

RAS TIMES

AUTUMN 2025 | VOLUME 23-1

PULL-OUT MEMBERS SHOW MAP

Double page Map & Member-only Benefits

FIND YOUR HAPPY PLACE

2025 Sydney Royal Easter Show Highlights

JUDGING SCHEDULE

2025 Sydney Royal Easter Show

THE JOURNEY TO LEADERSHIP


RAS Supporting Youth in Ag

COOLAROO PERUVIAN ALPACA STUDY TOUR

RAS Foundation sponsors
Next Gen Alpaca Leaders

Driving Forward the Future of Agriculture





*“Green and amber and gold it grows
When the sun sinks late in the West;
And the breeze sweeps over the rippling rows
Where the quail and the skylark nest.*

*Mountain or river or shining star,
There’s never a sight can beat --
Away to the sky-line stretching far --
A sea of the ripening Wheat.*

*Is there ever a man in the world alive
To sing the song of the Wheat!*

ANDREW BARTON (BANJO) PATERSON (1864-1941)



Driving Forward the Future of Agriculture

What a joy to extend a warm welcome to new members and a heartfelt welcome back to returning members! Your contribution and support are invaluable, helping us drive forward the future of agriculture—a mission we have proudly upheld for over 200 years. Our members play a vital and highly valued role in our community.

Featured in this issue is an article showcasing several RAS Youth Group members, Rural Achiever finalists, and Young Women finalists. Their stories highlight the bright future of agriculture and the remarkable talent we have among us.

Additionally, we have a fascinating spotlight on the RAS Foundation sponsored cohort that recently travelled to Peru to study the alpaca industry. Their journey and insights offer a unique perspective on global agricultural practices and the potential for innovation in our own industry.

As we look forward to the 2025 Sydney Royal Easter Show, now only a month away, this issue includes exclusive member benefits, a pull-out Member Show Map, the Judging Schedule, and a sneak peek into this year's exciting Show highlights. Hosting competitions from aquaculture, arts & crafts and woodchopping, to cattle, sheep, horses, pigs, goats and so much more, with never-ending exhibitions and amazing entertainment around every corner, there's something for everyone to enjoy.

We hope you find this issue both informative and inspiring as we celebrate the achievements of our community and look ahead to the future of agriculture. Thank you for your continued support and enthusiasm. We can't wait to see you at the 2025 Sydney Royal Easter Show!

Elizabeth A Nixon JD
Editor, RAS Times
Royal Agricultural Society of NSW



Royal Agricultural Society of NSW

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Elizabeth A Nixon JD serves as the Editor of the RAS Times magazine and as Content Lead for the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW. Elizabeth holds a juris doctorate law degree from Pepperdine University in Malibu, California, USA, and was licensed to practice law in both California and before the United States Supreme Court. As co-owner of a media production company, Elizabeth has been writing in law and media for over 20 years. Having returned home to Australia, Elizabeth considers her current work with the RAS to be a highlight of her career to date.

Join Elizabeth on LinkedIn

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FEATURE CONTRIBUTOR IN THIS ISSUE



Vicki Hastrich is a Sydney writer, with a special interest in history and archives. She is a novelist and essayist, and is currently working on a biography. The RAS has been privileged to have Vicki write for the RAS Heritage Centre for 15 years.

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event at the Show. This prestigious accolade is the pinnacle of competitions staged throughout the year by our Wine, Beer & Cider, Distilled Spirits, Cheese & Dairy Produce, and Fine Foods committees. It not only honours exceptional produce but also recognizes the triple-bottom review of our finalists' businesses, assessing their social, commercial, and environmental integrity. This holistic approach to excellence sets a high standard within our industry, showcasing the depth of commitment and responsibility that our producers embody. (You can read about this year's Finalists on pages 40-42.)

This time of year brings great anticipation for the big event on all of our calendars, the Sydney Royal Easter Show!

The 2025 Show promises to be a spectacular event, brimming with both tradition and many new offerings alike. Agricultural competitions remain the highlight of our celebrations, providing a platform for incredible stories from regional and rural communities, as well as those closer to the city. Our competitions not only inspire our farmers and producers to strive for greatness, but also highlight the vital role agriculture plays in our community's well-being and sustainable development.

The Show is also a cherished time when those from properties near and far come together, competing side-by-side during the day, and sharing meals and stories together in the evenings. It is a time of camaraderie, connection, and celebration that underscores the spirit of our agricultural community.

It also fills me with great pride to reflect on the significance of the 18th Annual President's Medal, which will be awarded at the Gala Dinner

For our metropolitan members and loyal Show-going attendees, I encourage you to join us for an unforgettable experience filled with excitement and joy. In addition to the ever-favourite animals, there will be new and thrilling carnival rides and, of course, plenty of showbags to choose from. As well as mouth-watering show food and elevated dining experiences, there's always something for everyone.

Stay for the family-friendly entertainment, spectacular fireworks, and the cherished tradition of creating lasting memories. This is a time to celebrate, have fun, and make the most of the unique moments that only the Sydney Royal Easter Show can offer.

I look forward to seeing you at the 2025 Sydney Royal Easter Show.

John C. Bennett OAM, President
Royal Agricultural Society of NSW



ON THE COVER

Featured on the cover are, L to R: Kane Gerrets, RAS Agricultural Youth Initiatives Manager. Emma Godsell, 2024 RAS Rural Achiever Finalist. Sarah Stanbury, RAS Youth Group Chair. Joel Maguire, 2024 RAS Youth Group Finalist.

Each of Kane, Emma, Sarah and Joel are active in RAS AgriLink, the community group purposed for empowered, inspired and connected young people in agriculture.

The RAS understands the power of community within the agricultural sector. AgriLink strives to connect young people and communities together, fostering a sense of unity and collaboration.

At the core of the RAS AgriLink Community is the Facebook group. This online community offers a platform for like-minded individuals to connect and promote their agricultural endeavours, whether it's showcasing products, services, events, or initiatives.

RAS AgriLink is a supportive space where members can share experiences, ask questions, and network with others who share a passion for agriculture. Whether a farmer, student, or industry professional, the group provides a platform for collaboration, learning, and growth in the agricultural sector.

Join the AgriLink community and be part of a more connected, engaged, and inspired future for agriculture in NSW!



**Joyful Moments,
Unforgettable
Memories**



expertise, and resilience of our agricultural sector.

The Sydney Royal Competitions remain a cornerstone of the event, celebrating quality, integrity, and innovation. These prestigious competitions provide an opportunity for producers to showcase their work on a national stage, inspiring excellence across the industry. Your support—whether as an RAS member, a competition participant, or a Showgoer—plays a critical role in generating the funds required to reinvest into agriculture. Last year alone, the RAS contributed over \$11 million to initiatives that directly benefit rural and regional communities, ensuring we continue to advance the sector.

By attending the Show, you are not only joining us

As we look ahead to the 2025 Sydney Royal Easter Show, I am filled with immense pride and anticipation for what promises to be a truly exceptional event.

Hosted by the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW (RAS), this iconic annual celebration is a powerful demonstration of our steadfast commitment to supporting rural and regional communities, their farmers, and producers.

At the core of the Sydney Royal Easter Show lies a rich tradition of recognising excellence in Australian agriculture. Each year, the Show delivers a unique and engaging platform to showcase the outstanding achievements of established and emerging leaders in the industry. From world-class livestock and premium produce to innovative practices and emerging talent, the Show reflects the dedication,

in celebrating the achievements of NSW's farmers and producers, but also contributing to the future of agriculture in Australia. Your participation helps sustain vital initiatives that drive innovation, education, and progress within the industry.

On behalf of the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW, I invite you to join us in celebrating excellence at the 2025 Sydney Royal Easter Show. Together, we can honour the hard work of our agricultural community, showcase their remarkable achievements, and help secure a thriving future for Australian agriculture.

We look forward to welcoming you to the Show!

Brock Gilmour, Chief Executive, Royal Agricultural Society of NSW

Last year alone, the RAS contributed over \$11 million to initiatives that directly benefit rural and regional communities, ensuring we continue to advance the sector.

SYDNEY ROYAL EASTER SHOW: INCLUSIVE & ACCESSIBLE FOR ALL

At the Sydney Royal Easter Show, we are committed to providing an inclusive experience for all patrons. 2025 marks the introduction of Sydney Showground's new accessibility amenities, including sensory-friendly spaces and facilities for individuals with disabilities, all conveniently located together on Grand Parade.

Quiet Room: This peaceful environment helps patrons manage sensory sensitivities with features like gentle lighting, tactile and visual elements, acoustic panelling, soft bean bag chairs, and space to relax.

Parents Room: This bright space includes a family restroom, separate accessible toilet facilities, nursing spaces with privacy curtains, multiple change tables, kitchenette facilities, and a relaxation area.

Adult Assisted Change Room: Designed for individuals with disabilities, this room includes a fully electric hoist and a height-adjustable adult change table. Access requires a NSW-issued MLAK key and an approved harness, with a trained carer or helper always present.

We are also partnering with Hidden Disabilities Sunflower, a globally recognized symbol for non-visible disabilities, to enhance support for individuals with sensory needs and disabilities.

Join us in making the 2025 Sydney Royal Easter Show a truly inclusive experience for everyone.



The future's brighter with your support

Your membership helps the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW support Aussie Farmers.

**See you at the Show!
11-22 April 2025**

eastershow.com.au





Terry, truss tomato grower
Swan Hydroponics, NSW

We pick fresh Australian fruit & veg first

And thanks to our Australian farming communities, 96% of the fresh fruit and vegetables you find at Woolworths are Australian grown.

To find out more, visit [woolworths.com.au/fresh](https://www.woolworths.com.au/fresh)



The Royal Treatment

Exclusive Member Events & Benefits

On behalf of the entire Royal Agricultural Society of NSW (RAS), we are delighted to welcome you as a valued RAS Member. Your decision to join our Member program is a testament to your commitment and belief in our mission, and we are truly grateful for your continued support. It also means some amazing, exclusive member-only events and benefits during this year's Show!

As we embark on another exciting year, we encourage you to take advantage of our 2025 Sydney Royal Easter Show Member Benefits.

ENJOY 10% OFF CATERING OUTLETS AT THE SHOW

In support of the RAS, ALL catering outlets across the Easter Show offer a 10% DISCOUNT for our valued RAS Members. This includes all food and beverage outlets at the Showground during the Show. Simply show your Members Card at checkout to receive the discount.

In addition, over 100 commercial stalls across the Sydney Royal Easter Show will be offering an exclusive 10% discount for all RAS Members. Discounts are across

toys, hair styling, pet products, jewellery, fashion, coffee, desserts, candles, photography, bedding, and so much more!

Keep an eye out for the Member's Only Discount logo displayed at participating outlets.





EXCLUSIVE MEMBER EVENTS AT THE SHOW

DISTRICT EXHIBITS SNEAK PEEK

THURSDAY, 10 APRIL
5:45PM-6:15PM
District Exhibits, Woolworth Fresh Food Dome
(Access via Members Entrance, cnr Murray Rose Avenue & Showground Road)
Be among the first to experience the iconic Sydney Royal Easter Show's 2025 District Exhibits display inside the Woolworths Fresh Food Dome! Meet the dedicated volunteers, producers and farmers who work tirelessly together to bring each region's unique story to life, making for a truly captivating experience. Enjoy light refreshments and the opportunity to chat with the producers and farmers who are behind the creation of our greatest fresh produce display.
This is a complimentary event for RAS Members only.

TYRRELL'S PREVIEW NIGHT FOR RAS MEMBERS ONLY

THURSDAY, 10 APRIL
6:30PM - 9:30PM
Members Bar, Members Stand
(Access via Members Entrance, cnr Murray Rose Avenue & Showground Road)
Thanks to Tyrrells' Wines, be the first to witness the brand-new Clancy of the Overflow, Under the Milky Way tribute to the Australian spirit, that wonderfully interweaves spoken poetry and melodic strains to capture the heart of our nation's cultural tapestry.
This magical evening will culminate in a spectacular fireworks display lighting up the night sky.
COST: Member \$75; Guest \$85; Child \$55.
Includes Canapes and Beverages.
Book online: www.rasnsw.com.au/membership/?currentTab=Members-Easter-Show-Benefits



ENTERTAINMENT IN THE MEMBERS' STAND AT THE SHOW

CHILDREN'S ENTERTAINMENT

FACE PAINTING & BALLOON ARTISTRY
Dive into the colourful fun of dazzling balloon art and imaginative face painting—perfect for kids and kids-at-heart!
12 - 22 April (excluding 20 April)
11am - 2pm
Hordern Café, Members Stand

EASTER BUNNY: MEET & GREET PHOTO OPPORTUNITY
Somebunny must have left the carrots out because the Easter Bunny is coming to the Show and we're so egg-cited!
Sunday, 20 April
11am - 2pm
Hordern Café, Members Stand

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT - MEMBERS' BAR
Catch up with friends at the Members Bar with live entertainment

bringing the Show to life each night. Unwind with your favourite tunes and enjoy a vibrant atmosphere that's sure to keep you entertained!
Live Music each night of the Show 9pm - 12am

DISCOUNTED EVENTS FOR RAS MEMBERS!

HATS OFF AT THE ROYAL

FRIDAY, 11 APRIL 2025
6.00PM - 9.00PM
Sydney Royal Easter Show
Hats off at the Royal is an evening full of networking, and all-round good times for young people 18-35yrs. Join like-minded peers from the agricultural industry and a stellar line up of passionate speakers to discuss important topics for young people in agriculture.
Connect with old and new friends at the Easter Show. Beer, wine & canapes included in the

ticket price.
COST: Members \$50
For Tickets & Information: www.rasnsw.com.au/hatsoff



ARTS PREVIEW GALA NIGHT

WEDNESDAY, 9 APRIL,
6:00PM - 9:00PM
Arts & Crafts Pavilion Hall 5 (Arts & Crafts Pavilion)
Enter corner of 1 Showground Road and Murray Rose Avenue
Experience the Sydney Royal Arts & Crafts Show, where award-winning works await your viewing. This event blends traditional crafts with contemporary art, offering a VIP opportunity to purchase artwork while enjoying live music, canapés, and engaging with artists and RAS members.

COST: Members \$36.57
Includes Canapes and Beverages.
Buy online: www.universe.com/events/2025-sydney-royal-arts-preview-night-tickets-YHNRL5



2024 RAS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY, 10 APRIL
5:00PM - 5:45PM
Pearson Room, Woolworths Fresh Food Dome
The RAS is a membership-based organisation, governed by a Council comprised of Members who are elected at the Society's Annual General Meeting. All current RAS Members are invited to attend the 2025 RAS Annual General Meeting.



A VARIETY OF ADDITIONAL BENEFITS

We look forward to sharing more benefits with our RAS Members as we head into the 2025 Show. Keep a look out on our Member website and check our e-newsletters for all the added perks!



PIGS & PINOT STUD PIG AUCTION

MONDAY, 14 APRIL
6:00PM

Pig & Goat Pavilion

The Sydney Royal Stud Pig Auction showcases the best in Australian pig breeding and bridges tradition with modern practices, reflecting its importance to the Australian Pork Industry. It's a prime opportunity for breeders to strengthen breeding lines and network with industry professionals over drinks and canapés.

All RAS Members & industry professionals from the pig & pork industries are invited to attend and connect. Enjoy networking with open bar and Canapés.

More information here:

www.rasnsw.com.au/competitions/animals/pig-details/



RAS PRESIDENT'S MEDAL DINNER

WEDNESDAY, 16 APRIL
5.45PM-10.30PM

Council Dining Room, Council Stand

The RAS President's Medal is the pinnacle competition of the Sydney Royal Wine, Beer & Cider, Distilled Spirits, Cheese & Dairy Produce, and Fine Food Shows. Awarded every year by the President of the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW, this award recognises and rewards Australia's best producers, advancing the concept of quality beyond taste

For more information on the President's Medal and to join the mailing list for information on booking tickets to the Dinner, **visit our website:** www.rasnsw.com.au/competitions/food-beverage-and-produce/president-medal-details/?currentTab=Subscribe



THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF NSW WOULD LIKE TO THANK ITS 2025 SPONSORS FOR SUPPORTING AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND RURAL COMMUNITIES IN AUSTRALIA.

GRAND CHAMPION

STRATEGIC SPONSORS



CHAMPION



BLUE RIBBON



RED RIBBON



2025 SYDNEY ROYAL EASTER SHOW

JUDGING TIMETABLE

Whether you attend the 2025 Sydney Royal Easter Show for one day or for all 12 days, planning ahead helps make the most of your visit. Here is an overview of the Judging Timetable.

DATES	COMPETITIONS
Thursday 10 April	CATTLE Beef Paraders' Competitions - Junior (F000), School (F001), RAS/Ag Shows NSW (F002), Open (F003) & State Final
Friday 11 April	ARTS & CRAFTS Perishable Cooking Competition CATTLE Brahman, Murray Grey, Other Recognised Breeds, Purebred Steers School & Open, Speckle Park DISTRICT EXHIBITS Display Judging, Hams and Bacon Judging DOG Community Companion Dog, Dual Title Obedience, Rally Advanced, Rally Excellent, Rally Novice, Rally Master, Utility Dog Excellent Obedience, Utility Obedience, Open Obedience, Novice Obedience FLOWER & GARDEN Carnivorous Plants, Dahlias, Floristry Students, Gesneriads, Indoor Plants, RAS Floral Designer Competition, Schools Australian Native Flora Competition, Schools Produce Competition, TAFE NSW Cert III Fleur Couture, TAFE NSW Cert IV Fleur Couture GOAT Dairy Goat Judging HORSE Australian Stock Horses Led, Heavy Harness, Light Harness Ponies, Light Harness Show Vehicle Turnouts, Light Harness Turnout in Single Harness, Police Horse Classes, Shetland Ponies Led, Stock Horses Ridden, Sulky and Buggy Turnouts, World Championship Campdraft Round 1 SHEEP Merino Open Classes, Merino Pair & Group Classes POULTRY & PIGEON Poultry & Pigeon General Classes RAT & MOUSE Rat & Mouse WOODCHOPPING & SAWING 275mm Women's Underhand, 300mm Open Underhand Handicap, 300mm Standing Block Handicap YOUTH ALPA Young Auctioneers Competition State & National Finals
Saturday 12 April	CAT ANCATS CATTLE Hereford, Limousin, Red Angus, Red Poll, Santa Gertrudis (Feature Breed), Trade Steer & Heifer DOG Basset Fauve De Bretagne, Basset Hound, Beagle, Black and Tan Coonhound, Bloodhound, Bluetick Coonhound, Dachshund (all breeds), Dalmatian, Festival of Dog Sports, Foxhound, Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen, Hamiltonstovare, Junior Handler, Harrier, Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen, Porcelaine Hound, Otterhound, Rhodesian Ridgeback, Sweepstakes GOAT Dairy Goat Judging, Dairy Goat Paraders' Competition HORSE Australian Stock Horses Ridden, Australian Stock Horse Senior Time Trial, Hackney Ponies, Heavy Harness, Junior and Senior Station Horse, Non-Hackney Ponies, Shetland Pony Harness, Shetland Ponies Ridden, Single Harness Turnout, Stock Horse Junior Time Trial, Sulky & Buggy Turnouts, Vehicle Turnouts, World Championship Campdraft Round 2 POULTRY & PIGEON Youth Poultry Showmanship Competition SHEEP Merino Open Classes, Merino Grand & Supreme Classes WOODCHOPPING & SAWING 250mm Standing Block Handicap - Fourth Division, 300mm Tree Felling Handicap, 325mm Standing Block Handicap - First Division, 325mm Underhand Handicap, 375mm Women's Double Handed Sawing Championship, Interstate Teams Relay, World Championship 375mm Sawing (Single Handed) YOUTH RAS/AgShows NSW Merino Sheep Young Judges Competition State Final, RAS/Australian Pony Stud Book Young Judges Competition State Final, RAS Horticulture Young Judges Competition

DATES	COMPETITIONS
Sunday 13 April	CAT NSW CFA CATTLE Angus, Charolais, Heifer Fitting Challenge, Simmental-Fleckvieh, Shorthorns DOG Chesapeake Bay Retriever, Clumber Spaniel, Cocker Spaniel, Cocker Spaniel (American), Curly Coated Retriever, Dogs Day Out: Oodle and Mixed Breeds Show, English Springer Spaniel, Field Spaniel, Flat Coated Retriever, Golden Retriever, Irish Water Spaniel, Labrador Retriever, Lagotto Romagnolo, Murray River Retriever, Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever, Portuguese Water Dog, Spanish Water Dog, Sussex Spaniel, Welsh Springer Spaniel FLOWER & GARDEN Bridal, Cacti and Succulents, Children's Classes - General & Decorative, Decorative, RAS Floral Designer Competition, Roses, TAFE NSW Cert III Fleur Couture, TAFE NSW Cert IV Fleur Couture HORSE ASHLA Junior Riders, ASHLA Senior Riders, Clydesdales Ridden, Heavy Harness, Light Harness, Shetland Pony Harness PIG Stud Pig Judging SHEEP Merino Production Class WOODCHOPPING & SAWING 275mm Standing Block Handicap - Third Division, 275mm Underhand Handicap, 300mm Standing Block Handicap - Second Division, 300mm Women's Sawing Handicap (Single Handed), 300mm Women's Underhand Handicap, World Championship 600mm Sawing (Double Handed) YOUTH RAS/AgShows NSW Merino Fleece Young Judges Competition State Final, RAS/Australian Stock Horse Society Australian Stock Horse Young Judges Competition State & National Final, RAS Poultry Young Judges Competition State Final Championship, RAS Rural Achiever Award Public Speaking Showcase, The Land Sydney Royal AgShows NSW Young Woman Presentation
Monday 14 April	AVIARY BIRD African Lovebird, Budgerigar, Canary, Finch, Parrot CATTLE Beef Championships Breeders' Group Interbreed, Beef Championships Hordern Trophy, Beef Championships Supreme Junior Champion Interbreed Bull, Beef Championships Supreme Junior Champion Interbreed Heifer, Beef Championships Urquhart Trophy DOG Affenpinscher, Anatolian Shepherd Dog, Australasian Bosdog, Bernese Mountain Dog, Boxer, British Bulldog, Bullmastiff, Cane Corso, Caucasian Shepherd Dog, Central Asian Shepherd Dog, Dobermann, Dogue de Bordeaux, Estrela Mountain Dog, German Pinscher, Great Dane, Great Swiss Mountain Dog, Kangal Shepherd Dog, Landseer ECT, Leonberger, Mastiff, Neapolitan Mastiff, Newfoundland, Miniature Pinscher, Pyrenean Mountain Dog, Pyrenean Mastiff, Rottweiler, Russian Black Terrier, Saint Bernard, Schnauzer (all breeds), Shar Pei, Spanish Mastiff, Tibetan Mastiff, Tornjak HORSE Clydesdales Led, Heavy Horse, Light Harness, Miniature Ponies Led and Harness, Standardbred Led and Ridden, World Championship Campdraft Round 4 PIG Handler Competition, Schools Commercial Hoof Judging SHEEP & WOOL AWEX/TAFE Wool Classing Competition WOODCHOPPING & SAWING 275mm Standing Block, 275mm Tree Felling Handicap - Second Division, 300mm Tree Felling Handicap - First Division, 300mm Underhand Handicap, 325mm Standing Block Championship, Women's World Championship 325mm Sawing (Single Handed) YOUTH RAS/AgShows NSW Beef Cattle Young Judges Competition State Final, RAS Pig Show Young Judges Competition State Final, RAS Young Farmer Challenge Heats
Tuesday 15 April	DOG Afghan Hound, Azawakh, Borzoi, Deerhound, English Setter, Festival of Dog Sports (Scent Work), Gordon Setter, Greyhound, Irish Red & White Setter, Irish Setter, Irish Wolfhound, Italian Greyhound, Saluki, Samoyed, Sloughi, Whippet FINE FOOD Aquaculture FLOWER & GARDEN Cacti and Succulents, Dahlias, Decorative, Four Day Floristry Students, Orchids, TAFE NSW Cert III Fleur Couture, TAFE NSW Cert IV Fleur Couture GOAT Angora Stud Judging HORSE ANSA Led and Ridden, Clydesdales Driven In Hand, Heavy Horse Barrel Race, Heavy Horse Obstacle, Judges and Stewards Riding Class, Light Harness, Led And Ridden, Pumpkin Snatch, Shires Led & Ridden, Showjumping Juniors, Showjumping Seniors, Showjumping Young Riders, World Championship Campdraft Round 5 SHEEP Meat and Dual Purpose School & Handler Classes WOODCHOPPING & SAWING 275mm Standing Block Handicap, 275mm Underhand Handicap - Second Division, Women's World Championship 275mm Underhand, 325mm Underhand Championship, Jack and Jill 375mm Sawing (Double Handed) - Second Division YOUTH RAS/AgShows NSW Fruit and Vegetable Young Judges Competition State Final, RAS/AgShows NSW Grain Young Judges Competition State Final

DATES	COMPETITIONS
Wednesday 16 April	CAVY Sydney Royal Cavy Show DOG Australian Cattle Dog, Australian Kelpie, Australian Shepherd, Australian Shepherd Specialty Show, Australian Stumpy Tail Cattle Dog, Beaceron (Berger de Beauce), Bearded Collie, Belgian Shepherd Dog (all breeds), Border Collie, Bouvier Des Flandres, Briard, Collie (Rough), Collie (Smooth), Dutch Shepherd, Festival of Dog Sports (Trick Dog), German Shepherd Dog, German Shepherd Dog (LSC), Komondor, Kuvasz, Maremma, Miniature American Shepherd, Mudi, Old English Sheepdog, Polish Lowland Sheepdog, Puli, Pumi, Pyrenean Sheepdog (Longhaired), Schipperke, Shetland Sheepdog, Tatra Shepherd Dog, Welsh Corgi (Cardigan), Welsh Corgi (Pembroke), White Swiss Shepherd GOAT Angora Schools Wether Project, Angora Schools Wether Group of 3, Production Class Shearing & Judging HORSE Leading Rein, Riding Classes Junior Boy Riders, Riding Classes Senior Boy Riders, Show Hunter Galloways, Show Hunter Hacks, Show Hunter Ponies, Showjumping Seniors, Showjumping Young Riders, Tent Pegging Round 1, World Championship Campdraft Round 6 & Presentation SHEEP Meat and Dual Purpose Open Classes WOODCHOPPING & SAWING 275mm Tree Felling Handicap, 300mm Standing Block Elimination Championship, 300mm Standing Block Handicap, Jack and Jill 375mm Sawing Championship (Double Handed), 500mm Handicap Sawing (Double Handed)
Thursday 17 April	DOG Bichon Frise, Bolognese, Boston Terrier, Cavalier King Charles Spaniel, Chihuahua (Long), Chihuahua (Smooth), Chihuahua Specialty Show, Chinese Crested Dog, Coton de Tulear, French Bulldog, Griffon Bruxellois, Havanese, Japanese Chin, King Charles Spaniel, Lhasa Apso, Lowchen, Maltese, Papillon, Pekingese, Poodle (all breeds), Prague Ratter, Pug, Russian Toy (Long Haired), Russian Toy (Smooth Haired), Shih Tzu, Tibetan Spaniel, Tibetan Terrier FLOWER & GARDEN Bonsai, Bridal, Decorative, Four Day Floristry Students, Miscellaneous Cut Flowers, Roses, TAFE NSW Cert III Fleur Couture, TAFE NSW Cert IV Fleur Couture GOAT Angora Paraders' Competition HORSE Gentlemen Riders, Mount, Rider and Equipment, Novice Hacks, Riding Ponies Led and Ridden, Show Hunter Galloways, Show Hunter Hacks, Show Hunter Hacks Champion, Show Hunter Ponies, Showjumping Juniors, Showjumping Seniors, Showjumping Young Riders, Skill At Arms Round 1, Tent Pegging Round 2, Wrangler Federation Rodeo Challenge Round 1 RABBIT Sydney Royal Rabbit Show SHEEP Meat and Dual Purpose Open Classes WOODCHOPPING & SAWING 300mm Standing Block Handicap - Second Division, 300mm Underhand Elimination Championship, 300mm Underhand Handicap - Second Division, The Hayden Timbers 500mm Veterans Sawing Handicap (Double Handed) YOUTH RAS/AgShows NSW Meat Breeds Sheep Young Judges Competition State Final, RAS Angora Goat and Mohair Young Judges Competition State Final
Friday 18 April	CATS Cats NSW DOG Airedale Terrier, American Hairless Terrier, American Staffordshire Terrier, American Staffordshire Terrier Specialty Show, Australian Silky Terrier, Bedlington Terrier, Biewer Terrier, Border Terrier, Bull Terrier, Bull Terrier Miniature, Cairn Terrier, Cesky Terrier, Dandie Dinmont Terrier, English Toy Terrier (Black and Tan), Fox Terrier (Smooth), Fox Terrier (Wire), German Hunting Terrier, Glen of Imaal Terrier, Irish Terrier, Jack Russell Terrier, Jack Russell Terrier Specialty Show, Kerry Blue Terrier, Lakeland Terrier, Manchester Terrier, Norfolk Terrier, Norwich Terrier, Parson Russell Terrier, Scottish Terrier, Sealyham Terrier, Skye Terrier, Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier, Staffordshire Bull Terrier, Tenterfield Terrier, Welsh Terrier, West Highland White Terrier, Yorkshire Terrier HORSE Arabian Derivatives Led, Australian Saddle Ponies Led, Australian Saddle Ponies Ridden, Fancy Dress, Polo Test Match 1, Showjumping Juniors, Showjumping Seniors, Showjumping Young Riders, Skill At Arms Round 2, Sydney Royal Horse Show Col AV Pope Cup, Sydney Royal Horse Show FL Crane Trophy, Thoroughbred Led, Working Hunters, Wrangler Federation Rodeo Challenge Round 2 SHEEP Meat and Dual Purpose Interbreed WOODCHOPPING & SAWING 250mm Standing Block Handicap, 275mm Junior Underhand Championship (Under 18), 275mm Tree Felling Handicap - Second Division, 275mm Veterans Underhand Handicap, 300mm Underhand Handicap - Third Division, World Championship 325mm Tree Felling, 325mm Underhand Handicap - Second Division, NSW Inter-Association Relay YOUTH Alpaca Youth Paraders' Competition
Saturday 19 April	ALPACA Halter Judging CAT Cats Australia CATTLE Dairy Paraders' Competitions DOG Bracco Italiano, Brittany, Festival of Dog Sports (Scent Work), German Shorthaired Pointer, German Shorthaired Pointer Specialty Show, German Wirehaired Pointer, Hungarian Vizsla, Hungarian Wirehaired Vizsla, Italian Spinone, Large Munsterlander, Pointer, Pointer Specialty Show, Weimaraner, Weimaraner (Longhaired), Wirehaired Slovakian Pointer FLOWER & GARDEN Australian Native Plants, Dahlias, Decorative, Four Day Floral Display, TAFE NSW Cert III Fleur Couture, TAFE NSW Cert IV Fleur Couture GOAT Boer Goat Group of Three Scanning & Visual Assessment HORSE Arabian Derivatives Ridden, Hacks, Junior Equestrian Showcase, Pony Hacks, Showjumping Juniors, Showjumping Seniors, Tent Pegging Round 3, Wrangler Federation Rodeo Challenge Round 3 POULTRY & PIGEON Sydney Royal School Commercial Egg Laying Competition Egg Judging WOODCHOPPING & SAWING 250mm Veterans Standing Block Handicap, 275mm Junior Standing Block Championship (Under 18), 300mm Underhand Handicap - Second Division, 350mm Standing Block Handicap - First Division, The Manny McCarthy Memorial World Championship 375mm Underhand YOUTH RAS/AgShows NSW Dairy Cattle Young Judges Competition State Final

DATES	COMPETITIONS
Sunday 20 April	ALPACA Halter Judging CATTLE All Breeds Youth Class, Semex Dairy Youth Challenge DOG Akita, Akita (Japanese), Alaskan Malamute, Basenji, Chow Chow, Cirneco Dell'Etna, Finnish Lapphund, Finnish Spitz, German Spitz (all breeds), Ibizan Hound, Japanese Spitz, Keeshond, Norwegian Elkhound, Peruvian Hairless Dog (all breeds), Pharoah Hound, Pomeranian, Portuguese Podengo (all breeds), Shiba Inu, Shikoku, Siberian Husky, Swedish Vallhund, Xoloitzcuintle (all breeds), Yakutian Laika GOAT Boer Goat Doe Judging HORSE Galloway Hacks, Junior Girl Riders, Junior Polocrosse Match 1, Junior Polocrosse Match 2, Lady Riders, Lady Riders Champion, Pony Hacks, Showjumping Junior Grand Prix, Showjumping Seniors, Showjumping Young Riders Grand Prix, Tent Pegging Round 4 & Presentation, Welsh Led, Welsh Section C & D, Wrangler Federation Rodeo Challenge Round 4 RABBIT Sydney Royal Rabbit Hopping Show WOODCHOPPING & SAWING 275mm Underhand Handicap (Under 18), 300mm Underhand Handicap - Second Division, 300mm Underhand Hard-Hitting Championship, 375mm Handicap Sawing (Single Handed), Junior Development Program
Monday 21 April	ALPACA Schools Competition CATTLE Ayrshire Heifer Classes, Brown Swiss Heifer Classes, Holstein Heifer Classes, Illawarra Heifer Classes, Jersey Heifer Classes, Jersey Milk Classes DOG Best Breeders Group in Show, Best Neuter in Show, Best Baby Puppy in Show, Best Puppy in Show, Best In Show, Canine Hero Awards Presentation, Gundog Group, Hound Group, Non-Sporting Group, Terrier Group, Toy Group, Utility Group, Working-Dog Group FLOWER & GARDEN Bridal, Decorative, Four Day Floral Display, Fruit & Vegetables (Non-Commercial), Orchids, Roses, TAFE NSW Cert III Fleur Couture, TAFE NSW Cert IV Fleur Couture GOAT Boer Goat Buck Judging, Boer Goat Best in Show FROG & REPTILE Snakes, Frogs and Geckos HORSE Childs Hack, Galloway Champion, Galloway Hacks, Hack Champion, Parent and Child Riders, Rider In Action, Senior Girl Riders, Showjumping Mini Prix & Grand Prix Seniors, Pony Hack Champion, Welsh Led Supreme, Welsh Ridden, Welsh Section B Led, Wrangler Federation Rodeo Challenge Round 5 WOODCHOPPING & SAWING 275mm Junior Underhand Handicap (Under 21), Parent & Child - 275mm Underhand and Standing Block Relay Handicap, 300mm Standing Block Handicap - Second Division, Team of Three Combination - 300mm Standing Block, Underhand and Tree Felling, World Championship 375mm Standing Block, Team of Two - 600mm Standing Butchers Block - First Division, Under 21 State Relay YOUTH RAS Alpaca Young Judges Competition State Final
Tuesday 22 April	CATTLE Ayrshire Milk Classes, Brown Swiss Milk Classes, Guernsey Heifer Classes, Guernsey Milk Classes, Holstein Milk Classes, Illawarra Milk Classes, Dairy Interbreed DOGS Agility Excellent Gamblers, Agility Excellent Jumpers, Agility Master Gamblers, Agility Master Jumpers, Agility Novice Gamblers, Agility Novice Jumpers, Dogs Australia Canine Grooming Championship Show, Excellent Agility, Master Agility, Novice Agility FROG & REPTILE Lizards, Frogs and Geckos GOAT Boer Goat Paraders' Competition HORSE Australian Ponies Led, Australian Ponies Ridden, Part Bred Welsh Led, Part Bred Welsh Ridden, Pony Club Riders, Pony Club Showjumping, Pony Club Sporting Teams, Pony Club Zone Pairs, Pony Club Zone Teams, Wrangler Federation Rodeo Challenge Round 6 & Presentation YOUTH RAS Boer Goat Young Judges Competition

Proud Sponsors of
the RAS Rural Achiever
Award and Sydney Royal
Easter Show Volunteers



LOCAL, AUSSIE EXPERTS

KEEPING LOCAL COMMUNITIES
BETTER CONNECTED ALL YEAR ROUND



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aussiebroadband.com.au



2025 Member Show Information

**PULL OUT
AND PLAN
YOUR
SHOW!**

Experience 12 unforgettable days filled with endless entertainment, exciting animal encounters, thrilling competitions, carnival rides and games, showbags, and so much more!

2025 MEMBER SHOW INFORMATION

The 2025 Sydney Royal Easter Show welcomes members and their guests with these enhanced experiences and exclusive benefits.

ASSISTANCE

MEMBERS INFORMATION TOWER

Located at the rotunda adjacent to the Members/VIP Show Entry. 1 Showground Rd., Sydney Olympic Park. RAS Membership card collection and general enquiries
Pre-Show Dates: 31 March - 10 April 2025
Hours: 8am-4pm (Monday-Friday) 2025
During Show Dates: 11 - 22 April 2025
Hours: 8am-5.30pm Daily

MEMBER CUSTOMER SERVICE DESK

Members Stand, ENGIE Stadium Purchase merchandise and Member wristbands, and general enquiries.
Dates: 11 - 22 April 2025
Hours: 8am-9pm Daily

MEMBER PHONE ENQUIRIES

Hours: 8am-4pm (Monday-Friday) 11 - 22 April 2025
During Show: 8am - 9pm Daily, 11 - 22 April 2025
Telephone: 02 9704 1144
Service: Membership renewals, general enquiries

SERVICES

PARENTS' ROOM

An exclusive Parents' Room is available for Members and their guests. Located outside the Members Stand Entrance on the ENGIE Stadium concourse.
Dates: 11 - 22 April 2025
Hours: 8am-9pm Daily

MERCHANDISE

A variety of merchandise is available during the Show at the Members Customer Service Desk in the Members Stand.

BUGGY SERVICE

This service is for elderly and less mobile Members.

Set destinations include Members Stand, P1 car park, Olympic Park train station, Novotel and Pullman hotels. This is a busy service, and we appreciate your patience.
Dates: 11 - 22 April 2025
Hours: 8am - 12noon, 5pm - 9pm

MEMBER DRESS REGULATIONS

Whether you're spending the day watching events in the stadium or enjoying an evening in Charley Dining Room with dinner and entertainment, your time in the Members Stand is special. Wearing smart casual clothing enhances the experience for you, your guests, and fellow members.

Please read the RAS dress regulations before you visit, go to www.rasnsw.com.au/regulations



Show Map

LEGEND

- | | |
|--|--|
| Bus Terminal
Plaza Terminal: Routes 5A, 5B, 6, 7, 8
PSA Car Park Shuttle
Aquatic Terminal Routes 1A, 1B, 2, 4
P4 Car Park Shuttle | Toilets |
| Drop-off and Pick-up
Is on Dawn Fraser Ave - from Olympic Blvd to Edwin Flack Ave.
There is no parking or waiting. | Seating |
| Parking | Bars |
| Taxi Stand | Food and Bar |
| Train Station | Food Outlet |
| Ticket Booth | Water Station |
| Fire Station | ATM |
| First Aid | Chemist |
| Police | Locker Hire |
| Security | Phone Charging Station |
| Customer Service & Information Booth | Smoking & Vaping |
| Accessible Adult Change Facilities | Animal Walk |
| Accessible Toilets | Pet Entertainment Arena
sponsored by Sushi Hub |
| Accessible Toilets & Baby Changerroom Facilities | Premium Reserved Seating |
| Lost Persons | RAS Foundation, Give & Gather Bag |
| Multi-Faith Room | Schools District Exhibits |
| Parents' Room | Street Parade Route |
| Quiet Room | |
| Stroller & Wheelchair Hire | |

PAVILIONS

- Animal Pavilions**
- Heritage Pavilion**
- Lifestyle Pavilions**

FIND YOUR HAPPY PLACE!

(A) (B) (C) (D) (E) (F) (G) (H) (I) (J) (K) (L) (M) (N) (O) (P) (Q) (R) (S) (T) (U) (V) (W) (X)

Updated: January 2025



ENTRY ONLY UNTIL 2.30PM EACH DAY, THEN EXIT ONLY



Members & Their Guests Dining

SHOW DINING AND ENTERTAINMENT

HORDERN CAFÉ

Casual dining in the Members Stand. Don't miss out on the Members discount on hot breakfast only.
Dates: 11 - 22 April 2025
Hours: 7.30am-9pm

MEMBERS BAR

The perfect location for watching entertainment in the Main Arena. Enjoy live music every night.
Dates: 11 - 22 April 2025
Hours: 11am-midnight

Live Music: 9pm-Midnight
Venue: Members Stand

CHARLEY DINING ROOM

Charley Dining Room is for Members and their Guests, providing a dining experience the whole family can enjoy. With stunning views of the Main Arena through floor-to-ceiling windows, Charley Dining Room is a place of serenity and indulgence amid the excitement of the Show.
Dates: 11 - 22 April 2025
Lunch: 11.30am-2.30pm
Dinner: 5.30pm-9.30pm

ONLINE BOOKINGS:

BOOKINGS ARE NOW OPEN.

Bookings can only be made by RAS members.

Members bringing guests must ensure their guests have the appropriate access to the Members area.

Call: (02) 9704 1144 to make a reservation or book online at www.rasns.com.au/members

DRESS: Smart casual dress code regulations apply in the Charley Dining Room. To ensure your day runs smoothly for both you and your guests, please avail yourself of the dress regulations. www.rasns.com.au/regulations



Better farming, better eggs, better life.

Australians love eggs and their trust in the egg industry is strong – providing a source of great pride for Australian egg farmers.

The Australian egg industry makes a substantial contribution to the community, delivering affordable nutrition to Australians in the form of 18 million eggs every single day.

To help maintain the safe and sustainable supply of eggs to the community, Australian Eggs invests in marketing and research & development services for the benefit of Australian egg farmers.

To find out more about the Australian egg industry and view the extensive range of free recipes and meal plans, visit

www.australianeggs.org.au





Find Your Happy Place

It's easy to find your happy place at the 2025 Sydney Royal Easter Show!

It's easy to find your happy place at the most anticipated event of the year! The 2025 Sydney Royal Easter Show is bringing you all the excitement, entertainment, and heartwarming traditions you love. From thrilling carnival rides and delightful showbags to the adorable farmyard nursery and the ever-popular Woodchop, Rodeo, and Best in Show Dogs, there's something for everyone to enjoy, from babies to Baby Boomers.

Come and create unforgettable memories at the 2025 Sydney Royal Easter Show. We can't wait to see you there!

NEW DEBUT ATTRACTION

JAMISON STATION

Step into the enchanting world of Jamison Station and immerse yourself in the look and feel of a real working farm.

Spread across 2.5 acres, this delightful new attraction is set up with everything you'd expect, from lush crops and mighty tractors to bustling chicken coops and adorable farm animals, including cattle, sheep, pigs, goats, and even majestic Clydesdale horses. Watch live demonstrations, and for a touch of nostalgia, step back in time with gold

panning and marvel at the skills of a blacksmith.

With plenty of seating and a variety of food options, you can buy or bring your own picnic and enjoy the idyllic atmosphere of Jamison Station.

NEW ENTERTAINMENT

Get ready for the ultimate adrenaline rush with the **FLYING FOOLS HIGH DIVE SHOW!** Witness world-class divers perform breathtaking stunts from heights of up to 80 feet, combining flips,



twists, and synchronized dives that will leave you on the edge of your seat. This high-energy spectacle is perfect for families and thrill-seekers alike, offering a unique blend of excitement, humour, and awe-inspiring performances. Don't miss your chance to see these daring athletes in action and create unforgettable memories with your loved ones.

And get ready for an unforgettable experience at the **PAUL BUNYAN LUMBERJACK SHOW!** This high-energy event showcases the incredible skills and athleticism of world-class lumberjacks as they compete in thrilling challenges like log rolling and axe throwing. With a perfect blend of history, humour, and heart-pounding action, it's an event that promises to captivate audiences of all ages. Don't miss your chance to witness this unique and thrilling spectacle!

NEW INSIDE THE WOOLWORTHS FRESH FOOD DOME

As the most visited commercial pavilion at the Show, the Woolworths Fresh Food

Dome is the ultimate destination to savour an exciting range of Australian-made produce. It hosts the iconic District Exhibits, where primary producers, Sydney Royal medal winners, and exhibitors from across Australia showcase, sell, and sample an impressive variety of the freshest Australian food and beverage products.

Don't miss out on the unique opportunity to experience the best of Australian produce!

SYDNEY ROYAL MEDAL WINNERS

New within the Woolworths Fresh Food Dome is the Sydney Royal Medal Winners, bringing together a remarkable selection of award-winning produce from the Sydney Royal Fine Food Competitions.

Discover a vibrant array of flavours and products from talented local businesses, making this a must-visit destination for all attendees. Indulge in fresh bread, kombucha, jams, oils, meats, and much more!

THE VIEWING, A TASTING EXPERIENCE

offered by Show favourite, Bianco's. Indulge in an elevated food experience, literally

elevated high in the open plan mezzanine overlooking the expanse of the Woolworths Fresh Food Dome and iconic District Exhibits. This unique and premium experience will exceed your expectations and is exactly what you've been looking for at the Show—a place to relax, indulge, and recharge before continuing your day of exploration.

Three Handcrafted Canapés & a Drink: Delight in three chef-curated canapé items, paired with a refreshing beverage, designed to showcase Bianco's signature flavours. The menu caters to a range of dietary needs, ensuring flexibility for all guests.

Live Music & Seating: Unwind in thoughtfully arranged seating areas, where you can soak in the vibrant atmosphere and enjoy live music.

Join us for this upscale experience and treat yourself to a moment of indulgence and relaxation at this year's Show.

AQUACULTURE AREA: Dive into a world of fresh fish, succulent salmon, and luxurious caviar. This area is a seafood lover's paradise, offering the finest aquaculture products.



TOP-SHELF WINE AND DISTILLERY SAMPLING: Savour the best of top-shelf wines and premium spirits in our dedicated tasting area. Discover new favourites and enjoy the craftsmanship of Australia's finest winemakers and distillers.

ARCHIE ROSE DISTILLING CO. This year, Archie Rose is excited to bring their innovative Tailored Spirits Live pop-up to the Sydney Royal Easter Show, offering visitors a unique and interactive experience where they can personalise their very own Australian gin or whisky on the spot.

Visitors can choose from two different gin or whisky liquid blends and then have the option to design their own personalised label, tailoring the background colour, name and message on the back - making it the perfect memorabilia from the show.

Tailored Spirits Live will also feature the Signature Range and various Limited-Edition Archie Rose products available to taste and purchase.

NEW AT THE STABLES

Step into The Stables and be transported to a **NASHVILLE-INSPIRED HONKY**



TONK BAR! The ground floor boasts a Western-themed bar serving an impressive selection of US craft and mainstream beers, alongside a suite of Australian beer and wine. Let the lively country music set the tone as it floods the area.

Indulge in delicious pop-up catering from Burger Head, offering mouthwatering American burgers, and Duo Duo, serving up irresistible fried ice-cream.

The fun ramps up with Giant Jenga games on the lawn, arcade pinball machines, and electronic darts, ensuring there's never a dull moment.

Head upstairs to the **ANGUS STEAKHOUSE** restaurant and bar, where saloon tables and lounge spaces celebrate RAS entertainment and rodeo history, providing the perfect backdrop for a memorable night at the Show!

NEW RIDES

Kids Carnival is bringing the nostalgia of a traditional English seaside carnival ride with the lighthouse-themed **HELTER SKELTER** slide to President's Plaza. This classic attraction features a spiral-shaped slide built around the tower, promising great fun for all ages.

Incredibly eye-catching, the **SKY FLYER XXL** is the brand-new ride taking riders to new heights—with 60 jaw dropping metres of screams and laughter!

CEREMONIES & PARADES

OPENING CEREMONY

ENGIE STADIUM
SATURDAY 12 APRIL,
4.45PM -6.15PM
The Official Opening Ceremony of the Sydney Royal Easter Show holds tradition near to its heart with marching bands, a parade and inspection of Australian Defence Force troops, and a resounding rendition of the Australian National Anthem. Her Excellency Margaret Beazley AC KC, Governor of NSW officiating, and an address from the President of The Royal Agricultural Society of NSW, John Bennett, OAM.

GRAND PARADES

ENGIE STADIUM
SATURDAY, 12 APRIL, 4.00PM
MONDAY, 14 APRIL, 5.15PM
SATURDAY, 19 APRIL 4.50PM
The Sydney Royal Easter Show Grand Parade is believed to be the first of its kind

in the world and has been copied by every major agricultural show in Australia.

This iconic event has been taking place at the Show since 1907. Watch as the best-of-the-best in Australian agriculture make their way around the arena in a spectacular procession!

The Grand Parade is an opportunity to pay silent homage to Sydney Royal Competition winners including animals, producers, champion woodchoppers, and future community leaders, in a celebration of Australian agriculture. Why silent? Our four-legged participants are more used to the serene peace and quiet of life on the farm, so give them a friendly wave and hold the applause until after they have left the arena!

NSW MOUNTED POLICE MUSICAL RIDE

ENGIE STADIUM
12 APRIL, 5.40PM-6.05PM
16 APRIL 6.25PM-7.00PM
18 APRIL, 5.20PM-5.55PM
21 APRIL, 5.10PM-5.45PM
The RAS has enjoyed a long association with the NSW Mounted Police Unit. Initially performing as a Drill Display, which progressed to a Musical Ride, and then accompanied by the Police Band

since 1907, the Mounted Police have performed Musical Rides at every Sydney Royal Easter Show held since 1895.

2025 marks the 200th anniversary of the Formation of the NSW Mounted Police Unit, 100 years of Police Highway Patrol, and 50 years of Police Motor Bikes, with The New South Wales Police Band also celebrating 130 years since its original formation. This year's Ride display will include Mounted Police and Horses, Police Motorcycles, Police Band, Pipes and Drums Band, and even the Dog Unit. The Mounted Police display is considered one of the most spectacular rides in the world!

RETURNING FAVOURITES

THE DISTRICT EXHIBITS: AT THE HEART OF THE SHOW.

Each year, Showgoers flock to the iconic District Exhibits display in the Woolworths Fresh Food Dome, eager to see the diverse designs from the Central, Northern, Southern, and Western NSW districts. These displays, crafted over hundreds of hours by dedicated volunteer teams from each district, showcase the extraordinary talent and hard work of countless individuals.

Each District is incredibly competitive and passionate, and they love coming to Sydney to showcase their best. Many of the volunteers, producers, and farmers are continuing generations-long traditions of exhibiting at the Show.

So, stop by to admire the stunning displays and have a chat with a farmer. The members of each District are always eager to share their stories and enjoy a good yarn!

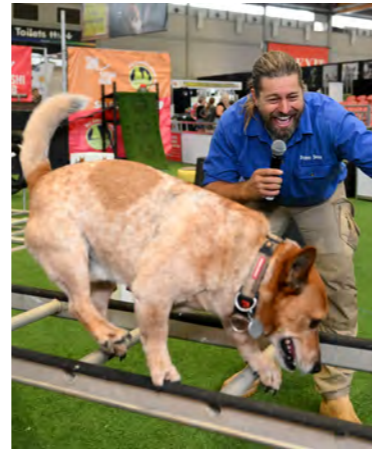
FARMYARD NURSERY

The Farmyard Nursery is everyone's favourite! It's where the chickens, sheep, and goats wander around freely, coming right up to say hello. Grab a cup of kibble to hand-feed these friendly animals. Feel the softness of feathers, fluffy wool, and the fur of our charming farmyard friends.

Watch the playful ducklings splash down their waterslide, giggle at the gaggle of geese waddling about, and don't forget to give the donkeys in their stalls a friendly pat. Our open-plan indoor paddock is where the farm truly comes to life.

ADVANCE™ SYDNEY ROYAL DOG SHOW

NEW: In 2025, alongside the beloved ADVANCE™ Sydney Royal Dog Show competitions, we are thrilled to announce



the addition of the prestigious **FCI INTERNATIONAL DOG SHOW**, held each afternoon during breed judging at the Show! This esteemed competition awards points that contribute to international standing and recognition, making it a must-see event for dog enthusiasts and competitors alike.

NEW: Building on last year's Oodles on Show success, we're excited to announce the expanded **'DOGS DAY OUT' MIXED BREEDS SHOW!** Join us on Sunday evening, 13 April, for a fun-filled event with fantastic prizes up for grabs, including Most Handsome, Prettiest, Best Groomed, Most Talented, Fancy Dressed, and Owner Look-a-like. Don't miss out on this pawsome celebration of our furry friends!

ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW

Step into a world where creativity knows no bounds at the Sydney Royal Arts & Crafts Show! More than just an exhibition, this event is a celebration of artistic expression and community, where the beauty of traditional crafts meets the innovation of contemporary art. Attracting over 5,000 entries across 400 classes, this is the biggest arts and crafts show in Australia.

From intricate embroidery to stunning sculptures, there's something to captivate every art lover. **And don't miss the Perishable Cooking competition** on the first day of the show, where you can watch the live judging of cakes, pastries, preserves, jams, confectionary, breads, rolls, and savoury dishes.

Whether you're an artist, a craft enthusiast, or simply looking for a delightful day out, the Sydney Royal Arts & Crafts Show promises an unforgettable experience for all. Come and be inspired!

SHEEP SHEARING

Experience the thrilling art of sheep shearing at this much-loved attraction where professional shearers showcase their incredible skills and precision. Audiences gain fascinating insights into the expertise required to shear sheep and hear engaging stories straight from the shearers themselves.

For those eager to be part of the action, select audience members are invited to try their hand at shearing, making it a fun and unforgettable hands-on experience. Perfect for all ages, this educational and interactive demonstration offers a unique blend of skill, tradition, and storytelling.

RIVERINA FRESH WORKING DAIRY

Visit the Riverina Fresh Working Dairy to discover where our food comes from. Dairy cows in Australia are typically milked twice a day, producing about 8.8 billion litres of milk each year. This is the milk we enjoy on our cereal, in our coffees, milkshakes, ice cream, cheese, and straight from the glass.

The Working Dairy's proud sponsor, 100% Australian-owned Riverina Fresh, has been supplying premium fresh milk and dairy products from Wagga Wagga, NSW, since 1922. Recently awarded Australia's Best Rated Fresh Milk Brand, Riverina Fresh is the modern dairy in action.

Experience state-of-the-art equipment and technology that helps farmers care for their cows and provide us with nutritious, high-quality fresh milk. Meet dairy farmers and experts to learn about the complexities, challenges, and rewards of dairy farming. Amazingly, the Working Dairy will produce around 14,000 litres of milk at this year's Sydney Royal Easter Show.

FARMER DAVE

Farmer Dave has been a beloved Show favourite for years, but it's his amazing

dogs that truly steal the spotlight. Whether they're showcasing Fun-gility or mastering Temptation Alley, these dogs tug at our heartstrings and remind us why they're man's best friend. Dave expertly blends entertainment with education, teaching us everything we need to know about dogs seven times a day in the Pet Entertainment Arena, proudly sponsored by Sushi Hub.

ALPACA PROMENADE

We've all walked a dog, but have you ever promenaded with an alpaca? The Alpaca Walk is one of the most popular stops at the Show and a firm favourite for anyone looking for a great selfie!

These adorable creatures are not only incredibly photogenic but also friendly and curious, making them the perfect companions for a leisurely stroll. Whether you're an animal lover, a selfie enthusiast, or simply looking for a fun and unique experience, the Alpaca Walk is a must-visit attraction that promises to delight visitors of all ages. Add a touch of alpaca magic to your Show experience!

AGRICULTURE COMPETITIONS & DISPLAYS

CATTLE

Get ready for an unforgettable experience at the Sydney Royal Cattle Show, one of Australia's most prestigious beef and dairy competitions! Attracting the biggest and most beautiful beasts from across the country, a win here is a matter of immense pride for exhibitors and can significantly boost auction sale prices.

Exhibitors from all over Australia will showcase their cattle, with up to 1,600 head of cattle onsite over the 12-day Show. You'll see six breeds of dairy cattle and up to 20 breeds of beef cattle, making this a must-see event for all cattle enthusiasts. Don't miss out on the excitement and grandeur of the Sydney Royal Cattle Show!

BIG BOAR DISPLAY

Step right up and marvel at Brock the Boar, a massive 400-kilogram star of the Show! Bred and raised by Brisbane Waters Secondary College, Brock was carefully selected for his size, health, and impressive appearance. As a standout representative of his breed, Brock's care has been a true team effort, with students playing a key role in his day-to-day well-being.

POULTRY & PIGEON

With over 2,500 exhibits from across Australia, the Sydney Royal Poultry & Pigeon Show is the premier event for



poultry enthusiasts and exhibitors. This iconic showcase features an incredibly diverse array of poultry, including chickens, pigeons, ducks, turkeys, geese, and guinea fowl, celebrating the finest in the industry.

Designed to engage and inspire, the **Hen House** offers a unique, hands-on experience that allows you to explore and immerse yourself in the fascinating world of poultry.

As you walk through this vibrant exhibit, you'll encounter a diverse array of breeds and varieties, each with its own story to tell. Educational information is thoughtfully placed throughout, ensuring that every step you take is filled with discovery and wonder. Whether you're a seasoned poultry enthusiast or a curious newcomer, the Hen House promises an unforgettable journey into the heart of avian life. Come and see for yourself – the Hen House is waiting to welcome you!

WOODCHOPPING & SAWING

Get ready for the heart-pounding excitement of the Woodchopping & Sawing competitions! Known as the 'Wimbledon of Woodchop,' this thrilling event showcases the incredible strength, skill, and precision of top competitors from around the globe.

With 210 competitors, including the first-ever female competitor from Ireland, and a total of 2,778 entries across all classes, the competition is fiercer than ever. This year, seven world

championships will be contested, including two women's events, and for the first time, competitors must qualify to enter, raising the stakes even higher. Don't miss the chance to witness this electrifying display of athleticism and tradition!

WRANGLER FEDERATION CHALLENGE RODEO

Since their introduction in 1931, rodeos at the Show have been a perennial favourite, drawing horses, riders, bulls, clowns, and enthusiastic crowds year after year. For six nights only, witness the heart-pounding, edge-of-your-seat excitement as man takes on beast in the Bull Ride, Bareback, and the famous Saddle Bronc.

But it's not just about the thrills and spills—points earned during the competitions at the Sydney Royal Easter Show contribute to riders' National standings.

EVENING ENTERTAINMENT & FIREWORKS

Each night of the Show promises a dazzling display of evening entertainment and fireworks that is not to be missed!

The fireworks grand finale is a breathtaking spectacle that guarantees jaw-dropping 'wow' moments. The Sydney Royal Easter Show's evening entertainment lineup is a celebration of artistry, excitement, and sheer visual delight, making it a must-see for all attendees. ●



The Journey to Leadership

Driving Forward the Future of Agriculture

The Royal Agricultural Society of NSW (RAS) has long been a cornerstone in enhancing the future of agriculture. Through its valued agricultural leadership programs and competitions, the RAS has provided a platform for young agricultural professionals to learn and develop, build networks, and launch their career in the industry. In this feature, we highlight the journeys and insights of four exceptional leaders who have come through our RAS programs and are now driving the future of agriculture forward.

AIMEE SNOWDEN:
EDUCATIONAL

ENTREPRENEUR

Aimee Snowden, a former RAS Youth Group Member and RAS Rural Achiever, has made significant strides in agricultural education. Growing up on a mixed irrigation farm in Tocumwal, NSW, Aimee's early years were shaped by the Millennium Drought. Despite initially pursuing a career in accounting, her heart was always in agriculture.

Aimee is the founder and creator of Little BRICK Pastoral, an initiative focused on agricultural education. Her involvement with the RAS, particularly as a 2016 RAS Rural Achiever, provided her with unique insights into the role of agricultural shows in education and engagement. Supported by AgriFutures

Australia, Aimee recently completed a Nuffield Scholarship, focusing on immersive experiences for Australian primary school students. Her work aims to bridge the gap between the classroom and the agricultural industry, showcasing food and fibre production to the next generation.

TOBIE PAYNE:

FARMING WITH DATA

Tobie Payne, a former RAS Youth Group Member and Trustee of the Royal Agricultural Society of the Commonwealth, has carved a niche in the agricultural machinery and technology sector. Born in Parkes, NSW, Tobie's early exposure to agriculture came from his

father's contract harvesting work and their 100-acre block.

Tobie now works as the National Key Accounts Manager for CNH, a global agricultural machinery company. His role involves working with corporate farming clients and dealer networks across Australia and New Zealand.

"Agriculture is such a diverse and 'ever-changing industry,'" Tobie says. "There has never been a more exciting time to have a career in agriculture in Australia."

The RAS has played a significant role in Tobie's career, providing networking opportunities and experiences such as attending the Royal Agricultural Society of the Commonwealth Conference. "None of this would have been possible without my involvement with the RAS of NSW," he acknowledges.

Although Tobie doesn't own his own farm yet, he is passionate about the potential of ag-tech and digital farming. "These days, farmers are focusing more on using data to drive sustainability, efficiencies, and profitability," he explains. Innovations like the Starlink mini are reducing connectivity barriers, making it an exciting time for digital farming.

PRUE MCCORMACK:

VETERINARY VISIONARY

Prue McCormack, a former RAS Rural Achiever and current RAS Rural Achiever Chaperone, has a deep-rooted connection to agriculture. Her family's farm in Gresford, NSW, has been home to six generations, with the seventh already learning the ropes.

Prue's career in agriculture was influenced by her love for both agriculture and business studies. She initially worked as an equine dentist before pursuing a degree in veterinary science. Today, she is a Senior Veterinary Officer with the Department of Agriculture and runs her own veterinary ambulatory business, Leyenda Livestock Services.

The RAS has been a valuable resource for Prue, providing a network of knowledgeable individuals to discuss topics and run ideas past. "Agriculture is a big industry, but at the same time a small one," she notes.

"The network of the RAS allowed me to discuss topics and run ideas past some of the most knowledgeable in the industry."

On her farm, Prue focuses on small improvements in efficiencies, such as



administering additional vitamins and supplements, monitoring the market, and trading at optimal times. "Our theory is to focus on the 1% improvements and see how they compound," she explains. This approach has helped her capitalize on market opportunities and optimize cash flow throughout the year.

RUBEY WILLIAMS:

ALPACA ADVOCATE

Rubey Williams, a Finalist in The Land Sydney Royal AgShows NSW Young Woman competition and an Alpaca Young Judge National Champion, has been immersed in the alpaca industry from a young age. Growing up on her family's farm in the Southern Highlands of NSW, Rubey's passion for alpacas was ignited when she received her first show-quality female alpaca at just 13 years of age. Today, she works full-time on her family farm, Storybook Alpacas, in Eugowra, NSW, which boasts the largest alpaca herd in NSW.

Rubey says that her involvement with the RAS has been instrumental in her career.

"My association with the RAS and their programs has instilled within me a level of self-confidence and ambition"

"The RAS has given young people like me the opportunity to network with other like-minded individuals," she says.

Rubey's journey took a pivotal turn during the pandemic when she decided to pursue a degree in Agricultural Business Management. Her family's transition from corporate jobs to full-time farming inspired her to chase a career that fills both her bank account and her heart. "Out went Dr. Rubey, and Farmer Rubey took her place," she reflects.

On their farm, Rubey and her family focus on sustainability and efficiency through innovative practices such as fleece sales, live animal export, and ecotourism. Her recent trip to Peru highlighted the global significance of the alpaca industry, reinforcing her pride in being part of this unique sector.

These Agricultural Leaders exemplify the passion, innovation, and dedication driving the future of agriculture. Through their diverse experiences and insights, they highlight the vital role of the RAS in supporting and nurturing the next generation of agricultural leaders. As they continue to push the boundaries and explore new opportunities, their contributions will continue to drive forward the future of Australian agriculture for years to come. ●

Above, clockwise from top left: Aimee Snowden, Tobie Payne, Prue McCormack and Rubey Williams. **Opposite:** Rubey Williams on her family farm, Storybook Alpacas, Eugowra NSW.



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Forward Thinking

When a group of colonists first met in Sydney in 1822 to form the Agricultural Society of New South Wales, their whole reason for doing so was to drive agriculture forward. Ever since, the Society has pursued that same goal, reaching out to people in different ways over two centuries to offer encouragement, the latest information, or a helping hand—all to improve life on the land and agricultural output.

It seems an unlikely place to gather to form an agricultural society—at a Sydney shop selling clocks, ladies' jewellery, oriental stones, and mathematical instruments—but that's where a group of leading citizens met to wrestle out the aims and rules of their proposed organisation. Presumably, watchmaker James Robertson's premises at 57 Castlereagh Street, had a large enough area beyond the shop floor to accommodate the discussion. But what's not surprising, is

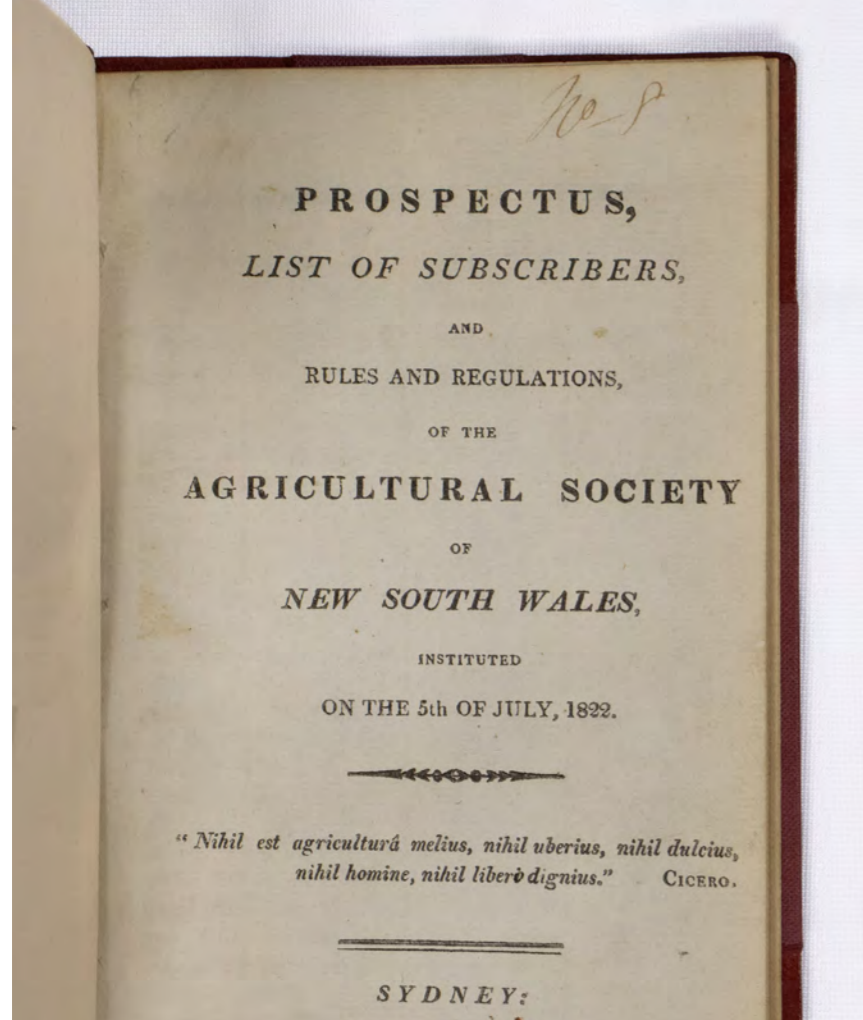
the impetus behind the group's formation, because the Agricultural Society of New South Wales was very much a child of its times—born out of a global age of improvement.

Things were changing in Europe and America; the Industrial Revolution was beginning to bear fruit with advances in technology that would affect how everything was made and used. Traditional methods gave way to new. Scientific discoveries grew apace. And the middle classes were rising,

prompting big social and political changes that continued throughout the nineteenth century.

Echoes of those forces can be heard in the Society's prospectus—the key document to come out of the shop meeting—which crucially stressed the need for 'scientific farming' and the importance of co-operation and sharing knowledge:

Above: Northern District Exhibit group photograph, 1917.



It is nothing to the prosperity of a Colony, that one or two individuals possess highly improved cattle or sheep, or can show a well-tilled field, or a meadow of English grasses; the plantation can only be said to flourish when the means of obtaining these advantages are placed within the reach of all, and when a public spirit of agricultural improvement shall be implanted in the breast of all. (Prospectus, 1822.)

Aspirational goals were backed up by practical measures. The meeting decided that:

- A stock fund would be established, with subscribers paying £25 each to a pool so that quality breed animals might be imported from overseas to raise the standard of local flocks and herds.
- An annual Show of stock, samples of wool, seeds, implements, and 'any other Articles tending to the Improvement of Agriculture' would be held at Parramatta, with rewards, to encourage competition, given to the best.
- The general committee would purchase whatever agricultural books it saw fit, or that were suggested to it by other members.

Although that last point seems modest in scope and ambition, it's actually quite telling.

For the next one hundred years, the gathering and dissemination of the latest information would become one of the Society's most important roles. In effect, the Agricultural Society would behave as a de facto Department of Agriculture, decades before one was established.

SELF-IMPROVEMENT

Fast forward to the late 1860s when the Agricultural Society remade itself, leaving its old heartland of Parramatta to set up professional offices and a new Show venue in the city. With the development of the railways, Sydney was better placed as a hub for people to come together. Outside of Showtime, the Society's headquarters was a place to meet, do business, and attend lectures given by leading experts on agricultural topics. Members were also encouraged to consult the Society's library. Its growing collection of agricultural texts included the latest journals from

overseas. But the library was not much good to those who lived far afield. It was time for the Society to begin producing its own journal. Developments in printing technology meant this was now economically feasible, especially with railways in place to help with prompt distribution. Importantly, as well as passing on international developments, the journal would report and advise on Australian conditions and experiments.

THE JOURNAL 1868–1878

The Journal of the Agricultural Society of New South Wales was planned as a monthly publication and was run by the Journal and Scientific Committee whose members included scientists. It was an interactive forum. The editors promised to respond to individual requests for information from readers, either directly or as articles. Readers were encouraged to experiment on their properties and share the results, along with their local knowledge. These submissions were carefully checked by the committee. The Journal's correspondence pages were lively with exchanges of information too, with advice often given reader to reader. Particulars, concerning markets, trade and wages, and meteorological data gathered from different districts, were also supplied.

One of the Journal's committeemen was Charles Watt, an analytical chemist at the University of Sydney. Via an arrangement with the Society, Watt and his staff offered a tailored scientific service to Society members for a small fee. This most often entailed soil, plant, and water testing, but Watt and his team also conducted detailed investigations into pests and diseases. Those reports invariably appeared in the Journal too. Initially the Society had even bolder research and development plans with hopes of building its own experimental farm, but by the time the government came up with land for that purpose, it was beyond the Society's means to realise the project.

SCHOLARSHIPS

In 1891, the government finally established a Department of Agriculture, but only as an adjunct to the existing and much more powerful Department of Mines. With its connections all over the colony and the competitive hothouse of

Above: Original Prospectus of the Agricultural Society of New South Wales, 1822



its ever-growing annual Show, the Royal Agricultural Society remained the most dynamic force in the sector until 1908, when the Ag Department finally became a separate entity. One 1891 initiative of the new department was the establishment of the Hawkesbury Agricultural College. The very next year, students from the College visited the Show for educational purposes and then continued to do so ever after. Student numbers and courses rapidly expanded.

In 1917, the RAS revisited its education policy and voted to fund a three-year scholarship at Hawkesbury valued at £100 per annum. This was duly reported in the 1917 RAS Annual, a generalist publication which the Society issued between 1906-1929 as a replacement for the discontinued Journal. At the same time, the Council voted to import £100 worth of seeds from America and Canada that were to be exhibited at the Show, then handed over to approved farmers for field trials. Additionally, the Society's library was to be boosted with the purchase of new works that would be circulated to members by post for a small annual subscription fee. As these initiatives show, the RAS was still playing an active part in pushing innovation, and

Above: Reynolds family & labourers harvesting wheat with horse drawn plough and scythes, c. 1910.

still doing everything it could to get information out to its far-flung bases.

In 1919, the RAS provided another scholarship, this time for a Hawkesbury graduate to attend the University of Sydney to obtain a degree in either agricultural or veterinary science. Over the years, additional scholarships were established, strengthening the connections between the RAS, agricultural colleges, and the University. Students and graduates regularly visited or exhibited at the Show, often serving as stewards and judges, further solidifying these relationships. Many, of course, went on to become RAS members and Councillors.

NEXT GENERATION

The RAS did not forget the youngest up-and-comers. In the 1920s, it joined forces with the Education Department and other peak bodies to start a state-wide network of Junior Farmers Clubs. Teachers were paid extra to run the clubs, which catered for youth aged 10-25. At the clubs, young people had a chance to socialise, do project work, learn public speaking and civic engagement, exhibit at local shows, and attend specially run camps at the Sydney Show. The movement took off. The first club opened in Glenn Innes in November 1928, and just twelve months later there were 43 more with around 800 members. By the 1950s, there were 245

clubs with nearly 8500 members. In 1966, the organisation changed its name to the Rural Youth Organisation of New South Wales and continues today, albeit without the direct support of the RAS, which turned its focus to other programs.

Recognising the need to foster confident female leadership in the bush, the RAS started the Miss Showgirl competition in 1962 (now known as The Land Sydney Royal AgShows NSW Young Woman competition). And in a bid to identify and boost rising talent across all sectors of the agricultural industry, it instituted the RAS Rural Achiever award in 1990. In 2007, the RAS's scholarship program was significantly enhanced with the inception of the RAS Foundation, which to date has provided scholarship assistance to over 900 students committed to the development of rural and regional Australia.

From that first committee meeting in the colonial clockmaker's shop to the latest at Sydney Olympic Park, the Society has been consistent in its ambition to push agriculture and its people forward towards a smarter, better future. Whether that was by putting information into the hands of ordinary men and women on the land, or by nurturing those with special promise, respect for the value of science and co-operative effort has been behind it all. ●



RAS Foundation

Fundraising at the Sydney Royal Easter Show
Birds in the Bush: Empowering Change in the Central West

The RAS Foundation is thrilled to announce that Birds in the Bush, a dedicated grassroots organisation, has been selected as the recipient of the 2025 RAS Foundation Charity Brunch.

The volunteer-run not-for-profit is making remarkable progress in addressing domestic violence in the Central West. Their mission is to raise awareness and provide support through empowerment, fundraising, advocacy, and education.

Birds in the Bush was founded by Vanessa Vazquez, who saw a need to increase awareness of how prevalent domestic violence is, and to highlight that it is not restricted to people from lower socioeconomic backgrounds. Vanessa also sought to garner awareness of services by supporting and raising funds for the local women's refuge, The Orchard, which at the time, faced opposition from those who didn't want a domestic violence shelter in their own backyard.

According to the NSW Recorded Crime Statistics quarterly update of June 2022, "Central West saw an increase of sexual assault and domestic violence by 28%, one of the largest increases in New South Wales".

Birds in the Bush aims to raise between

\$50,000 to \$100,000 annually for The Orchard location in Orange. The Orchard Orange offers a safe and supportive environment for women and children experiencing domestic and family violence. This sanctuary provides trauma-informed physical design for independent living, ensuring privacy and intensive support when needed most. The choice to stay within their community allows victim survivors to maintain their established support networks, including family, friends, and services, and continue their employment and education.

In 2024, Birds in the Bush's fundraising efforts contributed significantly to The Orchard Orange, covering the salaries of refuge support workers and managers, funding essential care packages, and equipping an all-purpose treatment room.

For 2025, their goals are even more ambitious. They plan to refurbish the six family units at The Orchard Orange, replacing worn-out items to continue offering beautiful, welcoming homes for over 240 women and children who have sought refuge since its opening. Additionally, Birds in the Bush would like to support The Orchard location in Bathurst by contributing to a playground facility for visiting families and children.

Play therapy within The Orchard facilities provides children with a safe space to process their emotions, regain control, and rebuild positive connections in their environment.

The 2025 RAS Foundation Charity Brunch will take place on Wednesday 16 April. Tickets can be purchased at <https://www.universe.com/events/2025-ras-foundation-charity-brunch-tickets-NWLR73>



The RAS Foundation is proud to support Birds in the Bush in their noble mission. Their dedication to creating a safe and supportive environment for women and children in the Central West is truly inspiring. We look forward to seeing the positive impact of their efforts in the coming year.



Exploring Peru's Rich Alpaca Heritage

The RAS Cohort's Inspiring Journey

In a remarkable journey of discovery and learning, a special tour of Peru was recently organised for a select cohort of young leaders from Australia's alpaca industry. The RAS Foundation facilitated this initiative in collaboration with members of the Australian Alpaca Association, and with sponsorship from Coolaroo and Janie Forrest. (The RAS Foundation serves as a key vehicle for advancing the RAS mission through charitable activities, with a particular focus on education, scholarships, and community grants.)

Under the leadership of Janie Forrest, RAS Pig & Alpaca Committee Chair and RAS Foundation Board Member, the Coolaroo Peruvian Alpaca Study Tour gave participants what is perhaps a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to explore Peru's vibrant culture and alpaca heritage.

The tour aimed to equip the next generation of Australian alpaca industry leaders with valuable knowledge and insights from the world's best, fostering their growth and driving the Australian

alpaca industry forward. The seven young leaders who participated gained insights into cutting-edge industry technology, veterinary science, textile production processes, and expert judging, thanks to a clinic conducted by some of the best alpaca judges in the world.

Alana McKewin, the RAS Small Livestock Events Manager, was honoured to join the tour. She shared, "Visiting Peru was truly an eye-opening experience that offered a deeper understanding of the alpaca industry. The trip provided invaluable insights into the broader industry, including breeding practices, fleece quality, fibre and garment production, and the challenges the sector faces globally."

Janie Forrest led the tour from her deep passion for not only the alpaca industry itself, but also for the future of youth involved. Commenting on the future, she says, "[the Australian alpaca] industry is a fledgling one that requires the number of animals to reach a critical mass before it can become commercially viable. It is going

to take some time, but with the assistance of organisations such as agricultural shows and the Sydney Royal, the delight in showing sustains many breeders, underpinned by the education and commercial opportunities the RAS offers."

Janie also commented that, "In recent years, schools have added alpacas to their agricultural plots. Given their ease of management, and at only 60-70 kilos as an adult, alpacas provide children in schools with a versatile livestock. Learning encompasses animal management, be it handling as one needs to do with a horse, as well as meat and fleece production."

The Coolaroo Peruvian Alpaca Study Tour was a multifaceted experience that went beyond learning about alpaca farming. It served as a platform for knowledge exchange and the sharing of best practices. The experience highlighted to participants the importance of sustainable practices and cultural preservation, paving the way for future collaboration and growth in the alpaca industry. ●



"Being selected as a President's Medal finalist recognises that our values and processes align with those of a modern business, committed to a sustainable financial future while enhancing the community and environment."
Gary and Jo Rodely, Owners



COBRAM ESTATE OLIVES

Location: Boort, Victoria

Product: Cobram Estate Ultra Premium Hojiblanca Extra Virgin Olive Oil 500mL

Over the past 25 years, Cobram Estate has grown to become the clear market leader in the Australian olive industry and a global leader in sustainable olive farming. Cobram Estate's passion for quality inspires everything they do. They take a tree-to-table approach to create fresh, healthy, award-winning Australian extra virgin olive oil.

"We are thrilled and incredibly proud that the quality of our extra virgin olive oils, as well as the sustainability and integrity of our production practices, have been recognised by the Royal Agriculture Society NSW naming Cobram Estate as a finalist at the 18th President's Medal. From our olive groves to our mills and bottling facilities, we are driven to do everything we can to create fresh, healthy, award winning extra virgin olive oil."

Leandro Ravetti, Co-CEO and Chief Oil Maker

GUMSHIRE PORK

Location: Keyneton, South Australia

Product: Gumshire Pork Hampshire Pork Loin

Nestled in South Australia's Barossa region, Gumshire Pork is a family-owned and operated farm. Combining tradition



with cutting-edge innovation, Gumshire prioritises high animal welfare, environmental stewardship, and community engagement. Their deep-litter eco-shelters, circular farming practices, and partnerships with local businesses reflect a commitment to sustainability. By collaborating with universities, industry, and conservation groups, they champion progressive research in genetics, renewable energy, and biodiversity. Gumshire Pork's dedication to producing premium pork while fostering ethical farming practices exemplifies their passion for excellence and vision for a resilient, sustainable future.

"Being a President's Medal finalist is an incredible honour that validates our commitment to sustainability, innovation, and community. It inspires us to continue pushing boundaries in ethical farming and to proudly showcase Australian agriculture at its best."

Shaun Blenkiron, Owner



INGLEWOOD ORGANIC

Location: Inglewood, Queensland

Product: Inglewood Organic Chicken, Whole Bird

Inglewood Organic produces certified organic free-range chicken. Based in Queensland, Inglewood Organic uses organic agricultural practices to enrich soil health and foster biodiversity, ensuring long-term environmental stewardship. This organic approach to animal welfare emphasises healthy, naturally raised chickens, resulting in superior taste and nutritional quality. Inglewood Organic is an Australian family farm with three generations involved in the business, represented by eleven family members holding various roles. They are committed to taking their

18th Annual President's Medal Finalists

Celebrating Culinary Excellence

The RAS President's Medal stands as the pinnacle of excellence of the Sydney Royal Wine, Beer & Cider, Distilled Spirits, Cheese & Dairy Produce, and Fine Food Shows.

Awarded annually by the President of the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW, this prestigious accolade recognises Australia's finest producers for their unwavering commitment to integrity and excellence in production.

Judging is based on a comprehensive triple bottom line approach, evaluating environmental, economic, and social-good management practices throughout the entire production cycle, from farm gate to plate.

ANGEL OYSTERS AUSTRALIA

Location: Port Lincoln, South Australia

Product: Angel Seafood Whole Live Pacific Oysters - Bistro

In 2011, a transformative journey into oyster farming began, capitalising on a unique opportunity as many industry veterans retired. This allowed for rapid growth and innovation within the sector. Angel Oysters Australia became the first oyster farmers to achieve both Certified Organic and Sustainable Certification, setting new industry standards.

Their commitment to environmentally friendly practices led to the development of a floating system that minimises impact on the seafloor and waterways. Dedication to producing high-quality oysters with significant health and environmental benefits has driven their success. From selling 30,000 dozen oysters with one full-time employee in the first year, they have grown to an anticipated 2 million dozen oysters with

110 full-time employees in FY 2025. Their hard work and innovative practices have positioned them as industry leaders.

"After working tirelessly for a long period of time, to achieve such recognition is an honour."

Zac Halman, Founder



deep agricultural roots into an innovative and sustainable future, prioritising the use of their resources to value and benefit their community. "The President's Medal is an opportunity to tell our business story and to encourage our team who put in a lot of hard work to produce a quality organic product for our customers. We are humbled to be shortlisted alongside such outstanding Australian producers, we are proud of the Australian agricultural industry and how Australia leads the world with quality agricultural products." **Katrina Hobbs, Managing Director**



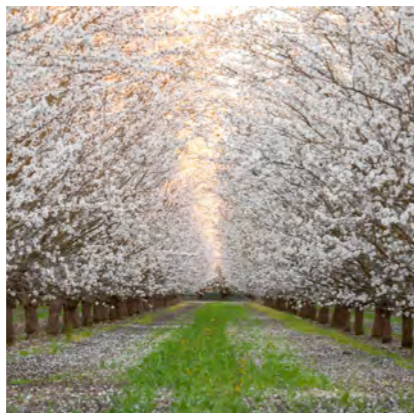
LORD HOWE ISLAND DISTILLING CO

Location: Lord Howe Island, New South Wales
Product: Wolfe Rock Gin

Lord Howe Island Distilling Co. is a craft distillery inspired by the unique biodiversity and pristine beauty of UNESCO World Heritage-listed Lord Howe Island. Founded by Anthony Riddle, a 6th generation Islander, and Christian Young who grew up on the Island each Summer with his family for over 20yrs, they have a passion for quality, sustainability, craftsmanship, and a deep love for the Island.

The distillery creates premium spirits using endemic and wild, native, locally foraged botanicals, capturing the essence of the island in every bottle. Known for its award-winning gin, including gold in the Australian Gin Awards, the company combines traditional techniques with innovative practices to produce exceptional small-batch spirits. "Being a Royal Agricultural Society NSW President's Medal finalist is an incredible honour that celebrates our dedication to sustainability, craftsmanship, and showcases the

unique biodiversity of Lord Howe Island. This recognition inspires us to continue innovating and sharing Australia's rich agricultural heritage with the world." **Christian Young & Anthony Riddle, Co-Founders**



MANDOLÉ ORCHARD

Location: Lake Wyangan, New South Wales
Product: Mandolé Orchard Smooth Unsalted Australian Almond Butter

Mandolé Orchard is a family-owned and sustainably operated almond orchard located in Griffith, NSW. The orchard is dedicated to growing and producing high-quality Australian almonds and almond-based products with the simplest of ingredients. Mandolé Orchard produces Australia's only award-winning single origin almond milk and almond butter, offering a clean, fresh, and delicious alternative that stands out in the market.

In 2024, Mandolé Orchard entered the Sydney Royal Fine Food Awards for the first time, winning nine gold medals and one silver medal, with every product receiving a medal. The Unsalted Almond Butter was awarded Champion Plant Based Product, further highlighting the excellence of their almond-based products. "Being recognised as a President's Medal finalist is an honour and incredibly humbling for our family and our team. It not only reinforces the unquestionable quality of our products, but it also highlights the importance we place on integrating sustainable practices into every facet of our business. This only motivates us to continue innovating and delivering the very best for our customers, both sustainably and ethically."

Jenna and Tom Stefanovic, Directors



RECKLESS BREWING CO

Location: Bathurst, New South Wales
Product: BX Old

Based in Bathurst and dedicated to making simply the best beer possible, Reckless Brewing Co. is the brainchild of long-time friends Grace (Head Brewer), Jarrod, and Alice (Beer Approvers). Driven by a desire to craft the kinds of beers they each loved best, they've spent years finding the freshest ingredients, perfecting their brewing skills, and carving out a fanbase of fellow beer lovers all over Australia—from the regions to the inner reaches of our biggest cities—with their award-winning range of esky-fillers. Made by best mates, for you to enjoy with yours.

"We are beyond stoked to be a finalist for the President's Medal. Our whole team work so hard day-in, day-out to produce our beers to the highest quality, so this really is an indicator of their hard work!"

Grace Fowler, Founder

TATHRA OYSTERS

Location: Mimosa Rocks National Park, New South Wales
Product: Nelson Lagoon Cocktail Bag

Tathra Oysters is a family-owned business growing Sydney Rock Oysters in Nelson Lagoon, within Mimosa Rocks National Park on the far south coast of New South Wales. For over 36 years, the Rodely family has been dedicated to cultivating these oysters and ensuring their survival. They are also committed to caring for the environment of Mimosa Rocks National Park, where they farm.

The solar-powered Tathra Oysters farm produces approximately 1 million mature oysters each season and up to 10 million juvenile oysters for other farmers to grow to maturity. ●

Jamison Station

LOCATED AT THE PADDOCK

Step into the enchanting world of a real working farm

At the 2025 Sydney Royal Easter Show, you can step into the enchanting world of 'Jamison Station' and immerse yourself in the look and feel of a real working farm.

Spread across 2.5 acres, this delightful new attraction is set up with everything you'd expect, from lush crops and mighty tractors to bustling chicken coops and

adorable farm animals, including cattle, sheep, pigs, goats, and even majestic Clydesdale horses.

Explore the natural setting with barn-style shaded areas and navigate the fun-filled hay-bale maze. Watch live demonstrations at the milking barn and get up close and personal with alpacas at the alpaca meet & greet. For a touch of nostalgia, step back in

time with gold panning and marvel at the skills of a blacksmith.

With plenty of seating and a variety of food options, you can buy or bring your own picnic and enjoy the idyllic atmosphere of Jamison Station. It's an experience that promises fun and relaxation for the whole family, making it a must-see highlight of this year's Show!



