



Bright Star Cracker Night

Tickets are selling fast for this year's Cracker Night at the Hobart Showground.

Covid put the event on hold last year, but we are back in 2021 with a comprehensive Covid safety plan and for the first time, a naming rights sponsor.

Bright Star Fireworks is now a significant sponsor of an event that commenced at the Showground just five or six years ago and has enjoyed enormous popularity ever since. It's a chance for children to enjoy an old fashioned cracker night in a safe environment.

Lots of activities and entertainment will include a magician, a sword swallower, jumping castles, food outlets, a bonfire, and fireworks.

Showground gates open at 5.00pm on May 29 for an evening expected to wrap up about 8.30pm so that little ones can get home to bed.

To ensure a Covid-safe cracker night, the event is ticketed which allows tracking and tracing to occur should this be necessary.

Tickets can be purchased here:

<https://tickets.rasv.com.au/Ticket/2021crackernight>

People 13 and over will pay \$10 for entry and children 12 and under will be \$2.



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Food Show's New Ambassador

Some really exciting news from the Royal Tasmanian Fine Food Awards, now underway at the Hobart Showground. Celebrity chef Peter Kuruvita has become the Ambassador for the Awards.

Peter is a well-known face on Aussie TV. But he is also an award-winning chef and restaurateur, author, food and beverage consultant, and culinary tour guide.

He has just recently been in Tasmania and says he cannot wait to get involved in the Awards. Read all about Peter and his impressive culinary achievements at: <https://www.peterkuruvita.com/>



Want to enter the Awards this year?

Go to:

<https://www.hobartshowground.com.au/royal-tasmanian-fine-food-awards>



**ROYAL
TASMANIAN
FINE FOOD
AWARDS**



Showground Redevelopment

Just before the state election, the Premier issued a statement outlining his actions within the first 100 days of a re-elected Gutwein government. It included “work with the Royal Agricultural Society of Tasmania (RAST) to deliver early works and planning for the revitalisation of the Showgrounds”.

We are all set to go. The Society is currently working through the planning approval issues, and over the course of the year will engage in an extensive consultation process.

The \$235 million project will occur in stages over a site the equivalent to several Hobart CBD blocks. In the lead up to the state election, it received bipartisan political support.

It includes a completely new Showground for the staging of the Show, a mix of accommodation, an emergency centre for people and animals in times of natural disaster, and even a new visitor centre showcasing Tasmanian agriculture, wine and food. The event precinct for the Show will be the first priority.

Spotlight

One project powering ahead is the new Spotlight retail centre on leased Showground land. A year ago the development was at a standstill because of Covid, but work is now ahead of schedule.

The Spotlight centre will include an Anaconda store, two other retail outlets, and a café. It was expected to open to the public early next year, but we are now advised it should open before Christmas.





Covid Safe Shows in Tasmania

Sydney's Royal Easter Show attracted crowds of 60,000 per day this year, thanks to a joint and co-operative effort between show organisers and the NSW Health Department to make sure it could happen.

The Royal Hobart Show requires crowds of 15,000 visitors a day to be financially viable. However, the Tasmanian Health Department has so far restricted it to an unviable 10,000 patrons a day, with conditions attached that make mounting the Show this year questionable.

NSW Health has offered to work with other states' health departments to ensure their shows can proceed in a covid safe manner in the same way that Sydney's Show turned out to be such a success. The RAST is hoping the Tasmanian Health Department takes up the offer. This year represents 200 years of agricultural showing in Hobart.

Six Tasmanian Shows attract more than 10,000 people on at least one day and need to be able to welcome up to 15,000 patrons per day to be viable. Smaller Tasmanian shows have either cancelled or are struggling with the imposts placed upon them by government officials. Let's hope it all gets sorted quickly, because the Royal Hobart Show is now at the stage where in normal circumstances, it would currently be booking its entertainment acts.



2021 Royal Sydney Easter Show



Welcome State Support for Agricultural Shows

As we celebrated 200 years of agricultural showing in Hobart on the lawns of Parliament House last month, the State Government committed \$500,000 to extend its Agricultural Grants Fund by a further two years.

This is a very welcome initiative for all of Tasmania's agricultural shows: It will assist show societies with:

- Improving the use of technology to support participation and new activities;
 - Improved business management, planning for shows and marketing;
 - Permanent infrastructure upgrades to improve public safety, such as entrances and fencing.
- It will assist our sector in practical ways during the Covid pandemic, such as the purchase of removable crowd control fencing that can be shared by all shows, and the provision of hand sanitiser stations that can be trailed to shows all over the state.

These are resources that hard pressed local show societies can find difficult to fund individually.



Show Time Parking

The Society remains in contact with the Tasmanian Health Department over the increasingly vexed issue of parking during the Royal Hobart Show.

The Society has a 99-year lease on Crown Land over the Brooker Highway from the Showground which is used as public parking during the Show. However, the department is seeking to revoke the lease without providing the Society with any alternative for public parking.

The Elwick racecourse is also affected by this departmental decision, and the Society and the TRC have been liaising in regards to the potential impact on both the Showground, its redevelopment, and the race course.