



NEWSLETTER

**TWEED RIVER AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY (TRAS)
T/AS THE MURWILLUMBAH SHOW**

Sponsor Focus

Work and Country Gear

Work and Country Gear is located in the Main Street Murwillumbah, opposite the police station. Work and Country Gear is owned by the Partridge family who have farmed cane in the Tweed Valley for generations.

Work 'n' Country Gear is a Murwillumbah owned family store that stocks all your favourite brands from Akubra, RM Williams, Ariat, Thomas Cook, Wrangler, Levi, Pure Western, Bisley, King Gee, Blundstone, Mongrel, and with the new additions of Stetson, Country Road, FXD, Jet Pilot, Safestyle, Crocs and much, much more!

There's heaps of new season stock that's just arrived making perfect gifts for Christmas. Pop in and see the friendly staff at Work N Country Gear - they'll be sure to help you out.

Work and Country Gear was founded in the early 1990's and has been sponsoring the Murwillumbah Show Rodeo for over 20 years.

Not only do they supply the Rodeo crowd their wonderful outfits, they also have you covered from head to toe with workwear, be it high-vis or office wear, school uniforms and protective wear.



The Murwillumbah Show thanks Work 'n' Country Gear for being one of our biggest supporters over many years. Our gratitude is truly beyond words.

Work and Country Gear are located at
74 Main Street, Murwillumbah NSW 2484
(02) 6672 6283
workncountrygear@bigpond.com



Some 3525 acres of the Tweed Valley is devoted to the Production of Sugar Cane, and it makes up $\frac{1}{3}$ of the \$97 million agricultural economy of the Tweed Shire.

Half a million tonnes of cane is crushed annually at the Condong Mill, and the 30 megawatt cogeneration plant makes more than enough electricity for Murwillumbah and surrounds.

Their support for our show and the whole community, economy and character of the Tweed is appreciated.



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THE PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Back in the 1800's, when the pioneers were establishing settlements along the Tweed River, they regularly used bullock teams to transport heavy loads. Bullock teams often consisted of 10 to 24 head, depending on the weight of the load. They were the prime movers of yesteryear and highly important in various industries, including cedar getting, road building and hauling machinery into areas where roads were not established. Today, these amazingly strong teams of bullocks are often forgotten but this year they will feature at the Murwillumbah Show. Come along on Saturday 31st to see a bullock team in action and learn about how the bullocks work together, guided by their 'bullocky', the driver of the team.

The bullock team is one of many attractions you will see in Centre Ring throughout the day, along with equestrian events, show jumping and horsemanship demonstrations.

The Six Bar show jumping competition can be a heart stopper, as all eyes watch to see if each horse and rider can successfully clear the six vertical obstacles. The bars are lifted higher, with each round, until all but one competitor is eliminated and we have a winner! This event usually takes place late afternoon on Saturday. Don't miss it. It's a great time to grab a dagwood dog and rest your legs in the grandstand while you take in the excitement and exhilaration of the Six Bar. Brian "Tussles" Alexander has been the Steward for the Six Bar for more years than I can remember and we sincerely thank him for his ongoing commitment to this event.

Our Show with all its attractions and activities would not be possible without the dedication of our many volunteers and generous sponsors. Together they create a community event like no other in the Tweed and we thank each and every one. If you would like to be part of a fabulous community event and get involved as a volunteer or sponsor, please contact secretary@murwillumbahshow.com or president@murwillumbahshow.com. We'd love to have you on board.

Sandra Hawken
President



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NEWSLETTER

MEET OUR LOCAL CHAMPION - MADELEINE EDWARDS

We went to the Royal Brisbane Show (Ekka) on the opening day (8 August) to take in the sights and see the attractions. A properly magnificent day, and the highlight for us was the woodchopping.

We got to see Murwillumbah local Madeleine Edwards compete (along with her father Mark). Madeleine is one of Australia's rising stars in competitive woodchopping and we are proud to welcome her back to compete at this year's Murwillumbah Show.

Madeleine has represented both New South Wales and Australia, earning selection in the NSW State Team and the Australian Women's Team. She competes as both a single sawyer and a double-handed sawyer, showcasing exceptional skill, strength and precision.

Her impressive woodchopping career has seen her compete at some of the country's biggest events, including the Sydney Royal Easter Show and the Royal Queensland Show (Ekka), as well as representing Australia in competitions across New Zealand.

The Murwillumbah Show is proud to have talented local competitors like Madeleine returning to the arena. Be sure to head to the woodchopping events and cheer on one of our own as she takes on the best in the sport.

Diesel Specialist

ALL ENGINE REPAIRS

MURWILLUMBAH

STONE & WOOD



Madeleine and Noel take the first cut at the Ekka

 **EDWARDS PLUMBING**

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NEWSLETTER

Opening the Show - introducing Helen Trustum

When I asked Helen to officially open the Murwillumbah Show she politely told me, "But I've opened it before".

There are a few people who we would invite to open the show a second time. One is King Charles, who opened the show in 1977, and another is Helen Trustum. And I asked Helen before the King.

Helen is without a doubt one of the greatest living stalwarts to country shows in Australia if not the World. Originally hailing from Tuckurimba (near Coraki) and settling in Bentley in 1974 and starting the Bentley Downs Charolais Stud Helen is a consummate local of the Northern Rivers.

Her book "It's Showtime" (2004) is the bible of Northern Rivers (Group 1) rural show history, Helen has written 11 books between 1981 and 2001 on rural life, dairying, country halls (a personal favourite), and life here on the Northern Rivers. Her own farming history includes winning the "Champion of Champions" at the Royal Brisbane Show with "Bentley Downs Jr" among many other awards for her Charolais cattle.

Helen has been recognised many times for her tireless work and contributions to Agricultural Shows, and rightly so. She is to Country Shows what Don Bradman is to cricket. Her dedication to Agricultural Shows is truly extraordinary and we are honoured that Helen has accepted our invitation to open the Murwillumbah Show in 2026.

- There have been a few people to open the show more than once, including another local stalwart of the show Ellen-Joy Williamson.



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The Countdown is on - 63 days to go...

Murwillumbah Show opens its gates for 2026 on the 30th of October which is only 63 days from today.

We have put out the call to P&C groups and other community groups to volunteer to do the main gate (Gate 4) as well as the canteen in the Branding Rail.

It is our custom to donate money to the community groups. The amount varies year-to-year, but we are happy to share our good fortune with other volunteer groups.

The show runs from 4pm to midnight on Friday the 30th of October and 8am to midnight on Saturday the 31st of October 2026.

If you see this newsletter and belong to a community group seeking donations drop the secretary (Andrew Eppelstun) an email at secretary@murwillumbahshow.com and join us for our busiest, but most rewarding 2 days of 2026.



We are bringing you a petting zoo for this years show. Old McDonalds farm will bring a range of animals to the show for the kids and adults who like to pet a goat or cuddle bunny.

The kids from TRAS junior committee will also be bringing a farm animal experience to the show, featuring some bigger and less cuddly animals such as alpacas. It will be a more educational and less hands on display

