



HORSHAM AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY INC.

ACCESSIBILITY PLAN



Prepared by: Andrea Cross

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Introduction

The Maydale Reserve venue welcomes visitors of all abilities and believes it is important to provide information for visitors to access before attending an event with us. This is a broad document with general information. We create specific plans for each of our events like the Horsham Show, 150km Feast, Dinner Under the Stars to name a few.

Our indoor/outdoor event centre covers four hectares and overlooks the beautiful Wimmera River, in the heart of Horsham and is owned and managed by the Horsham Agricultural Society, a not-for-profit organisation. The organisation is led by a volunteer committee, our CEO, workshop staff and community volunteers.

The land is adjacent to the Horsham Showgrounds and is an historical precinct which enjoys a delightful range of rustic buildings, sheds and stables with matching accessories and decor in the function venues.

A word from our Executive Officer

We have done our best to cover as much as we can in this document, to ensure your visit is enjoyable, with no surprises. However, we're not perfect and may have missed a couple of points to help make your experience more comfortable and accessible.

We welcome feedback if our POV doesn't match yours! We need to be our best at providing a venue and events for all abilities.

Enjoy our rustic precinct!

Andrea Cross

The Plan

Getting here!

- There are a variety of entrances to the Maydale Reserve but our most used one is at the intersection of McBryde & Robinson Streets, just off the Western Highway.



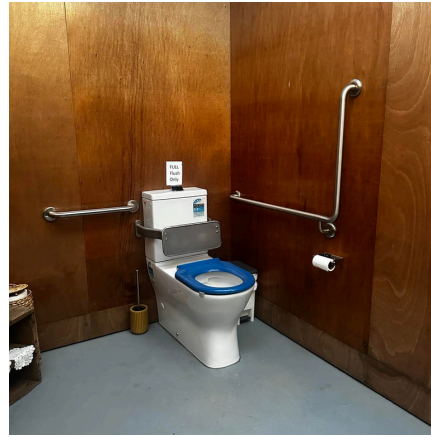
Parking

- Accessible carparking is located at the Maydale carpark in the hub of the precinct. Taxis can deliver passengers with disability to any of the entry points of the venues.

Toilets

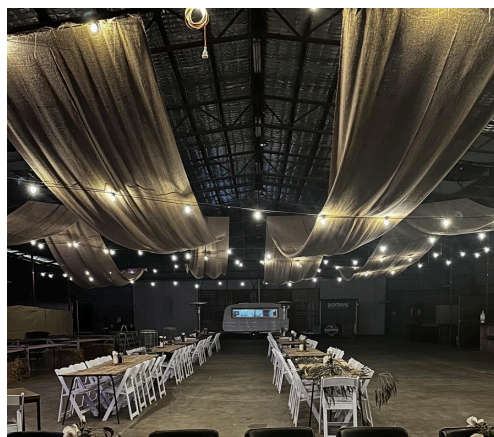
- An internal toilet for people with disabilities inside Maydale Pavilion does not cater for indoor wheelchair access as the doorway is not wide enough. It only has outside access which is about 45 metres from the inside of the Maydale Pavilion.
- An external toilet for people with disability is located approximately 30 metres from most function venues. The surface is road base with some loose stone but quite a solid roadway, with no potholes. The surface area surrounding the new toilet block is white granite sand, which has a strong base but no good if it's rained. By entering the facility on the far side, the graduation between granite sand and concrete is smoother. Entering on the near side, there's a lip from the road base to the concrete, which may require help in crossing.
- The toilet for people with disability is shared with all genders and is in the middle of three and has a left handrail support. The toilet roll is at an easy level to reach. The basin is a

standard height with a flickmixer handle but cold water only. There are no hot water or other pipes that would impede access to the basin. Paper towel is provided, not a hot air blower.



Maydale Pavilion

- There are several entrance doorways into the pavilion. Most events have the large sliding doors open with an opening space of approximately 3 metres. There is a graduated concrete apron leading up to each of the entrances.
- The floor surface of the Pavilion is smooth concrete with expansion joints at varying intervals.
- A carpeted lounge area has a small lip between the carpet and the concrete. Seating in this area is on low couches and not suitable for people who have difficulty getting off chairs. However, several leather chairs with wooden handrests are easier to be seated on and rise from and will be located in that space also.
- A 10amp wheelchair charging station is located near the pallet lined wall on the south wall and is signposted accordingly. An alternative charging station can be provided upon request, if this area is used as a performance stage for music and other events.



The Cattle Shed

- The floor of The Cattle Shed is quarry dust but is accessible for wheelchairs, wheelie walkers and prams.

- Across the venue there are internal posts, therefore some navigation around them is required.
- No drinks are allowed on the dancefloor, as spillage makes for a slippery surface.
- The main entrance to The Cattle Shed is via to large steel clad doors and measure approximately 4 metres in width.
- The accessible toilets are only 10 metres from entrance of The Cattle Shed.
- Lighting is made up of three chandeliers, which most events use. For exhibitions, LED lights are turned on, providing additional lighting.



Stable One

- The surface of Stable One is granite sand.
- The building is completely open along the side overlooking river, therefore there are plenty of entry points.
- Up to the stable, there is undulating lawns.
- The roadway fronting Stable One has one access point between two rustic gates. The road surface is gravel.
- The accessible toilets are approximately 30 metres from Stable One.
- Lighting in Stable One is festoon style, so is dull at night but provides a calm ambience.

Outdoor Area for Events

- Pram, wheelchair and wheelie walker access is suitable across the grounds on the unsealed roads provided however it may be a challenge between lawn areas and roadways.
- The walking track adjacent to the river can be used by gopher drivers, an exit point is marked on the track.



Companion Dogs

- Access to water for companion dogs is located at the doorway entrance at Maydale Pavilion. A toilet area for companion dogs is located at the rear of the pavilion. A doggy do bin and bags are available at that station.

Onsite Camping or Caravanning

- If you are interested in camping, there are 36 powered camp sites and 50 unpowered campsites. Only 5 sites have power and water and you'll need to bring a double hose adaptor, as you may need to share the tap with your neighbour. If we've had enough rain, the areas will be grassy, however it can be fairly dry with some grass clumps making wheelchair access a challenge.
- There is a sealed walking track which is accessible along the riverfront.

Showers

- The showers were built in the 1960's and are a brick construction. The surface to the ladies' showers is granite sand and is solid in dry weather. It can become inaccessible during wet weather at events. There is a 20cm step into the shower block and it only has a narrow passageway. The two cubicles also do not cater for wheelchair access. There are ample hooks to hang clothing and bags and a slatted wooden seat in the change area, and a continuous surface to the shower cubicle (although some people like to put rubber mats on the concrete surface). A carer may struggle to fit in. The showers do not suit people in wheelchairs. There is no bath or tub for children.

“People with disabilities need to know what to expect from an environment so they can make their own decision about whether it meets their needs.”

Tiffany Kenny, i-Pals, Grampians Disability Advocacy

Doing Event Accessibility Better!

Reach Out

For questions, comments, or suggestions, email the team at maydalereserve@gmail.com. We welcome your feedback to make our events and your experience better!

