

# Annual Report 2015 – 2016



The Royal Agricultural Society of Tasmania





## The Royal Agricultural Society of Tasmania

### Our Mission

To promote excellence in Tasmania's products and resources through exhibition and education

### Our Values

We value:

- Agriculture, heritage and the environment
- Competitive advantage through knowledge, training and demonstration
- Customer service and community partnerships
- Our staff and our volunteers
- Our sponsors and our exhibitors
- Leadership through innovation and reward
- The involvement of youth
- Diligence, accuracy and fair judgement

### Our History

The Royal Agricultural Society of Tasmania traces its history back to 1821 when a group of residents of Van Diemen's Land corresponded with the Official Secretary and gained approval for the establishment of a Society for the protection of animals. Thus Tasmania has the distinction of being the first colony in Australia to form an Agricultural Society when the "Van Diemen's Land Agricultural Society" was formed in Hobart Town on 1st January 1822. The first show was conducted in January 1822, in the Old Market Place, just in front of the present State Parliament House.

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**The Royal Agricultural Society of Tasmania**  
**Annual Report 2015 - 2016**

# The Royal Agricultural Society of Tasmania

## Annual Report 2015-2016

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### President's Report

The Royal Agricultural Society of Tasmania continues to build on a tradition that first began back in 1821 and again, this year has delivered a range of activities, services, functions and events to promote agriculture in Tasmania and the Society in general. With a new showground footprint we have faced many challenges during the year yet the Society has grown and benefited from this new arrangement.

The 'new' Showground setup worked well and I know our staff are already working toward more improvements for next year.

Now that the new Bunnings store is built and open to the public on land leased from the Society, the income we are receiving on the lease means the RAST has entered into an exciting new chapter in our 194 year history. This is possibly the most significant one to date, that leverages commercial enterprise to support community activity, events and recreation under the banner of promoting agriculture and related industries. Agricultural Societies around the world are currently facing significant challenges - declining attendances, sponsorship, and commercial space, increased competition, ageing infrastructure, and limited government support. Maintaining relevance in an increasing technological and connected world is a major challenge that we also face. The model we are now pursuing provides certainty and sustainability as we move forward in this ever changing environment.

Under the leadership of our CEO, Scott Gadd, and our executive team of Julie King and Jenelle Burleigh, the staff have performed extremely well in delivering some excellent results for the Society. The site looks the best it has in many years and reflects the pride taken by the Ground Crew in their work. Our dedicated staff and management continue to overcome any issues and present a professional, creative, community spirited and financially responsible face for the organisation.

The use of 'work-for-dole' crews has enabled a range of improvements to happen that otherwise would never have been possible.

During the year we welcomed two new Councillors in Simone Hayers and Dwayne Schubert.



Dwayne Schubert, Rural Ambassador

Simone comes with an extensive background in Rural Youth and Agfest and is already taking control of our functions committee. Dwayne, our Rural Ambassador winner in 2015, has years of experience with Royal Shows in Brisbane and Sydney and is a welcome addition to the RAST. I look forward to seeing both taking on even more responsibility in the future.

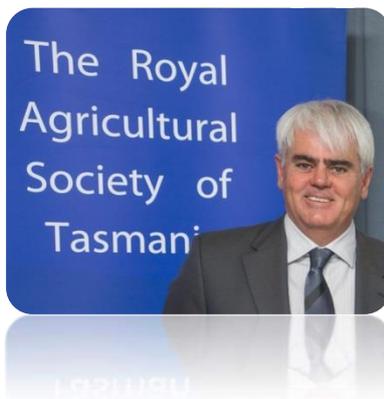
A special thanks to our Independent Director Stephen Shirley who will be stepping down this year. His support and guidance, especially in the financial areas, has been immeasurable and we will sorely miss his input on the Board.

As Chair of the Australian Council of Agricultural Societies (ACAS) I am excited by the prospect of the new Agricultural Shows of Australia (ASA). This new body will encompass the former ACAS and FCAS (Federation of Agricultural Societies) and will represent both Royal Capital City and regional shows. It will facilitate the sharing of resources, information and skills as well as advocating in a more effective way on behalf of the whole show movement in Australia. It has been an honour to serve as President and Chair of ACAS whilst this historical and momentous change has been enacted.

Sadly this year we lost one of our most senior show supporters and great friend to all, our Vice President Jim (Darby) Munro. Jim's association with the Society dates back to when he would get time off school to assist his dad at the Show in the late 1940's. His time with the Society encompassed everything from sheep handling to beef stewarding, chief steward to chairman of beef, kennel and homecrafts, and ultimately, Councillor, Director, Vice-President and Life Member. His friendship, guidance and counsel will be greatly missed by all associated with the RAST.



Finally, on behalf of the RAST, thank you to the many volunteers that assist the Society in so many ways and who do so in such an unselfish manner. As committee members, stewards, helpers, animal handlers, Directors, and Councillors the Society relies heavily on these people to help us do what we do. There are literally hundreds of volunteers who contribute significantly to the success of our many RAST activities.



## CEO Report

Overall 2015/2016 has been a year in which we've started to consolidate following the lease out of a parcel of our land to Bunnings and the development of the new Motorhome Park. We've also faced a few challenges on the income side and enjoyed some significant gains in revenue as well.

We continue to address legacy maintenance issues and strive to improve the overall presentation, condition and safety of the site. Power and water infrastructure has been consistently upgraded and replaced; the Old Grandstand re-painted; toilets painted and re-furbished; as well as a range of tasks related to the new Motorhome Park development. Security on-site has been significantly improved with the installation of a range of cameras covering all exits and the Spurline Rd and a major upgrade of our alarm system. Work in this area will continue over the coming 12 months.

The 2015 Royal Hobart Show was a success in terms of visitor numbers and the smaller Showground footprint meant for a more dynamic feel by bringing all of the elements that make up the Show closer together. We were able to deliver the full Show experience including equestrian, carnival, showbags, commercial space, animal pavilions, interactive exhibits and first class entertainment all without compromise. The Show's feature act, Rooftop Express, was described by one stalwart as "the best show we've had in over 60 years."





We opened on Wednesday night for the first time with our Bulls and Barrels rodeo and the inaugural Frocks 'n' Flannies Ball. Both proved very popular and gave us plenty to work with for future years.

Financially we posted an overall loss of \$150,252 for the year but this included \$98,256 for depreciation, \$33,000 worth of provisions for expenses received in April that related to last year, and further provision for long service and recreation leave entitlements. The loss was largely driven by the decline in net takings from

the Show which is partially explained by increased costs, reduced gate takings due to the offering of discounted ticket options and the increasing challenges of commercial space and sponsorship. Other factors include the loss of Topform Furniture as a tenant, a disappointing result from the Wine Show, declining Sunday Market revenue and a delay in getting the Brooker Highway billboards up and running as an additional revenue source. Considering all factors the result was satisfactory given the challenges that we faced.

On the positive side the Motorhome Park exceeded all expectations with a \$155,000 better than budget result. The new billboards, once erected, also delivered substantial returns with some attracting in excess of \$6,000 per month in revenue. Staffing costs have been again driven down due to better management with personnel costs \$110,000 better than budget. Tenancies remain strong and the interest in the site has markedly improved since the Bunnings development.

Our thankyou BBQ for volunteers in late 2015 was a roaring success with numbers continuing to grow year on year. It is an immense privilege to be able to work with such a large number of dedicated volunteers and a real pleasure to be able to give them something back, albeit in a small way, by serving them food and beverages at our annual BBQ.

Stray roosters are a major problem around Hobart, and one of the highlights last year was the Rooster Roundup conducted by the Southern Tasmanian Bantam Club in the Poultry Pavilion. We were happy to support this unique community service which attracted over 250 birds in a three hour window one Saturday in March. Quite a few birds were rehomed and others processed for use by the Captive Tasmanian Devil Program. Media were very interested in this initiative, and it even attracted national coverage. Based on the response we are sure to make this a regular event with the support of the Bantam Club.



Finally I would encourage anyone who hasn't completed our Member Survey that was distributed earlier in the year to do so as the information captured will allow us to better serve our members and add to the already substantial array of benefits available to you. Forms can be obtained from administration if required.



## Better Homes & Gardens



We were fortunate to be able to work with both Bunnings and the TV show Better Homes and Gardens on the Glenorchy Bunnings special which featured a Royal Hobart Show theme and included a mini parade of some of our Show exhibits from the rabbit, goat and dairy cattle pavilions hosted by Dr Harry Cooper. A big thank you to the many volunteers who assisted with this production as the exposure received was truly immeasurable.



## 2015 BBX Royal Hobart Show

The BBX Royal Hobart Show may be one of the oldest institutions in Tasmania, but new learnings come from each year's Show. Planning commenced in January 2016 for the next Show with a major workshop to review the lessons of 2015 and discuss new initiatives for 2016.

BBX naming rights sponsorship continued for the Show in 2015, which enjoyed excellent weather. Crowd numbers exceeded 45,000.



An extended Wednesday night at the Show with the theme *Keep it Country* was piloted and contained an extensive program of activities and events, including a rodeo and a ticketed Frocks'n'Flannies Ball. Some 3,000 people attended the Wednesday night Show program.



As expected, the public holiday for the Show - the Thursday People's Day - was the busiest day for crowds with 16,475 attending. Friday saw more than 14,000 attending, while the opening day, Wednesday, attracted more than 7,000 show goers, together with the final day, Saturday, which attracted 7,500.

The review of the 2015 Show in January 2016 resulted in the decision to retain the Wednesday night extended show program because of the success of the 2015 pilot. At the same time, the review recommended a trial of reduced ticket prices for the 2016 Show.

Continuing a strategy to bring top line exclusive acts to Tasmania, the 2015 Show's headline act was an outback-based group called Rooftop Express, which featured world first stunts, traditional Australian bush humour and expert horsemanship. Some long standing directors of the RAST said they believed it was the best act they had seen at the Show.

Ticket prices for the Show were held at the previous year's level, and once inside the Showground, organisers ensured value for money with at least 40 free things to experience, see and do.



## 2015 Legend of the Show

Julia Youl, who owns and runs Fairfield Stud at Devon Hills in Northern Tasmania, was named during the Show as the 2015 Legend of the Show. Julia has successfully shown horses at the Royal Hobart Show since 1973. She still attends every Royal Hobart Show as an exhibitor and owner, and also breeds horses for future generations to enjoy.



Julia Youl with 2014 recipient Kevin Moore

## Facts and Statistics

- Overall, crowd numbers at the Show were up about 3,000
- There was a 50% increase in on-line ticket sales
- 33% of on-line tickets were pre-sold before the event
- Family passes made up over 60% of ticket sales followed by adults at 23%
- Entry numbers in equestrian events were down slightly, but still numbered 965
- Entries increased in areas such as alpacas, poultry, and sheep dogs.
- The vintage machinery section used the Show to celebrate 150 years of steam engines in Tasmania.
- Ferrets were exhibited at the Show for the first time and attracted a great deal of pre-Show media attention; and homing pigeons were exhibited, including a mass homing pigeon release.
- In the kennel section, more than 600 dogs, representing dozens of breeds, competed for Best in Show. The judging panel included experts from The Netherlands and Uruguay.
- Free entertainment options ranged from live commercial animal auctions to a major wood chopping carnival, wood crafting for kids, and a cattle fancy dress parade.



# ROYAL HOBART FINE FOOD AWARDS

## 2015 Royal Hobart Fine Food Awards

The Royal Hobart Fine Food Awards goes from strength to strength each year.

It is now one of Australia's largest food awards programs, and again in 2015, it achieved record entries, the highest in the 19 year history of the event.

A national judging panel under noted Tasmanian food expert Rod Wyker tasted and assessed some 1,492 entries from all over Australia, with foods entered in the awards ranging from bread and pasta to salmon and trout.

The Awards were instigated by the Society to promote excellence in food making. The success indicates, according to the Society, a high level of acceptance within the food industry for the awards, and at the same time it reflects Australia's growing foodie-culture.

Entries this year came from all over Tasmania, including Burnie, Devonport, Launceston, Hobart and many smaller towns. Nationally, entries came from all over the country, from Melbourne north to Molindar on the Gold Coast.

The Awards are an important opportunity for Tasmanian food producers to compare the quality of their work against a national standard. Cocobean Chocolate based in Launceston, won the Richard Langdon Trophy for the Best Exhibit in Show with their Whisky Chocolate. It also won Best Tasmanian Exhibit and Champion Chocolate & Confectionery.

The Awards are an initiative of the Royal Agricultural Society of Tasmania to develop and promote the Australian fine food industry through the pursuit of product excellence.

The Awards dinner was a huge success with numbers attending growing each year. In 2015 the theme was a Rock n Roll Café which was a crowd pleaser. The Gourmet Buffet using medal winning products from 2014 was prepared by well-known Tasmanian Chef, Simon Davies, formerly of Home Hill.



Theresa Streefland, Cocobean, receives her award from sponsor Caroline Matterson



# ROYAL HOBART INTERNATIONAL WINE SHOW

## Royal Hobart International Wine Show

The 2015 Royal Hobart International Wine Show drew fewer entries, partly due to vineyard conditions. Nevertheless, the event went off very well.

Subsequent planning for the 2016 wine show moved to address issues identified at the RAST end of the 2015 event through a number of measures, including incentives for smaller mainland vineyards to enter the Show.

Following four days of judging in November 2015, Tasmanian vineyard Eddystone Point won the prestigious Best Pinot in Show, sponsored by Etihad Airways. The prize carries a return trip for two to Paris, provided by Etihad Airways.

While Chardonnay and Shiraz still predominate in wine shows, judges noted that new varieties are appearing in greater numbers, such as Prosecco, Moscato, Tempranillo, and, Montepulciano, an Italian red variety which 10 years ago wasn't even planted in Australia. This year the Hobart Show had five Montepulciano entries. Pinot Grigio, it was noted, was also fast catching on with consumers.

In 2015, wine makers were also using innovative techniques to produce current vintage reds that were ready to drink, unlike previous decades when young reds weren't consumed.

The Chair of the judging panel, Louisa Rose, winemaker for Yalumba and Hill Smith Family Vineyards, said of the judging process in 2015: "We've seen some incredibly strong wines in different varieties at this wine show. We've tasted some really lovely full bodied reds – Cabernets and Shiraz – and Pinot Noir has shone with noticeably high quality and diversity of style.

"Wine lovers will appreciate the greater variety of styles now coming onto the market. Tasmania is a great example of a region that is getting really exciting, and you could spend a lot of time exploring just this region, let alone all the other distinct wine regions Australia now has to offer."



Etihad Manager Alan Glover presents the trophy to Richard Evans from Eddystone Point



Chief Judge Louisa Rose

## Some wine show statistics

- Nearly 50% of entries came from South Australia and 20% from Tasmania.
- 927 reds were entered; 588 dry whites and 93 sparkling wines.
- 120 pinot noirs were entered this year.
- In all, some 64 classes were judged in entries ranging from Riesling to Rare Muscat.
- 21 judges and associate judges assessed the entries - three international judges, one international associate judge, 7 Tasmanian judges, 4 South Australian judges, 2 Victorians, 2 from WA, and one each from NSW and the ACT.

## Stalwart of the Tasmanian wine industry

The Wine Show's prize-giving dinner saw the announcement of the annual award for outstanding services to the Tasmanian wine industry. This year's winner was Frank Walker who has made a major contribution to both the wine industry and to the Royal Agricultural Society of Tasmania for over 40 years.

Frank was an original member of the RAST's Royal Hobart Wine Show committee, having joined it over 40 years ago. He continued his involvement with the committee for over 30 years and was actively engaged as a steward for much of that time.

He also assisted with the establishment of the RAST's Vineyard of the Year competition in 2003, and has been a judge and committee member from the beginning. As Chief Judge of the Vineyard of the Year award he has overseen the development of the competition and led a dedicated team of industry professionals each year through the arduous judging process.



Frank Walker

## Tasmanian Vineyard of the Year 2015

### Held at Home Hill Vineyard, Ranelagh, May 2015

More than 100 people from the wine industry attended the field day for the 2015 Roberts Tasmanian Vineyard of the Year at Home Hill Vineyard in the Huon Valley.

The turn-out was the biggest for any field day held by a winning vineyard in the history of the program. John Ellis, prominent Victorian wine producer, and Chair of the Royal Hobart International Wine Show, told guests: "I wish we had a competition like this interstate. It puts vineyards on firmer territory for quality control."

Among the guests was the Leader of the State Opposition, Bryan Green, the Mayor of the Huon Valley Council, Peter Coad, wine makers, vineyard managers and owners, and representatives of the wider wine industry.



Kelly, Rosemary & Terry Bennett with RAST President, Paul Grubb and Wine Show Chair, John Ellis

Home Hill Vineyard was named Tasmanian Vineyard of the Year after two exhaustive rounds of judging by wine industry experts. Judges pointed out that Tasmania had a complicated micro climate for wine growing, ranging from cold and wet areas to warm and dry regions. The Vineyard of the Year Award had been developed to set a bench mark by which all vineyards in all areas, large and small, can compete on a level playing field.

Vineyard of the Year after two exhaustive



The field day was an opportunity for the vineyard to share its award winning viticulture methods with others in the Tasmanian wine industry. The Award aims to foster excellence in viticultural management as the key to producing quality grapes and great wines.

One of the Tasmanian wine industry's most prestigious trophies, the Richard Langdon Trophy, was presented to Home Hill Vineyard as part of its award. It's a bronze work of art by Tasmanian sculptor Stephen Walker.

## HOBART SHOWGROUND MOTORHOME PARK

### Motorhome Park

The Showground Motorhome Park has enjoyed a very strong year with income up 135% on last year. Relocated because of the Bunnings development to a dedicated site off Main Drive, for most of the summer period the motorhomes spilled over onto the arena because of demand from tourists.

From December to April the Motorhome Park averaged between 100 and 150 campers, caravans and campervans per night. Its popularity has been aided by a good working relationship with Australia's peak motorhome enthusiasts' group, the CMCA, and very favourable comments by users to Wikicamps, a social media site much favoured by people who tour Australia in their motorhomes.

The record performance in 2015-2016 builds upon solid returns in 2014-2015.

Because of the increase in patronage, the Society doubled its cleaning regime, established a camp kitchen, and provided power to the arena for overflow campervans. In 2016-2017, the Society is expecting a further increase in patronage due partly to a major CMCA event scheduled for Hobart which will bring more than a 1,000 caravans and campervans to the state.



# HOBART SHOW GROUND SUNDAY MARKET

## Showground Sunday Market

Our Sunday Market has undergone significant changes in the past year in an effort to keep it relevant and viable in an increasingly cluttered market. There isn't a month goes by without seeing yet another small market opening up in suburban Hobart. All of these start with big expectations and many eventually fail; but they all impact our operation one way or another.

Our management personnel are to be congratulated for gradually turning around a previously negative culture at the market into a can-do vibrant market community that makes the place more friendly, welcoming and much more collegiate. Those involved in the market are now working together for the betterment of the businesses that co-exist within it. It remains the biggest indoor market in Southern Tasmania and the oldest bric-a-brac market in the state.



# HOBART SHOW GROUND VENUE HIRE

## Venues

Our venue hires continue to bounce back after the Bunnings redevelopment which saw various sections closed while we developed the site. The range of hires demonstrate the versatility of our site which has catered for rare poultry shows, the rooster roundup, biosecurity dog training, an arms and militaria fair, die cast toy expo, monthly dog shows covering all breeds, weddings, 21<sup>st</sup> birthdays and other birthday celebrations, as well as Christmas and charity dinners.

Our venue staff have been recognised for their ingenuity and creativity in decorating and theming our venues and they continue to impress and demonstrate the versatility of our function centre. Members should remember they can access discounted rates for any venue hire on the Showground.



## Tenancies

Our on-site tenancies now account for the majority of our revenue with the Bunnings deal re-shaping the overall business model with a bankable income stream indexed at a fixed rate for the next 25 years. This arrangement continues to attract further interest and we have now leased part of the Brooker Pavilion to Hotondo Homes for five years with an option for another five; and are in negotiations with another prospective tenant for 3 x 3 year options.

In the meantime the remainder of the pavilion has been leased to Fairbrother for the storage of bathroom modules destined for a student accommodation development in the city.

These commercial agreements enable the Society to continue to support the use of the site by more community focussed groups such as the pigeon clubs, Tas Canine Association and others in a climate of rising costs and increasing compliance regimes.

## Staff

The President has already mentioned the dedication of our staff in tackling the issues faced by the Society.

During the year, we welcomed Nicci Gacesa (Commercial Sales and Venue Assistant), Mitchell Spong (Executive Assistant), and Brian Smith (Building and Compliance Manager); and farewellled Joe Giedl (Business Manager).

## IAFE Membership



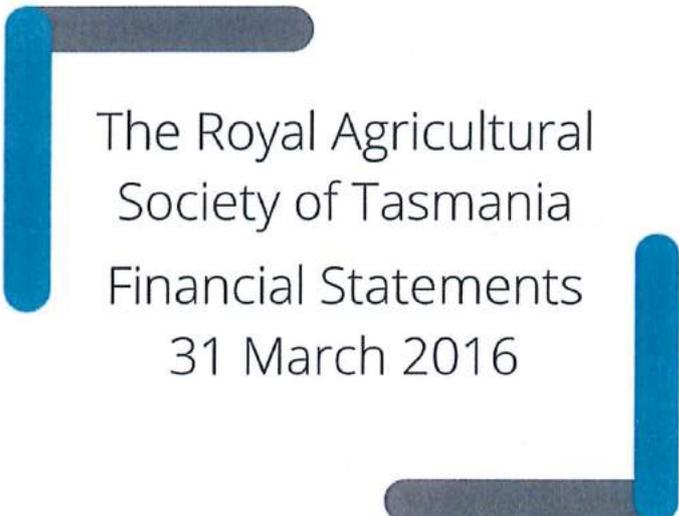
The International Association of Fairs and Expositions (IAFE) is a voluntary, not-for-profit corporation, serving state, provincial, regional, and county agricultural fairs, shows, exhibitions, and expositions. Its associate members include state and provincial associations of fairs, non-agricultural expositions and festivals, associations, corporations, and individuals engaged in providing products and services to its members, all of whom are interested in the improvement of fairs and allied fields.

The RAST was fortunate enough to benefit from a Coca Cola sponsorship to gain membership of this prestigious organisation during the year.

The IAFE began in 1885 with a half dozen fairs. Today, the IAFE represents more than 1,100 fairs around the world and more than 900 members from allied fields. Throughout the years, the IAFE has remained true to its purpose of promoting and encouraging the development and improvement of agricultural fairs, shows, and expositions.

IAFE provide a range of services including professional development, access to resources, regular publications and conferences, policy development and advice on emerging legal and compliance matters.

Early advice from IAFE is that the RAST may well be the oldest member; in fact we may well be the oldest operating Agricultural Society in the world.



The Royal Agricultural  
Society of Tasmania  
Financial Statements  
31 March 2016

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA  
ABN 56 009 475 898

DIRECTORS' REPORT

The Directors of The Royal Agricultural Society of Tasmania submit herewith the financial report for the year ended 31 March 2016.

**Directors**

The directors in office during the year and until the date of this report are as follows:-

R. Cripps	W. Hazell	P. Edwards (Resigned)
B. Ellims	D. Skinner OAM	
H. Geard	M. Brinckman	
P. Geard	J. Munro	
P. Grubb	S. Shirley	

The directors were in office from the start of the year until the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

All the Directors of the Company are Non-Executive Directors.

No emoluments of any kind are received by the directors of the Company.

No loans or receivables are outstanding to or from directors of the Company.

The following related party transaction occurred during the year:

- \$880 was paid to Saunders & Pitt for valuation services by Mr R Cripps.

**Principal Activities**

The Royal Agricultural Society of Tasmania's principal activities are the staging and administration of the annual Royal Hobart Show in Tasmania and allied activities. The society also conducts an annual wine show, motor home park, annual food show, weekly markets and rental facilities including the Bunnings lease.

During the year there was no significant change in the nature of those activities.

**Review & Results of Operations**

The loss of the company for the year ended 31 March 2016 was \$(150,249) (2015: \$(66,254)).

**Significant Changes in the State of Affairs**

During the year there was no significant change in the state of affairs of the Company other than that referred to in the accounts or notes thereto.

**Significant Events After Balance Date**

There are no significant events expected after balance date.

**THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA**  
**ABN 56 009 475 898**

**Likely Developments & Expected Results**

As a result of the increased demand for use of the Motorhome Park, subsequent to year end the company will be spending around \$50,000 on improvements and infrastructure for the Motorhome Park. This will include improvements to electrical and grey water systems.

**Environmental Regulation**

The Company's operations are not regulated by any significant environmental regulation under a law of the Commonwealth or of the State of Tasmania.

**Indemnification & Insurance of Directors & Officers**

During the year, the Company paid a premium insuring the Directors and Officers of the Company against liabilities incurred as a Director or Officer to the extent permitted by the Corporations Act 2001. The contract of insurance prohibits disclosure of the nature of the liability and the amount of the premium.

The Company has not otherwise, during or since the financial year, indemnified or agreed to indemnify an Officer or Auditor of the Company or of any related body corporate against a liability incurred as such an Officer or Auditor.

**Proceedings on Behalf of Company**

No person has applied for leave of court or to bring proceedings on behalf of the company or intervene in any proceedings to which the company is party for the purpose of taking responsibility on behalf of the company for all or any part of those proceedings.

The company was not a party to any such proceedings during the year.

**Directors Meetings**

The number of meetings of directors held during the year and the number of meetings attended by each director were as follows:

	BOARD	
	Eligible Meetings	Meetings Attended
R Cripps	12	11
P Edwards	9	8
B Ellims	12	12
P Geard	12	5
P Grubb	12	11
W Hazell	12	8
D Skinner OAM	12	12
J Munro	12	9
M Brinckman	12	12
S Shirley	12	7
H Geard	2	2

**Company Secretary**

Mr Barry Ellims held the position of company secretary at the end of the financial year.

**Auditor's Independence Declaration**

A copy of the auditor's independence declaration as required under s 307C of the *Corporation Act 2001* has been received and is attached to this Report.

**Auditor's Independence Declaration under Section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001  
to the Directors of The Royal Agricultural Society of Tasmania**

In relation to our audit of the financial report of The Royal Agricultural Society of Tasmania for the year ended 31 March 2016, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* or any applicable code of professional conduct.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Doyle', written over a horizontal line.

**J DOYLE  
PARTNER  
WISE LORD & FERGUSON**

Dated: 15-6-2016

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA  
ABN 56 009 475 898

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Directors.

Director 

Dated: 14-06-2016

Director CHAIRMAN PAUL GRUBB

Director 

Dated 14-06-2016

Director SECRETARY

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA  
ABN 56 009 475 898

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

	Note	2016 \$	2015 \$
Revenue	2	2,396,659	2,449,869
Depreciation and Amortisation Expenses	3(a)	98,256	76,772
Other Expenses	3(b)	2,448,652	2,439,351
<b>(DEFICIT) FOR THE PERIOD</b>		<u>(150,249)</u>	<u>(66,254)</u>
<b>OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>			
Fair Value Revaluation Increment / (Decrement) of Land and Buildings		1,690,737	589,419
Fair Value Revaluation Increment / (Decrement) of Investment Buildings		200,000	-
<b>TOTAL SURPLUS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD</b>		<u>1,740,488</u>	<u>523,165</u>

The Statement of Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying Notes.

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA  
ABN 56 009 475 898

BALANCE SHEET  
AS AT 31 MARCH 2016

	Note	2016 \$	2015 \$
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash	4	290,381	294,407
Receivables	5	94,049	27,312
Investments	6	-	1,866
Other	7	8,090	42,801
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>392,520</b>	<b>366,386</b>
<b>NON CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Property, Plant & Equipment	8	12,824,031	9,496,682
Investment Buildings	9	2,605,000	2,405,000
Goodwill	10	9,000	9,000
<b>TOTAL NON CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>15,438,031</b>	<b>11,910,682</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>15,830,551</b>	<b>12,277,068</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Creditors	11	265,814	113,216
Provisions	12	63,084	68,386
Interest-Bearing Liabilities	13	749,298	255,294
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>1,078,196</b>	<b>436,896</b>
<b>NON CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Provisions	14	25,741	18,294
Interest-Bearing Liabilities	15	3,029,202	1,874,883
Other	16	37,964	28,035
<b>TOTAL NON CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>3,092,907</b>	<b>1,921,212</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>4,171,103</b>	<b>2,358,108</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>11,659,448</b>	<b>9,918,960</b>
<b>MEMBERS' EQUITY</b>			
Members' Funds	17	3,841,980	3,792,229
Asset Revaluation Reserve	17	7,817,468	6,126,731
<b>TOTAL MEMBERS' EQUITY</b>		<b>11,659,448</b>	<b>9,918,960</b>

The Balance Sheet should be read in conjunction with the accompanying Notes.

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA  
 ABN 56 009 475 898

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

	Retained Earnings	Asset Revaluation Reserve	Total
Balance at 1 April 2014	3,858,483	5,537,312	9,395,795
Comprehensive Income			
Surplus/(Deficit) For The Period	(66,254)	-	(66,254)
Other Comprehensive Income for the Period:			
Revaluation of Land and Buildings	-	589,419	589,419
Balance at 31 March 2015	3,792,229	6,126,731	9,918,960
Balance at 1 April 2015	3,792,229	6,126,731	9,918,960
Comprehensive Income			
Surplus/(Deficit) For The Period	(150,249)	-	(150,249)
Other Comprehensive Income for the Period:			
Revaluation of Land and Buildings	-	1,690,737	1,690,737
Revaluation of Investment Buildings	200,000	-	200,000
Balance at 31 March 2016	3,841,980	7,817,468	11,659,448

The Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying Notes.

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA  
ABN 56 009 475 898

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

	Note	2016 \$	2015 \$
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Receipts from Operations		2,313,622	2,504,532
Payments to Suppliers and Employees		(2,122,915)	(2,564,806)
Interest Received		2,660	6,479
Borrowing Costs		(97,470)	(5,304)
<b>NET CASH FLOW (USED IN) FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>	18(a)	<u>95,897</u>	<u>(59,099)</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Purchase of Property, Plant and Equipment		(1,734,868)	(1,903,973)
Decrease in Investments		1,866	90,388
<b>NET CASH (USED IN) FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		<u>(1,733,002)</u>	<u>(1,813,585)</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Proceeds from Borrowings		1,633,079	2,112,076
<b>NET CASH USED IN FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>		<u>1,633,079</u>	<u>2,112,076</u>
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash Held		(4,026)	239,392
Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Period		294,407	55,015
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF PERIOD</b>	4	<u>290,381</u>	<u>294,407</u>

The Statement of Cash Flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying Notes.

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA  
ABN 56 009 475 898

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

The financial statements and notes represent those of The Royal Agricultural Society of Tasmania (RAST). RAST is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. If RAST were to be wound up the Memorandum of Association states that members are not required to contribute towards meeting any outstanding obligations of the RAST.

The financial statements were authorised for issue by the Directors RAST.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

**Basis of Preparation**

The general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001* and Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations of the Australian Accounting Standards Board. The Company is a not-for-profit entity for financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards.

Australian Accounting Standards set out accounting policies that the Australian Accounting Standards Board has concluded would result on financial statements containing relevant and reliable information about transactions, events and conditions. Compliance with Australian Accounting Standards ensures that the financial statements and notes also comply with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are presented below and have been consistently applied unless stated otherwise.

The financial statements, except for cash flow information, have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs, modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded off to the nearest dollar unless stated otherwise.

**Accounting Policies**

**(a) Goodwill**

Goodwill is carried at cost less accumulated impairment losses. Goodwill is tested for impairment annually or more frequently if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may be impaired. Goodwill is not amortised.

**(b) Income Tax**

The RAST is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

**(c) Fair Value of Assets and Liabilities**

The Company measures some of its assets and liabilities at fair value on either a recurring or non-recurring basis, depending on the requirements of the applicable Accounting Standard.

Fair value is the price the Company would receive to sell an asset or would have to pay to transfer a liability in an orderly (i.e. unforced) transaction between independent, knowledgeable and willing market participants at the measurement date.

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA  
ABN 56 009 475 898

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES CONT'D

(d) Property, Plant & Equipment

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value, as, indicated, less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation or impairment losses.

(i) Property

Land and Buildings are measured at fair value. Increases in the carrying amount arising on revaluation of land and buildings are recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated in the revaluation surplus in equity. Revaluation decreases that offset previous increases of the same class of assets shall be recognised in other comprehensive income under the heading of revaluation surplus. All other decreases are recognised in profit or loss.

(ii) Plant and Equipment

Plant and Equipment are measured using the cost basis and are therefore carried at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses.

Subsequent costs are included in the asset's carrying amount or recognised as a separate asset, as appropriate, only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the Company and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. All other repairs and maintenance are recognised as expenses in profit or loss in the financial period in which they occur.

In the 2016 financial year the depreciable amount of all fixed assets, including buildings is depreciated on a diminishing value basis over the asset's useful life to the Company, commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. In 2015 some assets were depreciated on a straight line basis. The change of basis of depreciation for some assets in the 2016 financial year did not create a material change in the depreciation charge for the financial year. The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable assets are:

<i>Class of Fixed Asset</i>	2016	2015
Buildings	2.5%	2.5%
Motor Vehicle	20-25%	20-25%
Plant	4-40%	18-40%
Furniture and Equipment	1.8-40%	1.8-40%

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at the end of each reporting period.

An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount. These gains or losses are recognised in profit or loss when the item is derecognised. When revalued assets are sold, amount included in the revaluation surplus relating to that asset are transferred to retained earnings.

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA  
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES CONT'D

(e) Investment Buildings

Initially, investment buildings are measured at cost, including transaction costs. Subsequent to initial recognition investment buildings are stated at fair value. Gains or losses arising from changes in fair value of investment buildings are included in profit and loss in the year in which they arise.

Independent valuations are performed with sufficient regularity to ensure that the carrying amount of property and investment buildings does not differ materially from the asset's fair value at balance sheet date.

(f) Financial Instruments

(i) Initial recognition and measurement

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions to the financial instrument. For financial assets, this is equivalent to the date that the company commits itself to either purchase or sell the asset (i.e. trade date accounting is adopted).

Financial instruments are initially measured at fair value plus transaction costs, except where the instrument is classified "at fair value through profit or loss" in which case transaction costs are recognised as expenses in profit or loss immediately.

(ii) Classification and subsequent measurement

Financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, amortised cost using the effective interest method or cost. Where available, quoted prices in an active market are used to determine fair value. In other circumstances, valuation techniques are adopted.

Amortised cost is calculated as the amount at which the financial asset or financial liability is measured at initial recognition less principal repayments and reduction for impairment, and adjusted for any cumulative amortisation of the difference between that initial amount and the maturity amount calculated using the *effective interest method*.

The *effective interest method* is used to allocate interest income or interest expense over the relevant period and is equivalent to the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments or receipts (including fees, transaction costs and other premiums or discounts) through the expected life (or when this cannot be reliably predicted, the contractual term) of the financial instrument to the net carrying amount of the financial asset or financial liability. Revisions to expected future net cash flows will necessitate an adjustment to the carrying value with a consequential recognition of an income or expense item in profit or loss.

i. *Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss*

Financial assets are classified at "fair value through profit or loss" when they are held for trading for the purpose of short-term profit taking, derivatives not held for hedging purposes, or when they are designated as such to avoid an accounting mismatch or to enable performance evaluation where a group of financial assets is managed by key management personnel on a fair value basis in accordance with a documented risk management or investment strategy. Such assets are subsequently measured at fair value with changes in carrying amount being included in the profit or loss.

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA  
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES CONT'D

*ii. Loans and receivables*

Loans and receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market and are subsequently measured at amortised cost. Gains or losses are recognised in the profit or loss through the amortisation process and when the financial asset is derecognised.

*iii. Held-to-maturity investments*

Held to maturity investments are non-derivative financial assets that have fixed maturities with fixed or determinable payments, and it is the company's intention to hold these investments to maturity. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost. Gains or losses are recognised in the profit or loss and other comprehensive income through the amortisation process and when the financial asset is derecognised.

*iv. Available-for-sale investments*

Available-for-sale investments are non-derivative financial assets that are either not capable of being classified into other categories of financial assets due to their nature or they are designated as such by management. They comprise investments in the equity of other entities where there is neither a fixed maturity, nor fixed or determinable payments.

They are subsequently measured at fair value with any re-measurements other than impairments losses and foreign exchange gains and losses recognised in the profit and loss and other comprehensive income. When the financial asset is derecognised, the cumulative gain or loss pertaining to that asset previously recognised in other comprehensive income is reclassified into profit or loss.

Available-for-sale financial assets are classified as non-current assets when they are expected to be sold within twelve (12) months after the end of the reporting period. All other available-for-sale assets are classified as current assets.

*v. Financial liabilities*

Non-derivative financial liabilities other than financial guarantees are subsequently measured at amortised cost. Gains or losses are recognised in statement of comprehensive income through the amortisation process and when the financial liability is derecognised.

**(iii) Impairment of Non-Financial Assets**

At the end of each reporting period, the company assesses whether there is any indication than an asset may be impaired.

If any such indication exists, and where the carrying values exceed the estimated recoverable amount, the assets are written down to their recoverable amount immediately through profit or loss, unless the asset is carried at a revalued amount in accordance with another standard. Any impairment loss of a revalued asset is treated as a revaluation decrease in accordance with that other standard.

Impairment testing is performed annually for goodwill and intangible assets with indefinite lives.

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA  
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES CONT'D

(g) Intangibles Other than Goodwill

Goodwill is carried at cost less any accumulated impairment losses. Goodwill is calculated as the excess of the consideration transferred and the identifiable assets acquired.

(h) Employee Benefits

(i) Short-Term Employee Benefits

Provision is made for the company's obligation for short-term employee benefits. Short-term employee benefits are benefits (other than termination benefits) that are expected to be settled wholly before 12 months after the end of the annual reporting period in which the employee rendered the related service, including wages, salaries and sick leave. Short-term employee benefits are measured at the (undiscounted) amounts expected to be paid when the obligation is settled.

The Company's obligations for short-term employee benefits such as salaries and wages and sick leave are recognised as part of the current liability section of the balance sheet. The Company's obligations for employees' annual leave and long service leave entitlements are recognised as provisions in the statement of financial position.

(ii) Other Long-Term Employee Benefits

Provision is made for employees' long service leave entitlements not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months after the end of the annual reporting period in which the employees render the related service. Other long-term employee benefits are measured at the present value of the expected future payments to be made to employees. Expected future payments incorporate anticipated future wage and salary levels, durations of service and employee departures and are discounted at rates that approximate the terms of the obligations. Upon the re-measurement of obligations due to change in assumptions for the long-term employee benefits, the net change in the obligation is recognised in profit or loss as a part of employee benefits expense in the periods in which the change occurs.

The Company's obligations for long-term employee benefits are presented as non-current provisions in its statement of financial position, except where the Company does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least 12 months after the end of the reporting period, in which case the obligations are presented as current provisions

(i) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Company has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured.

Provisions are measured using the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation at the end of the reporting period.

(j) Cash

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at-call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown as short-term borrowings in current liabilities in the balance sheet.

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA  
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES CONT'D

(k) Revenue and Other Income

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable after taking into account any discounts allowed.

Revenue is recognised to the extent that it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the entity and the revenue can be reliably measured. The following specific recognition criteria must also be met before revenue is recognised:

*Events Income*

Revenue is recognised on a receipts basis.

*Rental Income*

Rental income arising from investment buildings is accounted for on a straight line basis over the lease term.

*Interest*

Control of the right to receive the interest payment.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of Goods and Services Tax.

(l) Trade and Other Receivables

Trade and Other Receivables include amounts due from customers from goods sold and services performed in the ordinary course of business. Receivables expected to be collected within 12 months of the end of the reporting period are classified as current assets. All other receivables are classified as non-current assets.

Receivables are initially recognised at original invoice amount less any provision for doubtful debts. A provision for doubtful debts is recognised when collection of the full amount is no longer probable.

Bad debts are written off as incurred.

(m) Trade and Other Payables

Trade and Other Payables represent the liabilities for goods and services received by the Company that remain unpaid at the end of the reporting period. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amounts normally paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability.

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA  
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES CONT'D

(n) Leases

Leases are classified at their inception as either operating or finance leases based on the economic substance of the agreement so as to reflect the risks and benefits incidental to ownership.

*Finance Leases*

Leases which effectively transfer substantially all of the risks and benefits incidental to ownership of the leased item to the Royal Agricultural Society of Tasmania are capitalised at the present value of the minimum lease payments and disclosed in the appropriate fixed asset class. A lease liability of equal value is also recognised.

Capitalised leased assets are depreciated over the shorter of the estimated useful life of the asset and the lease term. Minimum lease payments are allocated between interest expense and reduction of the lease liability with the interest expense calculated using the interest rate implicit in the lease and recognised directly in surplus or deficit.

*Operating Leases*

Lease payments for operating leases, where substantially all the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, are recognised as expenses in the periods in which they occur. Lease receipts for operating leases, where substantially all the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, are recognised as income in the periods in which they occur.

(o) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expenses.

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included as part of receivables or payables in the balance sheet.

Cash flows are presented in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing and financing activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows included in receipts from customers or payments to suppliers.

(p) Comparative Figures

Where required by Accounting Standards, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year.

(q) Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgements

The Directors evaluate estimates and judgements incorporated into the financial statements based on historical knowledge and best available current information. Estimates assume a reasonable expectation of future events and are based on current trends and economic data, obtained both externally and within the Company.

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA  
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES CONT'D

Key Estimates

*(i) Impairment*

The Company assesses its assets for impairment when events or changes in circumstances indicate that the assets' carrying values may not be recoverable.

Key Judgements

*i. Provision for Impairment of Receivables*

A number of receivables were aged over 60 days due at the end of the reporting period. There is some uncertainty that some of these amounts are fully recoverable and therefore a provision for doubtful debts has been created.

*ii. Employee Benefits*

As the Company expects that all of its employees would use all of their annual leave entitlements earned during a reporting period before 12 months after the end of the reporting period, the Directors consider that obligations for annual leave entitlements satisfy the definition of short-term employee benefits and, therefore, can be measured at the (undiscounted) amounts expected to be paid to employees when the obligations are settled.

*(r) New Accounting Standards for Application in Future Periods*

Australian Accounting Standards that have recently been issued or amended but are not yet mandatory, have not been early adopted by the company for the annual reporting period ended 31 March 2016. The company has not yet assessed the impact of these new or amended Accounting Standards or Interpretations.

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA  
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
<b>2. REVENUE</b>		
Revenue from Operating Activities		
Events Income	915,755	976,743
Membership	19,362	19,204
Rentals, Venue Hire and Outgoings Recoveries	1,307,366	609,967
Other Income	140,709	382,522
<b>Total Revenues from Operating Activities</b>	<u>2,383,192</u>	<u>1,988,436</u>
<b>REVENUES FROM NON-OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Grant Income	10,807	454,954
Interest	2,660	6,479
<b>Total Revenues From Non-Operating Activities</b>	<u>13,467</u>	<u>461,433</u>
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<u>2,396,659</u>	<u>2,449,869</u>
<b>3. EXPENSES</b>		
<b>(a) Depreciation and Amortisation of Non-Current Assets</b>		
Plant	56,267	29,416
Furniture	20,169	23,174
Buildings	12,375	12,375
Motor Vehicle	9,445	11,807
<b>Total Depreciation Of Non-Current Assets</b>	<u>98,256</u>	<u>76,772</u>
<b>(b) Other Expenses</b>		
<i>Administration Expenses</i>		
- Wages	178,225	346,019
- Postage/Telephone	78,575	79,880
- Legal/Advertising/Accounting	12,094	46,438
- Motor Vehicle	11,582	11,351
- Electricity	92,299	94,882
- Other	301,701	121,441
<b>Total Administration Expenses</b>	<u>674,476</u>	<u>700,011</u>

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA  
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

	2016 \$	2015 \$
<b>3. EXPENSES (Cont'd)</b>		
<i>Events Expenses</i>		
- Wages and Staff Costs	359,049	375,213
- Entertainment	151,182	96,248
- Show Categories	129,388	132,192
- Advertising	40,161	38,082
- Postage/Stationary	19,144	10,495
- Traffic Management	3,816	4,938
- Security	23,309	25,101
- Catering	53,611	55,493
- Judging	49,505	41,449
- Other	72,839	59,655
Total Events Expenses	<u>902,004</u>	<u>838,866</u>
<i>Property Expenses</i>		
- Wages	75,844	108,596
- Insurance	195,951	187,107
- Repairs and Maintenance	49,722	205,511
- Buildings	48,395	81,321
- Motor Homes	61,430	30,605
- Rates/Water	213,708	65,764
- Security	22,918	1,658
- Redevelopment	-	-
- Other	43,366	71,990
Total Property Expenses	<u>711,334</u>	<u>752,552</u>
- Sundry Expenses	160,838	147,922
Total Sundry Expenses	<u>160,838</u>	<u>147,922</u>
Total Other Expense	<u>2,448,652</u>	<u>2,439,351</u>

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA  
 ABN 56 009 475 898  
 NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

	Note	2016 \$	2015 \$
<b>4. CASH</b>			
Cash at Bank		246,630	250,808
Cash on Hand		7,268	5,854
CBA Online Saver		36,483	37,745
		<u>290,381</u>	<u>294,407</u>

**5. RECEIVABLES (CURRENT)**

Sundry Debtors	(a)	94,049	27,312
Provision for Doubtful Debts		-	-
		<u>94,049</u>	<u>27,312</u>

(a) Terms and conditions relating to the above financial instruments:

Sundry debtors are non-interest bearing and generally on 30 day terms.

**Credit Risk**

The Company has no significant concentration of credit risk with respect to any single debtor included in the balance above.

**6. INVESTMENTS (CURRENT)**

Commonwealth Bank Investment Account	(a)	-	1,493
CBA Business Interruption Fund	(a)	-	373
		<u>-</u>	<u>1,866</u>

(a) Terms and conditions relating to the above financial instruments:

(i) Short-term deposits have a floating interest.

**7. OTHER**

Expenses Paid in Advance		880	33,983
Inventory on Hand		7,210	8,818
		<u>8,090</u>	<u>42,801</u>

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA  
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

	Note	2016 \$	2015 \$
<b>8. PROPERTY, PLANT &amp; EQUIPMENT</b>			
Land at Directors Valuation 2016	8 (b)	11,500,000	8,391,290
Buildings at Directors Valuation 2016	8 (b)	495,000	495,000
Plant at Cost		905,292	600,772
- Accumulated Depreciation		(194,425)	(138,159)
	8 (b)	710,867	462,613
Furniture and Office Equipment at Cost		164,235	164,235
- Accumulated Depreciation		(83,852)	(63,682)
		80,383	100,553
Motor Vehicle at Cost		74,833	74,833
- Accumulated Depreciation		(37,052)	(27,607)
	8 (b)	37,781	47,226
		<b>12,824,031</b>	<b>9,496,682</b>

**(a) Valuations**

Land and Buildings, excluding Lot 1 Howards Road, are stated at fair value, which has been determined by the Directors of the Royal Agricultural Society of Tasmania based on valuations performed by Saunders and Pitt as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016. The valuation has been completed by Mr Russell Cripps, Certified Practicing Valuer and endorsed by Mr Bill Parsons, Certified Practicing Valuer and a Principal of Saunders and Pitt. Mr Russell Cripps is a Director of Royal Agricultural Society of Tasmania.

The valuation undertaken was based on a market value supported by market evidence in which assets could be exchanged between a knowledgeable willing buyer and a knowledgeable willing seller in an arm's length transaction at the date of valuation, in accordance with Australian Valuation Standards.

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA  
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

	2016 \$	2015 \$
<b>8. PROPERTY, PLANT &amp; EQUIPMENT (Cont'd)</b>		
<b>(b) Reconciliations</b>		
Reconciliations of the carrying amounts of plant, furniture and office equipment, land, buildings and motor vehicles at the beginning and end of the current financial period.		
<i>Plant</i>		
Opening Balance	462,613	136,977
Additions	304,520	355,052
Disposals net of accumulated depreciation	-	-
Depreciation expense	(56,266)	(29,416)
	710,867	462,613
<i>Furniture and Office Equipment</i>		
Opening Balance	100,553	99,052
Additions	-	24,675
Disposals net of accumulated depreciation	-	-
Depreciation expense	(20,170)	(23,174)
	80,383	100,553
<i>Land</i>		
Opening Balance	8,391,290	6,290,000
Additions	1,430,348	1,524,246
Revaluation increment	1,678,362	577,044
	11,500,00	8,391,290
<i>Buildings</i>		
Opening Balance	495,000	495,000
Additions	-	-
Depreciation expense	(12,375)	(12,375)
Revaluation increment	12,375	12,375
	495,000	495,000

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA  
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

	Note	2016 \$	2015 \$
<i>Motor Vehicles</i>			
Opening Balance		47,226	59,033
Additions		-	-
Depreciation Expense		(9,445)	(11,807)
		37,781	47,226
<b>9. INVESTMENT BUILDINGS (NON-CURRENT)</b>			
Investment Buildings		2,605,000	2,405,000
<b>(a) Reconciliation</b>			
Opening Balance		2,405,000	2,405,000
Revaluation Increment/(Decrement)		200,000	-
		2,605,000	2,405,000
<b>(b) Valuations</b>			
<p>Investment buildings are stated at fair value, which has been determined by the Directors of the Royal Agricultural Society of Tasmania based on valuations performed by Saunders and Pitt as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016. The valuation has been completed by Mr Russell Cripps, Certified Practicing Valuer and endorsed by Mr Bill Parsons, Certified Practicing Valuer and a Principal of Saunders and Pitt. Mr Russell Cripps is a Director of Royal Agricultural Society of Tasmania.</p> <p>The valuation undertaken was based on a market value for the property having been developed to obtain maximum return to the Royal Agricultural Society of Tasmania after taking into account the estimated cost of development and sale. It is supported by market evidence in which assets could be exchanged between a knowledgeable willing buyer and a knowledgeable willing seller in an arm's length transaction at the date of valuation, in accordance with Australian Valuation Standards.</p>			
<b>10. INTANGIBLE ASSETS</b>			
Goodwill		9,000	9,000

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

	Note	2016 \$	2015 \$
<b>11. CREDITORS (CURRENT)</b>			
Sundry Creditors and Accruals	(a)	29,848	71,219
Accrued Expense		43,191	4,507
Income Received in Advance		48,700	62,340
ATO Liabilities		53,589	(84,293)
Superannuation Payable		67,155	28,901
Motor Vehicle Loan		15,298	30,542
Unclaimed Monies		8,033	-
		265,814	113,216
 (a) Terms and Conditions relating to the above financial instruments:			
(i) Sundry creditors and accruals are non-interest bearing and are normally settled on 30 day terms.			
 <b>12. PROVISIONS (CURRENT)</b>			
Annual Leave		53,907	60,879
Long Service Leave		9,177	7,507
		63,084	68,386
 <b>13. INTEREST-BEARING LIABILITIES (CURRENT)</b>			
ANZ Cash Advance Account		749,298	255,294
 <b>14. PROVISIONS (NON-CURRENT)</b>			
Long Service Leave		25,741	18,294
 <b>15. INTEREST-BEARING LIABILITIES (NON-CURRENT)</b>			
ANZ Loan Facility		3,029,202	1,874,883

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

	Notes	2016 \$	2015 \$
<b>16. OTHER LIABILITY (NON-CURRENT)</b>			
Trust Accounts		26,479	27,885
Bond Monies		11,485	150
		37,964	28,035

**17. RESERVES AND RETAINED PROFITS**

Retained Profits	(a)	3,792,229	3,783,566
Asset Revaluation Reserve	(b)	6,126,732	6,135,394
		9,918,961	9,918,960

**(a) Retained Profits**

**(i) Nature and Purpose of Reserve**

Retained profits reserve is used to accumulate net profits or losses.

**(ii) Movements in Reserve**

Balance at beginning of period		3,792,229	3,858,483
Net surplus/(deficit) attributable to members of RAST		(150,249)	(66,254)
Fair value movement of investment building		200,000	
Balance at end of period		3,841,980	3,792,229

**(b) Asset Revaluation Reserve**

**(i) Nature and Purpose of Reserve**

The asset revaluation reserve is used to record increments and decrements in the value of non-current assets.

**(ii) Movements in reserve**

Balance at beginning of period		6,126,731	5,537,312
Revaluation increment		1,690,737	589,419
Balance at end of period		7,817,468	6,126,731

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

	2016 \$	2015 \$
<b>18. STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS</b>		
<b>a) Reconciliation of Operating Profit/(Loss) to the Net Cash Flows from Operations</b>		
Profit/(Loss) from Ordinary Activities	(150,249)	(66,254)
<b>Non-Cash Items</b>		
Depreciation	98,256	76,772
<b>Changes in Assets and Liabilities</b>		
(Increase)/Decrease in Receivables	(66,737)	25,806
(Increase)/Decrease in Other Current Assets	34,711	(35,965)
Increase/(Decrease) in Creditors	167,842	(101,309)
Increase/(Decrease) in Trust Accounts	9,929	10,379
Increase/(Decrease) in Provisions	2,145	31,472
Net Cash Flows from (used in) Operating Activities	95,897	(59,099)

**b) Credit Standby Arrangement and Loan Facilities**

The Company has a loan facility amounting to \$3,500,000 and a business card facility \$75,000 (2015: \$75,000). At 31 March 2016, \$3,378,500 of the loan facility was used and none of the business card facility was used (2015: \$Nil). In addition, the company took out an additional \$400,000 cash advance facility during the year with the ANZ bank. As at year end all of this cash advance facility has been utilised. Fixed interest rate of 5.20% for the first 5 years applies to the loan facilities and variable interest rates apply to the business card facility. The loan facilities have prescribed covenants under which the Company needs to comply to ensure the ongoing provision of the lending facility.

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA  
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
<b>19. AUDITORS' REMUNERATION</b>		
Amounts Received or Due and Receivable by the Auditors for:		
Auditing Accounts	11,400	10,900
Other Services	5,300	9,360
	<u>11,400</u>	<u>20,260</u>

**20. SEGMENT INFORMATION**

The Royal Agricultural Society of Tasmania operates predominantly in the one geographical region being Tasmania. The Royal Agricultural Society of Tasmania's activities are the management of the Royal Showgrounds in Tasmania including the staging and administration of the annual Royal Hobart Show and allied activities.

**21. LEASE PAYMENTS RECEIVABLE**

Minimum lease payments receivable:

- not later than one year	402,252	318,450
- later than one year but not later than five years	1,609,008	1,609,020
- later than five years	7,307,578	7,642,845
	<u>7,307,578</u>	<u>7,642,845</u>

The Royal Agricultural Society of Tasmania has entered into an operating lease with Bunnings Group Limited for the use of land. The term of the lease is for 25 years with an option of an additional 25 years.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

22. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

Directors

The Councillors of The Royal Agricultural Society of Tasmania who served as directors during the financial period were:

R. Cripps	W. Hazell	H. Geard
P. Edwards (Resigned)	D.M.Skinner OAM	
B. Ellims	M. Brinckman	
P.A. Geard	J. Munro	
P. Grubb	S. Shirley	

No emoluments of any kind are received by the directors of the Company.

No loans or receivables are outstanding to or from directors of the Company.

There following related party transaction occurred during the year:

- \$880 for the valuation services to R. Cripps.

All transactions were arm's-length transactions at normal market rates and on normal commercial terms.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

**23. FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES**

The Company's principle financial assets comprise cash, cash investments and trade debtors whilst its principle financial liabilities comprise trade payables and loan facilities.

The Company has exposure to the following risks from its use of financial instruments:

- Credit risk
- Liquidity risk

**Credit risk**

Credit risk is the risk of financial loss to the company if a customer or counterparty to a financial instrument fails to meet its contractual obligations and arises principally from the Company's receivables from customers. Receivables balances are monitored on an ongoing basis with the result that the Company's exposure to bad debts is not significant.

The company's cash assets are invested with Approved Deposit-taking Institutions within Australia.

The company has no significant concentrations of credit risk.

The company's maximum credit risk exposure at balance date in relation to each class of recognised financial assets is the carrying amount of those assets as indicated in the balance sheet and notes to the financial statements.

**Liquidity risk**

Liquidity risk is the risk that the company will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they fall due.

The company has limited exposure to liquidity risk and management policy is to maintain sufficient cash levels, with access to an overdraft facility, to be able to meet financial obligations without the use of borrowings.

**Events after the end of the reporting period**

The directors are not aware of any significant events since the end of the reporting period.

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA  
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DIRECTORS' DECLARATION  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

In accordance with a resolution of the Directors of The Royal Agricultural Society of Tasmania, the Directors of the Company declare that:-

1. The financial statements and notes thereto are in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001* and:
  - (a) comply with Accounting Standards which, as stated in Accounting policy note 1 to the financial statements, constitutes compliance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS); and;
  - (b) give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 31 March 2016 and of the performance for the year ended on that date of the company.
2. In the Directors' opinion, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.

Chair of the Board



.....

Director



.....

Dated this 15 day of JUNE, 2016

## Independent auditor's report to the members of The Royal Agricultural Society of Tasmania

### *Report on the financial report*

We have audited the accompanying financial report of The Royal Agricultural Society of Tasmania, which comprises the balance sheet as at 31 March 2016, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the directors' declaration.

### *Directors responsibility for the financial report*

The directors of the company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Corporations Act 2001* and for such internal controls as the directors determine are necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### *Auditor's responsibility*

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal controls relevant to the entity's preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal controls. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

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

### *Independence*

In conducting our audit we have complied with the independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001*. We have given to the directors of the company a written Auditor's Independence Declaration.

### *Basis for Qualified Opinion*

Royal Hobart Show income is a significant source of revenue for The Royal Agricultural Society of Tasmania. The company has determined that for the 2016 financial year controls and procedures were not enacted sufficient to confirm the Show income. As auditors we were not able to obtain sufficient audit evidence on which to base an opinion on the Show income. Our audit procedures with respect to revenue had to be restricted to the amounts recorded in the financial records. We cannot conclude that show income as disclosed is not materially misstated.

### *Qualified Auditor's Opinion*

In our opinion, except for the possible effects of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion paragraph, the financial report of The Royal Agricultural Society of Tasmania is in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:

- i giving a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 31 March 2016 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
- ii complying with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*.



Joanne Doyle  
Partner  
Wise Lord & Ferguson

Date: 17-6-2016



# OFFICE BEARERS

**PATRON:** *Her Excellency Professor The Honourable Kate Warner AM Governor of Tasmania*

## **President**

Paul Grubb

## **Vice President**

Jim Munro (Deceased April 2016)

## **Chief Executive Officer**

Scott Gadd

## **Secretary**

Barry Ellims

## **Board of Directors**

M. Brinckman

R. Cripps

P. Edwards (Resigned Dec 2015)

B. Ellims

H. E. Geard (Feb 2016)

P. A. Geard (HLC)

P. Grubb

W. Hazell (HLC)

J. Munro (Deceased April 2016)

S. Shirley

D. M. Skinner OAM (HLC)

## **Councillors**

I. Blades

M. Brinckman

H.W. Burbury (HLC)

Hon. P.H. Calvert AO (HLC)

R. Calvert

R. Cripps

P. Edwards (Resigned Dec 2015)

B. Ellims

K. Gatehouse

B. Geard

H. E. Geard

P. A. Geard (HLC)

P. Grubb

S. Hayers (Jan 2016)

W. Hazell (HLC)

J. Munro (Deceased April 2016)

C.F.C. Parsons

S. Rumley

S. Shirley

D. Schubert (Jan 2016)

D. M. Skinner OAM (HLC)

B. Smith

P. Spotswood

T. Steele

R. Tanner

C. Tapp

## **Honorary Life Councillor**

H.W. Burbury

Hon. P.H. Calvert AO

P.A Geard

W. Hazell

D. M. Skinner OAM

## **Honorary Life Members**

Dr. G. Baxter

H.W. Burbury (HLC)

Hon. P.H. Calvert AO (HLC)

R. Calvert

Mrs. J. Chesterman

B. Christie-Johnston

W.J. Cornelius

G. Coulson

T. Cuttriss

K. Davis

T. Doe

P.J. Fountain

P. A. Geard (HLC)

K. Gatehouse

W. Geeves

M.E. Gray

Sir Guy Green AC KBE AVO

W. Hazell (HLC)

J. Hewlett

K.H. Jones

Lord Mayor of Hobart

P. Marshall

Mrs C. Matterson

J. Munro (Deceased April 2016)

Mrs L. Page

C.F.C. Parsons

J. Radcliffe OAM

Mrs J. Reid

I. Scott

J.M. Seale

D. M. Skinner OAM (HLC)

M.J. Thomas

G. Verrier

D. Ward

Mrs M. Woodward

D. Zantuck

President: Royal National  
Agricultural & Pastoral Society  
of Tasmania

## **Auditors**

Wise Lord & Ferguson

## **Bankers**

Commonwealth Banking  
Corporation / ANZ

## **Insurers**

JLT Australia

## **Hon. Architects**

BPSM

## **Hon. Engineer**

Pitt & Sherry

## **Hon. Solicitor**

Noel Ware

## **Hon. Valuer**

Russell Cripps

## Images from 2015 - 2016



Terry & Rosemary Bennet, Fred Peacock  
Home Hill Estate - VOTY Winner

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2015 VOTY Winner - Home Hill

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2015 Fine Food Awards Entry

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2015 Fine Food Awards Entry

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2015 Fine Food Awards Dinner

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2015 Fine Food Awards Dinner

Theme - Rock n Roll

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## Images from 2015 Royal Hobart Show



# Images from 2015 Royal Hobart Show



# Images from 2015 Royal Hobart International Wine Show



CEO Scott Gadd, Chief Judge Louisa Rose,  
Chairman John Ellis & RAST President Paul Grubb

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Paul Grubb & Frank Walker

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*The Royal Agricultural Society of Tasmania*

Hobart Showground, 2 Howard Road Glenorchy Tasmania 7010

PO Box 94 Glenorchy Tas 7010

[www.hobartshowground.com.au](http://www.hobartshowground.com.au)