

Hart Field Site Group Inc PO Box 939 CLARE SA 5453 0427 423 154 admin@hartfieldsite.org.au





20th September 2014

31 YEARS OF VOLUNTARY SERVICE

It has been a big week for Hart farmer Michael Jaeschke, umpiring the North Eastern Football League A-grade grand final on Saturday in Clare, and last Tuesday being recognised for 31 years of voluntary service with the Hart Field Day.

Michael was presented with a recognition of service award at the lunch time break at the Hart Field Day.

He has been involved in the Hart Field Day almost since its inception, missing only the first year when he was away at school.

"I've seen the field day grow to the crowds of 500 plus that we see today from the first very informal day when it was just a barbecue with about 30 people under our hay shed," Michael says.

The expansion of the field day from a Primary Industries and Resources-run event to the Hart we know today with the guidance of inaugural chairman Tom Yeatman, David Woodard, and Andrew Harding who all worked at Primary Industries and Resources in Clare, has also been a highlight.

Initially held on the Jaeschke's farm, Michael says the Hart Field-Site Group's purchase of the field day site land was another significant achievement for the group, thanks largely to the efforts of his father Kevin – a founding member – as well as farmer David Maitland and agricultural consultant Allan Mayfield.

"It is probably the only farming systems group in Australia to own their land outright, and this was made possible through a partnership with the Wakefield Council and is a real credit to the group," he says.

Despite having stepped down from the Hart Field-Site board, Michael says "Hart will always hold a special place in my heart" and he looks forward to seeing the field day continue to succeed.

"I've no doubt it's in good hands," he says.

"I'm looking forward to seeing the field day continue to grow and challenge the parameters, just as we did at the field day last week with the presentations on robotics and UAV's (unmanned aerial vehicles)."

Media contact:

HFSG Chairman, Justin Wundke 0429 708 772