

media release



21 January, 2009

AUSTRALIA'S LARGEST EVENT NEEDS YOUR SMILE!

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR THE 2009 SYDNEY ROYAL EASTER SHOW

The **Royal Agricultural Society of NSW (RAS)** is inviting people over the age of 16 to become volunteers at the **2009 Sydney Royal Easter Show, 9 April – 22 April**. The Show is Australia's largest annual event and attracts close to one million people.

Sydney Royal Easter Show General Manager, Mr Michael Collins said volunteers are an invaluable part of the Show.

"We simply couldn't put on this world-class event without our volunteers", Mr Collins said. "They form the front line of our customer service program, and armed with the knowledge of the facility, daily activities and essential services, Show patrons are kept up to date on what they need for a fun day out."

Volunteers can nominate to work in a range of areas at the Show. "Animal lovers may like to work in the Dairy Farmers Farm Yard Nursery, we also need ushers for the NAB Main Arena and people to man the Show information booths" said Mr Collins.

In 2009, the RAS is looking to enlist **400 volunteers** for the Show. 75-year-old Gilbert Brogden has been volunteering since 2000 and says he had no plans on giving it up anytime soon.

"Information is such a big part of the Show and it's great to be able to pass on some of my experiences and knowledge," said Mr Brogden. "I enjoy helping out where I can and having a great time with my fellow volunteers I've come to be friends with over the years."

21-year-old Megan Hicks has attended the Show religiously with her father since she was a young girl. Last year she decided to volunteer for the first time and can't wait to do it again in 2009.

"Last year I volunteered in a variety of sections at the Show, including the Woodchop stadium," said Ms Hicks. "This year I'm really looking forward to helping out at the NAB arena, as there is always so much going on and the Main Arena spectacular is always a highlight."

Since its trial inception at the 2000 Olympics, the Volunteer Program has grown rapidly and proven to play an integral part in the success of the Show.

Those interested in becoming a volunteer, need to register by contacting Rosemary Ferrari, Volunteer Coordinator on (02) 9704 1297 or email volunteers@rasnsw.com.au

The RAS will be hosting a **Volunteer INFORMATION NIGHT** on Thursday 29 January from 6pm - 7.30pm. Please visit the website www.eastershow.com.au for further details.

For further Information, interviews or images please contact;
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