

THE RASTUS

AUGUST 2019

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA UPDATE SERVICE



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Riedel Public Tasting

The Riedel Public Tasting is open to all members of the public. It showcases wine from the Wine Show by offering tastings and information. This event provides an excellent opportunity for wine lovers to extend their knowledge about

wine characteristics and trends. Each year the event has approximately 1700 entries and therefore, provides the tasting with a full range of wine, creating a truly authentic wine tasting experience for members of the public.



Food Awards highlight Tasmania's industry

The Royal Hobart Fine Food Awards moved into new territory last month with the addition of an olive oil workshop led by two experts in the field. Increasingly, food industry partnerships such as this will become a feature of the Awards.

Judging in this year's Awards saw a great result for Tasmanian food products. Forty percent of all entrants were Tasmanian, but 73 percent of Champions and Reserve Champions turned out to be Tasmanian. It shows that Tasmania's food reputation is well deserved.

You can find a list of winners announced so far at our website:

www.hobartshowground.com.au/royal-hobart-fine-food-awards



Wine takes centre stage in Hobart

Lots happening this month during the Royal Hobart Wine Show. Judges are arriving soon from as far away as Japan.

Judging occurs between August 12th and 15th with some 20 judges assessing this year's entries. Seven of these judges and associate judges are Tasmanian. Dates that might interest you:

- August 16th: Awards presentation as part of the Trade Tasting. As part of this event at the Showground, the chairman of Judges will give a brief overview of this year's show, and the minor awards will be announced. This event is open to all exhibitors and anyone in the wine industry.
- On the same day, the Riedel Public Tasting is open to anyone with an interest in wine, the following evening, August 17th, the Fine Wine & Dine Dinner will see major trophies presented for the Wine Show and the Fine Food Awards. (See story in this edition). Read more at: <http://www.hobartshowground.com.au/royal-hobart-wine-show>



Fine Dining, but tickets are selling fast...

To celebrate and give well deserved recognition to the award winners of both, the Royal Hobart Fine Food Awards and the Royal Hobart Wine Show, the Society hosts an annual dinner every August. This year, it's on August 17th.

Why not join us- although you will have to be quick. Some 73% of available seats have now been sold with tables of 10 snapped up by various food and wine industry bodies.

The Awards evening includes announcements of major awards in both the wine show and the food awards and showcases gold medal wine and produce. Included in the ticket price is a multiple course meal, designed and created by award winning executive chef, Paul Foreman.

The menu is put together using award winning produce from the previous year's Royal Hobart Fine Food Awards, accompanied by gold medal winning wine. Details and bookings can be found and made via our website: www.hobartshowground.com.au/fine-wine-dine-dinner or call our office staff on: 0362 726 812.



Royal Hobart Show (October 23-26)

Planning for the 2019 Royal Hobart Show is now reaping benefits just two months out from the big event. The society welcomes back the Tasmanian Government to this year's Show with a whole-of-government display. It's a chance for showgoers to find out about government and agency services to the Tasmanian community.

The Show is also mounting a major food hub this year which will be located on the Show Village Lawn. Interest and bookings from food businesses is high. Show bags will be moving to the southern end of the Arena this year with the huge kennel section moving in to the HIT 100.9 Pavilion.

This is because some restricted demolition work will be occurring next to Bunnings in preparation for the building of the big Spotlight retail outlet on Showground land facing onto Howard Rd. New to the Show this year will be a children's pageant, and the Society warmly welcomes a major new sponsor, First National Real Estate, which is partnering the society to bring some top acts to Tasmania, including a human cannon ball.

Also- and you heard it here first- a new Tasmanian electricity retailer to be called G-Power will be launched at the Show this year.



Great incentive to enter the Show

A South Australian photography business is making a generous offer to entrants in this year's Royal Hobart Show. Fresh Photo Image will be donating a \$2000 voucher for a photo shoot for anyone who wins first place at any event at the 2019 Show.

There will also be a \$500 voucher for anyone who wins second or third place and an additional \$300 ticket for anyone who buys an early bird ticket to the show on-line.



A long association

The Southern Tasmanian Bantam Club has just held its 70th Anniversary Show with 36 exhibitors entering 542 birds. The Club was established in 1949 and has been resident at the Hobart Showground Poultry Pavilion ever since.

Throughout those years, the Club has maintained a strong association with the Showground. Society CEO Scott Gadd is Patron of the Club.

The Club won international recognition when it launched its rooster round-up campaign three years ago in association with RAST. Not only did this initiative attract national news but was also covered by Reuters and the Huffington Post.

The rooster round-up aims to lessen the problem of stray roosters which inhabit bush environs close to Hobart.



Vale Graham Hughes

Graham Paul Hughes, who was a Life Member of the Society, passed away recently. He was immensely proud of his association with the RAST both as a Life Member and for his involvement with the Show as a Stock Inspector with the then Department of Agriculture.

Interestingly, Graham's Life Membership was purchased for him 74 years ago for his 21st Birthday, as a present from his Parents. Our condolences to Graham's family, including his two sons, Chris and Paul Hughes.

