

MURRAYLANDS MUSIC FESTIVAL

TAILEM BEND

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

11th, 12th, 13th March 2005.



Murraylands Music Festival is run as a school and community fundraiser by the Tailem Bend Primary School

Last weekend's Murraylands Music Festival at Tailem Bend drew over 1000 people over its 3 day duration and attracted a high standard of entrants in the Talent Quest.

The Murraylands Music Festival is a unique festival in that the local school and community run it

"The whole school and community get involved in making the day happen including the students running various stalls, craft activities and activities to entertain families throughout the day" said organiser and school principal Noel Kneebone.

School Students were an integral part of the festival organization as well as running various stalls and other enterprising activities throughout the day.

Participants and audience members came from right across the state as well as New South Wales and Victoria.

Major sponsor and Member for Hammond, Mr Peter Lewis, officially opened the festival with local Catherine Sumner singing Advance Australia Fair.

A special moment then occurred when the school students and community members performed their songs specifically written about Tailem Bend. These songs reflected the pride the community has for their town from the past to the present and probable future.

"The overall comments praised the friendly atmosphere, the community spirit and the professional organisation of the festival", said Noel.

The Friday night's cabaret set the scene for the weekend's regular huge programme. Once again the Wild Card and Mallee Blue were superb feature acts as well providing backing for the guest performers.

The bands kept the crowd dancing and singing along to their favourite hits with a great blend of Australian, American and original songs.

Local Murray Bridge ten piece vocal group, Finely Tuned, displayed their class with a range of contemporary jazz songs.

W
O
R
L
D
J
A
Z
Z
S

M
O
S
C

L
I
V
E
M
U
S
I
C

"All artists can be proud of the performances they gave to the appreciative crowd and Sunday's recovery session proved successful with people travelling up for the day from Adelaide. We will certainly continue this again", Noel said.

Travis Sinclair and Sovereign showed they are class acts, stunning the crowd with their brilliant stage performances.

Proven crowd favourites, Craig Giles, Sandra, Jeanette Wormald, Mark Tempany, Alison Hams and newcomer Brendan Beleski were fantastic performers. They freely mixed with the crowd in an informal capacity and lent a helping hand whenever it was needed.

"People appreciated the fact that they mingled with the crowd and encouraged talent entrants during the day".

"The quality of the festival was superb", Noel added.

Mr. Kneebone praised the efforts of chief judges Wally Sparrow, Charlie McCracken and Fred Hams and the SA Council for Country Music representatives. The judges helped make the talent quest run smoothly, gave constructive feedback and received many comments on how professional yet friendly the Talent Quest was.

Mr Kneebone said the organisers really appreciated the community workers, sponsorships and donations and the efforts of Peter Lewis, Festival's Australia, South Australian Tourism Commission, Tailem Bend Pharmacy, River City 88.0 FM, Lions and Rotary clubs, Coorong District Council and more than 60 individual sponsors.

The local business people and district council continue to support the festival and accommodate the changes necessary to allow the festivities to take place in the main street area of the town. All accommodation at the caravan parks, motels, and hotels was fully booked. Local businesses reported an increase in takings indicating that the festival was a great success.

For more information contact:

Noel Kneebone on 08 85723266 during business hours

Email: noel.kneebone@tailembdps.sa.edu.au

Talent Quest

13 and under

- 1st. – Molly Kneebone
- 2nd. – Katelin Kneebone
- 3rd. – Hailee Wilson

16 and under

- 1st. – Tiffany Stroh
- 2nd. – Hollie May O'Neil
- 3rd. – Amy Fantis

Gospel

- 1st. – Tiffany Stroh
- 2nd. – Danielle Mowbray
- 3rd. – Darren Gurney

Group/Duo

- 1st. – Tiffany and Mandy Stroh
- 2nd. – Lee Brocky and Holly May O'Neil
- 3rd. – Mahalia Fox and Danielle Mowbray

Open Male

- 1st. – Darren Gurney/Warren Milera – equal first
- 2nd. – Lee Brocky
- 3rd. – Michael Bristow

Open Female

- 1st. – Hollie May O'Neil
- 2nd. – Danielle Mowbray
- 3rd. – Tiffany Stroh