

# ANNUAL REPORT 2018

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA LIMITED







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# RASV INTRODUCTION

The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria Limited. (RASV) promotes and celebrates agriculture through events which connect industry with consumers and ultimately aims to improve the quality and increase demand for Victorian agricultural produce.

**RASV has inspired excellence for more than 165 years and has a proud history of providing industry with valuable platforms to advance excellence in agriculture, primarily through conducting highly credible benchmarking award programs and events.**

Today, RASV is a significant contributor to Victoria's economic and social value. This contribution is tangible and continually expanding.

These award programs and events provide opportunities for primary and secondary producers (particularly in Victoria) with unique opportunities to improve industry standards, grow the reputation of Victorian agrifood and fibre, and directly connect with consumers.

The Royal Melbourne Show, Victoria's largest and most iconic annual community event conducted by RASV, provides industry with opportunities to engage and connect annually with half a million consumers and build their knowledge and understanding of the vital role agriculture plays in everyday life.

To many of its fans, visitors and exhibitors alike, the Show is unique, irreplaceable and unequal in scale and diversity. It is the backdrop for numerous family rituals and has a universal appeal across all of Melbourne's diverse communities. This is evident in our unprecedented in our visitor satisfaction outcome and Net Promoter Scores.

The Royal Melbourne Show also provides industry, particularly beef, dairy, sheep and fleece, with an integral platform to benchmark and celebrate quality through livestock competitions.

RASV hosts a full calendar of events designed to support a range of sectors in the agricultural industry, including the:

- Australian International Beer Awards, renowned for showcasing the highest quality beer and celebrating brewing excellence from around the world;
- Royal Melbourne Wine Awards, the celebration of excellence in Australian winemaking and the nation's most respected wine awards;

- Australian Food Awards, one of Australia's most celebrated fine food awards;
- Australian Distilled Spirits Awards, introduced to recognise the burgeoning growth in Australian distillery production; and
- Australian International Coffee Awards attracting significant entry numbers from local and global producers.

Each event celebrates product quality and presents a valuable opportunity for all producers, large and small to benchmark their products and provides differentiation in the market for award winners.

Furthermore, RASV manages Melbourne Showgrounds, Victoria's largest and most versatile venue for trade shows, exhibitions and events, which attracts close to one million visitors annually across over 650 events, significantly supporting Victoria's major events calendar.

Focusing on delivering value to industry, RASV is committed to:

- Improving quality and increasing demand for Victorian agricultural produce;
- Providing platforms for industry to celebrate quality, set benchmarks and encourage excellence;
- Delivering successful events that connect industry with consumers;
- Growing membership and enhancing member value;
- Generating operating surpluses for prospective investments in events, member benefits and facilities at Melbourne Showgrounds;
- Improving the organisation by supporting and developing employees, volunteers and the next generation of leaders and;
- Implementing effective systems, processes and infrastructure to ensure quality events and superior service are delivered.



## Board of Directors



### Matthew Coleman (President and Chairman)

Matt is the President and Chairman of RASV, elected in 2016, having been a Director since 2011. Matt owns and lives on a commercial dairy farm in Gippsland with his wife Jo and their three children. He has an extensive background in government and private enterprise and holds a Bachelor of Agricultural Science, Master of Science in Agricultural Economics (Marketing) and a Graduate Diploma in Agribusiness. He also represents RASV on the Joint Venture vehicle with the State of Victoria as a Director of Melbourne Showgrounds Nominees Pty Ltd.



### Scott Chapman (Deputy Chairman)

Scott is CEO of the Royal Flying Doctor Service and was appointed a Director to RASV in 2009. He sits on a number of boards in aged care, environment and business and is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD). Scott has built his career in strategic and organisational development at senior levels across both the public and private sectors for the last 30 years. He has consulted both nationally and internationally in tourism, major events, sport, government and business. Scott is a member of the RASV Audit and Risk Management and the Nominations and Performance Board Sub-Committees.



### Dr Catherine Ainsworth

Catherine has considerable executive and board experience, having held senior management roles in government, agribusiness, pharmaceuticals and specialist equine veterinary practice throughout her career. Catherine is currently a Non-Executive Director of Harness Racing Victoria and Racing Analytical Services, and the CEO of Pony Club Australia Ltd. Catherine holds both Bachelor and Master's degrees in Veterinary Science, an MBA from the University of Melbourne and is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. Catherine joined the RASV Board in 2017.



### Darrin Grimsey

Darrin Grimsey is a Partner with Ernst and Young's Infrastructure Advisory team in Melbourne and a leading adviser on capital investment projects in Australia. Darrin has been a Partner with EY for 12 years and before that was a Partner at Price Waterhouse Cooper, where he worked for 10 years. Darrin graduated in engineering from the University of Nottingham in the UK and has a Master's degree in Management from the University of Manchester the UK. He is also an affiliate member of the CPA. Darrin advised RASV on its Joint Venture with the State in developing the Melbourne Showgrounds. Subsequently, he has worked on several studies and business cases related to further investments at the Melbourne Showgrounds. Darrin is Chair of the RASV Master Planning Board Sub-Committee and joined RASV as a Director in 2015.



### Alan Hawkes

Alan has significant financial, banking and treasury experience which he brings to the role of Chair of the Audit and Risk Management Sub-Committee. His career has been in corporate finance and company secretarial roles in investment banking and in strategic planning for the National Australia Bank Group, in Australia and the UK. While working for the Victorian Department of Treasury and Finance, Alan's responsibilities included business enterprise governance, risk management and financial liability management for the Government. For the past 10 years, Alan has been a professional Director in the finance and rural water sectors through appointments by the Victorian Government and has been active in the not-for-profit sector. Alan joined the RASV Board in 2008.



### Noelene King OAM

Noelene is a farmer from the South Gippsland region of Victoria operating two farms, a beef breeding operation and a dairy heifer replacement operation. Noelene served considerable time on both the Berwick and Dandenong Show Societies, and she is a Life Member of both, Noelene was appointed to the Council of RASV in 1995 and recognised with Life Membership in 2015. Noelene joined the Board of Directors in 2011 and is Chair of the RASV Foundation and a member of both the Nominations and Performance and Master Planning Board Sub-Committees, as well as the Beef Cattle and Poultry Committees. In 2008, Noelene was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for service to primary industry through the agricultural show movement in Victoria, and as a mentor to youth within the rural sector.



### Joy Potter

Joy has extensive experience in farming, having been involved with the family farm at Caramut in Western Victoria running merino sheep, prime lambs and beef cattle for over 50 years. She is a member and past Chairman of the Victorian Committee of the Angus Society of Australia, a past member of the Federal Council of the Angus Society, and is a member and past Chairman of the Stock and Land Beef Week Committee. Joy has a Diploma in Fine Arts from the University of Canterbury, New Zealand. Joy sits on the RASV Foundation Board Sub-Committee, is a member of the Heritage Committee, was elected as a Director of RASV in 2007 and recognised with Life Membership in 2015.



### Jason Ronald OAM

Jason is a farmer from the Tallarook region in Central Victoria and is President of the Seymour Agricultural and Pastoral Society. Jason has worked for the University of Melbourne, Ballarat University, Federal and State Governments and Qantas. In 2008, Jason was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for his service to the community through a range of social welfare, cultural, political and agricultural organisations. Jason sits on the RASV Nominations and Performance Board Sub-Committee and of the Heritage Committee. Jason is a RASV Life Councillor, elected to Council in 1991, and was appointed as Director in 2009.

## Chief Executive Officer



### Paul Guerra

Paul is an internationally experienced leader having previously held Managing Director and Chairman level roles in both Australia and Asia Pacific across many different sectors. Paul is Chairman of the Queen Victoria Market Pty Ltd and also held the position of Managing Director, Asia Pacific for Optum International. Paul was Victorian State Director of Vodafone and previously Director and Vice President of Motorola Asia Pacific, where he had an extensive 17-year career. Paul has held a range of Director roles at organisations including Red Dust Role Models, promoting health development for indigenous youth and Wesley College, one of Australia's leading educational institutions.

## Executive Team

- Paul Guerra (Chief Executive Officer)
- Jon Perry (General Manager, Corporate Services)
- Kate Heeps (General Manager, Agricultural Programs and Events)
- Jonathan Hocking (General Manager, Melbourne Showgrounds Operations)
- Linda O'Halloran (Manager Human Resources)
- Brad Jenkins (General Manager, Marketing and Business Development)

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We are committed to enabling communities to showcase their passions, delivering world-class events and inspiring the next generation of industry leaders.

**It is pleasing to report the positive financial results of RASV for the 12 months ending 31 March 2018. This strong financial outcome enables RASV to continue to enhance member value and deliver relevant programs that promote the development of, and celebrate excellence in agriculture.**

We are very proud that a recent economic study estimated RASV contributes \$430 million in economic value to the State of Victoria, with the Royal Melbourne Show alone contributing \$244 million in value.

The Royal Melbourne Show, Victoria's largest and most iconic annual community event provides industry with a unique and valuable opportunity to engage and connect with over 450,000 consumers over 11 days, and enables visitors to improve their knowledge and understanding of the vital role of agriculture in everyday life.

Our commitment to enhancing the agricultural and food offering, customer value and visitor experience at the 2017 Royal Melbourne Show strongly resonated with visitors and resulted in a record customer satisfaction rating. The Victorian public holiday during the event, the first for more than 20 years, saw the highest attendance for a Friday since Melbourne Showgrounds was redeveloped in 2006.

Our credible benchmarking food and beverage award programs and events continue to grow. These award programs and events are valued as they provide unique opportunities for producers to benchmark their products, receive feedback and ultimately improve industry standards. This year close to 8,000 entries were judged by over 250 local and international judges, all experts in their respective fields.

RASV is committed to the future of agriculture and supports the Government's vision of ensuring Victoria is a world leader in digital agriculture and is recognised as the AgTech hub of Australia. In 2017 the Royal Melbourne Show Agribusiness Leaders Luncheon featured a panel of expert speakers discussing the use of digital technology in agriculture and its wide ranging impacts along the food value chain, in improving agricultural productivity, provenance and food safety, as well as on competitiveness.

RASV continued its wider industry engagement through collaboration on events such as Stock and Land Beef Week, Flock of the Year in partnership with Merino Victoria and the Agriculture: Heart of Victoria dinner in conjunction with the Victorian Farmers Federation. We also continued our support of rural and regional agricultural events through sponsorship of International Dairy Week, Tatura and the Australian Sheep and Wool Show in Bendigo.

RASV enjoys a positive and constructive relationship with the State and I would like to congratulate the Hon Daniel Andrews MP on his continued leadership and vision as Premier, in particular, for recognising the value of the agriculture industry and its vital contribution to economic growth. I also recognise the efforts of the Hon Jaala Pulford MLC, Minister for Agriculture and Regional Development, for her dedication in supporting and enhancing our industry, though the Government's ten-year Agriculture Victoria Strategy released in May.

The ongoing support of the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport & Resources (DEDJTR) and the Department of Treasury and Finance (DTF) is also acknowledged and appreciated, particularly the Departments' involvement in the Melbourne Showgrounds Unincorporated Joint Venture (UJV). I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Karen Janiszewski who was appointed to Chair the UJV Committee of Management in September and thank her for her considered input during the period.





In line with our commitment to continually develop and upgrade the venue's infrastructure, construction works recently commenced on two of Melbourne Showgrounds buildings, Exhibition Hall (Building 3) and Royal Block (Building 5). On completion, the Building 3 upgrade will include a new foyer, an internal link to Exhibition Pavilion (Building 1), interior enhancement and improved audio visual and lighting. Building 5 will be further enhanced with a full reconstruction of the amenities facilities and a refurbished and expanded walkway into the Port Phillip Room.

We are confident these upgrades will improve the experience of the close to one million visitors who attend the venue each year, create further opportunities to attract new and exciting business and enhance Melbourne Showgrounds reputation as Melbourne's largest and most versatile events venue.

Personally, I express sincere thanks to my Deputy Chair, Scott Chapman and fellow Directors for their continued support, assistance and valued counsel throughout the year.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank former RASV President, Stephen Spargo, who retired from the Board in June 2017. It was my pleasure to present Stephen with Honorary Life Membership and Life Councillor status in recognition of his extraordinary voluntary contribution to RASV over 16 years.

I would also like to thank Mark O'Sullivan who left us in November after 12 years as CEO of RASV and in farewelling Mark, welcome Paul Guerra who joined us in February. We are thrilled to have appointed someone with Paul's proven experience across a number of industry sectors both in Australia and internationally, and I look forward to drawing on Paul's knowledge and foresight as we continue to identify new and greater opportunities for RASV and its stakeholders.

I wish to also acknowledge each and every one of RASV's dedicated employees, as well as our volunteers who generously provide their time, expertise and assistance throughout the year. During the 2017 Royal Melbourne Show, I was delighted to present three of our longest serving volunteers (Barrie Crotty, Karen Bertoncetto and John Dowling), with the President's Medal in recognition of their tireless contribution to RASV over many years.

Sadly, February saw the loss of RASV Life Member, Dr Hugh J Wirth AM. A respected veterinarian and prominent animal welfare advocate. Dr Wirth was a member of the Royal Melbourne Show Veterinary Panel for 33 years.

Lastly, thank you to RASV members for your ongoing support. You can be assured that we are committed to enhancing the membership offering, delivering greater value and continually seeking new ways to reward member loyalty.

**Matt Coleman**  
President

# CEO'S MESSAGE

It's been another incredible year for RASV. We have delivered on our financial commitment, our strategic initiatives, and most importantly our customer promise during award and events, Melbourne Showground events and of course the Royal Melbourne Show.



**RASV's world-class award programs continued to grow in participation and reputation this year with the successful delivery of the Australian Distilled Spirits Awards (ADSA), Australian Food Awards (AFA), Australian International Beer Awards (AIBA), Royal Melbourne Wine Awards (RMWA) and Australian International Coffee Awards (AICA).**

#### **Key highlights from our programs for 2017/2018:**

- The size, scale and calibre of our food and beverage awards continued to grow with 7,764 entries, 1,525 exhibitors, and 276 local, interstate and overseas judges involved in the award assessments.
- ADSA received a record number of entries for this year's competition, a 60% increase from previous years and from 70 Australian distillers.
- AFA experienced a successful second year, continuing to offer opportunities for Australian producers in leveraging success locally and internationally with AFA's national brand seal of quality, over 420 producers entered the awards this year.
- AIBA, the world's largest annual beer competition judging both draught and packaged beer, celebrated 25 years of award-winning beer and awarded 19 major trophies across various beer styles.
- RMWA saw 3,100 wines entered and tasted over five days, by a judging panel of 35 industry experts.
- AICA received 743 entries from 152 local and international coffee roasters, including coffees from New Zealand, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Korea, South Africa, Taiwan, Singapore, Greece, the USA and UK.

**The 2017 Royal Melbourne Show** saw close to 450,000 patrons visit the event over the 11 days. The Show again attracted thousands of entries across the various blue ribbon competitions including beef cattle, sheep, horses, dogs, woodchop and art, craft and cookery.

#### **Key highlights from the 2017 Royal Melbourne Show:**

- New benchmarks for patron satisfaction, with a high satisfaction rating, an increase on the previous two years, and a Net Promotor Score that saw the highest rating yet.
- A 16% increase in pre-event ticket sales and more than 60% of tickets purchased online.
- New partnerships and sponsor support allowed for high value content that produced over 1,000 hours of entertainment.

**Melbourne Showgrounds** is a significant venue on Victoria's major events calendar and Victoria's largest indoor/outdoor venue. Melbourne Showgrounds' venue business continues to develop and grow, attracting new events and improving the services and delivery of existing events.

#### **Key highlights for 2017/2018:**

- Successful delivery of events has resulted in a high retention rate of existing clients.
- Over 600 events were activated at the venue.
- Two key projects were undertaken to improve the facilities and exhibition areas of Melbourne Showgrounds, including the gate signage project and commencement of the redevelopment of Building 3 and 5.



**Our team at RASV** is one that we are proud of. Ensuring we have the best people delivering the best events and programs, we focus on providing developmental opportunities, cross-functional activity and inspiring leadership. Encouraging industry connection, collaboration and outcomes through events, RASV's commitment to advancing agriculture includes increased support of regional events, participation in industry events and associations and a continued focus on nurturing young industry participants.

**Our relationship with the State Government of Victoria** remains strong. The significant results we have achieved would not be possible without the support of the Victorian agricultural industry and I thank the Minister for Agriculture and Regional Development, the Hon Jaala Pulford for her ongoing support. I also extend my thanks to the wonderful team in her department who work so closely with us at RASV.

**The RASV Board** do a brilliant job of ensuring the vision for RASV remains strong. I have been delighted with the support they have shown me, and the willingness to pass on the insights that their experience has given them, as this has enabled me to transition into the role quickly.

My thanks to the RASV staff, who are a most dedicated team of people who bring together many celebrations of Victorian agriculture throughout the year. Your efforts are much appreciated, and because of your dedication, our signature events like the Royal Melbourne Show provide new levels of fun and engagement for many people each year.

On a personal note, I received a warm welcome upon arriving to RASV in early February. The organisation is in a sound financial position, and has a team of excellent professionals, who are all passionate about the organisation and its future, and are great at what they do. I want to acknowledge my predecessor Mark O'Sullivan for his contribution over an extended period at RASV.

I also want to acknowledge Jon Perry who was the acting CEO for an extended period throughout the year, and earned praise from all quarters for the way he handled the task. Thank you also, to the Executive Team of Brad Jenkins, Kate Heeps and Linda O'Halloran who both supported Jon and led the staff through the transition period.

To members of the **Unincorporated Joint Venture** (a 50:50 joint venture between RASV and the State Government of Victoria), led by Chairman Karen Janiszewski - my thanks for your continued drive to ensure that Melbourne Showgrounds remains a relevant option in Victoria's growing exhibition market.

One of the early opportunities I see for RASV is to communicate our linkage and support of agriculture more strongly. RASV curates some of the world's most notable award programs, both during the Royal Melbourne Show, and also throughout the year, and these centre around agriculture in all forms. As RASV promotes these awards further, it will enable more awareness of Victorian agriculture, and its relevance on a global stage.

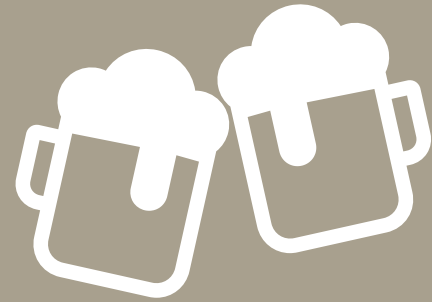
Last but not least, to all our visitors, exhibitors and competitors, thank you for your ongoing commitment and support to RASV and all its programs. To our venue hire customers, I look forward to our ongoing successes.

As we reflect on our successful 2017/18 year, we move into the next year with a renewed sense of RASV's future. We can expect to see some changes in the way we engage with our stakeholders, the way we embrace our customers and suppliers, and the way we look to partner more effectively. It's an opportunity to build on a wonderful 170 year history, and respond appropriately to ensure RASV remains even more relevant in a new era of agriculture.

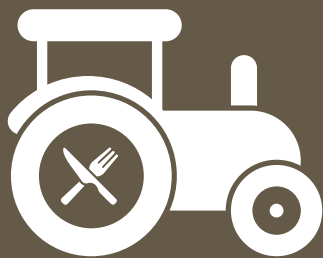
**Paul Guerra**  
CEO



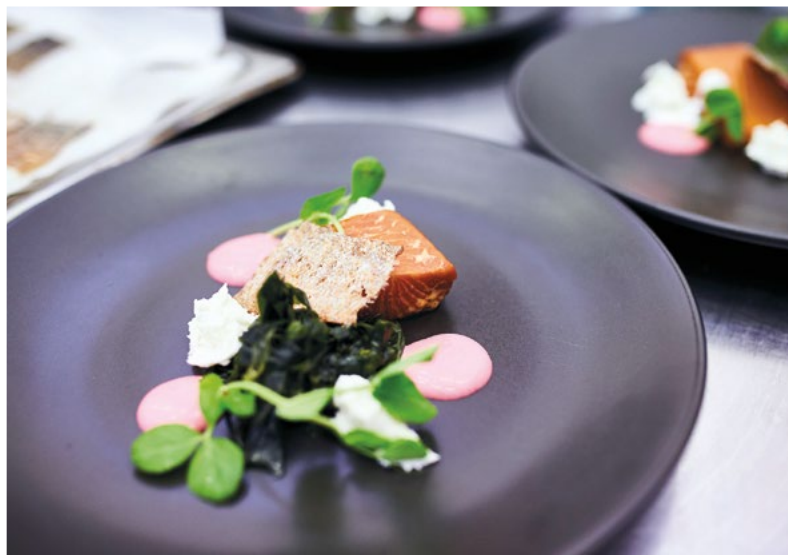
April 2017 & January 2018  
Two Australian Distilled Spirits  
Awards fell in the same year, seeing  
60% and 20% growth respectively.



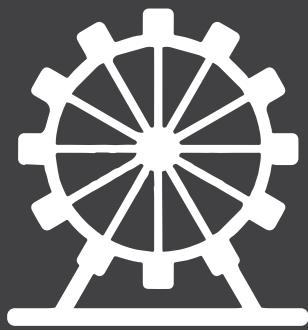
May 2017  
Celebrating 25 years of award-winning  
beers, the 2017 Australian International  
Beer Awards received over 2,000 entries.



June 2017  
Agriculture: The Heart of Victoria  
gala dinner was held at the exclusive  
MCG Members Dining Room.



September 2017  
The 2017 Australian Food Awards  
saw 20 Consistency of Excellence  
medals awarded.



September 2017

The Royal Melbourne Show saw 96% of attendees satisfied with their experience.



October 2017

Over 3,100 wines were entered into the 2017 Royal Melbourne Wine Awards.



February 2018

The RASV Beef Week Heifer Challenge celebrate Boonaroo Angus as the competitions' first dual winner.



March 2018.

The Australian International Coffee Awards presented over 200 medals.

# 2017 ROYAL MELBOURNE SHOW

The 2017 Royal Melbourne Show experienced strong attendance with around 450,000 people visiting the event between September 23 September – 3 October.

**For the first time for more than 20 years there was a Victorian public holiday during the Royal Melbourne Show on the AFL Grand Final eve which provided more Victorians the opportunity to attend the Show and they did so in significant numbers. The public holiday recorded the highest attendance for a Show day on a Friday since Melbourne Showgrounds was redeveloped in 2006.**

A strategic focus for the 2017 Show was to enhance the agricultural and food offering, customer value and visitor experience which strongly resonated with visitors to the Show.

Visitors were provided more opportunities than ever to experience farm animals, enjoy fun, hands-on activities, indulge in delicious award-winning food and be thrilled by exciting attractions, with expanded animal and food precincts within Melbourne Showgrounds.

The 2017 Royal Melbourne Show set new benchmarks for patron satisfaction, with a high satisfaction rating, an increase on the previous two years, and a Net Promotor Score that saw the highest rating yet.

Visitors to this year's Show responded positively to great value pre-purchase ticket offers, with a 16% increase on pre-event ticket sales and more than 60% of all tickets to the Show purchased online.

RASV received strong entries across its portfolio of Royal Melbourne Show blue ribbon competitions, in particular Art, Craft and Cookery, Horses in Action and Beef Cattle. The feature breed for the Beef Cattle competition was Speckle Park and a world record price was achieved for an exhibit in the beef cattle auction.

Several of the competitions experienced great youth participation indicating a bright future for the Show's competitions in coming years. Committed to recognising and supporting youth in agriculture, RASV saw increased youth engagement across a number of Royal Melbourne Show competitions, with significant growth in exhibitors for the beef carcass competition, strong candidates vying for the Dairy Youth Handlers scholarship and the Emerging Leaders in Victorian Agriculture awards, excellent school participation across livestock competitions and a strong number of teams competing in the Young Farmer Challenge.



Contributing more than \$244 million every year in value to the state of Victoria, the Royal Melbourne Show is Victoria's largest and most iconic annual community event.

The Show employed approximately 2,200 people including staff, contractors, caterers and entertainers. Close to 1,600 volunteers donated over 21,000 hours to the Show and over 400 local businesses traded at the event.

RASV acknowledges and appreciates the support of the following sponsors of the 2017 Royal Melbourne Show:

**PRINCIPAL PARTNERS**

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ADVANCE®

**MAJOR SPONSORS**

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Herald Sun

The Weekly Times

Australian Unity

Jayco

**SPONSORS**

Kubota

Vivo

Spotlight

Regional Development Victoria







# 2017 AND 2018 AUSTRALIAN DISTILLED SPIRITS AWARDS

The Australian Distilled Spirit Awards (ADSA) ran two successful annual programs across the 2017/2018 financial year, with the 2017 awards taking place in April and the 2018 awards taking place in March.



**A record number of entries were received in the 2017 3rd annual ADSA, with two of WA's most highly regarded distilleries tied for Champion Australian Distiller.**

Old Young's of Henley Brook, WA and Hoochery Distillery of Kununnarra, WA shared in the top honours, after receiving the exact same average across their top three scoring entries.

A total of ten champion trophies, including the dual Champion Distiller trophies, were awarded in the third year of the awards, with six won by WA distillers, three to SA and one to VIC.

Head Judge Sam Bygrave led an impressive list of industry experts to assess the 240-plus entries in 2017, a 60% increase on the previous year, with a total of 17 gold, 78 silver and 82 bronze medals awarded.

In 2018 a total of 24 gold, 73 silver and 121 bronze medals were awarded and the top honors were taken out once again by Old Young's of Henley Brook, WA, receiving a total of ten championship trophies in the fourth year of the awards.

Five of the 2018 trophies were won by Victorian distillers and one each in South Australia, Queensland, Tasmania, Western Australia and New South Wales.

The ADSA is the only national spirits awards in the country, recognising and rewarding excellence in Australia's burgeoning spirits and liqueurs industry.

**RASV acknowledges and appreciates the support of the following sponsors:**

#### 2017 MAJOR SPONSOR

Tasmanian Cask Co.

#### 2018 MAJOR SPONSOR

MasterCask

#### 2017 AND 2018 EVENT TICKETING PARTNER

Eventbrite

#### 2017 TROPHY SPONSORS

Dan Murphy's

Exponet

Time Out Melbourne

#### 2018 TROPHY SPONSORS

Cryer Malt

Cryer Malt / Barrett Burston

Royal Selangor

Labelhouse

Navy Strength Ice Co

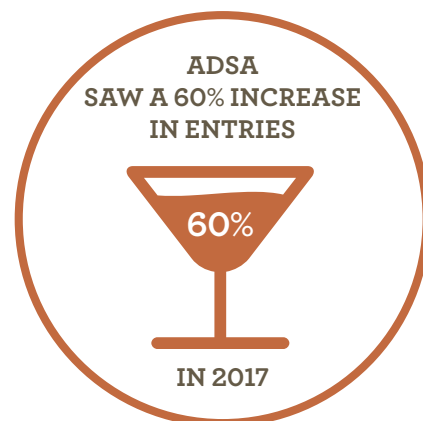
Plasdene Glass Pak

#### 2017 AND 2018 SUPPORTING PARTNER

Australian Distillers Association

#### 2018 SPONSOR

Dan Murphy's



# 2017 AUSTRALIAN INTERNATIONAL BEER AWARDS

Breweries from all corners of the country and around the world celebrated after the results of the 2017 Australian International Beer Awards (AIBA) were announced in May, with Victorian brewery White Rabbit taking out Champion Australian Beer for their White Rabbit White Ale (draught).

**Champion International Beer was awarded to California-based brewery Firestone Walker for their Feral One (packaged) beer, who were also awarded Best Belgian/French Ale for the same beer and Best Pilsner for the Pivo Pils (packaged).**

As the largest annual beer competition in the world judging both draught and packaged beer, AIBA celebrated 25 years of recognising the world's best beers. Attracting record participation in 2017 with over 1,890 entries across the beer categories. Close to 200 entries were also received in the design and media categories.

In other top honours, Stone & Wood Brewing Co, NSW, was awarded Champion Large Australian Brewery for the second year running, whilst DAGON Beverages of Myanmar were awarded Champion Large International Brewery.

First time entrant Balter Brewing Company, Qld were awarded Champion Medium Australian Brewery also taking home the Gary Sheppard Memorial Trophy for the Best New Exhibitor, with Pelican Brewing Company, awarded Champion Medium International Brewery for the third consecutive year, in a testament to the Oregon USA- based brewery's consistent quality.

Queensland's awards continued with Champion Small Australian Brewery won by Green Beacon Brewing Co, whilst New Zealand took home the last of the Champion brewery honours with Deep Creek Brewing Company awarded Champion Small International Brewery.

The Australian Gypsy Brewer Award was presented to ACT brewers Pact Beer Co. who began production in 2015.

Nineteen major trophies were also awarded across the various beer styles, with six awarded to international breweries, six each to Victorian breweries, five to NSW- based breweries, two to Queensland and one in WA.

For the first time, two trophies were awarded for Best Design with WA's Colonial Brewing Company taking home Best Label/Surface Graphic for their Pale Ale and NSW's Wayward Brewing Company awarded Best Outer Packaging for their Wayward Core Range.

A panel of close to 80 international and local judges, overseen by Head Judge Brendan Varis, founder of WA's Feral Brewing Co, assessed entries over three days at Melbourne Showgrounds to award the winners. The awards were presented at a gala dinner during Good Beer Week, attended by over 700 people.

RASV acknowledges and appreciates the support of the following sponsors:

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#### MAJOR SPONSOR

Federation University Australia

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#### PRESENTING PARTNERS

Barrett Burston

GrainCorp

Cryer Malt

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#### EVENT TICKETING PARTNER

Eventbrite

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#### EVENT PARTNERS

Exponet

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#### TROPHY SPONSORS

3 Degrees Marketing

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Dan Murphy's

GABS Beer, Cider and Food Fest

Hop Products Australia

Hopco

Kegstar

Plasdene Glass Pak

The Post Project

Time Out Melbourne

Weyermann

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# 2017 AUSTRALIAN FOOD AWARDS

There were 14 Champion Trophies awarded to 11 of the best food producers nationwide at the 2017 Australian Food Awards (AFA) held in September.

**The prestigious Champion Australian Product/Produce was awarded to Tasmanian producer Australian Honey Products for its Sheffield Honey Farm Leatherwood, which also won the overall Champion Pantry Goods Trophy.**

Apollo Bay's Dooley's Ice Cream also took home two awards, winning the Champion Dairy Trophy for its Passionfruit Ice Cream and for the second year running, the Champion Medium Producer Trophy.

The Champion Small Producer Trophy was awarded to Enigma Fine Chocolates from the ACT and VIC producer Bertocchi Smallgoods took home the trophy for Champion Large Producer.

Two producers tied for the Champion Australian Organic Product, with trophies awarded to both Bundarra Berkshires, NSW, for its Free-Range Pork Rack and Zeally Bay Sourdough, VIC, for its Organic Spelt, Buckwheat and Polenta Loaf, also awarded Champion Grains and Pulses.

Other trophies presented included Champion Fresh Produce awarded to Wildes Lane, Victoria for their Spanish Roja Garlic, Champion Convenience Food to Louise - Brunch, Victoria for the Pearl Barley, Potato and Vegetable Salad, Champion Poultry to The Old Farm Happy Valley, Victoria and Champion Seafood to Eucumbene Trout Farm, NSW.

RASV also awarded 20 Consistency of Excellence awards to producers whose products have won an AFA gold medal for three years in a row, with an impressive 12 awarded to Dooley's Ice Cream for its ice cream and gelato.

**RASV acknowledges and appreciates the support of the following sponsors:**

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Victorian Chamber of Commerce and Industry

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Majors Group

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# 2018 AUSTRALIAN INTERNATIONAL COFFEE AWARDS

The Australian International Coffee Awards (AICA) is the first and only international coffee roasting competition in Australia, receiving 743 entries from 152 local and international coffee roasters in 2018, including coffees from New Zealand, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Korea, South Africa, Taiwan, Singapore, Greece, USA and UK.

**Sydney's Danes Specialty Coffee took out the title of Champion Australian Roaster for the first time in the 2018 AICA, putting NSW in the spotlight for outstanding coffee production.**

Seven trophies were awarded, with three of them going to Danes Specialty Coffee and other winners coming from ACT, New Zealand and Malaysia.

2017's Champion Australian Roaster, Bean Roasters was named Champion Direct Trade or Microlot for the Colombia Castillo, featuring pineapple, dark wine, high-cocoa chocolate in a full body and complex flavour mix.

Chiasso Coffee Co. from New Zealand were awarded Champion Filter Coffee with their Ethiopian Yirgacheffe Kochere.

A total of 210 medals were awarded including seven gold, 61 silver and 142 bronze, over three days of judging which took place at Melbourne Showgrounds from 7-9 March, with a panel of industry experts led by Head Judge Melissa Caia assessing the entries.

RASV acknowledges and appreciates the support of the following partners:

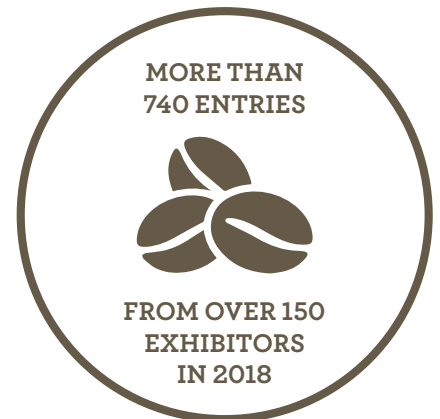
#### EVENT PARTNERS

Riverina Fresh

Reground

Bonsoy

Espresso Mechanics



# 2017 ROYAL MELBOURNE WINE AWARDS

The Royal Melbourne Wine Awards (RMWA), the most respected wine show in Australia attracted more than 3100 entries in 2017 and was judged by a panel of 35 industry experts led by Head Judge, winemaker and previous Jimmy Watson recipient, Tom Carson of Yabby Lake.

**The Jimmy Watson Memorial Trophy for Best Young Red Wine, recognised as Australia's most coveted wine trophy, was awarded to Barossa Valley SA winery Turkey Flat Vineyards for the 2016 Grenache, the first time a wine of that variety has taken out the prestigious honour.**

The white wine equivalent, the Francois De Castella trophy for Best Young White Wine went to Margaret River WA winery House of Cards for 2016 The Royals Chardonnay Queens of Hearts.

Other top honours included the James Halliday Trophy for Best Pinot Noir awarded to Tasmania Winery Heemskerk for the 2016 Pinot Noir, and the Trevor Mast Trophy for Best Shiraz to Yarra Valley VIC winery De Bortoli Wines for their 2015 Section A8 Syrah.

Adelaide Hills Longview Vineyard took home the Douglas Seabrook Trophy for Best Single Vineyard Wine for the Longview Iron Knob 2017 Riesling, with the Vineyard Manager Dino Cotsaris awarded the Kym Ludvigsen Trophy for Viticultural Excellence.

The Bill Chambers Trophy for Best Fortified Wine went to Morris Wines, Rutherglen for their Morris Old Premium Rare Liqueur Topaque NV. The wine has received gold medals honours over the last three years, which also resulted in Morris Wines receiving one of their three inaugural Consistency of Excellence medals, introduced this year to recognise continuous excellence in wine production.

The Victorian Wines of Provenance recognising outstanding consistency in Victorian winemaking across three vintages over 10 years of wine production was awarded across both white and red wines. This year's Victorian White Wines of Provenance was awarded to Granite Hills Winery, Macedon Ranges for the 2004, 2008 and 2016 Riesling with the red trophy awarded to Yarra Valley's Portet Winemakers for the 2001, 2010 and 2015 Cabernet Sauvignon.

In a testament to the truly national nature of the awards and the breadth of Australia's quality winemaking regions, 16 best in class trophies were also awarded across the country with seven presented to SA wineries, four to NSW, two to both VIC and WA and one to TAS.

Twelve wineries also received Consistency of Excellence Medals in the first year they have been awarded.

RASV acknowledges and appreciates the support of the following sponsors:

#### PRESENTING PARTNER

Portavin Integrated Wine Services

#### EVENT PARTNER

Husky

#### EVENT TICKETING PARTNER

Eventbrite

#### TROPHY SPONSORS

Kubota

Plumm

Seabrook Wines

Time Out Melbourne

Victorian Chamber of Commerce and Industry

TROPHIES WERE  
AWARDED BY A  
JUDGING PANEL OF



35 INDUSTRY  
PROFESSIONALS

12 CONSISTENCY  
OF EXCELLENCE  
MEDALS



WERE AWARDED  
FOR THE FIRST TIME  
IN 2017



# ADVANCING AGRICULTURE



## 2017 Agriculture: The Heart of Victoria

Over 20 of Victoria's best local producers were showcased at the food and fibre industry's night of nights, the fifth annual Agriculture: The Heart of Victoria gala dinner, which was held on Thursday 11 May in the MCG Members Dining Room.

The premier event on the Victorian agriculture calendar and hosted in partnership with the Victorian Farmers Federation (VFF) and RASV. The dinner celebrated the growing contribution of agriculture to Victoria's economy, which is worth over \$11.9b in exports.

The event provided over 450 guests with the opportunity to taste from a bespoke menu featuring quality ingredients from local producers, matched with local wine and beer. Guests also heard from keynote speaker, acclaimed children's author Simone Kain, and networked with like-minded peers, agri-business professionals and industry participants in a night of food, farming and friends.

## 2018 International Dairy Week

Reflecting commitment to supporting regional events showcasing agriculture, RASV was a major sponsor of the 2018 International Dairy Week (IDW), including presentation of the highly coveted RASV Interbreed Awards.

Held in Tatura during the third week of January, IDW is considered Australia's premier dairy event, and includes the RASV Dairy Industry Leader's Breakfast, allowing industry participants to meet and discuss relevant topics to the sector.

The 2018 RASV Dairy Industry Leaders Breakfast hosted over 100 attendees who enjoyed a presentation by guest speaker Prof Sandra Kentish from the Melbourne University ARC Dairy Innovation Hub.

## 2018 RASV Beef Week Heifer Challenge

The RASV Heifer Challenge travelled through VIC and into NSW over nine days from Friday 29 January – Tuesday 6 February as part of Stock and Land Beef Week. Run by Stud Beef Victoria, the event provides more than 200 beef producers with a unique opportunity to market, showcase and select genetics for breeding operations.

As one of the many important programs RASV conducts throughout the year, to highlight quality production in agrifood and fibre, the Heifer Challenge recognises excellence in herd replacement females in seed stock operation.

The 2018 event culminated in the RASV Heifer Challenge Celebratory Dinner, held on Thursday 8 February at Silks in Bendigo, with the Champion presented a \$3,000 cash prize and the Reserve Champion awarded \$1,500.

RASV named Boonaroo Angus Heifer Challenge Champion and Mount William Charolais the Reserve Champion for 2018.





### **2017 Australian Sheep and Wool Show**

Expanding our support of regional events that promote and showcase agriculture, RASV partnered with the Australian Sheep and Wool Show held in Bendigo in July 2017, a leading event in the sheep industry. RASV's involvement at the event helps to ensure the success of Australia's largest sheep show and aligns RASV with primary producers.

In 2017 RASV expanded involvement to include the use of the RASV Customer Relationship Management Software to receive and validate entries. The move to undertake entry collation and managing part of the event administration transformed the sponsorship into a partnership based approach.

### **2018 Flock of the Year**

Presented by RASV in partnership with Merino Victoria, the 2018 McLennan-McColl Flock of the Year competition saw eight properties in the region open their gates to judges John Crawford of Rock-Bank Merino Stud and Daniel Rogers of Mount Yulong Poll Merino Stud.

The commercial merino flock ewe competition is aimed at promoting and improving the quality of Victorian Merino sheep flocks and helps to educate Merino breeders on how to improve their flock's selection traits.

Judged in the Bendigo, Ballarat and Serpentine areas of Victoria over two days in March, the 2018 McLennan-McColl Flock of the Year champion was awarded to Nicholas Harrop of GE, KM and NE Harrop, farming at Muskery, 37km east of Bendigo.

### **2017 Dairy Youth Handlers Travel Scholarship**

Awarded by RASV, the Dairy Youth Travel Scholarship offers compelling future development and career opportunities, providing the recipient with a \$10,000 travel bursary to visit dairy regions in Asia, New Zealand or USA.

In 2017, eight applications were received. The award recipient was Michaela Thompson who utilised the scholarship to travel to dairy regions throughout Europe.



**2017 Emerging Leaders in Victorian Agriculture**

Three recipients of the 2017 Emerging Leaders in Victorian Agriculture (ELVA) awards were presented by RASV during the annual Agribusiness Leader's Luncheon at the Royal Melbourne Show.

The ELVA awards are open to industry participants aged under 40 who have achieved in one or more areas of professional, industry and community contribution, as well as demonstrated leadership qualities such as innovation, communication or ethical conduct.

The 2017 recipients were Justin Corbitt of Melbourne, Adam Mountjoy of Yea, and Sherrie Lee of Whittlesea, and each received a bursary of \$5,000.

**THREE RECIPIENTS OF THE EMERGING LEADERS IN VICTORIAN AGRICULTURE AWARDS EACH WON A \$5,000 BURSARY IN 2017.**

 A circular graphic containing a blue graduation cap icon, a blue dollar sign icon, and the text '\$5K' in blue.

# MELBOURNE SHOWGROUNDS

As Victoria's largest and most flexible indoor/outdoor venue, Melbourne Showgrounds is a significant contributor to Melbourne's major events calendar, providing specifically designed spaces suitable for hosting a variety of events and activities including trade shows, exhibitions, expos, festivals exams, filming and production, and more.



**During 2017 approximately one million visitors attend the venue for events, exhibitions, tradeshow, meetings, exams and rehearsals. In total, there were more than 650 events and meetings held at the venue including the 2017 Royal Melbourne Show.**

Over recent years RASV has undertaken many initiatives to improve the organisations environmental sustainability and this year were honoured with Melbourne Awards, Contributions to Environmental Sustainability by a Community Organisation.

There were a significant number of new events held at the venue over the past 12 months including Meatstock, The Wedding Fair, Kyani Australia Conference, Family Food Fight television series, Monash College Exams, ThronesCon, Zedtown, Annual Islamic EID Show, Queer Expo, AGCO Machinery Launch, Octoberfest, Amart Furniture Conference, Sweet Festival, Gizzfest, Builders Union Picnic, Special Children's Christmas Party, The Monster, Walker Stalker, PJR Presents – 50 Cent and Jumanji Music Festival.

The large scale indoor pavilions at Melbourne Showgrounds were used for tertiary exams. Victoria University and RMIT mid-year and end of year exams all held at the venue this year.

Melbourne Showgrounds was the selected venue for a number of important community based events including The Smith Family hamper packing, CBA Operation Plum Pudding, Annual Islamic EID Show and the TET Festival.

A ninth series of MasterChef was also filmed at the venue and a renewed agreement has been signed to produce series ten of MasterChef in the coming year.

Melbourne Showgrounds was also the venue for judging RASV's suite of agriculture and food competitions.

RASV is committed to making ongoing improvements to Melbourne Showgrounds facilities and exhibition areas and the following were committed in 2017/18:

1. Gate signage project
2. Plans drawn for the redevelopment of Building 3 and 5.

# 2017 / 2018 SUMMARY OF AWARDS



SECTION	AWARD
<b>ROYAL MELBOURNE SHOW</b>	
Art, Craft & Cookery	The Florence Monod Memorial Award
Beef Carcase	Grand Champion Carcase
	Borthwick Trophy
Beef Cattle	Supreme Beef Exhibit
Dairy	RASV Dairy Interbreed Australia Grand Champion
	Dairy Youth Handlers Travel Scholarship
Royal Melbourne Championship Dog Show	Best In Show
	Best Puppy In Show
	Best Baby Puppy In Show
	Best in Obedience Trial
	Best In Agility Trial
	Best in Jumping Trial
Horses in Action	The Garryowen Equestrienne Turnout
	Garryowen Hall of Fame Horse
Garryowen Hall of Fame	Garryowen Hall of Fame Rider
	Garryowen Hall of Fame Exceptional Service
	Golden Axe - Grand Aggregate Trophy
Woodchop	Handicap Aggregate Trophy
	The "Dalmore Trophy" - Interbreed Champion Ram
Sheep	Interbreed Champion Ewe
	Champion Lambs' Wool
Fleece	Champion Skirted Fleece
	Champion Black & Coloured Fleece
	Champion District Fleece



EXHIBIT	EXHIBITOR
Twil Scarf	Alison Leonard – ACT
Exhibit 185, Speckle Park x D: Angus	Nelson Family – Pine Lodge VIC
Exhibits 132, 166 and 264 Shorthorn	Finley High School – ACT, Longerenong College – VIC and Yanco Agricultural High School – NSW
Pine Creek Miss E99 Forman J181	Pine Creek Angus Stud – Cowra NSW
Elmar Goldwyn Jessica 11	Elmar Hosteins – Leitchville VIC Michaela Thompson – Yarroweyah VIC
Champion Driftway Time N Again (Labrador)	Mr G Spagnolo – NSW
Champion Picardy Point Of View (Standard Poodle)	Mr M & Mrs L Boyd and Miss J Foulds – QLD
Kasadecav Arkhams E Nygma (Cavalier King Charles Spaniel)	Miss C T Taylor – VIC
Grand. CH. Stobar Quentin	Mr S MacDonald – VIC
Kayladene Roxyz Lil Rocket	Mrs G, Mrs K & Mr K Kisielnicki – VIC
Kayladene Roxyz Lil Rocket	Mrs G, Mrs K & Mr K Kisielnicki – VIC
SLM Mercedes	Catherine Neill – Gisborne VIC
Kings	Kathleen Nicholson (nee Donoghue) – VIC Mr Sydney T Chapple – VIC Laurence O’Toole – VIC Campbell Newman – QLD
Exhibit 720, Poll Dorset	BA & LK Frost, Hillden – Bannister NSW
Exhibit 399, Poll Dorset	Valley Vista Poll Dorset Stud – Coolac NSW
Exhibit 162, Chalicum	Doug Hopkins – Buangor VIC
Exhibit 102, Coryule Merinos	Craig Trickey – Willowvale VIC
Exhibit 177, Kan-B Colours	Mrs H Wright – Glenlofty VIC
Exhibit 482, Champion Non-Marino Fleece	Robert Fraser – Clunes VIC

# 2017 / 2018 SUMMARY OF AWARDS

SECTION	AWARD
<b>RASV EVENTS &amp; AWARDS</b>	
Australian Food Awards	Champion Australian Product
	Champion Australian Large Producer / Manufacturer
	Champion Australian Medium Producer / Manufacturer
	Champion Australian Small Producer / Manufacturer
Emerging Leaders in Victorian Agriculture	Emerging Leader Award
	Emerging Leader Award
	Emerging Leader Award
Royal Melbourne Wine Awards	Jimmy Watson Memorial Trophy
	The James Halliday Trophy for Best Pinot Noir
	The Victorian Trophy for Red Wines of Provenance
	The Victorian Trophy for White Wines of Provenance
	The Trevor Mast Trophy for Best Shiraz
	The Francois De Castella Trophy for Best Young White Wine
	The Douglas Seabrook Single Vineyard Trophy
	The Kym Ludigsen Trophy for Viticultural Excellence
The Bill Chambers Trophy for Best Fortified in Show	
Australian International Beer Awards	Champion Large Australian Brewery
	Champion Large International Brewery
	Champion Medium Australian Brewery
	Champion Medium International Brewery
	Champion Small Australian Brewery
	Champion Small International Brewery
Australian International Coffee Awards	Champion Australian Roaster
	Champion International Roaster
	Champion Espresso
	Champion Milk Based Coffee
	Champion Filter Coffee
	Champion Cold Brew
Australian Distilled Spirits Awards	Champion Direct Trade or Microlot Coffee
	Champion Australian Distillers (2017)
	Champion Australian Distillers (2017)
Champion Australian Distillers (2018)	Champion Australian Distillers (2018)
	Champion
	Champion
Stock & Land Beef Week	RASV Heifer Challenge
Royal Melbourne Poultry Show	Supreme Champion in Show - in Memory of Mr G Sheppard
Royal Melbourne Alpaca Show	Supreme Champion Suri
	Supreme Champion Huacaya

EXHIBIT	EXHIBITOR
Sheffield Honey Farm Leatherwood	Australian Honey Products – TAS
	Bertocchi Smallgoods – VIC
	Dooley's Ice Cream – VIC
	Enigma Fine Chocolates – ACT
	Adam Mountjoy – Yea VIC
	Justin Corbitt – Melbourne VIC
	Dr Sherrie Lee – Whittlesea VIC
2016 Grenache	Turkey Flat Vineyards – Barossa Valley SA
2016 Pinot Noir	Heemskerk – TAS
2015, 2010, 2001 Cabernet Sauvignon	Portet Winemakers – Yarra Valley VIC
2016, 2007, 2004 Riesling	Granite Hills Winery – Macedon Ranges VIC
2015 Yarra Valley Section A8 Syrah	De Bortoli Wines – Yarra Valley VIC
2016 The Royals Chardonnay Queen of Hearts	House of Cards – Margaret River WA
2017 Iron Knob Riesling	Longview Vineyard – Adelaide Hills SA
Dino Cotsaris	Longview Vineyard – Adelaide Hills SA
Old Premium Topaque NV Muscadelle	Morris Wines – Rutherglen VIC
	Stone & Wood Brewing Co – Byron Bay NSW
	Dagon Beverages Co – MYANMAR
	Balter Brewing Company – QLD
	Pelican Brewing Company – USA
	Green Beacon Brewing Co – QLD
	Deep Creek Brewing Company – NZ
	Danes Specialty Coffee – NSW
	The Roast Things Coffee Roasters – MALAYSIA
Cream	The Roast Things Coffee Roasters – MALAYSIA
Mocha Gold	Danes Specialty Coffee – NSW
Ethiopian Yirgacheffe Kochere	Chiasso Coffee Co – NZ
Ethiopia Kochere	Danes Specialty Coffee – NSW
Colombia Castillo	Bean Roasters – ACT
	Hoochery Distillery – WA
	Old Young's – WA
	Old Young's – WA
	Nicholas Harrop of GE, KM and NE Harrop – VIC
	Boonaroo Angus, Corndale – VIC
Black and White Duck	Akers Flock – Tallygaroopna VIC
Surilana Maximilian	Trevor Parry Tickehnhall – Snake Valley VIC
Canchones Gold Catch Me (ET)	Canchones – Taggerty VIC

# CORPORATE GOVERNANCE



The Board will continue to foster strong relationships with RASV's joint venture partner and ensure that the Redevelopment Project Objectives are achieved.

## Board of Directors

The Board's overarching objectives are to represent and serve the interests of members, guide and monitor the business and affairs of RASV, and implement good corporate governance structures consistent with relevant ASX governance principles, specifically to:

- Provide strategic guidance and approve the organisation's strategic/business plans, budgets and performance targets;
- Lay solid foundations for management and oversight;
- Structure the Board to add value;
- Promote ethical and responsible decision making;
- Safeguard integrity in financial reporting;
- Recognise and manage risk;
- Encourage enhanced performance – from economic, social and environmental standpoints;
- Remunerate fairly and responsibly;
- Recognise the legitimate interests of RASV's stakeholders.

The Board continues to foster strong relationships with RASV's joint venture partner and ensure that the redevelopment project objectives are achieved.

## Board Composition

The Board comprises of a maximum of ten Directors and is chaired by the person so elected by the Directors.

The Board requires its Directors to have a broad range of expertise and experience, in a field which is complementary to RASV's activities and strategy, or with appropriate professional qualifications and proven ability to make meaningful contributions to the Board's deliberations.

## RASV Foundation Committee

The RASV Foundation Committee consists of up to three RASV Directors and suitably qualified individuals with philanthropic backgrounds.

The Committee is responsible for the management of the foundation corpus, including the financial management of investments, the generation of additional contributions to the fund and the determination of giving programmes that comply with the purpose of the foundation.

## Master Planning Committee

The Master Planning Committee includes up to three RASV Directors and professional advisors specialising in property planning, design and development, together with establishment of financial business cases and capital raising.

The Committee manages the development of the Melbourne Showgrounds Master Plan and precinct development in conjunction with neighbouring residents and businesses.





## Audit and Risk Management Committee

The Audit and Risk Management Committee consists of Non Executive Directors and suitably qualified independent persons.

It is charged with:

- Assisting the Board and RASV senior management in discharging their responsibilities for financial reporting and in maintaining a reliable system of internal controls covering all of RASV's operations and activities;
- Monitoring the implementation of RASV's relevant strategies, in relation to their risk management components;
- Fostering the organisation's ethical environment;
- Overseeing and appraising the quality of the audits conducted both by the internal and external auditors;
- Fostering and maintaining open lines of communication between the internal and external auditor to ensure information exchange and coordination of activity;
- Monitoring and assessing the adequacy and scope of RASV's procedural, operating and accounting controls and;
- Providing an independent and objective review of operational and financial information provided by management to the Board.

## Nominations and Performance Committee

The Nominations Committee is appointed by the Board of Directors and is primarily responsible for making recommendations to the Board regarding the selection and nomination of chairpersons and members of:

- The Board;
- Board Committees and;
- Industry Advisory and Show Event Committees.

The Committee is also appointed to oversee the implementation of performance evaluation processes for members of the above groups.

## Political Activity

RASV is politically impartial and it does not provide donations to any political party.



OR CHAMPION  
ERS COMPETITION ● RASV  
NE SHOW  
CHAMPION  
PETITION ● RAS  
RASV



FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

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# DIRECTORS' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

The directors present their report together with the financial report of The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria Limited (“the Company”) for the year ended 31 March 2018 and the auditor’s report thereon.

## DIRECTORS

The directors of the Company at any time during or since the end of the financial year are:

Name	Experience and Special Responsibilities
Matthew John Coleman	Matthew has experience in rural representation, economic development and policy design and administration at both State and Federal levels. He sits on a number of boards and committees directly relevant to the rural sector and owns a commercial dairy farm in West Gippsland. Matthew joined the Board in September 2011 and was appointed Chairman in August 2016. He also chairs the Nominations and Performance Committee.
Dr Catherine Grace Victoria Ainsworth	Catherine has broad experience in government, agribusiness, pharmaceuticals and specialist equine veterinary practice. She is currently the CEO of Pony Club Australia Ltd and holds Non-Executive Director positions on a number of boards. Catherine joined the Board in February 2017.
Douglas Scott Chapman	Scott has a broad experience in business growth, marketing and major event management and sits on a number of boards with rural connections. He is currently CEO of the Royal Flying Doctor Service and was appointed a Director of the Company in June 2009. He is a member of the Audit and Risk Management Committee and the Nominations and Performance Committee.
Darrin Grimsey	Darrin has extensive experience in the projects environment as an engineer, project manager and financial / commercial adviser and is a partner with Ernst & Young. Darrin joined the Board in April 2015 and is chair of the Master Planning Committee and a member of the Audit and Risk Management Committee.
Alan John Hawkes	Alan has significant financial, banking and treasury experience gained while working in the banking industry and the Victorian Government Department of Treasury and Finance. He has been a director in the finance and rural water sectors through appointments by the Victorian Government and has been active in the not-for-profit sector. He joined the Board in April 2008 and chairs the Audit and Risk Management Committee.
Noelene Elizabeth King OAM	Noelene runs a beef property and a dairy heifer replacement enterprise in Gippsland. She is involved in local agricultural societies, the Stud Beef Victoria Handlers Camp and actively promotes youth in agriculture. She represented the Company on the Young Farmer Finance Council from 1999 to 2011 and serves on several agricultural committees. Noelene was appointed to the Board in September 2011, chairs the RASV Foundation Committee and is a member of the Nominations and Performance Committee and Master Planning Committee.
Joy Anita Potter	Joy has extensive experience in sheep, beef cattle farming and cropping and serves on several agricultural committees. She has an interest in the arts and is a board member of the Port Fairy Spring Music Festival. Joy was elected as a Director and her term commenced in August 2007. She is also a member of the RASV Foundation Committee.
Peter Jason Bruce Ronald OAM	Jason has worked for the University of Melbourne, Ballarat University, Federal and State Governments and Qantas. He runs a property fattening cattle and conducts the Brolga Pony Stud. Jason was appointed a Director in September 2009 and is a member of the Nominations and Performance Committee.
Stephen Charles Spargo AM	Stephen has experience in commercial law and corporate finance. He was appointed a Director in July 2000 and Chairman of the Board in December 2009 and is a member of the Master Planning Committee. Stephen stepped down as Chairman of the Board in August 2016 and resigned in June 2017.

## COMPANY SECRETARY

Jonathan Perry	Jonathan is a Certified Practising Accountant with over twenty years’ experience in financial management. He was appointed as Company Secretary on 1 June 2009.
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## PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The principal activities of the Company during the course of the year ended 31 March 2018 have comprised organising and staging the Royal Melbourne Show and other agriculture, food, wine and related competitions, and also the venue management of the Melbourne Showgrounds.

There were no significant changes in the nature of these activities during the year.

## OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES FOR ACHIEVING OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Company are to promote the development of all phases of the agricultural, pastoral, horticultural, viticultural, stock raising, manufacturing and industrial resources of Victoria.

The short term objectives of the Company are to promote and celebrate agriculture through events that link industry to consumers and aim to improve quality and increase demand for Victorian agricultural produce.

The long term objectives are to ensure financial sustainability of the Company whilst allowing for the enhancement of existing events, the development of new initiatives and further investing in the Melbourne Showgrounds site.

The Company's strategy for achieving these objectives is to hold, promote, assist or subsidise exhibitions, displays or shows of any nature or kind at any time or place. This includes conducting Victoria's largest community event, the Royal Melbourne Show, and leading industry events such as the Royal Melbourne Wine Awards, the Australian International Beer Awards, the Australian International Coffee Awards and the Australian Food Awards. In addition, the Company is also responsible for management of the Melbourne Showgrounds event and exhibition venue.

## PERFORMANCE MEASURES

The objectives of the Company are able to be measured using various performance measures. These include numbers of members and exhibitors, event attendances, customer satisfaction ratings, number of agricultural industry organisations involved in events and competitions, and growth in returns from the Show, the venue and other events.

## REVIEW AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The operating result of the Company for the year before income tax and joint venture contribution was a surplus of \$954,607 (2017: surplus of \$722,883). After inclusion of the RASV share of loss in the joint venture accounted for using the equity method of accounting, the net deficit of the Company for the year after tax was \$3,822,095 (2017: deficit \$4,040,533). During the year:

- Rental and associated income from the Venue operation was \$8,111,517 and the net result for the current financial year is a surplus of \$1,393,485. During the year the Company was obliged to make a contribution toward capital investment of \$685,051. The capital investment contribution is a minimum annual contribution specified by the Melbourne Showgrounds Venue Management Agreement. This contribution ensures that a portion of the profits from the venue operation are reinvested back into the Melbourne Showgrounds site. The Company has fulfilled its obligations by investing \$769,377 in projects including the purchase of venue equipment, upgrading venue signage, further CCTV improvements across the site and the commencement of the Building 3 renovation and extension.
- After submissions to the Australian Taxation Office, the Company received exemption from GST under Section 38-250(2)(v)(ii) of the GST Act for certain classes of admissions and entries relating to the Royal Melbourne Show.
- The Company paid fees to the Joint Venture and the Concessionaire as part of its contractual obligations. These fees will be ongoing until the completion of the 25 year term of the Concessionaire in 2031. The State of Victoria has agreed to provide a loan to the Company to settle any shortfall in funding. At the conclusion of the concession period this loan may be repaid in the form of a transfer to the State of all or part of the Company's interest in the Joint Venture (refer Note 8).
- The Melbourne Showgrounds Joint Venture commissioned the Valuer-General Victoria to provide a valuation of the Royal Melbourne Showgrounds land asset. In March 2018 an assessment of fair value for the period ending 30 June 2018 was provided resulting in a valuation of the Showgrounds land of \$139,150,000. The Joint Venture has reflected this valuation in its financial reports as at 31 March 2018 resulting in a revaluation surplus of \$39,150,000. The proportionate share of the revaluation surplus for each joint venture partner is \$19,575,000.
- The Company has been appointed Venue Manager for the Melbourne Showgrounds until the conclusion of the concession deed in 2031.

# DIRECTORS' REPORT CONT'D

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

## DIVIDENDS

The Company is limited by guarantee and is prohibited by its Constitution from paying a dividend to its members.

## SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN THE STATE OF AFFAIRS

Other than as described elsewhere in this report there were no significant changes in the Company's state of affairs during the year.

## EVENTS SUBSEQUENT TO BALANCE DATE

There are no matters or circumstances that have arisen since the end of the financial year that have significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Company, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the Company, in future years.

## DIRECTORS' MEETINGS

The number of Directors' meetings and Audit and Risk Management Committee meetings attended by each of the directors of the Company during the year are:

	Directors' Meetings Attended	Directors' Meetings Eligible to Attend	Audit and Risk Management Meetings Attended	Audit and Risk Management Meetings Eligible to Attend
Dr CGV Ainsworth	5	6	-	-
DS Chapman	5	6	3	5
MJ Coleman	6	6	2	5
D Grimsey	6	6	4	5
AJ Hawkes	5	6	5	5
NE King OAM	6	6	-	-
JA Potter	4	6	-	-
PJB Ronald OAM	4	6	-	-
SC Spargo AM	1	1	-	-

## MEMBER'S LIABILITY

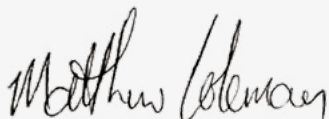
The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria Limited is a company limited by guarantee. In the event of the Company being wound up the liability of each of its members is limited by its Constitution to an amount not exceeding \$20 while that member is a member, or within one year after that member ceases to be a member.

## AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION

The Auditor's Independence Declaration under the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission Act 2012* is set out on page 8.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors made pursuant to the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission Act 2012*.

On behalf of the Directors



**M J Coleman**  
Director  
Chairman



**D S Chapman**  
Director

Dated this 26th day of June 2018  
Melbourne, Victoria

# AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION



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Fax: +61 3 9602 3870  
www.bdo.com.au

Collins Square, Tower Four  
Level 18, 727 Collins Street  
Melbourne VIC 3008  
GPO Box 5099 Melbourne VIC 3001  
Australia

## DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE BY DAVID GARVEY TO THE DIRECTORS OF THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA LIMITED

As lead auditor of The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria Limited for the year ended 31 March 2018, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

1. No contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* in relation to the audit; and
2. No contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'David Garvey', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

David Garvey  
Partner

**BDO East Coast Partnership**

Melbourne, 26 June 2018

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# STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

	Note	2018	2017
		\$	\$
<b>Revenue</b>			
Rendering of Services	2	26,560,203	25,353,181
Other Income	2	3,289,559	3,321,765
		<b>29,849,762</b>	<b>28,674,946</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Advertising, Promotion and Marketing		1,345,642	1,363,587
Depreciation and Impairment of Fixed Assets		1,266,967	1,217,091
Event Expenses		5,819,678	5,198,435
Finance Costs		1,262	1,802
Maintenance, Hire and Event Set Up		6,645,901	6,516,930
Professional Fees		1,385,572	1,393,415
Salaries and Wages	3	8,055,768	7,951,602
Utilities and Rates		681,372	711,424
Venue Access and Service Fees		1,571,023	1,522,345
Other Expenses		2,121,970	2,075,432
		<b>28,895,155</b>	<b>27,952,063</b>
<b>Profit before income tax and Joint Venture loss</b>		<b>954,607</b>	<b>722,883</b>
Share of loss from equity accounted investment in Joint Venture	8	(4,776,702)	(4,763,416)
<b>Loss before income tax</b>		<b>(3,822,095)</b>	<b>(4,040,533)</b>
Income Tax Expense	13	-	-
<b>Loss after income tax attributable to members</b>		<b>(3,822,095)</b>	<b>(4,040,533)</b>
Other Comprehensive Income, net of tax			
Gain on Revaluation of Land	8(c)	19,575,000	-
<b>Total Comprehensive Income for the Year</b>		<b>15,752,905</b>	<b>(4,040,533)</b>

The Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income is to be read in conjunction with the attached notes.

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 31 MARCH 2018

	Note	2018	2017
		\$	\$
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	4	9,445,284	8,035,754
Trade and Other Receivables	5	458,763	274,923
Prepayments	6	591,239	609,286
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>10,495,286</b>	<b>8,919,963</b>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>			
Property, Plant and Equipment	7	5,963,757	6,045,679
Investment in Joint Venture accounted for using the Equity Method	8	73,754,658	58,956,360
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		<b>79,718,415</b>	<b>65,002,039</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>90,213,701</b>	<b>73,922,002</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Trade and Other Payables	9	2,584,332	1,997,825
Provision for Employee Benefits	10	641,214	689,166
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>3,225,546</b>	<b>2,686,991</b>
<b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>			
Interest Bearing Liabilities	11	105,632	95,105
Provision for Employee Benefits	10	68,221	78,509
<b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>		<b>173,853</b>	<b>173,614</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>3,399,399</b>	<b>2,860,605</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>86,814,302</b>	<b>71,061,397</b>
<b>Equity</b>			
Retained Earnings		42,589,382	46,411,477
Land Revaluation Reserve	8(c)	44,075,000	24,500,000
Asset Replenishment Reserve	14	149,920	149,920
<b>Total Equity</b>		<b>86,814,302</b>	<b>71,061,397</b>

The Statement of Financial Position is to be read in conjunction with the attached notes.

# STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

	Note	Land Revaluation Reserve	Asset Replenishment Reserve	Retained Earnings	Total Equity
		\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>As at 31 March 2016</b>		<b>24,500,000</b>	<b>149,920</b>	<b>50,452,010</b>	<b>75,101,930</b>
Loss after income tax for the year				(4,040,533)	(4,040,533)
Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax		-	-	-	-
<b>As at 31 March 2017</b>		<b>24,500,000</b>	<b>149,920</b>	<b>46,411,477</b>	<b>71,061,397</b>
Loss after income tax for the year		-	-	(3,822,095)	(3,822,095)
Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax		-	-	-	-
Revaluation Surplus	8(c)	19,575,000	-	-	19,575,000
<b>As at 31 March 2018</b>		<b>44,075,000</b>	<b>149,920</b>	<b>42,589,382</b>	<b>86,814,302</b>

The Statement of Changes in Equity is to be read in conjunction with the attached notes.

# STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

	Note	2018	2017
		\$	\$
<b>Cash Flows From Operating Activities</b>			
Receipts from customers (inclusive of GST)		31,313,646	30,749,338
Payments to suppliers and employees (inclusive of GST)		(28,890,273)	(29,568,019)
Interest received		161,937	165,754
<b>Net Cash flows provided by Operating Activities</b>	<b>(ii)</b>	<b>2,585,310</b>	<b>1,347,073</b>
<b>Cash Flows From Investing Activities</b>			
Payments for property, plant and equipment		(1,185,045)	(661,217)
<b>Net Cash flows used in Investing Activities</b>		<b>(1,185,045)</b>	<b>(661,217)</b>
<b>Cash Flows From Financing Activities</b>			
Receipts/(Payments) of trophy funds		9,265	(3,566)
<b>Net Cash flows used in Financing Activities</b>		<b>9,265</b>	<b>(3,566)</b>
<b>Net Increase in Cash held</b>		<b>1,409,530</b>	<b>682,290</b>
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Financial Year</b>		<b>8,035,754</b>	<b>7,353,464</b>
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Financial Year</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>9,445,284</b>	<b>8,035,754</b>

The Statement of Cash Flows is to be read in conjunction with the attached notes.

# NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

(i) **Financing Facilities**

A business loan facility of \$1 million (2017: \$1 million) exists with National Australia Bank Limited. The facility is available until 30 September 2020. At 31 March 2018, \$nil (2017: \$nil) was in use.

The business loan facility is secured by the Company's interest in the Joint Venture as well as by way of a fixed and a floating charge on all assets. Liquidity risk is considered low.

(ii) **Reconciliation of Net Cash provided by Operating Activities to Loss after Income Tax**

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
<b>Loss after Income Tax for the Year</b>	<b>(3,822,095)</b>	<b>(4,040,533)</b>
<b>Add/(less) non-cash items:</b>		
Depreciation	1,108,623	1,217,091
Impairment of fixed assets	158,344	-
Interest accrued on trophy funds	1,262	1,802
Bad debts expense	387	32,966
Allowance for doubtful debts written off	-	(50,000)
Loss from equity accounted joint venture	4,776,702	4,763,416
<b>Changes in Assets and Liabilities:</b>		
(Increase)/Decrease in Receivables	(184,227)	62,990
Decrease/(Increase) in Prepayments	18,047	(50,511)
Increase/(Decrease) in Payables	586,507	(564,944)
(Decrease) in Provisions	(58,240)	(25,204)
<b>Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities</b>	<b>2,585,310</b>	<b>1,347,073</b>

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

## 1. A) CORPORATE INFORMATION

The financial report of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2018 was authorised for issue in accordance with a resolution of the Directors on the same date as the directors' declaration.

The Company is a company limited by guarantee incorporated and domiciled in Australia.

The nature of operations and principal activities of the Company are described in the Directors' report.

The Company's registered office and principal place of business is at Melbourne Showgrounds, Epsom Road, Ascot Vale, Victoria, 3032.

## 1. B) SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

### (a) Basis of Preparation

These general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board ('AASB') and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission Act 2012*. The Company is a not-for-profit entity for financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards. Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and have been consistently applied unless stated otherwise.

The financial statements, except for the cash flow information, have been prepared on an accrual basis and are based on historical cost, 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 to the nearest dollar.

### (b) Significant Accounting Judgements and Estimates

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts in the financial statements. The key estimates and assumptions which are material to the financial reports are found in the following notes:

- Note 5 : Trade and Other Receivables
- Note 7 : Property, Plant and Equipment
- Note 8 : Investment in Joint Venture
- Note 10 : Provision for Employee Benefits

## 2. REVENUE

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
<b>Rendering of Services</b>		
Admissions Revenue	7,496,401	7,209,921
Catering Income	3,609,862	2,468,988
Client Servicing	1,171,910	680,887
Competition Income	1,775,910	1,653,660
Members Subscriptions	271,130	260,670
Parking Revenue	1,001,762	926,079
Rental Income	9,299,923	10,021,093
Sponsorship	1,933,305	2,131,883
	<b>26,560,203</b>	<b>25,353,181</b>
<b>Other Income</b>		
Government Grant	4,500	-
Interest	161,937	165,754
Ticketing Promotions	2,259,215	2,218,843
Other Revenue	863,907	937,168
	<b>3,289,559</b>	<b>3,321,765</b>
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>29,849,762</b>	<b>28,674,946</b>

Revenue is recognised when it is probable that the economic benefit will flow to the Company and the revenue can be reliably measured. Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable.

Revenue from rendering of services is recognised in the accounting period in which the services are rendered. Show admission revenue is recognised during the period when the Royal Melbourne Show is held.

Rental income is recognised as it accrues over the period that the properties are leased to third parties.

Interest revenue is recognised as it accrues using the effective interest method.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

## 3. EXPENSES

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
<b>Loss before Income tax includes the following specific expenses:</b>		
Ticketing Promotions	2,170,756	2,138,567
Depreciation Expense	1,108,623	1,217,091
Impairment of Fixed Assets	158,344	-
Bad and Doubtful Debts	387	32,966
Lease Rental Expense - operating leases	32,649	33,715
<b>Employee Costs</b>		
Employee Annual and Long Service Leave Entitlements	463,009	480,665
Salaries - Permanent Employees	4,725,935	4,818,960
Salaries - Casual Staff and Contractors	2,294,621	2,094,393
Superannuation Contribution Expense	533,415	520,470
Other Employee Costs	38,788	37,114
	<b>8,055,768</b>	<b>7,951,602</b>

## 4. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	Notes	2018	2017
		\$	\$
Cash on hand		14,653	67,750
Cash at bank and on deposit		8,962,509	7,507,813
Cash on deposit - Capital Investment Obligation	(a)	468,122	460,191
		<b>9,445,284</b>	<b>8,035,754</b>

Average interest rates at 31 March 2018 on cash accounts were 1.76% (2017: 1.83%).

(a) funds to be applied against future capital reinvestment in the Melbourne Showgrounds, as described in note 14.

Cash and cash equivalents in the Statement of Financial Position comprise cash at bank and in hand and short term deposits with an original maturity of three months or less. These are carried at face value of the amounts deposited. The carrying amounts of cash and short term deposits approximate net fair value.



## 5. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Trade Receivables	440,539	256,549
Sundry Receivables	18,224	18,374
	<b>458,763</b>	<b>274,923</b>

All credit and recovery risk has been provided for in the Statement of Financial Position. As at 31 March 2018 debts that were past due but not doubtful amounted to \$293,017 (2017: \$131,743). The increase in debts that were past due resulted from increased venue activity in early 2018 and associated post-event client recharges.

At 31 March, the ageing analysis of trade receivables is as follows:

	As at 31 March 2018		As at 31 March 2017	
	Trade Receivable	Allowance	Trade Receivable	Allowance
Current	147,522		124,806	
31 – 60 days	177,159		83,709	
61 – 90 days	62,493		720	
91 days and over	53,365	-	47,314	-
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>440,539</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>256,549</b>	<b>-</b>

Trade receivables are initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost which is the original invoice amount less an allowance for any uncollectible amount. Trade receivables are generally due for settlement within 30 days.

Collectability of trade receivables is reviewed on an ongoing basis. Debts which are known to be uncollectable are written off by reducing the carrying amount directly. A provision for impairment of trade receivables is raised when there is objective evidence that the company will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

The provision for impairment of receivables requires a degree of estimation and judgement. The level of provision is assessed by taking into account the recent sales experience, the ageing of receivables, historical collection rates and specific knowledge of the financial position of individual debtors. Significant financial difficulties of the debtor, probability that the debtor will enter bankruptcy or financial reorganisation and default or delinquency in payments (more than 60 days overdue) are considered indicators that the trade receivable may be impaired. The amount of impairment allowance is the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows. Cash flows relating to short-term receivables are not discounted if the effect of discounting is immaterial.

Other receivables are recognised at amortised cost, less any provision for impairment.

## 6. PREPAYMENTS

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Prepaid Insurance	354,761	243,360
Prepaid Other	236,478	365,926
	<b>591,239</b>	<b>609,286</b>

Expenses paid in the current financial year for which the economic benefits have not been completely consumed at reporting date, have been deferred and recorded as a prepayment in the Statement of Financial Position. Prepayments are amortised as an expense in the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income in future years as the economic benefits of the payment are consumed.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

## 7. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
<b>Buildings and Structures</b>		
At cost	6,333,201	6,002,496
Accumulated depreciation	(1,975,376)	(1,664,905)
	<b>4,357,825</b>	<b>4,337,591</b>
<b>Motor Vehicles</b>		
At cost	85,119	85,119
Accumulated depreciation	(83,842)	(77,872)
	<b>1,277</b>	<b>7,247</b>
<b>Plant and Equipment</b>		
At cost	7,312,111	7,025,353
Accumulated depreciation	(5,707,456)	(5,324,512)
	<b>1,604,655</b>	<b>1,700,841</b>
	<b>5,963,757</b>	<b>6,045,679</b>

### Reconciliation of Movements in 2018

	Opening Balance	Additions	Depreciation	Disposals	Impairment	Closing Balance
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Buildings and Structures</b>	4,337,591	546,217	(369,518)	-	(156,465)	4,357,825
<b>Motor Vehicles</b>	7,247	-	(5,970)	-	-	1,277
<b>Plant and Equipment</b>	1,700,841	638,828	(733,135)	-	(1,879)	1,604,655
	<b>6,045,679</b>	<b>1,185,045</b>	<b>(1,108,623)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(158,344)</b>	<b>5,963,757</b>

### Reconciliation of Movements in 2017

	Opening Balance	Additions	Depreciation	Disposals	Impairment	Closing Balance
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Buildings and Structures</b>	4,701,485	1,638	(365,532)	-	-	4,337,591
<b>Motor Vehicles</b>	14,066	-	(6,819)	-	-	7,247
<b>Plant and Equipment</b>	1,886,002	659,579	(844,740)	-	-	1,700,841
	<b>6,601,553</b>	<b>661,217</b>	<b>(1,217,091)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6,045,679</b>

The Company has commenced an upgrade of Building 3 to further improve its functionality and appearance. The upgrade consists of the demolition of the existing Building 3 foyer and development of a 700m<sup>2</sup> functions foyer, the creation of a northern/western entrance to Building 3 and an internal link with Building 1. The total project cost is \$8.7 million and construction is scheduled to be completed in July 2019. The upgrade project commenced in March 2018 and the Company has recorded \$370,845 as work in progress in the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2018.

Property, plant and equipment is recorded at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Directly attributable costs arising from the acquisition or construction of fixed assets are also capitalised as part of the cost.

## 7. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT (CONT.)

Costs incurred on property, plant and equipment subsequent to initial acquisition are capitalised when it is probable that future economic benefits in excess of the originally assessed performance of the asset will flow to the Company in future years. Where these costs represent separate components they are accounted for as separate assets and are separately depreciated over their useful lives.

Assets are depreciated from the date of acquisition or, in respect of internally constructed assets, from the time an asset is completed and ready for use. The residual values, useful lives and depreciation methods are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each reporting date. 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, and impairment losses are recognised in the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income.

The depreciation rates used for each class of asset is calculated on a straight line basis to write off the net cost of each item of property, plant and equipment over their expected useful lives as follows:

Building and Structures	2.5% - 10%
Plant and Equipment	10% - 33.3%
Motor Vehicles	20%

An item of property, plant and equipment is derecognised upon disposal or when there is no future economic benefit to the company. Gains and losses between the carrying amount and the disposal proceeds are included in the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income.

### Estimation of useful lives of assets

Management determines the estimated useful lives and related depreciation charges for property, plant and equipment and finite life intangible assets. The useful lives could change significantly as a result of technical innovations or some other event. The depreciation charge will increase where the useful lives are less than previously estimated lives, or technically obsolete or non-strategic assets that have been abandoned or sold will be written off or written down.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

## 8. INVESTMENT IN JOINT VENTURE

The reporting date for the Joint Venture is 30 June 2018. Interim information has been extracted for the purpose of preparation of the Company's financial statements as at 31 March 2018, which is subject to audit by the Company's auditor.

The RASV interest in the net assets and share of the net loss of the Joint Venture at 31 March 2018 is as follows:

		Interest	
		2018	2017
Name of Entity	Principal Activity	%	%
Unincorporated Joint Venture	To carry out the redevelopment of the Royal Melbourne Showgrounds	50	50

The joint venture is accounted for using the equity method in these financial statements.

	Notes	2018	2017
		\$	\$
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash		525,451	728,861
Trade and Other Receivables	(a)	12,667,491	13,008,271
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>13,192,942</b>	<b>13,737,132</b>
<b>Non Current Assets</b>			
Land - fair value	(c)	139,150,000	100,000,000
Buildings and Structures - net carrying amount		74,632,243	77,260,189
Trade and Other Receivables	(a)	12,820,541	22,180,439
<b>Total Non Current Assets</b>		<b>226,602,784</b>	<b>199,440,628</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>239,795,726</b>	<b>213,177,760</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Trade and Other Payables		3,448,775	3,421,273
Income in Advance		110,000	110,000
Interest Bearing Liabilities	(b)	3,195,026	2,896,132
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>6,753,801</b>	<b>6,427,405</b>
<b>Non Current Liabilities</b>			
Income in Advance		4,431,935	4,541,935
Interest Bearing Liabilities	(b)	81,100,674	84,295,700
<b>Total Non Current Liabilities</b>		<b>85,532,609</b>	<b>88,837,635</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>92,286,410</b>	<b>95,265,040</b>
<b>Net Assets of Joint Venture</b>		<b>147,509,316</b>	<b>117,912,720</b>

## 8. INVESTMENT IN JOINT VENTURE (CONT.)

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Proportion of the Company's ownership interest in the Joint Venture	50%	50%
<b>Carrying amount of the Company's interest in the Joint Venture</b>	<b>73,754,658</b>	<b>58,956,360</b>

- (a) Trade and other receivables includes the unreceived balance of the \$100.7 million funding commitment from the State of Victoria, discounted back to present value.
- (b) The interest bearing liabilities represents the finance lease relating to the Melbourne Showgrounds buildings development with a lease term of 25 years.
- (c) The Melbourne Showgrounds Joint Venture commissioned the Valuer-General Victoria to provide a valuation of the Royal Melbourne Showgrounds land asset. In March 2018 an assessment of fair value for the period ending 30 June 2018 was provided resulting in a valuation of the Melbourne Showgrounds land of \$139,150,000. The Joint Venture has reflected this valuation in its financial reports as at 31 March 2018. The revaluation of the Melbourne Showgrounds land has resulted in a revaluation surplus of \$39,150,000. The proportionate share of the revaluation surplus for each joint venture partner is \$19,575,000.

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Income	3,406,559	4,050,553
Expenditure	(12,959,963)	(13,577,385)
<b>Loss for the Year</b>	<b>(9,553,404)</b>	<b>(9,526,832)</b>
Other Comprehensive Income	39,150,000	-
<b>Total Comprehensive Income for the Year</b>	<b>29,596,596</b>	<b>(9,526,832)</b>

Proportionate share of Loss	(4,776,702)	(4,763,416)
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The above loss for the year include the following:

Depreciation	(2,627,946)	(2,627,946)
Interest Income	2,246,548	2,920,804
Interest Expense	(8,564,142)	(8,597,447)
Income Tax Expense	-	-

Joint ventures are contractual arrangements between the Company and one or more other parties to undertake an economic activity that is subject to joint control, and the parties that have joint control of the arrangement have rights to the net assets of the arrangement. Joint control only exists when the strategic financial and operating decisions relating to the activity require the unanimous consent of the parties sharing control (the venturers).

A joint venturer shall recognise its interest in a joint venture as an investment and shall account for that investment using the equity method of accounting. Under the equity method the Company will recognise its share of the net assets of the joint venture on a single line in the Statement of Financial Position and its share of the net profit or loss on a single line in the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income.

Profits or losses on transactions with the joint venture are eliminated to the extent of the Company's ownership interest until such time as they are realised by the joint venture entity on consumption or sale.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

## 8. INVESTMENT IN JOINT VENTURE (CONT.)

The joint venture structure involves an unincorporated Joint Venture and an incorporated entity known as the Project Company – Showground Nominees Pty Ltd – which has the role of holding the project land on a bare trust basis for and on behalf of the Joint Venture participants. Each participant, the State of Victoria and the Company, owns 50% of the shares in the Project Company. It has been determined by the Company that the structure and the legal form of the Melbourne Showgrounds Joint Venture through a separate legal entity, along with the rights and obligations of the joint venture participants as set out in the agreements, indicate that this joint arrangement meets the definition of a joint venture under AASB 11.

The State of Victoria has made a funding commitment of approximately \$100.7 million and the Company has transferred its land with buildings and improvements to the Joint Venture. The redevelopment of the Melbourne Showgrounds, which was completed in August 2006, was delivered under the Government's Partnerships Victoria methodology.

Showgrounds Nominees Pty Ltd, as nominee for the Joint Venture, has entered into a number of agreements with the developer of the Melbourne Showgrounds, referred to as the Concessionaire. These agreements included settlement for the construction of the buildings and infrastructure and the ongoing maintenance and life-cycle costs during the duration of the concession deed of 25 years.

These costs will be met from existing assets of the Joint Venture, some of the future revenue streams from the Showground facilities, and where necessary, funding from the State Government, in accordance with agreements entered into between the Joint Venture, the Joint Venture participants and Showgrounds Nominees Pty Ltd.

Under the State Support Deed – Core Land, the State has undertaken to ensure the performance of the payment obligations in favour of the Concessionaire and the performance of the Joint Venture financial obligations in favour of the security trustee.

Under the State Commitment to the RASV, the State has agreed to support certain obligations of the Company which may arise out of the Joint Venture Agreement. In accordance with the terms set out in the State Commitment to the RASV, the State will pay (in the form of a loan), the amount requested by the Company. If any outstanding loan amount remains unpaid at 25 August 2031, which is 25 years after the commencement of the operation term under the Development and Operation Agreement, the Company will be obliged to satisfy and discharge each such outstanding loan amount. This may take the form of a transfer to the State of the whole or part of the Company's participating interest in the Joint Venture.

A fixed and floating charge over the assets of the Company has been entered into between the Company and the State. The Company has granted the fixed and floating charge to the State as security for the due and punctual performance of the Company's obligations under or in connection with the charge, the Project Objectives Agreement, the Intellectual Property Agreement or the Events Agreement.

## 9. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Trade Payables	1,313,145	779,518
Accruals	788,199	639,840
Income in Advance	482,988	578,467
	<b>2,584,332</b>	<b>1,997,825</b>

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

## 10. PROVISION FOR EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
<b>Aggregate employee benefits, including on-costs</b>		
Provision for Employee Benefits (Current)	641,214	689,166
Provision for Employee benefits (Non-current)	68,221	78,509
	<b>709,435</b>	<b>767,675</b>

Provisions are recognised when the Company has a legal or constructive obligation to make a future sacrifice of economic benefits to others as a result of past transactions or events, it is probable that a future sacrifice of economic benefits will be required and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

### Wages, Salaries and Annual Leave

The provisions have been calculated at undiscounted amounts and are based on amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled. The employee benefit liabilities expected to be settled within twelve months from reporting date are recognised as current liabilities.

### Long Service Leave

The liability for long service leave is recognised in current and non-current liabilities depending on the unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after the reporting date. The liability is measured as the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date using the projected unit credit method. Consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures and periods of service. Expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the reporting date on corporate bonds with terms to maturity and currency that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

## 11. INTEREST BEARING LIABILITIES (NON-CURRENT)

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Trophy Funds	105,632	95,105

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

## 12. ISSUED CAPITAL

The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria Limited is a company limited by guarantee. In the event of the Company being wound up the liability of its members is limited by its Constitution to an amount not exceeding \$20 while that member is a member, or within one year after that member ceases to be a member.

## 13. TAXATION

### Income Tax

The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria Limited has an exemption from income tax under Division 50 of the Income Tax Assessment Act (1997).

### Goods and Services Tax

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Tax 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 expense.

Exemption from GST has been determined under Section 38-250(2)(v)(ii) of the GST Act for certain classes of admissions and entries relating to the Royal Melbourne Show. The determination of GST-free status for admissions and entry fees is carried out on an annual basis.

Receivables and payables are stated with the amount of GST included. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included as a current asset or liability in the Statement of Financial Position.

Cash flows are included in the Statement of Cash Flows on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO are classified as operating cash flows.

## 14. COMMITMENTS

### Leases

Leases where the lessor retains substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of the asset are classified as operating leases. Operating lease rental expense is recognised as an expense and charged to profit and loss on a straight line basis over the lease term.

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
<b>Future operating lease rentals not provided for in the financial statements</b>		
<b>Payable:</b>		
Not longer than one year	28,620	30,620
Longer than one year but not longer than two years	9,540	28,620
Longer than two years but not longer than five years	-	9,540
	<b>38,160</b>	<b>68,780</b>

Operating leases have an average lease term of 4 years. Assets that are subject to operating leases include office and IT equipment.



## 14. COMMITMENTS (CONT.)

### **Asset Replenishment Fund**

As part of the contractual obligations with the State, the Company is obliged to contribute to the Joint Venture a defined percentage of its cash surplus based on a pre-determined formula as specified in the RAS Events Agreement. Subject to a floor of \$2 million (indexed), the Company must contribute 25% of its cash surplus (before including the 50% share of joint venture results) for the remainder of the operating term.

Based on the Company's result, the current year contribution payable to the Asset Replenishment Fund is \$0 (2017: \$0).

### **Capital Investment Obligation**

As part of the contractual obligations set out in the Showgrounds Venue Management Agreement 2014 – 2031, the Company is obliged to make a contribution toward capital investment in relation to the Melbourne Showgrounds. This means capital reinvestment by way of facility modifications or venue fixtures, fittings & equipment of a substantial nature.

The Company must contribute at least \$650,000 (indexed) each year toward capital investment. In any year where the profits exceed \$1,600,000 (indexed), an amount equal to 25% of the profit exceeding the \$1,600,000 (indexed) must also be contributed toward capital investment. Any capital investment obligations not expended must be held in a capital investment account until such time as the funds are required to fund approved capital investment.

During the year ended 31 March 2018, the Company's capital investment obligation is \$685,051. The Company has fulfilled its obligations by investing \$769,377 in projects including the purchase of venue equipment, upgrading venue signage, further CCTV improvements across the site and the commencement of the Building 3 renovation and extension.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

## 15. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

### (a) Financial risk management objectives and policies

The company's principal financial instruments comprise receivables, payables, and cash and cash equivalents. These activities expose the company to a variety of financial risks: market risk, interest rate risk, credit risk and liquidity risk.

Financial Risk Management is the responsibility of the Board, which takes advice from the Audit and Risk Management Committee under an authorised Investment Policy. This policy outlines the key objective of achieving the maximum possible investment return within approved investment criteria and risk parameters.

Although the company does not have documented policies and procedures other than an authorised investment policy, the Board manages the different types of risks to which the company is exposed by considering risk and monitoring levels of exposure to interest rates and by being aware of market forecasts for interest rates. Ageing analyses and monitoring of specific credit allowances are undertaken to manage credit risk. Liquidity risk is monitored through general business budgets and forecasts.

The entity holds the following financial instruments:

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
<b>Financial Assets:</b>		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	9,445,284	8,035,754
Receivables	458,763	274,923
<b>Total Financial Assets</b>	<b>9,904,047</b>	<b>8,310,677</b>
<b>Financial Liabilities:</b>		
Trade and Other Payables	2,584,332	1,997,825
Interest Bearing Liabilities	105,632	95,105
<b>Total Financial Liabilities</b>	<b>2,689,964</b>	<b>2,092,930</b>
<b>Net Exposure</b>	<b>7,214,083</b>	<b>6,217,747</b>

As of 31 March 2018 the Company had net financial instrument assets of \$7,214,083. The directors of the RASV believe that the Company will be able to settle the liabilities summarised above as and when they fall due.

## 15. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (CONT.)

### (b) Risk Exposures and Responses

#### Interest Rate Risk

The entity's exposure to market interest rates relates primarily to short term deposits held.

Management monitors term deposit rates and balances the achievement of high rates against the flexibility offered by at call funds.

#### Sensitivity analysis

Management are of the opinion that applying a sensitivity analysis rate of 1% is a reasonable estimate of the uncertainty in the market over the next twelve months.

At 31 March, if interest rates had moved, as illustrated in the table below, with all other variables held constant, post tax loss and equity would have been affected as follows:

	Net Loss Higher / (Lower)		Net Assets Higher / (Lower)	
	Year Ended 31 March		As at 31 March	
	2018	2017	2018	2017
	\$	\$	\$	\$
+1% (100 basis points)	(94,453)	(80,358)	94,453	80,358
-1% (100 basis points)	94,453	80,358	(94,453)	(80,358)

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

## 15. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (CONT.)

### Price Risk

All investment decisions are subject to regular Board review, after scrutiny and recommendations received from the Audit and Risk Management Committee. The Company does not engage in any significant transactions which are highly speculative in nature. The Company does not have any material exposure to price risk.

### Credit Risk

The maximum exposure to credit risk at reporting date in relation to recognised financial assets is the carrying amount of those assets as disclosed in the Statement of Financial Position and notes to the financial statements. These include a receivable from the State of Victoria which carries no risk. The Company had no significant concentrations of credit risk with any single counter party or group of counter parties.

### Liquidity Risk

The Company manages liquidity risk by monitoring forecast cash flows and ensuring that adequate unutilised borrowing facilities are maintained.

### Maturities of trade and other payables, and interest bearing liabilities

The table below analyses the company's financial liabilities:

	Maturing within 0 – 60 days	Maturing 60 days – 1 year	1 year +	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>2018</b>				
Trade and Other Payables	2,232,018	326,233	26,081	2,584,332
Interest Bearing Liabilities	-	-	105,632	105,632
<b>Total Financial Liabilities</b>	<b>2,232,018</b>	<b>326,233</b>	<b>131,713</b>	<b>2,689,964</b>
<b>2017</b>				
Trade and Other Payables	1,727,160	244,584	26,081	1,997,825
Interest Bearing Liabilities	-	-	95,105	95,105
<b>Total Financial Liabilities</b>	<b>1,727,160</b>	<b>244,584</b>	<b>121,186</b>	<b>2,092,930</b>

### (c) Net Fair Values

The net fair value of assets and other liabilities approximates their carrying value.

## 16. EVENTS SUBSEQUENT TO BALANCE DATE

There are no matters or circumstances that have arisen since the end of the financial year that have significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Company, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the Company, in future years.

## 17. AUDITORS REMUNERATION

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Total of all remuneration received and receivable in connection with:		
(a) Audit of the Annual Financial Report	31,800	31,100
(b) Other Services:		
Royal Melbourne Show Assurance Procedures	2,811	2,655
VISA and Customs Applications	2,913	-
Other Audit Services – Joint Venture	20,500	20,400
	<b>58,024</b>	<b>54,155</b>

## 18. DIRECTORS REMUNERATION

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Directors of the Company did not receive any remuneration for services provided	-	-

## 19. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

- (i) The names of all Directors who have held office during the year are:  
Dr Catherine Grace Victoria Ainsworth  
Douglas Scott Chapman  
Matthew John Coleman  
Darrin Grimsey  
Alan John Hawkes  
Noelene Elizabeth King OAM  
Joy Anita Potter  
Peter Jason Bruce Ronald OAM  
Stephen Charles Spargo AM (resigned 26/6/17)
- (i) Directors and Councillors had related party transactions at arms-length with the Company involving the purchase of goods/ services considered to be trivial or domestic in nature.
- (i) The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria Limited has a 50% interest in an unincorporated joint venture. Refer to note 8 for transactions for the year ended 31 March 2018.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

## 20. KEY MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

Key management personnel comprise persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the Company. These persons consist of the Chief Executive Officer, Paul Guerra, former Chief Executive Officer, Mark O'Sullivan and General Managers, Kate Heeps, Jonathan Hocking, Bradley Jenkins and Jonathan Perry.

The amounts paid or payable to key management are as follows:

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Short-term employee benefits	1,305,322	1,427,955
Other long-term benefits	100,588	181,852
Termination benefits	91,302	184,331
	<b>1,497,212</b>	<b>1,794,138</b>

## 21. ACCOUNTING STANDARDS AND INTERPRETATIONS ISSUED BUT NOT YET EFFECTIVE

The Company has adopted all of the new, revised or amending Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board ('AASB') that are mandatory for the current reporting period.

Certain new accounting standards and interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for the current reporting period. The Company has elected not to early adopt these new standards or amendments in the financial statements.

The following new accounting standards are not yet effective but may have an impact on the Company in the financial years commencing on or after 1 April 2018:

### **AASB 9 Financial Instruments:**

This standard modifies the classification and measurement of financial assets and is effective for financial years beginning on or after 1 January 2018. The directors anticipate that the adoption of AASB 9 will not have a material impact on the Company's financial statements.

### **AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers:**

This standard modifies the determination of when to recognise revenue and how much revenue to recognise. The effective date for this standard is for financial years beginning on or after 1 January 2019. Although the directors anticipate that the adoption of AASB 15 may have an impact on the Company's financial statements, it is impracticable at this stage to provide a reasonable estimate of such impact.

### **AASB 16 Leases:**

This standard requires lessees to recognise all lease assets and liabilities on the balance sheet and recognise the amortisation of leased assets and interest on lease liabilities over the lease term. The effective date for this standard is for financial years beginning on or after 1 January 2019. Although the directors anticipate that the adoption of AASB 16 may have an impact on the Company's financial statements, it is impracticable at this stage to provide a reasonable estimate of such impact.

### **AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities:**

This standard establishes principles for recognising income on transactions where the consideration to acquire an asset is significantly less than fair value and for the receipt of volunteer services. The effective date for this standard is for financial years beginning on or after 1 January 2019. Although the directors anticipate that the adoption of AASB 1058 may have an impact on the Company's financial statements, it is impracticable at this stage to provide a reasonable estimate of such impact.

The Company is currently in the process of determining the potential impact of adopting the above standards.

# DIRECTORS' DECLARATION

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

In the opinion of the directors of The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria Limited:

- (a) the accompanying financial statements and notes as set out on pages 39 to 60, are in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission Act 2012*, comply with the Australian Accounting Standards and give a true and fair view of the Company's financial position as at 31 March 2018 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
- (b) at the date of this declaration 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 signed in accordance with a resolution of the directors made pursuant with subsection 60.15(2) of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission Regulations 2013*.



**M J Coleman**  
Director  
Chairman



**D S Chapman**  
Director

Dated this 26th day of June 2018  
Melbourne, Victoria

# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA LIMITED



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Australia

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the members of The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria Limited

### Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial report of The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria Limited, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 March 2018, the statement of profit and loss and other comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial report, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the responsible entities' declaration.

In our opinion the accompanying financial report of The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria Limited, is in accordance with Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- (i) Giving a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 31 March 2018 and of its financial performance for the year ended on that date; and
- (ii) Complying with Australian Accounting Standards and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.

#### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the company in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 (ACNC Act)* and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

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

#### Other information

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information in the company's annual report for the year ended 31 March 2018, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.

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

BDO East Coast Partnership ABN 83 236 985 726 is a member of a national association of independent entities which are all members of BDO Australia Ltd ABN 77 050 110 275, an Australian company limited by guarantee. BDO East Coast Partnership and BDO Australia Ltd are members of BDO International Ltd, a UK company limited by guarantee, and form part of the international BDO network of independent member firms. Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation, other than for the acts or omissions of financial services licensees.





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

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

**Responsibilities of the directors for the Financial Report**

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

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

The directors are responsible for overseeing the company's financial reporting process.

**Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the Financial Report**

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

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website (<http://www.auasb.gov.au/Home.aspx>) at:

[http://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors\\_files/ar3.pdf](http://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_files/ar3.pdf).

This description forms part of our auditor's report.

**BDO East Coast Partnership**

David Garvey  
Partner

Melbourne, 28 June 2018





