



Toodyay Agricultural Society Inc.

founded 1853

Toodyay Agricultural Society Inc. – March 2026

Karen Dore, Immediate Past President

LAST month's Annual General Meeting was a welcome reminder of how much the community values the Toodyay Agricultural Show. Thank you to everyone who attended, asked questions, and put their hand up to help. It was a terrific turnout and a positive start to the year.

A quick note on the AGM process, as a couple of different understandings were floating around. Nominations for office bearers and general Committee members were called for when the annual membership invoices were issued. At the AGM, three office bearers (Vice-Presidents and Treasurer) were elected and the general Committee was formed from the nominations received, in line with the Constitution. Committee member's portfolios were then discussed at the brief Committee meeting held after the AGM. This clear, consistent process helps keep things transparent and welcoming for everyone.

We're pleased to welcome the newly elected office bearers (the Society's Executive).

- First Vice-President: Jess Yost, new to the Committee, but a familiar local face who joined the stewarding team last year, and brings a strong connection to local agriculture.
- Second Vice-President: Neeta Kembrey, new to the Committee and brings practical know-how through local business life. She and her husband Callum run CJ Contracting WA.
- Treasurer: Shirley Kemp, is stepping back in to continue the steady improvement she has brought to this important role.

They will be supported by new Patron Charlie Wroth (Life Member), taking up the mantle from David Chitty (Life Member), who has stepped back after more than 40 years of involvement with the Show.

Alongside the Executive, we have a great mix across the broader team, with six returning and six new Committee members, plus a new Administration Officer, Kathy. Kathy is new to town and keen to meet people. Her experience will make a real difference behind the scenes, through day-to-day admin and by helping strengthen tools and processes. Once the updated Constitution is accepted by Consumer Protection, the role will become Secretary as part of the Executive.

Like many community groups, we're in a positive transition phase, welcoming new ideas and making it easier for people to step into roles. We're sharing the workload more widely to keep involvement enjoyable and sustainable. As Immediate Past President, I'll stay close to the Committee to support continuity and to back up new portfolio holders wherever I can.

There are still a few ways to get involved right now:

- President (office-bearer vacancy)
- General Committee member (one vacancy)
- Casual support (the more the merrier)

There are roles to suit different personalities and time availability.

The March meeting will be held on Monday 9 March at 6.30pm at the Showgrounds in the Youth Hall. Planning for the 2026 Show will kick off, so if you're curious about joining the Committee or lending a hand, please reach out, we're always happy to have a cuppa and talk it through. For more information visit www.toodyayagshow.com.au or email toodyayagsociety@gmail.com.

And in closing, a huge thank you to:

- everyone who attended the AGM
- returning Committee members who kept things going through a demanding 2025
- new Committee members who have stepped forward to learn the ropes
- the wider community who encourage the team and make the Toodyay Show what it is
- YOU – for saving the date, Saturday 10 October 2026, 9am to 9pm, Toodyay Showgrounds.

I think that the best thing about the Show is what it represents – the decades of history and a whole community pitching in to create a day Toodyay can be proud of. Here's to doing it again in 2026.