



Callington A & H Society



Who are we

In 2023, the small town of Callington in the Adelaide Hills of South Australia celebrated 20 years of its biggest community event – the annual Callington Rural Show. For local businesses, the show is a way to advertise and from a community perspective, the show is a great budget-friendly day out for families. Our show encourages everyone to come together, from our talented performers to school students of all ages.

What we needed

We needed better software to manage one of the most important aspects of the show, our various competitions. They are popular with the schools throughout the district and are always a big visitor drawcard. To make the most of this, we had to do a better job of managing entries, which meant administering everything online for the first time.

How we got there

The Telstra Connected Communities grant enabled us to implement a program called Showday Online. The program makes it easy for our volunteer convenors to manage entries, print awards and allocate aggregate points. We could post links for entrants to submit their entries and generate the reports necessary for the agricultural show associations and media. It also saved us on other manual admin' costs, like postage.

Why it worked

Having the right software was one thing, but the reason it worked so well in the lead up to the show was because our volunteers knew how to implement it properly. They attended multiple training days and online webinars to ensure everyone knew the software inside out. The entry numbers for 2023 speak for themselves; over 1,800, which is significantly more than in previous years, with about 80% received online, 15% by email and 5% in person.

Where to next

By adopting the new Showday Online software the committee proved how capable we can be. And because our committee changes every year, having procedures for new members to take over is essential.

The Telstra Connected Communities Grant Program

Applications for the 2024 Telstra Connected Communities grant program open on Tuesday 27th of February and will close at 5pm on Wednesday 27th of March 2024. This round will make \$200,000 available for applications of up to \$10,000 each. Successful grants will be announced in June 2024 and successful applicants will have 12 months to complete funded projects.

Learn more about the 2024 Connected Communities grant round here

<https://frmr.org.au/funding/place/telstra-connected-communities-program/>