



## **WELCOME TO THE 49<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF THE FOREST.** **3<sup>rd</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> of October 2020, RAVENSHOE**

*Well what a year so far!!!*

*Dear Exhibitors, I would like to inform you that the Festival of the Forest **WILL** be going ahead as planned. Not knowing what the rules and regulations will be by October regarding Social distancing but I don't imagine this virus is going to just disappear so we will have to abide by the social distancing rules of today, (no hugging/kissing/shaking hands, etc. and making sure we wash our hands) but we are confident we can cope with that.*

*We are planning on having a wood chop competition & sausage sizzle outside the hall on opening day and the blacksmith display on the following weekend, this is yet to be confirmed.*

*All I ask of everyone is that if you aren't feeling well or have been around anyone that hasn't been well then please stay away.*

*Attached you will find conditions of entry information, and entry forms for this year's festival. **Please read carefully, some changes have been made to the categories.***

*Last year's festival was very successful, thank you to all our competitors for your spectacular & tireless work, it was a pleasure to see our longstanding supporters, wonderful to see some old faces that haven't attended for a few years and a pleasure to have a few new competitors participate. The Committee thank you all for keeping our wood festival alive.*

*Last year the competitive pieces we up from previous years which was noted by both competitors as well as the public. Although we appreciate our exhibitors supplying our venue with pieces to sell, we are mindful that our festival not become a market place, just to sell pieces. Our founding members created Torimba to keep the art of timber work alive and provide a place where woodworkers can display their skills. This has been evident over the years with the usual high quality seen at the event. We are looking for more competitors to keep this wonderful history going, if you know any clever craftsman like yourselves, please pass the word around. Many people, locals and visitors alike look forward to the festival to purchase unique gifts and souvenir treasures as well as to show their beautiful creations each year.*

*The Festival of the Forest came about after a local sawmill manager, a manual arts teacher and a timber researcher banded their ideas to showcase and highlight Ravenshoe and districts' timber treasures. The result of which began the Torimba (tourism and timber) Festival in October 1972.*

*The festival is a competitive exhibition which seeks to encourage the development and display of timber crafts. Initially the native timbers particularly those of the Northern Queensland rainforests such as Queensland Maple, Maple Silkwood, Rose Mahogany, Black Walnut, Black Bean, Red Cedar, Silver Quandong and Silky Oak were part of the criteria. However, with the decrease of these timbers and many wood turners and woodworkers using other timber species the exhibition became open to all timber species.*

*Ravenshoe's festival of the Forest has been referred to as "probably the oldest existing woodworking exhibition in Australia." Australian Woodworker 2003*

*It is a unique expose' of wood sculptures, carvings and turning, inlay and intarsia work, cabinet making, furniture, bark pictures and fine paintings. Prize monies offered total \$4,150 over many categories.*

*Open annually on the first Saturday of October and runs for two weeks from 9am – 5pm daily.*

**WE ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO SIT WITH THE EXHIBITION FOR AN HOUR OR TWO,  
PLEASE CONSIDER ADDING YOUR NAME TO THE DOOR ROSTER, MANY THANKS.**

If you have any questions please contact me at:  
[festivaloftheforest@hotmail.com](mailto:festivaloftheforest@hotmail.com) or Anne on 0400798714  
Entry forms can be found at: [www.torimbafestival.com.au](http://www.torimbafestival.com.au)  
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