



David Skinner OAM

It's the end of an era with Mr David Skinner OAM announcing at the April RAST Board meeting his retirement from the RAST Board and his position on the Finance and Audit Committee. But RAST is pleased that David will stay on the Show Council.

Declared a Living Legend of the Royal Hobart Show in 2018, David's first connection with the Society goes back to 1946, when he was a Hutchins student, and served as a Junior Steward.

Since those early days, David served the Society on a voluntary basis in a number of capacities, was appointed an Honorary Life Councillor in 1991 and served two terms as RAST President. In his latter term he successfully steered RAST through the period when the state government decided to remove all racing away from the Showground.

CEO Scott Gadd said "Mr Skinner's in-depth knowledge and experience of the Show, particularly the show competitions, has made him my go to person in the event of any appeals or challenges. I am very pleased that he will remain engaged with the RAST Council in light of that. His pragmatic approach, leadership and vision has been a major contributor to our quest to rejuvenate the Society, the site and the Show.

Outside the Society, David has also contributed enormously to the agricultural sector, serving on industry and government bodies. RAST thanks him for his commitment to the Society and welcomes his decision to remain on the Council.



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Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Society this month saw the terms of three directors expire, but all three were re-elected at the AGM with no new nominations for the Board.

The three re-elected directors are Mr. Peter Spotswood, Mr. Russell Cripps, and Mr. Greg Melick.

Because the audited finances for the well-attended AGM were only received hours before the actual event, the printed annual report itself was presented in draft form, however, it is now available on the RAST website. A link to the Annual Report will be emailed to all members.

The Society would urge members to read the report online. The financials show an outcome consistent with the Society's planned budgeting, although the healthy surplus achieved is somewhat inflated because it includes income from the redevelopment grant deed.

Showground Redevelopment

Meetings, discussions, and conference calls still dominate the schedule of those at RAST involved in the complex issues surrounding the redevelopment of the Showground, as we inch forwards in our deliberations with Council and government agencies.

Slower than we would prefer, progress is still being made and we are hopeful that the period ahead will see us move out of the planning stage and into a more positive construction phase to meet our desire to host the 2025 Royal Hobart Show in the new Showground facilities.





Time to enter the 2024 Royal Hobart Show

We told you last month that entries were beginning to open for the Royal Hobart Show in October (October 24-26). From next month, a lot more competitions will be open for entries.

Six sections will start taking entries from July 1. Full list is below and as Tasmania's biggest annual community event, we urge everyone to enter at least one of our many competitions.

Section	Show Date	Venue	Entries Open	Entries Close
Alpacas	5-6 October	Hobart Showgrounds	1 July	20 September
Art on Show	22-26 October	City Hall, Hobart	Open	30 September
Beef Cattle	24-26 October	The Goods Shed, Hobart	1 July	24 September
Cats	24 October	The Goods Shed, Hobart	Open	6 October
Cavies	20 October	Pontville Memorial Hall or Old Beach Community Hall	1 July	6 October
Creative Crafts	22-26 October	City Hall, Hobart	Open	6 October
Dairy Cattle	24-26 October	The Goods Shed, Hobart	August	TBC
Equestrian	24-26 October	Tasmanian Equestrian Centre, Lauderdale	August	TBC
Fleece	23-26 October Judging 23 Oct.	Regatta Grounds, Hobart	1 August	11 October
Goats	2 November	Campbell Town Showgrounds	1 August	6 October
Kennel	24-26 October	Regatta Grounds	1 July	2 September
Poultry, Pigeons & Canaries	27 July	Bob Scott Pavilion, Brighton Showgrounds	Open	9 July
Rabbits	19 October	Pontville Memorial Hall or Old Beach Community Hall	1 July	6 October
Rural Ambassador	24 October			
Stud Sheep	2 November	Campbell Town Showgrounds	1 August	30 September
Woodchopping	24-26 October	Regatta Grounds, Hobart	1 July	26 August
Youth Art & Student Photography	22-26 October	City Hall, Hobart	Open	30 September

Entries can be completed online at <https://entries.hobartshowground.com.au/Home>



Upcoming Poultry Show

Entries in the Poultry, Pigeons and Canaries section of the Royal Hobart Show have been extended to July 9 to take into account a northern Tasmanian poultry show on July 6 which is expected to generate new entries in the Hobart Show. Members of the public are welcome to visit free of charge the judging of this, the first competition in the 2024 Royal Hobart Show, on July 27 in the Bob Scott Pavilion, Brighton Showgrounds.

2024 Royal Hobart Show Commercial and Exhibition Space

That didn't take long! The RASTUS told readers last month that commercial space during the 2024 Show was now being let. This month we can advise that space has almost sold out.

There are still some commercial spaces available, but the business response to the opening of expressions of interest this year has been intense.

Some commercial packages are still open. Anyone interested in exhibiting or selling at the Show should contact Zak Douglas, General Manager – Business Development & Strategy – on 0458 450 226 or email Zak at: zak@hobartshowground.com.au

Booking space for this year's Show include retailers selling products as diverse as furniture and jewellery, food retailers, charities, artistry outlets, and sporting organisations.



2023 Royal Hobart Show Commercial Space Exhibitors