

## **Inquiry into volunteering in Queensland**

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### **Inquiry into volunteering in Queensland**

#### **Submitter Comments:**

This year, 2025 is the 155<sup>th</sup> year of shows being presented in Dalby. However, when it comes time to set up and pack down the volunteers are thin on the ground. The ones who dedicate their time to the event are all aging and the young ones all tell us they don't have time. We make all kinds of offers to attract their interest but nothing seems to be attractive enough. People are losing sight of volunteering and we all need to somehow remind them that volunteers are always valuable and needed.

#### **General Comments:**

1. The Dalby Show Society has an average of 25 members which attend the monthly meetings. These few volunteers range in age from 40-85 years of age. When set up starts about ten (10) of these, all the older volunteers come to help and about another five (5) extra volunteers. It takes approximately one (1) week to set up and they are all very long days.
2. Only some of these volunteers are Life Members or Members and the remainder are show time volunteers.
3. Due to our volunteers becoming older and slower and probably not as open to change we do not seem to be able to attract younger volunteers. It is becoming increasingly difficult for us to present the show which attracts approximately 7,500 attendees.
4. As much as we try to attract new members, they come, have a look, find it too time consuming, not a good fit and do not want to become involved.
5. Moving forward we need advice on how we can maintain and hold a Dalby Show. Without the increase in younger volunteers Dalby show will cease in a matter of years.
6. Another concern is the continuous and ever increasing mandatory paperwork that needs to be completed online. If the bureaucratic 'powers to be' could decrease paperwork we believe it would make being a volunteer roles more attractive with the same end result.
7. Volunteers become disenchanted when shows rely on grants to maintain financial stability and the work this creates plus slow response time.
8. As everyone is aware the increasing costs of ground hire, equipment, insurance, entertainment and basic services is making volunteers even more important plus increasing the financial strain.

As a 'keep it going committee', we are trying hard but are open to any suggestions that may help all organisation.

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