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www.gidgegannup.info/community/experiencegidge.htm

The Small Farm Field Day – We were lucky enough to have another beautiful sunny day. The Small Farm Field Day committee had worked exceptionally hard to make this a great day and they really did.

Exhibitors were up by 60% and the gate takings by 15% - not entirely clear on numbers as we did not charge young people this year and will not do so in future. Nearly 300 people were transported out to the Open Farms and the Food and Wine Pavilion looked fabulous decked out as an Olive Grove. The Bush Verandah was very busy, helped along by Punch and Judy. The Machinery Exhibits were kept extremely busy and record sales and interest were reported throughout the Field Day. The Alpaca Sale and Livestock area were busy all day with people asking questions, seeking information and also buying. The expanded Fibre Pavilion did a roaring trade and the Café Entertainment area is getting launched. The Play group ladies did a great job and they already have plans for next year, as does Jen with the Fashion Parade – male models next year and more of the fabulous alpaca and mohair garments.

Josephine and Goggles the Goose were a hit and we have booked them again next year, and children and parents were entranced with Punch and Judy. Ballooning, Scrap Booking, face painting, Animal Petting Farm and Pony and Cart rides were all part of the entertainment for the young ones. Sheep dog trials, shearing of sheep, talks on livestock husbandry and we have some ideas for the Sustainability Pavilion for next year.

We are moving the date to the last Saturday in May as we did get a few complaints about the Field Day being held on the long weekend – so it is 28th May 2011, and we hope to see you there. Any ideas you have how we can improve this, what you would like to see, please let us know.

Thank you to our Sponsors, The City of Swan, The Countryman Newspaper, Port Bouvard and the EMRC (who gave us a grant). The day would not have happened without you and you have helped us to build this event to what it is today. Thank you to all the exhibitors, the Open Farms, who were so generous to open their doors, all the volunteer groups who took part, all the Livestock Associations, all the Small Farm Field Day and Experience Gidgegannup committees, who worked so hard and a last big thank you to you the public who came along and supported us.

See you next year.