



The Royal



The Official Newsletter of the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria
& The Victorian Agricultural Societies' Association.

MARCH/APRIL, 1988

1987 ANNUAL REPORT TO MEMBERS

*Ladies and Gentlemen,
I have pleasure in reporting on the activities of the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria for the year ended December 31, 1987.*

1987 ROYAL MELBOURNE SHOW (September 17-26)

780,222 visitors attended the 1987 Royal Melbourne Show during ten days and nine nights of remarkably fine, warm weather.

For the first time since the Second World War, the September school holidays coincided with the Show, as a result of the introduction of a four term structure into Victorian Primary and Secondary schools.

The school holidays had two important effects on Show attendances; firstly, the total attendance for the period was down because many families spent the time out of Melbourne. Secondly, there emerged a new pattern for attendances on a day to day basis, which saw a far more even spread of visitations over the Show's duration, with the result that figures for the traditionally quieter days were increased while the Show Day holiday (Thursday, September 24) and the final Saturday (September 26) were down.

Interestingly, attendances for the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday (September 21, 22 and 23) were records for the respective days:—

Monday, September 21 — 82,665:
best Monday since 1982 (74,275)
Tuesday, September 22 — 93,442:
best Tuesday since 1954 (75,952)
Wednesday, September 23 — 101,109:
best Wednesday since 1958 (100,334)

"Show Me Tomorrow"

Victoria's progression into the 1990's and beyond provided an exciting focal point for the 1987 Show which was embraced by the theme "Show Me Tomorrow".

The leading supporter of the 1987 theme was the Commonwealth Scientific Industrial and Research Organisation (CSIRO) whose "Adventures With Science" exhibition in the P. B.

Ronald Pavilion provided patrons with an entertaining, thought provoking and hands-on introduction to science. It also focused attention on the many facets of CSIRO's involvement in research and development.

"Adventures With Science" was officially opened by the Prime Minister, The Right Honourable R. J. Hawke on Sunday, September 20.

The Victorian Government through its "Show Me The Future" display in the Victorian Expo Centre, together with the Australian Wool Corporation's fashion shows highlighting tomorrow's designs in wool, added contrasting depth to an exciting theme.

Official Opening of 1987 Show

The 1987 Royal Melbourne Show was declared officially open by His Excellency Dr. Davis McCaughey, A.C., Governor of Victoria, on Saturday, September 19.

Also present for the Opening Ceremony were Victoria's Premier, The Honourable John Cain, M.P.; Mr. Barry Rowe, M.P. for Essendon; Councillor Lecki Ord, Lord Mayor of Melbourne; Air Vice Marshall A. R. Reed, Air Officer Commanding, Support Command, and Councillor Monica Hayes, Mayor of Essendon.

FarmTech '87

On and off farm computer systems provided a background to an ambitious and completely new concept for the Royal Melbourne Show — "FarmTech '87".

FarmTech '87 represented the largest farm computer systems display in Australia and the first display of its type at any Australian Royal Show. Twelve organisations specialising in farm computer systems joined with the RASV in mounting FarmTech '87.

Aimed specifically at farmers, Farm-



John H. H. Sleight, President, Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria.

Tech '87 also enabled those wanting practical assistance in the use of such systems, the opportunity of attending special workshops on three evenings during the Show.

We were pleased with FarmTech's introductory year and consideration will be given to mounting a similar display in 1988.



His Excellency Dr. Davis McCaughey, A.C., Governor of Victoria, declares the 1987 Royal Show open.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

OFFICE BEARERS 1987

PATRON-IN-CHIEF:

His Excellency, The Rt. Hon. Sir Ninian Stephen, A.K., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., K.B.E.

PATRON:

His Excellency, Dr. Davis McCaughey, A.C.

PRESIDENT:

J. H. H. Sleigh.

VICE-PRESIDENTS:

J. M. Burston, A. Gibson, W. R. R. Beggs.

TRUSTEES:

The Hon. Sir William McDonald, Kt.

P. B. Ronald, C.M.G., G. R. Starritt, A.M., O.B.E., G. P. H. Wilson, C.M.G.

LIFE COUNCILLORS:

W. A. Angliss

Sir Rupert W. J. Clarke
Bart., M.B.E., M.A.

K. A. Drummond

J. M. Gardiner

R. B. Gerrand, M.B.E.

G. Howell

R. Hunter

J. W. Kelly

D. W. R. Knox

D. S. MacGregor, M.B.E.

C. O. Moore

L. G. C. Nicholas

P. B. Ronald, C.M.G.

G. R. Starritt, A.M., O.B.E.

J. W. D. Ward

The Hon. Vernon F. Wilcox, C.B.E., Q.C.

G. P. H. Wilson, C.M.G.

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL:

J. Balfour Brown

W. R. R. Beggs

E. W. Best, C.M.G.

A. C. Bott

J. K. Buchanan, A.M.

I. I. Bucknall

J. M. Burston

R. M. Butler

Sir Roderick Carnegie, Kt.
(Resigned 14.7.87)

W. D. Crowley, Q.P.M.

A. J. Fisker

C. B. Gardiner

A. Gibson

W. McL. Greaves

B. R. J. Hallows

R. F. Haselgrove

J. G. W. Head

C. R. Kelly

R. B. Langdon

F. B. Langlands

F. J. Lithgow

Sir Cecil Looker, Kt.

The Hon. Sir William McDonald, Kt.

K. J. McIver

Sir Ian McLennan, K.C.M.G., K.B.E.

M. T. Marriott (Elected 8.9.87)

I. K. Morton, A.M.

R. Potter

J. W. Rae

J. S. A. Robb

J. H. H. Sleigh

I. McK. Starritt

F. R. I. Stephens

K. W. Urquhart

The Hon. Evan Walker, M.L.C.

R. G. Walker

EXECUTIVE STAFF:

DIRECTOR: Maj. Gen. J. C. Hughes, A.O., D.S.O., M.C., RL

ADMINISTRATION MANAGER: D. J. Reid

FINANCE MANAGER: J. F. Clifford

GROUNDS MANAGER: M. Martin

INFORMATION SYSTEMS MANAGER: J. O. Butler

MARKETING MANAGER: V. A. Hilton



The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of members of the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria will be held in the Royal Banquet Rooms, Plummer Avenue, Royal Show Grounds, Epsom Road, Ascot Vale on Tuesday, April 12, 1988, at 12 noon.

BUSINESS

1. Minutes of previous Annual Meeting.
2. To receive the Annual Report and Balance Sheet.
3. To receive the declaration of election of Councillors.
4. To appoint two auditors.

Dated 7th day of March, 1988

MAJ. GEN. J. C. HUGHES, A.O., D.S.O., M.C., RL
Director

LIST OF NOMINATIONS

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

(Eleven to be elected)

- *A. C. BOTT, "Naranghi", Yarrowonga, 3730
- *I. I. BUCKNALL, "Yaralla", R.M.B. 1073, Maryborough, 3465
- *A. J. FISKEN, "Lal Lal Estate", Yendon, 3352
- *C. B. GARDINER, 1 Hobby Street, Tongala, 3621
- *A. GIBSON, "Greystones", Rowsley, 3340
- *C. R. KELLY, "Barwidgee", Caramut, 3274
- *K. J. McIVER, P.O. Box 594, Ballarat, 3350
- *Sir IAN M. McLENNAN, K.C.M.G., K.B.E., C/- Level 26, B.H.P. House,
140 William Street, Melbourne, 3000
- *J. W. RAE, "Granite Grove", 124 A'Beckett Road,
Narre Warren North, 3804
- G. J. SHEPPARD, C/- 221 Drummond Street, Carlton, 3053
- *K. W. URQUHART, "Boonerah", Hexham, 3273
- *R. G. WALKER, "Pleasant Park", Goroke, 3412

Note: Nominations being in excess of the vacancies, a ballot will be conducted.

Refer to enclosed ballot paper for voting directions.

(*Denotes Councillors retiring by rotation and eligible for re-election)

Rural Education

With the Show coinciding with school holidays, the structured format of the Commonwealth Bank Farm Learning Centre was dispensed with in favour of a fresh and exciting concept represented by the Farm Animal Expo.

Farm Animal Expo (also sponsored by the Commonwealth Bank) drew attention to the affinity between man and his domestic farm animals through a major display of beef and dairy cattle breeds, sheep, goats and horses, all under one roof.

The emphasis of 'Expo' was on education on an informal basis with special attention given to animal care and the responsibility of the owner.

'Expo' appealed to children who simply wanted to pat animals, as well as hobby farmers who wanted first hand advice on the breed of animal best suited to their particular area.

It constituted one of the major successes of the 1987 Show and will be continued in future years.

The Show's rural education component was complemented by the ever popular National Australia Bank Animal Nursery and the ANZ Harvest Hall. Both attracted very large crowds.

The unique experiences offered by the "3UZ Farm Sunday", staged on the main arena, again proved popular with patrons, who gained an insight into farming methods, activities and farm machinery of today and yesterday.

Free Entertainment

Free entertainment in the main arena and around the grounds was of a standard and quantity which exceeded previous years.

The arena programme was headed by top Australian stuntman, Ian Jamieson, and the Cellante Property Advisor's Brophy Brothers aerial act.

An excellent selection of supporting acts included a hovercraft display team, Skysports Skydivers, Red Knights Military Police Motorcycle team, the Bridgestone Holden Precision Driving team and the "Aussie Battler" monster truck.

In keeping with the Show's futuristic theme, brilliant and completely revamped fireworks presentations on six evenings featured the invasion of Earth by aliens from outer space.

Outside the arena, special mention must be made of the Australian Wool Corporation's presentations in Centre Point.

Magnificent fashion designs from Australia's leading designers were paraded by top models in an outstanding 45 minute show which succeeded in graphically demonstrating the versatility of fine Australian wool.

AMP Lawn with its programme of music, magic, martial arts and milking



A spectacular motorcycle aerial act performed by the Brophy Brothers was a highlight of the 1987 arena programme.

championships was well accepted as were performances in the Super K mart Children's Theatre which were specially scheduled for younger Showgoers.

The skills of Australia's pioneers, presented in various forms on the Woodchop Lawn, reinforced the Show's strong educational bias, and the Street Theatre programme provided that light-hearted spontaneous en-

tertainment which has become one of the highlights of the Melbourne Show over recent years.

Commercial Displays

Among the many outstanding exhibits and displays at the 1987 Show were those mounted by members of the Tasmanian Visitor Corporation (near the Animal Nursery, Lennon Avenue), the Army (Skene Street) and Australia's Mining Industry (rear of Mitchell Stand, Plummer Avenue).

Described by organisers as one of the most exciting and ambitious tourism promotions ever, the Tasmanian exhibit was supported by about 100 tourism operators and the Tasmanian Government.

Interest in the project by the Tasmanian Government was reflected in the fact that State Premier Robin Gray officially opened the exhibit on Friday, September 18.

The "Army On Show" display was the largest ever presented at a Melbourne 'Royal' and proved fascinating to Showgoers of all ages. It featured a Leopard tank, 155mm field gun, communication equipment and field kitchen.

A "flying fox" gave younger patrons a feel for parachuting army style.

Australia's mineral wealth was the theme of the excellent display jointly sponsored by the Australian Mining Industry Council and the Victorian Chamber of Mines.

Australia's mining history, the gold mining industry, development of mines and the exploration for and processing of minerals were essential components of this exhibit.



The Commonwealth Bank Farm Animal Expo represented a new concept in rural education at the Show.

Show Entries

This year, record entries were received in the following Show sections:

| <i>Beef Cattle</i> | <i>Previous Best</i> |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Devons/Poll Devons — 8 | 7 (1984) |
| Santa Gertrudis — 99 | 88 (1986) |
| Herefords — 264 | 255 (1975) |
| Limousins — 85 | 56 (1982) |

In the Beef Cattle section, the Black Simmental and Belgian Blue breeds were exhibited for the first time. Entries of 9 and 5 were received respectively.

Dairy Cattle

Holstein-Friesians — 547 520 (1974)

| <i>Horses</i> | |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| Arabians — 202 | 187 (1978) |
| Breeding Stock | |
| 0/15 hands — 90 | 72 (1986) |
| Stock Horses — 245 | 223 (1986) |
| Ponies (total all breeds) — 646 | 608 (1986) |
| <i>Sheep</i> | |
| Poll Dorsets — 505 | 463 (1984) |

Although not records, substantial entry increases were received in the pig, dairy produce and apiculture (honey) sections this year.

Overall 40,798 entries were received for the 1987 Royal Melbourne Show, a best ever figure.

COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATION

New Councillor — Mr. M. T. Marriott

Mr. Maxwell T. Marriott, Tatong Estate, Benalla, was elected to the Council of the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria in September and attended his first Council meeting on October 13.

Currently, Mr. Marriott conducts a large grazing enterprise at Benalla and is also a noted breeder of Clydesdale horses. In fact, the Marriott name and the "Aarunga" Stud prefix have ranked highly on the list of the most successful exhibitors of led and harness Clydesdales at the Royal Melbourne Show, for many years.



Mr. M. T. Marriott

As part of the A. T. Marriott and Sons partnership, Mr. Max Marriott has himself, been a Royal Melbourne Show Exhibitor for three decades.

He is an accomplished Clydesdale judge and has officiated at Sydney's Royal Easter Show, the Royal National Exhibition in Brisbane and at numerous

country agricultural shows in Victoria and interstate.

Mr. Marriott is the current Federal President of the Commonwealth Clydesdale Horse Society and Vice President of the Society's Victorian Branch. He is also a Councillor of the Benalla Agricultural and Pastoral Society.

Following his election, Mr. Marriott was appointed to the Horse, Woodchop and Other Animals Committees.

Resignation of Sir Roderick Carnegie

Due to many business commitments which include his presidency of the Business Council of Australia, Sir Roderick Carnegie tendered his resignation which was very reluctantly accepted by Council in July.

Sir Roderick was elected to Council in June 1984, and until his resignation was involved solely in the vital area of sponsorship.

He served as Chairman of the Sponsorship Committee during his period on Council and contributed greatly to the formulation of policy which has now better equipped the RASV to increase its level of sponsorship.

Order of Australia Award to Mr. G. R. Starritt

Mr. G. R. Starritt, O.B.E, the Society's Immediate Past President and a Life Councillor, was made a Member of the Order of Australia in the 1987 Queen's Birthday Honours List.

Mr. Starritt, who was elected to Council in 1957, received the Award for his service to primary industry and the horticultural show movement.

During his 30 year membership of Council, Mr. Starritt has contributed significantly through his service on the Beef and Sheep Committees and, of course, over his presidential term from 1982 to 1986.

On behalf of all members, I have pleasure in extending sincere congratulations to Mr. Starritt on his achievement.



Mr. G. R. Starritt, A.M., O.B.E.

Appointment of Director

At the May meeting, Council approved the appointment of Major General J. C. Hughes, A.O., D.S.O., M.C., RL, as Director of the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria.

General Hughes commenced in the position on June 1, in time to gain an appreciation of Royal Show preparation at its peak.

Following an outstanding military career which saw him awarded the Order of Australia, the Distinguished Service Order and the Military Cross, General Hughes spent three years as President of the Melbourne Metropolitan Fire Brigade Board.

He has had a first hand association with the rural sector having farmed, with his wife, a property near Yass,



Major General J. C. Hughes, A.O., D.S.O., M.C., RL

N.S.W. where they ran sheep and stud ponies.

General and Mrs. Hughes are also well acquainted with the show scene, having exhibited their horses extensively at shows in New South Wales and Queensland.

The Society is fortunate to have the services of an administrator of General Hughes' calibre, and we wish he and Mrs. Hughes a happy association with the RASV.

Staff Changes, Appointments

Several staffing changes were effected during the year. They included:

- ★ Mr. Michael Martin, appointed Grounds Manager.
- ★ Mrs. Vera Dunque, appointed Office Supervisor — Grounds Department.
- ★ Mr. Robert Weir, appointed Sponsorship Officer.
- ★ Mrs. Thora Bergin, appointed Breed Society Administrator in charge of the Australian Pony Stud Book Society (V.B.).
- ★ Mrs. Olga Wilson appointed Office Supervisor — Marketing Department.
- ★ Mrs. Belinda Drew returned from maternity leave to resume her position as Secretary to the Finance Manager.

Honorary Life Members

During the year the Council appointed the following 41 Honorary Members who have served the Society for 20 years or over. They include not only stewards and stewardesses, but members of staff.

We must convey our thanks to them all for their assistance over the years.

Dog Section

Mr. A. Laidler, Mr. E. H. Paxman, Mr. F. R. Ahern, Mr. R. D. Cave, Mr. C. E. Milward, Mr. G. R. Cabena, Mr. E. Drinkwater, Mr. R. C. Mashford.

Horse Section

Mr. B. Bourke, Mr. D. H. Bourke, Mr. B. Bradstreet, Mrs. H. de Crespigny, Mr. D. Brennan, Dr. M. Bunn, Mr. R. Richardson.

Cattle Section — Beef

Mr. P. T. B. Kelynack, Dr. T. D. Hoban, Mr. D. A. Coutts, Mr. D. G. Wilson, Mr. W. A. Angliss (Jnr), Mr. J. D. Campbell, Mr. G. R. Fink.

Wine Section

Mr. C. D. Heard, Mr. P. Lewis, Mr. W. B. Chambers.

Poultry Section

Mr. G. J. Sheppard, Mr. A. J. Woods.

Budgerigars & Cage Birds

Mr. H. F. Eddy, Mr. E. W. Stafford.

Farm Inventions

Mr. J. Vallance.

Sheep Section

Mr. M. F. Herman.

Farm and Dairy Produce

Mr. E. D. Wilkins, Mr. L. W. Alexander.



Free entertainment in the Super Kmart Childrens Theatre proved a winner with younger patrons.

Woodchop Section

Mr. G. Hyatt.

Arts and Crafts Section

Mrs. B. Doherty.

Medical Officer

Dr. R. Hill.

Staff

Mr. J. B. Parry (former Director), Mrs. E. Murphy, Mr. J. Holt, Mr. I. Hunter, Mr. C. Crabb, Miss J. Gray, Mr. B. Sinclair, Mrs. M. Lynch, Mrs. D. Oldfield.

Incorporation

In March, RASV Limited, a company incorporated in Victoria by the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria, legally came into being.

Under the terms of incorporation, RASV Limited is responsible for all activities of a business/contractual nature formerly undertaken by the

Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria. This includes of course, the organisation and management of the Royal Melbourne Show.

The move to become incorporated was taken to ensure the Society's members, Council and staff were protected against any legal liability claims.

Farm World

Following careful consideration of the final report on the Farm World concept, submitted by Ibis Deloitte Pty. Ltd., Council at its November meeting, decided not to proceed.

Council's decision was based on the fact that the consultant's report did not contain any positive indication that such a project could succeed at this time.



The Army display at the 1987 Show won first prize in the Community and Social Service section of the Commercial Exhibitors' Awards.

Display Co-ordinator, Major Les Trantor, accepts the sash and plaque from Mr. J. H. H. Sleigh.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

In concluding this report, I would like to record my thanks to my Vice Presidents and all my fellow Councillors and their wives, for all the assistance, advice and support which they have given so freely to Shirley and myself during the year.

To Major General Hughes, I express my thanks and congratulations for the support given to myself and to Council, since his appointment in June.

Special gratitude goes to Mr. Ian Pedersen, the Society's former Assistant Director, who interrupted his retirement to take on the position of Acting Director prior to the appointment of Major General Hughes.

I must also thank the Administration for their loyal support and their implementation of the many demands and requests made of them throughout the year.

To the Premier of Victoria, the Honourable John Cain and his Ministry, particularly the Honourable Evan Walker, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, we express our gratitude for the considerable support given to the Society over the past 12 months.

It is also important to record our thanks to officers of the Department of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, through the Director General, without whose very considerable help it would have been virtually impossible to organise and conduct the commercial farmer competitions run annually in conjunction with the Victorian Agricultural Societies' Association.

The partnership between the RASV and VASA is a particularly important one and one we seek to maintain at the highest level.

On behalf of the RASV, I want to place on record my appreciation of the assistance provided by VASA in the co-organisation of the annual commercial farming competitions and associated field days which have proved to be so successful over the years.

Without the help we receive in this area, these important competitions could not have progressed nor attained their current status and therefore, to the President of VASA, Mr. Bob Brooks and his Council, I extend our thanks.

Worthy of special mention in this report is the contribution made by our sponsors.

It bears repeating that the RASV could not successfully stage the Royal Melbourne Show or indeed many of its out-of-Show activities without the generous financial support given by the following organisations:

Australian Airlines, The Australian Poll Hereford Society Limited, Australian Wool Corporation, A.M.P. Society, A.N.Z. Banking Group Limited, Arnott Brockhoff Guest, Benson Trading Company Limited, The Broken Hill Proprietary Company Limited (B.H.P.), Bowens Timber, Cadbury Schweppes Pty. Ltd., Cellante Property Advisors, Coles Myer Limited, Comalco Aluminium Limited, Commonwealth Bank of Australia, Commonwealth Development Bank of Australia, Dalgety Farmers Limited, Davids (Australia) Pty. Ltd., Deans Art Supplies Pty. Ltd., Elders Pastoral, Federation Insurance Limited, Mrs. Diana Gibson, Gippsland & Northern Company Limited, Knitters of Australia, National Australia Bank, Patterson Cheney Holden, Pavier Amusements, Royal Parade Motor Inn, Rural Finance Commission, The Shell Company of Australia Limited, The Southern Cross Hotel, State Bank of Victoria, Stihl Chainsaw (Australia) Pty. Ltd., Sun News Pictorial, Uncle Bens of Australia, Victorian Dairy Industry Authority, The Weekly Times, Westpac Banking Corporation.

In the same way that we rely on our sponsors, we are similarly indebted to the many hundreds of dedicated men and women who each year give freely of their time, to ensure the smooth running of the Royal Melbourne Show.

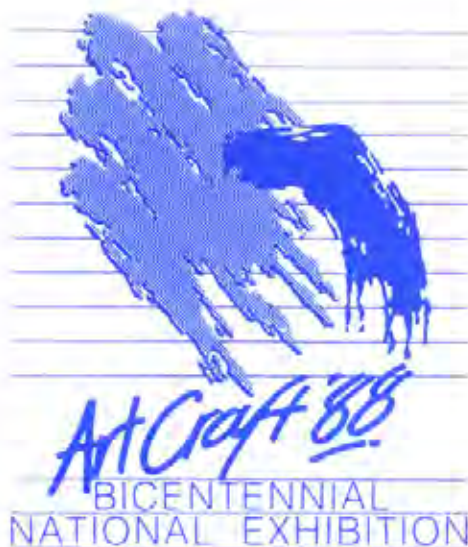
In the capacities of judges, stewards and stewardesses, the commitment and dedication of these people can only be applauded.

To the RASV's members and Royal Show exhibitors, I also express my special gratitude for the support over the past 12 months and we of course look forward to this support being extended through the new year.

Also, to members of the Victorian media, spread through its print and electronic branches, who have been of such great assistance to us throughout the year, I express the RASV's thanks.

Next year, the RASV has many more "outside Show" events planned which will ensure greater use of the grounds. We are confident that these will be well received, and coupled with the Main Event, "The Show", we shall have a successful and rewarding year.

**John H. H. Sleight,
President**



ArtCraft '88

From February 25 to 28, RASV Limited will stage ArtCraft '88, Australia's biggest competitive arts and crafts exhibition, and our contribution to the Bicentennial celebrations.

The ArtCraft '88 Committee of Management, chaired by Mr. W. R. R. Beggs and comprising Ms. N. Hammond (Ministry of Education), Mrs. R. B. Langdon, Ms. K. Morrissey (Crafts Council of Victoria), Mrs. L. G. C. Nicholas and Mrs. R. Potter, has been involved in the exhibition's preparation throughout the year.

Close to 7,000 entries were received in the Open classes which cover four broad sections of work — painting, crafts, decorated cakes and junior/school art and craft. About 2,700 exhibitors, many from interstate, have submitted entries.

ArtCraft '88 will be officially opened by the Governor General, Sir Ninian Stephen, on the evening of Wednesday, February 24.

Ten buildings on the Showgrounds will be used to house ArtCraft '88.

Use of Showgrounds

Facilities on the Showgrounds were used on over 200 days during the year, not counting the Royal Show period.

While this level of usage represents a healthy increase on previous years, the grounds and its major facilities will be marketed more aggressively in the new year.

Major events include stud horse and pony shows, championship dog shows, cat show, fencing demonstrations, yearling sales, plastic modellers' show, vintage drivers swap meet, ski sale, trade expos, Oktoberfest, horse expo, toy sale, sports goods sale, Queensland plant sale, Summer Fun and school book packing.

(*Multiple bookings of facilities on many days).

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1987

| | CONSOLIDATED WITH RASV LTD. | | SOCIETY | | SOCIETY | |
|---|--------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| | 1987 | \$ | 1987 | \$ | 1986 | \$ |
| FIXED ASSETS | | | | | | |
| Land at Council Valuation 1972 | | 1,023,000 | | 1,023,000 | | 1,023,000 |
| Buildings & Improvements | | | | | | |
| — At Council Valuation 1972 | 8,450,975 | | 8,450,975 | | 8,450,974 | |
| — Additions at Cost | 3,347,805 | | 3,347,805 | | 3,226,246 | |
| | <u>11,798,780</u> | | <u>11,798,780</u> | | <u>11,677,220</u> | |
| LESS Provision for Depreciation | 2,679,891 | 9,118,889 | 2,679,891 | 9,118,889 | 2,475,540 | 9,201,680 |
| Services and Utilities at Cost | 1,486,382 | | 1,486,382 | | 615,987 | |
| LESS Provision for Depreciation | 188,135 | 1,298,247 | 188,135 | 1,298,247 | 175,450 | 440,537 |
| Plant and Motor Vehicle at Cost | 1,094,104 | | | | 1,082,388 | |
| LESS Provision for Depreciation | 584,302 | 509,802 | | | 497,885 | 584,503 |
| Furniture, Fixtures and Fittings at Cost | 913,927 | | | | 883,726 | |
| LESS Provision for Depreciation | 565,701 | 348,226 | | | 481,106 | 402,620 |
| | | <u>12,298,164</u> | | <u>11,440,136</u> | | <u>11,652,340</u> |
| INVESTMENTS | | | | | | |
| Debentures, Deposits, Cash at Bank at Cost: | | | | | | |
| — Loan to RASV Ltd. | | | | 32,462 | | |
| — Special Purposes Insurance Fund | 491,018 | | | | 416,304 | |
| — Trust Accounts | 28,095 | | | | 26,626 | |
| — Short Call | 289,048 | 808,161 | | | 544,888 | 987,818 |
| CURRENT ASSETS | | | | | | |
| Cash on Hand | 900 | | | | 900 | |
| Prepayments & Accrued Interest | 110,678 | | | | 84,032 | |
| Sundry Debtors | 898,019 | | | | 788,179 | |
| LESS Provision for Doubtful Debts | (38,000) | | | | (38,000) | |
| Stock on Hand at Cost | 124,325 | 1,095,922 | | | 120,472 | 955,583 |
| | | <u>14,202,247</u> | | <u>11,472,598</u> | | <u>13,595,741</u> |
| LESS | | | | | | |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES | | | | | | |
| Bank Overdraft — Secured | (66,957) | | | | 23,103 | |
| Loans — Secured | 33,500 | | 33,500 | | 15,900 | |
| Loans — Unsecured | 695,198 | | 80,617 | 114,117 | 470,570 | |
| Sundry Creditors & Accruals | 650,794 | | | | 710,616 | |
| Provision for Long Service & Annual Leave | 302,764 | | | | 306,771 | |
| Received in Advance | 15,000 | | | | — | |
| Short Call Deposits | 289,047 | 1,919,346 | | | 544,888 | 2,071,848 |
| LONG TERM LIABILITIES | | | | | | |
| Loans — Secured | 1,152,047 | | 1,152,047 | | 393,807 | |
| Loans — Unsecured | 410,235 | 1,562,282 | 193,983 | 1,346,030 | 674,706 | 1,068,513 |
| TRUST ACCOUNTS | | 28,094 | | | | 26,626 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES | | <u>3,509,722</u> | | <u>1,460,147</u> | | <u>3,166,987</u> |
| TOTAL NET ASSETS | | <u>\$10,692,525</u> | | <u>\$10,012,451</u> | | <u>\$10,428,754</u> |
| REPRESENTING | | | | | | |
| Accumulated Funds | | 1,749,420 | | 1,560,364 | | 1,560,364 |
| Reserves — | | | | | | |
| — Asset Revaluation | 7,759,190 | | 7,759,190 | | 7,759,189 | |
| — Special Purposes Insurance Fund | 491,018 | | | | 416,304 | |
| — Dog Complex Contribution | 692,897 | 8,943,105 | 692,897 | 8,452,087 | 692,897 | 8,868,390 |
| TOTAL ACCUMULATED FUNDS & RESERVES | | <u>\$10,692,525</u> | | <u>\$10,012,451</u> | | <u>\$10,428,754</u> |

Auditor's report to members of the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria.

We have audited the attached Balance Sheet and Revenue Account in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly the financial position of the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria at 31st December, 1987 and the results of its operations for the year then ended in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and comply with the Rules of the Society.

Dated this 15th day of March, 1988.
 255 William Street,
 Melbourne

J. A. COURT, F.C.A.
 I. McC. ROUGH, F.C.A.
 Chartered Accountants

NOTE:

On the 30th March 1987 a Company R.A.S.V. Ltd. was incorporated to carry out the operational activities of the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria with the exception of Membership income and property costs.

The assets of land and improvements together with the liabilities thereon remain with the Society.

The Accounts of the Society have been consolidated with those of R.A.S.V. Ltd. to show the consolidated position of the two entities.

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

CONSOLIDATED REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1987

| | CONSOLIDATED WITH RASV LTD. | | SOCIETY | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------|------------------|--------------------|
| | 1987 \$ | 1986 \$ | 1987 \$ | 1986 \$ |
| INCOME | | | | |
| Show Admissions & Car Parking | 3,553,402 | | | 3,210,848 |
| Space and Ground Rentals | 1,788,517 | | | 1,758,005 |
| Secretarial Services | 584,818 | | | 637,058 |
| Show Entry Fees | 316,057 | | | 271,409 |
| Materials and Services | 102,346 | | | 116,934 |
| Members' Subscriptions | 248,147 | | 248,147 | 218,238 |
| Show Sales & Sundry Revenue | 43,555 | | | 61,380 |
| Donations and Sponsorship | 740,720 | | | 551,579 |
| Catering Premiums | 296,737 | | | 272,283 |
| Computer Fees | 209,645 | | | 192,713 |
| Advertising | 66,122 | | | 57,386 |
| Improvement Grant | 50,000 | | — | 50,000 |
| Contribution from RASV Ltd. | — | | 43,452 | — |
| | <u>\$8,000,066</u> | <u>—</u> | <u>\$291,599</u> | <u>\$7,397,833</u> |
| EXPENDITURE | | | | |
| Wages and Payroll Costs | 3,696,695 | | | 3,532,077 |
| Maintenance and Cleaning | 801,550 | | | 756,825 |
| Depreciation | 406,909 | | 217,036 | 407,975 |
| Show Attractions | 328,491 | | | 316,077 |
| Printing and Stationery | 238,740 | | | 246,790 |
| Show Running Costs | 246,194 | | | 190,938 |
| Insurance | 275,543 | | | 171,416 |
| Catering | 177,882 | | | 165,418 |
| Trophies and Prizes | 334,172 | | | 260,174 |
| Advertising and Publicity | 296,492 | | | 295,755 |
| Interest | 241,487 | | 74,563 | 265,345 |
| Telephone and Postage | 105,850 | | | 99,375 |
| Rates | 110,987 | | | 67,369 |
| Electricity and Gas | 187,749 | | | 173,347 |
| Judges' Expenses | 58,515 | | | 52,143 |
| Sundry Costs | 81,533 | | | 87,249 |
| Computer Costs | 145,421 | | | 143,912 |
| Audit and Legal | 51,175 | | | 38,396 |
| Special Purposes Insurance Fund | 25,000 | | | 25,000 |
| Director's Fees | 625 | | | — |
| | <u>7,811,010</u> | <u>—</u> | <u>291,599</u> | <u>7,295,581</u> |
| Surplus for Year | 189,056 | | — | 102,252 |
| | <u>\$8,000,066</u> | <u>—</u> | <u>\$291,599</u> | <u>\$7,397,833</u> |

ACCUMULATED FUNDS

| | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
|--------------------------|--------------------|----------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Balance at start of Year | 1,560,364 | | 1,560,364 | 1,458,112 |
| Surplus for year | 189,056 | | — | 102,252 |
| Balance at end of year | <u>\$1,749,420</u> | <u>—</u> | <u>\$1,560,364</u> | <u>\$1,560,364</u> |

MAJOR AWARD WINNERS 1987

SHEEP

Supreme Champion Ram

Poll Dorset, exhibited by E. C. & J. E. Dixon, Dubbo, N.S.W.

Supreme Champion Ewe

Poll Dorset, exhibited by N. & S. Armstrong, Marrar, N.S.W.

Victorian Fleece Competition

Most Successful Exhibitor — Challicum Partnership, Buangor, Vic.

Australasian Lambs Wool Championship

Best Lambs Wool — Challicum Partnership, Buangor, Vic.

GOATS

Supreme Champion Doe (Dairy)

Mrs. C. Johnson, Thornton, Vic.

Champion Angora Doe

L. D. Sly, Lockhart, N.S.W.

Champion Mohair Fleece

J. P. & S. M. Masters, Greenock Angora Stud, Seville, Vic.

PRODUCE

Champion Honey

Mr. & Mrs. G. Bone, Endeavour Hills, Vic.

Champion Export or Fresh Butter

Murray Goulburn Co-Operative Co., Leongatha, Vic.

Champion Prize Cheese

Bonlac Foods, Stanhope, Vic.

Champion Soft Variety Wheat

G. E. Wiese, Bordertown, S.A.

Champion Hard Variety Wheat

I. R. Roll, Rainbow, Vic.

Champion Oats

G. E. Wiese, Bordertown, S.A.

Champion Meadow Hay

A. W. & I. F. Bunn, Tatura, Vic.

ARTS AND CRAFTS

Florence Monod Memorial Award

Mr. P. Zerbe, Sandringham, Vic.

Photography — Best Print in Exhibition

Marilyn Millar, Lower Plenty, Vic.

Photography — Best Slide in Exhibition

Kevin Evans, Sunshine Coast, Qld.

CATS

Best Entire Cat — Longhair

Persian, CH. FRELYN MR BEAU JANGLES, Mrs. D. E. Watt, The Basin, Vic. and bred by B. F. & E. Hird.

Best Entire Cat — Siamese/Oriental

Siamese, KOINONIA VASHTI, owned and bred by A. & L. Bowden, Merrimbula, N.S.W.

Best Entire Cat — Other Shorthair

Burmese, GD. CH. AHNYO KYAUNG SANGHA, owned and bred by Ms. K. Lease, Alexandria, N.S.W.

CATTLE

Elders Pastoral Beef Breed of the Year (Poll Hereford)

L. H. & I. M. Bennett & Son, Keith, S.A. — Heatherdale Arrow F33.

Supreme Beef Breed Bull,

Sponsored by Federation Insurance
Santa Gertrudis, D. & A. D. Bassingthwaite

& Co., Wallumbilla, Qld. — Yarrawonga Warlock.

Supreme Beef Breed Female, Sponsored by Federation Insurance

Angus, Merrigrange Pty. Ltd., Tennyson, Vic. — Merrigrange Vicky D114.

Supreme Junior Champion Beef Breed Bull

Poll Hereford, L. H. & I. M. Bennett & Son, Keith, S.A. — Heatherdale Arrow F33.

Gippsland & Northern

Supreme Champion Dairy Cow

Jersey, R. V. M. A. M. & S. P. Quigley, Yinnar, Vic. — Tallangandra Bluebelle 2nd.

Gippsland & Northern

Supreme Champion Dairy Heifer

Guernsey, W. M. & M. W. Shea, Bacchus Marsh, Vic. — Wilmar Herald's Gracelou.

Federation Insurance

Supreme Champion Dairy Bull

Guernsey, N. M. & M. N. Wilkie, Bacchus Marsh, Vic. — Fhra Park Galahad.

U.D.V. Interbreed Type and Production Cow

Holstein-Friesian, C. G. I. & A. Cochrane, Bega, N.S.W. — Parrabel Linmack Pam.

1987 ROYAL SHOW MEDIA AWARDS

1987 Royal Show Press

Photographic Awards

Best Show Photo (Published) — Norm Oorloff, The Herald.

Best Show Photo (Unpublished) — Mark Morrissy, The Herald.

1987 Olympus/Royal Show

Press Journalism Awards

Best Show Story — Gayle Austen, The Age.

Best Agricultural Story — Cathy Briant, Stock and Land.

1987 Olympus/Royal Show

TV Journalism Award

Best Show Report — Brigitte Duclos, ATV Channel 10.

FARM INVENTIONS

Grand Champion Exhibit

Mr. R. Warner, Edenhope, Vic.

PIGS

Supreme Exhibit

Large White, exhibited by B. & D. Hamblin, Toolleen, Vic.

WOODCHOPPING

Grand Aggregate Trophy

Mr. L. O'Toole, Doncaster, Vic.

DOGS

Best Exhibit in Show

Mrs. D. B. Baillie's Welsh Corgi (Pembroke) Dog, AUST. CH. DYGAE SUPER-SPARK (V).

Runner Up to Best Exhibit in Show, Vannew Kennels Whippet Dog, ACAIZA JOKERS WILD (T).

Best Puppy in Show

Mr. & Mrs. Crockett's St. Bernard Bitch, WOHLWOLLEND BIANCA (V).

Best in Obedience Trial

Mr. & Mrs. J. Wilder's Samoyed Bitch, SNOWBROOK QUAZAR PANDORA (V).

HORSES

Best Equestrienne Turnout (Garryowen)

Mrs. H. Heagney, Diggers Rest, Vic. (an Kaliche)

WINES

The Jimmy Watson Memorial Trophy — Best Red Wine (Classes 25, 26 & 27)

Riddoch Wines — 1986, Coonawarra, S.A.

The Victorian Wine Industry Association Inc. Trophy for the Most Successful Exhibitor (Classes 41-44)

Coldstream Hills, Vic., and Diamond Valley Vineyards, Vic.

The Francois De Castella Trophy — Most Successful Wine and Brandy Exhibitor

B. Seppelt & Sons Ltd., Tanunda, S.A.

MISS SUN COUNTRY SHOW GIRL

Miss Mandy Humphrey, Jeparit, Vic.

COMMERCIAL FARMING COMPETITIONS

Commonwealth Development Bank Victorian Farm Management, Production and Improvement Competition

Section A — P. E. & L. A. Taylor, Waaiia, Vic.

Section B — R. W. & J. C. Liley, Fish Creek, Vic.

Dalgety Farmers Commercial Beef Herd of the Year

Estate C. W. Kelly, Caramut, Vic.

Gippsland & Northern/Western Star Commercial Dairy Herd of the Year

G. J. & M. P. Brown, Layers Hill, Vic.

V.A.B. Share Dairy Farmer of the Year Award

G. & E. Ailey, Cobden, Vic.

Elders Pastoral Commercial Wool Sheep Flock of the Year Award

J. D. & M. J. Phillips, Karingal, Callawadda, Vic.

BIRDS

Poultry — Best Bird in Show

A. N. Jorgensen, Waaiia, Vic. — O.E.G. Black-Red Dark Leg Cock.

Best Finch in Show

K. & L. Walker, Epping, Vic. — Melba

Best Parrot Type Bird

C. Bush, North Fitzroy, Vic. — Parrot,

Best Cage Bird

(Other than a Finch)

W. McNamara, Croydon, Vic. — Quail

Grand Champion Budgerigar

L. A. Downey, South Oakleigh, Vic.

CARCASS

Champion Beef Carcass Award

Murray Grey, W. R. Northey, Shepparton, Vic.

Lamb Carcass Competition

M. & M. Browning, Yarrawonga, Vic.

Bacon Pig Carcass Competition

R. & M. L. Wilson, Undera, Vic.

ArtCraft '88 LAUNCHED IN STYLE

More than 500 guests gathered on the Showgrounds' AMP Lawn in brilliant late afternoon sunshine on Wednesday February 24, to see and hear the Governor General Sir Ninian Stephen officially open the ArtCraft '88 Bicentennial National arts and crafts exhibition.

In introducing the Governor General, the President of the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria Mr. J. H. H. Sleigh, said that the Society was making a fitting contribution to the Bicentenary, by focusing attention on the arts and crafts in Australia in this special year.

As Australia's biggest exhibition of its type, ArtCraft '88 attracted 7,000 in more than 360 classes, covering all skills. Nearly 3,000 exhibitors representing every state of Australia except the Northern Territory, submitted works for the exhibition.

Mr. Sleigh acknowledged the work of the ArtCraft '88 organising committee, headed by Mr. W. R. R. Beggs and comprising Mrs. R. B. Langdon, Mrs. R. Potter, Mrs. L. G. C. Nicholas, Ms. K. Morrissey (Craft Council of Victoria) and Ms. N. Hammond (Ministry of Education), who had been working on the project for almost two years.

After declaring the exhibition open, the Governor General presented prizes to the winners of the Craftworks Invitational Award and the '50 Fine Artists' exhibition.

The winners of the four sections in the 'Deans Art Stores' open art section also received their prizes from the Governor General.

Before leaving the Showgrounds, Sir Ninian and Lady Stephen viewed works in the '50 Fine Artists' and Craftworks Invitational exhibitions in addition to entries in the "Knit the Great Aussie Jumper" competition.



Mr. Sleigh, Lady Stephen, Mrs. Sleigh and Sir Ninian Stephen view and discuss one of the magnificent works entered in the Craftworks Invitational Award exhibition.



The Governor General Sir Ninian Stephen, declares ArtCraft '88 officially open.



Sir Ninian and Lady Stephen are shown one of the more novel entries in the "Great Aussie Jumper" competition by RASV staff member, Louise Hill.

SHOWING OUR BEST FOR 1988

The Royal Melbourne Show will be one of the last major events in Victoria in this our Bicentennial year.

Melbourne 'Royal' has received official endorsement from the Australian Bicentennial Authority and to

compliment this endorsement, the Society's Council has adopted "Australia — Showing Our Best" as the 1988 Show theme.

In support of this theme, the Show will reflect the things Australians and Australia does best, with special emphasis on the livestock, produce and commercial exhibit/display areas.

As has been the case in previous years, the Society will be seeking the support of major sponsors and commercial exhibitors in order to have the theme carried through the principal components of the Show.

SECOND SUNDAY FOR 1988 SHOW

The Council of the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria has decided that the 1988 Royal Melbourne Show will run for 11 days and nine nights.

Commencing on Thursday September 15, this year's 'Royal' will take in the second Sunday and conclude on the evening of September 25.

Consideration is currently being given to a special entertainment programme for the second Sunday, which will set it apart from the preceding 10 days.

Taking in the second Sunday makes sound sense, particularly in view of the fact that the final Saturday has for some years, coincided with the V.F.L. Grand Final.

'Farmpol' means a good night's sleep for the man on the land.

Many farmers and graziers believe their problems are peculiar to their industry.

At Federation we think that there's a lot of truth in that belief.

In fact, we have spent so much time and effort over many years working with the man on the land, that we have designed a special 'umbrella' policy called Farmpol that covers most of a Farmer's needs.

But, if you believe you have special insurance problems that are causing you a few sleepless nights, discuss them with us, we're there to help and it's all part of the service.

It is precisely because Federation has the depth of experience in the Farming and Agricultural Industry, that we can package your insurance needs like nobody else and still keep your bank manager smiling.

**FEDERATION
INSURANCE**

**THE PEOPLE WHO
UNDERSTAND
THE FARMERS
PROBLEMS**



State Head Office
342-348 Flinders Street,
Melbourne, 3000
Phone: 620 0101

Ararat (053) 52 4237
Bairnsdale (051) 52 4856
Ballarat (053) 31 1611
Bendigo (054) 43 5527
Colac (052) 31 3222
Dandenong 792 0442
Geelong (052) 21 8766
Hamilton (055) 72 5460
Horseshoe (053) 82 2246
Moe (051) 27 5460
Shepparton (058) 21 4533
Swan Hill (050) 32 2759
Traralgon (051) 74 2574
Wangaratta (057) 21 3487
Warragul (056) 23 1173
Warrnambool (055) 62 2937
Wodonga (060) 21 2922

Relax, you can bank on FEDERATION.



VICTORIAN AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

Showgrounds, Ascot Vale, 3032

— OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER —

Financially Assisted by the Commonwealth Development Bank



PRESIDENT'S REPORT



The Royal Show in September was a busy period for many of us, and I say thank you to those Group members who so willingly manned our Headquarters. I hope the reward of meeting many of your friends and other show people from around the State, was a satisfying one.

During the season we have seen some changes in our insurance covers, one of the important ones being a Public Risk scheme set up to cover livestock exhibitors. This scheme is a compulsory one and has been well received, although there have been some teething problems. Once these have been ironed out, the scheme will fill a much needed gap. In conjunction with this we also introduced a Public Risk cover for Trade Space (stall holders), and now these people also have full cover.

December 11 saw the culmination of the Farm Management Production and Improvement Competition. A Field Day was held on the property of Rob and Joan Liley, of Fish Creek in South Gippsland. Both beef and sheep are run on the property, which was formerly poor coastal land, but because of good management techniques is now equal to any, the pastures being very impressive when we saw the property in December. This was a well attended Field Day on a well run property, and was very informative to us all. Thanks to the sponsor, the Commonwealth Development Bank, for making it possible.

On December 17 we had our Commercial Beef Herd of the Year Field Day on the "Woorabinda" property at Caramut, the Estate of C. W. Kelly, managed by Joy and Bob Potter, and John Kelly. We were treated to an inside view of how this 4,000 acre property, running Angus cattle and sheep operates. Dalgety Farmers sponsorship saw this Competition take place on a State wide basis, with the Group winners competing for final honours. Well done "Woorabinda" and thanks to Dalgety Farmers.

It appears that many Shows are increasing their efforts to introduce new attractions, of these Dog Jumping is one which is gaining in popularity and is a good crowd gatherer. Maybe Societies could give thought to allocating some of the main arena for portion of the day to allow these entertainment activities to take place to the best advantage, keeping in mind that we now have such things as tractor driving, motorcycle competitions, boiling the billy, gum boot throwing, ladies woodchop etc.

The Commonwealth Development Bank, sponsor of our Farm Management Competition and Newsletter, is again sponsoring our Convention to be held on May 4, 5 and 6 at Bendigo. Since becoming President Maisie and I have attended many shows, and we are pleased to have had the opportunity to do so. We look forward to seeing you all at the Convention and wish you every success with your forthcoming Shows.

**Bob Brooks,
President**

1988 MEETING DATES

APRIL 13 —
Agricultural Machinery Field Day Committee.

MAY 4, 5 & 6 —
*Annual Convention — Bendigo.
Sponsored by THE COMMONWEALTH
DEVELOPMENT BANK OF AUSTRALIA.*

JULY 28 —
Council.

SEPTEMBER 15-25 inclusive —
Royal Melbourne Show.

NOVEMBER 24 —
Council.

MISS "SUN" COUNTRY SHOW GIRL 1987 — MISS MANDY HUMPHREY

When I was first asked to represent the Student Representative Council of the Rainbow High School in the Miss "Sun" Country Show Girl Competition at the Rainbow Show, I was a little hesitant. My first thoughts were that it was a beauty contest, which I now realise was quite the wrong attitude. Entrants were judged on a number of things they being; personality, speech, presentation and general knowledge.

I was fortunate enough to win, this brought me to the Group Final which was held in Rainbow. This was an extra bonus for me because I had the home crowd behind me and I found this was a great help. Having their support gave me more self confidence which I felt I was lacking before entering the Show Girl Competition.



Mandy Humphrey

Two girls were chosen to represent the Wimmera at the Royal Melbourne Show, Sharon Hicks, with whom I developed a close friendship, and myself.

The week in Melbourne preceding the Royal Melbourne Show, when the judging for Miss "Sun" Country Show Girl for 1987 took place, was one I will never forget. Despite the fact that it was very hectic, I met some wonderful people which made the competition all the more satisfying.

Meeting the judges wasn't as nerve-racking as I expected it to be, in fact they made me feel more relaxed, they were lovely people and I believe their job would have been very difficult, I don't envy them at all.

I will also remember the feeling when I was announced Miss "Sun" Country Show Girl, it was incredible. My chaperone, Mrs. Buckland was a

tremendous help and I know for sure I would not have got through the two weeks without her as I had the flu the whole time, and she made the two weeks so much easier for me to cope with.

Looking back on what I have achieved, many things about me have improved quite a lot. My self confidence has improved, and when I am meeting new people I find it quite easy to talk to them, I no longer feel uneasy in large crowds, all these things I think I find most rewarding from entering the Miss "Sun" Show Girl Competition.

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone again in September, I wish all the girls this year the best of luck, I'm sure they will have a very rewarding time as I did.

Mandy Humphrey

1988 CONVENTION AT BENDIGO

**Sponsored by the Commonwealth
Development Bank of Australia**

The 22nd Annual Convention of VASA will be held at Bendigo on 4, 5 and 6 May, 1988, and our major sponsor will once again be the Commonwealth Development Bank of Australia.

We will be delighted to welcome back to our Annual Convention, Andy Finnin. Andy has resumed his position as State Manager with the Commonwealth Development Bank following his return from England where he held the position of Victorian Agent General in London.

His place at the Bank was very ably filled by Brian Heuston whose company we enjoyed at both the 1986 and 1987 Conventions, and we take this opportunity to thank both Brian and his wife Joan for their assistance and friendship.

Your hosts for the Convention will be the Northern Group and the Bendigo Agricultural Show Society. The Bendigo Bowling Club will be the venue for all the functions including the Conference sessions, Dinner on Wednesday evening and the Dinner Dance on Thursday night. Other activities will include a Tram ride and an underground tour of the Deborah Mine, as well as visits to Bendigo Pottery and the Mohair Farm, with a wind up BBQ lunch at the Bendigo Show Grounds on Friday.

Closing date for Registrations is Friday, 1 April, 1988, with the Convention Secretary, Mr. Ted Spicer, P.O. Box 252, Golden Square, 3555, telephone (054) 477 035. The cost of Full Registration — Wednesday through Friday — is \$130.00 per person, other options are available. Pre Convention and extended accommodation can be arranged provided notification is given to Convention Secretary prior to 1 April.

EXPANSION TO SPONSORSHIPS FOR 1988

It is with great pleasure that we are able to advise members of expanded sponsorships for 1988.

1987 saw the introduction of the DALGETY FARMERS Beef Productivity Competition and this sponsorship will continue into 1988.

THE COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT BANK OF AUSTRALIA have increased their sponsorship for the forthcoming year in the areas of the Annual Convention and the Beef Cattle Judging Competition, while still maintaining their financial assistance with the production of this Newsletter.

ST. KILDA ROAD TRAVELODGE have joined those Companies sponsoring the Miss "Sun" Country Show Girl Competition, with their "Early Bird Plan", and KNITTERS OF AUSTRALIA have taken up the sponsorship for the

Hand Knitted Garment and the Crocheted Article competitions.

NEW ZEALAND INSURANCE have increased their contribution towards the running of the Meat and Wool Sheep Breeds Judging Competitions.

Following advice from the United Dairyfarmers of Victoria that they were unable to continue their sponsorship of the Dairy Cattle Judging Competition, this sponsorship has now been taken up by THE DROUIN CO-OPERATIVE BUTTER FACTORY CO. LTD.

VASA is most appreciative of the assistance given by all our sponsors; their role is vital to VASA, for without their ongoing support we would not be able to conduct the many and varied activities which have become such a large part of VASA.

RECOLLECTIONS OF THE BEGINNINGS OF VASA

by CHARLES GERRISH

Following an invitation from the Executive of VASA to write an article for the Newsletter on the Chamber of Agriculture and its composition and aims, a task I am poorly qualified to do, especially looking back from 23 years, these are my recollections of what took place.

The last Chamber of Agriculture Conference was held at Shepparton on April 14, 15 and 16, in 1964. The Shepparton Agricultural Society was host Society. This was the 59th Annual Conference and was held at the Victoria Hotel, Shepparton.

The Conference was chaired by the President, the late Mr. Hugh Lenne, who was also President of the Dairyfarmers' Association and Chairman of the Federal Dairy Board, together with Vice Presidents, Mr. Les Allen, Vegetable Growers' Association, and Mr. J. MacLachlan, Sale Agricultural Society. Also present were Honorary Life Members, A. Bowman, M. E. O'Brien, Professor Sir Samuel Wadham, all of the University of Melbourne.

The Executive Members were Professor H. C. Forster, Messrs. G. C. Johnson, Whorouly East; D. L. Kinsella, Cora Lyn; F. J. Leete, Stanhope; F. H. Ruler, Kyabram; D. S. Vanrenen, Logan; Tom Tehan, Avenel; L. L. Webster; W. F. A'B Weigall, Cobden; H. A. Were, Frankston and J. V. Wilson, Harcourt. Representing the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria, Messrs. K. McGarvie, Pomborneit, and H. T. C. Woodfull, Director of the RASV.

It will be of interest to readers that representatives of 67 Agricultural Societies and Groups, 12 Primary Producer Groups, 11 Breeding So-

cieties, 4 Co-op Butter Factories, Victorian Malsters Association, Victorian Young Farmers' Association, Victorian Producers' Co-op, and the Goulburn-Waranga Water Users' Association were present and comprised the Council of the Chamber. All are listed in the 1964 Chamber Year Book. Also present were many other Delegates and Guest Speakers who are not listed in the Book.

The President, in giving his Annual Report, touched on matters concerning the business of the Chamber, he also said the financial position was of great concern and that a formula had been compiled which would be brought forward later in the Agenda.

The Official Luncheon was also held at the Victoria Hotel. The late Mr. Cecil T. J. Thompson, President of the Shepparton Agricultural Society welcomed the guests and stated that it was ten years since the Conference had been held in Shepparton and that many changes had taken place in that time. He then proposed the Loyal Toast. On behalf of the Shepparton Society I proposed a Toast to the Chamber and said the Body had done much good for the State of Victoria and Shepparton was pleased to be host to the Chamber. The Vice-President of the Chamber, Mr. Les Allen, responded.

The Agricultural Societies Section of the Chamber met at the Victoria Hotel at 8.00 p.m. on 14 April, 1964. The meeting was Chaired by Mr. F. H. Ruler of Kyabram and, as the Chairman of the Agricultural Group, extended a welcome to the large gathering of Delegates and Councillors. The Minutes

tremendous help and I know for sure I would not have got through the two weeks without her as I had the flu the whole time, and she made the two weeks so much easier for me to cope with.

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Hand Knitted Garment and the Crocheted Article competitions.

NEW ZEALAND INSURANCE have increased their contribution towards the running of the Meat and Wool Sheep Breeds Judging Competitions.

Following advice from the United Dairyfarmers of Victoria that they were unable to continue their sponsorship of the Dairy Cattle Judging Competition, this sponsorship has now been taken up by THE DROUIN CO-OPERATIVE BUTTER FACTORY CO. LTD.

VASA is most appreciative of the assistance given by all our sponsors, their role is vital to VASA, for without their ongoing support we would not be able to conduct the many and varied activities which have become such a large part of VASA.

RECOLLECTIONS OF THE BEGINNINGS OF VASA

by **CHARLES GERRISH**

Following an invitation from the Executive of VASA to write an article for the Newsletter on the Chamber of Agriculture and its composition and aims, a task I am poorly qualified to do, especially looking back from 23 years, these are my recollections of what took place.

The last Chamber of Agriculture Conference was held at Shepparton on April 14, 15 and 16, in 1964. The Shepparton Agricultural Society was host Society. This was the 59th Annual Conference and was held at the Victoria Hotel, Shepparton.

The Conference was chaired by the President, the late Mr. Hugh Lenne, who was also President of the Dairyfarmers' Association and Chairman of the Federal Dairy Board, together with Vice Presidents, Mr. Les Allen, Vegetable Growers' Association, and Mr. J. MacLachlan, Sale Agricultural Society. Also present were Honorary Life Members, A. Bowman, M. E. O'Brien, Professor Sir Samuel Wadham, all of the University of Melbourne.

The Executive Members were Professor H. C. Forster; Messrs. G. C. Johnson, Whorouly East; D. L. Kinsella, Cora Lyn; F. J. Leete, Stanhope; F. H. Ruler, Kyabram; D. S. Vanrenen, Logan; Tom Tehan, Avenel; L. L. Webster, W. F. A'B Weigall, Cobden; H. A. Were, Frankston and J. V. Wilson, Harcourt. Representing the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria, Messrs. K. McGarvie, Pomborneit, and H. T. C. Woodfull, Director of the RASV.

It will be of interest to readers that representatives of 67 Agricultural Societies and Groups, 12 Primary Producer Groups, 11 Breeding So-

cieties, 4 Co-op Butter Factories, Victorian Malsters Association, Victorian Young Farmers' Association, Victorian Producers' Co-op, and the Goulburn-Waranga Water Users' Association were present and comprised the Council of the Chamber. All are listed in the 1964 Chamber Year Book. Also present were many other Delegates and Guest Speakers who are not listed in the Book.

The President, in giving his Annual Report, touched on matters concerning the business of the Chamber, he also said the financial position was of great concern and that a formula had been compiled which would be brought forward later in the Agenda.

The Official Luncheon was also held at the Victoria Hotel. The late Mr. Cecil T. J. Thompson, President of the Shepparton Agricultural Society welcomed the guests and stated that it was ten years since the Conference had been held in Shepparton and that many changes had taken place in that time. He then proposed the Loyal Toast. On behalf of the Shepparton Society I proposed a Toast to the Chamber and said the Body had done much good for the State of Victoria and Shepparton was pleased to be host to the Chamber. The Vice-President of the Chamber, Mr. Les Allen, responded.

The Agricultural Societies Section of the Chamber met at the Victoria Hotel at 8.00 p.m. on 14 April, 1964. The meeting was Chaired by Mr. F. H. Ruler of Kyabram and, as the Chairman of the Agricultural Group, extended a welcome to the large gathering of Delegates and Councillors. The Minutes

of the previous meeting, as circulated in the Year Book, were taken as read and adopted.

Mr. Ruler addressed the meeting and said it had been decided to recast the Chamber following an investigation by a Committee previously formed for this purpose comprising Messrs. F. H. Ruler, Tom Tehan of Seymour and Eric Payne of Whittlesea. A plan to have an association, independent of the Chamber and similar to an Association that existed in New South Wales, had been drawn up, and Mr. Ruler outlined to the meeting how this could be achieved. He also outlined the seven main sections and the numerous sub-sections that would come to be the framework and structure of the organisation we now call VASA. These motions were adopted after some discussion.

As a representative of the Shepparton Society I indicated that Shepparton would be pleased to be associated with the new Body as it was a former member of the Shepparton Agricultural Society, the late Mr. John McIntosh of Merrigum, who had moved for the formation of the Agricultural Section in the Chamber.

Mr. H. T. C. Woodfull, Director of the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria, said the RASV would help the new Association with the Secretarial services, at least in the initial period.

Mr. H. A. Lenne, as President of the Chamber, said the first thing to do was to form the Agricultural Society Association.

It had not been decided what affiliation fee the Association would pay, but it was clear the other Producers' Organisations would pay a more realistic figure. The Dairy Farmers' Association paid only £12/10/- which was a ridiculous amount, he said.

In the Election which followed Mr. F. H. Ruler was elected Provisional Chairman, with Messrs. Tom Tehan and Eric Payne Vice-Presidents.

The Provisional Councillors elected comprised — Messrs. J. W. Rae, G. M. Zwar, M. J. Garner, E. Smith, W. G. Pope, R. H. Webb, E. Jobling, M. S. Russell and G. H. Graham.

This was the last Conference held by the Chamber and so, like Phoenix, VASA rose from the ashes. This was rather a sad ending to a body that had served Victoria faithfully and well for fifty nine years.

There will no doubt be differing views among many people as to the demise of the Chamber, but there were three main reasons that I venture to suggest:—

1. The increasing regulations and complexities affecting the rural producers and the inevitable conflict of interest that this brought about when comprised of such diverse interests and aims by the Members.

2. The increasing financial demand made on the Executive of the Chamber to meet the needs and wishes of its constituents and the strain imposed financially on the grass roots support within the Chamber.

3. The loss of income and membership that would occur through the formation of VASA.

That VASA has been a huge success is very evident and I would now like to outline what would appear to be the main ingredients in that success.

High on the list of achievements was the calibre of our initial President in the person of Mr. F. H. Ruler, who during his three years as President, and along with his Executive, gained very generous sponsorship from Roimans in the rain insurance area, which was so very important in the early days of VASA.

The next very important aspect for VASA was the securing of a "Home" and central meeting place. For the site we have to thank the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria who provided a very convenient site at the Royal Melbourne Show Grounds, but very importantly also, the State Government of Victoria, who made a very substantial grant that enabled an appropriate building to be erected on the site.

Further to that, the Executive made long and lasting arrangements with the State Government, which makes available each year to our affiliate member Societies, very substantial grants on a two for one basis, this has enabled many Societies throughout the State to greatly improve their buildings and facilities. This has been carried on by each successive Government and I believe we can expect the arrangement to continue.

Other very beneficial aspects which have emerged are that, having a Headquarters has drawn Agricultural Societies throughout the State closer together which has brought about a better understanding of each other's problems, established firm friendships, and brought together Country Agricultural Societies and the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria in a harmonious working arrangement which is mutually of great benefit to all parties.

Also during the formative years of VASA the Department of Agriculture has been of tremendous assistance in so many ways which assist VASA, our Societies, and the State of Victoria.

While the shadow of our Past Presidents looms large in the direction and consolidation of VASA, I firmly believe our future Presidents and Executive will be no less dedicated and energetic in keeping VASA to the forefront in country Victoria.

Finally, I would like to mention those people who were active in the Chamber of Agriculture for many years and,

most of whom, still take an active interest in VASA. Heading the list is inaugural President, Mr. Frank Ruler, Past Presidents Tom Tehan, Jack Rae, Harry Graham, the late John Hamilton Smith, and Honorary Councillors R. D. Morrish, Jack McKenzie-Warren, R. H. Webb, Ted Innocent, M. Towt, R. J. Collins and myself.

I will conclude by thanking Frank Ruler and Jack McKenzie Warren for their help in recollections of twenty three years ago and hope that readers may find this account of some interest and background in the composition of the Chamber and ask their indulgence for any omissions, inaccuracies and lapses of memory that may have occurred in the writing of same, and offer my regrets to anyone I have overlooked.

1987 COMPETITIONS

RESULTS:

Victorian Farm Management Production and Improvement Competition

Sponsored by The Commonwealth Development Bank of Australia.

Section A:

First — P. E. & L. A. Taylor, Tyacks Road, Waaiia.

Second — L. H. & R. Thomas, Montgomery Road, Yarroweyah.

Section B:

First — R. W. & J. C. Lilley, "Mt. Lavinia" Fish Creek.

Second — K. & J. Forsyth, "Springwood Park", Cavendish.

Elders Commercial Wool Sheep Flock of the Year Award

First — J. D. & M. J. Phillips, "Karingal", Stawell.

Second — W. C. & G. E. Donaldson, "Hopesplains", Inverleigh.

Third — A. R. & B. Scown, "Keera Station", Cullulleraine.

Gippsland & Northern/Western Star Commercial Dairy Herd of the Year Award

First — G. J. & M. P. Brown, Lavers Hill.

Second — L. A. & S. M. Onley, Gormandale.

Third — W. & J. Weller, Longwarry.

Dalgety Farmers Commercial Beef Herd of the Year Award

First — Estate of C. W. Kelly, "Woorabinda", Caramut.

Second — M. V. Denis, "Truro", Glenmaggie.

Third — D. R. F. & R. G. Heywood, "Glen Lock", Everton.

Dalgety Farmers Beef Productivity Competition (Inaugural Year)

First — G. Sutherland, Colac.

Second — W. H. Harris & Co., Milford Road, Dumbalk.

Third — Krou Investments Pty. Ltd., Toorak. (Violet Town).

V.A.B. Sharefarmer of the Year Award

First — G. & E. Ailey, Heytesbury.
Second — R. & H. Nicholl, Marlo.
Eq. Third — G. Hibberd, Cobden.
— M. & H. Farley, Tallangatta.

Beef Cattle Judging

Sponsored by The Commonwealth Development Bank of Australia.

First — Nicol Fowler, Wantirna (CENTRAL HIGHLANDS);
Second — Adrian Clemments, Wandir North. (PORT PHILLIP).
Third — Tosh Robertson, Warragul. (CENTRAL & SOUTH GIPPSLAND).
National Winner — Joanne Bennett (SOUTH AUSTRALIA).

Dairy Cattle Judging

First — Grantly Muller, Mt. Gambier. (WESTERN).
Second — David Gass, Timboon. (SOUTH WESTERN).
Third — N. Frost, Fish Creek. (GOULBURN VALLEY).
National Winner — Andrew Houy (QUEENSLAND).

Sheep Judging Competitions

Sponsored by New Zealand Insurance.

Meat Sheep Breeds — Longwool and Shortwool

First — Phillip Whitten, Swanpool.
Second — Robert Claffey, Richmond.
Third — Paul Gray, Tongala.
National Winner — Anthony Fergusson (SOUTH AUSTRALIA).
Second — Phillip Whitten.

Wool Sheep Breeds

First — Andrew Shugg, Brunswick.
Second — Steven Harrison, Giffard West, Sale.
Third — Guy Wettenhall, "Stanbury Stud", Ceres.
National Winner — Brett Cooper (NEW SOUTH WALES).
Second — Andrew Shugg.

Honda Agricultural Motorcycle Competition

First — Russell Gillies, Tongala (GOULBURN VALLEY).
Second — Dean Garro, Swan Hill. (NORTHERN).
Third — Joseph Watt, Balmoral (WESTERN).

Honda Finalist.



Dog Jumping Competition

Sponsored by Pacific Pet Food and Australian Airlines.

Intermediate Class

First — Chris Cook, Mordialloc, "Breeze". (PORT PHILLIP).
Second — Stuart Hawkins, Wodonga. "Mac". (MURRAY VALLEY).
Third — Leanne Anthony, Barham. "Roy". (NORTHERN).



Mrs. M. Wilson, Natimuk with "Queenie".

Open Class

First — Paddy Daniels, Faraday. "Ranger". (GOULBURN VALLEY).
Second — Mrs. M. Wilson, Natimuk. "Queenie". (WIMMERA).
Eq. Third — Steve Smithett, Lang Lang. "Tex". (CENTRAL & SOUTH GIPPSLAND).
Matthew Wigney, Coralynn. "Max". (CENTRAL & SOUTH GIPPSLAND).

Crocheted Article

First — Mrs. C. Etherton, Rainbow. (WIMMERA).
Second — Mrs. B. King. (RASV — GROUP 14).
Third — Mrs. J. Binns, Alexandra. (UPPER GOULBURN).

Hand Knitted Garment

First — Mrs. D. Vernon. (RASV — GROUP 14).
Second — Mrs. I. Hill, Clunes. (MIDLANDS).
Third — Mrs. P. McAleese, Lilydale. (PORT PHILLIP).

A.D.F.A. Rich Fruit Cake

First — Mrs. G. Hill, Maryborough. (MIDLANDS).
Second — Mrs. D. Coutts, Moriac. (SOUTH WESTERN).
Third — Mrs. S. Harvey, Casterton. (WESTERN).

Miss "Sun" Country Show Girl

Sponsored by The Sun News Pictorial, Australian Airlines, Mary Kay Cosmetics, Southern Cross Hotel, Daydream Island Resort, and David Jones Hair and Beauty Salon.

First — Mandy Humphrey, Jeparit. (WIMMERA).
Second — Jeanette Dempsey, Chiltern Valley. (NORTH EASTERN/MURRAY VALLEY).
Third — Bernice Smith, Leitchville (NORTHERN).
National Winner — Colette Lange (WESTERN AUSTRALIA).

SPECIAL PEOPLE

Because CDB was created to service the special needs of primary producers it needs special people to carry out its role.

Some of these special people are stationed in rural regions to represent CDB and make its facilities more accessible.

In the Goulburn Valley and North East, Harry Nichols and Ian Jennings based at 37 High Street, Shepparton (telephone (058) 31 1333) give the benefit of a wealth of experience in the dairying, horticulture, cropping and grazing industries.

In the Sunraysia, Mallee and Western Lands region, Bruce Risby based at 72 Langtree Avenue, Mildura (telephone (050) 22 2999) is extremely well known as a member of the Management Committee of the Mildura Show Society.

Bill Renou stationed at 256 Raymond Street, Sale (telephone (051) 44 2644) is the rural oracle of Gippsland and Peter Bastian stationed at 132 Timor Street, Warrnambool (telephone (055) 62 0966) is the wizard of the Western District.

VASA Members are encouraged to refer farmers to the CDB Regional Officers as the Bank is anxious to assist all farmers dedicated to improving productivity.

