



WELCOME TO THE 51ST ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF THE FOREST.

1st – 15th of October 2022, RAVENSHOE

Dear Exhibitors,

I do hope this letter finds everyone well and hope you all have had a good year.

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.

Once again, the Judges had a very difficult time with the outstanding quality of work and it was just fantastic to see the "piece of the past" entries celebrating 50 years, as well as some of our retired woodworkers. I do believe a few have said that last year's display got sawdust running in their veins again and hope to have something in this year's competition. I am looking forward to it. It was such an honour to host those wonderful pieces as well as a piece from 1972, our very first Festival of the Forest – A travelling communion chest used by the Bush Brothers, and still resides at the St Barnabas Church in Ravenshoe today.

I would like to also thank the generosity of Loraine Amadio, Geoff Foley, Barry Mildren, Hans Ettlin, Fred Harberger & Elaine Durham who donated woodwork and a painting for our raffle last year, the donations towards our raffle every year are always very much appreciated. Thank you.

This year, combined with the opening, we will be having a sausage sizzle, a Liquid Glass (Norglass) display & classes outside the hall on opening day as well as the Blacksmithing display if all goes to plan.

John Willis - Sales Manager of Norglass (liquid glass) will have a stand/booth on the day as well as doing two pouring demonstrations at 10am and 2pm with up to 20 people at each demonstration. If you would like to attend one of these demonstrations, please call Anne on 0400798714 and make a booking ASAP. This display was cancelled last year due to boarder closure.

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.

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 \$4,600 over many categories.

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

Please feel free to display the little poster at your corner store or notice board, Thank You.

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 Anne at:

festivaloftheforest@hotmail.com or 0400798714

Entry forms can be found at: www.torimbafestival.com.au

Find us on Facebook 'Torimba Festival'