr. Hamilton
A.I.Shorthorn:	E. B. Jamison, R. Hall, J. C. Reid
Jerseys:	J. A. Ford; S. A. Turner, R. A. Winnett, R. Barton
Guernseys and Ayrshires:	Ken Cochrane, Joe Northey
Sheep and Wool:	E. E. Schulz, G. Coyle, C.D. Klinge, R. S. Clarke, H. Draper, Jack Parker, J. Wolstencroft
Poultry & Pigeons:	W. Cottrell, W. Clarkeson
Fruit & Vegetables:	E. B. Mann
Horticultural:	S. Manning
Jams and Preserves:	Not allocated
Cooking:	R. Hall, Mrs. Gregson, Mrs. Wolfe, Mrs. Maxwell
Needlework:	Mr. & Mrs. A. Arnold, Mrs. J. Mitchell, Mrs. Fyfe, F. Hartwig
Goats:	L. Mortimer
Dairy Supervisor:	Mr. Hall
Measuring Steward:	Ian Watson, Peter Frawley, Jnr.
Chief Parade Steward:	A. G. Richardson
Trotters:	C. F. Pollard, P. Frawley, P. Newbound
Guessing the weight of the Sheep:	B. Cook
Guessing the weight of the Fat Bullock:	Claude Fulford
Gate Keeper:	A. Winnett
Ramp unloading steward:	P. Frawley
Side Show Supervisor:	Colonel Collins
Space Committee:	Col. Collins, H. N. Harris, V. Hempel
Chief Ground Steward:	G. Wilson

On 11th March, 1952, Tallangatta advised its Show had been cancelled. (Although the reason is not given, it is assumed the reason was bush fires because an earlier reference had been made to the possibility of cancelling.)

Rain Insurance was £150 from 9-11 a.m. and £150 from 12-2p.m.

The 5th Annual General Meeting of the Show Society was held on 24th June, 1952. President Richardson said although the financial position was satisfactory, care would have to be exercised with the cash resources available. The General Account had declined to £420 but permanent improvements valued at £1700 had been effected at a cost of only £550 to the

Society. By the sale of Trudewind's block at £2000 above purchase price, the Society's assets had improved by over £2,000 compared with last year.

A wet, showery and overcast day for the Show considerably affected attendances but there were grand displays in most sections. The exhibition of beef and dairy cattle, horse and ring events were outstanding. The Grand Parade displayed some of the best animals in the Commonwealth. A number of improvements had been made during the year: two new conveniences with septic systems, drainage pipes laid to take water from luncheon room and grandstand; a new galvanised iron fence around part of the land purchased from Mitchells.

Gate takings were £420/14/- and Members Subscriptions £333/0/6. At 30/4/1952 the Bank Balance was £103/11/8. Entry fees were £34/12/9 but prize money paid out was £569/10/6. The new Committee was elected:

Mssrs:

A. Arnold	E. B. Mann
Colonel A.B.S. Collins	J. B. Manning
R. C. Barton	J. Mitchell
J. E Burns	W. H. McDonald
B. Cook	P. Newbound
R.J.S. Clarke	J. H. Parker
W. Cottrell	C. F. Pollard
G. Coyle	C. Reid
A. Fyfe	A. G. Richardson
J. A. Ford	R. Richardson
C. W. Francis	W. Schubert
P. Frawley	E. E. Schulz
H. D. Hamilton	K. Stansfield
J. Hamilton-Smith	J. R. Stapleton
V. C. Hemple	J.A. E. Street
J. S. Hore	A. E. Winnett
H. T. Howard	R. A. Winnett
H. S. Jarvis	I. D. Watson
J. B. Jamison	R. D. Watson
C. D. Klinge	G. Wilson
Mr. J. S.N. Harris ex-officio Member of the Committee	

At the General Meeting which followed the A.G.M., Robt. Richardson was re-elected for his fourth term as President.

Vice-Presidents: Messrs. A. G. Richardson, J. A. Ford, I. D. Watson

Treasurer: Mr. A. Fyfe

Auditor: Mr. W. McMullen, at a salary of £5/5/-.

Secretary: Mrs. D. Lindsay reappointed at a salary of £100 per annum.

Committees were appointed.

On the 6th May Mr. Hamilton-Smith suggested a fence be erected by the New Australian Settlement adjoining the Showground. (Not much is known about the group but it has been suggested there was a third group occupying the land as well as the Racecourse and the Showgrounds - the name of the organisation could not be remembered- it may have been this group.) On the 24th June the organisation is mentioned as being the subject of an inspection by the Grounds Committee. Another Minute on 15th July reads: "On the motion of Mr. Hamilton-Smith, seconded by Mr. Hore, Mr. Richardson has been asked to seek Legal Advice re the fence

and damage done by the New Australians. At the 12th August 1952 meeting the President was asked to seek legal advice re fencing off the New Australians adjoining the Showground and initiate Trespassing Notices."

A Committee meeting on 26th July agreed to move the Delarue building and place it to the centre of the new ground and make it available for pigeons. It was also agreed to put new skylight windows in the Needlework shed.

On 12th August a debit balance of £156/0/6 was reported but on 9th Sept., the Society had returned to the black with a balance of 9/6.

Without the correspondence it is difficult to interpret a motion passed at the meeting of 12th August 1952 which reads:

"Resolution passed on Show date each year. On the motion of Mr. Stansfield seconded by Mr. Cook, that Mr. Ronan be written to and advised that the Wodonga Show Society had carried this resolution: Having regard to the vital importance of holding a Wodonga Show on a date in relation to Sydney Show, this meeting is of the opinion that if the motion of which notice has been given by the Tallangatta Society is carried, Wodonga Society will be forced to withdraw from the Association. It is considered that such action would frequently result in a clash of Show dates, and it would be to the advantage of each Society in the Association to accept the position regarding dates, as it now stands."

This was followed by the motion: That Wodonga Show will be held on the Saturday a fortnight before the first Saturday of the Sydney Royal.

On the motion of Mr. Klinge and Mr. Ford the following journals were notified that Wodonga Show date would be 14th March, 1953. Pastoral Review, Leader, Stock and Land, Australian Farmers' Home, Farmers and Settlers, Weekly Times.

At the 14th October 1952 meeting the Society applied to the Wodonga Shire Council and Wodonga Chamber of Commerce for a public holiday on Show Day, 14th March, 1953.

A recommendation was made to the Trustees that those using the Showgrounds will be responsible for any damage done.

The Society affiliated with the Victorian Branch of the Equestrienne Federation of Australia, on the motion of Mr. Hamilton-Smith.

It was decided that Old Aged Pensioners be granted free admission on Show Day.

A presentation was given to the Secretary, Mrs. D. Lindsay, by the Committee of the Society in appreciation of her hospitality.

On 11th November, 1952, it was decided to print 700 schedules at 22/6d. per page and that 250 16 page pavilion exhibit schedules be printed.

The 2nd December 1952 meeting a letter from the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria was received asking for suggestions that the Royal Show be held in the Autumn. The Wodonga Society says the Melbourne Royal should retain the Spring Show.

1953

On 13th January 1953, the Wodonga Chamber of Commerce agreed to the Show Society's request to close business houses on Show Day.

The Public Risk policy premium fee was £3 per £1,000 - a Policy of £10,000 for £30 was taken out for Show Day.

On 10th February, 1953, members of the Committee stood in silence in memory of the passing of Mr. G. Wilson "a valued member of the Committee".

It was decided to hold a Garden Competition, with details left to the Horticultural Steward and Secretary.

Show Day charges: Adults 3/-, Children 1/-.

Stewards for the 1953 Show:

Ring 1: Chief Steward: Mr. Newbound, Mr. R. D. Watson, Mr. J. Parker
Ring 2: Chief Steward: J. Hamilton-Smith
Ring 3: Chief Steward: W. Schubert, M. Mulqueeney, Ian Watson
Beef Stewards: Chief Steward: J. A. E. Street, J. Stapleton, K. Stansfield, H. S. Jarvis
Friesians: Mr. H. D. Hamilton
Aust. Illawarra Shorthorns: Chief Steward: M. B. Jamieson, R. Hall, J. Reid
Jerseys: Chief Steward: J. A. Ford, S. A. Turner, R. A. Winnett, R. Barton
Guernseys and Ayrshires: Chief Steward, Joe Northey, Mr. Brain
Sheep and Wool: Chief Steward: C. D. Klinge, R. S. Clarke, G. Coyle, Jack Parker, J. Wolstencroft
Fat Cattle: J. Brown, R. Vincent
Poultry and Pigeons, Chief Steward: W. Cottrell, W. Clarkson, V. C. Hemple
Fruit & Vegetables: Chief Steward, E. B. Mann with assistants
Horticulture: Chief Steward: J. S. Manning, Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Manning, Mrs. J. Mitchell
Jams & Preserves: Chief Steward: R. Hall
Cooking: Mrs. Wolfe, Mrs. Maxwell
Needlework: Mrs. F. Hartwig, Mr. Erlandsen, Mrs. Chapple, Mrs. J. Mitchell
Dairy Supervisor: Mr. Hall
Measuring Steward: Mr. Ian Watson
Trotters: Chief Steward, C. F. Pollard, P. Newbound
Guessing weight of Sheep: B. Cook
Guessing weight of Fat Bullock: TBA
Gate Keeper: Mr. A. E. Winnett
Ramp unloading steward: P. Frawley
Side Show Supervisor: Mr. Harris, Colonel Collins
Space: Mr. Holland
Dogs: J. S. Hore, H. Howard

On 3rd March, 1953, the Credit Balance had risen to £237/12/10 with £388 for land sale.

Catalogues: 150 be printed for arena events and 150 for all other sections. A charge of 1/- be charged for each copy.

The 28th April 1953 meeting approved the use of the Showgrounds by the Shire of Wodonga for sports on Coronation Day. The Chamber of Commerce asked the Show Society to enter a float in the Coronation procession (the Society declined) and Messrs. Stiff and Gannon congratulated the Show Society and said it was pleased to sponsor the Show Broadcast on Show Day.

Mr. Robert Velure thanked the Society for the complementary tickets and said when he returned to America he could say that this was the most complete country Show he had seen in Australia.

The Treasurer reported a Credit of £317 on the Show and a Trust Fund on Land sale of £681/13/2, giving a credit of £895.

Criticism of the Catering was that charges for hot water were too high and a lot of time was wasted by there being no official table for use of Committee and judges.

The 6th Annual General Meeting of the Society was held on 27th June 1953 and 40 Members were elected to be the new Committee:

Messrs. A. Arnold	S. J. Manning
R. C. Barton	W. H. McDonald
J. E. Burns	P. Newbound
B. Cook	J. H. Parker
Col. A.B.S. Collins	C. F. Pollard
W. Cottrell	J. C. Reid
G. Coyle	R. Richardson
A. Fyfe	A. G. Richardson
P. Frawley	A. J. Robins
G. D. Hamilton	W. Schubert
J. Hamilton-Smith	E. Schulz
V. C. Hempel	K. Stansfield
J. S. Hore	J.O.R. Stapleton
H. L. Howard	J.A.E. Street
A. M. Holland	A. C. Winnett
H. S. Jarvis	R. A. Winnett
M. B. Jamison	I. D. Watson
C. D. Klinge	R. D. Watson
R. Lefoe	R. J. S. Clarke
E. B. Mann	J. A. Ford

Mr. J. S. N. Harris ex-officio Member of the Committee.

President Robt. Richardson reported on the 1953 Show being the best yet and the weather was perfect. All sections were well patronised by Exhibitors and crowd. For the first time Olympic style fences were used in the Arena and they proved successful. The Grand Parade was outstanding.

Members attention was drawn to the particularly favourable subdivision which was made on the Mitchell Street frontage, together with the revenue already obtained therefrom with a secure source of income for the next few years. An iron fence had been erected around part of Mitchell's block. The remaining portion, exclusive of the 18 building blocks already sold, had also been fenced. The deaths of G. M. Wilson and C. W. Francis, both young and worthy members and the tragic circumstances of their deaths were recorded.

The Bank balance at 30/4/1953 was £210/14/3 and assets were valued at £5,295/7/5.

At the Committee meeting on 27th June, 1953, Mr. Richardson was re-elected, as were the Vice-Presidents, Treasurer and Secretary. Committees were appointed.

On the motion of Mr. Hamilton-Smith, the Grounds Committee will meet to decide where to plant Silky Oak and Acacia trees.

On 11th August 1953 the Treasurer, Mr. Fyfe, reported a Credit Balance of £1089 assets with land sale £3271.

It was decided to plant 74 trees in September.

Additional stalls will be erected for cattle on the northern side.

The Beef Cattle Committee asked for 20 additional stalls for Cattle sections.

The 8th September 1953 meeting decided to increase fees for the Poultry Section from 1/- to 2/- and prize money increased to 1st 10/-, 2nd 5/-.

A hoarding advertising Wodonga Show will be erected near the Tallangatta Railway gate crossing.

On 13th October the Chamber of Commerce asked the Show Committee to arrange a function to raise money for the Chamber of Commerce Queen in the Wodonga Hospital Queen Competition. The Society said it would not support a particular entrant but would put on a function with proceeds to go to all Queens.

Three new members joined the Committee: Mr. George McDonald, Mr. C. H. Schneider and Mr. R. N. Pertzelt.

During debate on how many vegetables comprise a "Collection of Vegetables" Mr. Street moved, and Mr. Jarvis seconded, that no auction of Fruit and Vegetables take place after the show, but the produce be given to the Wodonga Hospital.

Mr. Mann moved that all Pavilion prize money be 5/- with 6d. entry, prize money 7/6 or over, 1/- per entry.

Mr. Coyle moved that prize for guessing the weight of the sheep be £5/5/- and tickets 2/-.

Highland Dancing at the Show be left to the National Highland Dancing Association.

80 sheep pens and 2 loading ramps will be erected.

The Chamber of Commerce was given the use of the Showground for a gymkhana on 28th November 1953.

1954

On 9th February 1954 the Chamber of Commerce told the Show Society it should instal electric power and light to the Showground before the next Show. Mr. Klinge and, Colonel Collins moved that steps be taken to instal electric light. A Committee was formed to investigate and given power to act.

Tenders accepted were:

Saveloys, Mr. J. E. Miller £7/-/-
Soft Drinks and Ice Cream Stephen Bros. £42/10/-
Fruit Sweets and Melons P. W. Lucas £5/-/-
Fairy Floss, G. Livingston £2/10/-
Official Luncheon, Mrs. Ewart £4
Public Luncheon, Wodonga Hospital Auxiliary

On 23rd February Mr. Hamilton-Smith moved that all cattle sections for this year's Show be abandoned on account of the Pleuro outbreak. However, an amendment by Mr. Pollard that it be left as scheduled, was carried.

The Committee discussed what charges should apply for electric power on Show Day and the matter was left with the Space stewards to decide.

On 9th March 1954 the Shire Council informed the Show Society there would be a Public Holiday for Saturday 20th March Show Day.

The President reported that the new Pavilion was almost completed, that electricity would be installed before Show Day and that the Public Booth would be finished.

On 6th April, 1954, the Treasurer estimated that the profit from the Show would be about £230. The balance in the bank was £685/18/8.

The Horse Committee was asked to examine the possibility of their section being held over one or two days.

All members were asked to attend a meeting on the Showground on Saturday 8th May, 1954 at 10.30 a.m. to examine the possibility of sub-dividing portion of the ground outside the iron fence and sell it.

Mr. Hamilton-Smith was asked to find out the cost of installing electric light to the arena and report to the next meeting.

The Society bought the old booth for £22/10/- from the Race Club.

Minutes of appreciation to Mrs. Lindsay, Mr. & Mrs. Fyfe and the Press were noted. The President, in turn, was thanked for making the Show the best yet held.

Messrs. J. Elliott, J. Miller, Hec Thompson and Mr. Glassenbury of the Albury Show Society were also thanked for their help at Show time.

On 12th May the Weekly Times asked for a photo of Committee Members to include in the special Wodonga Section of the Weekly Times.

Bank Balance £1,534/18/1 credit. £1800 land sale still to come.

The Horse Committee recommended adjustments to Ring Programs in order to have a one-day instead of a two-day show.

The 7th AGM was held on June 22nd, 1954. President, Robt. Richardson said it was the best one day Show between the two Capitals and much of its success was due to the excellent co-operation of the Committee and volunteers, and the Secretary and Staff. Gate takings were £767.

During the year a new pavilion for Needlework, Cooking, Jams and Jellies was erected at a cost of approx. £600, and new sheep yards were built. Further accommodation is required to house exhibits in some sections.

The Society's finances were in a sound position, due mainly to £1500 received from the sale of building blocks. In due course another £1800 will be available from this source.

The new Committee members:

Messrs.	R. C. Barton	H. Howard	A. G. Richardson
	J. E. Burns	A. M. Holland	A. J. Robins
	B. Cook	H. D. Jarvis	R. J. Pertzelt
	C. Collins	M. B. Jamison	W. Schubert
	R.J.S. Clarke	C. D. Klinge	K. Stansfield
	W. Connell	P. Lefoe	J. O. R. Stapleton
	G. Coyle	E. B. Mann	J.A.E. Street
	B. Cox	S. J. Manning	C. H. Schneider
	A. Fyfe	G. McDonald	A. E. Winnett
	J.A. Ford	P. Newbound	R. A. Winnett
	H. D. Hamilton	J. H. Parker	I. D. Watson
	J. Hamilton-Smith	C. F. Pollard	R. D. Watson
	B. Hempel	J. C. Reid	J.S. Harris ex-officio
	J. S. Hore	R. Richardson	

On 22nd June 1954 Mr. Richardson was re-elected for his 7th Term.

Vice-Presidents A. G. Richardson, J. A. Ford and Ian Watson were re-elected, Mr. A. Fyfe was re-elected Treasurer.

Committees were appointed.

A. Arnold resigned; the Committee accepted it with regret and sent him a letter of appreciation. Mr. Arnold had been a foundation member of the Society.

Fire Insurance was increased: New Shed and contents £1200, open red shed £500, Cattle pens £100, Sheep pens £100. An amount of £2000 policy to be taken out.

A sub-Committee of four was formed to meet with stock agents to see what measure of support there is for fat cattle Fat Cattle Pens.

The proposed new Cattle Pavilion was advertised in the Border Morning Mail on 17th July 1954.

"The Wodonga Show Society invites quotations for the supply of a Cattle Pavilion with the following particulars:

1. 50 ft x 48 ft. steel frame galvanised iron sides, roof and gable ends;
2. 100 ft x 48 ft. as above
3. 50 ft x 48 ft. steel frame only
4. 100 ft x 48 ft. steel frame only.

Quotations to include specifications of all materials to be used, a date of delivery.
Quotations returnable to the Hon. Sec. D. Lindsay, 109 Hume Street, Wodonga, on or before 10th August 1954."

Recommendation that the old Bar be demolished and re-erected as Committee Luncheon Rooms to the west end of the Poultry building. A working Bee was arranged.

The 10th August 1954 meeting dealt with tenders for constructing the Cattle Pavilion. They were received from. D. J. Delarue, Albury; Permewan Wright, Albury; Trustees Corporation, Melbourne; Dalgety and Co. Albury; A.B. and M. A. Chick, Albury; F. A. Avery, Albury. A sub-Committee was formed to investigate quotes and report to the next meeting with recommendations.

200 Fowl Pens were ordered from G. W. Rowley, Melbourne for a set of three pens at £2/3/6 per pen, app. £150.

A working bee was held to remove the iron boundary fence.

The meeting of 14th September 1954 heard a report from its Cattle Pavilion sub-Committee and deferred the purchase. An alternative proposal for the erection of a 100ft. x 9 ft. stalls built of timber and iron costing approximately £150 was put forward. Tenderers for the steel pavilion would be advised of the Committee's decision. A motion was put that the erection of the cattle pavilion be done by paid labour.

The Society decided to apply to the Department of Works, through the Shire Engineer, for a grant to supply water to the conveniences on the Showground with 4" pipes.

The Fat Cattle section of the show was deleted for 1955 because there were no pens strong enough to hold them.

On 12th October 1954 a number of members received £50 Redemption on Debentures.

Stewards for next show were appointed.

At the 7th December 1954 meeting a letter from Mr. Ronan of Tallangatta advised that bottles for the Flower Section were obtainable from bottle yards. He said push bottles and soda splits were the most desirable.

Mr. George McDonald resigned from the Show Committee because he was leaving the district.

It was decided that horse events, except trotting events, be paid by cheque to successful exhibitors after the Show.

On 11th January 1955 Mr. George Murray was appointed to the Committee.

On 8th February 1955 Dr. Bill Grant was appointed Honorary Medical Officer of the Society.

The President was authorised to obtain piping to increase the water supply to the ground and instal it and instal fire hydrants too.

1st March 1955 the Chamber of Commerce notified it had recommended the closing of shops on Show Day. And the Shire of Wodonga declared a public holiday on Show Day.

The sale of Mr. Dyer's cattle in the Beef ring at 2 p.m. on Show Day was approved.

Mr. Des Martin's offer to parade Hounds in the Grand Parade was accepted.

The profit from the Show was £322. The meeting of 10th May, 1955, was told there was a Credit Balance in bank of £2118/14/9

8th AGM

Mr. Richardson said the Show was held under ideal conditions and was the best yet. The re-arrangement of the Ring Programs made for quicker handling and smoother running of the program. Assets stand at £8,190.

The new Committee was:

R. C. Barton,	K. Chapman	J. S. Hore
J. E. Burns	B. Cox	H. L. Howard
B. Cook	A. Fyfe	A. M. Holland
Col. A.B.S.Collins	J.A. Ford	H. S. Jarvis
R.J.S. Clarke	H. D. Hamilton	M. B. Jamison
W. Cottrell	J. Hamilton-Smith	E. A. Mann
G. Coyle	V. C. Hempel	

The following General Meeting re-elected Mr. Robt. Richardson for his 8th term and other office-bearers were returned.

Mr. Lefoe resigned for business reasons. Mr. D. Klinge also resigned because he was leaving the district. Both resignations were accepted with regret.

The Chamber of Commerce recommended business houses open for a short time on Show Day to give service to country customers.

The Society decided to apply to the Shire Council for Show day to be a public holiday.

The meeting of 9th August 1955 agreed to advertise that the Society would be increasing the number of the Committee from 40 to 50 members and nominations were being called for the election of 11 Committeemen before the next meeting.

The Society agreed to a request from the Wodonga Kennel Club that kennels be built on the Showground with the society providing the materials and the Kennel Club members doing the work.

Stock Agents would be asked if they would contribute to the cost of building fat cattle pens.

On 9th August Rule 5 was amended to read: The Management of the Society shall be vested in a Committee consisting of 50 members with 3 Vice-Presidents. Rule 11 now reads: At all meetings of members 20 shall form a quorum and at the meetings of the Committee 15 shall form a quorum. Rule 13 now reads: A general meeting of the Society may be called at any time by the Secretary on direction of the President, or on the requisition of 15 members of the Society stating the object for which the meeting is required. 14 days notice of such meeting must be given by circular. Rule 16 now becomes: If any Committeeman absent himself from three consecutive meetings the Committee may declare the seat vacant.

The meeting of 18th September was told by the Shire of Wodonga to apply for a public holiday for Show day about 6 weeks before the event.

It was decided to buy 400 ft. of cyclone fencing to begin fencing the arena. But Mr. Ford moved that an application be made to the Shire Council to ask the Public Works Department for a subsidy towards the cost of the fence, for the whole arena.

Mr. Hamilton-Smith estimated the cost of the Fat Cattle pens at £600 and the society decided to contribute £300 towards the cattle yards and notify the Stock Agents of their decision.

From 14 nominations 11 new Committeemen were elected:

Messrs. T. C. Arden, L. J. Dempsey, J. C. Drummond, A. J. Hortin, J. M. Bourke,
A. F. Brewer, N. W. Bottrell, R. N. Bye, J. Northey, A. J. Terrill and K. Turner.

At the 11th October 1955 meeting, Mr. G. Murray requested 3 months leave of absence because of illness.

The Associated Stock Agents regretted being unable to donate to the cost of the fat cattle yards.

On 8th November 1955 the Shire of Wodonga told the Show Society it had applied to the Public Works Department for £1,000 for the cyclone fence.

Mr. Hamilton-Smith reported that the stock agents had contributed £285 towards the Fat Cattle Pens. The stock agents asked that the names of those who contributed be marked on a hoarding on the yards. The Committee agreed that the wording would read "These pens have been erected with the assistance of- - " and list the names of the Agents.

Prize money for the fat cattle section was set at £3 1st, £1/10/- 2nd and entry fee of 5/-.

On 17th January 1956, a tender for the Fat Cattle pens was referred to the sub-Committee to reach agreement with the contractor that the pens be finished before Show Day. A tender for £8/10/- for making and painting the signs for the Cattle yards was referred to the Committee with power to act. Mr. K. Barton and members of the Committee will erect the Cyclone fence.

On 17th April, 1956, following the Show, Mr. Hamilton-Smith said the Committee had enough material in hand to duplicate the present set of fat cattle yards when required. He recorded thanks to the Albury and Wodonga Stock Agents for their support, to the Society's President,

Mr. Robt. Richardson for his gift of timber for posts, to Mr. Kreuzeger for cutting and carting the logs and making them affordable, to the contractor Mr. Wally Myer for the excellent manner in which he fulfilled his contract.

A balance sheet shows costs to be £735/5/-, donations £285, leaving a balance of £450/5/-. Profit on the Show was £329.

The 9th Annual Report and Balance Sheet was presented by Robt. Richardson on 26th June, 1956. Early rain affected attendance although the day developed into fine weather. £150 rain insurance was collected.

The Fat Cattle Section, housed in new yards, was worth while. For the first time in Victoria one Class was judged on both the hoof and hook. The new Pavilion for dogs attracted favourable attention. He recorded the death of Mr. H. L. Howard.

New Committee members:

T. C. Arden	J. C. Drummond	C. F. Pollard
R. C. Barton	J. Hamilton-Smith	J. C. Reid
J. E. Burns	V. C. Hempel	R. Rathdown
A. F. Brewer	J. C. Hore	A. G. Richardson
N. W. Bottrell	A. J. Horton	A. J. Robins
R. N. Bye	A. M. Holland	W. Schubert
J. E. Bourke	K. S. Hynes	K. Stansfield
B. Cook	H. S. Jarvis	J. Stapleton
Col. A. B. S. Collins	M. B. Jamison	J. A. Street
R. J. S. Clarke	N. M. Larkins	C. H. Schneider
K. Chapman	E. B. Mann	A. Terrill
W. Cottrell	S. J. Manning	K. Turner
B. Cox	G. Murray	W. E. Winnett
G. Coyle	P. Newbound	I. D. Watson
A. Fyfe	J. Northey	R. D. Watson
J. A. Ford	J. H. Parker	J. Whyte
T. Dempsey	R. V. Purtzel	J. S. N. Harris ex officio

The following committee meeting re-elected Mr. Robt. Richardson, President. Other officer-bearers were re-elected.

The meeting of 14th August 1956 decided to contact pig producers and ask if they were willing to support a pig section and the construction of 20 pig pens.

The same meeting determined to add 100 beef cattle stalls, completing 25 each year.

Charges to the Show increased to 4/- for adults, 1/- children, no charge for cars.

The meeting of 11th September, 1956 agreed to complete the cyclone fencing around the arena with the Public Works grant with the Shire Engineer calling for tenders for its erection only.

A tender of £940 for the Cyclone fence was accepted at the meeting of 10th January 1957.

A public holiday was gazetted for the 1957 Show.

The 12th March 1957 meeting decided to advertise that all Export Steers at the show would be auctioned on the grounds, fat cattle sold in the cattle pens and stud cattle in the Shorthorn Ring.

Mr. C. Brownlow was appointed Treasurer.

The 9th April 1957 meeting was told gate takings at the Show had been £964 and there was a Credit Balance in the Bank of £2,015/11/2.

Mr. C. F. Pollard paid credit to the Society's President for the success of the Show.

Electric light had been installed for the Side Shows and Industrial Exhibitors.

Mr. R. D. Watson moved that a letter of protest be forwarded to the RAS against their proposal to change the Royal Show to the autumn, and that Mr. Ronan of Tallangatta appeal against it too from the Murray Valley Show Association.

On 14th May, 1957, Mr. J.O.R. Stapleton resigned from the Committee because circumstances prevent him from attending Working Bees and meetings. He was sent a letter of thanks.

(The Minutes of the Murray Valley Autumn Show Association meeting held on 18th May 1957, and handwritten by Mr. C. F. Pollard, show that Mr. James Ronan resigned from his position as Secretary of the Association.)

The 10th Annual Meeting of the Society was held on 19th June, 1957. Mr. Ford said that the President was the driving force of the Show and thanked him for his wonderful foresight and support.

Mr. Richardson said entries in all sections were of a particularly high standard and numerous. The parade of cattle, horses, dogs and goats in the arena made a glorious spectacle and he doubted if anything as good has been seen outside the Royal. The Credit balance in the bank was £4,119/16/2. The new Committee was appointed.

At the following general meeting he welcomed two new members to the Committee, Mr. H. Thomson and Mr. B. Stickles.

Mr. Richardson was re-elected for his 10th year as President.

Mr. Brownlow was re-elected Treasurer and other office-bearers were re-elected. Good wishes were sent to Mr. A. Brewer and Mr. J. M. Bourke, for a return to good health.

The Murray Valley Autumn Show Association was told the Wodonga Society would accept the 22nd March 1958 for its next Show under protest and point out that it is necessary for Wodonga to have the 4th Saturday before Easter; unless they can agree to that Wodonga will have no alternative but to sever its connections with the Association.

It was further resolved that Wodonga notify the Secretary of the Murray Valley Association that Wodonga is most dissatisfied with the date allotted. It pointed out reasons why Wodonga wanted the 3rd or 4th Saturday before Easter Saturday. "It is the opinion of this -Society if one of those dates would not be available this year the Society would have no alternative but to withdraw from the Association.

At the 9th July 1957 meeting the Wodonga Shire Council asked the Society to hold its meetings in the New Shire Council Building. This was agreed to.

On 10th Sept. the Shire of Wodonga told the Society the Committee Room in the new Council chambers was not available for the Show Society's monthly meeting.

At 8th October 1957 meeting the Society decided to hold its monthly meetings in the C.W.A. Rooms at a cost of £1.

A further letter from the Shire of Wodonga stated the Show Ground is not rated so no nomination of a person is to be enrolled on the Municipal Roll. The Society replied that as the Society pays rates, and in view of the Shire's letter, the Society is not rateable and ask that the matter of paying rates for the Showgrounds be reviewed.

Mr. Hamilton-Smith gave a price for the erection of pig pens 40 ft. x 15'6" £428/12/-. They were to be placed between the sheep pens and dog shed on the northern fence.

All old earthenware pipes to the men's lavatory will be removed and replaced and a vent provided.

The Poultry Shed was to be extended at the cost of £330.

The first meeting in the C.W.A. Rooms was held on 12th November 1957. An application was made to the Shire Council for a reduction in rates as the Show Society is a nonprofit making organisation.

On 10th December 1957, Mr. E. B. Mann regretted that he could no longer be steward of the Fruit and Vegetable pavilion. Mr. Alf Schulz was asked to become steward and Mr. David Mann asked to assist.

Mr. Hore moved that the Pig section be deleted from the next Show and the Pig building not go ahead.

All householders in Mitchell Street are to be notified that all fences are to be made up leading to the Showground and no stock will be allowed on it. The Wilson Street entrance to the grounds will be locked and stock found in the Showground will be impounded.

1958

On Tuesday 4th March, the Shire of Wodonga notified a Public Holiday would be held on Show Day 15th March.

The 4th March meeting was told by Mr. J. M. Bourke that he was leaving the district and had to resign from the Show Committee.

The Committee agreed to hold a Show Girl competition with Miss Betty Schubert appointed Steward.

The 22nd April 1958 meeting received with regret the resignation of Mr. J. C. Drummond.

The Wodonga Shire told the Council it could not reduce rates because the property is privately owned.

The Society made another application to the Public Works Department for a grant - this time it was for £800 which was needed immediately for new Public Conveniences and water.

Held on 17th June, 1958, the 11th Annual meeting was told the Show on the 15th March was held in brilliant sunshine and an abundance of high quality stock paraded in perfect Show condition. There were new attractions: the "Sun" Show Girl, Marching Girls, and the Wodonga Band.

Extensions to pavilions assisted with exhibits and judging. After paying out £1300 in maintenance and extensions, the President said there was a Credit Balance of £558. He forecast further improvements. Gate takings were £908.

At the following General meeting Mr. Richardson was re-elected for the 11th term. Vice-Presidents were A. G. Richardson, D. Watson and John Hamilton-Smith. New committeemen were Mr. T. J. Mulqueeney and Mr. R. H. Howard.

The 8th July, 1958 meeting recorded a minute of appreciation for the great work done for the Society by Mr. Percy Newbound, one of the foundation members of the Society.

It was decided to appoint more judges in order to open pavilions at 12 noon. A recommendation from the local Police was that industrial exhibits be set up the day before the Show.

Mr. Hamilton-Smith gave notice that he would move at a special meeting that the annual membership fee of the Society be increased from £1/1/- to £1/10/- with the same privileges. This was done at a special meeting on 12th August and carried by 18 votes to 9.

On 9th September 1958 a letter was sent to all Debenture holders asking for a renewal of debentures for another five years.

Mr. Brownlow, the Treasurer resigned his position because he was leaving the district.

On 7th October 1958, Mr. Brownlow reported that 15 of the 19 Debenture holders were willing to renew their Debentures for another five years. Debentures now are £630 out of the £800 due.

The Turf Club asked for assistance for work on the Caretakers building costing £800. The Society said Show members would assist at the working bees.

A letter was sent to Miss Hynes congratulating her for being in the finals at the judging of the 1958 Show Girl judging in Melbourne.

Mr. Richardson thanked Mr. Brownlow for the excellent way he had acted as Treasurer to the Society and wished him well in his new work at Wangaratta.

Trade exhibitors would be charged 5/- a foot for space and Side Shows 4/- with a minimum of £1. A charge of 2/- per car would be made for vehicles entering the grounds but members cars be admitted free.

On 11th November 1958 Colonel A. B. S. Collins was elected Treasurer. The Committee noted the passing of Mr. J. A. Ford.

1959

Specifications for a new cattle pavilion 98 x 48 ft. to hold 96 head of cattle, 24 in each line, were presented at a cost of £1,753. It was decided to submit the specification to the proper authority and request a grant be provided.

The Society would apply for a grant of £2, 400 with the Society supplying £800 and the Government a grant of £1,600.

The Cattle Pavilion would be dedicated to the Late Mr. J. A. Ford.

A Committee would be appointed to canvas for new Debentures with a 5% rate of interest.

The meeting approved an Inland Killing Centre at Wodonga and appealed to the Wodonga Shire Council to uphold it and call a Public Meeting. The Secretary was instructed to send out notices to all Show members interested asking them to attend the meeting to discuss the Centre on 22nd December.

The Society was told a Government Grant of £300 was available for new conveniences at the Showground. Discussion on the grant was deferred to the next meeting.

On 13th January 1959 Mr. Bert Reuss was welcomed to the Committee and placed on the Dairy Cattle Committee.

Mr. J. M. Harvey was appointed to the Committee on 10th February 1959 and allocated to the Space and Side Shows Committees.

At the 24th February meeting it was decided to employ a night-watchman on the Friday and Saturday nights. An application was also made for a policeman to be on duty on the ground from 2-6 p.m. at 12/6 an hour.

The 14th April meeting was told the profit on Show Day was £376.

The Society's Solicitor is to confer with the Department of lands & Survey on the Society's rights on its freehold land if handed over to the Trustees.

The Solicitor is to write to all owners of land backed on to the Showground and ask that gates from their premises to the Showgrounds be closed.

Mr. Cook said he would not be able to stand for re-election on the Show Committee.

On 12th May 1959 Mr. J. H. Parker and Mr. B. Stickles resigned. Letters of regret were sent to them and letters of appreciation to Mr. B. Cook and Mr. J. Northey.

The Shire of Wodonga was told the £300 grant applied for to build conveniences at the Showground, was not required.

The Garden Competition was abandoned because of water restrictions and too few entrants.

The Credit Balance for 1958/59 to the 20th May was £653/18/10.

The 12th Annual meeting was held on 16th June, 1959.

President, Robt. Richardson said the show was an outstanding success. Attendance was down but receipts from all sources showed an improvement. Entries were up in number and quality. A new section for budgerigars was successful. The Grand Parade showed the great livestock potential of the district.

The following Committee meeting re-elected Mr. Richardson as President for his 12th term as President. Other office bearers were re-elected. Committees were appointed.

A deputation from the Wodonga Turf Club asked for financial assistance in building the Secretary's and Caretaker's new building on the Race Course. The Show Society offered to do the cement floor of the building at a cost of approx. £60 for material and working bee labour and grant £100 in cash. A sub-committee was appointed to organise the work and 19 members offered to do the work within one month.

A letter of congratulation was sent to Mr. C. F. Pollard on his recent appointment as a Member of the British Empire appointed by the Queen.

On 14th July, 1959 a special sub-committee meeting was held. On the motion of Colonel Collins, it was decided that no action would be taken to pass over the freehold of the Showground to the Crown.

A report was given that the cement floor for the Race Club house had been put down in two working bees as arranged and there would be another working bee to lay water pipes and drains. Timber for the conveniences would be erected at the next working bee also.

On 11th August 1959 a letter from the Minister of Agriculture approved the grant of £1600 on a £2 to £1 basis for the erection of a cattle pavilion.

A.M.L. &F. Co. (Australian Mercantile Land and Finance Co.) applied for permission to conduct a special Stud Hereford and Poll Hereford Bull sale on the Showgrounds, Permission was granted. It was resolved that a fee of £25 be charged for the use of the grounds and facilities for a one day sale.

The expenses of the Wodonga Show girl, Miss Nuttall, would be paid to attend the Royal Show.

The President reported that all roofs were connected with the special underground drainage System except the Produce shed. 220 feet of guttering was required.

Mr. A. E. Schulz resigned from the Fruit and Vegetable Chief Steward section. He was asked to reconsider his resignation and did so.

Mrs. Lindsay gave 3 months notice of her resignation as she was leaving the district. A minute of appreciation for her services was recorded.

A.M.L. & F.'s special bull sale would be held on 1st October 1960.

The "Weekly Times" took a photo of the Committee for a special section of the "Weekly Times" to be printed on 7th October, 1960.

On 13th October 1959 a Trust Fund Account was opened for the new Cattle Pavilion. £1600 had been received from the Agriculture Department.

On 10th November 1959, Mr. W. H. Gray was elected secretary of the Show Society at a remuneration of £100 per annum.

A.M.L. & F. Co. of William Street Melbourne applied to conduct a Stud and Herd Bull sale on Sept. 12,13 & 14, 1960. The application was granted.

Chas Wilkinson & Co., printers of Volt Lane, Albury, quoted 30/- per page for 700 schedules for the 1960 annual Show.

Mr. Richardson reported that the contractor had finished his work on the Cattle Pavilion and work would now be continued by the Society.

He also reported that an iron fence had been purchased from the B.P. Depot for £40: approx. 400 5' sheets of iron and approx. 200 5'x3" posts, 75% in good condition.

£800 is required in the immediate future. It was decided that Debentures of £10 for a term of 5 years at 5% per annum to the value of £800 be called for.

Mr. Hamilton-Smith and Mr. Manning proposed that the Royal Agricultural Society and "Sun" girl competition committee be asked to adopt several suggestions:

1. All entrants to be bona-fide residents of country areas.
2. That the final judging in Melbourne take place in woollen frocking.
3. That the winner of one such competition be not eligible for any other such competition
4. In view of the fact that girls are required to be present some days before judging, that some definite limitation be placed on the expense account.
5. That suitable young members of the Societies be selected to escort the young ladies to the various functions.

The President asked the meeting to decide on a presentation to Mrs. D. Lindsay, the retiring Secretary, after 10 years, being appointed on 6.9.1949 as she is retiring on 5th December 1959, to be married. Each member was asked to contribute £1 towards the gift.

On 8th December the Committee meeting was told the cattle pavilion was ready for boxing of the retaining wall.

The Treasurer reported a credit balance of £199/0/4 and for the Cattle Pavilion a credit balance of £1,591/4/6.

Mr. Horton tendered his resignation because of ill health. He was asked to reconsider because of his experience and advice were of great value. Mr. Horton withdrew from hard work but said he'd carry on and do what his health allowed.

Mrs. Lindsay was made a life member of the Wodonga Show Society in recognition of her 10 years valued services as Secretary to the Society.

On 19th January, 1960 the Committee was told the Cattle Pavilion was nearing completion. The Victorian Minister of Agriculture would be invited to open it. However, Mr. J. S. Hore said "There is only one man who should be asked to open our new Cattle Pavilion, and he is our President, Mr. Robert Richardson who has given so much time and physical effort to the building."

Mr. A. G. Richardson, acting chairman, said: "I know my father's wishes in the matter and therefore support Mr. Hamilton-Smith's idea of sending an invitation to the Minister to open the Pavilion." It was moved by Col. Collins and seconded by Mr. S. Manning, that the Hon. Mr. Chandler, Minister of Agriculture, Victoria, be asked to open the new cattle pavilion on Show Day, 26th March, 1960.

On the 9th February, Mr. Chandler regretfully declined the invitation to open the new Cattle Pavilion because he would be opening the Croydon Show on the same day.

Mr. Hamilton-Smith appealed to Committee members to subscribe to the Cattle Pavilion fund and take out Debentures. 14 members immediately promised to take out Debentures totalling £750.

Mr. Richardson and Mr. Hore were empowered to provide suitable stock watering facilities at the new cattle pavilion. Mr. Robt. Richardson called for members to attend a working bee to provide the watering facilities and 22 members volunteered.

The Committee appointed Mrs. W. Schubert, Mrs. A. G. Richardson and Mrs. Hamilton-Smith to be a sub-committee to conduct the Sun Show Girl Competition.

The Hon. Mr. Bolte, the Premier of Victoria be invited to officially open the new Cattle Pavilion which will be called The J. A. Ford Pavilion on Show Day, 26th March, 1960.

The Victorian Premier, Mr. Bolte told the meeting of 8th March, 1960 that he too had a prior engagement which would prevent him from opening the J. A. Ford Cattle Pavilion. It was decided no official opening be held.

An Insurance policy for £1,500 to cover fire and tempest was taken out on the new Cattle Pavilion. Smoking in the pavilion would be prohibited, stalls would have straw and the walks left bare.

The Treasurer reported a credit balance of £1,558/14/10 which includes £440/11/3 from the sale of blocks of land.

On 12th April 1960, Mr. Pollard- expressed his wish to retire from the Committee for health reasons. Regret was expressed by the President and members generally at the necessity for such a decision.

That meeting decided to complete the walls of the Poultry pavilion and cover them with galvanised iron.

The 13th Annual meeting was held on the 21st May, 1960. The treasurer reported a credit balance in the cattle pavilion account of £596/-/1 and a bank balance in the general account of £1,191/6/4. Two new members were welcomed: Mr. J. M. Taylor of Barnawartha and Mr. R. A. Richards of Staghorn Flat. A ballot for Committeemen was not needed because of the retirement of Mr. Pollard and Mr. A. E. Schultz. Mr. Pollard was a foundation member of the Society.

Mr. Robt. Richardson was re-elected President and other office bearers were returned.

A report in the Border Morning Mail on Monday, March 28, 1960 with a headline THE CURTAIN FALLS.

"By 6:30 p.m. the din and clamour of the Wodonga Show Society's 13th Annual Exhibit had settled below a dusty haze.

Singly and in convoys the trucks and tractors, gleaming cars and motor scooters had filtered through the gateways and back to their respective "haunts."

There was little indication that the Wodonga Showground had been the site of the most successful display ever held in the town.

It had been a big day for every one.

Tired officials wandered about looking for something to do.

They felt odd. After the frenzied activity of the past eight or nine hours, they now found themselves as a "loose end."

As the shroud of rapidly gathering dusk enveloped the grandstands and the pavilions, a small crowd

still huddled around the booths no doubt to see it out "to the last."

The compressed "fuzz" vacant 18 gallon kegs could be heard some distance away, above the murmur of voices and the "clink" of empty glasses.

A sailor-suited toddler lazily waving a half inflated red balloon, wandered through the main gate on the heels of an exhausted mother. He cast tired, yet satisfied glance over his shoulder. He too, had had a busy day.

As the car lights disappeared in the distance and T-shirted gentlemen, weaving, and a little "tipsy", shouted for a taxi that wasn't there, a lonely cow bellowed a long and melancholy finale to ring down the curtain on a day well spent and a job well done. Congratulations Wodonga."

In the same paper with the headline " Judge says pavilion too far from ring"

"Cattle judge Mr C. C. Bolton, of Melbourne, congratulated the Wodonga's Show Society for erecting such a fine pavilion for his section, but rebuked it placing it so far away from the ring.

He said the position of the pavilion so far away from the judging ring delayed the work of the judge.

Mr Bolton also hinted at a way to remedy this.

He said that exhibits could be tied near the ring while judging was in progress."

Another report had the headlines "There were no butts about goats at show"

"There were no butts about the goat section at Wodonga's 13th annual show on Saturday, it was all nice and friendly.

That was Mrs D. Beeton's impression after judging the section.

She also praised the help given to her by stewards Mr Thompson and Mr Bobby Clark.

Mrs Beeton advised readers to select bucks carefully and try and eliminate faults, such as heavy shoulders

and short legs, and to see that udder forward attachments were improved.

Big gum trees on the showgrounds provided some shade during the judging, but she felt this section could be moved to a more central position in such a lovely setting as Wodonga's.

She said a good average type had been shown in the classes. Competition had been nice and friendly."

An advertisement by Mate's had an offer where you could take a Sunbeam Frypan home for a 14 day free trial.

See for yourself what a Frypan can do for you. You're under no obligation to buy, but when you see just how efficient your Frypan is you wonder how you ever did without it.

Also –

Have you seen the new Sunbeam electric mower? Contact Mate's this week and ask for a free home demonstration. We'll mow your lawns to velvet smoothness in a jiffy.

Mr. Robt. Richardson asked the meeting of 16th June, 1960, to support a letter being sent to the Kennel Club re the Pattersons curse that has appeared in the recently laid lawn.

At the Committee meeting of 9th August, 1960, 2 minutes silence was observed to honor Mr. M. B. Jamison, who died.

The final payment was made to Albury Engineer Co. for their work on the Cattle Pavilion, the contracted price for which was £1,393/-/-.

Mr. John Hamilton-Smith told the meeting of 11th October that the Show Society's representative for the final judging of the "Sun Country Show Girl competition", Miss Edna Holgate, was a great credit to the Wodonga Show Society and district in general. The judging had been at the Melbourne Royal Agricultural Show in September.

Mr. Mac Holten, a member of the House of Representatives, was asked to assist the society in procuring some of the buildings no longer required by the Immigration Department at Bonegilla. They could be moved to the Showgrounds for use in the display of wool, handcrafts, school exhibits and so on.

The following meeting on 8th November, 1960, was told Mr. Mac Holten was not hopeful that the buildings could be obtained cheaply, but he will investigate further.

Mr. A. M. Holland tendered his resignation from the Committee, after 8 years, as he had left the district.

Mr. Richardson called for 2 minutes silence to acknowledge the death of Mr. A. J. L. Hortin.

The 13th December meeting heard that Mr. Holten said only two huts had been declared surplus at Bonegilla and disposal to local firms had been arranged, but he will make enquiries to find out if other huts will be available.

The Kennel Club asked the Show Society to use the remainder of the money from £100 allocated by the Kennel Club, to buy material necessary to complete the fence around the green of the Dog Ring. The Kennel Club expected to go into recess.

Three new members joined the Committee: Mr. H. E. Crapp, Mgr. N.S.W. Bank, Mr. H. Ashworth of Staghorn Flat and Mr. Vic Wilson of Albury.

A new regulation was added and will be printed in the Schedule:

"The Committee reserves the right to alter or omit any item included in the written Prize list and also to postpone or alter the dates of or cancel the Show should the same become necessary, and the Committee incurs no responsibility or liability by reason of such action."

1961

The meeting of 10th January, 1961, nominated Mr. Hamilton-Smith as a Committeeman of the Equestrian Federation of Australia (Victorian Branch).

A.M.L. & F. applied to hold a Special Bull Sale on 18th March, 1961, and hold their annual Beef Breed Auction on the Monday prior to the Albury Spring Show.

Mr. Arden tendered his resignation stating he is not able to attend the meetings but will still be active on the Show Society. Mr. Roy Hempel was elected as a committeeman to fill the vacancy, on 14th February 1961 took over stewardship of the Wool Section.

On 14th March, 1961, the Vice Chancellor of the University of Melbourne thanked the Show Society Committee for the £5/5/- donation towards the establishing of a Veterinary School.

The Sewerage Authority was asked how long it would be before the Showgrounds was connected to the sewer. (A note in brackets states "1964 approx. ")

Horse events were not up to standard due to reduced entries caused by the clash of events, particularly in Trotting which resulted in the cancellation of the Trotting races at the Show this year, the President said.

Mr. Richardson said the Show had been a credit to all Committeemen. He asked that consideration be given to the appointment of a new President - "a younger man is necessary" was his opinion. Mr. Hamilton-Smith said that although the President, Mr. Richardson, was concerned because he was not able to work so hard on Show Day as in former years, the very fact of his presence was a stimulant to the Committee and stewards generally. He said Mr. Richardson had lost sight of his strenuous daily efforts at the Show grounds for weeks before Show Day, but that work was not forgotten by the members of the Committee.

A letter was sent to Colonel A. B. S. Collins (who is in hospital) expressing regret at his illness, wishing him a speedy recovery and thanking him for his years of service to the Committee and the Society as Treasurer. Mr. H. E. Crapp was asked to act as Treasurer.

The Secretary was granted two months leave of absence.

Mr. Richardson and Mr. John Hamilton-Smith and Mr. A. G. Richardson were asked to act as a sub-committee to revise the Rules and Regulations in readiness for the Annual meeting on 6th June.

It was moved that the Chamber of Agriculture be asked to discuss the possibility of Agriculture Show Societies obtaining some relief from the burden of Municipal Rates.

At the 9th May meeting, 1961, the Chamber of Agriculture, Melbourne, suggested that the Wodonga Show Society seek affiliation with the Chamber of Agriculture at a fee of £5/5/-. The Society agreed to affiliation. Mr. John Hamilton-Smith was appointed the Society's representative to the Chamber of Agriculture.

Mr. A. J. Terrill resigned membership because of the pressure of private business but promised to continue his support. He was thanked for his years of service to the Society.

A further letter from Mr. Mac Holten, Minister for Immigration, and one from agents handling the sale of buildings from the Department of Interior at Bonegilla migrant centre, was discussed. Mr. A. Reuss and Mr. B. Cox moved that a Committee be appointed and authorised to spend £500 in acquiring, moving and re-erecting on the Showgrounds, suitable buildings for the Society's use.

Mr. C. F. Pollard was asked to accept Life Membership of the Wodonga

Show Society to mark years of activity and invaluable service to the Society.

14th AGM

At the Annual Meeting of the Society held in the C.W.A Rooms on Tuesday, 6th June, 1961, President, Robt. Richardson said the Show had been successful although there was a £200 reduction in gate-takings. There were record entries in all sections excepting horses and they were of good quality. Special mention must be made of the cattle - in some sections the entries exceeded 70. Improvements during the year included a concrete floor in the main Pavilion, complete enclosure of the fowl shed and enlargement of Sheep accommodation. A new Luncheon room was being considered before the next Show. The Statement of Receipts and expenditure showed a bank balance of £1,286/5/2 and assets of £11,341/-/-.

Alterations to Rules and Regulations were put and carried:

Reg. No. 6: "non-members to pay an entry fee of 10% of the value of 1st prize unless otherwise specified. No entry fee shall be less than 6d. Members to have the right of entering 10 exhibits free and other exhibits at half rates unless otherwise specified."

Reg. No.12: "Exhibits in Livestock sections shall not be removed before 4pm and Exhibits in Sections other than Livestock shall not be removed before 5 p.m. on the day of the Show except as the Committee may direct."

Reg. No. 18: "That Regulation No. 18 now read: "Members may exhibit any production by special permission, the same to be marked "For Exhibition Only".

Reg. No. 19: "No exhibits, special or otherwise, to compete in more than one class or section (unless otherwise specified) except for championship, group, or special prizes pertinent of any particular section."

Reg. No. 20: "That the words 'without approval of the Committee' be added to the end of the existing wording of Regulation No. 20"

Two additional regulations were inserted after Regulation 20:

No. 21: If in the opinion of the Committee any exhibits are deemed to be dangerous, the owner of such exhibits shall immediately, upon notice to that effect, remove such exhibits from the Society's Grounds."

No. 22: "In the event of any animal breaking loose and/or causing any damage whatsoever, the owner of such animal shall indemnify the Society or the Society's agents against all damages, costs, expenses or liabilities incurred in connection with the same."

Mr. C. A. Draper of Castle Creek, Wodonga was nominated to the Committee.

At the General meeting which followed Mr. Robt. Richardson expressed the wish to be relieved from the Presidentship of the Society and asked the meeting to elect a new President. Two nominations were received: Mr. A. G. Richardson who was senior Vice-President, and Mr. John Hamilton-Smith. Mr. A. G. Richardson declined because other commitments made it too difficult for him to accept the nomination.

There were no other nominations and Mr. John Hamilton-Smith was elected and welcomed by the Meeting. Mr. Hamilton-Smith thanked the meeting for its confidence. He paid tribute to

Mr. Robert Richardson, the retiring President: "No Show Society has had a better President than Mr. Richardson and the Wodonga Society cannot hope to have his equal again in leadership." He also expressed the Society's indebtedness to Mrs. Richardson, who had given such support and assistance to the Society.

Mr. Richardson responded saying: "he had enjoyed the position of President and had given his best and had worked while he felt 'fit' but of late he had been feeling it to be a little beyond him physically and so had retired after 13 years as President being elected on 15/6/1948." He thanked all those members and committeemen who had contributed so largely to make his presidency a happy one.

Vice-Presidents elected were: Mr. A. G. Richardson, Mr. I. D. Watson and Mr. K. Turner. Mr. H. E. Crapp was elected Treasurer.

Mr. Richardson reported that the sub-committee had purchased two buildings at the recent Auction conducted at the Bonegilla Migrant Centre at a cost of £95 and £25 respectively. They were in course of removal for re-erection at the Showgrounds.

Mr. Hamilton-Smith said more buildings were to be sold by the Department of the Interior and the sub-committee was hopeful of obtaining more.

The Wodonga Shire Council notified the Show Society that Richardson Street could be constructed as a private street at the cost of £150/19/6.

The Society objected on the grounds that the proposed works are unnecessary. Mr. More and Mr. A. G. Richardson were directed to act on the Society's behalf to negotiate with the Wodonga Shire Council to have the portion of Richardson Street, as fenced, handed over to the Council provided that the Society be free of any liability for costs of street maintenance, or construction.

At its meeting of 11th July, 1961 the Society applied for a Government grant of £1,000 to roof the sheep pens. It had received 3 quotes of £1225, £1342 and £1370.

Mr. Richardson said that buildings for sale at Bonegilla were too costly. Mr. Hamilton-Smith said he had spoken to Mr. Mac Holten, M.H.R. and suggested a deputation go to Melbourne with the objective of talking to the Department of Interior's Mr. Egan to discuss suitable buildings. A group of members to be the deputation was appointed.

A quote for making Life Membership Badges will be sought from Stanley White, jewellers. The badge depicted a Hereford Bull.

A letter from the Shire of Wodonga asking if support would be forthcoming from the Society if a public meeting were called to discuss Municipality Development was discussed and the Society decided to be represented if the meeting is called.

An invitation will be extended to the new Governor General, Lord de L'Isle to officially open next year's Show.

On 12th September 1961, the Committee was told that the design for the Life Membership Badge was not considered suitable. The Show Secretary is to send photographs and color particulars of a Hereford Head to both Stanley White and K. G. Luke, Jewellers of Melbourne, asking for more presentable designs.

The deputation to the Chief Property Officer of the Dept. of Interior, Mr. Egan, reported they'd been promised the assistance and advice from officers in charge of the next sale of buildings at Bonegilla Migrant Centre.

Mr. Robt. Richardson was invited to accept a Life Membership of the Society.

A meeting of the Grounds sub-Committee on 3rd October 1961 was told the price of a building wanted at Bonegilla had increased from the £100 previously decided up and agreed to by the Dept. of Interior, to £160. After discussion it was decided to pay the Dept. of Interior the increased price of £160 under protest. After further discussion it was decided that the Secretary and Treasurer draft a letter and post it immediately with a cheque for £150 + £20 (to be later refunded) to ensure that the building will be totally removed and the area left in a satisfactory condition.

The letter was typed that evening and posted with a cheque for £170.

At the meeting of 10th October, 1961, Mr. Hamilton-Smith reported that the Ablutions Block had been placed on the blocks over the concrete platform and a working bee was necessary to complete it.

Mr. Hamilton-Smith also reported on the Grounds Committee action to procure a suitable building from the Dept. of Interior sale at Bonegilla. It would now cost £150 and approximately a further £150 to remove and re-erect it at the Showgrounds site north of the pigeon pavilion. The Grounds Committee was congratulated on spending less than the £500 originally allocated.

The Wodonga Council notified the Show Society that the date of the inaugural meeting of the Wodonga Shire Development Committee had been set for 16 September 1961. The President asked that as many of the Committee as possible attend.

A photography section would be included at the next Show.

The 14th November meeting was told the pavilion purchased from the Dept. of Interior at Bonegilla had been moved in and re-erected to the north of the Pigeon Pavilion.

The Shire of Wodonga accepted the gift of Showgrounds land made by the Society - approx. 250' x 66' known as Richardson Street.

1962

The Society began the New Year with a meeting on 9th January where it was told it had a credit balance of £564/18/4.

Mr. J. A. Hore was congratulated on receiving an award, the M.B.E.

The Secretary was asked to again write to Mr. Mac Holten, M.H.R. for a result in the Society's request for His Excellency the Governor General, Lord d'Lisle to open the Show on Saturday, 24th March, 1962.

The meeting of 13th February 1962 discussed a letter from the Victorian Local Government Department to the Wodonga Shire Council which stated that a toilet block must be of brick, concrete or some such permanent construction to meet requirements for a subsidy. The present ablution block couldn't meet those standards. It was suggested that the Society make an

application for a subsidy of £100 which, together with the £50 from the Show Society, would give £150 to provide the block with light and water.

A.M.L. & F. again made two bookings for Bull Sales.

The Woodchop competition would take place at the next Show.

A quote of £137 was accepted to alter the electrical supply to 3-phase and the connection of power and lighting to the new pavilion and luncheon room.

A letter was written to the Shire Council:

- a. expressing concern at the nature of the new drain being cut through the Showgrounds,
- b. the Council be asked to provide something of a more permanent construction,
- c. that the action of the Shire Engineer in providing crossing over the drain be commended.

Insurance was extended to cover the new buildings: luncheon room, kitchen and wool pavilion.

The 13th March 1962 meeting received another design for a Life Membership badge but didn't like it and will seek designs from other firms.

At the 10th April 1962 meeting, Mr. R. V. Pertzelt resigned from the Committee saying he was unable to give the necessary attention to Show Society business. He was thanked for his many years of service and stewardship of the Poultry Section of the Show.

Mr. L. J. Mulqueeney resigned from the Society because of pressure of business and inability to give the time he considered necessary.

A.M.L. & F. cancelled the April bull sale because of lack of entries.

Mr. Hamilton-Smith thanked all committee members for their part in the success of the 1962 Show.

The 8th May meeting of the Committee learnt that the Minister of Agriculture Mr. G. Chandler had approved a grant of £1,000 on a 2 for 1 basis for roofing of the sheep pens. The Society has to provide a cheque of £500 and the £1,000 will be provided in September after the next Budget.

Another design for a Life Membership badge was not approved. The Hereford Breeders Association will be asked for information on the design of a badge depicting a Hereford Bull.

A letter from the Shire Secretary, Mr. H. Silke told of a public meeting to be held in the Council Chambers on 17th May to form an Arts Council in Wodonga. Mr. Robt. Richardson and Mr. John Hamilton-Smith were appointed delegates.

The 15th Annual meeting was held on 5th June, 1962 when the President, Mr. John Hamilton-Smith said the year had been one of solid achievement and the assets and prestige of the Society further advanced. A record number of 4,000 entries had been received for the Show. Four new sections had been included: Art, Woodchop, Photography and New Australian Exhibits. He expressed disappointment that His Excellency the Governor-General, Viscount Lord d'Lisle had been unable to open the Show. During the year £1,082 was spent on buildings and amenities. Assets had risen to over £15,000. Gate takings were £893/5/3. Bank Credit was £294/17/1.

At the following general meeting Mr. Hamilton–Smith was re-elected President, and Mr. A. G. Richardson, Mr. Ian Watson and Mr. K. Turner vice–Presidents. Mr. H. E. Crapp was re-elected treasurer and Mr. Mullens, Auditor.

Wodonga's engineer, Mr. Pain quoted the Society an increased cost of 13/8 per foot to provide an invert at the Richardson Street entrance.

The Society said it was not prepared to pay that amount but would pay from 6/0 to 8/– per foot which had been decided upon earlier.

At the meeting of 10th July, 1962, the Life Membership badge was finalised, with the help of the Hereford Society. A price from the manufacturers for a Hereford Society Badge with a bar above and below inscribed with "Life Member Wodonga Show Society".

Sub-Committees were appointed.

The resignation of Mr. R. Richards was received with regret.

The Committee decided to advertise that it had storage space to rent and formed a sub-committee to compile advertisements for the papers.

At the 14th August meeting it was decided to approach the Bank of New South Wales to obtain an overdraft to roof the sheep pens. The overdraft would be £500.

Mr. S. Hyde of the Commonwealth Bank Wodonga joined the Committee. The Committee decided to sell two marquees for £100 each.

Mr. James Cook joined the Society.

The meeting of 11th September congratulated Mr. A. G. Richardson on his election as Wodonga's Shire President.

The meeting of 9th October received a draft constitution from the Wodonga Arts Council and information that a public meeting would be held on 1st November, 1962.

At the 13th November meeting, the President, Mr. Hamilton–Smith asked that serious consideration be given to the forming of a Show Society's Ladies Committee to help with social activities and help improve the Society's finances.

The obsolete ticket box which had been removed from the entrance to the Showgrounds was to be placed near the poultry pavilion to provide store room space.

1963

On 12th March it was reported that the fence around the dog ring had been completed – the Dog Club paid for the materials and the members of the Society provided the labour.

The 9th April, 1963 meeting was told that Mr. A. E. Winnett was resigning because of ill health. Mr. Winnett had been a Foundation Member and a minute records the splendid assistance given to the Show Society during its existence.

The Treasurer reported a Credit Balance of £238/8/2, with accounts for payment of £240/8/2.

Mr. J. Street successfully moved that more publicity should be given to the Stud Stock section of the Show and that a Committee be appointed to give the exhibitors of such quality stock more considered advertisement for their efforts in Show work and to stress to the general-public the national importance of the benefits derived nationally from the showing of such quality Stud Stock.

Mr. Hamilton-Smith said the attention of the incoming Committee must be drawn to the inadequacy of power supplies in the Showmans Area on Show Days.

The 14th May meeting accepted with regret the resignation of the steward of the Homecrafts section of the Show for many years, Mr. G. Murray.

A debit balance of £104/19/1 was recorded.

It was also decided to review admittance and space charges and try to obtain a better balance between fees and prize monies. Local authorities would be approached for assistance in the form of cash donations.

Mr. Hamilton-Smith was re-elected President, Vice Presidents A. G. Richardson, I. Watson and K. Turner.

Mr. Hurst Gray asked the Committee to accept his resignation because of health reasons and a deafness disability, saying he would like to hand over to his successor in late September. His resignation was accepted with deep regret.

Because of poor interest by trainers, it was decided to delete trotting from the 1964 Show.

New Trustees were appointed at the 9th July meeting : A. G. Richardson, J.A.E. Street, H.S. Jarvis, J.S.A. Harris, I.D. Watson & C.D. Klinge.

Mr. J. Stockdale was appointed Secretary at an honorarium of £260 per annum.

The 13th August meeting was told the state of the drain through the Society's land was disgraceful and the Shire Engineer and Health Inspector would be invited to make an inspection.

The 10th September 1963 meeting was told the SEC estimates provided for an additional transformer to be installed at the corner of Wilson and High Streets and a heavy duty line constructed to the entrance to the Showgrounds would relieve the position. However it was most unlikely that this work would be completed in time for the 1964 Show. Enquiries were being made to see if it was possible to obtain the use of a 35 KVA portable plant from the Army to supply power to the Side Show area. Quotes would be obtained to renew wires to distributing points in the Side Show area, and for the Secretary to proceed with the idea of obtaining the unit from the Army.

Mr. W. J. Hughes was appointed to the Committee.

On 16th September 1963, the Treasurer, Mr. Crapp, outlined the Society's financial position and its present debit balance of £184. He said an additional sum of £139 would be needed before next Show and the anticipated overdraft would be approximately £450. Debentures amounting to £430 were due.

The following resolutions were passed from the Finance Committee to the Show Society Committee:

1. That the debentures be paid in full and a fresh issue of debentures be made.
2. That rates be paid and an appeal made to the Council for a refund of all or portion of the rates in view of legal advice as to the Society's liability to pay.
3. That admission charges be increased from 4/-, 2/- and 1/- to 5/-, 2/-, 1/-.
4. That space charges be increased from 5/- Trade, 3/- Side Shows and Charity to 5/6 trade, 4/6 Sideshows and charity.
5. Mr. Hamilton-Smith to confer with the Showman's Guild with reference to letting the whole of the Side Show area to the Guild.
6. A general rise of 25% for entry fees with a minimum of 1/-. No free passes to exhibitors whose entry fee is under 5/-.
7. A drive be made for new members with each Committeeman trying to get two new members.
8. Application be made to the Chief Secretary for a Show Society Race date.

At the Committee meeting on 8th October it was resolved that all Debentures be paid in full and a fresh issue be made at nearer bank interest instead of the 2½% originally offered. The decision was made to issue Debentures for £500 at 5%.

No action was taken on the Finance Committee's suggestion to waive rates. The increased charges were approved.

On 12th November, 1963, departing Secretary, Mr. Hurst Gray was presented with a wallet of notes and thanked for his invaluable help.

Mr. Thomson, Chief Steward of the Goats Section resigned and was thanked for his service. Mr. R. Clarke agreed to replace him and was appointed to the Show Society Committee.

Letters have been written to all Debenture holders appealing for a renewal of their debentures at increased rates of 5% per annum.

The Secretary, Mr. Stockdale, suggested the running of a Show Society Queen Competition to be held after the new Show would be one way of raising money for the Society. Members were asked to consider the idea to be dealt with at the next meeting.

The meeting of 10th December 1963, was told the Council had inspected the offending drain and would provide temporary relief before the next Show by cleaning it. Permanent work would include laying a 48" enclosed storm drain through the area.

The proposal to hold a Show Society Race meeting was abandoned.

The Treasurer outlined the financial situation saying there was still £290 worth of Debentures to be taken out and urged Committee members to publicise and finalise the issue of Debentures.

The proposal to hold a Queen Show Competition was adopted, and the Secretary asked for a list of suitable candidates.

1964

On January the 14th the Secretary said he was surprised at the high cost of printing schedules compared with those of other Shows. He took the matter up with the printers and found the Society had been overcharged £10 for the past 3 years. A Credit Note for £30 was received.

The 11th February meeting sent a letter to the Shire Council thanking them for the prompt action to give relief from drainage problems.

The Treasurer reported a return to credit with a balance of £163. The full amount of debentures presently stood at £1500.

The Committee meeting of 10th March was told the Society now had a Credit Balance of £999/7/5 - this was due to an amount of £1300 having been drawn out for change on Show Day. It was not possible at present to give an estimate of the financial result of the Show.

On 21st April, 1964, the Treasurer Mr. Crapp resigned because he was being transferred to Sydney. Mr. Hamilton-Smith spoke of the excellent service he had given to the Society. Mr. Crapp regretted having to sever his association with the Society and undertook to prepare the annual statement before leaving. The Show had returned about £250 profit.

The 12th May meeting saw the resignation of Mr. B. Cox submitted as his association with the Hospital Committee was taking up his available time. A letter of thanks was sent for his service to the Society.

The 17th Annual Meeting was held on the 9th June, 1964. Mr. Hamilton-Smith was re-elected President and the Vice-Presidents were returned.

Mr. L. Dempsey wished to resign but Mr. Hamilton-Smith asked him to reconsider.

As well as thanking Commiteemen and stewards, Mr. Hamilton-Smith also thanked Mr. & Mrs. Wysman, caretakers, for the wonderful job they do.

In his report, the President said although the February Show may have been a little early for this area, a pleasing result had been achieved. Judges had commented on the high quality of cattle exhibited although the season had been very dry. The Sun Show Girl competition had been won by Miss Glenys Moyle of Tallangatta who would appear in the finals in Melbourne. The Credit Balance was £428/19/9.

The 14th July meeting was asked by the Kiewa Valley Young Farmers Club if the Showgrounds and facilities could be used for the State Achievement Day in April 1965. The Society said the proposition had the full support of the Society but that permission of the Trustees would still be required.

Mr. K. Turner spoke of the possibility of Research Stations being established in country areas. It was moved that the Council be asked to take the matter up in conjunction with adjoining Councils and Dairymens Associations with a view to getting a Research Extension Station established at Wodonga. On 8th September the meeting welcomed Mr. Godden who has succeeded Mr. Crapp as manager of the Bank of New South Wales. Mr. Godden was asked to join the Committee and take up the appointment of Treasurer.

On 10th November 1964, one marquee was sold to St. John's Orphanage for £45. The Society returned to a debit balance, this time of £26/3/-.

Grazing rights were let for £10/10/- to Crawshaw and Cox.

On 8th December 1964, the President reported that several thousand sheep were now grazing on the Society's ground and that trees had been planted by someone unknown and he had placed guards around them.

1965

During the first meeting of the New Year, Mr. Hamilton-Smith spoke of what he considered would be an acquisition to the Society, the forming of a Ladies Committee and quoted former Committeeman, Mr. Des Klinge, who stated at a recent convention that Ladies should be able to take a more active part in Show Society work.

By the 9th February meeting credit had been restored but the amount of accounts to be paid still left the Society's finances precariously poised.

Mr. Sydney White was welcomed to the Committee. Mr. White was appointed assistant Treasurer.

No rain policy was taken out.

On 13th April the President spoke of the need to extend water mains to the arena for convenience of watering. Money was available from a previous Grant amounting to £179. The society would have to provide 1/3 of expended money. An application was made for a grant to extend the water, and Mr. Hore and Mr. Richardson said they'd confer with the Council engineers.

The Young Farmers Achievement Day was a great success and returned a profit of £200. Some young farmers had offered to assist the Stewards if required.

On 11th May, 1965, the President advised the cost of extending the water would be approximately £60 to the Society.

Mr. Hamilton-Smith spoke to the Committee about the need to raise finance apart from the annual Show.

The 18th Annual meeting was held in the R.S.L. Hall on 15th June 1965. Mr. Hamilton-Smith said all sections of the Show attracted excellent entries and congratulations must go to exhibitors who presented their exhibits in first class condition in spite of the driest Autumn on record. The number and quality of cattle was a highlight of the Show. Two new sections -Sheaf Tossing and Weight Lifting proved popular. A grant had been received to improve the watering system which would be completed by the end of the month. Credit balance was £426/19/9.

At the following general meeting, Mr. Hamilton-Smith was returned as were the previous vice-presidents and Treasurer.

Mr. V. Wilson resigned as a committeeman, and a letter of appreciation sent.

AMOCO talked of providing prize money for a Championship Woodchop.

The -President of the Senior Young Farmers, Mr. Jarvis outlined the results of the Young Farmers State Achievement Day. There were 115 workers, 700 entries and 1520 attended the dance.

At the 10th August 1965 meeting AMOCO said it was willing to go to £20 to assist in sponsoring wood chops. Other sponsorship will be tried for.

Cattle pavilion debentures were due and debenture holders were circularised to see if they were prepared to lend for further 5 years.

On 8th September, Mr. H. P. Jarvis resigned - received with regret.

Mr. Hamilton-Smith spoke of the need to raise money to redeem existing debentures as it was impossible to do this out of Show Day profits. It was decided to apply to the Bank of N.S.W. for approval to increase the existing overdraft. The overdraft would be to an amount required to purchase approximately 25 head of breeding cows already joined. They would be agisted on the properties of members and supporters of the Society and the financial return would be used for the redemption of the Debentures.

The same meeting discussed the forming of a Ladies Auxiliary and it was resolved to call a special meeting of member's wives and all helpers to attend with a view to forming an Auxiliary.

The 12th October 1965 meeting was told the prices of stock were too high at present to implement the cattle scheme. Mr. Hamilton-Smith thanked donors for their financial assistance by the sale of stock.

The Trustees would like to have an inner fence around the racetrack finished and a working bee would be held on Saturday 23rd October.

A letter from the Royal Agricultural Society Tour manager thanked the Society for its assistance in making the recent tour so successful. A special drive to secure overseas capital and people would be made with Wodonga as the target.

Mr. J. Tracey resigned because he was being transferred. Accepted with regret. Mr. S. Baines and Mr. N. Sheather were elected to the Committee.

On 9th November, 1965, the meeting was told that there was good progress on helping the Turf Club construct the inner fence around the racetrack.

The 14th December 1965 meeting was told the stock agistment scheme had begun and stock had been placed at A. J. McDonald, J. Whyte, J. C. Reid, A. Brewer, A. Terrill and J. Hamilton-Smith's properties

1966

The 11th January 1966 meeting welcomed Mr. E. Baynes as a new member who had been connected with the Young Farmers movement.

The contractor laying the underground drain expected the work to be finished by the end of January.

Mr. J. Harvey resigned at the 8th February 1966 meeting as he was leaving the district.

The meeting was told a revised set of Rules and Regulations were necessary before the overdraft for the purchase of stock was finalised. The Secretary read a proposed draft and a special general meeting on 8th March will consider them. That meeting heard and adopted the new Rules & Regulations.

The general meeting on 8th March 1966 adopted the Treasurer's resolution: That the sum of £1200 (\$2,400) be raised on overdraft by the Trustees with the Bank of N.S.W. for the purpose of purchasing stock and the general purposes of the Society such overdraft to be repayable on demand and interest to be at the rate for the time being and from time to time charged to the said Bank and usual Bank charges and to secure such overdraft interest and charges as aforesaid that the Trustees be and are hereby directed to execute a T.L.A. Mortgage in such form as the Bank may require over the Society's freehold property being the whole of the land described in Certificate of Title Volume 7859 Folio 054.

The meeting of 12th April, after the Show, reported a credit balance of \$440.40. Several members spoke of the outstanding success of the Show. Mr. Hamilton-Smith spoke on the advisability of fencing the Society grounds so that further agistment could be arranged to derive revenue for the Society.

Mr. Hamilton-Smith also said the prospects were bright for the Ladies Auxiliary getting an early start. Mr. Richardson considered it would be preferable to have the ladies on the General Committee. A date for calling a meeting to form the Auxiliary would be arranged as soon as possible.

At the 10th May 1966 meeting the President said the Ladies Auxiliary meeting had been set for Tuesday, 17th May.

The 19th annual meeting on 14th June acclaimed the standard and number of entries with the cattle section being the highlight of the Show. The Angus feature Show drew a record number of quality stock, and the horse section required a magnificent effort from the stewards to get them through in time.

The ban on interstate poultry greatly depleted exhibits in poultry sections. Mr. Hamilton-Smith said he considered it essential to improve power lines to the grounds. Gate takings at \$1,452 were down but the Society is in credit to \$189.94.

At the following general meeting, Mr. Hamilton-Smith was re-elected. Mr. A. G. Richardson, I. Watson and K. Turner were re-elected Vice Presidents. Mr. Godden re-elected Treasurer with Mr. White assistant Treasurer and Mr. Jennings, auditor.

The president reported on the inaugural meeting of the Ladies Auxiliary - he considered the formation of the Auxiliary was a move that had been made to improve pavilion arrangements. Mr. Cottrell and Mr. Hempel moved and seconded that \$10 be given to assist the Auxiliary get started.

Mr. A. Brewer, Mr. R. D. Chomley and J. A. Marks were elected to the Committee.

All Committeemen would be advised that a change in meeting night from Tuesday to Wednesday or Thursday nights had been proposed.

The meeting on the 9th March 1966 began with 2 minutes silence to honor the late Mr. C. F. Pollard, M.B.E., the foundation President of the Wodonga Show Society.

The meeting voted to continue to hold regular meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

The financial statement showed a credit balance of \$127.81 in the General Account, \$1770 in the stock account against the overdraft of \$2400.

Mr. W. F. Daly and N. Carr were elected to the Committee.

Mr. Hamilton-Smith referred to the new Technical School and the need for extra power for the Show area. Mr. Stockdale, the Secretary, advised that a new sub-station had to be installed to provide the Technical School with the power required and this would be available to the Society.

By the 8th November meeting, the Woodchop section had returned to the Show Schedule and two open handicap chops were included in the program.

The meeting recorded the death of Mr. P. Newbound, a foundation member of the Society - the announcement of his death was met with deep regret.

1967

The meeting of 14th February 1967, referred to the death of Committeeman Mr. F. Daly and decided to offer assistance to Mrs. Daly.

The Technical School wrote asking to use one of the pavilions for a classroom. A sub-Committee of President, Secretary and Mr. Richardson would investigate but considered the wool pavilion as the most likely.

On 14th March the Technical School wrote again saying an extra staff member could not be obtained so the use of the pavilion would not be required.

The President gave his personal thanks to Committeemen, stewards and helpers for their help prior to and during the Show, which was very successful.

Mrs. Leila Wolfe, who had been in charge of a pavilion section for 20 years was made a Life Member.

On 11th April, 1967, Mr. K. Stansfield advised his inability to attend meetings but he was asked to reconsider his letter of resignation.

At the following meeting on 9th May, Mr. Hamilton-Smith said that Mr. Stansfield preferred to resign but would assist the Show as usual.

The 20th annual meeting was held on 13th June, 1967.

Mr. Hamilton-Smith said consideration should be given to erecting a permanent Secretary's office building on the Showgrounds. Gate takings were \$1,703 and there was a credit bank balance of \$219.31.

He said the Cattle Agistment scheme was presently holding stock to the value of \$2,500 and to date the scheme had earned a profit of \$2,000.

At the general committee meeting which followed, Mr. Hamilton-Smith was re-elected. Mr. L. G. Higginson and Mr. J. Waite were elected to the Committee.

A motion of appreciation was moved to acknowledge the work of Mr. G. Coyle and Mr. N. Bottrell in the purchase and sale of stock for the Stock Agistment scheme. Mr. R. S. Clarke resigned but would be asked to reconsider.

Mr. Godden, the Treasurer was transferred to Mildura and wished every success. He said the Society was in a sound financial state due to the Stock agistment scheme

12th September 1967 - the new Manager at the Bank of N.S.W. is prepared to become Treasurer. Mr. Geoffrey William Wright was appointed.

A suitable life membership badge had been decided upon and ordered.

Mr. David Street and Mr. George Harding were asked to take places on the Committee.

Mr. Manning said he would be unable to carry out the duties of Head Steward because of ill health and would like to see Mr. Harding take his place as Chief Steward.

The Society continued to battle to stay in the black and at the meeting of 14th November, 1967, a debit balance of \$6.17 was shown in the general account, a debit balance of \$675.13 in the Stock account and accounts were presented for payment amounting to \$196.

Sir Rohan and Lady Delacombe were invited to open the 1968 Show.

Photography was deleted from the 1968 Show schedule.

A letter of sympathy was sent to Mrs. Martin on the death of Mr. W. Martin who had been of great assistance to the Society over the years.

1968

The first meeting in 1968, held on 9th January, saw the nomination of Mr. Ray Pollard to the Committee. It was still not known if the Governor would be present to open the Show and present Life membership badges.

Mr. Hamilton-Smith spoke on the dangers of foot and mouth disease coming to Australia in waste from foreign ships and it was resolved to write to Members of Parliament, VASA, the Murray Valley Development League and the Minister for Agriculture urging immediate and adequate steps be taken to see all waste from foreign ships be disposed of in a manner which would ensure the safety of this Nation's livestock.

On 13th February, Mr. Hamilton-Smith suggested the Governor present the Life Membership badges after the official opening.

A tentative time-table for the Governor's visit was prepared.

On 6th March details of the Governor's itinerary were presented - arrival at the Terminus hotel at 1.15 p.m. for official luncheon by Council, arrive at Showgrounds at 2.40 to inspect Guard of Honor and officially open the Show at 2.45 followed by the Grand Parade, at 3 p.m. Stewards were asked to be aware of the time so that all events ceased during the official opening.

Afternoon tea for official guests and committeemen and wives would be held in the Marquee at 4 p.m. The finals of the Wood Chop Championships could take place at 3.45 p.m. so their Excellencies could watch.

The President advised that he had made a ruling that side shows be allowed on site one week before and one week after the Show.

The 9th April 1968 meeting decided to thank Technical School students, Scouts and Guides for their assistance on Show Day. Letters from the Minister of Agriculture and the Commonwealth Minister of Health were received answering concerns about Foot and Mouth Disease and explaining measures taken to dispose of waste material from ships and planes.

The Society's credit balance was \$29.97 and accounts for payment about \$500. There had been a drop of gate takings of \$430.

The President said in view of the difficult season and problems facing people the Show was most successful. He referred to organisations in Albury arranging events on Show Day which could only have an adverse effect on Albury-Wodonga. He considered thought should be given to our Show date in future. He thanked the loyal workers and the Ladies Auxiliary. Mr. Hamilton-Smith said he had received a personal letter from Sir Rohan Delacombe thanking him for a very pleasant day at the Show. He regretted Mr. E. Mann, was not present to receive his Life Members badge from Sir Rohan. He said a permanent office was necessary to file and store papers and equipment and save time and labor in moving from office to house and back to office. Cattlemen had asked to buy surplus baled hay and he had sold 50 bales at 50c per bale.

The 21st AGM was held on 11th June 1968. Mr. Hamilton-Smith, in his annual report mentioned the presentation of Life Members badges by the Governor to Mr. Richardson, Mrs. D. Wilkinson (Lindsay), Mrs. L. Wolfe and Mr. Hurst Gray.

Mr. Hamilton-Smith said the season had been the driest on record yet the exhibits were of high quality. The dry season had caused a downturn in the Society's financial situation.

Mr. Hamilton-Smith presented Mr. E. B. Mann with his Life Membership badge and spoke of his great service to the Society. (Although Mr. Mann had been awarded Life Membership on 3rd May, 1949, 19 years earlier, there had been no Life Membership badges available then and they had only recently been made.)

The Ladies Auxiliary presented the Show Committee with a cheque for \$100.

At the General meeting which followed, Mr. G. Simmons reported on attending the Murray Valley Autumn Shows Association meeting at which Wodonga had been allotted the date of 8th March for the 1969 Show. He said he had moved a notice of motion "That delegates endeavour to arrange permanent dates for their respective Shows."

Mr. Hamilton-Smith was re-elected President of the Society.

As Mr. A. G. Richardson had indicated he would not be available to hold office, the Vice-Presidents elected were: Cr. Hore, Mr. I. Watson and Mr. K. Turner.

The Treasurer reported a debit balance of \$518.76 in the General Account and a Credit Balance of \$1149.42. Accounts totalling \$55.64 were passed for payment.

At the 13th August meeting 1968, Mr. Manning was presented with a Life Membership badge in recognition of his valued service. Mr. J. Burns resigned because of his wife's illness.

The overdraft was reduced by \$400.

A Committee was appointed to investigate what alterations and additions would be needed to have judging completed on Friday and the Show open on Friday night.

Mr. Coyle and Mr. Bottrell reported to the meeting of 10th September 1968, that cattle were being purchased under the Stock scheme.

The Wodonga Waterworks Trust granted free use of water but stressed the need for careful use.

The debit balance had increased to \$1060 with a credit balance of \$3,944 in the Stock A/c less overdraft of \$1400.

A notice of Motion was moved by Mr. R. Watson that two blocks of land facing Wilson Street be sold.

At the 8th October 1968 meeting several recommendations from the Finance Committee were adopted:

1. That entrance fee be adults 60c, children 6-14 years 10c and cars 30c.
2. Members tickets remain at \$3 with 1 - lady's ticket and 5 free entries, balance at 5% of 1st prize money - this motion was lost.
3. The Secretary be given permission to revise schedule to bring prize money and entry fees in line with kindred societies.
4. Increase charge for side shows and charities from 35c. to 40 cents per foot.
5. That the Secretary and Mr. Hore interview Council officers about cost of subdividing 2 blocks facing Wilson Street. If unfavourable, check on available land facing Richardson Street. Further discussion resulted in a decision to sell blocks in the south-west corner facing Richardson Street. Council permission to subdivide will be sought.

The Grounds Committee met on 12th October to confirm the decision to sell blocks 1-2 and 3 adjoining the rear of Mitchell Street. Blocks to be 60' x 125'. Block 4 would be held and sold at the discretion of the Committee.

The meeting of 12 November decided the most satisfactory way of selling the blocks was by tender.

On the motion of Mr. V. Hempel the Sun Show Girl competition was deleted.

At the 10th December meeting Mr. Hamilton-Smith said there had been general dissatisfaction expressed at VASA about the competition for Show Girl.

Local Members of Parliament would be asked to support the exemption of Sales Tax on purchases made by Agricultural Show Societies.

1969

Because of the death of Mr. P. Newbound and the moving of Mr. Des Klinge to Queensland to live, it was necessary to obtain Mr. Klinge's resignation and remove both names from the record of Trustees of the Showgrounds.

On 11th February Show Committeemen held a minute's silence to acknowledge the death of Mr. J. Burns.

Des Klinge resigned as a Trustee of the Society.

Arrangements were made to have a water trough moved from Yackandandah to a site arranged on the Showgrounds. A letter of thanks was sent to Yackandandah Shire.

Mr. Chomley moved that the publicity committee be disbanded because it was apparently not interested as no information had been forthcoming from many sections. The President would not allow the motion.

The meeting of 15th April was asked by the Rotary Club of Wodonga for use of its facilities to run a walkathon to aid the Wodonga Hospital. Permission was given.

The President thanked the Committee and stewards for the success of the 1969 Show saying many complements had been received. He said Gate takings showed an increase of \$400 which was heartening in view of the fact many Societies reported their gate takings were down. Unfortunately there were further power failures on Show Day.

On 13th May, 1969, Mr. Hamilton-Smith reported attending the annual conference of VASA at Warrnambool with 165 delegates from 115 societies. The conference was told rain insurance had been reduced from 5% to 4% of gate takings and half cover could be taken out.

22nd AGM. The President, in his annual report, said the Show was one of the most successful held. The season had been favourable and all livestock were presented in wonderful condition. A record number of cattle had been penned in the fat classes. Credit must go to the stewards for their excellent work in putting a massive ring program through efficiently. There'd been a record number of dog entries. The Show had returned a small profit. 4 blocks of land in Richardson street had been sub-divided and sold. He also said the Showgrounds had now been re-zoned Recreational.

Mr. Hamilton-Smith was re-elected President and the Vice-Presidents were returned. Mr. Wright was re-elected Treasurer.

Mr. Wright reported a debit balance of \$1271.97 in the general account and a credit balance of \$3,176.40 in the Stock account.

Mr. Hamilton-Smith said the dog section had lost \$160. The wood chop had also lost in spite of promise of support which was not forthcoming. Mr. Hore called for a profit and loss statement on all sections.

Mr. C. H. Schneider resigned at the meeting of 8th July, 1969 and so did Mr. L. Dempsey. Both resignations were accepted with regret.

It was at the meeting of 19th August 1969 that Mr. R. Pollard moved that the Wodonga Show open on Friday night, 20th February, and on the 9th September meeting discussions began on the costs of the night program and availability of entertainment.

Applications were made to hold a Championship Dog show and a Victorian Championship wood chop at the 1970 Show.

Two nominations were received for Committee vacancies: Mr. R. Massina a grazier of Barnawartha, and Mr. H. McKinnon, a Line foreman of Wodonga.

On the 14th October the Council told the Society that the extension of the water main to the subdivision in Richardson St., would cost about £400, with the Council contributing half.

On 11th November 1969 the Society was told only 3 Show Societies would participate in the Sun Show Girl Competition - they were Wodonga, Corowa and Tallangatta.

The Secretary, Mr. Stockdale reported that a building had been bought from the Dutch Club in Albury for the price of removal \$300 and was now on site.

It was resolved to spend up to \$75 on the exterior of the building.

Estimates were being prepared for the adequate supply of light and power for the Friday Night show. A charge of 50c. per adult, and 10c for children 14-16 years of age was approved for the Friday night show.

There was indignation by the Society at the meeting of 9th December 1969 that the Turf Club had removed the loading ramp. A strong note was sent to the Club asking for the immediate restoration of the ramp.

Mr. Hynes apologised for the Turf Club and seconded a motion that a letter be written to the Trustees requesting any future developments or alterations to the area be submitted to the various organisations concerned, that regularly used the grounds and its amenities.

A letter from the Ladies Auxiliary complimented the Society for obtaining the new building in which it was proposed to hold regular meetings. The Auxiliary sought permission to make the new building their project for the year, raising \$300 to pay the cost of removal and setting up the new building, on site. Their action was accepted with thanks.

The President reported on a VASA meeting which proposed that a surcharge of 5c or 10c per horse be levied at all Shows to assist the financing of the equestrian team for the Olympic Games.

1970

The first meeting for 1970 was held on 13th January in the new Secretary's office. It was told the Turf Club had made no effort to restore the ramp it had removed and the President of the Turf Club would be contacted to take urgent action. If no action was forthcoming by the end of the month the Society would have the work done and charged to the Turf Club.

The Treasurer submitted a financial statement showing a debit balance of \$1,663.53 in the general account and a credit balance of \$2,046.67 in the stock account.

Mr. Hore reported on alterations to the new building and suggested insurance be arranged as soon as possible as it was now a valuable building. Mr. Hore and those who had assisted him with the work, were thanked, and a minute of appreciation recorded.

A verbal request had been made by the purchaser of one of the house blocks for a release from the contract and a return of the deposit due to a matrimonial upset. The Society asked the purchasers to honour their contract and pay the monthly instalments.

A Pluvius policy was taken out against 10 points of rain between 5 and 7 p.m for the Friday night Show.

The Society's overdraft was reduced by a further \$400.

It was also decided to hold future meetings in the new Secretary's office.

The meeting of 10th February 1970 was told the Turf Club had installed another ramp in a different position and half the size. Mr. Hamilton-Smith said the ramp was unsatisfactory but it would have to do for the coming Show.

A letter from the Solicitor of the purchaser who had been refused his deposit was received asking the Society release him from his contract. The Society replied that it was unable to release the buyer from the Contract of Sale.

The Finance Committee made a unanimous recommendation that the Secretary's Honorarium be increased to \$750 p.a. The recommendation was adopted.

The Treasurer told the meeting the General Account now had a credit balance of \$1,375.47 and a credit of \$1,820.08 in the Stock accounts. Accounts totalling \$474.39 were passed for payment.

It was reported that no quarter horses had been entered in the new section it could be because there was no led class. Mr. Cook would be invited to attend with some quarter horses to be led and also bring along some Appaloosas.

On 10th March the meeting was told the matrimonial dispute between the purchasers of a Society block of land had been resolved but they did not wish to proceed with the purchase. The contract was cancelled.

The meeting was told the Treasurer, Mr. Wright had been transferred.

The President reported disappointment in attendance at the Show but was confident the Friday night would grow in attendance and popularity.

The meeting said The President had done a magnificent job which contributed greatly to the Show.

Mr. Hamilton-Smith said some thought should be given to a memorial to the Late Mr. J. S. Hore.

The Society agreed in principal to the proposal by the Turf Club to remove the Horticultural Pavilion to a site suitable to both organisations at the expense of the Turf Club.

On 14th April the Society's solicitor, Mr. Harris, attended the meeting to discuss the sale of Block 2 and the Society's position with relation to the termination of the contract. Mr. Harris outlined the legal position, and left. Mr. K. Turner then moved a notice of motion "That all deposit money above costs incurred be refunded to the purchaser."

Mr. Basil Martin took the position of Treasurer on 14th April, 1970. At that meeting Mr. K. Turner put his notice of motion that deposit monies paid on Block 2, less agents commission, be refunded to the purchaser. The motion was lost by 11 votes to 9.

23rd AGM - The first Annual Meeting held in the Society's own office took place on 9th June, 1970. Members of the Ladies Auxiliary attended the meeting. The President reported on the first night Show and believed it to be a progressive move. The weather for the 21st February was unusually cold but there was good public support. Judging of pavilion exhibits had been done on Friday afternoon and the pavilions were open at night and all day Saturday which met with approval from the public. History was made with the appearance of Quarter Horses and Appaloosas.

A new section "One Woman's Work" attracted keen interest in its first display.

Another new feature was a competitive section for Young Farmers work.

Mr. Hamilton-Smith thanked the Albury Dutch Club for its donation of the building which became the Secretary's office. The club had also donated a piano and furniture.

Gate receipts for the show rose to \$2,100. The Society was able to meet all debentures amounting to \$2,010 and stock on hand was valued at over \$3,000. He thanked Mr. G. Coyle and Mr. N. Bottrell for their wise management of the stock scheme.

Mr. Hamilton-Smith mentioned the long service given by the Late Mr. J. Hore, M.B.E., a Vice-President and foundation member of the Society.

He suggested it might be wise for the Society to choose another man for President as the problem of poor attendance at meetings might be overcome with a new President.

At the Committee meeting which followed the AGM Mr. Hamilton-Smith was re-elected.

New Vice-President Mr. G. B. Simmonds joined Mr. R. Chomley and Mr. K. Turner. Treasurer, Mr. B. Martin was re-elected and reported a credit balance of \$926.01 in the general account and a credit balance of \$1103.73 in the Stock Account.

Secretary, Mr. Stockdale reported having obtained a second septic tank for the cost of removal and this would be the Ladies Toilet and would be installed by the Turf Club with financial assistance from the Trustees.

The President advised that blocks 2 and 3 had been sold for \$6,750 with the proviso that Council permission be obtained to erect stables.

The President's allowance was increased to \$100.

Foundation members who were not already Life Members received Life Membership - they were Mr. A. G. Richardson, Mr. V. C. Hempel and Mr. J. A. E. Street.

The meeting of 8th September 1970 was told an Army building had been purchased for \$400.

Notification was received of the death of the foundation secretary, Mr. Lambourn, and reference was made to his role in helping establish the Society.

The 13th October credit balance was \$6,752.97 in the general account and \$2,360.88 in the stock account. Debentures were due and would be redeemed.

Mr. Hamilton-Smith read the Auxiliary's annual Report and said the formation of the Auxiliary was the best thing that had happened to the Society.

The 10th November 1970 meeting was told the new building had been placed between the poultry and wool pavilions and fitted with spouting. Soil for a ramp each end would be required.

He had granted the proposed Pony Club permission to use the secretary's office for a meeting.

On 8th December 1970 fire insurance (and tempest) was increased to \$5,000. Soil for the ramps at each end of the new pavilion had been delivered and should be put in place to consolidate before Show Day.

Mr. J. W. Edwards joined the Committee.

1971

The first meeting in 1971 was told that site plans and levels were to be obtained for permanent sewerage.

Mr. Hamilton-Smith presented Life Member badges to Mr. J.A.E. Street, Mr. A. G. Richardson and Mr. V. C. Hempel saying that to measure their worth it was only necessary to see the growth of the Society over 24 years. In responding, Mr. A. G. Richardson presented Mr. Hamilton-Smith with a stop watch that had been given to him by the Late Mr. C. Pollard, the Foundation President.

Mr. Hamilton-Smith assured him it would be handed on to future Presidents.

Mr. R.C. Barton and W. Cottrell were also made Life Members.

On 9th March, 1970 the President said the Show had been very successful, and congratulated stewards.

24th AGM - held on 8th June, 1971. The annual meeting was told by the President, Mr. Hamilton-Smith the Show must be ranked as one of the best ever presented. The upward trend of gate takings on the Friday night and on Saturday was encouraging. There had been outstanding cattle exhibits and fat cattle numbers were a record. During the year the Society had spent \$4,000 on improvements on buildings, maintenance and lighting and a 90' x 18' pavilion. Alterations had been made to the Secretary's office to provide greater kitchen space.

Mr. V. Hempel said he had been on the Committee for 24 years and submitted his resignation which was regretfully received.

At the general meeting which followed the AGM, Mr. Hamilton-Smith was re-elected President and Messrs. G. Simmonds, R. Chomley and K. Turner Vice-Presidents. Mr. Martin was re-elected Treasurer.

On 13th July, 1971, Mr. W. S. Massina and Mr. A. Simmonds resigned, both resignations accepted with regret.

On 7th September 1971 the President announced a number of resignations: Messrs. H. Ashworth, J. Cook, N. Carr, L. Higginson, J. Marks, A. J. McDonald, A. G. Richardson, Robt. Richardson, N. Sheather, J. M. Taylor, I. D. Watson, W. S. Massina, H. McKinnon and R. Howard. The resignations from the Committee were accepted - all were appointed Honorary Members.

New members elected to the Committee were: Messrs. C. Marjory, Desmond P. Godde, Charles F. Whitla, Mr. W. Anderson.

The President referred to vandalism and damage to the ablution block, damage to the dog yard by horses being jumped over the fence into the enclosure, a leased pavilion being used for purposes other than specified, and the gates not being kept locked. Talks would be held with the lessee of the pavilion. Mr. Donald A. Hill was elected to the Committee.

The meeting on 9th November, 1971, decided to trial a change of meeting night to the first Thursday in the month for 6 months.

The 6th January, 1972 meeting decided to withdraw Block 4 from sale and save the payment of annual rates.

The meeting of 3rd February, 1972, received with regret the resignation of Mr. J. Waite who said he was prepared to remain an Honorary Member and assist at Show time.

Poor water pressure from the sheep pavilion to the dog yard resulted in the decision to couple together the two with the Turf Club bearing the cost.

The 24th February meeting was told the Society was in a good position financially. It had \$420 in the General Account, \$2,551.67 in the stock account and \$1500 invested in an interest-bearing account making a total of \$4,471.74.

The Committee meeting of 6th April 1972 was told tiered seating made by members was progressing with two new sets completed and new and old to be painted.

President, Mr. Jack Hamilton-Smith reported that the recent show was the most successful yet held. He said many improvements were still necessary especially additional sewerage and the re-siting of the cattle stalls.

On 4th May the Committee expressed concern at the free use of the cattle yards for holding cattle for sale - it was decided to charge \$1 per night for cattle using the fat cattle pens.

President, Mr. Hamilton-Smith reported on a meeting held of all organisations interested in the Show complex and the possibility of developing the whole area to suit the needs of all parties. Those needs were being collated and a deputation would be made to the Council for assistance.

Mr. Hamilton-Smith outlined proposals for a week of Festival activities to be run by the combined Service Clubs of Wodonga and Albury with the Wodonga Show Society offered the opportunity of beginning the festivities with its night Show. Mr. D. Street was appointed the Society's delegate to the Festival committee.

Mr. Roy Yensch said he would move to the selected site on the Showgrounds a two-roomed building donated by Mr. Perry, provided the Society paid the salaries of the men involved in the work. Mr. Yensch would donate the use of his equipment.

25th AGM - The Annual General Meeting was held on 15th June 1972, a year the President described as having had grave problems for primary producers, yet the Show had received strong support and entries were above average.

For the first time the Committee had problems in finding suitable accommodation for all the cattle entries. He paid tribute to Mr. John Perry for donating two rooms which had been added to the Secretary's office. He also said it was essential that the Showgrounds be connected to sewerage. He spoke of the increasing difficulty of Agricultural Shows making profits. The changing pattern of life was also making it more difficult to draw people through the gates.

Prize money had reached a record of \$2,000 and it could be necessary to increase entry charges. The Society's Cattle Agistment scheme was of utmost importance to the Society's finances and it was important that it continue to meet the cost of future works, such as sewerage.

Treasurer Mr. B. Martin said the financial statement showed a deficit in the general account for the year of \$935.71 and a credit balance of \$2,614 in the Stock Account with \$1500 in interest bearing deposits making available funds of \$4,114.

Mr. Alan John Fisher of Barnawartha was elected to the Committee and welcomed by the President.

On 15th June 1972 Mr. Jack Hamilton-Smith was re-elected President with Mr. Bob Chomley and Mr. Glen Simmonds elected as Vice-Presidents.

That meeting decided to make an application for a grant towards improving toilets and at the same time ask for assistance towards a new cattle pavilion.

It was also decided to call the building donated by Mr. J. Perry, the Ladies Auxiliary Rest Room.

The meeting of 13th July 1972 was told unemployment relief to the Society had been approved and 4 men would be available for a week or 10 days. It was suggested they could be used to move the horse stalls.

The President told the meeting it was too late for a grant this financial year but it should be available for 1973-74. Meanwhile it was agreed to go ahead with a new toilet block and finance would be arranged. A sub-committee was appointed.

A third dog ring would be constructed as soon as possible.

A meeting of the Finance Committee on 22nd August 1972 was told there was an urgent need to relieve the unsatisfactory conditions at the toilet block and a new block near the dog yards would cost \$4,800. The cost of the proposed cattle pavilion was \$1600 for material and \$1400 for labour – a total of \$8,000 for both projects. It was decided to seek an overdraft of \$8,000 from the Bank of New South Wales.

On 14th September the meeting was told 3 men were employed on the unemployment relief program, had dismantled the old horse yards and re-erected them on the west side of the cattle pavilion.

Underground drains had been installed along the southern boundary.

The meeting of 12th October 1972 reported on the death of Mrs. N. Wilson who had been secretary of the Ladies Auxiliary since its formation. The President said her death would be a great loss to the Society.

It was decided to raise the entry fee to the Friday night Show to 50cents an adult and 10 cents a child and for Saturday to 70cents an adult and 20 cents a child. Cars would remain at 30cents for members and members' tickets remain at \$3.

Mr. Hamilton-Smith advised that the Secretary would resign after the Show and suggested the advisability of obtaining someone to work as Assistant Secretary during the Show period to become familiar with the procedure.

On 9th November the Committee was told the new beef cattle judging rings had been completed and sown.

The President said the Trustees had no money to contribute towards new toilets but had approached the Ministry of Sport and Lands for assistance through the shire by unemployment relief.

The 14th December 1972 meeting was told two applications had been received for the position of Show Secretary but only one had appeared for an interview. The position was held over until the January meeting.

The toilet block was completed. It was decided to apply for another \$10,000 of unemployment relief.

1973

The Raffles Board told the Ladies Auxiliary permission to run a raffle could not be given until another clause was added to the Show Society's constitution: The following was agreed upon. "In the event of the Wodonga Show Society being disbanded, the assets and property, after payment of all debts and liabilities shall be distributed to a fund or funds for the development of pastoral and agricultural pursuits, or other such objects which are similar to the objects of the Wodonga Show Society as decided upon by the Trustees of the Wodonga Show Society". The additional clause was referred to the Annual General Meeting.

The erection of the new cattle pavilion was deferred until after the show because of the poor season and possible light entries.

A new cattle wash would have to be provided soon and an offer had been made to lay the concrete.

Attractions for the coming Show would include the bullock team of Mr. Butler of Talgarno Roadside, a display of old material and equipment and an animal nursery.

The next meeting on 8th February 1973 was told the new cattle wash had been laid out and concreting would begin immediately. A yard had also been prepared ready for Mr. Butler's bullocks.

In that month the treasurer reported a debit balance of \$5,340 in the general account and a credit balance of \$3,433 in the stock account including \$1,500 invested in interest bearing deposits.

Mr. Noel Walker of A.M.L. & F. joined the Committee.

Following the resignation of Mr. D. Klinge as Trustee there was a general revision of Trustees and others were appointed including Mr. G. Coyle, Mr. J. Hamilton-Smith and Mr. G. Simmonds.

Two new members were welcomed at the meeting of 1st March –Mr. L. C. Pollard and Mr. R. C. Clarke.

The cattle wash was completed and drainage to the storm drain finished.

The President told the 5th April 1973 meeting the Show had been the most successful yet and the Autumn Jubilee was a factor in making it successful.

That meeting also decided to present the Society's retiring Secretary, Mr. Joe Stockdale, with a Life Membership badge.

On 10th May a decision was made to honor Mrs. Nell Wilson by naming the Avery shed the "Nellie Wilson Memorial Pavilion."

Mr. Hamilton-Smith spoke on the necessity of having a property officer to look after the Society's property and its movement and was instructed to discuss the situation with Mr. Jim McGrath.

The meeting decided to purchase the desk and typewriter of Mr. Stockdale who was attending his last meeting after being Secretary of the Society for 11 years.

Mr. Hamilton-Smith spoke of the wonderful work given the Society by Mr. Stockdale and the strength of its growth during his term as Secretary and said 1973 had been an all-time record. He said Mr. Stockdale would be missed.

1973 AGM - Mr. J. Reid spoke of the Society's appreciation of the work of the President, Mr. Jack Hamilton-Smith saying: "Mister President, your unlimited knowledge, your unbounded energies and your excellent leadership are the ingredients that have made our Show a success."

Mr. Hamilton-Smith said 1973 was the most successful year in the history of the Society. Considerable progress had been achieved by adding to the improvements on the grounds, reorganising the set-up of the Show and in the presentation of all sections. Increased membership and a substantial rise in gate takings had contributed. Over 300 head of cattle representing 14 breeds drew favourable comment from the judges. There were over 950 horse entries – he recorded thanks to the Show's course builder, Mr. Neil Shipard for his mammoth efforts over a number of years. The well-trained bullock team of Mr. Butler contributed to the Grand Parade and was a popular exhibit.

During the year the Committee spent \$6,000 on improvements and maintenance. Mr. Hamilton-Smith announced the appointment of Mr. F. Beanham as Secretary. Gate takings were \$2,934.

Mr. L. C. Warner of Wodonga was elected to the Committee. Mr. Albert William Barton of Wodonga was also elected.

At the meeting of 14th June, 1973 at which new office-bearers were elected, Treasurer, Mr. B. Martin, notified that he would not be able to accept renomination to the position of Treasurer.

Mr. Martin took the chair for the election of office bearers and Mr. Hamilton-Smith was re-elected President unanimously. Messrs. R. Chomley, G. Simmonds and Ray Pollard were

elected vice-Presidents. Mr. Wilson Anderson was nominated for the position of Treasurer but declined and as there were no other nominations the position was left vacant. Mr. McGrath accepted the appointment of Property Officer at the remuneration of \$2 weekly.

After Mr. Hamilton-Smith spoke on the possibility of the Showgrounds becoming the venue for sales of all breeds stud cattle, a committee of five – Messrs. R. Chomley, L. Pollard, G. Coyle, J. Hamilton-Smith and Fisher were appointed with power to act.

A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Martin for his excellent work as the Society's Treasurer over the previous three years.

Instead of increasing the President's allowance the Committee took over responsibility for the cost of the Show Day cupboard.

Mr. R. Barton moved that the meeting state its total opposition to the proposed legislation to prohibit sales of milk to New South Wales and support action being taken to retain traditional markets of Victorian Dairy Farmers. The motion was carried.

The meeting of 13th September received \$3,096 for the construction of the toilet block.

Messrs. R. Rapsey and B. Martin were elected to the Committee. Trustees of the Reserves were appointed for 3 years: J. Maher, Hynes, J. McGrath, J. Hamilton-Smith, A. Green and L. C. Pollard.

The membership fee of the Society was raised to \$4.

On 13th December 1973 Mr. K. Hynes tendered his resignation which was accepted with regret.

Mr. Jack Stowe was elected to the position of Treasurer of the Society.

Mr. R. Clarke outlined a new class for the Fat Cattle Section for the 1974 Show. It would be for a Heavy Ox suitable for Japanese Chilled Beef. Prize money of \$500 would be donated by Maruboui Corporation of Japan. The Committee decided on prize money of \$350 1st; \$100 2nd and \$50 3rd.

1974

On 10th January, Mr. B. Martin resigned from the Committee.

There was discussion on the possibility of the Showgrounds being moved to a new site. The Chairman was asked to contact the Society's solicitor to discuss the advisability of writing a letter expressing concern and to obtain valuations of the present property. (The reason for the discussion is not mentioned in the Minutes but it was possibly the formation of the Albury Wodonga Development Corporation in 1973 and a proposal put forward by the AWDC that the Showgrounds could re-establish to a site west of Wodonga near Parkers Road.)

It was decided to make a first prize of \$50 available for the new class C On the Hoof section.

The meeting of 31st January 1974 further discussed the possibility of having to move to a new site. The chairman said he had discussed it with the Society's Solicitor who believed there would be no good purpose in writing a letter as the Solicitor was watching the position closely for other clients and would do so for the Show Society.

Mr. E. Mann donated roofing to be put on a second-hand bar bought from Albury Showgrounds - the cost of the bar when completed would be about \$224.

The meeting of 14th February saw discussion of the possibility of moving the Showgrounds continue and it was decided to send a letter to the Town Clerk about the site set down on the present site plan.

The 14th March meeting also discussed at length the possibility of re-siting the Showgrounds. As well the Trustees of the Racecourse Recreation Reserve suggested an increase in rental for use of the reserves. However, the matter was deferred for 2 months pending moves by the Development Corporation.

1974 AGM - 13th June 1974 saw Life Membership conferred on Mr. R. J. S. Clarke. To his surprise Mr. Hamilton-Smith was also presented with a Life-Membership badge for his 24 years with the Society including 13 years as President. Mr. Hamilton-Smith reported that he had, at the annual show dinner, presented Life Membership badges to Mrs. Nance Sumner, and Messrs. J. C. Reid, G. Coyle and J.S.N. Harris.

At the conclusion of his annual report, Mr. Hamilton-Smith said: "As this is the last report I shall present to you, I wish to record my sincere personal thanks and appreciation to all members for the very great privilege of serving the Society as President for the past 13 years. I take the opportunity to express my confidence in the continued success of the Society and congratulate those members who have given such efficient and useful service during my term of office." Committee member Mr. Keith Turner said: "A note of appreciation must be placed on record for the outstanding service that John Hamilton-Smith has given to the Wodonga Show Society". He spoke of the capabilities and leadership of Mr. Hamilton-Smith and wished him good health and happiness in the future years of less pressure. He also complimented Mrs. Hamilton-Smith for her contribution to her husband's success. Mr. Hamilton-Smith said the sound and strong financial position of the Society made it easier for him to step down.

Gate takings for the 1974 Show were \$2,105. The Society ended the year with a nett debit of \$398.69.

The annual report also stated the unrest of the Society at a possible take-over of the Showgrounds site: "The possible acquisition of our ground by the Development Corporation or City Council will, no doubt, create some difficulties but I believe we are in a position to claim the maximum compensation for our ground - situated as it is in the heart of this growing city. This, plus the value of our buildings, should enable us to establish an up-to-date Show ground on a more suitable site and we have made submissions to the Breed Societies and other interested parties for their support in this move."

The election of office bearers took place on 15th June when Mr. John Fisher was elected president to replace Mr. John Hamilton-Smith. Vice-Presidents elected were Mr. L. Pollard, Mr. R. Rapsey and Mr. R. Pollard. Mr. J. Stow and Mr. F. Beanham were elected Treasurer and Secretary.

By letter the Wodonga City Council asked to purchase a piece of the Showgrounds for a pre-school centre. The letter was discussed with the Society's solicitor. A sub-Committee to handle future action or discussion was formed. A motion put by Mr. Hamilton-Smith was carried that the meeting fix a floor price of \$25,000 without any extras and the Committee be empowered to negotiate from there on.

The Society meeting of 12th September 1974 welcomed Mr. Ross Briggs as the Young Farmers nominee.

The decision of the Wodonga City Council to relocate the Pollard Archway to the entrance of the Showgrounds was welcomed. The Archway had been built across the Lincoln Causeway and opened by Princess Alexandra but had been stored at the Wodonga Council depot for a number of years after the Causeway was widened and the Archway removed. It was named for Mr. Charlie Pollard the foundation president of the Show Society and a former Shire President who had been honored by the Queen with the title Member of the British Empire.

The Wodonga City Council had told the Show Society its valuation of \$25,000 on a piece of land the Council required for a pre-school centre was far too high and the Council was prepared to offer \$18,000. The Council will be told the \$25,000 figure stands. It also decided to seek legal advice on whose jurisdiction the Showgrounds comes under - that of the Wodonga Council or the Development Corporation.

The Wodonga Council's wish for the Show Society to drop the price of its land was raised again in the meeting of 19th October, 1974. The Council repeated its offer of \$18,000 and the Society determined to advise the Council that the Show Society was not prepared to sell the land for any figure under \$25,000.

Mr. Hamilton-Smith spoke of the advisability of the Ladies Auxiliary having representation at the men's monthly committee meetings and it was decided to invite them, or at least their thoughts on attending.

The 14th November meeting welcomed Mr. Trevor Barton and Mr. S. J. Shoet of Dederang to the Committee.

At the last meeting of the year Mr. Hamilton-Smith said he expected the Show grounds to remain at the present site for the next 5 and possibly 10 years.

The class fee for heavy ox was raised from \$5 to \$10.

1975

The Secretary advised his resignation from after the 1975 Show and it was accepted with regret.

It was decided to increase gate charges on Friday nights, adults 60 cents children 10 cents and on Saturdays, Adults \$1, children 20 cents, cars 30 cents.

Treasurer, Mr. Stow, appealed to members to increase the Membership Register to 1,000 and 1,000 good staunch show supporters who 'don't have to look at their entries before deciding to buy a membership ticket'.

President, Mr. John Fisher, was thanked for his gift of a large load of hay for Show Day.

On 10th April a Committee of 7 was formed to investigate the future of the Showgrounds and their whereabouts.

By now most stud breeds of cattle were holding their National Show and Sales at the Wodonga Showgrounds and were attracting national interest.

On 8th May, 1975 Mr. Des Godde resigned from the Society because he was now living in Walla Walla.

Mr. Stow advised that he would not continue as Treasurer after the Annual meeting. He recommended a replacement.

Mr. Hamilton-Smith was congratulated on his appointment as President of the Victorian Agricultural Societies Association.

1975 AGM - The Annual report presented by the President, Mr. John Fisher, showed gate takings of \$2,867.90 and a nett debit of \$1414.43.

At the following general meeting Mr. Fisher was re-elected President and Messrs. Ron Rapsey, Albert Barton and Keith Turner elected vice-Presidents. Mr. Ted Burley offered to become Treasurer and Mr. Stow said he would assist him. Mr. Lindsay Wheeler became a new Society member.

On 14th August 1975 several new members joined the Committee: they were Mr. J. E. Nuzum, Mr. D. Adams, Mr. H. Strelec, Mr. R. B. Lawson, Mr. R. Alston, and Mr. R. P. Adams.

At the meeting on 11th September members stood and observed a minute's silence to honor Mr. Hec Thompson who died recently. He had been chief steward in the goat section for many years.

Mr. J. McGrath joined the Committee on 11th September 1975. The resignation of Mr. John Edwards was accepted with regret.

The meeting of 9th October 1975 received with regret the resignation of Mr. R. D. Chomley who had been transferred to Melbourne. Several members spoke of the wonderful job done for the Society by Mr. Chomley.

A second resignation, accepted with regret, came from Mr. B. Stephens who was being transferred to Sydney. Mr. Stephens had been chief steward of the Pigeon section.

Mr. Garry Ferguson and W. Larsen were proposed as new members.

Mr. N. J. Parnell was elected to the Committee on 13th November, 1975. Mr. Tom Brotherstone was appointed the Society's new secretary. At the conclusion of the meeting Mr. Chomley was presented with a Life Members badge and an inscribed pen and pencil set in appreciation of his work for the Society.

1976

The first meeting of the new year on 8th January voted for charges for hired space to be raised by 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % to 55c per foot for indoor space and \$1.50 for machinery and cars.

On 11th March Mr. Allan Brewer resigned and a letter of thanks sent to him for his past membership.

The 1st April meeting received the resignation of Mr. J. A. Street, a foundation member of the Society who had also been at the first public meeting which formed a provisional Committee to establish a Wodonga Show Society. Members spoke of the years of work given by Mr. Street to the Society and received his resignation with regret.

1976 AGM - The annual general meeting was held on 10th June, 1976, with congratulations extended to the President, Mr. Fisher, for his work towards the welfare of the Society.

Mr. Fisher said the Friday night carnival and Saturday show had been successful because of the number and quality of exhibits. In the pigeon section 700 birds were exhibited. The Animal Nursery created interest and possibly for the first time ever, brown snake eggs were displayed. The dog section attracted 900 entries.

The following general meeting re-elected Mr. Fisher as President, with Vice-Presidents Keith Turner, A. W. Barton and J. Hughes as vice-presidents.

Treasurer, Mr. Ted Burley declined re-nomination because of pressure of business.

The meeting of 12th August observed one minute's silence to mark the death of Mr. Des Godde.

Mr. George Coyle resigned from the Committee and it was accepted with regret with a note being recorded of his long years of association and service. Mr. Colin Coyle would be asked to take his father's place on the Committee.

Three Society members were elected, with power to act, to represent the Society on the Reserve Trust — Roy Hemple, J. McGrath and A. Barton.

The meeting of 9th September saw Mr. Coyle accept his father's position on the Show Society Committee. The meeting noted the death of Mr. K. Stansfield.

14th October John Charles Atkins nominated to the Committee.

Mr. J. Hamilton-Smith said a grant should be applied for to construct another cattle pavilion and sales rostrum to make facilities multi-purpose. The Society will apply for a capital grant for the work and seek financial support from Breed Societies.

At 11th November 1976 meeting Mr. John Scholz was elected to the Committee.

The Race Club wanted the Horticultural pavilion moved and sent a deputation to the Show Society meeting to discuss it. Previously it had said it would be responsible for the costs involved but during the deputation two problems appeared - the lack of finance and the site on which it would be placed. The building was old and there was doubt whether it could be removed without rebuilding it. The Turf Club delegates mentioned the sum of \$200 but it was obvious to Show Society members this would not be sufficient. It appeared the Club had not set aside any money for the project. After pointing out the harmonious relationship between the Turf Club and Show Society for 30 years and the fact that the Turf Club was ready to call tenders for its Tote building, the deputation retired to allow the Society to further discuss the proposal.

It was decided that the Society adhere to the motion that it not be in any way financially or physically involved in moving the pavilion but that if the Turf Club moved it, it be to the specifications and satisfaction of the Society. If the Turf Club moved it, it would be to a position adjacent to the Nellie Wilson pavilion, a site previously agreed upon. The vote was carried unanimously.

In 1977 the decision was made to appoint Apexians as gate-keepers at the Show.

At the meeting of 13th January all members were asked to be on the look out for a Treasurer.

The meeting of 10th February 1977 observed silence to honor the late Mr. E. Mann. Mr. Mann had been a member of the provisional committee appointed to investigate the feasibility of forming a Show Society and had also been a member of the foundation committee.

A search of records reveals that the Recreation Reserve was handed to the Shire in 1871 Racecourse and Public Recreation Reserve. In 1948 it was reviewed and re-gazetted as: "Racecourse, Showgrounds and Recreation Reserve."

On 24th February 1977 a special meeting of the Committee was held. Among other business was a telephoned direction from the Secretary of the Recreation Trust "Show Society NOT to dump rubbish in Trust Rubbish Dump." Race Club request that Show Society not use saddling paddock. (Reason -privacy of caretaker.) On the motion of Mr. J. McGrath the Trust direction not to use saddling paddock was left in abeyance.

On 10th March the Committee discussed whether or not to meet the Recreation Trust at their request. Mr. Whitla suggested the Committee should be prepared to meet the Trust and Mr. Hamilton-Smith added that the meeting should be under an independent chairman. Mr. Brewer asked "in the event of movement will any building be erected by Race Club?" He was told The Race Club proposes erecting a brick building to serve as a tote building. Mr. K. Turner said the meeting should not be held in March - the Show Society should be permitted to have a building on the recreation reserve.

Mr. Hamilton-Smith said he had investigated the boundary of the Show property - eastern extremity follows a north/south line 50 feet west from rear of grandstand. Show Society purchased area west of this line between Wilson Street (North) to fence on southern extremity. A motion was carried that the Show Society Committee is prepared to meet with Turf Club Committee on March 28th under an independent chairman to be appointed by the Rural City Council. The date was changed when it was found the date was unsuitable to the majority of members. *There is no further mention in minutes of the dispute until 4th September 1980.*

Mr Burley returned to act as Treasurer for the Show.

At the same meeting Mr. Hamilton-Smith thanked the Society for placing a framed photograph of him in the meeting hall.

After receiving information that \$400 was being paid to clean up after stud stock sales Mr. Fisher had approached Mr. O. Cox who was readily agreeable to the Society doing it.

It would appear that the new Secretary of the Society, a man who was to serve long and well, Mr. Cecil Garrett, took up the position at the meeting of 9th September 1976 although I can find no mention of his appointment in the Minute Book.

The AGM was held on 9th June 1977. The 30th annual Show was held in perfect autumn weather in spite of rain the night before which saw attendances slightly down. Over 1,000 dogs were entered in the Dog Show and entries in cattle, horse and sheep sections were high and of good quality.

Increased admission charges resulted in gate takings of \$4,737.

President John Fisher said the Society entered a new finance raising venture by taking over the control and management of stalling of stud stock which was successful. The money formed the

basis for a Building account which will be used to upgrade stud selling facilities. Although the beef market was depressed the Society's cattle agistment scheme was again profitable. Mr. Fisher reports the resignation of Mr. Brotherstone as Secretary of the Society in July and the appointment of Mr. C. H. Garrett. He said the stud stock selling centre provided overnight accommodation for stud stock sold at the municipal yards. The decision of the Angus cattle society to conduct its first national sale and show on 10th March at the Showgrounds was successful. The Murray Grey and Whiteface sales had also been conducted there. Because of the interest of agents and vendors a sub-committee was formed to investigate erecting an under cover stud sales pavilion and multi-purpose stadium.

The Society's finances had improved with \$2,386 debit in the general account and a credit of \$3,678 in the Livestock A/c giving a net credit of \$1,291.47.

The following general meeting saw Mr. Fisher decline nomination as President and the new President become Mr. Albert Barton. Mr. P. Adams, R. Rapsey and R. Briggs became vice-presidents. The appointment of a treasurer was left in the hands of Mr. Fisher.

The Regional Advisory Council was told the Show Society was establishing a selling centre.

The Wodonga Council called a public meeting to discuss moving the stock yards to Bonegilla and 3 Society members said they would attend. The President's allowance was raised to \$150.

A vote of appreciation was given to Mr. Fisher for the excellent service and devotion to duty during his term as President.

At the meeting on 8th September 1977 the meeting accepted the decision of the Wodonga Council to relocate its saleyards to Bandiana where it would also include facilities for the sale of sheep.

Mr. W. Cottrell's offer of a permanent trophy for pigeons was accepted. The Society determined to proceed with the construction of its multi-purpose stock centre.

On 13th October 1977 Mr. Fisher said the Bank had been co-operative about his request for a loan of \$30,000 and suggested the Society should go ahead with plans of building.

On 11th November the committee decided to double the number of cattle yards and carry out the job by working bees. The sub-committee would also consider the possibility of doubling the cattle wash.

1978

The first meeting of the New Year was held on 12th January and granted approval for the mortgage of Show Property for loan.

The Treasurer reported a credit in the building account of \$2,664.45 and a credit in the general account of \$335.38.

Charges were set for stalling, and selling of stock and use of facilities for led and unled stock and day sales.

John Fisher reported on progress on the new shed:

- Building had begun. 2 Govt. grants were possible for two stages.
- The first would be the building and the second the interior & fittings.

On 9th February an adjoining landholder was sent a letter asking him to remove his property, vehicles and horses from the Showgrounds because of damage to the Society's cattle yards. He was also asked to 'cease using the Showgrounds as a thoroughfare to his private property'.

At the 9th March meeting Mr. R. Rapsey tendered his resignation as a vice-president. Mr. Arthur Lock and Mr. Dennis Collins became new Committee members.

John Fisher gave notice of motion that he would move at the next meeting that the selling complex be named The John Hamilton-Smith Pavilion. He also suggested consideration be given to running a two-day Show.

The meeting of 13th April was told there was a credit of \$2079 in the general account and \$2,240 credit in the buildings account.

At the Whiteface sale 150 Herefords and Poll Herefords were housed in the pavilion and the new pavilion and two rings would be required for the May sale.

John Fisher's motion that the new pavilion be called the John Hamilton-Smith Pavilion was carried.

The date of the next Show was set for the 2nd and 3rd March, 1979.

On 11th May, Mr. Alex McDonald joined the Committee.

The minutes record that 'following lengthy discussion a letter be sent to the Race Club, (with a copy to Secretary of the Recreation Reserve Trustees) expressing disappointment at the action of removing the boundary fence without consultation with this Society and request race Club to:—

1. immediately provide gates for new opening and that same be kept locked, and
2. that the Show Society fence be replaced on boundary line.'

Breed Societies continued to hold their National Show and Sales at the Society's selling centre and there were increased numbers of other stock sales including goats and horses.

The Minutes record that Mr. J. Hamilton-Smith became a Life Member of V.A.S.A.

1978 AGM - The AGM was held on 8th June 1978.

A. Robins was presented with a Life Membership badge, for 25 years service to the Society.

The Annual report's financial statement showed an increase in gate takings to \$4,219.26 and trophies and prize money donated to value of \$1,420. The Stock Account stood at \$4,737.36. The Society outlaid prize money of \$3,513.75.

Mr. Barton was re-elected President at the following General meeting and Messrs. P. Adams, R. Briggs and J. Hughes vice-Presidents. The position of Treasurer remained unfilled and Mr.

Garrett, Secretary, was complimented on his work during the year, and a note of appreciation recorded in the Minutes.

With regret the resignation of Mr. R. J. S. Clarke was accepted and a letter of appreciation for many years of work sent to him.

The meeting with the Turf Club about the Club's action in pulling down the boundary fence without consultation with the Show Society, was held and reported to the Committee. After much discussion by the Committee the Society decided to 'refuse permission to the Turf Club to implement their plan to relocate the road on Show Society property.'

At the meeting of 14th September Mr. Lindsay Wheeler said the Pony Club would seek a \$15,000 grant and needed a 15-20 year lease of the area it planned to improve. A number of organisations were interested including the Show Society, Pony Club, Show Jumping and Dressage Clubs, and were favourably supporting the project.

The Committee meeting of 13th October, decided to send another letter to the Race Club requesting that the Show Society fence posts (moved without permission) be replaced on Show Society-boundary.

On 9th November, 1978, it was suggested that the prize formerly given in the fruit and vegetable section by Mrs. Leila Wolfe be named The Leila Wolfe Memorial Trophy, and carried on by the Society.

Mrs. Wolfe had displayed untiring energy over the years as a member of the Society and Ladies Auxiliary and her death would be felt. She had worked for the Show since its inception. Her death was recorded by special minute at the meeting of 14th September.

The 14th December meeting was told a grant for \$10,000 had been received.

A letter from the Society's solicitor, Mr. Lieberman, stated a licence to use was acceptable and there was no objection to who lodges the application This related to the proposal of the Pony Club/Show Jumping Club. Any costs to be borne by the Pony Club, Show Jumping Club and Dressage Club. They will be advised that the Show Society Committee is prepared to proceed and enter into a "Licence to Use" the area proposed for a period of 15 years subject to a grant of \$15,000 being obtained to complete the proposal.

1979

Requests from the Wodonga Council for the Society to pay for sealing a section of Wilson Street were resolved when a deputation waited on the Mayor of the day, Cr. Rex Chamberlain and the Engineer, Mr. W. Page. The Society was absolved from costs subject to undertakings to pay should the area be broken up into blocks and sold or sale of property. The facts are recorded in minutes of the meeting of 22nd February 1979.

Also at that meeting Mr. W. Larsen, organiser of woodchop events, reported that sponsorship money of \$2,000 had been obtained. A vote of thanks was recorded to Mr. Larsen. for his promotion and presentation of the Woodchop Programs.

The Meeting of 10th May 1979 welcomed Mr. G. Bartel to the Committee,

1979 AGM - Peter Adams was elected President with Vice-Presidents Ross Briggs, Neil Bottrell and Colin Coyle, at AGM 14th June.

The following Committee meeting accepted membership from R. Prichard, Robt. Wiltshire and Brendan Collins.

On 12th July, Rod Barton resigned from the Committee; accepted with regret. Financial report - General Account \$789,21 and building account \$4210.84. At the same meeting the subject of the sealing of Wilson Street was again discussed with the Council suggesting the Show Society hand over 20 feet of Wilson Street frontage to be used for parking at nominal rental.

The 1980 Show to remain as a Friday night carnival and Saturday Show.

The meeting of 9th August accepted with regret the resignation of Mr. R. A Barton.

The Recreation Reserve Trustees had given Council approval to seal entrance from Brockley Street.

Mr. J. Sutherland joined Committee.

President read to Committee details of Licence to Use area of Wodonga Showgrounds to establish Equestrian Centre. The Licence to Use was acceptable to the Committee and recommended to Trustees.

Political member, Mr. Lieberman would be asked to seek a grant to establish a toilet block near the selling complex.

Mr. Campbell Walker was welcomed to the Committee at the meeting of 13th September, 1979.

At 4th October meeting there was discussion about establishing a Container Terminal at Bandiana and the need to retain the land for possible future expansion of the saleyards at Bandiana. That land could also be a possible site for future location of the Show grounds. The set up of the Container Terminal would draw heavy industry and hypothetically could lead to the establishment of an inland port, with bond store facilities. *(In 1996 it can be recorded that the Container Terminal was built, the inland port became a reality and so did the bond store facilities. However, the Container Terminal will soon be relocated to the railway area in Wodonga known as the Coal Siding, and with the coming to office of the Liberal (Howard) Government the inland port and bond store were abolished and centralised to Melbourne to the dissatisfaction of local business houses. The Container Terminal was not built on Council saleyards land as the Society had expected but on land owned by the Albury-Wodonga Development Corporation off the Kiewa Valley Highway behind Rocla.)*

On 1st November, Mr. Lieberman told the Society a grant would be made in July 1980 for a toilet block.

A further delegation to the Wodonga Council on the sealing of Wilson St., took place and, subject to the Council adopting a proposal put by the Society it was determined that the Show Society lease the toilet block for a ten year period as a means of the Society overcoming the debt on Wilson Street - it could involve 40 quarterly payments.

The Committee was given a report that the Council had written to the Lands Department to take over the Recreation Reserve from the Trustees for the purpose of maintenance of the Reserve in

general. Council was anxious to develop the whole area for promotion of sports and was prepared to enter into an agreement with the Race Course and Show Society for the use of the area as in the past without any encumbrance on useage for Annual Shows and Race meetings.

School students were found vandalising the sheep pavilion and it was suggested they be used to restore the damage they had done. Mr. C. Whitla (who was also vice-Principal of the Technical School) suggested the Principal be told in writing that any students found loitering on Showgrounds property would be charged with trespassing.

1980

The meeting of 6th March, 1980 was told the Race Club objected to the proposal that the Council take over Recreation Reserve because the Lands Department did not approve of the takeover.

A special meeting held on 20th March was told there had been disagreement between dog exhibitors and Side Show people because the dog people did not remain in their own area and had provided problems for hirers of space. The Society resolved that the All Breeds Championship Dog Show be no longer held and the Kennel Club advised accordingly and that it be held no sooner than two weeks after the annual show. The Kennel Club should liaise with the Turf Club and Show Society re dates for dog show to ensure there would be no clash with stock sales.

The 3rd April meeting asked the Council to re-open negotiations to have the Pollard Archway re-erected at entrance to Showgrounds now that the street had been completed.

At 1st May 1980 meeting the Council offered, and the Society accepted, \$500 towards relocation of Wilson Street fence and grading of high land.

The 1st May meeting was also told the Wodonga Council wanted to develop the Showgrounds and Racecourse to permit greater use by more sporting bodies - the Council proposes developing tennis courts and football and cricket areas - the area within the Race Track Circuit is currently used by the Show Society, Pony Club, Show Jumping and Dressage Clubs and should be retained, exclusively for their use. The Society says access roads should be provided off Brockley St.

Development of the area off Brockley Street and Tallangatta Road would present problems for the Show Society and Race Club in policing paying guests on Show and Race days. A Trust would be formed of delegates of user groups with equal representation. Users include the Race Club, Show Society, Junior Football, Pony Club, Show Jumping Club, Dressage Club etc.

The Society was also told of a proposal to establish a Ladies Kennel Club

1980 AGM - The AGM was held on the 15th June 1980. Peter Adams was re-elected President with Vice Presidents Neil Bottrell, Colin Coyle, Ross Briggs, Alex McDonald nominated - Colin Coyle declined.

In his President's report Peter Adams spoke of the year's activities as one of debt reduction and consolidation. On Show Day exhibits were good but crowds were poor. While saying that the financial situation was satisfactory he pointed out the difficulties faced by the Committee with rising costs and the never-ending need for improvements. The stud stock selling centre had hosted 16 sales returning an income of \$10,737 gross, but the debt remaining was \$24,086.

At the 5th June meeting, Mr. Roy Yensch became a Committee member. At the next meeting on 3rd July Mr. Barry Smith's nomination to the Committee was accepted.

The meeting of 7th August decided to draw up plans and specifications for the proposed toilet block ready for application for a Government grant - cost would be about \$8,000.

The need for raising money to carry out improvements to the sheep pavilion was discussed and a sub-committee formed to investigate debentures, interest rates, repayment and people willing to become Debenture holders.

The 4th September meeting was told that the Wodonga Council was not prepared to spend \$5,000 to re-erect the Pollard Archway at the Showgrounds. Mr. Jack Hamilton-Smith successfully moved that the Society ask the Council to donate the structure to the Show Society for erection at some future date if it had no use for the Archway.

The Committee also decided to call Debentures to raise funds to finance the sheep pavilion. All members would be circularised for interest in Debentures in multiples of \$20, Maximum of \$5000 for building removal and ground improvement fund.

The Turf Club offered assistance to remove Horticultural Pavilion with the Show Society "to remove, fill in and ram post holes. Turf Club will pay \$1,000." The Turf Club would also dispose of the shed - "if agreed to by Show Society-a cheque for \$2000 will be handed to the Show Society." The Society said the latter suggestion was impracticable because the building was worth more than \$2,000 - the money would not build another approaching the standard. A direction from the Minister was that the building could not be removed without his approval. The Society wrote to the Turf Club saying it was not empowered to give consent to the removal of the building without the approval of the Minister for Lands.

The moving of the Horticultural pavilion at no cost to the Show Society was still being discussed with the Turf Club on 6th November. Two quotes had been received: one for \$5,335 and the other for \$6,550 excluding the connection of electricity which would probably cost another \$600. The new shed would be steel framed. There was considerable discussion on whether the building would be sold to the Turf Club with money used to build a new pavilion, the costs of various proposals, whether to remove it and so on. A sub-committee was told to decide and advise the Turf Club within a week. Meanwhile the use of the Showgrounds by the Turf Club on race days was discussed and deferred pending finalisation of Horticulture Pavilion.

President, Peter Adams reported on receiving from the Dept. of Agriculture a grant of \$10,000. A special meeting was held on 20th November, 1980, at which the Society accepted an offer of \$2,500 from the Race Club plus shed, demolish the shed and hold a sale of the unwanted articles as soon as possible. Contact was made with the Race Club and a decision also made to start work immediately.

The 4th December meeting was told the Horticultural Pavilion had been pulled down and stored. - Turf Club to compensate Show Society \$2,500.

Use of the Society's property by the Turf Club was deferred until finalisation of matters relevant to Horticultural Pavilion. Auction material 24th January 1981.

The Society accepted the offer of the Wodonga Council about the Pollard Archway (the minutes do not state what the offer was) and will determine where to erect it and advise.

1981

The first meeting of 1981 held on 8th January saw the continuation of the saga of the Horticultural Pavilion. The Turf Club said the Tote building had been damaged and requested repairs before transportation. The \$2,500 payment to the Show Society was dependent on receipt from TAB promotion fund. The sale of material from the Horticultural Pavilion was deferred to 31st January 1981.

That meeting also decided to confer Life Membership on Mr. J. McGrath.

On 5th February the Committee was told the payment from the Turf Club could take 12 months.

The Rural City of Wodonga advised the estimated cost (of what is not stated but probably toilet block) was \$9,938.63, actual cost was \$8,372.72; quarterly payment was reduced from \$395.92 to \$333.54 - the next payment would be \$21.64 to bring account into line.

Mr. Kevin Edwards was welcomed to the Committee at the meeting of 19th March.

That meeting was the first where the gift of exhibited vegetables and fruits is mentioned as having been donated to the Wodonga Hospital, yet it had been donated for many years.

Mr. Roy Yensch and family were thanked for lending tiered seating to the Society and permitting it to remain in the selling complex on loan for as long as the Society wishes to keep it. It was taken to the complex and erected by Mr. Yensch.

It was recommended that Mrs. L. McRae be appointed secretary at \$30 per week. No starting date was mentioned.

Insurance was taken out for the sheep pavilion for \$5,000, \$3000 for Equestrian centre for \$3000 for contents.

An application to the Government for a grant for the toilet block will be made by 31st March.

The 7th May meeting was told payment of \$2,500 had been received and deposited at 13% interest.

That meeting received a letter from the Minister for Agriculture acknowledging an application for \$8,000 and advising approval was unlikely to be granted before the 1982/83 financial year.

No place had yet been found to re-erect the Pollard Archway.

President Peter Adams reported he would not be available for re-election. With the change of Secretary imminent every effort must be made to find a Treasurer.

1981

The Annual General Meeting was held on 4th June 1981.

President, Peter Adams reported gate takings had been up by \$1200 on previous year. A feature event was Show Jumping for which Mr. Bob Prichard was to be thanked, and the Harness section, arranged by Mr. Neil Bottrell was popular. The Woodchop featured a Victorian event on the Friday and a World title on Saturday. The success of that section was due to Mr. W.

Larsen. In the Stud Stock Centre there had been 9 cattle sales, 5 horse sales and a goat sale grossing \$13,233. The debt on the John Hamilton-Smith pavilion stood at \$20,695. Income from the selling centre had enabled two major projects to be carried out - the provision of 2 - 3 phase power outlets in the side-show area and refencing of the Wilson Street boundary.

Every effort should be made to raise income and lower costs and a full review of costs and charges should be undertaken immediately.

Mr. C. Garrett had notified in February that he would resign at the annual general meeting - he was thanked for his excellent services during his 5 years as Secretary. He remained a Committee member.

Mr. Ray Pollard was elected President with Messrs. N. Bottrell, R. Briggs and L. Pollard Vice-Presidents. Mrs, Lorraine McRae became Secretary but the position of Treasurer remained vacant.

Life Membership badges had been presented in May at the Show Society dinner to Mr. Neil Bottrell and Mr. J. McGrath, Mr. A. Brewer will be written to and advised that his Life Membership badge will be presented at a time suitable to him.

At the general committee meeting which followed the AGM, it was decided to notify Wodonga Council that the Pollard Archway should be erected at the entrance to the Showground and Recreation Reserve.

The Pony Club advised that work on the Show Jumping project would begin. Mr. McGrath suggested that with the beginning of work on the Equestrian Centre buildings formerly used by the Dog Show/Kennel Club could be moved to higher ground to enhance the general appearance of-the Showgrounds.

Mr. David Gardiner became a new Committee member.

From the appointment of Mrs, McRae as Secretary the Minutes were typed and the presentation format altered, with minimal discussion recorded.

The launching of the AWARE Sheltered Workshop was noted in the Minutes by an invitation to the Committee to attend.

There was a credit balance of \$549 in the General account, \$4,734 in the building account and an overdraft of \$20,695. The President's allowance was increased to \$200.

On 3rd September Membership fees were set at \$6, Gate charges \$2 adult, children under 12 free, Commercial space \$1.50 per foot frontage, and power charges set at \$5. A \$25 fee was set for caterers for use of buildings and \$5 for outside stalls and power. Charity organisations would be free.

The following meeting on 1st October 1981 changed commercial fees to \$6 with a 50ft. frontage space.

The Committee accepted a recommendation of the Recreation Reserve that memorial gates be erected instead of the Pollard Archway.

The resignation of Mr. C. Coyle on 1st November was accepted with regret.

On 3rd December the departure of Mr. Ralph Billing from the Department of Agriculture is noted.

Mr. C. Cogdell was welcomed to the Committee.

The motion regarding the Memorial Gate instead of the Pollard Archway at the entrance to the Showgrounds was rescinded, because "the Archway should be on Showgrounds property. "

Sideshow people are to be charged \$5 from the day they arrive.

1982

On 14th January the Committee decided to buy from Mr. R. Yensch tiered seating for \$1,000.

On 4th February Mr. Ray Pollard was congratulated on his election to Wodonga Council.

The 1st April meeting saw Mr. Gordon Pooley and Mr. W. Van de Veleu join the Committee.

Show expenses were \$11,740, Receipts including gate takings of \$3,769 were \$12,250 leaving a credit of \$510.18.

Handwritten notes show that an Extraordinary meeting was held on 14th May 1982 about 'plans' but does not say what plans. It refers to discussions with the Race Club's Mr. Wilson Anderson and whether the Society agrees in principle with a submission by the Race Control Board. The Race Club and Society members agreed in principle but it would be well to draw up an interim agreement before any work proceeds. Speaking as a Trustee Mr. Coyle said there must be legal advice before accepting proposal. Mr. Adams advocated that in the process of negotiation the Society properly plan its future needs.

A motion put by Mr. Hamilton-Smith and seconded by Mr. J. McGrath states:

“That the Wodonga Show Society agree in principal to the proposal submitted by the Race Course Licensing Board subject to a legal agreement being drawn up prior to the commencement of any work whatever. The motion was carried unanimously.”

(Possibly it was to do with a new toilet block).

The 1982 AGM was held on 3rd June. Mr. Ray Pollard was re-elected President, with Messrs. N. Bottrell, R. Briggs and R. Prichard vice-presidents. Mrs. Lorraine McRae was appointed Secretary/Treasurer.

In his report, Mr. Pollard said the first two-day show was a challenge and most successful. It was the Society's 35th Show. There was a cattle Grand Parade on the Friday and horses and harness turn outs on the Saturday. This had attracted some criticism. Two new contests – shearing and farm bikes were well received. He welcomed Les Simpson with other new members. The bank balance at the end of the year was a credit of \$363.

1983

In the minutes of 6th January 1983 mention is made of inviting the Belvoir Rotary Club to attend the opening of the Pollard Archway at 2.30 p.m. on 27th February. (The Belvoir Rotary Club undertook to re-erect the Archway as a community project and invited Mr. Ray Pollard to put in place the last bolt which joined the two arches together at the entrance to the Wodonga Showgrounds and Race Course.)

Mr. Harold Chappel resigned at the 7th April meeting – the Society's appreciation of his work was expressed, Mr. Peter Hawkins joined the Committee.

The 1983 Annual General Meeting was held on 2nd June. Mr. Ray Pollard was re-elected President. Messrs. N. Bottrell, R. Prichard and J. Sutherland were elected vice-Presidents. Mrs. Lorraine McRae was re-elected Secretary-Treasurer. The President's allowance was set at \$400.

In his annual report Mr. Pollard said gate takings were down probably due to extremely hot, dry weather and an election. He was proud that the Show had been held on the Society's own grounds except for Harness events which were held on the Technical School grounds, The Bob Prichard Arena was opened before the Show began and he thanked Bob Prichard and Neil Bottrell for their continuing work for the Society. The Grand Parade was worthwhile and the shearing contest a winner. The death of Mr. Glen Simmonds was recorded – Mr. Pollard said he was a faithful, hard-working Committeeman who had made a fine contribution to the success of the Society.

The General Account of \$432 was in credit; the Building Account was overdrawn by \$4,964; the Investment a/c was \$609 in credit and the Loan Account \$13,716 overdrawn.

On 1st September the Committee decided to apply to the Dept. of Agriculture for the maximum grant available for cyclone fencing and new power lines.

The 3rd November meeting resolved to write to the Recreation Reserve about the permanent fence erected around the caretaker's residence.

The fence is on Society land 9' x 66' and the Society wants an explanation about why it was not told about the fence.

On 1st December the Ladies Auxiliary gave the Society \$1,000. *It was not the first substantial donation from the Auxiliary.*

Barry J. Smith resigned from the Committee.

1984

The 1984 Show in April showed a loss of \$154.90. The gate was \$3,702. The meeting recorded the death of Mr. J. Hamilton-Smith on 2nd April and decided to make a donation to Cancer Research.

1984 AGM - The Annual General Meeting was held on the 7th June when President, Mr. Ray Pollard paid tribute to the late Mr. John Hamilton-Smith and extended sympathy to his family. He said Mr. Hamilton-Smith would be missed not only by Wodonga Show Society but by similar organisations throughout Victoria and New South Wales.

Mr. Pollard made mention of a new section, the North East and Border district display of produce which had caused interest and favourable comment. The display featured many types of produce from the district and was designed to show the diversity of produce grown and prepared in the area.

During the past 12 months Terry Dare, Fred Loveless and R. McIvory joined the Society.

Mr. Pollard expressed the Committee's thanks to the Ladies Auxiliary members who staff the office for several weeks leading to the Show.

The financial statement showed a credit of \$1,073 in the general a/c, \$305 in the building a/c, overdrawn \$9,474 in the Westpac Advance a/c and a credit of \$109 in the Westpac Investment account.

Mr. Ray Pollard was re-elected President and four vice-presidents appointed: N. Bottrell, R. Prichard, A. Brewer, J. Sutherland. The President's fee was \$400 and the secretary-treasurer \$40 per week.

The meeting of 2nd August supported Wodonga West Rotary in the Victoria 150th Anniversary.

The cost of a new roof on the luncheon pavilion would be investigated and \$1500 set aside for the purpose.

Agents were sent letters telling them a booking fee of \$200 would be charged for all sales held in the Stud Stock Centre. However the meeting of 1st November rescinded the motion.

1985

The first meeting for the year on 3rd January decision made to become an incorporated society so that 'all members of the Society will be legally protected'. The motion put by Mr. Bob Prichard called for an extraordinary meeting on 24th January 1985 to put this into effect. No record of this meeting being held.

Mr. Lindsay Harris resigned at the meeting of 7th February.

The 1985 Show Balance Sheet shows gate takings of \$3,900, expenses of \$10,426.46 and a profit of \$1,646.37.

The 4th April meeting showed a general account balance \$1,603 in credit, a building account balance of \$512, \$1009 in the Westpac Investment account and \$4,656 overdrawn in the Loan account.

Brian Courtney and Graham Barton joined the Committee.

It was decided on the motion of Mr. Arthur Lock to close the building account and operate from the General Account.

On 2nd May Mr. Hugh Price was appointed Solicitor re Incorporated Body. It was also decided that all agents pay \$25 per day for power used by their contracted caterers.

1985 AGM - Mr. Ray Pollard was re-elected President with Vice-Presidents N. Bottrell, R. Prichard, J. Sutherland and A. Brewer, The President's allowance was set at \$500 plus \$100 for petrol. Secretary's remuneration increased by \$250 per year. Members tickets were increased to \$7 p.a. Gate charges \$3 adults, children 50c.

President, Ray Pollard, paid tribute to the dedication of secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Lorraine McRae.

At the following general meeting the resignation of Mr. Dick McEvoy was accepted.

It was decided to charge 1½% interest on overdue accounts at cattle sales.

The, Incorporation Meeting was held on 4th July 1985, Mrs. Lorraine McRae was appointed Public Officer.

1986

The Certificate of Insurance from 1 January 1986 – 31 December 1986 shows buildings insured for replacement cost for \$84,000 and contents \$13,000. Burglary contents of every description following forcible entry to premises \$2,000 and all external and internal fixed glass at replacement value. Public Liability \$20,000. Personal accident for voluntary workers \$50,000 for an employed person, \$10,000 non-employed and weekly benefits for employed persons 85% of insured persons current weekly earnings or \$100 whichever is the lesser. Weekly benefits for non-employed persons \$100. The policy was through Victorian Agricultural Societies Association and its agents Royal Insurance Australia Ltd. Adelaide, Cigna Insurance Australia Ltd., Adelaide and Lloyds of London, United Kingdom.

The meeting of 2nd January 1986 observed 2 minutes silence to mark the passing of Charles Whitla on 22nd December 1985.

On 6th February it was decided to raise to \$18 per head cattle sold through the selling complex, to be effective from 1st January 1987.

The meeting of 3rd April was told gate takings for the Show were down from the previous year \$3,400 compared with \$3,900 for 1985, The Show lost \$1,082.

On 1st May Alex McDonald resigned from the Committee.

1986 AGM - The Annual General Meeting on 12th June 1986 was told the Westpac Advance account was \$2,208 overdrawn and the Investment Account was \$312 in credit. There was a liability of \$3,200 in debenture certificates.

Mr. Ray Pollard was re-elected president with R. Prichard, N. Bottrell and A. Brewer vice-Presidents and Mrs. McRae re-appointed secretary-treasurer, The President's allowance was set at \$600.

The 2nd October 1986 meeting accepted an offer from the Wodonga Rotary Club to be partners for the 1987 Show.

1987

The gate of the 1987 Show was \$4,541. The Rotary Club was paid \$500 part profit from the Show.

AGM 1987 - President Ray Pollard reported that the Show was held in very bad weather and it rained most of the day. He said the Wodonga Rotary Club had put a lot of time and effort into organising entertainment and thanked them for their effort. He regretted the death of Mrs. Tuppy Fogarty of the Ladies Auxiliary and said she would be missed by all Show members.

Mr. Pollard was re-elected President with R. Prichard, N. Bottrell and A. Brewer vice-Presidents. The President's allowance was fixed at \$800.

The Society had a credit balance of \$2,441 in its general account and a credit of \$1012 in its investments account.

On 3rd September 1987 Peter Adams resigned from the Committee.

1988

By 4th February 1988 a new cattle shed had been built and was named the Les and Ray Pollard cattle pavilion.

Gate takings for the bi-centennial Show were \$7,847. The General A/c was \$9,244 in credit at 7th April and the building a/c \$736 in credit.

1988 AGM - The Annual General Meeting on 7th July was told the 41st Show had been successful and held in perfect weather. The Rotary Club helped again with advertising and arranging sponsorship. Mr. Pollard, President, recommended that 2 Rotary Club members join the Show Committee. Horticultural exhibits were down because of very hot weather. The Army shed had been demolished and a new shed replaced it. The new shed was used by the Caged Bird exhibits and goat displays. Although Peter Adams had resigned from the Committee he was there to help with the cattle because of the illness of Les Pollard.

Tribute was also paid to Bob Prichard for keeping the horse events going all day in the ring. He also reports on the continuing success of the stock selling centre and the bookings already made for the following year.

Mr. Pollard was re-elected President with vice presidents R. Prichard, R. Hempel and N. Bottrell. The President's allowance was set at \$800.

Mr. Adrian Murtagh's name appears in the Minutes as a Committee member. Other new members are Maureen Crowe, Noel Forrest, Terry Maher and Charles Stitz. The date of that meeting was 4th August 1988.

The Treasurer's report showed a credit balance of \$9,642.34 in the general account, \$3.19 in the building account and \$25,035 overdrawn in the loan account.

The general meeting of 6th October 1988 resolved that show charges for admission at the 1989 Show be \$4 adults and children under 16 \$1.

1989

Gate takings at the 1989 show on 4th March were \$7,251, \$600 below the 1988 Show day. Total income for the Show was \$13,633 and total expenditure \$11,545 leaving a profit of \$2,087.

1989 AGM - Annual Meeting was held on 8th June, President, Ray Pollard, expressed disappointment with the Rotary Club's advertising of the Show and said it had to be talked over if the Society and Rotary were to combine for the next Show.

He welcomed Mike Duras to the Committee to help Arthur Lock with the leasing of space.

Dog jumping, introduced to the Show for the first time was popular with the public.

He reported on the continuing success of the stud stock selling centre with some breed societies booking 12 months ahead for their show and sales.

He thanked Committee members and the Ladies Auxiliary members who worked for weeks before the show.

Mr. Pollard was re-elected President with R. Prichard, N. Bottrell and R. Hempel Vice-Presidents. Mr. Pollard's allowance was set at \$1,000.

The building account had a credit of \$9.23, the loan account was overdrawn \$17,388 and the investment account was \$5,195, There was \$2,200 available from debenture certificates.

At the following general Meeting, Mr. Les Pollard expressed disappointment at the poor support for the cattle section of the Show and moved that it be deleted. However, he was defeated and said another Chief Steward would have to be found to replace him.

1990

The name of Mr. Peter White appears in the minutes of 4th January, 1990 for the first time as a Committee member.

At the first meeting for the year it was decided to ask Wodonga Council's Engineering Department to quote on the cost of a toilet block near Wilson Street.

The same meeting accepted with gratitude the offer of a donation of \$2000 from 2AY for advertising.

It is assumed that Mr. Denis Beely joined the Committee because his name appeared in minutes.

The Wodonga Council was to be written to asking for financial assistance towards the cost of a shower block at the Showgrounds but it was decided to hire a shower block for the 1990 Show.

In the minutes of 10th May 1990 it is apparent that the Society's secretary/treasurer, Mrs. Lorraine McRae had given notice of her intention to resign the position because interviews are noted as having been held for her position.

The Society thanked the Rotary Club for its help during the past several Shows and sent it a cheque for \$880.23 and saying it would 'go it alone' for the 1991 Show.

Later Judy Hale was appointed secretary to replace Lorraine McRae.

The 1990 Wodonga Show returned a profit to the Society of \$2,010 which included gate takings of \$7,667.40, and memberships of \$514.

1990 AGM - The Annual meeting was held on 7th June, 1990 with the President thanking Committee members and the ladies of the Auxiliary for their support.

Mr. Ray Pollard was re-elected President with vice-Presidents Denis Beely, R. Prichard and N. Bottrell, Judy Hale was secretary/treasurer with the whole Committee supporting the financial responsibilities. The President's allowance was set at \$1100. The Secretary's allowance was set at \$50 per week. The price of a Members Ticket was set at \$10, but Mr. R. Hempel moved an amendment that it be \$9 and that was carried.

At the conclusion of the Annual Meeting Mr. Pollard presented Mrs. McRae with gifts and the thanks of all Committee and Society members for her work during her years as Secretary-Treasurer.

The Building account was in credit \$9.50, the Loan account \$13,672 overdrawn, the Investment account in credit \$3,482 and Debenture Certificates \$2,200.

The June 7th meeting received a letter from the Minister of Agriculture with a grant for \$7,000.

Debenture Certificates were paid back with 10% interest to donors. A further \$4,000 was paid off the overdraft. The \$7,000 grant will go towards construction of a shower block plans for which have been prepared.

Discussion was held on a suggestion by Jim McGrath about building a covered show ring. However, it would cost about \$40,000.

The meeting of 5th July 1990 considered placing better lighting in the cattle sheds and sheets of perspex in the roof.

On 2nd August the Society decided not to accept the resignation of Mr. R. Hempel saying he deserved a Life Membership, and suggested this be presented at the next AGM.

A vote of thanks to Peter White for supplying new chairs was unanimous. David Street's resignation was accepted at the meeting of 4th September. The meeting of 4th October was told the Wodonga Council would help construct the shower block at an estimated cost of \$11,710.

The November 1st meeting opened with a minute's silence to mark the death of Committeeman Mr. Les Pollard.

At the December meeting Peter White resigned from the Committee. There were favourable comments about his enthusiastic help and his daughter painting Show signs.

Mr. Beeley, Snr. made a special donation of \$200 for buskers.

1991

At the beginning of 1991 the Society's financial position was sound. There was a credit balance of \$3,778 in the general account; \$5,257 credit on term deposit, an overdraft of \$11,143 on the Loan Account, \$9 in the Building account, and a credit of \$3,832 in an Investment Account.

The shower block was to lock-up stage.

The February 7th meeting was told that the Army would not be able to take part in the annual Show because of the uncertain state of the war in the Gulf.

Mr. M. Duras resigned at the 7th March meeting because of family commitments.

That meeting agreed to pay for the showers in full.

The 4th April meeting was displeased that the word "Showgrounds" had been deleted from the title "Wodonga Racecourse Recreation Reserve" and wanted to know the reason for the deletion and when it had occurred.

At the 2nd May meeting it was decided to send a letter to the Racecourse Recreation Reserve regarding their desire to lease a large piece of land. The letter would state that the Society agreed in principle to the lease providing negotiations took place with the Show Society. The lease should be subject to certain conditions; the road should be sealed and maintained with no cost to the Show Society, no buildings should be erected on the leased land, and all legal costs should be paid by the Racecourse Recreation Reserve, no fences would be erected and there must be guaranteed access to Show Society related vehicles.

The 1991 AGM was held on 6th June and received, with regret, the resignation of secretary/treasurer, Mrs. Judi Hale.

The investment a/c was \$3,970 in credit, the Loan A/c reduced to \$7,827, the building a/c \$9.87 and the Debenture A/c cancelled out.

In his annual report, President Ray Pollard said the Show's first 2-day event had been held in perfect weather and was successful.

Ray Pollard was re-elected President with R. Hempel and N. Bottrell and B. Prichard vice-presidents.

The meeting of 1st August decided to send Mr. R. Hempel and Mr. D. Beeley to a meeting with the Wodonga City Council to discuss further development of the Stud Stock Centre. The Council offered to raise a loan for the Show Society but the Titles must be handed to Council. Lorraine McRae expressed concern but R. Hempel said the Society's solicitor, C. Stitz recommended agreeing to the deal.

An offer of \$20,000 from a Breed Society was discussed.

Mr. Beeley presented a plan of the grounds and sheds and said photos had been taken of all sheds inside and out.

The Society proposed upgrading the cattle washes, the entrance to the selling centre, the judging ring and tie rails.

Mrs. C. Cole was introduced as the new Show Society Secretary. Mrs. L. McRae was elected Treasurer.

An extraordinary meeting on 29th August was told many meetings had been held about upgrading the stud stock selling centre - they included meetings with the Moteliers group, the Task Force and Breed Societies.

Mr. Beeley explained plans presented to the Wodonga City Council to refurbish the yards and sale ring and the proposed schedule of redevelopment, and likely costs. The predicted income was presently only an estimate but the Breed Societies preferred a set fee of \$45 a head for the next 4 years, estimated to raise \$220,000. The stockyards, judging ring, water supply and cattle wash would be priorities before the 1992 sales.

Talks had been held with the Bank Manager who approved the Council talks but stressed the importance of a long-term lease of at least 20-25 years and, if possible, 50 years in order to maintain control of the grounds, and profits. Fees recommended by Wodonga Council were: \$45 shedded, \$45 per pen, 1% semen and 1% embryos and \$30 head unshedded bulls.

It was suggested writing into the lease that the grounds must be kept for recreational purposes. It was also stressed that legal advice be obtained to draw up a viable contract between the Show Society and the Council. Mr. C. Stitz, the Society's legal adviser, called for a comprehensive agreement to be drawn up for submission to the Council and said he would attend to this.

The resolution of the discussion was that the Wodonga Council be advised it would agree to transfer title to Council in return for a secure tenure on the whole site for a term to be defined and upon other conditions to be agreed. Mr. Stitz was appointed as legal advisor to the Task Force of Mr. R. Hempel, and Mr. N. Forrest. Mr. Mike Cummins, representing the breed societies had been appointed to the Task Force in an advisory capacity. Three cattle breed societies and the Wodonga Dept. of Agriculture offered assistance and the Development Corporation was approached.

The meeting of 3rd October 1991 was told the proposed Council charges for the Stud Stock Selling Centre were \$45 per head let cattle for 4 years, \$30 per pen with maximum of 3 per pen for commercial cattle; unshedded cattle and reduction and dispersal sales, \$10 head fee discussed for overnights. The Agents fee will be \$50 registration fee and 50c per lot. 1% embryo charge to vendor, 1% semen charge to vendor.

Mr. Stitz expressed misgivings about the proposed financial restructure with the Show Society and Council each responsible for half of the loan and the breed societies' reluctance to commit themselves to the project.

The Council suggested the Society gain a licence for the period covering the Show and the Committee of Management conduct all other activities. Council hinted at supporting the show from proceeds of Stud Sales and Shows. The Council was agreeable to retaining the land for recreational purposes and willing to loan the Show Society money to repay the bank loan. The Society had \$6,000 in hand and proceeds from the October sales and Clydesdale sale to repay the debt. The Council proposed beginning work immediately following the Clydesdale Sale on 9th November.

Mr. Hempel reported Town Clerk, Mr. Ray O'Toole, saying a superintendent would be needed by the Committee of Management to check the cattle, and saleyards staff would clean up after the Shows and Sales.

The arena and yards would be ready for the 1992 sales and the complex completed by 1994.

The 7th November meeting was presented with the first draft of the agreement on the Stud Stock Selling Centre which was prepared by the Council's solicitors. Present at the meeting was Town Clerk, Mr. Ray O'Toole and Cr. Glen Nicholls. Considerable discussion over proposed changes to the land and buildings occupied most of the meeting.

At the meeting of 14th November, Mrs. Lorraine McCrae expressed concern that the Show Society may not be working in its interests with regard to its negotiations with the Wodonga City Council.

The meeting of 5th December was told by the Treasurer, Lorraine McCrae the Society was in credit to a total of \$6,837. She tendered her resignation on the grounds she felt her efforts would no longer be served in the best interests of the Society's ideals and traditions due to the new direction the Society was pursuing. She also expressed concern at the possible loss of pavilion names of historical value.

Mr. J. McGrath spoke against the proposed agreement with the Council and D. Beeley said the \$60,000 grant would not be available unless it went ahead.

1992

Tony Anderson joined the Society at the first meeting for the year on 2nd January. The resignation of Mrs. McRae was accepted. Mr. Anderson was appointed Treasurer.

Mr. McGrath reminded members that the Council proposed removing from the Society's buildings it would be responsible for, the names of those buildings.

Mr. Beeley moved that a special meeting be called regarding the transfer of the Society's land to Council and a letter be sent to all members eligible to vote.

A special general meeting was held on 20th February to further discuss the contract between the Society and Council and to consider votes of members.

After long debate and some opposition to the handing over of the Stud Stock selling Centre to the Wodonga Council it was put to the vote with 41 in favour of the change and 19 against, the agreement. The main concern was lack of support from the Breed Societies and any guarantee they would continue to use the Selling Centre. The Council had already begun spending \$600,000 to improve the Centre. C. Stitz pointed out that this was a contract between the Show Society and the Wodonga Council and no covenant was placed on the land to ensure it is kept for recreational purposes.

Stitz regarded the vote as inconclusive and moved calling another meeting at least one month away.

At that meeting T. Anderson announced his resignation and the meeting was told Ian Marshall would accept the position of Treasurer.

A second special general meeting was held on 26th March at which the unrest of members was evident. C. Stitz said he could not see why the Society and Council couldn't work together. He also said nine members would resign. The new treasurer, I. Marshall, said the Society's financial situation was not healthy at present and no institution would lend it money. John Fisher said "We are giving the land to the Council". Peter Adams suggested a long term lease but N. Forrest said the land has to be passed over to the Council because it was unable to invest public funds unless Council controlled the land. C. Stitz said the Council needed to own the land to gain a Government grant. N. Bottrell pointed out that breeders of stock were holding sales on their own properties to save costs. Jim McGrath queried whether approx. 25 people who paid membership before the Show were entitled to vote and H. Price said the constitution provided that new members must be approved by the Committee.

Proxies were checked and after counting of the ballot papers and proxies President, R. Pollard announced 68 for and 20 against the proposal - however the vote was lost because 75% were not sufficient to carry the vote.

Treasurer, Ian Marshall, told the meeting of 2nd April the show had made a profit of \$2,000. Total gate takings were \$15,142.

A number of resignations were tendered to the meeting from: T. Barton, R. Hempel, K. & P. Sutherland, B. Reuss, C. Cogdell, A. Brewer, R. Pollard. R. Prichard moved the resignations not be accepted.

C. Stitz said there was a need to look at the total picture - the whole deal had fallen through due to membership voting against the title being transferred to Wodonga Council - therefore the Council is not eligible for the Government grant. Marshall suggested the Council might take over the Stud Stock Centre and the Show Society retain the rest. He moved the proposal be taken to Council that the title be subdivided to transfer to Council the minimum necessary area of land and an administrative building be built from the proceeds. N. Forrest, after that motion was carried, moved that no money be spent on any part of the grounds and buildings except for safety purposes while negotiations were under way. That motion was carried too. C. Stitz said the Show Society was still liable for the bank loan the interest for which was \$85 per month. He moved that the Society's next general meeting define membership, the Committee and the number on the Committee as defined by the Constitution.

Another special meeting was held on 23rd April and heard that the Wodonga Council had given authority to certain Councillors to negotiate with the Show Society with the Society retaining half of the land, (the bottom end including the toilet block.) It was decided to send to all members a map and explanatory note of the amended proposals and invite them to vote at a meeting on 28th May.

In answer to a question from Mrs. Betty McLean, the Secretary said she had not received any letters against the agreement.

Mr. Dennis Beeley resigned at the meeting of 7th May but his resignation was left to lie on the table with the other resignations which had not been accepted.

Another special meeting of the Society was held on 28th May to hear the progress on discussions with the Wodonga Council. The meeting agreed in principle for negotiations to continue between the Society and the Council with the committee consisting of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and two other society members. However, G. Coyle said he did not think the Society should part with all its land. A vote was taken with 42 in favour of the continuing discussions and 5 against.

1992 AGM - The AGM was held on 4th June and welcomed Peter Adams as the new Show Society President. Neil Bottrell was appointed vice-president. Ian Marshall was reappointed Treasurer.

At the following general meeting it was decided to appoint sub-committees for each section with the chairman of each sub-committee invited to attend meetings of the general committee.

For several meetings there had been concern voiced that money for stud stock sales was held by the Wodonga Council instead of being placed in Show Society accounts. Ian Marshall had contacted D. Beeley and been told that Council had sent bills for the last five catalogues for the sum of approximately \$19,000. This money will be held in trust by Council with the distribution yet to be decided. A Committee was elected to negotiate with the Council.

The Committee accepted the resignations of those committee people who had resigned.

Peter Adams said he did not wish to be paid to carry out his duties as President of the Society.

The resignation of Arthur Lock was received, and accepted.

At a special meeting on 17th July, Secretary C. Cole resigned and Mrs. Thelma Wright was appointed to take her place.

The purpose of the meeting was to form a committee structure to run the Show. This was done.

The meeting of 6th August heard from C. Stitz that the Council's solicitor suggested all land be transferred to the Council as he considered there would be problems with transferring only half of it. Mr. Stitz said there were many areas still to be discussed.

On 3rd September Treasurer, I. Marshall reported the Society's financial situation as being a credit balance of \$1,400 at the Annual General Meeting of 1992. However after the payment of bank charges, payment of accounts etc. there was now a debit balance of \$2,074.

Peter Adams asked the Council to release some funds held in Trust in order to conduct normal Society transactions but the money was refused. At the Council's request a statement of income and expenditure showing a shortfall of \$11,000 was submitted to the Council, On the motion of C. Stitz it was decided to transfer money held in the savings deposit to the current account.

Council's technical services officer, Bruce Pooley attended the meeting and reported on the progress of updating the cattle selling facilities.

The Wodonga Council holds \$28,236 in the Trust account - it was decided therefore to ask the Council to pay for accounts charged to the Wodonga Show Society for expense incurred for the Stud Stock Centre.. The accounts included \$1,000 for the State Electricity Commission, \$750 for work on gates and \$200 for straw. C. Stitz reported that negotiations with the Council on the transfer of the land were at a stalemate with the Council concerned at having only half. He had told the Council the Society had a covenant on half to be used by the Wodonga Council stating it must always be available for public use and suggested the Council act similarly with the Society's half.

Mr. Stitz said the Council had obtained large funding from the federal budget and this might help the Council work towards final agreement.

It was reported to the meeting of 1st October that the Wodonga Council had paid the accounts forwarded by the Society for construction of cattle yards and rent on toilets and made an advance payment of \$6,230 towards the cost of the 1993 Show subject to the provision of a proposed budget.

C.Stitz reported little progress with the transfer of land. However, each body will have a covenant on the land owned by the other party with the land always to be for public use. The Council might eventually purchase the Show Society land for public open space if the Show Society decides to move the value of the land is not great. Consideration will be given to the possibility of buying out the Society at public use value or to replacement with land of similar value, the move to be at the Society's timing, possibly 15 years, one would prefer 10 years.

On 5th November Mr. Stitz said 'in principal' agreement regarding the Wodonga Show Society moving had been agreed to, if no wish to move anytime after five years. Possibility of settlement 1st December.

Tenders would be called for the removal of the pigeon and pony club sheds. The 3rd December meeting was told a tender for \$900 had been approved to remove the pigeon and pony club sheds.

Water charges, water conservation and the difficulty of policing who uses what water from the various mains outlets are to be the subject of a meeting with Wodonga Water Trust's Mr. Pat Nally.

A new Common Seal was adopted by the Society at a special Committee meeting on 8th December.

It was moved by I. Marshall, seconded by N. Bottrell, that the agreement with the Rural City of Wodonga in relation to the Stud Stock Selling Centre tabled by the Wodonga Show Society's solicitor, be approved and executed under seal and the fixing of the Common Seal be attested by two Committee members. The motion was carried.

A bank loan of \$9,943 from Westpac Bank, Wodonga would be paid out by the Show Society using \$8,000 to be received from the Wodonga Council as part payment.

The Society acknowledged the assistance of Bellbridge Hague and the Society's solicitor, C. Stitz and the fact that the Wodonga Council has paid all solicitor's costs in the transfer of the Stud Stock Centre and land.

1993

On 7th January 1993, the Committee was told that the Wodonga Council wanted two representatives on the Stud Stock Special Committee of Management. Two names were submitted for the society's approval: John Waite representing the Wodonga Turf Club and Don Gadd nominated by the Breed Societies. Under the terms of the Agreement two people were to be nominated as residents of Wodonga and one interested in Stud Stock. The meeting decided it had no objection to John Waite as a resident, but the Wodonga Turf Club was not entitled to nominate a representative. The meeting did not object to Don Gadd but the Breed Societies did not have power to nominate a representative. The Committee will write to the Council pointing out that the two representatives should be members of the Wodonga community.

The Treasurer's report showed a balance of \$3,660.

The Council will be asked for the promised \$6,250 which was to have been paid by the end of December.

The meeting of 4th February honored Mr. J. McGrath and his work for the Society over many years with a special birthday cake and card, to mark his 80th birthday.

The cheque for \$6,250 was received from the Wodonga Council.

Mr. J. Waite and D. Gadd were appointed as 'community' members to the Stock Centre's Committee of Management.

It was decided to present Mr. B. Reuss with Life Membership.

The meeting of 3rd March reported gate takings of \$7044. However, it was felt the Show had suffered from the Festival of Sport at the same time. There had been only the same amount of money to be spread over the Festival and Show, but not more people.

In response to a request from Mrs. Betty McLean it was decided to alter the wording on the Members' Tickets from 'Ladies ticket' to 'Members guest'.

The bank statement showed a balance of \$11,542.

The meeting of 5th May conferred Life Membership on Mr. Ray Pollard.

Held on 3rd June, 1993 the AGM decided on several changes to its rules including that Life Membership be given only to those who had been a financial member of the Society for a continuous period of 25 years or a member who has made conspicuous meritorious service to the Society. The amendments to the Society's rules, were passed en bloc.

In his annual report, President, Peter Adams, said the past 12 months had been a time of re-organising and re-building. The first major item had been the division of the Showgrounds on terms acceptable to the Society and the Wodonga City Council. A final resolution of the matter took place with the signing of an agreement on 8th December 1992. Not having income from the Stud Stock Selling centre for the past 12 months had forced the Society to be financially responsible. The Society had two representatives on the Council's Committee of Management for the Centre. The Society could be proud of the fact that a voluntary organisation established and built the Centre to such a high client level.

Peter Adams was re-elected President, Neil Bottrell Vice-President, and a Committee of 11 elected.

On 4th November 1993, the title for portion of the Showgrounds was handed to the Wodonga City Council.

At the meeting of 2nd December, Ian Marshall tendered his resignation as Treasurer.

1994

The meeting of 3rd February appointed Mr. Kevin Tracey as Treasurer.

Gate takings for the Show were \$6,834. The Society's balance after the Show was \$6,287.

The need for a cash flow budget was discussed at the meeting of 3rd May - all sections have been asked to supply an income and expenditure budget to the Treasurer.

1994 AGM - The AGM on 2nd June re-elected Peter Adams, President and Neil Bottrell vice-President, and a Committee of 11. Membership was set at \$15.

The President, in his annual report, said the Society's relationship with the Wodonga City Council had been a cause for concern on several occasions throughout the year. He said the Society must work hard at keeping a healthy relationship without compromising the Society's independence or its ability to conduct a good show or to use the grounds to the best advantage.

Treasurer, K. Lacey reported an end of financial year balance of \$12,512.76 The amount includes cheque a/c, money on term deposit and passbook account.

On 6th October the Society told the Wodonga Council it was finding it difficult to plan for the 1995 Show because the Council had not approved the budget.

The last meeting of 1994 on 1st December decided to write to the Wodonga City Council and ask for clarification of reports in the Border Mail regarding possible privatisation of the Stud Stock Selling Centre.

1995

The meeting of 2nd February heard from Tony Plowman, Member for Benambra, that a Government grant of \$6,000 would be made available for major electrical work at the Showgrounds.

On 23rd March the Society was \$10,587 in credit.

President, Peter Adams, told the meeting of 6th April that the annual Show had been bigger and better than ever and a base for further improvement. Gate takings were \$25,000, compared to \$7,331 the previous year.

The 4th May meeting showed a profit of \$9,521 for the 1995 Show.

1995 AGM - Peter Adams was re-elected President, Neil Bottrell Vice President, Kevin Tracy, Treasurer and a committee of 11 comprising: R. Hempel, B. Prichard, L. Hogan, N. Forrest, T. Maher, T. Dare, M. Crowe, C. Stitz, M. Duras, J. McGrath and H. Grothe.

The President's report showed optimism for the future as the Society had regained credibility and respect within the community. Apart from the hard work of Committee members changing the date of the Show, a better working relationship with the Showman's guild, special attractions and a Sunday night Show had contributed to its success.

Annual membership was set at \$15.

On 9th September 1995, the name of the Stud Stock Selling Centre was changed to The Wodonga Exhibition Centre.

The meeting of 2nd November was told that Commissioner Des Kelly was keen to develop a lake which could be used to water the Showgrounds and the Racecourse and Recreation Reserve.

The last meeting for 1995 reported a credit balance of \$1,068. That meeting also adopted a two-day ticket for the show with members and family and single tickets in different colours, for easy distinction. Charges to be \$20 family and \$10 single ticket.

1996

The Society's Bank balance at 7th March was in credit \$4,560.

Bank balance at 1st May 1996 was \$13,340. Gate takings at the 1996 Show were \$19,156 and general sponsorship \$1600. Prize money paid out was \$8,464. The gross loss for the Show was \$1,699, after payments.

1996 AGM - Annual General Meeting on 6th June saw Peter Adams returned as President; Neil Bottrell, Vice-President; K. Tracey, Treasurer; T. Wright secretary and a Committee of 12: B. Prichard, R. Hempel, T. Dare, T. Darmody, T. Maher, H. Grothe, N. Forrest, L. Hogan, D. Furze, C. Stitz, A. Murtagh, R. Long. Annual membership was set at \$15.

During his annual address to the Society, President, Peter Adams, said the 1996 Show ran at a loss. Rising costs and fewer paying patrons meant the Society's cash reserves were depleted. He thanked Society members for their community service. He said the Committee elected for the 50th Show in 1997 had a task ahead of running an event worthy of the Society and, at the same time, keeping the bank balance on the right side of the ledger. A number of items needed to be addressed immediately:

- All sections of the Show must be self-supporting.
- The Society-owned block of land in Richardson Street must be sold to provide a working capital base to run future Shows.
- The admission prices for 1997 must be raised to \$1 a head.
- The 50th Anniversary must be promoted vigorously and full community support won for the staging of the 1997 Show.
- I believe we must pack our Show into a smaller time space, two nights and one day.
- We no longer subsidise users of space and Side Show operators for the cost of power.
- A vigorous campaign for sponsorship must be started immediately. He said the Society had to be efficient to survive.

He said a lot of good people and a lot of good Shows were packed into the last 49 years. We had a tradition in rural Australia of which country Shows are a part, that is very much worth working and fighting for.

The 5th June meeting accepted an offer from the Wodonga Council to move the Secretary's office (the Joe Stockdale building) to another site to enable the Race Club to construct a new toilet block.

The Race Course and Recreation Reserve would also be asked to give unlimited access to the centre of the racecourse. Discussion was also held on the sale of a block of land owned by the Show Society.

The next meeting on 4th July decided not to sell the block of land, although the Committee has sufficient authority to sell.

At the meeting of 5th September, 1996, the Treasurer reported that the Society's financial situation was grim, and it was decided to extend the bank overdraft.

That meeting also heard a report from President Peter Adams that a deputation consisting of Peter Adams, Charles Stitz and Kevin Tracey had been told by Wodonga's Commissioners that the agreement between the Society and the Council was not valid. The Commissioners would like to take over all the Society land and suggested that a way out for the Society was to sell the Showgrounds and in return the Rural City of Wodonga Council would fund the Show for 20 years.

A report on a telephone conversation between Peter Adams and Commissioner Des Kelly contained an informal offer to buy the Society's block of land for \$8,000 per annum over 3 years.

Discussion by the Society Committee included concern that the Show Society needs to pursue the conditions of its agreement with the Council and seek a meeting within 7 days.

It would also write to Commissioner Kelly stating the Society was unable to consider the sale of land until the Society resolved its funding problems with the Council; write to the City Council

asking whether it proposed to honor the agreement, and arrange to meet with a local Member of Parliament to discuss the problem, sending a copy of the agreement to the Member of Parliament before the meeting.

The next meeting, on 3rd October heard the results of the meeting with the Member for Benambra, Mr. Tony Plowman, on the Society's financial problems with the Wodonga Council. Mr. Plowman suggested the Society re-negotiate the agreement and amalgamate with the Albury Show Society. A meeting with the Council was arranged for 7th October. Peter Adams said the Albury Show Society committee would consider amalgamation proposal.

A social function for Life Members of the Show Society, members and supporters was arranged for 17th November.

The 7th November 1996 meeting centred on the refusal of the Wodonga Council to honor the financial agreement with the Show Society. Discussions between Society President and Commissioners Des Kelly and Mike Hanson again indicated Council's advice that legally the agreement was not legally binding. The Commissioners proposed a new agreement be drawn up as follows:

- The Society's house-block of land be rezoned to public space, no building permit would be issued;
- The Society be paid \$36,000 either \$9,000 over 4 years or \$12,000 over 3 years;
- The Society to have the use of the Exhibition Centre three times a year, make more use of their land and raise charges for groups hiring the grounds;
- Prepare a business plan for Council;
- The new agreement to be phased out after 3 years;
- The Council desire the 1997 Show to go ahead.

General discussion on the proposal followed. The Society is not in a financial position to challenge the Council in Court. In view of the Council elections in March when Councillors would replace the Commissioners, would the proposed new agreement be binding. The Committee not pleased with the proposal but realises the society is not in a strong position to force Council to make a better offer.

The Society's legal, adviser, Charles Stitz, successfully moved the following response be sent to Council:

"The Wodonga Show Society requires a one-off grant of \$10,000 to conduct the 1997 Show - no money, no Show. We confirm that we negotiate in good faith with the Council concerning the future of the Show and relationships with Council and point out that it would be impossible to prepare a business plan before June."

On the 17th November, 1996, President, Peter Adams, launched the Gold Pass fund-raising scheme for the 50th anniversary of the Wodonga Show. He paid tribute to those who had worked, mostly in a voluntary capacity, to build up the Society and its assets to their present value and regard in the community.

He welcomed to the launch a number of Life Members and commended them for their continuing support.

Present at the launch also was Barry Blewett who had competed in the section for the boy riders under 7 years of age, at the first Show.

Mr. Adams called on Committeeman, Mr. Noel Forrest, to explain the Golden Pass scheme which would raise money from the community and business towards the 50th Show in 1997.

Mr. Forrest said a Gold Pass would cost the purchaser \$50 and give admission to 2 adults and children for the whole weekend and, for business the chance to win \$1,000 worth of subsidised advertising if the winner was a business house (donated by 2AY and the Border Mail) and a trip for 2 people for a flight to Sydney (donated by Hazelton Airlines) if the winner was an individual. The passes were on sale from the day of the announcement until the day of the Show.

On 21st November Westpac Bank refused a loan to the Society against a block of land by which means the Society had hoped to fund the 1997 Golden Show.

The last meeting for 1996, was held on 5th December, and the Wodonga Council repeated its statement that the previous agreement is no longer legal and offered the Society \$10,000 per year for 3 years. The Council said it had obtained legal opinion which was based on the principles of a commercial transaction.

"The Show Society believes the Council's attitude is not morally justifiable but the Society has not the financial resources to fight the case in Court." The Society was not happy about the offer of \$10,000 for 3 years and it was decided to hold a special general meeting of all members to discuss the offer and the future of the Society.

1997

A special general meeting was held on 9th January to consider the Council's offer to terminate the agreement upon payment to the Society of financial assistance to a limit of \$10,000 per year for three years and to consider the future of the Society. A summary of the events leading to the meeting was sent to members, including the Council's advice to the Society that it must be economically viable without assistance from the Council or go out of existence.

The Society meeting passed the following motions:

- i. Negotiations with the City of Wodonga are to continue in the belief that the agreement with the Council is legal and binding, and a letter prepared by W. J. Buckpitt be used to reply to the Council.
- ii. Noel Forrest was appointed as Publicity Officer for the campaign.
- iii. W. J. Buckpitt was appointed to act as the Society's Solicitor.

As it was clear negotiations with the Council were unlikely to be concluded before the 1997 Show in March, it was resolved that an immediate appeal be made to members of the Society to contribute loan funds in multiples of \$100 to raise \$10,000 to permit the 1997 Show to be held. If the appeal not be successful there would be no Show.

Another meeting on February the 6th 1997 discussed the Council's proposal for a new agreement and resolved to notify the Council that "all correspondence regarding the agreement should be referred to our legal adviser, Mr. Bill Buckpitt, who will reply in due course."

Footnote: (written in March 1997) The attempts of the Council to negate the contract came close to destroying the Show Society in 1996/97 for the Entertainment Centre which the Society had built and which had been its main source of income could only be used by it on Show Days. The old Wodonga City Council wanted the Stud Stock Show and Sales kept in Wodonga and the contract drawn up between the old Council and Society suited both parties.

The dismissal of all Victorian Councils by the Kennett Government and their replacement by Commissioners who had to introduce different methods of administering Council business, was the reason behind the desire of the Council to negate the agreement. It had gained from the Society a valuable asset in the buildings and another valuable asset in the land included in the contract. Under the Council's new instructions all its business operations had to be exposed to Compulsory Competitive Tendering. What business would tender for a property which has a 50-year unknown monetary encumbrance?

A democratically elected City Council replaced the Commissioners in March 1997 and one of its responsibilities is the settling of the issue with the Society.

The Wodonga Show Society is prepared to fight its case in the Courts provided it can raise enough money to do so. It has gained legal opinion that encourages it to believe it can win its case. It believes it has kept its side of the contract but the Council has not.

Meanwhile, an editorial in the local paper "The Border Mail" on 27th January 1997 stated: "The Council's concerns are understandable but there are some things that are worth keeping even if there is a cost involved - the Wodonga. Show is one of them. The cost to the community does not appear to be great given that the Show brings visitors to Wodonga, showcases the region and brings the community together. The Show is just another example of volunteers working for the community. In that context balance sheets and economic austerity should not be the only consideration."

The preceding information was compiled in March 1997.

The treasurer's report as at 31st January 1997 recorded a credit balance of \$1353.22 which included receipt of loan funds to the value of \$3100. As at 6th February there were a number of accounts outstanding for payment and discussions were held as to which could be deferred, including half the secretary's honorarium.

The minutes of 27 February show permission had been granted by Wodonga Council and the Victorian Police to conduct a street parade.

A letter of resignation was received from K. Tracy. A letter was to be sent to him for his work as treasurer. D. Grace accepted the position of treasurer in a temporary capacity.

The motor bike stunt act was to be paid \$2000 plus two night accommodation and breakfast for four people. They would be performing at the Show at 3 p.m. and 8.30 p.m.

Allan & Karen Fabris to organise animal nursery and would like to call it "The Neil Bottrell Memorial Animal Nursery".

Rob Hall, a foundation member of the Society was to be presented with Life Membership at the Young Citizens Award judging on 13th March. Arrangements were to be made to drive A. G. Richardson and R. Hall in vintage cars in the street parade.

At the special meeting held on 17 March 97 quotes were received for fireworks, one at \$2750, and another at \$3000 which would include a "50 years" display. 'Dunklings The Jewellers' gave permission to their sponsorship of the Show in the advertising in the Border Mail.

The treasurer reported that all accounts for payment had been put "on hold" until after the show.

Mylons would provide a bus free of charge to transport the Scots School Pipe Band to Wodonga for the street parade. The bus driver was to be paid \$92 but Bob Prichard was to ask him to donate his time.

There was an election for Vice President with the nominee Bob Prichard going unopposed.

10th April meeting - Charlie Tankard was to be sent a letter of thanks for donating his time to drive the bus.

Correspondence tabled on that day included a letter from Wodonga City Council offering \$10,000 per year for 3 years with a proposed new agreement to be effective from 1999. It was moved and carried that Bill Buckpitt draft a letter rejecting the offer and to seek a meeting with the council. Bill Buckpitt was also to define his position as a legal advisor to the Wodonga Show Society, for matters relating to the Council. The Show Society does not want a conflict of interest to arise as Bill Buckpitt is now an elected councillor.

Another letter from the Mayor of Wodonga, G. Crapp, thanking the Show Society for their invitation to open the show and seeking an informal meeting to discuss the future direction of the Society and its current financial position. The meeting was agreed that a delegation to be chosen by the President.

Reports from the recent Show:

- Horse section, entries up and happy with the show.

- Friday evening show needs refining, more features, will take time for public to get used to Friday evening show.
- Sheep, wool, goats – very good exhibition, entries up in all sections.
- Animal Nursery – wonderful with a letter to be written to Allan and Karen Fabris.
- Site & Space – charged to be reviewed.
- Ladies Pavilion – power in Nell Wilson pavilion unsatisfactory, needs replacing.

A working bee was to be held to remove and cut dead trees from Peter Adams' property with wood to be sold as a fund raiser. That together with a Trivia night was considered sufficient funds to carry Wodonga Show Society through to 1998 show.

At the 1st May meeting resignations from Mesdames Boon, Whitla and Woolford were received, resigning from both the Show Society and the Ladies Auxiliary. The resignation of Thelma Wright at secretary effective from 9 June 1997 was also received.

Peter Adams and Bill Buckpitt were to meet with the Wodonga Council on 7th May to discuss the agreement and financial support. The secretary was to write to the Council regarding the loss of the street banner.

The AGM was held on 5th June 1997.

Election of office bearers:

President – Noel Forrest
 Vice President – Bob Prichard
 Secretary T. Wright resigned, new secretary not appointed
 Treasurer – D. Grace

Committee:

P. Adams
 T. Maher
 L. Hogan
 R. Long
 J. Hull
 H. Grothe
 R. Pollard
 A. Murtagh
 N. Padbury.

The setting of annual membership fees held over until completion of negotiations with the Wodonga Council.

R. Pollard asked the chairman when a secretary would be appointed and was told as funds were not available to pay a secretary and the matter would have to wait until after the meeting with the Wodonga Council.

In his report President Peter Adams said in part:

“The Society has been through difficult and negative negotiations with the former commissioners of the Wodonga City Council, and faced the task of presenting the 50th anniversary show with a debit bank balance.

Negotiations with council continue and our chances of a positive outcome appear far better now we have an elected council.

The need to present a show with out working capital was a daunting prospect, but the sale of gold passes at \$50 per pass, along with loan funds advanced from members, plus the pony club and show jumping club loaning funds enabled us to achieve our goal.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the two clubs and the members who advanced funds. For the Society and people of Wodonga it was the difference between having a show and not having a show.

Many other people have been involved in supporting these fund raising ventures and I extend the Societies thanks to them also.

We have lost good members this year through death and resignation, these people have been part of the soul of the Wodonga Show Society, and their contribution over many years should not be forgotten or underestimated.

The late Neil Botrell in particular for his hard work, common sense, and good counsel, which I as president of this Society have had the benefit on many occasions. Our retiring secretary Thelma Wright has given five years of service to the Wodonga Show Society, on behalf of our members. I thank Thelma for those five years and wish her well for the future.

Volunteers and donors are a large part of what keeps a Show Society functioning. They have been a vital part of our past and are precious to our future. We thank you for your support in the past, and ask that you continue to support us in future years. The past five years as president of the Wodonga Shoe Society has been an honour. I have enjoyed it during those five years. I have received tremendous support and loyalty from the committee and members, and from a large percentage of the Community generally. I thank you all for that and wish my successor well for the task that lies ahead."

A planning meeting on 19th June was told that the Secretary/Administrator position was to be advertised with a closing date for applications being 2nd July.

On 17th July all committee persons present were presented with a copy of the Business Plan drawn up by Stirlings Accountants of Wodonga. It is very important that the Committee have more fund raising events in a year besides the Show to achieved a healthy financial situation prior to our Show and not be totally dependant on the annual show for cash flow. Ours strength is our organizing personnel – Membership is vital as we currently have only 40 financial members. With this in mind we will approach Mr. Paul Flood to deal solely with our membership payments with a view to increase the number of members 500%. We hope to make up a membership package which will include a member's facility at the show. Membership application forms to be posted out with renewal notices asking member to recommend at least three other persons for possible membership.

The appointment of a Secretary/Administrator should be finalised in the next few days, with interviews carried out.

Membership fees set at \$25 which will provide for the show 2 adult tickets or 1 adult ticket with two children's tickets. The package will provide facilities at the show for members.

On 7 August 1997 the name of Paul Clarke as secretary appears.

Damien Grace reported on a meeting with the Rural City of Wodonga Council. Damien reported our letter and budget created no problems. Council advised it could see no problems with the use of the Pavilion, free of charge for 25 years. It was agreed to go to council on the 13th of August 1997. Betty McLean advised that the council budget is now individually itemised. She requested permission to ask the next council meeting "Is there any provision in the council budget for the Wodonga Show Society".

A meeting was told that they were expecting to attract 215 people to the trivia night and on this basis it should be a success.

It is recommended the Society develop a five-year plan to book the third weekend in February each year with council to hold the show.

On 4 September 1997 it was moved that the recommended date for the show date booking be the third weekend in March not February as per the previous minutes.

The Treasurer reported that the trivia night netted \$2921.

It was agreed that the Pony club could use the secretary's office for a hire fee of \$100 per annum for meetings.

The compensation claim with Wodonga Council needs receipts to prove we have had a show. A rate of \$10,000 per year will be compensated by Wodonga Council. Should we not have a show for a period of 21 months the Showground will revert to Council. Society will have use of the shed for 4 weekends per year. Can rehire the shed if we have no use and are not in competition to the beef selling. The council will collect the camp fees but prefers us to collect all fees. The council wants to set up an overall structure of ground management i.e. including the Show Society, Turf club, other users and Council.

In the minutes of 2nd October Paul Clark was not happy with his future with the Show Society. It appears he was appointed some time after 17 July but not recorded in the minutes. Paul tendered his resignation. As the situation was somewhat urgent, a new person was appointed to the Secretary's role subject to ratification. A new service agreement has been drawn up by Charles Stitz – Society's solicitor. It was moved and carried that Anne Locke be appointed as Secretary of the Show Society.

The President was to continue to develop a newsletter to inform the community of goings on with the Society.

1998

At the next recorded meeting on 5 February 1998 it was agreed that Mike Cameron from 2AY would like to sell raffle tickets at the show all weekend for the Variety Club. In return he would advertise Wodonga Show on air every morning.

The next minutes on 2nd of April 1998 gives a report on the show in the previous month. Good turnout of cattle, approximately 100 head, much better than the last two years. Secretary would like to look at setting up a bond system for sites. Problem this year was that some of the sites had disappeared over Saturday night and did not return for Sunday which was not good for the

public who had paid to enter the show and half the sites had gone. For the fruit and vegetables it was suggested that the judging should be on the Saturday due to fresh produce and flowers spoiling. The fireworks had been the worst display ever and Noel was to ring the company and complain bitterly of their professional conduct and to try to get the invoice cost down.

It was recorded that the Ladies (auxiliary) cheque-book should be under committee management same as the horse committee had handed over the reins to the general committee. Under incorporation rules there should be only one treasurer. The 14th of May 1998 Peter Adams informed the Committee that the Ladies Auxiliary are holding a special meeting concerning the money situation.

On 4 June 1998 treasurer reported approximately \$4500 "to kick-off from now". There was an \$800 profit made from a recent dinner.

There are to be two members nominated for life membership of the Show Society they are Peter Adams and Bob Prichard. VASA was to be contacted re the medals.

On 2 July 1998 a special general meeting was held after the Annual meeting (*minutes of the AGM not found*) to ratify a Licence Agreement between the Wodonga and District Pony Club and the Wodonga Show Society. The agreement was signed and sealed.

On 6 August 1998 Peter Adams and Bob Prichard received life membership. Noel thanked them for their hard work and the committee appreciated the continual effort to the support of the show. "It is a privilege to work with such dedicated workers."

Correspondence in at that meeting included Agreement with Council -- Signed and sealed. General business on that day included the need for restoration of the arena because elephants had made holes in it.

On 3 September 1998 there was continuing discussion about the water situation between the Council and Show Society. Jess Hull moved a motion that the users of the ground contribute financially ASAP. The treasurer reported a credit balance of \$8,311.19.

Syd Howard Fireworks was to be offered an arrangement of payment for the fireworks. \$1500 to be paid on agreement and on completion of the 1999 show, another \$1500 be paid on a satisfactory result.

It was agreed that the society investigate the feasibility of conducting a steam train package deal. It would include train ride, motel accommodation, meals and buses from Melbourne return. Fiona van der Weyde attend the meeting to discuss alternative therapies that will participate at next year's show. She envisages 30 stalls situated in the Bull Ring sales area of the Exhibition at complex. It was decided to book Perry Bros Circus for next year's show. Jess Hull was appointed the Financial Reporter until the appointment of a Treasurer. Steve Callesen attend the meeting after being invited to discuss ways and means of using the Exhibition Centre. Steve stated use of the Centre in its present state would be difficult to fill as there is not a proper floor in the area. He suggested that the Committee investigate the idea of purchasing a drying conveyor belt from the paper mill. It could be laid down and carpet could be put down on top it would then become a viable proposition for lots of different venues, not only agricultural, as it is now.

At the meeting on 15 October 1998 it was recorded Syd Howard had accepted the society's proposal of payment for next year's show. Jess Hull reported that after all accounts are paid the cash book balance would be credit of \$5,371.35.

A member the Yackandandah Pistol Club attended the meeting to discuss the Portable Pistol range that they would run at the show in 1999. It is understood that they will notify the council and that all regulations and restrictions will be adhered to. They are trying to increase community awareness and membership. Secretary was to contact Showman's Guild requesting that they use their own generators to run the amusements at the next show. Peter Marshall from the council spoke on the future of the Show Grounds and that the Council has ideas of refurbishment and renovation of the grounds.

The theme for next year's show is yet to be decided.

The meeting on 5 November 1998 heard that the Ladies Auxiliary Schedule is out. The theme for the show next year was discussed and it was agreed that it would be "See It All".

Reference the train package -- 2000 letters will need to be posted out to various bodies. Cost to be \$495 twin share. The Carlton (motel) has been booked, along with buses and train. Discussions will be held with Wodonga TAFE re their catering for the weekend.

Recreation reserve had sent a wish list to the society for amendment and update lengthy discussions to be held later. Wodonga Junior Football club will have to shift the containers, or if they wish, they can pay \$300 for rental. Car parking at the show may be restricted as Mitchell College has plans for the area we normally use. Recreation Reserve may need to be approached for alternative parking when the show is on.

On 3 December 1998 decided by the Committee that the Duck man be hired at our next news show. Symphony Orchestra -- Committee should delve into a little deeper for entertainment at the dinner.

In regards to Political Stands it was suggested that the minutes of the meeting held 15 to 20 years ago be found so that the committee can rescind the motion that there was to be no politicians stands at the show.

It was suggested that the Midgets football club run the BBQ bar on Saturday in return for storing their container at the Showgrounds.

1999

The meeting on 14 January 1999 heard that Wodonga Show Society had been awarded the "Event of the Year 1998" by the City of Wodonga and the committee should be at the presentation on 26 January 1999.

As problems had arisen with organising the steam train from Melbourne the project was postponed until the year 2000 show. After rescinding the previous motion about political parties, the secretary was to canvas local politicians in regard to having a stand at the show.

Camping fees from users of the Showgrounds be looked at again to see if there is an easier way to collect monies from the campers that have booked through the Council.

On 4 February 1999 the secretary was to write to Council in regard to the water saga. We would like to pay only 15% not 20%. Jess reported that we can have a meter at a cost, North East Water is happy to do it at a cost of approximately \$3000-\$5000. Roy Hempel requires four to five tables for the fleeces. Alpacas would also like to have two tables for their fleeces.

On 4 March 1999 Peter Adams extended to a welcome to Barb Hallawell who is to assist the secretary and was confident that all would work together to carry out the many functions that the Committee has to do to have a successful show.

Decision made to reduce admission charges for the Sunday Family Day to \$10 per family. Several quotes had been received for a water meter. It was moved that the water charged will be the reading of the water meter installed. The financial report recorded a cash book balance after accounts were paid of \$5,978.55.

In June 1999 the Border and District Showjumping Club sent a cheque for \$1019.91 being a third of the costs incurred for isolating the water services at the Showgrounds.

On 7 October 1999 President advised that some financial arrangement be made with the Turf club with regard to the use of our ground and its use as a "public" car park on the race meets. Also it is to discuss the sign at the entrance of the Showground whereby they are claiming our land as a "Public Car Park", when in fact it isn't.

In October 1999 letters were sent out seeking corporate sponsorship offering naming rights of events, display of logos, acknowledgement of sponsorship in Show advertising in media and Show Program, a limited number of complimentary passes for the duration of the Show.

During 1999 there were extensive discussions about the requirement to use the Showman's Guild as opposed to having an "Open" Show. They had spoken to the Walbundrie Show Society who have had an Open Show for over 80 years.

The minutes of 2 December 1999 record that the Society is now a member of Investment Albury Wodonga.

Peter Lee the secretary went on to report " To those members of the Society not present at the Saturday evening meet of the recently held World Cup, how grateful thanks go Anne Locke who whilst carrying out social duties in the main marquee, heard the external cooler room door seal open at approximately 3 a.m., and upon going outside, single-handedly apprehended a quite sober male person who had entered into said cooler room and removed for the purpose of self gratification an unopened 2 litre bottle of Bundaberg Rum and a 1 litre bottle of Jim Beam, with

a retail value of approximately \$400. Many thanks Anne on behalf of all members of the Society. The totally reassured Anne, some chaps were really close behind you, it was just a case of finding and getting the First Aid box first, on the "just in case" scenario of you possibly getting hurt in the apprehension of that thief!!!"

2000

On 6 January 2000 was reported that the solicitor firm being used had advised that any further dealings with the Showman's Guild on behalf of the Wodonga Show Society would have to be charged at commercial rates for any work done. True to their word an invoice had been received charging for answering/making two telephone conversations \$75. Solicitor went on to advise that to date, the initial meeting, subsequent meetings, and drafting and sending letters to VASA and Showman's Guild already exceeded \$1000, for which they are not charging a fee. It would appear "on paper" that they are no longer interested in helping the Society in an honorary capacity.

A letter had been sent to the fireworks people regarding the 2000 Show and "free" display, for problems associated with 1998 Show. Their response ignored their negligence advising that because we had cancelled in 1999 because of the weather we voided the "deal". They would do a special deal for the 2000 Show providing a value of \$3000 and only charging \$2000.

The Treasurer reported a credit balance of \$5,840.04. The Treasury went on to remind the meeting that Wodonga Council agreed to pay up to \$450 in advertising for changes of the Show date because the Angus meet mix--up. The secretary was to place advertisements in weekly Times, EFA, Twin Cities Post, and Country Mail.

3 February 2000 inward correspondence included a letter from the solicitor admitting the letter they wrote may have been ambiguous and whilst the company would like to receive payment they could also write the matter off because of the ambiguity. The Society was still waiting for confirmation that Dr Harry would attend the Show.

On 7 February 2000 a meeting was held between the Showmen's Guild of Victoria and the Wodonga Show Society. It was noted that the meeting was "cordial and constructive".

The meeting on 2 March 2000 finalised show preparations confirming that Dr Harry would be in attendance. A water cart may be required to keep the dust down in front of the Pavilion, as the exhibits get very dusty. The Society had made a good profit when hosting the Woodcrafters Weekend.

On 6 April 2000 the President warmly welcomed everybody present; especially the turnout of the Ladies Auxiliary which he stated was particularly pleasing to see. The treasurer reported that the Society should make a small profit from the Show. There was to be an officer from the taxation office in attendance next month to advise upon GST matters, and that the Society should obtain an ABN registration for GST purposes.

Olive Chamings president of the Ladies Auxiliary reported that the ladies had manned the Secretary's office for two weeks prior to the Show. Exhibits were up on the previous year, and this meant that there were savings to the Society of approximately \$120. The Pavilion schedule for the 2001 show should be out by July 2000, and it was agreed that the major part of the Fruit and Vegetables be included.

Len Hogan advised that the Hack was the best ever, with 89 horses competing in 3 rings. Peter Adams said he was pleased with the turnout of 57 "led" and 15 carcasses. Entries came as far afield as Cootamundra and Sydney. It was suggested that Peter should have assistance of a committee to help run the section and not have to do it all himself.

The President suggested that the time of grand parade should be put back to 3:45 p.m., thereby allowing time for all competitions to properly conclude.

On 4 May 2000 Ian McMullan was guest speaker from the Tax Office speaking on implications of the GST which will come into effect on July 1, 2000. Jess Hull has everything under control in regards to GST and we will be guided by her expertise.

An intense discussion was held amongst the committee on which approach they should take in relation to the development of the Showgrounds, proposed by the Recreation Racecourse Committee of Management.

On 1 June 2000 a handwritten note by the secretary says "a quiet month, obviously the lull before the storm!"

At the AGM on 6 July 2000 the President's report outlined a successful 2000 Wodonga Show and thanked all members of the Society for all the hard work and effort put in. He also thanked Uncle Ben's of Australia for their support and sponsorship of the 2000 Show and advise the meeting that it seems as though they will actively participate in the 2001 Show. The President also highlighted the success of having "rabbits" and "poultry" at the show, plus good radio and TV coverage.

The Independent Audit Report made recommendations that the society in future years shows on its balance sheet is a realistic value regarding Plant and Equipment, as otherwise it could be interpreted as a detriment to the Society. Further recommendations that where the Society actually "owns the land" and "structures" that they also be shown on the Balance Sheet, including money owing to the Society by Wodonga City Council.

The election of office bearers unopposed:

President: Noel Forest

Vice President: Anne Locke

Treasurer: Jess Hull

Secretary: (corporate): Wendy Hogan

Secretary: (honorary): Peter Lee

Committee members -- Olive Chamings -- Mary Koehn -- Neil Padbury -- Peter Adams -- Ray Pollard -- Roy Hempel -- Len Hogan -- Ron Long -- Wendy Hogan.

On 4 August 2000 the resignation of Anne Locke as vice president was received. Peter Adams was nominated as the new vice president.

On 7 September 2000 the treasurer reported a dispute over the electricity account as it was found that the meter had been vandalised resulting in no off-peak readings being made. The amount of the account in dispute was \$2500, payment not made seeking a resolution.

The Treasurer's report on 7 December 2000 shows an amount of \$769.74 being paid for the disputed electricity account. The electricity company had agreed to an estimate based on the previous year's usage.

2001

On 4 January 2001 the appointment of Mrs Jessie Hull to the position of Wodonga Show Society Secretary was ratified.

Len Hogan had done a costing of watering of the entire ground by reading the water meter before and after. He estimated a cost of \$135. Would be done each week during the dry summer period.

A website had been established at www.wodongashowozzweb.com.

In March 2001 safety issues were discussed by any WorkCover regulations and the need to doublecheck particularly the electrical leads and installations. There is a need for a book of procedures covering all WorkCover issues and also evacuation procedures. Visitor Bev Nesbitt offered to produce this for the next meeting. Noel Forrest has a water cart which could be used as a fire cart in case of a fire emergency until the fire brigade arrives.

The agenda for 19 April 2001 lists for discussion the effects of One City amalgamation (Albury & Wodonga) and that the Turf club is already discussing their future with Albury Racing Club. Each section was to provide a written summary of the recent show and thoughts on how they could increase public participation in 2002 such as pavilions providing demonstrations throughout the show as provided by the Woodcrafters Section.

On 7 June 2001 budget for the next show was discussed and that current expenses i.e. advertising as a percentage of the gate takings was far too high. Catering profits were down due to lack of customers. It was suggested that patrons do not come for the whole day any more, attending after lunch or the morning, so meals are not patronised except for judging requirements. There was a need to look at the number of free passes issued and also the gatekeepers letting friends and others through the gate without charge. A payment of \$600 was authorised to the Masonic Lodge for the gate keeping duties at the recent show.

The Treasurer's report on 5 July 2001 recorded another dispute over the electricity account which has now been resolved.

At the AGM on 5 July 2001 the president reported that the past 12 months had been a difficult stage for the Wodonga Show Society. The proposed development of the Recreation Reserve and the adjacent grounds has not proceeded as planned and advertised by Council of Wodonga. Promise of sponsorship by UBA did not occur. The big attraction that took an enormous amount of time i.e. Kidsafe turned out not to be an attraction for country people. The police display was popular particularly the helicopter arrival. Financially the 2001 Show was disappointing, which proves the right attraction is a must. Weather was good, and the media coverage was increased considerably. I would recommend that the Committee look at reducing the timeframe for the show into Friday night and Saturday only. Try to get the numbers through the gates within that time and reduce our costs. Sunday was extremely quiet except for the Horse Section and it was still going to pack up time.

The Auditor's report and Management report was tabled. The Management report was to the point and factual, requesting that Committee to have a hard look at its future and financial viability as considerable loss occurred within the 2001 Show. Land and Buildings must be

valued and entered into the records of the Society. Plant and equipment and stock-take to be also brought up to date and accounted for in the records.

Election of office bearers:

President Noel Forrest

Vice President Peter Adams

Secretary -- in the absence of a nomination for this position Mrs Anne Locke was nominated to continuing this position.

Committee of management:

Amanda Waite

Mary Koehn

Barbara Morris

Sonia Humphris

Len Hogan

Roy Hempel

Olive Chamings

Wendy Hogan

Peter Lock

Neil Padbury

Ron Long

Membership fees for 2001/02 will remain at \$20. Entry fees to show for 2000; Family tickets \$14, Adult \$8, Child \$4, Seniors Card \$5. The date of 2002 show was set to commence 4 p.m. on Friday the 22nd of March and continue until 9:30 p.m. Saturday evening with no official Sunday activity. The theme for the 2002 show yet to be decided.

On 2 August 2001 the secretary requested all details of the website to keep the site up-to-date. Do not need sponsors listed on site, unless they wish to pay for the privilege.

On 18 October 2001 a letter of resignation was received from Mr Bill Larsen.

The meeting on 1 November 2001 was held at the Blazing Stump meeting room due to there being no power available at the Showgrounds.

On 13 December 2001 quota had been received from Robinson's Circus \$4500 plus GST and was accepted in writing. Advised that no helicopter would be available for the next show. It was suggested that there be an Easter theme for the 2002 show.

The 13 December 2001 meeting heard a report from the workshop conducted by the VASA in Melbourne on 6 December 2001. Case studies were presented on eight show societies which were visited and analysed in-depth. One society had increased the gate takings by 38% by hiring two men in uniform at a cost of \$120 each per day. It was stressed that there was a need for a succession plan for committee members. No organisation has a future without young people. Show committees should open up to change and embrace it.

2002

On 3 January 2002 it was reported that insurance premiums due to AON Risk management would be based on gate takings and estimated value of buildings and would amount to \$3806 for the 12 months. There was also a different affiliation system between the Show Societies and VASA. The fee to be based on gate takings and would be \$950 for the next year. With these

increases amounting to 68.82% over last year's insurance and affiliation fees we need to reassess our financial position for the next show. The executive have taken the action to increase the Show entry fee by \$1 across the board. As some schedules had already been printed exhibitors entry fees could not be raised and everything else must be increased immediately. It was agreed that perhaps a levy be placed on each exhibitor's entry. Ron Long queried why he had found the Bob Prichard arena unlocked on three or four occasions and the secretary noted that the system of the locking device did not line up correctly. After Gerry Hull used his hammer a couple of times, the offending problem was solved.

A special show meeting was held on 25 February 2002 to discuss show preparations and format. The secretary suggested that Mrs Jean Whitla, Wodonga Citizen of the Year, be asked to open the show. Advice received that Ray Pollard was unwell and would not be able to do the Fruit and Vegetables.

At the meeting on 25 April 2002 sections gave their reports on the recent show:

Horses -- Mr Len Hogan -- reasonably successful horse section this year. Hack numbers were up as was the showjumping.

Cattle -- Mr Peter Adams -- pleased with the numbers given that the Sydney Royal was on at the same time. We had 30 head instead of the usual 50.

Poultry -- report not available however comments from committee said it was beautifully done with many different variety of birds. Wonderful exhibition.

Ladies Pavilions -- Olive Chamings -- entries were down considerably this year particularly the **Horticulture and Fruit and Vegetables**. Even so reports and feedback indicate that the Wodonga show is far better than most of the other local shows.

Animal nursery -- no official report but all thought this was an excellent feature.

Wodonga Brass Band -- cancelled due to insufficient players available.

Alpacas -- an excellent show and well attended both by exhibitors and general public.

Wood chop -- Barry Kettle advised the secretary that he was disappointed that there was no crowd at the woodchop at all.

Wool section -- Mr Roy Hempel -- first-class Merino fleece exhibition. Entries were good and overall it was a top show very pleased with how it went.

Five new membership applications were tabled as a result of the promotion during the show.

Keith and Penelope Sutherland.

Heather Ward.

David Hales.

Pamela Roth.

Secretary to write a letter of welcome to all new members.

Report from the City of Wodonga proposed development. The Committee after discussion agreed that the Show Society's contribution to the proposal was immense in terms of loss of land use and control over our property. Pony club are not happy about the changes to their Clubrooms. The new proposal gives them just another equipment shed. Totally different to a straightforward relocating of the club rooms. It was decided that a subcommittee be formed to discuss the Showgrounds development and to formulate our future requirements and required timetable changes.

The AGM was held on 6 June 2002 election of office bearers as follows:

President	Peter Adams
Vice President	Peter Lock

Official Secretary Annette Forrest
Treasurer no nominations received, Jess Jull to continue handling the
Treasurer's role

Membership fees to remain at \$20 - entry fees for 2003 show - family tickets - 2 adults and three children \$18, one adult \$9, Child 5 to 16 years \$5, aged pensioners \$6.

VASA reported that Wodonga show is listed to have a visit from the WorkCover Melbourne officials in 2003.

On 4 July 2002 Peter Adams advised the meeting that he had received an offer from Steve Paull of Paull & Scollard to try to arrange a Young Auctioneers Competition in conjunction with the 2003 show. "We will need to also run a carcass competition and this will mean a good standard of cattle will be required to facilitate these events. These Young auctioneers go on to the Sydney Royal after competing here for the Nationals and from there I believe onto Canada."

The annual financial statement which had not been available at the AGM, due to the absence of the auditor, was tabled. In the management report it was recorded that the financial position had improved, due to the ongoing efforts and unpaid labour of a small number of dedicated volunteers.

On 1 August 2002 Mr John Brader was welcomed as a new member. Peter Adams advised the meeting that the Beef Carcass Competition will be held at the next show. Wood cutting had raised \$700 so far and the next fundraiser will be a car boot sale.

On 5 September 2002 Peter Adams advised the meeting he was disappointed with the car boot sale attendances. The Treasurer advised a return of \$467.15 from gate, sites and sales. Given the results the President still thought the attendance was poor, but would be worth having another try at this project at a later time. A meeting had been held concerning Young Auctioneers for the 2003 show. Due to some foreseeable difficulties, it has been decided that the Carcass competition was not viable, a Live Steer Competition will be held with a Wine and Cheese gathering on Friday evening followed by the Auction by the Young Auctioneers on the Saturday.

On 7 November 2002 Mr Doug McGrath was welcomed as a new member. Show Society logo was discussed and the secretary was to investigate the pricing and legal aspect of having our own logo.

On 5 December 2002 Colour Copy Centre requested the original drawing of the logo but they were unable to use it so the cost to reproduce has risen.

2003

On 2 January 2003 the logo was to be ready the following week and would be on disk and able to be used for multiple purposes. Industrial Site Applications had been drafted and were tabled for approval; sites sizes to be a minimum of 12 metres by 10 metres. It was suggested that a maximum of 10 sites be made available, all in the front gate area "Limited site numbers" be stated on application forms.

1 May 2003 president Peter Adams reported an excellent Show for 2003. Funds raised for CFA Baranduda \$1300 and the Prime Steer Fund Raiser for the Wodonga Hospital raised \$1750. The Prime Steer and Young Auctioneers Section went very well indeed for its first year.

At the AGM on 5 June 2003 the President's report in part stated:

“A successful Show needs something new and something different each year to add to the traditional Show programme. We were very fortunate to be offered the Young Auctioneers competition by the Albury Wodonga Stock Agents Association. We accepted the offer and introduced the Prime Steer competition to provide cattle for the young Young Auctioneers to sell. Doug McGrath agreed to come on to the committee to manage this section for the society.

Having fireworks back on the programme was a great boost for our Saturday evening show. They were not just fireworks, they were the best display yet at Wodonga show and they were the VISY Fireworks, these were proudly sponsored for us by the Visy Board Wodonga .

The Wool Section in the exhibition Centre was a first-class display. The Chief steward in the wool section Mr Roy Hempel is without a doubt our most senior member with something like 50 years of service to the Wodonga Show Society. Congratulations Roy.

After a long absence, trade exhibits made a welcome return to the Wodonga show in 2003. This very welcome return was due to the hard work and persistence of Doug McGrath.

Our Friday night show was to say the least, unsuccessful. If we intend to continue with a Friday night show it must be completely reorganised.

The Albury Wodonga Woodcrafters exhibited and demonstrated at this years show as they have for several years past. We valued their contribution. Tonight's meeting sees an application from the Woodcrafters to build clubrooms on the Wodonga Showgrounds.”

The election of office bearers:

President	Peter Adams
Vice President	Peter Locke
Official Secretary	Annette Forrest
Treasurer	John Brader

Committee of management:

Olive Chamings -- Noel Forrest -- Roy Hempel -- Len Hogan -- Sonia Humphris -- Mary Koehn -- Ron Long -- Doug McGrath -- Sharon Pearl -- Bill Sargood -- Keith Sutherland -- Penelope Sutherland.

It was agreed that the Woodcrafters Group could erect their Clubrooms on Society land. Membership fees and show entry fees remained unchanged.

On 3 July 2003 it was decided that the 2004 show be known as the 'Wodonga Agricultural and Motor Show'. This further decided that it would be a one-day show, Saturday only.

On 7 August 2003 it was reported that white ants had been found in the Pony Club rooms. The ants were found in the Yellow Box tree between the two buildings.

A meeting had been held with the City of Wodonga in which an offer was made to erect a temporary secretary's office if we would permit our existing office to be demolished. The Show Secretary later advised that the Council had already published notice calling for tenders for the demolition of five sheds and their removal from the site.

A special meeting was held on 13 August 2003 to report on the meeting with the Council which had been held on the Showgrounds to give them a better understanding of our requirements. The pavilion glass cases and other display cases were discussed as was storage.

The stock trough currently located at the rear of the stallion shed should be on display in an appropriate place as it is an item of historical value. A letter to be written to the Council requesting that this item be retained on the grounds for historical reasons and sited appropriately.

On 4 September 2003 it was noted that working bees had been held over the past month because all sheds must be cleared by 6 September. Mrs Barbara Morris made comment regarding the Nell Wilson Pavilion being demolished next week and reminding people that Nell Wilson was the first Secretary of the Ladies Auxiliary. This building has significant historical value to the community and should contact be made the Border Mail to have a report on its demise. *Note: Border Mail contacted and an article was to be published the following Tuesday.*

The president reported that stage one of the grounds development was to be finished by December 2003. It was moved that the Society resists the demolition of the Society's Secretary Office until the Multipurpose Pavilion is completed and until any arrangements are satisfactory to the Wodonga Show Society.

Volunteers were called for, to man the gates at the Rutherglen Show. This has been a regular fund raiser for the Wodonga Show Society.

There was a letter received from City of Wodonga confirming the offer by Council and proposal by Council to erect a storage shed 8 m by 6 m by 2.7 m on Society land in Richardson Street, at their cost, the shed to become Society property on completion. Shed to not to be used for animals but storage. This together with the Equipment shed satisfies the Council's obligations regarding storage under the current agreement.

There was a request to draft a Licence to Use for Wodonga Midgets Auskick-Container. Conditions that the container MUST be painted to blend in with the equipment shed. \$50 per year for five years with option.

On 2 October 2003 minutes record a meeting had been held the previous month with City of Wodonga when it had been agreed that the names of J. J. Forde and Nell Wilson be displayed initially on the new Display Pavilion and eventually displayed on individual buildings.

On 6 November 2003 the minutes show that eight workers had attended the Rutherglen show and a cheque for \$500 was received.

2004

On 2 January 2004 it was agreed that as the Wodonga Pony Club and Border District Jumping Club had put a lot of time and money into the development of the Prichard Arena, this would not be used if it was wet on Show day to avoid damage to the surface. There was discussion on the use of this arena for general parking by the Wodonga Turf club as a car park. It was agreed that the Prichard arena NOT be available for general car parking.

On 5 February 2004 Mary Koehn reported that a new date (the third one), now 1st March, was given for the completion and handover of the Pavilion.

At the meeting on 4 March 2004 it was reported that there was to be a council official opening of the Nell Wilson Pavilion at 11 a.m. on the 19th of March.

(Editor's note: This coincides with judging day for the show in the ladies Pavilion).

On 1 April 2004 Joe Hofer reported on the Alpaca Section of the show. "We had 124 animals with fleece entries double to last year. Exhibitors expressed that they were very happy with the Show and will be willing to attend again in 2005. We had VIPs in attendance and good support from the NSW Alpaca Group. I'd like to express our thanks to your secretary for help and assistance along with other members of your Committee. The show gave us an opportunity to promote the animals, as well as products i.e. wool and clothing."

President Peter Adams said "I believe, ladies and gentlemen, the 2004 was a good Show. Attendances were only fair, but what do we do? The Truck Expo was fantastic and it filled the Bob Prichard Arena. The Young Auctioneers competition went very well with good reports. Prime Steer competition will need some changes made to the administration but it was also good. The Nell Wilson Pavilion was an outstanding venue and a very good display."

Peter went on to express his disappointment that there had not been one word of coverage for the show in the local Border Mail.

Doug McGrath reported on the Prime Steer Competition saying 14 exhibitors and 55 steers had attended. Doug also reported that the Young Auctioneers was also very good with nine finalists. The selling platform is not appropriate and steps have been taken to correct the problem. The prime steer auctioned for the hospital, donated by the agents and purchased by the Commercial Club, netted \$1250.

Barbara Morris reported on the ladies Pavilion. Very happy with the new Pavilion. Entry numbers were down but painting numbers were about double. The Pavilion is an excellent asset. We would like a picture rail in place for the next show to accommodate more paintings.

There was a motion to change the meeting day from the first Thursday of each month to the first Wednesday of each month, this was carried.

On 6 May 2004 the death of "friend, life member and colleague" Roy Hempel was noted. Doug McGrath was nominated to take Roy's place on the Recreation Reserve Committee. There was lengthy discussion on the council's pressure to demolish the secretary's office. It was noted that the office remain in situ until we have signed off on the agreement.

At the meeting held 2 June 2004 a request was tabled from Peter Adams that no action on the removal of buildings to be taken during his absence overseas.

Concerns were expressed re the Young Auctioneers that the Sydney show was one week after ours in 2005 and this would affect the ability for us to hold the Young Auctioneers State finals as there was insufficient time between our show and Sydney Royal. Steve Paull is willing to have the State finals in Wodonga but not on 19 March 2005.

The AGM was held on 7 July 2004.

In his report President Peter Adams said in part:

"Show attendances continue to be disappointing. The 2004 Show saw us focus on a one-day show for the first time in a number of years. Whilst gate takings were up marginally so were costs, leaving us approximately \$3000 behind where we started from.

Towards the end of 2003, Wodonga show Society lost its longest serving active life member, Mr Roy Hempel. Roy's contribution of loyalty and dedication and hard work stretched back over the nearly 50 years. This contribution has equaled by very few in any organisation and is an inspiration to all who worked with him. Roy's Section had always been the Wool Section. Bob and Greg Prichard offered to take over this section and did a great job with the best display of fleeces to be seen in the region in recent years.

The Alpacas Section continues to grow with approximately 120 entries in 2004. This section is well organised and well worth a visit by show patrons to see the animals and the alpaca products.

The job of keeping a Show Society operating in Wodonga gets no easier as the years go by. I believe we can no longer bend to pressure from the Council and the Turf Club. I believe it is paramount that before any more changes take place, the rules of operation have to be spelt out and put into a decent agreement. The so-called new Pony Club building/office must not be a bait to take us further into debt and reduce our ground ownership."

The election of office bearers:

President Peter Adams

Vice President Doug McGrath

Official Secretary secretary to speak to Annette Forrest a on her return

Treasurer discussion took place on the role of Treasurer, position not filled at AGM

Committee of Management:

Olive Chamings -- Len Hogan -- Mary Koehn -- Barbara Morris -- John Brader -- Ron Long -- Bills Sargood -- Penny Sutherland -- Noel Forrest -- Peter Ruaro and Peter Hollman were nominated subject to processing of member applications at the next meeting.

Membership fees were to remain at \$20. Show entry for 2005 - Family ticket --(2 adults and 3 children) \$20 - 1 adult \$10 - children 5 to 16 years \$5 - aged pensioners \$5.

At a Special meeting on 14 July 2004 two new members were welcomed Mr Peter Ruaro and Mr Peter Hollman.

President Peter Adams gave a brief address to the Committee on the history and issues involved with the removal of the Secretary's Office. He advised that there is either one large issue or three smaller ones. He gave a brief summary of the exchange about 10 years ago of property and the agreement history between the City of Wodonga Council and our Society. Road access by others, property retention and the Society getting value for money as a property owner, i.e. Turf Club gets free parking, as do the Cattle Shows and any other function but the Show Society

must pay for any thing/facility used.. Also needed to discuss is the issue of the City of Wodonga's sudden expectation of an exchange of 25 metres of eastern boundary land for the privilege of having a new building provided on Show Society land. This building had originally been promised without strings attached and promised that NO Society land would be traded. It was agreed that the Show Society not sign any contractual agreements with City of Wodonga Council which allows the removal of Wodonga Show Society's buildings, handing over of any land titles for the purpose of building a road and/or relinquishing ownership of land presently owned by Wodonga Show Society.

On 3 November 2004 committee adopted the title "Wodonga 2005 Rural Community Expo and Multicultural Festival" for the 2005 show.

The Wodonga show Society land subcommittee agreed that after inspection and measuring the area that the parcel at the southern end (i.e. 50 x 20 m, is excessive and that an area of 50 x 16 metres would achieve the aim of placing a roadway in that area. It was expressed that every effort should be made to save, at all costs, the Yellow Box tree which currently stands between the Society's secretary's office and the Pony Club rooms. This along with fencing, toilet block, use of the Exhibition Centre and other matters were to be discussed with city of Wodonga on 18th November.

Notes on the meeting held with the City of Wodonga said that Council was agreeable to the proposed 11 m roadway down the eastern boundary. Need perhaps to alter the angle of the roadway at the northern end of roadway for smooth access. Not all other points were resolved to the satisfaction of the Society. Peter Adams had advised the Council that any new agreement to be signed, sealed and delivered to the Society members' satisfaction before any demolition, construction or roadways were commenced.

On 15 December 2004 Peter Adams thanked Jess Hull for the work she had done as secretary and treasurer. The Treasurer duties from then on would to be undertaken by Donna Reardon. A panel had been formed to interview five applicants for the secretary position.

There was to be a Stockmen's Day and reunion combined with Young Auctioneers and Prime Steer to be held on 5 March ahead of the next show.

2005

By the meeting on 2 February 2005 Kathleen Sutherland had been appointed as secretary. President Peter Adams reported that there had been weekly meetings on a Tuesday afternoon attended by himself and Peter Hollman, Kathleen Sutherland, Donna Reardon and others. These meetings had proved to be valuable as matters have been dealt with every week and therefore can be sorted out prior to monthly meetings. The Council had been in touch by phone in relation to tearing down the Pollard Archway. They would like to know the show Society's view. After discussion it was agreed that they should be asked to put any such request in writing.

Doug McGrath said that they are looking at having 90 prime steers unlike the 45 they had in previous years. Steers will be fat scanned for the first time.

The committee was having some problems getting in touch with the Webmaster as the webpage needed fixing and updating. The National Bank has made an offer that they want to be involved with the next show.

An advertising budget and ideas were discussed for radio, flyers, television, newspapers and schools.

On 2 March 2005 Peter Adams reported that the Border Mail had taken publicity pictures for the show including utes and trucks. Arrangements for the Prime Steer Competition on the following weekend were progressing well. Sponsorship money was coming in with about \$1600 for the wood chop and some horse feed from Masterfoods, although it was noted that Masterfoods cannot provide pigeon food so 2 X 25 kg bags would have to be purchased. Two quotes have been received for security at the show. The cheapest quote to be accepted, they have agreed they will man the gates, escort the ladies with money and also act as crowd control. The MC for the day has been organised through Albury Sound and Lighting. There was to be a show schedule handed out as people come through the gates. Flyers would be sent to schools detailing events at the show. Radio interviews and newspapers are getting involved.

Not sure how many entries we will get this year due to the Sydney Royal Show. We need a judging ring that meets OH & S requirements.

The Council was still making approaches about taking down the Pollard Archway.

There were to be 7 schools involved in the School Choir Competition.

On 5 March 2005 Wodonga Stockman's Day was held in the Wodonga Showgrounds. The poster says "Everyone associated with the Wodonga Saleyards over the past 70 years is invited to attend this special celebration. Come along and joined old friends and colleagues for a day of fellowship, conviviality and great memories.

The program reads:

9 a.m.: Prime Steer Competition -- Wodonga Show Society
1 p.m.: Victorian Young Auctioneers Championship -- Australian Livestock and Property Agents Association
4 p.m.: Wodonga Saleyards Reunion -- BBQ and entertainment provided

Support attractions include Wodonga Historical Society photographic display and rural industry exhibits. Proudly brought to you by City of Wodonga, Albury-Wodonga Stock & Station Agents, Wodonga Show Society.

On 6 April 2005 President Peter Adams welcomed Joe Hofer (Alpaca) and Uta Wiltshire (potential new webmaster) to the meeting. It was indicated the alpaca had played a large and valued part in the show and hoped Joe Hofer would join the committee. Preparation for next year's show -- schedules by 30 June 05 for inclusion on the website. Peter Hollman is to follow up with current Webmaster and looking into potential of new Webmaster if needed. A letter of resignation was received from Kathleen Sutherland.

A 2004/2005 audit report was completed for the year ended 30 April 2005 by Alan Boyd and associates of Berwick, Victoria. The management report read:

"By all reports, it appears that Wodonga show Society ran a very successful Show in 2005. The show offered its traditional agriculture events and displays whilst taking an innovative approach and including the Multicultural Festival.

The committee's ability to collect sponsorship and obtain grants has resulted in a profitable Show for 2005 however small and in turn posted a small profit for the year.

The Wodonga show Society's financial future is still dependent on you, the committee, and your ability to generate non-show fund raising activities throughout the year. The ongoing challenge the Wodonga Show Society faces, (along with other agriculture societies) is to continue to conduct its annual show and still remain viable.

The annual sponsorship from the Wodonga City Council will play an important part of the Society's ability to continue to post a profit for the upcoming year given the financial impact the Commonwealth Games will have on the community.

The committee's effort and its willingness to take on the non-show fund raising activities and undertake a new and innovative approach to attract sufficient patrons to the annual show will be evident in the financial figures of 2005/ 2006".

Notes to the balance sheet:

"Assets -- The Wodonga Show Society Inc has not kept an official record of the historical cost of the grounds, known as Wodonga Showgrounds. The grounds consist of Land, Buildings and contents as listed below.

The Wodonga show Society holds title to the following property:--

Land -- Situated at lot 2 Section 5 Parish of Wodonga County of Bogong known as Lot 2 Wilson St Wodonga, also One (1) house lot situated at Lot 4 Richardson St Wodonga. Both these properties have been zoned as "Open Space" by the City of Wodonga. Neither of these properties is rateable due to their Council Zoning. It is therefore legally difficult to place a commercial value on the land for accounting purposes.

The buildings being Secretary's Office, Luncheon Pavilion, Equipment Shed, and Storage Shed (erected 2004) were at an insured value of \$160,000 with the contents being insured for \$46,000.

On 4 May 2005 Uta Wiltshire was accepted as a member of the Wodonga Show Society. Correspondence included a draft agreement with the Wodonga City Council.

At the AGM on 1 June 2005 the following office bearers were elected:

President	Peter Adams
Vice President	Doug McGrath
Secretary	Peter Hollman
Treasurer	Donna Reardon

Committee of Management: Peter Ruaro, Ron Long, Bill Sargood, Olive Chamings, Mary Koehn, Barbara Morris, Sharyn Pearl, Judy Williams, Joe Hofer, Noel Forrest, Len Hogan, Uta Wiltshire, John Brader. John Brader was appointed as the Public Officer.

There was a report on the Agreement with Council. The amendments as presented to be forwarded to the City of Wodonga Council for inclusion in the agreement currently under negotiation.

The Constitution and Rules were to be reviewed over a 12 month period at each of the committee meetings and any amendments to be presented next year's Annual General meeting. Noel Forrest provided some discussion with regards to the intent to increase committee size.

On 6 July 2005 Ron Cassidy, Rachael Bannerman were accepted as members of the Wodonga Show Society. Charges for Trade Sites at 2006 Show were agreed, \$30 for non-powered site, \$35 for powered site, and \$10 insurance contribution. The Alpaca Section was to manage their own applications for space and report requirements to Secretary. There was a sub-committee formed to plan the 2006 Show and they were to report progress at each ordinary meeting. Members nominated, Doug McGrath, Peter Hollman, Ron Long and Donna Reardon.

At the meeting on 3 August 2005 there was some discussion about selling the Richardson Street block. Due to the financial situation and in the interest to the longevity of the Society it may be the best option. Further investigations were to be made into zone restrictions currently on the block.

There was discussion about holding a fundraising function prior to Christmas; the sub-committee was to look into a theme.

On 13 October 2005 Peter Adams reported that he had attended the official opening of the Woodcrafters building on 12 Sep and that Tony Plowman and Mayor Lisa Mahood were in attendance. It was agreed that the fundraising function would not be held on 28 January 2006.

On 7 December 2005 Peter Adams reported that the Visy sponsorship of \$5000 had been confirmed.

2006

On 4 January 2006 it was reported that a meeting had been held with Wodonga City Council and the Council was presented with the Show Society stance on the new agreement.

At the meeting on 1 February 2006 there were discussions to arrange a new web site with the Show Society having its own domain name. An extension of three months was to be sought on the then current website.

The President thanked helpers and supported for the success of the Summer Dinner which raised in excess of \$2000.

The AGM was held on 7 June 2006. The Management Report attached to the audit for the year ending 30 April 2006 said in part, "The committee members continued support, effort and willingness to work together in the next financial year will set the foundations for the future. The strong financial ability of the Wodonga Show Society to be able to fund the construction of new buildings and still run a successful show from its own cash reserves suggests a new approach and direction. Once again the ongoing challenge the Wodonga Show Society faces is to continue to conduct its annual show and still remain viable."

The President in his report said,

"It is with pleasure that I present the 2006 Wodonga Show Society President's report. The past year has been a successful year for the Society, that success has not come easily. A dedicated committee has worked extremely hard to produce first-

class results in the various undertakings of the Society during the past year. The annual show held this year on the 18th of March was a compact and successful show. Because of a difference with our neighbours we confine as much of our show as possible to our own grounds. Attendance at the show by the public was disappointing; being a slight decline on the previous year. While the annual show is our principal production for the year Wodonga Show Society is not a one day a year organisation. A certain amount of fund-raising is necessary to keep the organisation running. Last year, as we have for a number of years past, we manned the gates at the Rutherglen Show. We also catered for the Border Mail Christmas party. In January we again had a Summer Dinner and Auction which was a financial and social success. During the past year with the aid of the government grant and our own resources we managed to build a new poultry Pavilion. During the past year the practice of charging for parking on the Showgrounds has been established. I believe this to be a step forward and we must continue to manage this revenue stream properly. Situation relating to our relationship with Wodonga City Council is still unclear and ever changing talks between council and ourselves have been going on during the last year. We now have an offer from Council to purchase our land, this was their idea not our request. I believe we are at a critical stage in our dealing with council and our ongoing development as a Show Society with a future. The right decisions need to be made by the incoming committee to ensure that the Wodonga Show Society continues to serve the people of Wodonga and district in future years..... We are fortunate to have a strong ladies committee is part of our show organisation and I thank them for their loyalty and hard work over many years."

On 5 July 2006 Wodonga City Council was granted approval for use of the Showgrounds for the Children's Fair on 15 October on the condition that any damage to the arena be made good. A letter was to be sent to the council outlining the fees. There was to be a working bee to clean out the Poultry Pavilion and spread crusher dust and scoria also to put in a spoon drain. Posts and pine rails were to be placed to protect the end of the Pavilion. Concrete flooring would have to wait for finances to be in a better state. When someone said the 'Chook Shed' had to be done by August it was pointed out that the structure is to be called the 'Poultry Pavilion'.

The secretarial duties were discussed with a request for a committee person to take them on. It could be broken down into sections and shared.

There was discussion and agreement on creating a new website for the Society. (*This was up and running by 14 July 2006 at www.wodongashow.org.au.)*

It was agreed that the next show would have the title 'Wodonga Annual Show 2007 Diamond Anniversary'. As it was St Patrick's Day an Irish theme was to be incorporated.

The Wodonga Historical Society was to be contacted with regard to an historic display at the Show for the 60 year celebration.

On 2nd August 2006 it was reported that the Historical Society is willing to put on a display at the show. A History of the Wodonga Show Society book is to be produced by reformatting and updating the one produced for the 50th anniversary. A PowerPoint presentation could also be set up.

Doug Hayman from the Woodcrafters Group was nominated to become a member of the Show Society. Doug said that if they had the space the woodworkers could run a competition at the show next year.

It was suggested that one form of advertising could be done in the Neighbourhood Watch newsletters going to all homes in Wodonga.

On 6 September 2006 the cost of trade sites was agreed to, 3 m by 3 m will be \$30 for an unpowered site and \$40 with power.

A multicultural grant had been applied for from the Victorian government.

It was decided that the children's colouring competition with a questionnaire might generate some interest in the show.

Jacque Garnier wishes to set up a Wine Club to run a winemaking course with the aim to have a wine show at next year's show. He would like to use the secretary's office over a period four weeks.

On 4 October 2006 eight people from the committee volunteered to man the gates of the Rutherglen Show. This would be a fundraiser for the Show Society. Preparations for the show were well in hand.

The annual dinner to be held on Saturday 27 January 2007 would be at a cost of \$10 adults and \$5 children. Donations were being sought for the auction following the dinner. Uta was to prepare a PowerPoint display celebrating the last 60 years of Wodonga Show Society. The band "Killin' Time" had been booked.

On 4 November 2006 the Society had earned \$500 for manning the gates of the Rutherglen show. It is reported that Donna had been busy promoting the trade sites for the next show she had done this by attending other local shows where she handed out trade site applications and show schedules. Donna was also to organise fliers for the Show Society dinner in January. 100 car stickers have been ordered they show the words "Wodonga Show Society" and the web address. This makes them generic year in year out and they are durable. Uta (Webmaster) reported the website had already had over 200 hits.

The report from the President, Doug McGrath, was read out in his absence due to work commitments and reported that there had been a very harmonious meeting with the Turf Club President. The Turf club will continue to pay parking fees for all meetings except Boxing Day which they will get free including the use of Bob Prichard arena. They also used Bob Prichard arena on Cup Day. The use of Bob Prichard arena will only take place if weather permits and it's agreed that there will be no damage done. The cup day event we believe to be a week after Showjumping and remedial work after the jumping could be left until after the car parking. The arena will only be used if agreed that the conditions are okay. That is, wet weather would render the arena unsuitable for parking. In return for this the Show Society has full use of all the amenities under the Turf Club's control on show day and other usual activities the Society might wish to run. We would have access to the "straight" for the Grand Parade including minimum vehicular access as well for winning Utes and Miss Showgirl etc.

There was a chance that Travis Sinclair might be available to perform at the show.

There have been lots of enquiries for camping on the Showgrounds including from the cattle people and the model aeroplane group. There had also been lots of enquiries for trade sites at the show.

Emails had been sent to the local primary schools inviting them to participate in the colouring competition. This was available from the website. Yackandandah/Leneva Steam Engine Club have been invited to participate in the show. The show signs in Brockley and Wilson Streets needed updating and Peter Adams would attend to this.

On 6 December 2006 the treasurer reported that the cost for insurance for 2007 was down by \$1300 due to better deals to show societies.

There was a vote of thanks to Donna Reardon for all the secretarial and promotional duties that she was undertaking in addition to that in her official capacity as Treasurer.

President Doug McGrath had met Wodonga Council seeking future support for the Show Society.

Peter Adams has mailed entry forms of cattle and prime steer on green paper with a leprechaun in keeping with the Irish theme.

There will be a wine show and all is set with the judge coming up from Melbourne. ABC radio was to give Jacques publicity in a talk segment.

Arrangements for the dinner and auction were progressing well with an auctioneer having been secured.

2007

On 3 January 2007 donations continued to be received for the auction, a major item being a weekend's use of a ski lodge at Mount Hotham. Show passes had been designed by committee member Charles Tilley and would be printed shortly. A grant of \$1000 had been received from the Multicultural Commission.

7 February 2007 there was a thank you to all who supported the dinner and auction. Another thank you to Ron Long for the repair work he had done on the grounds. It was reported that the Corryong show was cancelled this year due to water and fire issues.

Vic Roads had confirmed their request to use the grounds for parking on the day of the official opening of the freeway.

The equestrian area would need watering from now on until the show and could be done within the water restriction guidelines.

A trophy was being made by the woodcrafters for the wine competition.

The Woodchop had secured a Victorian Championship on the day of the show.

Joe Hofer reported that up to 160 animals would be at the Alpaca show.

An advertising budget of just over \$6,000 was agreed to.

7th March 2007