



## Royal Hobart Show 2024

Entries are now opening for one of Tasmania's premier art shows, the annual Artery Art on Show, which is one of the big events of the Royal Hobart Show season.

Art on Show will be on exhibition during this year's Show at Hobart City Hall. It's open to amateurs and professionals alike and attracts more than 150 entries each year.

The Creative Crafts schedule for the 2024 Show is now also on the RAST website. It's another big section at the Show, covering everything from culinary arts to crochet, knitting and embroidery.

There are many different competitive sections at the Show each year, so if you are thinking of entering a competition, go to the Show website at <https://www.hobartshowground.com.au/show-sections> for all relevant information.

Did you know that the Poultry, Pigeon and Canary section is also now open for entries and closes on June 30? During the redevelopment of the Hobart Showground this section will be the first section judged in 2024, at the Bob Scott Pavilion, Brighton Showground, on Saturday 27th July 2024.

### **Commercial Space**

Commercial space during the 2024 Show is now being let. Last year, Commercial space sold out quickly, indicating the strong appeal of the Show as an enduring major, annual event in Tasmania.

If you are interested in exhibiting or selling at the Show contact Zak Douglas, General Manager, Business Development & Strategy, on 0458 450 226 or email Zak at: [zak@hobartshowground.com.au](mailto:zak@hobartshowground.com.au)

### **Show entertainment**

Entertainment at the Show is always a major consideration for RAST organisers. This year, we have been in negotiation with a very big act and expect to be able to announce it in July.

## Leading Stories

- **Royal Hobart Show 2024**
- **Royal Tasmanian Fine Food Awards**
- **Annual General Meeting**
- **Showground Redevelopment**
- **Launceston Show**
- **Brian Bennett: CEO of the Launceston Show**

# THE RASTUS

MAY 2024

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA UPDATE SERVICE



## Royal Tasmanian Fine Food Awards

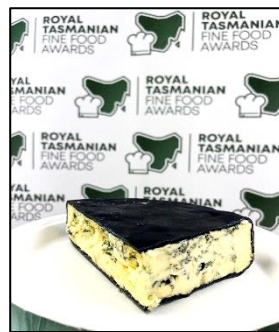
The last two to three weeks, right up until May 31, have seen intensive judging in several key sections of the 2024 Royal Tasmanian Fine Food Awards. It has been a very busy month with Champions and Reserve Champions now decided in the following sections:

- Carlton & United Breweries Cider Section
- DIAA Dairy and Ice Cream Awards
- The Old Woolstore Apartment Hotel Plant Based Products Awards
- Carlton & United Breweries - Tea + Tisanes

The latest results show that Tasmanian food makers continue to do well against the national benchmark. One example: this year saw Cider emerging as a stand-alone section of the Awards given its increasing consumer popularity. There was a big increase in entries because of this new focus, and Plenty Cider took out both Champion and Reserve Champion titles. The family owner Plenty Cider is located west of New Norfolk on Salmon Ponds Rd.

You can check out all the other Tasmanian winners at the RAST website:

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





## Annual General Meeting

By now members should have received notification separate to this edition of The RASTUS informing you of the 2024 RAST Annual General Meeting.

We encourage as many members as possible to take part, either in person on on-line via Zoom. The AGM will be held on Wednesday 19th June 2024 at 6.30pm in the Crown Lager Bar at the Elwick Racecourse. Please email [admin@hobartshowground.com.au](mailto:admin@hobartshowground.com.au) or call 03 6272 6812 to RSVP for the meeting. Log on information for zoom will then be forwarded to you.

This AGM will see the election of three Directors for the next three year period. There are three retiring directors who have all offered themselves for re election. They are Mr Peter Spotswood, Mr. Russell Cripps, and Mr. Greg Melick.

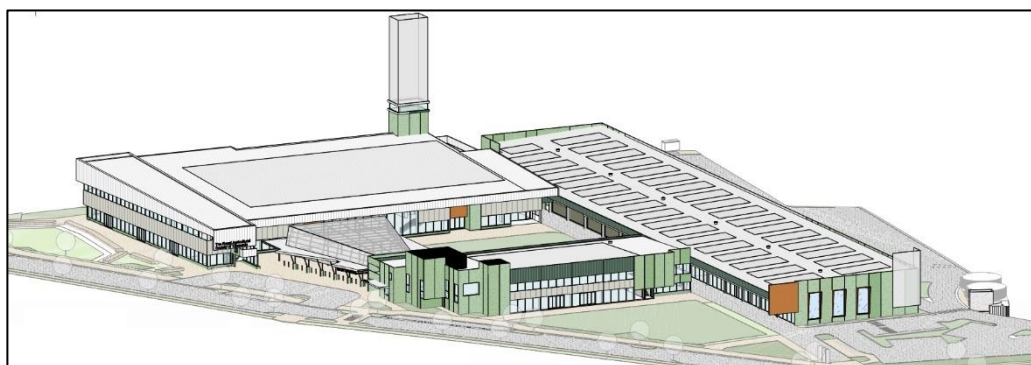
As The RASTUS goes to print no new nominations have been received for a Directorship. Nominations closed on June 5.

## Showground Redevelopment

RAST remains in close contact with Glenorchy City Council and believes approval for the Society's DA to commence construction on the new Showground is close.

Once approval is received, building approval must be sought, and then work can commence on the new Showground multipurpose pavilion and arena.

The Society remains hopeful that it can stage the 2025 Royal Hobart Show at the new Showground, but admits the complex procedural matters that precede any construction means the timelines will be very tight.







## Launceston Show

The Society was saddened to learn that the Royal Launceston Show would not proceed this year due to financial considerations. We remain hopeful it will return in the years to come.

The Show movement is a collegiate one and we all try to support one another. The Spring Show circuit in Tasmania will be affected by the hole created by the loss of the Launceston Show, which is one of the larger shows on the Annual Show circuit.

The Royal Hobart Show is a different business model because it enjoys a strong asset base. Nevertheless, RAST recognises that the Show movement needs to innovate to meet changing consumer and lifestyle interests, which is why we are building a new and ultra-modern Showground which will host many more events than the old, rundown Glenorchy Showground. We are even considering some new events of our own to complement the Royal Hobart Show and the other activities the Society undertakes.

## Brian Bennett: CEO of the Launceston Show

A stalwart of the Royal Launceston Show for many years has been its CEO, Brian Bennett. Brian resigned as CEO after 27 years at about the same time as the Show's Board decided to cancel this year's Show.

Brian had the distinction of being the longest serving CEO of any Australian Royal Show, and it all began in 1966 when he exhibited his Black Rosacomb bantams at the Wynyard Agricultural Show. From there he went on to become CEO of the National Agricultural & Pastoral Society of Tasmania in 1997, the body which hosts the Launceston Show. He has also held other important offices in the Australian show movement.

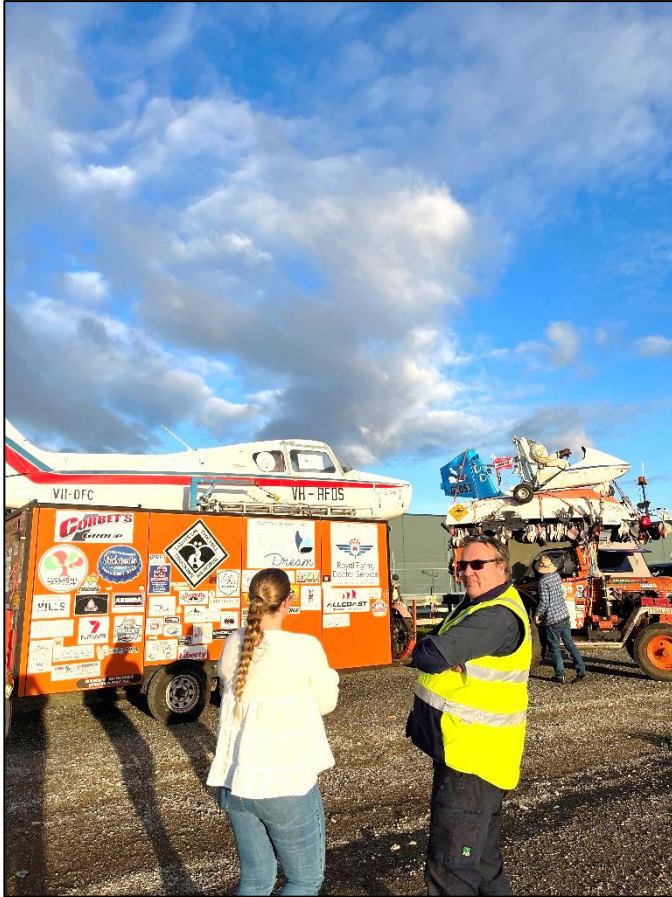
Brian has also been a long time friend and mentor for the Royal Hobart Show, and RAST now sees a role for Brian acting as an ambassador for the Royal Hobart Show across northern Tasmania, to encourage farmers to enter the various competitive sections of the Hobart Show. We shall keep readers informed as events unfold in the weeks ahead.



# THE RASTUS

MAY 2024

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA UPDATE SERVICE



RAST staff Mckinley and Michael with the Travelling Jackaroo who is currently staying onsite in the Motorhome Park. He is currently travelling the country raising money for the Royal Flying Doctor Service and other charities.