



The Loxton Show

Mailboxes a new addition

by Alison Martin

An addition to this year's Loxton Show will be the Australia Post's Aussie Letterbox Competition.

Convened by Barry Mangelsdorf, the competition is looking for creative letterboxes.

The competition winner will be displayed at the regional final at the Renmark Show on October 25.

The winner will receive a \$150 gift voucher, while the runner-up will be awarded a \$100 voucher.

Mr Mangelsdorf said there are rules to the competition.

The letterbox mail opening must be between 90-120 centimetres off the ground, and the dimensions for the letterbox is a maximum of one metre wide by one metre long and 1.5 metres high.

It must allow an A4 size envelope to lie flat inside, and be large enough for all mail to be pushed fully inside. However, it must not be big enough for a hand to reach inside the slot.

The letterbox must be secured with a sturdy lock, be freestanding and free of sharp

or jagged edges.

Entry into the competition is free, with Australia Post sponsoring the whole event.

Entry forms are available in the Loxton Show book or at Riverland post offices.

For more information contact Barry Mangelsdorf on 0409 687 557.

Although unable to enter their letterboxes into the show, as they are cemented in, people may be able to get some ideas from the Gibbs family's creative letterboxes.

Shirley Gibbs got her custom-made tractor letterbox for her late husband, Vic, who

loved collecting tractors.

She said they had spoken about getting a tractor letterbox made for years, but never got around to it.

That was until about three years ago, the Christmas before Mr Gibbs died, that Mrs Gibbs asked Schulz Repairs and Sales, where her grandson Bryce Eagle works, to make the letterbox.

The following year, Mrs Gibbs decided to keep the letterbox theme going and commissioned a sheep letterbox to be made for her son David, a farmer.



Wunkar women Shirley Gibbs with her tractor letterbox made as a Christmas present to her late husband, Vic.



David Gibbs with his sheep letterbox, judges will be looking for something similar in creativity for the Australia Post Aussie Letterbox Competition at this year's Loxton Show.

- Alison Martin photos