

# Village fun down to a fine art

THEY came in droves from right across the Liverpool Plains and other regional centres for the 20th anniversary Blackville Community Art Show and Market Day.

All up, about 550 people passed through the gate from 10am to 4pm on Sunday, event organiser Jaine Gulliver said.

While it's the 20th anniversary of the art show, it was only three years ago the artisan market component was added – and it has worked a treat.

The combination of a handful of quality artists of varying styles, and handmade, handcrafted, home-cooked food and produce at the market stalls has proven a real winner.

"The aim is not so much to raise big dollars for our organisation, but to produce a great community event," Mrs Gulliver said.

"It started out as a fundraising venture for Blackville School, but our little school is pretty much self-sufficient these days.

"In recent years, we've donated to local charities and this year's proceeds will go towards renovation of the Blackville Hall.

"If we don't keep up the maintenance, we won't have a venue for our functions throughout the year."

Mrs Gulliver paid tribute to the hard-working committee, composed of about 20 local people.

"It's always a huge, combined effort, with everyone giving 100 per cent," she said.

"We all want the same thing – to deliver a great experience at Blackville – for our guests, artists and market stallholders."



Alison Thompson, Emma Donoghue, Alice Dunn and Charmiane Frith at the Quirindi Pre-School stall. Artist Shona Willson is at the back. Photos: Anna Rose



John and Jenny Murray from Blackville, Jenny Cobcroft and Jane Badgery from Willow Tree and David Brownhill from Spring Ridge had a great reunion at Blackville.



David McCathie, Jaine Gulliver and Emma McCathie were doing brisk business, serving coffees.



Lyn Davies took the afternoon shift w-manning the gate at the art show and market day.



Art show and market day organisers achieved their aims of creating a successful community event.