

59th Annual
Taree & District
Eisteddfod
2026

Speech & Drama
Program

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TAREE

**Proudly
Supporting the
Community**

**59th Annual
Taree & District
Eisteddfod
2026**

*Speech & Drama
Program*

Manning Entertainment Centre
Main Theatre

“The important thing is not to win a prize or beat a rival,
but to pace one another on the road to excellence”

		Pages
Speech and Drama	18th May - 20th May	17-24
Grand Concert	13th June at 2.00pm	6

Eisteddfod Committee & Patrons

Co-Presidents	Mr Tim Stack OAM and Mrs Julie Edwards
Secretary	Mrs Julie Edwards
Treasurer	Mrs Rosemary Latimore
Patrons	Mrs Margaret Rogers OAM Mr Ray Stack OAM
Vice Patrons	Mrs Barbara Drury, Mr Robert Weller, Mrs Toni Bell, Mrs Pamela Phillips, Mr George Hoad, Mr Max Durrington.

Daily results and 2027 syllabus available from
www.tareeeisteddfod.com.au



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Eisteddfod Officers and Adjudicators

SECTION CO-ORDINATORS

Vocal	Mrs Deirdre Sutherland, Mrs Kristine Waugh, Mrs Mandy Howard
Piano	Mr Don Secomb OAM, Mrs Eve Bannerman
Speech/Drama	Mrs Rhonda Evans
Dance	Mrs Julie Edwards, Mrs Kelly Kramel, Ms Emily Brady
School Choirs	Mrs Rhonda Evans, Ms Peta-Gai Adamson
Grand Concert	Mr Rhys Edwards
Advertising	Mrs Cheryl Earley

LIFE MEMBERS

Mrs Ruth Challacombe, Mrs Barbara Drury, Mr Tim Stack OAM,
Mrs Margaret Rogers OAM,

Mrs Valerie Audet, Mr Max Durrington, Mrs Jan Merry, Mrs Lorraine
Edwards,

Mrs Rhonda Evans, Mr Ray Stack OAM, Mrs Rosemary Latimore

The Eisteddfod recognizes the following Life Members who have since died.

Mr Peter Mawby, Mrs Wendy Burke, Mrs Lorna Pain, Mrs Clare Squires,
Mrs Denva Bird, Mrs Lyn Durrington, Mrs Shirley Crisp, Mrs Beverley
Williamson.

ADJUDICATOR

Toni Fatherley

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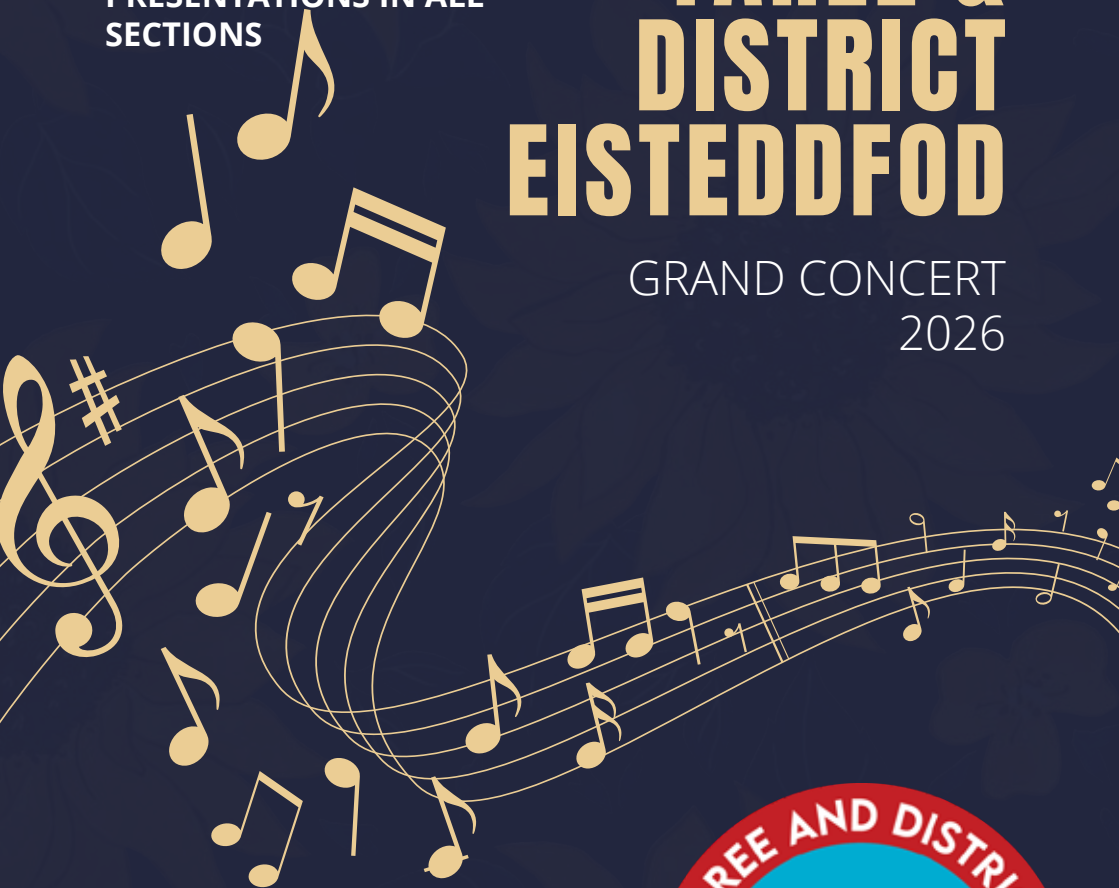
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WINNING PERFORMANCES
AND AWARD
PRESENTATIONS IN ALL
SECTIONS

TAREE & DISTRICT EISTEDDFOD

GRAND CONCERT
2026



**MANNING
ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE**

JUNE 13, 2026
2:00PM



MEC

TICKETS ONLINE WWW.MEC.MIDCOAST.NSW.GOV.AU
MEC BOX OFFICE (02) 7955 7073
ADULTS \$33.50 CONCESSION \$22.50

APPRECIATION

The Committee of the Taree and District Eisteddfod Society Inc. wishes to thank all sponsors, trophy donors and prize donors.

Thanks are also expressed to the voluntary workers, advertisers, everyone who has loaned instruments and all who have helped in other ways for the 2026 Eisteddfod.

The Committee would like to specifically thank the following for the particular contribution they have made to the Eisteddfod this year.

MAJOR SPONSOR **STACKS FINANCE**

MAJOR SECTION SPONSORS

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THANKS ALSO GO TO

Johnson and Mongan	In Town Motor Inn	Taree Manning Entertainment Centre
Bass n Blues	Manning River Times	Estates including the late Miss Marion Ford
Golden Age Media	Radio 2RE	Donors to the Smile Scholarships Appeal
Rotary Club of Taree	Rotary Club On Manning	Relevé Dance Collective, Taree
Valley Industries	Dundaloo	Breakthru Taree

Winners' names may be made public in the local media.

Competitors in this Eisteddfod participate at their own risk.

Teachers should ensure that all copyright matters are in order.

Differences in the size of the trophies are because some trophies are from private donors and others given by the Taree and District Eisteddfod Society Inc.in accordance with the resources available to the Society.

All cash awards will be accompanied by a certificate.

Perpetual trophies will no longer be taken home by the successful winner but they may have their photo taken with it then returned to the Committee.

Successful Competitors are asked to cash their vouchers as soon as possible after the Eisteddfod.

****** All cash prizes will be paid by Direct Deposit into the winner's bank account. Please supply your bank details to Section Secretary. These details will be destroyed after payment is made.**

**BOOKINGS NOW ONLINE AT
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and at the MEC Box Office for
ALL sections including
DANCE GROUP WEEKEND
CHOIRS
GRAND FINALE CONCERT**



SPECIAL AWARDS AVAILABLE TO SECTIONS OF THE EISTEDDFOD

ROMA LIGGINS PERPETUAL SCHOLARSHIP

One competitor from each section of the Eisteddfod will be chosen by the Adjudicators for this Scholarship. The Management Committee shall choose one competitor as the winner of this award. This is a cash award of \$2500.00. The result will be announced at the Grand Concert.

SPECIAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships of \$500.00 have been donated by Stacks Finance, EIRE Constructions, Taree Literary Institute and Library, NAB and Mid Coast Council to sections of the Eisteddfod. Such Scholarships are chosen by the Adjudicators and presented at the Grand Concert.

EISTEDDFOD SCHOLARSHIPS

There will be Scholarships for the Dance section of the Eisteddfod. This will not be a cash award, but will be payment towards the successful competitors to attend Summer Schools.

MCDONALDS AND ROTARY ENCOURAGEMENT AWARDS

McDonalds Family Restaurants Taree and Rotary Club of Taree have donated an amount of money to be used in the form of Encouragement Awards across all sections of the Eisteddfod. To be chosen by the Adjudicators.

SMILE SCHOLARSHIPS

A number of \$1000 Smile Scholarships will be made available to very talented competitors to help further their careers and awarded by the Adjudicators. Thanks to Nundoobah Retreat, Rotary Club of Taree, EIRE Constructions, McDonalds and Stacks Finance for providing additional Smile Scholarships.

CLARE SQUIRES "HOME IS WHERE THE HEART IS SCHOLARSHIP"

This award of \$1000.00 to a Dance School for use in improving their School. In memory of Mrs Clare Squires.

**The Taree and District Eisteddfod Society Inc. is a proud member of
The Association of Eisteddfod Societies of Australia Inc.**

come on please give us a "smile"

and help a deserving winner receive a Smile Scholarship

Taree & District Eisteddfod BUILDING THE SMILE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

"Can you please give a \$250.00 Smile"

And have your name forever acknowledged in our Annual Program

- ☺ A "Smile" is a one-off \$250.00 Donation to the *Smile Scholarship Fund*
- ☺ You then become a Founding Lifetime Member
- ☺ This Fund provides Scholarships to talented entrants at our annual Eisteddfod
- ☺ The winners are chosen by the Adjudicators
- ☺ ALL Eisteddfod competitors are eligible to win
- ☺ The Scholarship value to each winner is \$1000
- ☺ Your support will create opportunities for winners to lift their talents to the next level
- ☺ This is a Community effort facilitated by the Taree & District Eisteddfod
- ☺ As the Fund grows so can the number of Scholarships awarded
- ☺ As many as possible *Smile Scholarships* to be awarded annually (minimum 10)

Some Testimonials from Smile Scholarship Winners:

"I now have the opportunity to access further learning and performance experiences with winning a "Smile".
It has boosted my ambitions even further."

"The *Smile Scholarship* enabled me to audition for the Australian Ballet School. Without this Scholarship I would not have been able to audition."

"I have used the money to help purchase a new piano. This Scholarship has made my wish come true - a big thank you to all Contributors for your generosity."

"I was accepted to attend the Australian Institute of Music and completed a workshop for musical theatre. I was also able to pay for private singing tuition with a leading teacher in Sydney."

"I have enrolled for the Sydney Dance Company Winter Workshop for extra dance tuition to improve my dancing.
Thank you for the opportunity the *Smile Scholarship* has given me."

"I would like to extend my gratitude to the Smile Scholarship for enabling me to attend a week's tuition and accommodation at NIDA, where I learnt a great deal about acting and now I am at University studying what I love."

"I am extremely proud to have been selected for a *Smile Scholarship* and to have the opportunity to improve my musical knowledge. I will be forever grateful."

"The *Smile Scholarship* helped me fulfill one of my dreams, being a featured soloist in an annual variety concert.
Thank you for helping me live one dream and aim for the next dream."

Today's Smile Tomorrow's Dream

Please provide a "Smile" to help fund future Winners - For more information see over

PO Box 234, TAREE NSW 2430 • Phone: 02 6592 6522 • Fax: 02 6592 6596 • Email: tstack@stacklaw.com.au

YES - I WISH TO GIVE A \$250.00 "smile"

Please post this form to:

Taree & District Eisteddfod
C/- PO Box 234
TAREE NSW 2430

Your Name:

Address:

Phone:

Name(s) as you wish it to appear in our Annual Eisteddfod Program:

.....

.....

Name(s)

PAYMENT

Please tick appropriate box:-

- ☐ My cheque/other payment is enclosed to "Smile Appeal" for \$250.00
☐ \$250.00 Payment can be lodged at any NAB Branch for credit to the following account:

Smile Account

BSB: 082 856

Account Number: 85 663 9549

(Please fill in and return this form)

Future Smile Scholarship Winners thank you for your generosity

(NB: This Appeal is ongoing so you can give a "Smile" at any time)

EMILY GABITES - 2024 Roma Liggins Perpetual Scholarship Winner

I have been dancing at Taree Eisteddfod for many years now, starting in under 9s to the age of 17 in the 15 and over division. It has been a huge honour to have been awarded many championship and scholarship titles over that time, such as the Jazz Scholarship three times, the Smile Scholarship twice, and at my last eisteddfod in 2024 receiving the Roma Liggins Scholarship. This Eisteddfod has provided such a warm and supportive environment where I was able to grow and progress as a dancer. I trained in all styles of dance including jazz, lyrical, ballet, contemporary, hip hop, tap, musical theatre as well as cheerleading. In 2025 I made my professional debut, at 18 years old, with Royal Caribbean Cruise Line onboard Freedom of the Seas as an elite dancer in the production cast. I had a fantastic time sailing the Caribbean and am very grateful for this start to my professional career. In 2026, I have now embarked on my second contract onboard Explorer of the Seas sailing around Europe and am excited for what else is to come in my future of dance. Once again, I am very thankful for the scholarships that I received from the Taree Eisteddfod which allowed me to further my dance training and support me in my dance career.



Thank you to the following **smile** Founding Members

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Taree & District Eisteddfod

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SPEECH & DRAMA

VENUE: MANNING ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE

Main Auditorium

Sponsored by: Taree Literary Institute Library

18th - 20th May 2026

Adjudicator: Toni Fatherley

Major Awards

THE DENVA BIRD MEMORIAL AWARD FOR THE MOST PROMISING PERFORMER

A \$250 cash award will be awarded to the competitor judged by the adjudicator to be the most promising performer in the Speech and Drama Section of this year's Eisteddfod.

ROMA LIGGINS SCHOLARSHIP

A \$2500 scholarship will be awarded to an outstanding competitor in this year's Eisteddfod. One competitor will be chosen by the adjudicator from each of the five sections. The committee will then choose the successful competitor. Their name will be announced at the Grand Concert.

SPECIAL SCHOLARSHIP

A scholarship of \$500 will be awarded to a talented Speech & Drama performer who did not win the Roma Liggins Scholarship.

TAREE ARTS COUNCIL AWARD FOR A PROMISING PERFORMER 12 YEARS & UNDER

A \$50 cash award and trophy will be awarded to a competitor 12 years and under judged to be showing potential as a Speech and Drama performer. This award is funded by Taree Arts Council.

ENCOURAGEMENT AWARDS

An eisteddfod award of two \$50 cash prizes is given to one female and one male performer who are judged to be outstanding in a group or duologue.

Encouragement awards of \$20 for each age group will be made available throughout this year's Speech and Drama Section donated by McDonalds.

A \$20 award for the Most Memorable Performance donated by Charlotte Wilkins. All special awards are decided by the adjudicator.

SMILE SCHOLARSHIPS

These will be available throughout the sections of the eisteddfod to be used for further tuition or workshops.

Taree Literary Institute Library

Monday 18th May

10.00am

Section 809 PLAY BUILDING
Time limit 10 minutes

Years 11 & 12

1 St Clares A

Section 812 MUSICAL THEATRE
Time limit 10 minutes

1 Bulahdelah Central

2 Stagemites Sen MT

Section 808 JUNIOR HIGH PLAY BUILDING
Time limit 10 minutes

Years 7 & 8

1 Stagemites Inters

Section 809 INTERMEDIATE HIGH PLAY BUILDING
Time limit 10 minutes

Years 9 & 10

1 Independent Port Macquarie Group 1

3 Independent Port Macquarie Group 3

2 Independent Port Macquarie Group 2

Section 816 SENIOR HIGH UNSCRIPTED DRAMA
Time limit 2 minutes

Years 11 & 12

1 Stagemites IG4

3 Stagemites IG1

2 St Clares

4 Stagemites IG2

Section 806 INTEMEDIAE HIGH ONE ACT PLAY
Time limit 10 minutes

Years 9 & 10

1 Independent Port Macquarie Group 4

2 Chatham High

Section 807 SENIOR HIGH ONE ACT PLAY
Time limit 10 minutes

1 Stagemites Sen Th

2 Stagemites SenTu

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Taree Literary Institute Library

Section 815 INTERMEDIATE HIGH UNSCRIPTED DRAMA **Years 9 & 10****Time limit 2 minutes**

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 1 St Clares A | 7 Stagemites IG3 |
| 2 St Clares B | 8 St Clares D |
| 3 Bulahdelah A | 8 Bulahdelah B |
| 4 Chatham High A | 10 Chatham High B |
| 5 Stagemites IG4 | 11 Chatham High C |
| 6 St Clares C | |

Section 81 JUNIOR HIGH UNSCRIPTED DRAMA**Years 7 & 8****Time limit 2 minutes**

- | | |
|----------------|------------------|
| 1 Chatham High | 2 Stagemites IG7 |
|----------------|------------------|

Section 824 DRAMATIC DUOLOGUE**Years 9 & 10****Time limit 5 minutes**

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Evie Bradney and Tiko Samson | 7 Grace Marquardt and Lavidia Fenwick |
| 2 Abbiegail Ray and Ruby Dibley | 8 Ariel Case and Jackson Alderton |
| 3 Ayva Elms and Zac Chatfield | 9 Layla Wyvill and Sydney Smith |
| 4 Indigo Francand Thomas Jobson | 10 Amelia Vandeermark & Ava Gillett |
| 5 Grace Zarate and Paige Ripley | 11 Hunter Devillecourt and Olivia Neal |
| 6 MaddySaggers paniagua and Riley Mcconnell | |

Section 909 NOVICE DRAMATIC EXCERPT**Years 9 & 10****Time limit 5 minutes**

- | | |
|------------------|---------------|
| 1 Abbigail Ray | 3 Ruby Dibley |
| 2 Phoenix Wilson | |

Taree's Oldest Lending Library

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Taree Literary Institute Library

129 Victoria Street, Taree - Ph: 6552 4361
(upstairs - Above the Spectacle Makers)



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Section 818/819 Year 7/8 Debating Final

Time limit 3 minutes for each speaker

- | | | |
|----------------------|----|-------------------|
| 1 Bulahdelah Year 7 | vs | Bulahdelah Year 8 |
| Preparation 10.00 am | | Debate 11.00 am |

Section 943 PREPARED SPEECH

16 Years & under

Time limit 4 minutes

- | | |
|----------------|------------------|
| 1 Evie Kemp | 3 Maggie Compton |
| 2 Indigo Franc | |

Section 825 DRAMATIC DUOLOGUE

Years 11 & 12

Time limit 5 minutes

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 Emily Ingram and Ollie Collins | 4 Isabella Pecnik and Willow McNeil |
| 2 Frankie James and Jenna Harborow | 5 Eden Harrison and Jorj Wallace |
| 3 Savannah Blackmoore and Troy Rapley | |

Section 903 DRAMATIC EXCERPT SHAKESPEARIAN

14 Years & over

Time limit 5 minutes

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| 1 Indio Franc | 3 Emery Ingram |
| 2 Isabella Pecnik | |

Section 911 MIME SOLO

14 Years & under

Time limit 3 minutes

- 1 Indigo Franc



Since 1975 EIRE Constructions has been at the forefront of enabling growth within regional New South Wales through Civil Construction.

We strive to give back to every community we operate in and are proud to Sponsor the 2026 Taree & District Eisteddfod.

Section 905 DRAMATIC EXCERPT**14 years & under****Time limit 5 minutes**

- 1 Bella Bruckard
- 2 Page Ripley

- 3 Imogen Franc
-

Section 920 VERSE SPEAKING SOLO**14 years & under****Time limit 3 minutes**

- 1 Iluka Kemp
- 2 Indigo Franc
- 3 Page Ripley

- 4 Bella Bruckard
 - 5 Abby O'Keefe
-

Section 907 DRAMATIC EXCERPT**18 Years & under****Time limit 6 minutes**

- 1 Lily Miller
- 2 Emery Ingram
- 3 Eden Harrison

- 4 Isabella Pecnik
 - 5 Imogen Mulligan
-

Section 934 AUSTRALIAN VERSE SOLO**18 years & under****Time limit 3 minutes**

- 1 Isabella Pecnik
- 2 Emery Ingram

- 3 Lily Miller
 - 4 Eden Harrison
-

Section 916 SACRED READING**18 years & under**

- 1 Imogen Mulligan

- 2 Indigo Franc
-

Section 937 IMPROMPTU READING**18 years & under**

- 1 Imogen Mulligan
-



We offer music lessons that cater to all levels and are individually tailored to your music goals. Whether you're a beginner, an experienced singer, or just looking to brush up on your vocal skills, our professional team of music and singing teachers are here to support you.

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www.songlinesmusicstudio.com.au

2/66 High St, Taree

Wednesday 20th May

10.00am

Section 900E SONG IN COSTUME

12 years & under

Time limit 3 minutes

- 1 Charlotte Wilkins

Section 902 CHARACTER RECITAL IN COSTUME

10 years & under

Time limit 3 minutes

- 1 Aiden Wilkins

Section 904 DRAMATIC EXCERPT

12 years & under

Time limit 3 minutes

- 1 Imogen Pociask

Section 919 VERSE SPEAKING SOLO

12 years & under

Time limit 3 minutes

- 1 Aiden Wilkins
2 Imogen Pociask
3 Charlotte Wilkins

Section 929 HUMOROUS RECITATION

14 years & under

Time limit 3 minutes

- 1 Charlotte Wilkins
2 Bella Bruckard

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Taree Literary Institute Library

129 Victoria Street, Taree - Ph: 6552 4361

(upstairs - Above the Spectacle Makers)



WE ARE OPEN
Monday to Friday
9am to 3pm



- Current Titles
- Large Print
- Novels
- Premier's Reading Challenge
- Junior
- Non-Fiction
- Magazines
- Internet

Books are Silent Friends

Section 922 VERSE SPEAKING SOLO**18 years & under****Time limit 4 minutes**

- 1 Lily Miller
- 2 Emery Ingram

- 3 Isabela Pecnik
 - 4 Imogen Mulligan
-

Section 935 IMPROMPTU READING**14 years & under**

- 1 Imogen Pociask
- 2 Indigo Franc

- 3 Charlotte Wilkins
-

Section 939 DRAMATIC IMPROMPTU FOR ONE**14/ 18 years & under****Time limit 2 minutes**

- 1 Charlotte Wilkins
- 2 Indigo Franc
- 3 Isabella Pecnik
- 4 Lily Miller

- 5 Imogen Mulligan
 - 4 Page Ripley
 - 6 Emery Ingram
 - 8 Abby O'Keefe
-

Section 931 AUSTRALIAN VERSE**14 years & under****Time limit 3 minutes**

- 1 Iluka Kemp
- 2 Charlotte Wilkins
- 3 Indigo Franc

- 4 Aiden Wilkins
 - 5 Imogen Pociask
 - 6 Page Ripley
-

Section 822 DRAMATIC DUOLOGUE**12 years & under****Time limit 5 minutes**

- 1 Aiden and Charlotte Wilkins
- 2 Evie Bradney and Tiki Samson

- 3 Abby O'Keefe and Grace Jurs
 - 4 Florence Egg and Neve Marks
-

20 MINUTE BREAK



Taree Literary Institute Library

SECTION 945 JUNIOR DRAMATIC CHAMPIONSHIP**14 years & under****Prize money donated by Taree Arts Council****(A) . Dramatic Excerpt (own choice) Time limit 5 minutes****(B) Humorous Recitation (own choice) Time limit 3 minutes**

- 1 Charlotte Wilkins
- 2 Imogen Pociask
- 3 Bella Bruckard
- 4 Paige Ripley

- 5 Aiden Wilkins
 - 6 Iluka Kemp
 - 7 Indigo Franc
-

SECTION 946 SENIOR DRAMATIC CHAMPIONSHIP**18 years & under****Prize money donated by Taree Arts Council****(A) . Dramatic Excerpt (own choice) Time limit 5 minutes****(B) Australian Verse Solo (own choice) Time limit 3 minutes**

- 1 Lily Miller
- 2 Imogen Mulligan
- 3 Isabella Pecnik

- 4 Eden Harrison
 - 5 Emery Ingram
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ANNOUNCEMENT OF SPECIAL AWARDS

**THANKS VOLUNTEERS**

Every year the Eisteddfod functions only because of its volunteer workers. We would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge all the volunteers from previous years.

If you would like to become a volunteer for the Eisteddfod, please contact any committee member. We continually need to add to our group.

Thank you

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING
MAJOR SECTION SPONSORS



Taree Literary Institute Library

YOUR WILL CAN HELP

The Eisteddfod Society is delighted to give its time voluntarily to stage the Eisteddfod.

Did you know it now costs over \$100,000 annually to stage?

In trying to keep costs to entrants as low as possible, we seek your assistance in raising money to fund a successful future.

Leaving a bequest to the Eisteddfod will ensure that the competitors we support get every opportunity to achieve their dreams.

Example of a bequest:

**"I give \$.....
to the Taree & District Eisteddfod Society Inc. for
the running costs of the Eisteddfod"**

**Thanks for helping the youth of today go forward
with confidence to make a difference tomorrow.
Let your Will be done!**

**For any more information, please ring the President
Tim Stack on (02)65926592**

Autographs