

ANNUAL REPORT

2022/2023

Royal Agricultural
Society of NSW



Royal Agricultural Society of NSW

CONTENTS

- 3 President's Review
- 4 RAS Highlights of 2022/23
- 24 RAS Board Members and Councillors
- 26 RAS Executive Management Team
- 27 RAS Council and Office Listing
- 28 Corporate Governance Statement
- 29 Financial Reports
- 43 Competition Entries

OUR VISION, MISSION AND VALUES

VISION

A community that understands and values sustainable Australian agriculture and award-quality produce.

MISSION

To forge the future of agriculture by:

- Engaging, educating and entertaining our community on the value of sustainable agriculture and quality produce through events which support agricultural excellence and innovation;
- Improving the quality of agricultural produce and animal breeds through competitions.

VALUES

- Our RAS history and achievements; the traditions and heritage of the Sydney Royal Easter Show; and the importance of the Sydney Royal competitions;
- Our commitment to our mission to forge the future of agriculture which is fundamental to everything we do;
- The contribution of our volunteers and staff, aware that our success is based upon strong individual commitment and our ability to work together as a team;
- Our facilities and assets, because we know they are vital to our long-term performance;
- Strong working relationships with people and organisations with mutual interests, that we work hard to develop and maintain.

PRESIDENT'S REVIEW

The RAS is a membership-based organisation, governed by a Council and Board, and managed by an Executive Management Team. They oversee 4 major business units: The Sydney Royal Easter Show, Sydney Showground, Sydney Royal Competitions, and the Australasian Animal Registry.

Within these business units are also our leading-edge Education department, as well as our Heritage department—the guardian and keeper of the esteemed 200-year RAS legacy.

The RAS Foundation continues to go from strength to strength, with highlights of its year including: 77 scholarships awarded across all programs, 8 community grants awarded including support for Eugowra Community Children's Centre, it has introduced the new Master of Education for Agriculture Graduates, and supported 20 regional Show Societies with Christmas toys and kitchenware.

We rely on the local Show movement as well as strategic stakeholder relationships, sponsor and partnership affiliations, individual, family and corporate benefactors and donors, and of course our members, volunteers, stewards, officials, staff, producers, vendors, exhibitors, competitors, and our loyal event-attendees and Showgoers.

This is no small endeavour.

And neither is our mission: **to forge the future of sustainable Australian agriculture, and award-quality produce and animal breeds through competitions, education and events.**

This 2022/23 Annual Report details all the ways in which we are realising this mission and building a community that understands and values sustainable Australian agriculture and award-quality produce.

Here are some highlights of the past year:

- The RAS Heritage Department received an Ancestry grant, which will facilitate the digitisation of the entire RAS Heritage Catalogue, beginning from 1869;
- Sydney Showground generated record revenues, delivering over 100 events and winning multiple industry awards;
- The RAS Education Department saw an overall growth of 71% in its pioneering Ag in a Box program with 5,412 Boxes sent to hundreds of schools across NSW;
- The Australasian Animal Registry has 3.92 million animals registered, and has processed 206,899 new registrations.
- The 2023 Easter Show had 25,750 Entries with 8,200 animals on site, representing 484 Breeds, and
- The Sydney Royal Fine Food Shows' event, "Grape, Grain & Graze" had record attendance of 886 people.

There is much to be celebrated as we continue to advance the RAS across the many business platforms it touches.



There is much to be celebrated.

As I begin my tenure as President, I look forward to working with Council, Board and Management on our strategic direction within our business units and continuing to support and develop our agricultural competitions.

COVID taught us all of the necessity to keep ourselves financially stable by having sufficient savings to withstand unforeseen circumstances beyond our control. Our pleasing financial result this year goes some way to achieving a safety net that will protect us into the future, but we must keep focus on this goal in the years ahead.

John C Bennett OAM, President
Royal Agricultural Society of NSW

The Royal Agricultural Society of NSW is a not-for-profit corporation that has been an influential force in the direction and development of Australian agriculture through competitions, education and events since its foundation in 1822.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF NSW

The Royal Agricultural Society of NSW (RAS) is mission-purposed to forge the future of agriculture by engaging, educating and entertaining our community on the value of sustainable agriculture and award quality produce. This community engagement is undertaken through exhibitions, demonstrations and competitions which support agricultural excellence and innovation.

RAS initiatives undertaken this past financial year saw pioneering efforts in education, world-class events in Wine, Dairy and Fine Food competitions, a million-dollar grant awarded to the Heritage department, RAS Foundation charity brunch doubling expected efforts, 14 Champions of the RAS celebrated, the RAS Times celebrating 50 years, and a new President.

AUSTRALASIAN ANIMAL REGISTRY (AAR)

The AAR offers the most comprehensive not-for-profit animal registration and recovery service in Australia and New Zealand. Maintaining records for animals across the region, the AAR provides an accurate and independent service to assist with the safe and speedy recovery of lost pets and animals to their owners. Statistics for the 1 October 2022 – 30 September 2023 financial year:

- Currently there are 3.92 million animals registered with AAR,
- 206,899 new registrations processed, and
- 103,960 changes of ownership were processed.

EDUCATION

Integral to RAS' mission are the RAS Education programs. From schoolroom curriculum to on-site farm activations, the RAS Education initiatives are changing the nation's landscape of agricultural education.

The RAS' commitment to forge the future of Australian agriculture necessarily demands equal commitment to the future leaders of rural communities and agriculture. This begins with the next generation at the earliest stage. This is why the RAS is dedicated to raising the standard of agricultural education and curriculum at all stages of the school experience, including raising the bar of professional teacher development and access to premium education resources throughout all of NSW.

The 'Ag in a Box' program saw growth of 38% from Box 1 to Box 2, and 56% from Box 2 through to Box 5. Overall growth of the program was 73%. The subjects covered were designed to complement and support the Federal Government subject matter especially in Managing Natural Resources that Support Agricultural Productivity,

Supporting Environmental Outcomes, and Reducing Emissions.

The RAS Education team took the Farmyard Nursery into their SRES portfolio, relocating it to the White Pavilion and increasing the number of animals by approx. 30%, to over 700 animals on display.

The inaugural Woolworths Ag Discovery at the 2023 SRES was organised by Education was full of hands-on activities, interactive displays and the kind of educational fun the Easter Show is famous for. For example, AR & VR stations enabled visitors to "take a tour" of farms, something the city kids may never be able to experience any other way.

Emerging tech-innovations were also featured to display the changing way Australians farm—embracing the future with viable, sustainability measures.

Additionally, the Education Team managed the Rural Students Café. Staffed with hospitality students, the Rural Students Café forms part of the students' HSC and hospitality cert requirements. These students, from rural and regional NSW schools, gain real world experience in the kitchen and front of house. Students are mentored by professional chefs as they prepare tasting plates of rurally-inspired sweet and savoury treats. Not only do the students gain practical knowledge and experience, but also, they take all proceeds back to their school for much-needed financial support.

RECOGNITION & AWARD NOMINATION: The Rural Students Café at the Sydney Royal Easter Show is a unique collaboration with the NSW Department of Education that garnered attention, being nominated at the 2023 NSW Training Awards in the best Industrial Collaboration category.



“ Integral to the RAS' mission are the RAS Education programs. From schoolroom curriculum to on-site farm activations, the RAS Education initiatives are changing the nation's landscape of agricultural education.



ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF NSW

HERITAGE

For the 2022-2023 period, the Heritage Centre carried out 208 hours of research on behalf of stakeholders. Broken down, internal requests received from Staff and Councillors totalled 139 hours and 35 minutes, and external queries from Exhibitors and Family Historians totalled 68 hours and 25 minutes in research time.

In 2022, the RAS Heritage Centre was awarded a significant grant by Ancestry (ancestry.com) to digitise the entire RAS Catalogue collection from 1869. Being a complete record of all types of Easter Show activity including show dates, judges, stewards, council members, competitors, exhibitors and competition schedules, these catalogues are a vital RAS record for both business and research purposes. A dedicated scanner employed by Ancestry commenced full-time scanning in the Heritage Reading Room in May 2023, and completed scanning at the end of September, having scanned approx. 130,000 pages (image captures).

The RAS will retain ownership of the records and also, importantly, will have access to and use of the searchable, digital catalogue records. In late 2024, the RAS will release information on how the general public can access these records via the Ancestry Website, freely available at any public library or on-site in our heritage Reading Room.

SYDNEY ROYAL WINE, BEER & CIDER, CHEESE & DAIRY PRODUCE, AND FINE FOOD SHOWS

Sydney Royal sets the benchmark for agricultural industry excellence through competitions held at the annual Sydney Royal Easter Show and throughout the year, based on seasonality. Sydney Royal Wine, Beer & Cider, Cheese & Dairy Produce, and Fine Food Shows are held throughout the year, as well as the consumer-facing event Grape, Grain & Graze Festival.

The 2023 Sydney Royal Beer & Cider Show: Of the 296 entries, 253 were awarded medals. That constitutes 85% of judged exhibits receiving a medal, demonstrating the high quality of Australian Beer & Cider.

The 2023 Sydney Royal Fine Food Show: Entries in the category Professional Bakery increased by 42%, and Specialty Food entries increased by 12%. Overall, there were 86 more medals awarded in 2023 than 2022 (881 in 2022 and 967 in 2023). 32 of the 33 Champion classes were awarded, including: a Champion Coffee in Specialty Foods, which is important because only Australian grown beans are accepted; and a Champion Apprentice Baker in Professional Bakery, which category supports youth and growth in the food production industry.

The 2023 Sydney Royal Cheese & Dairy Produce Show: There were 21 first-time entrants, making up 26% of overall exhibitors. These first-time exhibitors accounted for 19% of overall entries with 58 medals being awarded: 12 Gold, 20 Silver and 26 Bronze. This is an outstanding effort and result for first time exhibitors and demonstrates the quality being attracted to the competition.

The 2023 Sydney Royal Wine Show: There was a significant increase in the media coverage from 93 mentions in 2022, to 449 mentions in 2023. This is a great outcome promoting our medal winning producers Australia wide.

The Grape Grain & Graze Festival underwent a highly successful and popular re-brand and featured a revised event offering. All medal winning wine was displayed, and the event saw the return of judge masterclasses, which were well attended.

Aquaculture: In May 2023, the RAS participated in a joint activation, the Ultimate Oyster Experience at the Narooma Oyster Festival. Having this regional engagement was extremely beneficial to connect with producers, industry representatives and consumers. We look forward to continuing to participate and building the relationship in 2024.

Looking forward, 2024 will see the introduction of the Sydney Royal Distilled Spirits Show.



SOCIAL MEDIA & MARKETING

Marketing promoted all RAS activities including SRES competitions, Wdff competitions and events, Education programs, and the RAS Foundation via 320 eDMs sent to more than 5 million recipients.

RAS SOCIAL CHANNELS OCT 1 2022 – SEPT 30 2023

	TOTAL POSTS	TOTAL IMPRESSIONS	TOTAL ENGAGEMENTS
FACEBOOK OVERVIEW	411	9.38M	253K
INSTAGRAM OVERVIEW	660	4.91M	13.3K



SYDNEY ROYAL EASTER SHOW

The statistics themselves tell us that the Sydney Royal Easter Show is Australia's most beloved event, attracting over 800,000 people annually.

While Showgoers enjoy the pageantry and excitement of the many agriculture competitions, exhibitions and demonstrations that take place over the course of the 12 days of the Show, there is so much more that unfolds. What they enjoy, perhaps without even realising, is the continuation of an iconic legacy purposed to forge the future of Australian agriculture.

This is the key legacy of the Sydney Royal Easter Show (SRES). Forging the future of Australian agriculture is not just a hope or a vision, it is the reality that is consistently progressing, advancing and innovating agriculture and agri-tech alike. Generation after generation of crops, stock and families bear this very heritage.

Of equal importance to the competitions, is the thrill and delight that the commercial vendors, carnival rides, food precincts and family entertainment all provide for Showgoers, and which keeps them coming back year after year!

SYDNEY ROYAL COMPETITIONS, SHOWS & EXHIBITIONS

CATTLE

The Speckle Park Feature Breed at the 2023 Show was a huge success with over 180 stud cattle, forming the largest ever showing of Speckle Park cattle in Australia.

The new Café & Bar area on the cattle lawns were very well received, and there are plans to continue in 2024.

Overall the Cattle Shows saw 1,197 head of Beef Cattle, including Steers, and 325 head of Dairy Cattle attending the Show.

SHEEP

The Meat & Dual Purpose section added new classes to include "Any Other Breed." This new category enabled breeds that have not previously been able to enter, the chance to compete at the Sydney Royal Easter Show.

The four new Any Other Breeds at the 2023 Show were: Wiltipoll, Lincoln, Valais Blacknose, and Aussiedown.

FLOWER & GARDEN

The introduction of the TAFE Balcony Displays in the courtyard was popular and well received. TAFE Ultimo Merchandising Students were invited to install 4 x contemporary balcony garden displays representing various garden styles.

Bush Tucker demonstrations and Stage Talks were also featured, with First Nations Elder, Terry Lennis, and his son Damon, giving daily presentations on Bush Tucker and native flora. These sessions were popular and gained much interest from Showgoers and the media.

ARTS & CRAFTS

The Arts & Crafts Pavilion was the Top 3rd visited pavilion during Show, with over 4,500 exhibits. The Oriental Calligraphy and Painting category was moved from Craft to Art, and won the RAS Prize award. In cooking, a new class of Baklava was introduced to Perishable Cookery, and a new Allergy Free Cake class was added to Non-perishable Cookery.

HONEY

Honey competition entries increased across most classes, including a significant increase in entries across all the honey bi-product classes. There was a record number of entries for 2023, with a total of 549 entries across all classes. Consideration is being given to adding a native bee class for schools in 2024.

WOODCHOP

The 2023 Woodchop competitions held 5 World Championship Events, awarding a total of \$243,000 in prize money. Event entries totalled 2,751, which is up by

OVERVIEW STATISTICS



104,513

Easter Monday attendance was the biggest day at the 2023 Show



877,000

Attendees over the 12 days of Show



23,000

Easter Show media mentions (2,500 increase over the prior year's Show)

780,235

uses through the hashtag #myeastershow



\$1M+

total value of sales across Agriculture

\$400,000

went through the Purebred Steer Auction



480+

different breeds of animals at the Show



15,000

Trophies, Certificates and Medals awarded

90hrs

of public availability to animal pavilions each day



1,600

Head of cattle onsite representing over 20 beef and dairy breeds combined

723

exhibitors

30,500+

entries across Agriculture

1,984

Arts & Crafts entries this year (increase from 1,600 in 2022)



1,203

Dog entries this year (30% increase over 2021)



100+

Poultry had an increase of more than a hundred entries over 2021



12

International judges after the last 2 years of COVID restrictions

SYDNEY ROYAL EASTER SHOW

16.9% from 2022. There was a total of 178 competitors, of which there were 146 men and 32 women, and included 27 international competitors from Canada, New Zealand, USA and Spain.

Woodchop continues to attract a lot of media interest pre, during and post-show from print, radio and television.

DISTRICT COURTS

All 5 Courts, being Central, Northern, Southern and Western regions of NSW, and Southeast Queensland, took part in both the display and the produce competitions. The 2023 Display was the first time since 2018 that all Courts participated. The prior 4 years were impeded by exclusions due to drought or flooding.

The new Michael Arnott Perpetual Trophy (replacing the RAS Perpetual Trophy) was presented to the winning display by the Minister for Agriculture.

HORSE

2023 saw the return of International Judges to the Horse Section, with two judges from the UK, one from New Zealand, and one from Singapore.

The introduction of the Shetland Scurry races provided a wonderful atmosphere prior to the evening entertainment, with the crowds enjoying the cheeky antics of these tiny Horses.

The classes that highlight (i) the rehoming and (ii) new careers of thoroughbreds who have finished their racing careers, were well supported.

In all, the 2023 Show was comprised of 999 Horses, entered into 4,096 classes over 12 days of Competition within eight different Equine disciplines.

Looking Ahead to 2024: Polo Competitions will return in the Horse Section for the first time since 2019. An A-Grade Individual Pony Club Showjump competition will be introduced, as well as Heavy Horse classes with new breeds: Friesian, Suffolk Punch and Belgians joining the Percherons in this section.

PIG

Over 100 pigs were exhibited at the 2023 Sydney Royal Easter Show. This is the largest exhibition of pigs in over 10 years at Sydney Royal, and for the first time in over 20 years, all eight breeds of pig were represented.

A Duroc Boer was awarded the prestigious 'Pig of Show', and according to RAS records, this could be the first time a Duroc has ever won 'Pig of Show'. 2023 saw the return of the popular 'Wash-a-Pig' activation where exhibitors had the opportunity to show patrons how they prepare pigs for the Show Ring. The inaugural Pig Handler Competition was a success with over 20 competitors under the age of 18 years.

GOAT

In lieu of a Dairy Goat Show, Yeoval High School displayed their Dairy Goats during the first week. The 2023 Show also welcomed our first international judge since COVID, Judge Callie Wannenburg, who judged the Boer Goat section.

Looking Ahead to 2024: We are looking forward to welcoming back the Dairy Goat competition. We are also introducing a Pig Auction, where producers will have the opportunity to purchase some of Australia's best pig genetics for their breeding programs by purchasing a Sydney Royal Award-winning pig. We will also introduce a Pig Youth Day, aimed at educating secondary school students on pig husbandry and pig handling.

DOMESTIC ANIMALS – DOG

The 2023 highlights for Domestic Animals were undoubtedly new additions to the Advance™ Sydney Royal Dog Show, reinforcing its status as one of the largest and most prestigious dog shows in Australia.

New Classes including 'Owner-Breeder-Handler' with daily winners and an overall winner announced on General Specials Day. 'Dual Title' class, which expanded our popular Obedience schedule, and 'Gamblers', reintroduced to Agility after many years. These three new classes boosted entries to the 2023 Sydney Royal Dog Show by more than 150.



SYDNEY ROYAL EASTER SHOW

The Festival of Dogs amped up the canine capers, proving a big hit with show-goers. The activation provided feature entertainment on the dog lawn in the evenings and included Scent Works, Trick Dogs, Doggy Dancing and Rally.

We saw an impressive increase in entries in Agility and Obedience in 2023, most likely due to the exciting new classes added to the schedule. The number of competitors in Agility rose by 69% while for Obedience it was 27%.

A new Livestream team was recruited in 2023, providing excellent service and enabling viewers from far and wide to follow the action on 'Best In Show' day. The Livestream of Best in Show Day notched up an impressive 13,685 views.

FINE FOOD

Talk & Taste activated for the second year in a row in the Woolworths Fresh Food Dome for 2023. 21 exhibitors took part in Talk & Taste and once again the activation was highly successful with most sessions booking out and many comments from Showgoers that Talk & Taste is one of their favourite parts of the Sydney Royal Easter Show.

CELEBRATIONS AT THE SHOW

The CWA celebrated its 75th year of serving scones at the Show and reportedly made and sold on-site a total of 32,868 scones. The Women's Weekly café was themed for its 90th birthday – celebrating 9 decades of representing, resonating and trailblazing women's issues. CASE tractors celebrated its 100th anniversary with a display of Farmall Tractors at the Show, as well as being the tractors pulling the floats in the Street Parades.

SHOWBAGS

We had 396 different showbags available for sale this year, which is a record number, and 1.6 million were sold over the course of the 12 days of Show.

COMMERCIAL

Riverina Fresh signed a 3-year contract 2023-25, sponsoring the Working Dairy (they also have a Milk Bar in the Dome). Tyrrells signed a 3-year contract sponsoring Campdraft, are a wine supplier to RAS and have the Tyrrells wine bar in Woolworths Fresh Food Dome. Coca Cola Europacific Partners (CEP) signed a 5-year RAS suppliers' contract that includes SRES. Sushi Hub extended their partnership agreement taking the Naming Rights sponsorship of the Kids' Carnival in addition to the Pet Arena and four food outlets. Sunbeam sponsored the Non-Perishable cooking competition in the Art and Crafts pavilion.

The Department of Education took a sponsorship that included exhibition space in the Woolworths Ag Discovery Pavilion designed to promote their program to attract teachers to relocate to regional NSW. 2GB broadcast their radio shows at the SRES for the first 5 days with Ben Fordham, Ray Hadley, Deborah Knight, and Chris O'Keefe, plus the Continuous Call team in attendance. Interviews with the PM, Leader of Opposition and Premier etc., were conducted live at the Show. 7 Network took the Naming Rights sponsorship of the Woodchop Stadium promoting the April launch of Farmer Wants a Wife (FWAW) and 7 News. FWAW talent were at the Show presenting Woodchop and Young Farmer Challenge awards also attending the Farmyard Nursery and Cattle Lawn. Footage was used by 7 on their socials to promote the TV show. 2UE sponsored the 70's activation in the Heritage pavilion providing the music playlist. Promotional support from the media in 2GB and 7 was again outstanding with those media channels giving tickets away along with the Daily/Sunday Telegraph and KIIS, WSFM, CADA and iHeart.

Woolworths Fresh Food Dome was transformed with wider aisles, more Primary producers, Sydney Royal medal winners and agriculturally relevant exhibitors in attendance. A new small business area to promote NSW regional businesses was created as part of a succession plan with 19 x (2m x 2m) exhibitors booking space (at



Of equal importance to the competitions, is the thrill and delight that the commercial vendors, carnival rides, food precincts and family entertainment all provide for Showgoers, and which keeps them coming back year after year!



SYDNEY ROYAL EASTER SHOW

attractive rates) to allow them to trial the Dome with the intention of returning the following year to take more space. This was a massive success and expressions of interest for 2024 have been received.

The Distillery area was increased in the Woolworths Fresh Food Dome with 20 x exhibitors (65%) from NSW, sampling and selling products. The Government area in Home and Lifestyle increased its footprint by 16% year on year. The Royal Australian Mint returned by popular demand. Inland Rail were a first time exhibitor promoting their 1,600km freight rail line (connecting Melbourne and Brisbane via regional Victoria, NSW and Queensland). Their stand featured a replica train model track.

ENTERTAINMENT

Overall, the Entertainment Programs were a success, with static shows to entertain, educate and provide respite; arena performances to add value and a sense of occasion; and street theatre and street parades to enliven the open spaces. There was vast variety, old favourites and new surprises.

The main arena attractions returned to our core roots hosting an agricultural performance The Thunder of a Thousand Hooves, followed by a motorcade of performances including David & Goliath Challenge, Chicken Run, AirTime Freestyle MotoX and ending the evening with Fireworks Finale.

The Amphitheatre program ran extremely well. Children's entertainment early in the day, solid lunchtime entertainment, followed by family / adult entertainment.

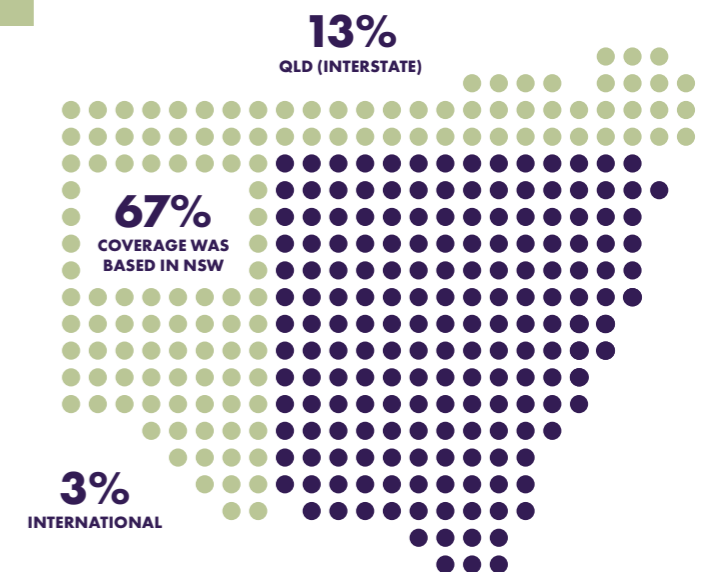
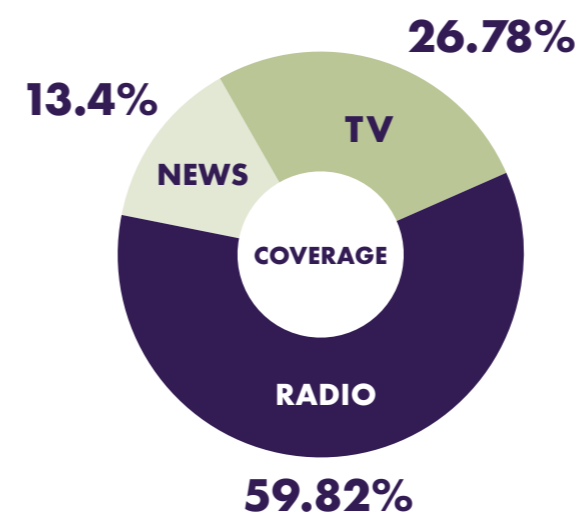
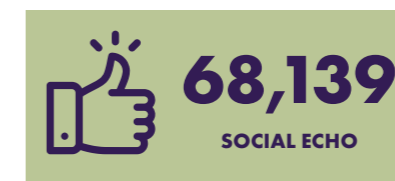
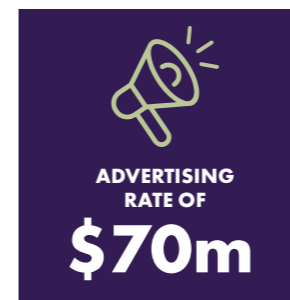
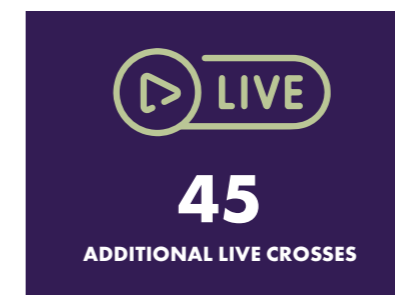
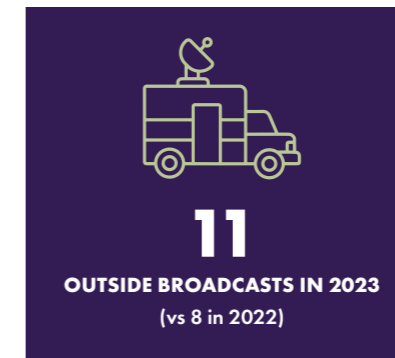
There were 206 performance groups contracted for the 2023 Show, which incorporated 8,323 individual performers, performing throughout the 12-day period. 106 Community and Cultural Groups performed throughout the Show.

SRES SOCIAL MEDIA CHANNELS

OCT 1 2022 – SEPT 30 2023

	TOTAL POSTS	TOTAL IMPRESSIONS	TOTAL ENGAGEMENTS
FACEBOOK OVERVIEW	206	20.6M	1.33M
INSTAGRAM OVERVIEW	324	9.34M	59K

2023 SYDNEY ROYAL EASTER SHOW EARNED MEDIA



SYDNEY SHOWGROUND

Sydney Showground is the world-class venue and events-management business arm of the RAS, catering to large-scale events and big experiences. All revenue raised through its endeavour is channelled back into the RAS's work in the community.

The 2022/23 FY saw record revenues for Sydney Showground, with the team delivering over 100 events from exhibitions, gala dinners, sporting events, TV filming, and live music events. Sydney Showground surpassed revenues achieved in 2019 as a record year by another 10 per cent, representing an unexpected and staggeringly-fast turnaround post COVID.

CONSUMER SHOWS

- Launch of new national exhibition 'The Pet Show' in November 2022 with educational presentations, entertainment, meet and greet sessions, and product showcases.
- The Cat Lovers Festival, held in Sydney for the first time and co-located with the popular 'Dog Lovers Festival' in August 2023, was a resounding success.
- Return of fan favourite events, Supanova, Oz Comic-Con and the National 4x4 Outdoors Sydney Show.

TRADE EXHIBITIONS

- CeMAT Australia returned to Sydney for the first time since 2015, with the 2022 event held in Melbourne. Sydney 2023 saw a 103% growth in net stand size, 96% increase in exhibitors (140) and a 122% increase in visitor attendance (4,577 attendees).

CORPORATE AND INCENTIVE EVENTS

- Coca Cola Client Event hosted during FIFA Women's World Cup,
- Woolworths held their annual Summer Trade Show in October, and
- Hilti hosted their National KickOff Conference and Trade Day in January.

LIVE EVENTS

- Knockout Outdoor held in Sydney for first time in October 2022 for 45,000 people.
- Laneway Festival made Sydney Showground it's new home and achieved record ticket sales in February 2023.
- Hosted our first reserved seated concert in GIANTS Stadium for International Asian Pop Superstar 'Jay Chou' for 32,000 people in March 2023.
- Crowd favourites RNB Fridays Presents Fridayz Live and Festival X returned in November and December 2022 with massive line ups.
- Launch of Jurassic World: The Exhibition in September 2023.

SPORTING EVENTS

- Sydney Thunder hosted the Brisbane Heat in the Eliminator Final at Sydney Showground Stadium in January 2023.
- Sydney Showground hosted the International Broadcast Centre for the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup in Australia and New Zealand resulting in the complete transformation of Exhibition Halls 5 & 6 for a four-month duration.
- GWS GIANTS hosted the local derby against the Sydney Swans in August 2023

FILMING

In addition to filming the Celebrity Christmas Special, LEGO Masters Australia called Sydney Showground home for the filming of Season 5 of the hit TV show.

ESG: ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL & GOVERNANCE POLICY

Sydney Showground supports the ideology of sustainable, equitable, healthy and diverse communities. Sydney Showground's new ESG Policy not only outlines its strategic priorities, but also reflects the corporate culture at the heart of its business operations.

Event organisers who contract venues at Sydney Showground are required to comply with their own internal corporate reportable items, therefore being able to incorporate the venue's ESG into their own fulfillment is a valuable and key driver that organisers look for.

Sustainability and environmental impacts are core to ESG initiatives. Sydney Showground's lighting and air conditioning across the entire venue has been upgraded. Real-time impact measurements have shown that carbon emissions across a two-week period dropped by 56 tonnes in the first year since the upgrade, and by 67 tonnes in the second—the equivalent of charging 14.9 million smartphones.

This is the kind of community impact and ESG measures that organisers are looking for, and which Showground is now able to provide.



AWARDS

- 2021-2022 Winner: **'Best Event Venue, capacity more than 1,000'** – Meetings & Events Australia, State and National Awards.
Over the qualifying period, Sydney Showground excelled in a range of areas, including the execution of the 2021 Sydney Royal Easter Show, its COVID support model for event planners, and the management of staffing and its broader business throughout the pandemic.
- 2022 Winner: **'Best Venue Team'** – Exhibition and Event Association of Australia Awards of Excellence.
In a fantastic celebration of the Australian events industry, event venue Sydney Showground was awarded Best Venue Team at the 2022 Exhibitions & Events Association of Australasia (EAAA) Awards for Excellence for their work on the 2021 Sydney Royal Easter Show.
- 2022 Finalist: **'Sustainability Initiative Award'** – Exhibition and Event Association of Australia Awards of Excellence.

RAS FOUNDATION

The RAS Foundation (Foundation) is the philanthropic arm of the RAS that provides the mechanism through which scholarships and community building programs are delivered. Its purpose is to build strong, vibrant and sustainable communities in rural and regional Australia.

RURAL SCHOLARSHIPS

The RAS Foundation Rural Scholarships ease the financial burden on rural and regional students, supporting them and their access to further education. Awards are made to students who demonstrate a passion for rural issues and who are committed to playing a part in shaping the future of rural and regional NSW and the ACT.

These scholarships help students of all ages achieve their education goals and aspirations, and embrace a diverse range of tertiary education and training studies. This financial year, Rural Scholarships were awarded for agricultural and veterinary studies, agri-business, wool classing, mechanical trades, plumbing, engineering— heavy fabrication, construction project management, medicine, nursing, medical radiation science, dental science, occupational therapy, paramedicine, journalism, education, and social work.

73 Rural Scholarships were awarded, with a total value of \$394,500.

CHARITY BRUNCH: EUGOWRA

The Charity Brunch hosted at the Sydney Royal Easter Show (SRES) was revived by the Foundation, generating significant success for its recipients. The primary fundraising campaign of the 2023 SRES Charity Brunch was for the benefit of the Eugowra Community Children's Centre (ECCC), which suffered catastrophic losses in the November 2022 floods.

The Foundation hoped to raise \$25,000 for ECCC to be used for books and outdoor play equipment lost or damaged in the flood. The Foundation's call for donations resulted in more than twice the goal, raising over \$58,000. The ECCC lost more than \$160,000 worth of books, toys and equipment, so the additional donation will be put to good use for the children and families of Eugowra.

STAND TALL

Stand Tall is a charity offering events, workshops and online modules that help support the mental wellbeing of Australian youth, purposed to build hope in their lives. The event held in 2023 saw student cohorts from a range of schools (generally years 8 to 11), gather at the ICC Sydney Theatre to hear messages of hope from speakers who have either faced major adversities, or who set themselves incredible goals and have gone on to great accomplishments.

The RAS Foundation supported 44 students from Mount Austin High School, Wagga Wagga, to attend the ICC Sydney Theatre event. This was the first time many of these students had ever been to Sydney.

The students were also able to tour Sydney Showground and attend a workshop that provided information about the RAS Foundation's scholarships available for rural and regional students, how to pursue career pathways into Agriculture, the opportunities agriculture brings young people, and the various work opportunities at the Sydney Royal Easter Show.

NUFFIELD AUSTRALIA SCHOLARSHIP

Nuffield scholarships provide innovative agricultural leaders with the opportunity to travel internationally, develop their skills, and connect with international experts to improve business and Australian industry.

In 2022/23, the RAS Foundation proudly supported Central West NSW lamb producer, Fiona Aveyard, with a Nuffield Australia Scholarship. For Fiona, it has meant the opportunity to explore how best to incorporate value-add opportunities into the red meat industry, aligning with the Meat & Livestock Australia strategic plan to double the value of Australia's red meat sales by 2030.



RAS FOUNDATION

CHRISTMAS DISTRIBUTION

The RAS Foundation again partnered with Good360 Australia and the Agricultural Societies Council of NSW for the annual RAS Foundation Good360 Christmas Distribution.

23 Show Societies from the Northern NSW/Northern Rivers and the Manning River areas received mixed pallets full to the brim with Christmas Toys and Kitchen/Cleaning Goods. The toys were distributed to kids in need by each Show Society, whereas the kitchen and cleaning goods were for the Show Societies.

RAS FOUNDATION MORNING TEA

At the 2023 SRES, John B Fairfax AO and Foundation Patron, Denis Wilson, recognised the Rural Scholars, Wine Scholars, the JB Fairfax Award recipient, and the Community Futures Grants (CFG) recipients.

The CFG community recipients included Burraba, Dubbo, Blayney, Ardlethan and Bombala Show Societies, Nambucca River District Agricultural Association, and Unkya Reserve in Eungai Creek. A total of \$132,000 was distributed across the seven recipients for projects such as a sports shear and shearing education facility (Barraba), portable grandstand seating (Dubbo and Blayney) and the replacement of community equipment lost in the fire at Unkya Reserve.

RURAL LEARNING EXCHANGE

The Rural Learning Exchange is a NSW Department of Education initiative that accommodates rural students who want to study an HSC subject that is not offered by their school. The program enables classes from different, small rural schools, to connect across the state, facilitating collaboration between teachers and students.

The RAS Education department identified an opportunity in this program to enhance the agriculture component by working with the NSW Department of Education to provide specialist support for the teachers. With funding from the RAS Foundation, the RAS is supporting and providing a specialist agriculture teacher for the Rural Learning Exchange.

Funds provided by two new RAS Foundation donors supported the selection of Emily Blackburn as the Rural Learning Exchange agriculture teacher, charged to fill the gap. Her part-time role under this program is to support the Rural Learning Exchange teachers with instruction, curriculum and resources.

Initially the projected outcomes were for Emily to support ten agriculture teachers, but she has brought so much to the position that the learnings from this pilot initiative are now being applied across a wider scope involving over 50 teachers in New South Wales. Emily's expertise in differentiation of the learning programs across all key learning areas has been the program's success catalyst.

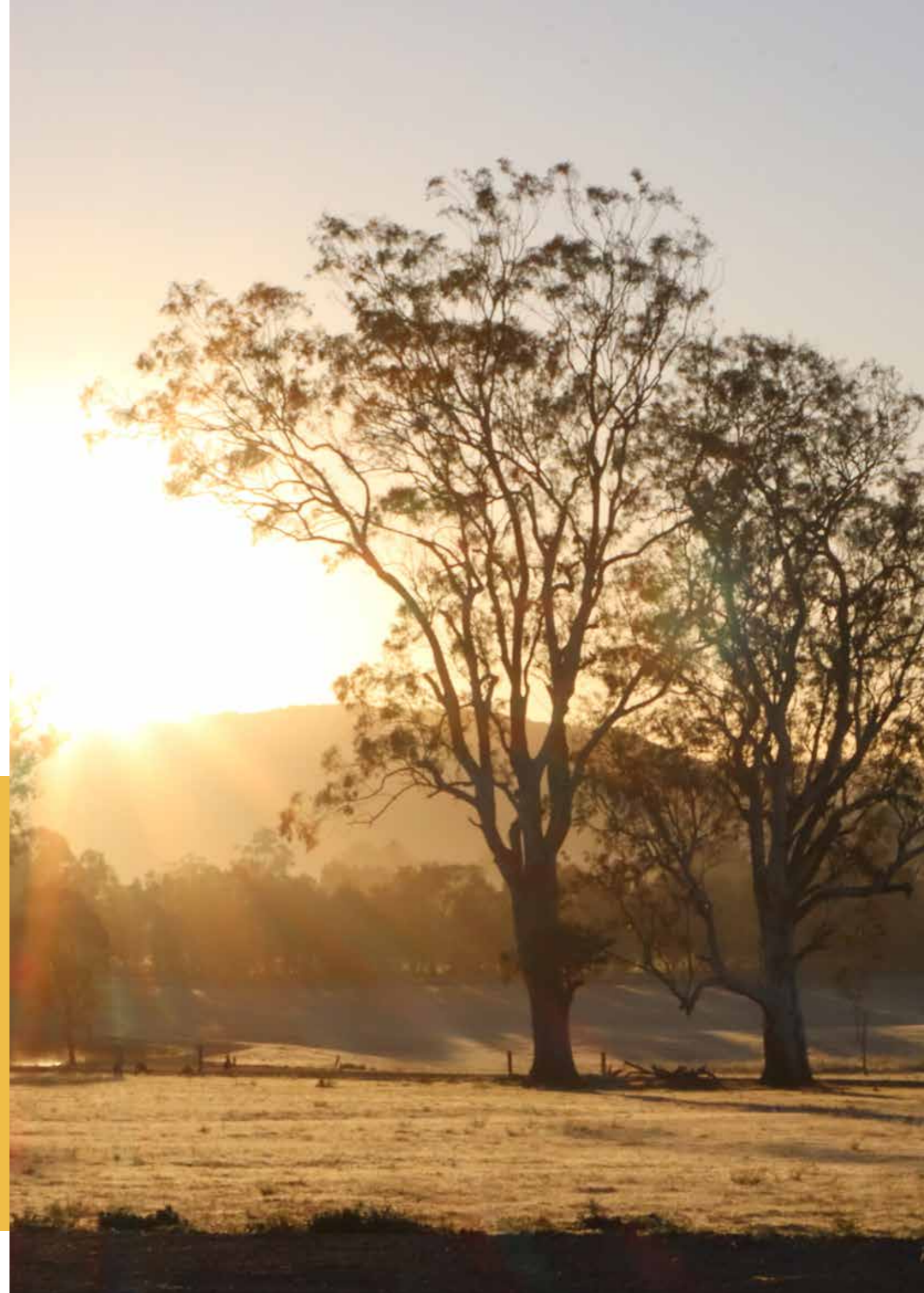
MAJOR GIVING CAMPAIGN

The initial Major Giving Campaign, launched in May 2021, was supported by generous donations from philanthropists, regular donors, RAS Members, Sydney Royal Easter Show patrons and commercial exhibitors. These funds allow the Foundation to secure an operational corpus fund for years to come.

In the 2022/23 FY, a further \$145,000 has been raised toward the Major Giving Campaign.

OTHER 2022/23 FOUNDATION HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

- 7 wine scholarships funded by the RAS Wine Committee were awarded, to the value of \$33,810.
- 1 JB Fairfax Award for Rural & Regional Journalism and Communications, a \$10k award plus a suite of internships, including a media internship with the RAS at the 2023 Sydney Royal Easter Show.
- Rural Scholarship Presentations held in Wagga Wagga in July, and in Sydney in August.
- \$10,000 RAS Foundation Agricultural PhD Research Scholar award.
- \$60k raised in 2022 AG Bag sales.
- Raffle at SRES raised more than \$8,000.





RAS BOARD MEMBERS

As at 30 September 2023



John C Bennett OAM,
President



Brock E Gilmour,
Chief Executive



James Angus



David M Davidson



Stuart J B Davies



Alison A Renwick



Sally P Evans



Heidi A Badgery



Sam J Walker
Treasurer

RAS COUNCILLORS

As at 30 September 2023



Greg D Andrews



Angus P Barnes



Linton Batt



James D W Bell



Robyn Clubb AM



Stephen G Dadd



James Dorahy



Ellen M Downes



Elizabeth A Hastings



Kerry Little



Adam W Lucas



Michael A MacCue



Joseph Murphy



Denise E Ovens



Marianne Paynter



Rowena L Petrie



Jason Strong



Susan R Wakeford



Hunter B White OAM



Brian J Wilson



Glen Best



Lachlan B. Bowtell



John G Bryson



Michael Bullen



Joseph Byrnes



Christopher P Carter



C J Eggleton



John E Fairley



Janie M Forrest



Warwick B Giblin



Sarah Hanlon



Sharon L Hannigan



Duncan F Macintyre



Geoffrey W Mason



Yvette G McKenzie



Lyndey S Milan OAM



Michael J Millner



Gavin Moore



Alastair J Rayner



Gary R Reid



Kathy Reidy



Mark A Schembri



Brendan D Sharpe



Grahame N Sharpe



Claudia A Wythes

RAS EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM

As at 30 September 2023



BROCK GILMOUR
Chief Executive



RONALD LEE
General Manager, Finance & Administration



MURRAY WILTON
General Manager, Agriculture & Sydney Royal Easter Show



DARRYL JEFFREY
General Manager, Sydney Showground



RACHEL SAUNDERS
General Counsel



JODI WOODS
Head of Human Resources



ALEXIS GACHON
Executive Assistant,
RAS President & Chief Executive

RAS COUNCIL

As at 30 September 2023

The RAS Council is the governing body of the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW, made up of Office Bearers who are elected at the RAS Annual General Meeting. The RAS Council consists of Councillors who serve the RAS on a voluntary basis. Their areas of expertise cover a broad array of rural, business and professional skills.

The Board is a Committee established and elected by Council. While the RAS Board assumes most of the responsibilities that would apply to any other corporate Board, it is not the peak body of the RAS. The Board is answerable to the Council, and the Council is answerable to RAS Members.

HONORARY OFFICE BEARERS

Patron

Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC KC
Governor of New South Wales

Vice Patron

Mr M J Millner

OFFICE HOLDERS

President

Mr J C Bennett OAM

Vice Presidents

Mr D M Davidson
Ms A A Renwick
Dr M Schembri

Treasurer

Dr S J Walker

BOARD MEMBERS

Mr J C Bennett OAM (President)
Mr J Angus
Ms H A Badgery

Mr D M Davidson
Mr S J B Davies
Ms S P Evan

Mr B E Gilmour (Chief Executive)
Ms A A Renwick
Dr S J Walker (Treasurer)

OFFICE BEARERS

Mr G Andrews
Mr J Angus
Ms H A Badgery
Mr A Barnes
Mr L Batt
Mr J Bell
Mr J C Bennett OAM
Mr G Best
Mr L Bowtell
Mr J Bryson
Mr M Bullen
Mr J Byrnes
Mr C Carter
Ms R Clubb AM
Mr S Dadd
Mr D M Davidson
Mr S J B Davies
Mr J Dorahy

Dr E Downes
Mr C Eggleton
Ms S P Evans
Mr J Fairley
Ms J M Forrest
Mr W B Giblin
Miss S Hanlon
Ms S Hannigan
Ms E Hastings
Mrs K Little
Mr A Lucas
Mr M MacCue
Mr D Macintyre
Mr G Mason
Ms Y Mckenzie
Ms L S Milan OAM
Mr M J Millner
Mr G Moore

Dr J Murphy
Ms D Ovens
Mrs M Paynter
Ms R Petrie
Mr A Rayner
Mr R Reid
Mrs K Reidy
Ms A A Renwick
Dr M Schembri
Dr B Sharpe
Mr G Sharpe
Mr J Strong
Mrs S Wakeford
Dr S J Walker
Mr H White OAM
Mr B Wilson
Ms C Wythes

Chief Executive

Mr B E Gilmour

General Manager Finance & Administration

Mr R Lee

Auditors

Ernst & Young

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

The Royal Agricultural Society of NSW (the RAS) is a not-for-profit organisation that began in 1822 as an unincorporated agricultural association. On 13 November 1869 the RAS was incorporated in Australia under 'The Agricultural Society of New South Wales Act' under the New South Wales Parliament. Through Royal Assent in 1891, the prefix 'Royal' was added and became the 'Royal Agricultural Society of NSW'. Its constitution is the Act and the Rules that are from time to time amended by the Council. The key stakeholders are the Members. The governing body is a Council whose members are elected at the annual general meeting of the Members.

The Board is a Committee established by the Council and as such it is not the peak body of the RAS. While it has most of the responsibilities under the Rules of a normal corporate Board it is answerable to the Council and the Council is answerable to the Members. The Board members are elected by the Council.

The Council and Board of the RAS have adopted a formal statement on the corporate governance framework and policies of the RAS. This statement is subject to annual review and includes:

- The roles and responsibilities of the Council, Board and Management.
- The composition and size of the Council and Board. The Council and Board members are listed in the annual report. The only executive member is the Chief Executive.
- A code of conduct for the Council, Board members and Management.
- An Audit Committee of the Board ensures the RAS remains committed to financial integrity in its reporting.
- Council and Board are responsible for reviewing and publishing the annual report to Members in a timely and informative manner.
- The Board and Management ensure that the Members' rights are protected and that the Members are kept informed.
- The Board oversees the review and establishment of appropriate risk management policies for the RAS activities.
- The performance of the Board is self-assessed annually and the performance of the Management is reviewed annually by the Remuneration Committee of the Board.
- Councillors serve without remuneration and staff remuneration is reviewed annually by the Remuneration Committee of the Board.
- Board and Council ensure the RAS continues to develop long term plans that will enhance the RAS objectives and take advantage of growth opportunities.

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

For the year ended 30 September 2023

	Note	2023 (\$'000's)	2022 (\$'000's)
REVENUE			
Members' Subscriptions		1,505	1,503
Ground Operations, Building & Space Rentals		52,779	37,438
Gate Receipts		22,133	21,118
Sponsorships & Donations		3,847	4,038
Entry Fees & Commissions		3,653	2,527
Interest		1,741	396
Other Revenue	16	3,177	4,652
TOTAL REVENUE		88,835	71,672
EXPENSES			
Operations		62,479	45,989
Administration		15,468	14,169
Depreciation and Amortisation	11 - 13	2,055	2,084
Loss on Disposal of Non-Current Assets	4	2	1
Interest Expenses		65	68
Donations to the RAS Foundation Limited		617	460
TOTAL EXPENSES		80,686	62,771
SURPLUS BEFORE TAX		8,149	8,901
INCOME TAX EXPENSE		-	-
SURPLUS AFTER TAX		8,149	8,901
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (NET OF TAX)		626	(659)
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		8,775	8,242

The accompanying notes form part of this financial report.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As at 30 September 2023

	Note	2023 (\$'000's)	2022 (\$'000's)
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash – Bank and on Hand		26,802	27,805
Cash – Reserves, Trust & Endowment Funds		12,115	11,630
Trade and Other Receivables	5	3,887	1,433
Inventories	6	643	222
Prepayments	7	1,489	840
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		44,936	41,930
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Investment in Financial Assets		17,321	8,515
Property, Plant and Equipment	11	17,139	17,379
Right-of-use Assets	12	297	376
Intangible Assets	13	1,555	1,961
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		36,312	28,231
TOTAL ASSETS		81,248	70,161
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and Other Payables	8	5,518	2,777
Loans Payable	17	1,366	1,349
Provisions	9	2,896	2,623
Contract Liabilities	10	7,244	6,635
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		17,024	13,384
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Loans Payable	17	1,383	2,748
Provisions	14	261	234
Contract Liabilities	15	596	581
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		2,240	3,563
TOTAL LIABILITIES		19,264	16,947
NET ASSETS		61,984	53,214
EQUITY			
Retained Earnings		49,903	42,243
SRES Interruption Reserve		10,446	10,020
Maintenance Reserve		695	666
Financial Assets Reserve		(34)	(659)
Trust & Endowment Funds		974	944
TOTAL EQUITY		61,984	53,214

The accompanying notes form part of this financial report.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the year ended 30 September 2023

	2023 (\$'000's)	2022 (\$'000's)
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Receipts from Customers & Members	91,448	77,417
Payments to Suppliers & Employees	(82,725)	(63,719)
Interest Received	1,554	288
NET CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	10,277	13,986
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchase of Property, Plant & Equipment	(1,328)	(250)
Purchase of Investments	(8,000)	(9,000)
NET CASH FLOWS USED IN INVESTING ACTIVITIES	(9,328)	(9,250)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Payment to Major Repairs Fund	(1,400)	(1,400)
Payment of Lease Liabilities	(67)	(11)
NET CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES	(1,467)	(1,411)
NET INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN CASH ASSETS	(518)	3,325
Add opening Cash Assets Brought Forward	39,435	36,110
CLOSING CASH ASSETS CARRIED FORWARD	38,917	39,435
RECONCILIATION WITH OPERATING EARNINGS		
Surplus after Tax	8,149	8,901
Depreciation and Amortisation	2,055	2,084
Loss on Disposal of Property, Plant & Equipment	2	1
Net investment income	(180)	(174)
CHANGE IN ASSETS AND LIABILITIES		
Increase in Receivables	(2,454)	(268)
Increase in Inventories	(421)	(18)
(Increase)/Decrease in Prepayments	(649)	129
Increase in Payables	2,798	1,255
Increase in Contract Liabilities	677	1,584
Increase in Provisions	300	492
NET CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	10,277	13,986
CASH ASSETS COMPRISE		
Cash – Bank and on Hand	26,802	27,805
Cash – Reserves, Trust and Endowment Funds	12,115	11,630
	38,917	39,435

The accompanying notes form part of this financial report.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

For the year ended 30 September 2023

	Retained Earnings	SRES Interruption Reserve	Maintenance Reserve	Financial Assets Reserve	Trust & Endowment Funds	Total Equity
	(\$'000's)	(\$'000's)	(\$'000's)	(\$'000's)	(\$'000's)	(\$'000's)
AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2021	33,485	9,885	658	-	944	44,972
Bequests & Endowments	-	-	-	-	-	-
SRES Interruption Reserve	(135)	135	-	-	-	-
Maintenance Reserve	(8)	-	8	-	-	-
Financial Assets Reserve	-	-	-	(659)	-	(659)
Surplus after Tax	8,901	-	-	-	-	8,901
AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2022	42,243	10,020	666	(659)	944	53,214
Bequests & Endowments	(34)	-	-	-	30	(4)
SRES Interruption Reserve	(426)	426	-	-	-	-
Maintenance Reserve	(29)	-	29	-	-	-
Financial Assets Reserve	-	-	-	625	-	625
Surplus after Tax	8,149	-	-	-	-	8,149
AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2023	49,903	10,446	695	(34)	974	61,984

The accompanying notes form part of this financial report.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT

For the year ended 30 September 2023

1. INCORPORATION

The Royal Agricultural Society of NSW ("the RAS" or "the Society") began in 1822 as an unincorporated agricultural association. On 13 November 1869 the RAS was incorporated in Australia under 'The Agricultural Society of New South Wales Act' under the New South Wales Parliament. Through Royal Assent in 1891, the prefix 'Royal' was added and became the 'Royal Agricultural Society of NSW'.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Basis of Preparation

The financial report has been prepared on an accrual basis of accounting including the historical cost convention and the going concern assumption. The financial statements authorised for issue in accordance with a resolution of the Councillors, as directors, on 27 November 2023. It contains the disclosures that are mandatory under the Accounting Standards and those considered necessary by the Councillors to meet the needs of the members.

The special purpose financial report has been prepared for distribution to the members to fulfil the Councillors' financial reporting requirements under the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012. The accounting policies used in the preparation of this financial report, as described below, are consistent with the previous years, and are, in the opinion of the Councillors, appropriate to meet the needs of the members.

The RAS is not a reporting entity because in the opinion of the Councillors, there are unlikely to exist users of the financial report who are unable to command the preparation of reports tailored so as to satisfy specifically all of their information needs.

Accordingly, the financial report has been prepared in accordance with the basis of accounting specified by all Accounting Standards and Interpretations and the disclosure requirements of AASB 101 Presentation of Financial Statements, AASB 107 Statement of Cash Flows, AASB 108 Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors, AASB 124 Related Party Disclosures, AASB 1048 Interpretation of Standards and AASB 1054 Australian Additional Disclosures, which apply to all entities required to prepare financial reports under the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012.

The Councillors have determined that for the financial report to give a true and fair view of the Company's performance, cash flows and financial position, the requirements of Australian Accounting Standards and other financial reporting requirements in Australia relating to the measurement of assets, liabilities, revenues, expenses and equity should be complied with.

The financial report is presented in Australian dollars (\$).

(b) New Accounting Standards and Interpretations

(i) Changes in accounting policy and disclosures

The accounting policies adopted are consistent with those of the previous financial year.

(ii) Accounting standards and interpretations issued but not yet effective

Certain Australian Accounting Standards, amendments to standards and interpretations have recently been issued or amended but are not yet effective and have not been adopted by the Society for the annual reporting period ended 30 September 2023.

The Councillors have not early adopted any of these new or amended standards or interpretations. The Councillors have not yet fully assessed the impact of these new or amended standards (to the extent relevant to the RAS).

(c) Cash At Bank and On Hand

Cash comprises cash on hand and cash investments comprising term deposits, cash funds, and short-term deposits. All cash is invested in accordance with the RAS's investment policy.

(d) Investments

Investments and financial assets in the scope of AASB 9 Financial Instruments are categorised as either financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income or at amortised cost. The classification depends on the Society's business model in managing these financial assets and the contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial assets. The fair values of the listed equity investments are based on price quotations at the reporting date.

Designation is re-evaluated at each financial year end, but there are restrictions on reclassifying to other categories.

(i) Recognition and de-recognition

All regular way purchases and sales of financial assets are recognised on the trade date i.e., the date that the Society commits to purchase the asset. Regular way purchases or sales are purchases or sales of financial assets under contracts that require delivery of the assets within the period established generally by regulation or convention in the marketplace. Financial assets are derecognised when the right to receive cash flows from the financial assets have expired or been transferred.

(ii) Held-to-maturity investments

Non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments and fixed maturity are classified as held-to-maturity when the Society has the positive intention and ability to hold to maturity. These financial assets are measured at amortised cost under AASB 9 as they are held under a business model to collect contractual cash flows, and these cash flows consist solely of payments of principal and interest. Investments intended to be held for an undefined period are not included in this classification.

Held-to-maturity financial assets are initially measured at fair value plus any applicable transaction costs, and subsequently measured at amortised cost. This cost is computed as the amount initially recognised minus principal repayments, plus or minus the cumulative amortisation using the effective interest method of any difference between the initially recognised amount and the maturity amount. This calculation includes all fees and points paid or received between parties to the contract that are an integral part of the effective interest rate, transaction costs and all other premiums and discounts.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT

(e) Trade and Other Receivables

Trade receivables are classified as financial assets initially recognised at fair value plus any applicable transaction costs, and subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

AASB 9 also requires the Society to account for expected credit losses when trade receivables are first recognised, and the changes in expected credit losses at each reporting date if the credit risk has changed since initial recognition. Trade receivables in relation to current and past events are due within two weeks. Due to the short-term nature of these receivables, the carrying value of trade receivables less expected credit losses provision is considered to approximate fair value.

The recoverability of trade receivables is reviewed on an ongoing basis. Trade receivables are written off when there is no reasonable expectation of recovering the contractual cash flows, and the loss is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

(f) Inventories

Inventories represent stock of food, beverage and consumables and have been valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost is determined on the first-in-first-out basis and comprises the cost of the purchase and the costs of bringing the inventories to location.

(g) Property, Plant and Equipment

Cost

Property, plant and equipment are carried at cost. These assets are not carried at an amount above their recoverable amount, and where carrying values exceed this recoverable amount assets are written down.

Depreciation

Depreciation on the administration building is provided on a straight-line basis over a period of 50 years, which commenced on 1 October 1998. Other items of property, plant & equipment are depreciated at rates based on their economic lives, using the straight-line method. Depreciation is reviewed annually to determine useful life. The following estimates of useful lives are used in the calculation of depreciation:

	2023	2022
Buildings	50 years	50 years
Site Improvements	10 to 40 years	10 to 40 years
Plant & Equipment	2 to 10 years	2 to 10 years
Computer & Office Equipment	2 to 10 years	2 to 10 years
Motor Vehicles	5 years	5 years
Heritage Assets	Not depreciated	Not depreciated

Impairment

The carrying values of property, plant and equipment are reviewed for impairment at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated when events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may be impaired.

The recoverable amount of property, plant and equipment is the higher of fair value less costs to sell and value in use. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using an appropriate discount rate.

Impairment exists when the carrying value of an asset exceeds its estimated recoverable amount. The asset is then written down to its recoverable amount. For property, plant and equipment, impairment losses are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

(h) Intangible Assets

Cost

Intangible Assets are carried at cost. The RAS has capitalised the development costs of a computer software used in the administration of competitions and exhibitions conducted by the RAS. The computer software supports the generation of future earnings and is subject to impairment testing, so that the computer software is not carried at an amount above its recoverable amount, and where carrying value exceed this recoverable amount the asset is written down.

Amortisation

Amortisation of the software is calculated on a straight-line basis over the 6 years estimated finite useful life of the asset, commenced on 1 August 2021.

Impairment

The recoverability of the carrying value of intangible assets is reviewed for impairment at reporting date, if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may be impaired.

The recoverable amount of intangible asset is the higher of fair value less costs to sell and value in use. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using an appropriate discount rate.

Impairment exists if there is evidence of obsolescence or significant changes impacting how the intangible asset is used or expected to be used by the RAS, indicating that the economic performance of the intangible asset is not as intended by the management. As such, the carrying value of an intangible asset exceeds its estimated recoverable amount and is subsequently written down to its recoverable amount. The impairment losses are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

(i) Trade and Other Payables

Liabilities for trade creditors and other amounts are carried at cost, which is the fair value of the consideration to be paid in the future for goods and services received, whether or not billed to the Society.

(j) Revenue Recognition

Sydney Royal Easter Show (SRES) operation revenue, including ground operations, rentals, entry fees and commissions, is recognised over the period in which the services are rendered or at the time the event occurs.

Sydney Showground revenue, including ground operation, rentals and commissions, is recognised over the period in which the services are rendered or at the time the event occurs.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT

Membership revenue is recognised over the period in which the services are rendered.

Gate receipts and sponsorship revenues are recognised at the time the event occurs or over the period in which the services are provided.

Donation revenue is recognised when performance obligations, if existed, are satisfied.

Interest revenue is recognised on an accrual basis using the effective interest method.

Grant revenue is recognised when performance obligation to provide goods or services is satisfied.

Revenue and expense include 'sponsorship contributions in kind'. All significant sponsorship contributions in kind are recorded as income using the estimated fair value or the cost of the goods or services utilised. The corresponding charge for these amounts is recorded as an expense. Sponsorship contributions in kind relate primarily to advertising and equipment hire.

(k) Employee Entitlements

Provisions are made for long service leave and annual leave estimated to be payable to employees based on statutory and contractual requirements. The amounts provided have been apportioned between current and non-current, the current provision being the portion that is expected to be settled wholly within the next twelve months. Entitlements greater than twelve months are discounted based on an appropriate discount rate. Payroll on-costs associated with leave entitlements are recognised as liabilities.

The employer superannuation contributions for permanent staff are paid to ANZ Smart Choice Employer Super or another fund chosen by the employee. Contributions for other staff are paid to a number of industry superannuation funds.

(l) Leased Assets

The Society has operating leases on its fleet of photocopiers. Right-of-use assets were recognised at cost on the commencement of the lease, then carrying value is reduced by accumulated depreciation and any impairment losses. Lease liabilities were recognised on commencement date at the present value of lease payments to be made over the lease term. The present value was derived using the incremental deposit rate at the beginning of the lease because the interest rate implicit in the lease is not readily determinable. The subsequent carrying value of lease liabilities is increased to reflect the accretion of interest and reduced for the lease payments made.

(m) Reserves & Cash – Reserve, Trust and Endowment Funds

In June 2004 the Board of the RAS approved the creation of the SRES Interruption Reserve. The reserve is available for use in the case of serious interruptions to revenue from the Sydney Royal Easter Show and will ensure a continuation of business without a reliance on borrowing or operating funds.

In September 2011 the Board of the RAS approved the creation of the Maintenance Reserve. The reserve is available for use in the maintenance and development of the Showground site outside the Major Repair Fund program.

The balances of the SRES Interruption Reserve and Maintenance Reserve are reviewed annually. Board approval is required for any decision in relation to the two Reserves.

Cash – Reserve, Trust and Endowment Funds asset includes the cash balances of the SRES Interruption Reserve, Maintenance Reserve and Trust and Endowment Funds. The SRES Interruption Reserve and Maintenance Reserve cash balances can only be utilised in the circumstances outlined above and by decision of the Board of the RAS.

(n) Rounding

The financial statements have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars.

(o) Income Tax

The RAS is exempt from income tax under section 50-105 of the Income Tax Act of Australia of 1997.

(p) Previous Period Comparatives

The financial statements provide comparative information in respect of the previous period, ended 30 September 2022.

3. MAJOR REPAIR FUND

On 27 September 1996 the RAS entered a lease over the use of land for both the Showground and Administration Building for a period of 99 years with a further 99 years option. Under this lease and commencing from 1 September 2000, the Sydney Olympic Park Authority ('SOPA') is obliged to make annual payments to a Major Repair Fund (MRF), which is sourced from the payment made by the RAS. The payment is calculated based on a percentage of the SRES revenue and a percentage of the turnover from other activities. Dependent upon certain terms and conditions, this obligation is approximately \$2,982,000 per annum.

The RAS paid a total of \$3,236,000 (2022: \$3,227,000) to SOPA during the financial year. This amount was contributed to the Major Repair Fund based on the terms and conditions of the lease agreement. In addition to the repayment, RAS utilised \$4,971,000 (2022: \$1,852,000) on various approved major repair projects.

The balance of the Major Repair Fund on 30 September 2023 was \$13,446,000 (2022: \$12,272,000). This cash balance is held by SOPA for the purpose of significant repairs and structural alterations in respect of the Sydney Showground.

	2023 (\$'000's)	2022 (\$'000's)
4. DISPOSAL OF ASSETS		
Written down cost of assets	(2)	(1)
Loss on disposal of assets	(2)	(1)

5. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES (CURRENT)		
Trade Debtors	1,822	1,076
Accrued Income	2,065	357
	3,887	1,433

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT

	2023 (\$'000's)	2022 (\$'000's)
6. INVENTORIES (CURRENT)		
Stock at cost	643	222
	643	222

7. PREPAYMENTS (CURRENT)		
Prepaid Other	1,489	840
	1,489	840

8. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES (CURRENT)		
Trade Creditors	1,259	585
GST Payable (Net)	102	120
Accruals	4,117	2,020
Other	40	52
	5,518	2,777

9. PROVISIONS (CURRENT)		
Long Service Leave	1,652	1,513
Annual Leave	1,220	1,103
Public Liability Claims	24	7
	2,896	2,623

10. CONTRACT LIABILITIES (CURRENT)		
Prepaid Membership Fees	443	424
Lease Liabilities	73	67
Deferred Exhibition Rent, Bonds	6,061	5,546
Other Deferred Revenue / Contribution	667	598
	7,244	6,635

Reconciliation of Carrying Amounts

Property, Plant & Equipment	Admin. Building	Site Improvements	Plant & Equipment	Computer & Office Equipment	Motor Vehicles	Heritage Collection	Total
	\$'000's	\$'000's	\$'000's	\$'000's	\$'000's	\$'000's	\$'000's
At Cost	6,440	14,674	15,837	5,145	863	90	43,049
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(3,220)	(4,874)	(14,032)	(3,090)	(803)	-	(26,019)
	3,220	9,800	1,805	2,055	60	90	17,030
Reconciliation of Carrying amounts							
Carrying amount at start of year	3,349	10,222	1,544	2,097	34	87	17,333
Capital Additions	-	9	837	372	50	3	1,271
Capital Disposals	-	-	(2)	-	-	-	(2)
Depreciation expense	(129)	(431)	(574)	(414)	(24)	-	(1,572)
Carrying amount at end of year	3,220	9,800	1,805	2,055	60	90	17,030

	2023 (\$'000's)	2022 (\$'000's)
11. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		
CAPITAL WORK IN PROGRESS		
Balance Bought Forward	46	-
Additions	63	46
	109	46
PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		
Administration Building, Sydney Olympic Park	6,440	6,440
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(3,220)	(3,091)
	3,220	3,349
Site Improvements	14,674	14,669
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(4,874)	(4,447)
	9,800	10,222
Plant and Equipment	15,837	15,260
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(14,032)	(13,716)
	1,805	1,544
Computer & Office Equipment	5,145	4,791
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(3,090)	(2,694)
	2,055	2,097
Motor Vehicles	863	830
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(803)	(796)
	60	34
Heritage Collection	90	87
Less Accumulated Depreciation	-	-
	90	87
Property, Plant and Equipment at net book value	17,030	17,333
Total Property Plant and Equipment	17,139	17,379

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT

	2023 (\$'000's)	2022 (\$'000's)
12. RIGHT-OF-USE ASSETS (NON-CURRENT)		
Photocopiers	388	388
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(91)	(12)
	297	376
Future Lease Payments		
Not later than 1 year	73	67
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	237	310
	310	377

The Society has entered a non-cancellable operating lease on its photocopiers over a 5-year term. The photocopiers have been recognised as Right-of-use Assets while the lease obligations have been recognised as Lease Liabilities.

13. INTANGIBLE ASSETS (NON-CURRENT)		
Computer Software	2,435	2,435
Less Accumulated Amortisation	(880)	(474)
Intangible Asset at net book value	1,555	1,961

14. PROVISIONS (NON-CURRENT)		
Long Service Leave	261	234
	261	234

15. CONTRACT LIABILITIES (NON-CURRENT)		
Prepaid Membership Fees	223	220
Lease Liabilities	237	310
Deferred Bonds	119	-
Other Deferred Revenue	17	51
	596	581

16. OTHER REVENUE		
Government Grants	375	1,776
Other revenue	2,802	2,876
	3,177	4,652

During the 2022/23 financial year, RAS received \$375,000 in other Government Grants for their support in agricultural projects, such as Ag in a box and Farm days.

17. LOANS PAYABLE		
Loans Payable (Current)	1,366	1,349
Loans Payable (Non-Current)	1,383	2,748
	2,749	4,097

In 2020, RAS received a \$7,000,000 advance from MRF, the advance is interest free and is repayable over 5 years. The third repayment of \$1,400,000 was made in September 2023 with \$2,800,000 remained outstanding and recorded as Loans Payable on the balance sheet.

	2023 (\$'000's)	2022 (\$'000's)
18. AUDITORS REMUNERATION		
Amount received or due and receivable by Ernst & Young:		
Fee for auditing the financial report	102	97
Other assurance services	64	53
	166	150

19. KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL REMUNERATION

The Office Bearers of the RAS serve without remuneration, but they are eligible for reimbursement of travel and accommodation expenses when attending Council meetings where applicable.

The total remuneration paid to key management personnel during the year was \$2,279,000 (2022: \$2,124,000).

20. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The RAS deals with other business enterprises associated with RAS Councillors from time to time in the ordinary course of business. Certain Councillors have declared an interest in the RAS's dealings with enterprises associated with them. These include Mr A Barnes (Wine Communicators of Australia), Mr S Dadd (Pentarch Group), Ms S Evans (Len Evans Tutorial Inc, Len Evans Foundation Ltd), Mr D Macintyre (DF & JF Macintyre Invermien Pastoral), Ms L Milan (Bilyana Investments Pty Ltd) and Ms R Petrie (Royston Petrie Seeds Pty Ltd).

In the 2023 financial year, the RAS donated \$617,000 (2022: \$460,000) to the RAS Foundation Limited (RASFL). There is a Service Level Agreement between the two entities, where the RAS provide certain services to the RASFL at no cost, or at a cost agreed upon between the two parties. In the 2023 financial year, the RAS received a total of \$466,000 (2022: \$367,000) in the form of costs recovery from the RASFL.

DECLARATION BY THE BOARD

In accordance with a resolution of the Board of the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW, we state that:

- (a) the Society is not a reporting entity as defined in the Australian Accounting Standards;
- (b) the financial statements and notes of the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW are in accordance with the Rules of the Society and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012*, including:
 - (i) giving a true and fair view of the Society's financial position as at 30 September 2023 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
 - (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 2(a) to the financial statements and complying with the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Regulation 2013;
- (c) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Society will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

On behalf of the Board



John C Bennett OAM, President
Date: 27 November 2023



S J Walker, Treasurer
Date: 27 November 2023



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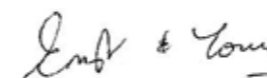
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Auditor's Independence Declaration to the Board of the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW

In relation to our audit of the financial report of the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW for the financial year ended 30 September 2023, and in accordance with the requirements of Subdivision 60-C of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- a. No contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of any applicable code of professional conduct; and
- b. No non-audit services provided that contravene any applicable code of professional conduct.



Ernst & Young



Daniel Cunningham
Partner
Sydney
27 November 2023



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Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW

Opinion

We have audited the financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW (the "Society"), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 September 2023, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the declaration by the Board of the Society (the "Board").

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the Society is in accordance with the Rules of the Society and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- a) giving a true and fair view of the Society's financial position as at 30 September 2023 and of its financial performance for the year ended on that date; and
- b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 2, and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Regulation 2013*.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Society in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 2 to the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the Board's financial reporting responsibilities under the Rules of the Society and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012*. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Information Other than the Financial Report and Auditor's Report Thereon

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the Corporate Governance Statement and Competition Entries Report accompanying the financial report



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Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the Board for the Financial Report

The Board of the Society are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 2 to the financial statements is appropriate to meet the requirements of the Rule of the Society and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012* and is appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The Board's responsibility also includes such internal control as they determine are necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Board is responsible for assessing the Society's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Board either intend to liquidate the Society or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Society's internal control.



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- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Board.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Board's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Society's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Society to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Board regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Ernst & Young

Daniel Cunningham
Partner
Sydney
27 November 2023

2022 AND 2023 COMPETITION ENTRIES REPORT

Sydney Royal Competitions – 29 November 2023. Subject to change.

COMPETITIONS	Catalogued Entries ¹		Catalogued Livestock Exhibits ²	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
SYDNEY ROYAL WINE, BEER & CIDER, DAIRY AND FINE FOOD SHOWS				
AQUACULTURE				
Prawns & Sydney Rock Oysters ³	24	32		
Aquaculture (Spring) ³	26	41		
Total Aquaculture³	50	73		
BEER & CIDER	308	348		
BRANDED MEAT³	69	60		
CHEESE AND DAIRY PRODUCE	584	693		
OIL & OLIVES³	99	108		
PASTA³	71	66		
PROFESSIONAL BAKERY³	200	129		
SPECIALTY FOODS³	406	352		
SMALLGOODS & CHARCUTERIE³	411	463		
WINE	1687	1849		
TOTAL SYDNEY ROYAL WINE, BEER & CIDER, DAIRY AND FINE FOOD SHOWS³	3,885	4,141		
SYDNEY ROYAL EASTER SHOW				
ALPACA & FLEECE				
Breeds ⁴	183	232	183	232
Paraders	No data	61		
Alpaca Fleece	191	240		
Total Alpaca & Fleece	374	533	183	232
ARTS & CRAFTS				
Art - Open	1,620	1,296		
Craft - Open	1,461	1,308		
Cake Decorating & Sugar Art - Open	66	64		
Cookery - Open	916	985		
Art - Under 20's	406	234		
Craft - Under 20's	84	83		
Cake Decorating - Under 20's	15	15		
Cookery - Under 20's	89	103		
Total Arts & Crafts	4,657	4,088		
AVIARY BIRD	435	527	435	527
CAT				
NSWCFA	112	73	112	73
ANCATS	No data	100		82
CATS NSW	No data	99		99
Total Cat	112	272	112	168
CATTLE - BEEF				
Angus	125	120	103	99
Australian Lowline	12	18	11	17
Brahman	51	20	44	17
Charolais	55	73	43	60
Devon (Other Recognised Breed from 2023)		12		10
Hereford - Horned & Polled	128	98	98	69
Limousin	143	79	115	67
Murray Grey	45	43	35	31
Red Angus	40	32	29	23
Red Poll	35	28	29	24
Santa Gertrudis	62	42	54	32
Shorthorns	114	86	84	70

2022 AND 2023 COMPETITION ENTRIES REPORT

COMPETITIONS	Catalogued Entries*		Catalogued Livestock Exhibits**	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
SYDNEY ROYAL EASTER SHOW (Cont.)				
Simmental (Feature Breed 2022)		189		141
Simmental-Fleckvieh (2022 Fleckvieh-Other Recognised Breed)	109		81	
Speckle Park (Feature Breed 2023)	237	73	192	62
Other Recognised Breeds	5	29	5	29
Breeds	1,161	942	923	751
Paraders	191	142		
CATTLE - YOUTH SHOW				
Paraders	81	52		
Judging Competition	81	52		
	162	104		
CATTLE - HEIFER FITTING CHALLENGE				
Total Beef Cattle	1,563	1,215	923	751
CATTLE - DAIRY				
Ayrshire	49	47	33	34
Brown Swiss	37	34	31	29
Guernsey	55	46	39	30
Holstein	102	80	90	69
Illawarra	27	24	21	20
Jersey	139	113	123	89
Breeds	409	344	337	271
Paraders	66	44		
Youth Competitions	87	74		
Total Dairy Cattle	562	462	421	271
CATTLE - PUREBRED STEER & CARCASE	240	172	238	172
CATTLE - TRADE HOOF & CARCASE	66	25	66	25
CATTLE - YOUNG AUCTIONEERS	19	19		
CAVY	No data	297	No data	140
DISTRICT EXHIBITS	5	4		
DOG				
Breed	2227	2182	2125	2149
Sweepstakes (Includes Periodic Class in 2022)	138	139	132	139
Obedience Trial	55	43	38	35
Agility Trial	254	150	71	53
	2,674	2,514	2,243	1,989
Handlers	29	34		
Total Dog	2703	2,548	2,272	1,989
FLOWER & GARDEN	1,664	1,449		
FROG & REPTILE	No data	72	No data	72
GOAT				
(incl. Schools' Wether Challenge)	111	117	54	62
Boer Goat	120	219	106	193
Dairy Goat (2023 cancelled)		236		178
Breeds	231	572	160	433
Paraders	30	36		
Mohair Fleece	38	33		
Total Goat	299	641	160	433
GREAT BACKYARD PUMPKIN COMPETITION				
	73	56		
HORSE				
Arabian Derivatives	119	140	88	106
Aust. National Saddlehorses	225	180	147	115
Aust. Stock Horses	506	401	139	118

2022 AND 2023 COMPETITION ENTRIES REPORT

COMPETITIONS	Catalogued Entries*		Catalogued Livestock Exhibits**	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
SYDNEY ROYAL EASTER SHOW (Cont.)				
Station Horse Challenge	71	60	71	59
Time Trial Challenge	62	47	62	47
RM Williams Trophy	61	43	61	43
Aust. Ponies	57	59	48	48
Aust. Miniature Ponies	66	68	38	44
Aust. Saddle Ponies	179	161	119	101
Clydesdales	58	27	56	22
Percherons (Not held in 2022)	3		3	
Riding Ponies	130	102	104	79
Shetland Ponies	115	117	97	86
Shires	19	28	14	23
Standardbred	31	14	23	10
Welsh Mountain Ponies	81	61	72	55
Welsh Ponies Section B	34	36	34	36
Welsh Ponies Section C & D	12	13	12	13
Part Bred Welsh Ponies	118	106	92	83
Hacks (over 15 hands)	332	338	107	109
Galloways (over 14hh & under 15hh)	142	161	51	61
Ponies	166	160	83	74
Show Hunter	553	591	220	228
Thoroughbreds	65	56	57	56
Working Hunter	43	38	43	38
Breeds	3,248	3,007	1,001	965
Light Harness	248	306	81	84
Business Delivery & Turnout	99	102	51	34
Heavy Horse Obstacle	38	32	16	17
Leading Rein	20	16	20	16
Police Horses	64	64	16	16
Riding (Incl. Fancy Dress in 2022 & 2023)	344	395		
Pony Club Events	116	161	135	124
Jumping Competitions	404	487	90	103
Campdrafting	15	21	15	21
Horses In Action	1,348	1,584		
Total Horse	4,596	4,591	1,406	1,434
NATIONAL HONEY SHOW (incl. Commercial Classes)	543	466		
PIGEON*	94	189	94	189
PIG (Cancelled in 2022)				
Breeds	116		107	
Bacon & Pork Type	8			
Total Pig	124		107	
POULTRY				
Birds (includes Meat Bird Pair Competition) #	2042	2145	2042	2145
Egg Laying	71	69	71	69
Eggs	58	65		
	2,171	2,279	2,113	2,214
Poultry Youth Showmanship	21	31		
Total Poultry	2,199	2,310	2,113	2,214
RABBIT	202	246	114	212
RAT & MOUSE	137	119	137	137
SCARECROW COMPETITION	13	6		
SCHOOL DISTRICT DISPLAY	2	3		

2022 AND 2023 COMPETITION ENTRIES REPORT

NOTES

COMPETITIONS	Catalogued Entries [*]		Catalogued Livestock Exhibits ^{**}	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
SYDNEY ROYAL EASTER SHOW (Cont.)				
SHEEP FLEECE	127	93		
SHEEP FLEECE - NSW/QLD Classes (NSW only in 2022)	58	66		
SHEEP - MEAT & DUAL PURPOSE BREEDS				
Australian White (Feature Breed 2022)	13	19	12	11
Border Leicester	81	41	71	34
Corriedale	72	44	68	32
Dorset Horn	11	10	9	6
Hampshire Down	16	14	15	11
Poll Dorset	24	77	20	63
Southdown	9	12	7	10
Suffolk	36	35	27	26
Texel (Feature Breed 2023)	13		10	
White Dorper		10		6
White Suffolk	65	57	58	52
Any Other Breed	18		17	
School's Interbreed	58	56		
Breeds	416	375	314	280
SHEEP - MERINO				
Merino and Poll Merino (Feature - 2023 Ultrafine Wool; 2022 Super Fine Wool)	217	251	206	208
Breeds	217	251	206	208
SHEEP - HANDLERS	23	32		
SHEEP - WOOLLEN GARMENT	6	7		
Total Sheep & Fleece	847	824	520	488
WOODCHOPPING AND SAWING	2,856	2,328		
YOUNG JUDGES (Incl. 2022 Nationals)	246	275		
TOTAL SYDNEY ROYAL EASTER SHOW #	24,631	23,737	9,301	9,454
SYDNEY SPRING GARDEN	34	40		
TOTAL SYDNEY ROYAL SHOWS #	28,516	27,918		

Assumptions

* Catalogued Entries indicates the number of Class entries published in a sectional catalogue or other official documentation or calculated at for/a date prior to judging. Entries which were withdrawn, absent or disqualified during the Show are not deducted from the figures.

**Catalogued Livestock Exhibits indicates the number of Exhibits (containing animals or birds) which are entered in Competitions. Exhibits may consist of one or more animal/bird and may be entered into more than one Class or Competition. Figures do not represent actual animals on the Showground. The sum of livestock figures within a section does not represent the total livestock count where a Livestock Exhibit may be entered into more than one Class or Class range.

*** Alpaca & Fleece, Cat, Cavy, Frog & Reptile, Rabbit, Rat & Mouse - competitions administered outside of the RAS where all or part of data not available at time of publication. Purebred Steer & Carcase and Trade Hoof & Carcase - excludes Carcase Class entries. Cattle Beef Challenge excluded. Angora Goats - entries includes School Single & Group Classes. Cheese & Dairy Produce entries open in the previous financial year. Horse Rodeo, Polo, Tentpegging Teams Challenge excluded. Poultry - excludes School Meat Bird Pair Carcase Classes & School Egg Laying component Classes. Sydney Spring Garden Show closes and is judged in the subsequent financial year.

^ Competition administered in the new Competitions Administration System (CAS) System. Figures may not be directly comparative to legacy system figures given data structures.

Figures updated since 2021-2022 Annual Report publication.



Royal Agricultural Society of NSW

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