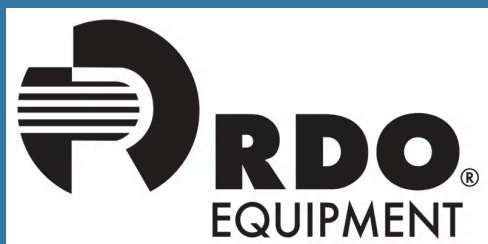




GATTON SHOW YOUTH AMBASSADOR

2025 SHOWGIRL AND RURAL AMBASSADOR INFORMATION PACKAGE



Rural Ambassador Sponsor



Judging Event and High Tea Sponsor

Showgirl and RA Coordinators:
Bridget Webster
Clare Webster



Gatton Show Society Facebook



gattonshownextgen@gmail.com

ABOUT THE GATTON SHOW



The earliest Shows held in Gatton were held alternately with Laidley under the guidance of a combined committee until Laidley felt it should conduct its own Show and this was agreed in the 1880's. The first President was Jas McGarrigal, Secretary was John Fielding and the Treasurer was E. Whittle in 1915.

Horses, dairy cattle, poultry and farm produce were some of the exhibits seen at the early Shows in the 1920's but as the years past, cotton was a prominent display crop, pigs were popular because of the Industry's association with dairying, trotting, Olympic Jumping, poultry, cookery, sewing and needlecraft, stud beef cattle, goats, sheep, working cattle dogs, wood cop and the fine arts all became part of the Show. Some of these exhibits can still be seen at current Shows while others have disappeared from the Shows schedule for varying reasons.

One of the first reported Show Balls from an old newspaper clipping is that: "a Ball was successfully held on June 25th 1925 and the Theme was "Blue Birds". A Euchre tournament was held at the Ball for both the women and the men. Balls were held up until 2007 and as attendance numbers dwindled it was decided not to hold them anymore.

In 1935, the three-day show was opened by a former Gatton resident, Lord Huntingfield, then Governor of Victoria. He had grown up in Gatton and returned with his parents to England some 37 years earlier.

The Show during the second World War saw changes occur with the Show going from a 3 day to a 2 day Show and also in 1942 a grand patriotic show was held and organisations joined together to conduct stalls on a larger scale than ever seen in Gatton before.

In 1946 after the war, Charlie Jamieson became president and electricity was installed at the grounds. A perusal of Life Members of the Gatton Show Society in 2008 revealed many names synonymous with the Show since its inception.

The show was previously known as the Lockyer Agricultural and Industrial Society, this change occurred in 1977 by the then president Wally Mason, MBE. The early Shows were held on a date in July nearest the full moon.

In the 1970's the first Night Programs were introduced and today this is one of the major attractions of our Show. Over the years there have been many changes to the Showgrounds with new pavilions for cattle, sheep and poultry, an Equestrian Centre and the Gatton Sports Centre now on the grounds. These are all used during the Show as well as all year round.

In more recent years, the Gatton Show has progressed to run the biggest Dairy Showcase and the largest one day woodchip in QLD. In 2016 the Gatton Show Society Inc held its 100th Show. In 2018 the Gatton Show Society's Dairy Showcase won the Qld Ag Shows Best Innovation in a Local Event. In 2020, the Gatton Show President Katherine Raymont won the Qld Ag Shows Outstanding Individual Contribution award.

GATTON SHOW AND THE WEST MORETON AND BRISBANE VALLEY SUB-CHAMBER

- General Information:
 - The Gatton Show runs for two days.
 - The Gatton Show runs the QLD Dairy Showcase the weekend before the Gatton Show. This event is the largest Dairy Showcase in QLD.
 - Gatton Show Management Committee Members:
 - President: Katherine Raymont
 - Secretary: Bridget Webster
 - Treasurer: Michaela Hannant
 - Vice President: Josh Steinhardt and Darren Brown
 - The Gatton Show is part of the West Moreton & Brisbane Valley Sub-chamber, which has 10 shows including; Boonah, Esk, Gatton, Ipswich, Kalbar, Laidley, Lowood, Marburg, Rosewood and Toogoolawah.
- Recent awards:
 - In 2016 the Gatton Show Society Inc held its 100th Show. In 2018 the Gatton Show Society's Dairy Showcase won the Qld Ag Shows Best Innovation in a Local Event.
 - In 2020, the Gatton Show President won the Qld Ag Shows Outstanding Individual Contribution award.
 - In 2020, the Gatton Show President Katherine Raymont won the Qld Ag Shows Outstanding Individual Contribution award.

Showgirl Awards:

The Queensland Country Life Showgirl Awards program is open to young women of 18 to 28 years of age who have a close affiliation with a Queensland Agricultural Show. There are no other restrictions of entry to the Awards program. The Showgirl Awards is an excellent opportunity for young women to become more involved in their local agricultural show and community (Queensland Ag Shows, 2025).

Rural Ambassador:

The Queensland Rural Ambassador Awards is the preeminent rural and agricultural leadership program for men and women aged between 20 and 30. Run by Queensland Ag Shows since 2003, the Queensland Rural Ambassador Awards allow young people to promote Queensland, agriculture, rural communities and show societies, while providing an avenue for local communities and Ag Shows to recognise, celebrate and develop future leaders (Queensland Ag Shows, 2025).

OFFICIAL EVENTS



Entry:

- If you wish to enter the Showgirl or Rural Ambassador competition please reach out us via email or our Facebook page to express your interest.
- You will be required to complete the Showgirl Nomination Form or the Rural Ambassador Nomination Form on the QLD Ag Shows' website.
- Entries close 11th June COB.

Judging:

- There are two steps involved in the judging process; a private interview and a public interview.
- These interviews will occur on 21st June 2025 at Caffè Sorella in Forest Hill.
- First the private interview will occur, followed by a high tea during which the public interview will occur.
- Your interview time and the high tea time will be confirmed closer to the date.
- The judging criteria can be found on QLD Ag Shows' website.
- The winner will be announced at the show.

Show Events:

- Thursday 17th July from 5:30pm: Sponsors' Wine and Cheese.
- Friday 18th July (time TBC): School Tours, Official Opening and Young Farmers Challenge.
- Saturday 19th July: Attend official morning tea at 10:30am, attend section awards/sashing and visit various trade sites.

Other info:

- Volunteering: Why not offer the help before, during and after the show. It is a great way to learn more about the show.
- Tickets: You will have access to a two day show pass. Please pick up your pass and parking pass from the show office before the show (Thursday is preferred).
- Meals and Amenities: You will be provided with at least one meal ticket per day for the food vendor under the grandstand.
- Parking: Parking is available at the empty parking lot on Ballantine St, place your parking pass on the dash of your car.

After the show:

- We encourage our Showgirl and Rural Ambassador entrants to get involved in our general committee after the show. The general committee meet every month on the second Thursday of the month from 7:30pm at the Showgrounds office.

Clothing and Presentation:

We want you to dress in clothes that are comfortable and suitable to you and your personality but also clothes that are practical and professional for a busy show. Make up and Jewellery are to be simple, minimal and natural. Please ensure clothes are pressed and in good condition.

Suggested outfits for Official Events:

Judging + Wine & Cheese Sponsors Event + Official Opening + Official Morning Tea:

- Women: A cocktail dress that has a hemline no shorter than the knee or dress pants and blouse.
- Men: button up collared shirt with dress pants, dress shoes or boots.

Show days: Friday and Saturday:

- Women: a dress or skirt/pants with a blouse. A hat is required. Suitable shoes, that are enclosed and can be used to walk around a lot. A blazer is recommended.
- Men: button up collared shirt with chino's pants, boots. A hat is required. A blazer is recommended.
- No denim or caps.

Who to contact:

- During judging and the show please contact either Bridget or Clare
- Bridget: 0488 487 484
- Clare: 0438 516 958
- Gatton Show Facebook Page

HEAR FROM OUR 2025 WINNERS



Lachie Miners: 2024 Gatton Show Society Rural Ambassador and 2024 West Moreton and Brisbane Valley Sub-Chamber Runner Up.

Why did you enter?

I entered the RA competition as a great way to get further involved with my local show society, as well as other shows in our sub chamber area. Being part of the RA competition at both a local level and at the Sub-chamber finals has been a brilliant experience!

What was the best part of the experience?

One of my favourite parts of being RA this year was getting to see and be involved with sections of the show I otherwise wouldn't have been involved with. Conducting school tours on the Friday was also a lot of fun introducing students to the world of Ag shows.



What did you learn about yourself and or your local community from entering?

Entering as RA was a great way for me to develop my confidence in public speaking and interview skills. I loved seeing how well the local community supported the show through the large crowd numbers attending throughout both days of the show and particularly on the Saturday night.

Why would you encourage others to enter this year?

I'd definitely encourage anyone interested in either the RA or SG competition to enter or reach out to the show for more information. It's such a great way to be involved with both the show and wider community.

Any other info maybe helpful to young adults wanting to join their local show?

Throughout the entire RA application process, judging and in my past year as RA, there's been so much support from everyone involved with the show. Everyone has been incredibly open and encouraging to the younger generation being involved with their local show.