

# MEDIA RELEASE

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## Fast and Furious Shearing at the Woolshed

It's fast, furious and tons for fun for spectators and participants alike and it's coming to the Australian Heritage Festival at the Jondaryan Woolshed on Saturday.

It's the Ergon Energy Queensland Sport Shear Championships when some of the State's best shearers and woolhandlers battle it out in Australia's oldest working woolshed.

“The Jondaryan Woolshed will be alive with the noise and frenzy of competition shearing on Saturday,” Toowoomba Regional Council Mayor Peter Taylor said.

“It'll be great to see the action and bask in the atmosphere of the 150 year old Woolshed as fleeces fly and reputations are tested in the Sport Shear Championships.”

All competition takes place on Saturday 29 August, making it a great day for shearing fans. The busy program comprises:

10.00am	Round 1 Open Shearing and Woolhandling
11.00am	Round 2 Open Shearing and Woolhandling
12.00pm	Round 3 Open Shearing and Woolhandling
1.00pm	Final Jondaryan Open Woolhandling
2.00pm	Final Jondaryan Open Shearing
3.00pm	Ergon Energy Queensland State Open Woolhandling Championship
4.00pm	Ergon Energy Queensland Open Shearing Championship
4.30pm	Trophy presentations

“The Sports Shear competition is a great complement to all the other activities and attractions at the Australian Heritage Festival,” Councillor Taylor said.

“Festival visitors can pop into the Woolshed to keep an eye on the competition throughout the day.

“Competitive shearing is a terrific spectacle. It appeals equally to sports lovers and those interested in traditional bush skills and is great entertainment for all the family.

“And, to end the day, guests can stay on for the Woolshed's Bush Dance that evening.”

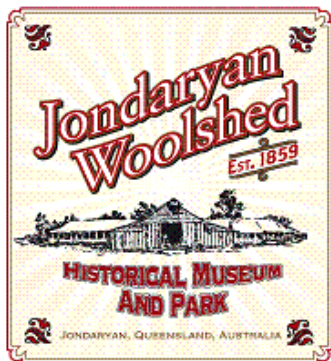
The 33<sup>rd</sup> annual Australian Heritage Festival runs from 22 to 30 August 2009 at the Jondaryan Woolshed.

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It features hands-on demonstrations, re-enactments, displays and parades that chronicle Queensland's development. The Festival attracts volunteer history buffs and collectors from around Australia who bring their rare historical equipment, machines and collections, as well as working animals, livestock and traditional skills to the Jondaryan Woolshed each year for the nine-day event.

Each day's busy program begins at 9.00am with a Grand Parade daily at 12.30pm and closure at 4.00pm.

The Australian Heritage Festival offers an entertaining and affordable family day out. Day passes cost only \$15.50 for adults, \$9.50 for children and \$45.00 for families, with discounts for concessions and group bookings.

The Jondaryan Woolshed is located three kilometres south of the Warrego Highway at Jondaryan. It is a 30 minute drive west of Toowoomba and only 2½ hours from Brisbane. Turn off the Highway at the Jondaryan Hotel and follow the signs to the Woolshed on Evanslea Road. Caravan, camping and motorhome sites are also available.

Further information and Festival programs are available at [www.jondaryanwoolshed.com](http://www.jondaryanwoolshed.com) or by calling (07) 4692 2229.

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