

2018 Presidents Report - Kath Dalton

Wow 2018 has been a whirlwind of a Year for our club.

We have had members and registered breeders come and go, we have gone through a name change, a new website, ribbon sponsorship, a canteen and the ability to make payments online. We have a new Patchwork mouse class added, sex-linked brindles are a thing in mice and we have been lucky enough to get them. We are seeing Downunder Rats and Silks making a comeback so lots of exciting animal projects people are working on. It's great to see people sharing projects and working together for the betterment of the fancy, this helps to ensure that we don't lose coat types, markings, colours and so forth.

Since our last AGM we ran 2 workshops at Jodi's, a Judging Workshop and one on Rodent Care and Illness and both were a great success and we look forward to running more down the track.

A close co-operative relationship has been developing between our NFRS and QRF – this has been fantastic to see and is beneficial to us in so many ways. Proposal to have a "special membership" for QRF given they cannot show with us for more than one show, they have extended us the same opportunity.

A huge thankyou to Sandra and especially Rachel who have become our voice and liaison with the ACA. The outcome of which can impact all of us as breeders and pet owners. It was a big ask and we are lucky you have a big voice and we know you have the best interests of the animals and Club as you continue to represent.

Steph, Sandra, Jodi and myself made the drive to the QRF Gala Show in Brisbane and competed on the 9th of September, between the 4 of us NSW had a stellar day and managed to take all but 3 of the major ribbons home. A Team of QRF competitors are heading our way to join us at our Christmas show, they have vied to win some ribbons back on the day. It was an amazing show and they made us feel more than welcome. On the day, they had a selection of competitive rodents run across some canvas and at the end of the day they presented one of them to our club as a gift. Such a great gift and we can hang at each of our shows.

The introduction of the canteen has been awesome – a huge thankyou to Shaun and Hayley for making this happen. It is a vital part of fundraising for the club and we are "loving" it.

We are currently working on promotional products and will hopefully have a select few items we can look at ordering in the coming months.

I have been very privileged as President to have such a great committee to work with and although as a Club and a committee we have faced challenges, we have also relished in the success. Our club is very fortunate have a dedicated committee and great Club supporters. We appreciate the effort everyone puts in to setting up and packing away each show no matter how big or small the job, we appreciate it.

Let's look forward to a successful 2019