



IGA Perth Royal Show

1st October to 8th October 2011

October 5, 2011

South West region wins District Displays

The **South West** region has taken out top honours in the District Displays competition at the 2011 IGA Perth Royal Show, gaining the most points overall.

Designed by Capel resident Denise Mercer, the display has apples as its central theme.

The former Boans window display designer has been creating District Displays for 24 years and has enjoyed about 12 wins, including taking out the top honours last year.

The **Mid West** and **Great Southern** came in second and third in the Southern Region.

The **Goldfields** had the highest appoints awarded to the Northern region with its outback bar theme.

The **Kimberley/Pilbara** region came in second and the **Gascoyne** third in the Northern Region.

Margaret Bannister, The Royal Agricultural Society councillor in charge, has been involved with the District Displays since 1967 and says the standard is better than ever.

“Every year I think it can’t possibly get better but it does.”

The exhibit features eight displays, one for each of Western Australia’s regions, from the Kimberley and the Pilbara in the State’s north to the Great Southern.

Rural, pastoral, mining, horticultural and fishing endeavours provide a visual feast for visitors. The diversity of the Display’s crops, products and resources make spectacular and colourful viewing,

It takes months to plan the displays and to collect the produce to represent each region.

Margaret Bannister reveals there are many little tricks involved to keep the displays looking impeccable. “Grains are stuck down with PVC glue which dries clear. The fruit is sprayed with hair laquer to keep it from fermenting. The crops are dug up from

paddocks and are actually growing. Transporting them is a circus, you have to make sure they stay upright and don't get squashed."

The District Displays can be seen in the Department of Agriculture and Food Centenary Pavilion at the 2011 IGA Perth Royal Show.

The eight-day Show runs till October 8. Thanks to the State Government's support of CHOGM, kids 12 and under get free entry when accompanied by an adult.