

IGA Perth Royal Show

1st October to 8th October 2011



October 1, 2011

Crafty 10-year-old sails into success

Ten-year old Blake Walsh of High Wycombe is the best junior exhibitor in the Creative Craft competition at this year's IGA Perth Royal Show.

His impressive sailing ship scored first prize in the any article made from 100 per cent recycled materials category.

Mum Debbie said out of the blue Blake had asked for some balustrades she had thrown out to make a ship.

"He used some old calico bags for the sails, kite string and old nails.

"He just took himself off into the shed and started making it."

The family didn't realise Blake had won until they saw the winning sash draped over the ship when they went to view the exhibit in the craft pavilion.

"We were shocked and excited. Blake is always making things and I don't think we realised how good he is," says Debbie.

Blake was just one of many successful entries from the Perth hills area.

Others include David Millhouse of Sawyers Valley who won the best exhibit in book binding.

Gwendolyn Murphy of Stoneville won places in numerous categories including firsts in fantasy cloth doll or animal, stuffed toy or animal, and any beaded article, as well as best exhibit in the handcraft classes.

Melita Carder of High Wycombe also won a swag of awards, including best exhibit in the hand knitting classes.

Kathleen Spencer of Bickley won best exhibit in the jewellery classes.

The winning entries can be seen in the Creative Crafts Pavilion, with 25 individual sections including knitting, greeting cards, hobby ceramics, wearable art, dolls, toys, patchwork quilting, blacksmithing and much more.

Hundreds of entries come in from all over Australia as people show off their colourful, creative and crafty best.

Demonstrations happen on most days and during the eight days of the Show some 2,500 exhibitors participate.

The Show runs from October 1 to 8 and this year kids aged 12 and under are free thanks to the State Government's support of CHOGM.