

Date: 23rd May 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Cootamundra All-Breeds Kennel Club Inc.

Stronger Communities Fund Grant for Removable Posts for Dog Show Rings

One full day's work driving in steel pickets has been saved by a grant for \$2400 from the Stronger Communities Fund. Cootamundra All-Breeds Kennel Club members are finding setting up for their gigantic dog shows a lot easier now and far safer.

The Stronger Communities Fund an initiative of the NSW State Government and distributed by the Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council issued the grant to Kennel Club which has enabled them to purchase and install removable steel posts used for marking out the five dog rings needed for dog shows.

Cootamundra All-Breeds Kennel Club president, Brian Childs said, these removable posts have saved us at least a day's labour.

“Driving in pickets and then pulling them up after a show is back breaking work, we are all getting older, the setting up of the show rings for this year's dog show took us at least a tenth of the time than in the past,” Brian said.

With nine separate dog shows held over two consecutive weekends, setting up of the various rings, exhibiting areas, and shades is an enormous effort for kennel club volunteers. Much of the set up involves heavy manual labour.

The economic benefit to Cootamundra is vast. Stewards and judges are from out of town, one flying in from Queensland. Hundreds of dog breeders and exhibitors descend on the town for the two weekends in May. With many spending the week between the shows in Cootamundra.

The club was able to have 34 posts manufactured by local tradesmen J. Childs and RJ Foster. They can be configured to allow for variable sized rings and are available for other showground user organisations to use.

Cootamundra – Gundagai Regional Council's Administrator Stephen Sykes said. This small grant has made a huge difference to the Cootamundra Kennel Club.

“The rewards that have come from this grant will allow kennel club members more time to concentrate on their event, which in turn will return massive benefits to the area. With visitors coming from far and wide, who are supporting local businesses.” Stephen said.

Member for Cootamundra Katrina Hodgkinson MP said she is happy to support the project through the NSW Government's Stronger Communities program.

“It's great this funding will not only save time for Kennel Club volunteers as they set-up for their events, but also greatly improve safety for volunteers as the posts are much easier to install,” Katrina said.

END:

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Photo and caption. (Brian Childs)

Cootamundra Kennel Club Inc, president Brian Childs is picture beside one of the 34 removable posts and cap covers the club has been able to acquire thanks to a grant for \$2400 from the Stronger Communities Fund, an initiative of the NSW State Government and dispensed by Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council.



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