

# Royal



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

MARCH, 1985

# 1984 President's Report to Members

Ladies and gentlemen,

On behalf of Council, I am pleased to report on the activities of the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria for the year ending December 31, 1984.

# ROYAL MELBOURNE SHOW — SEPTEMBER 20 to 29.

Despite the worst weather in over 60 years, 812,305 people visited the 1984 Royal Melbourne Show over its ten

day, nine night duration

The inclement weather did not however, prevent the Show from marking a successful milestone in the history of the Society. For the first time in 126 years, the Show's format was expanded to include the formal involvement and participation of another country — a Guest Nation.

Council's choice of Japan as the Royal Melbourne Show's first Guest Nation was carefully based upon her close and vital fies with Australia in the area of trade, including primary products.

Through the Guest Nation concept, Council was also endeavouring to highlight that Australia does not exist in isolation from the rest of the world, but is an important member of the world community. In this I believe, we were successful. The Guest Nation concept and Japan's involvement in particular, was the culmination of almost three years planning, organising and negotiating on the part of Council and the Administration. This international format will not be adopted every year, but it is hoped, nevertheless, to be a regular feature in future Melbourne Rovals.

To underscore the significance the Japanese placed on their involvement, a very high ranking delegation led by tormer Prime Minister Zenko Suzuki, visited Melbourne specifically to attend the Show's Official Opening Ceremony and to open the Japanese display in the P. B. Ronald Pavilion.

# "See Japan at the Show"

Under the official theme 'See Japan at the Show', our Guest Nation's participation was highlighted by a magnificent display in the P. B. Ronald Pavilion, which effectively depicted many facets of modern life in Japan.

Show patrons also gained a perception of the more traditional aspects of Japanese life as a result of performances of traditional music and dance by world famous Japanese artists including the Hachijo-Ryumei Taiko Drummers, the Kinuko Wakayanagi Sogo Gakuin Dance Group and the Hanagasa Dance Group. Demonstrations of traditional crafts by Japan's linest craft exponents also proved particularly popular.

Younger Showgoers were entertained by Japan's internationally known popular music group, "Godiego" who performed each night of the show.

The Japanese community resident in Victoria were also prominently involved in performances of traditional music, dance and demonstrations of craft.

# Official Opening of 1984 Royal Show

The 1984 Royal Melbourne Show was officially opened on Saturday September 22, by His Excellency, Rear Admiral Sir Brian Murray, K.C.M.G., A.O., K.St.J., Governor of Victoria.

Victoria's Premier, the Honourable John Cain M.P., and Mrs. Cain were present on the dais for the Opening Ceremony as was former Japanese Prime Minister, Mr. Suzuki.

Following the Opening Ceremony, the official party viewed the Royal Melbourne Show Grand Parade before proceeding to the P. B. Ronald Pavilion for the official launch of the Japanese display.



By G. R. STARRITT, O.B.E., President of The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria.

# Royal Show Entries

A total competitive entry of 38.983 was recorded for the 1984 Royal Melbourne Show, which represents an increase over 1983 of 952.

It is particularly gratifying to report that significant entry increases were established in the following areas:

Arts and Crafts Photography Viticulture.

Horse Sections — Arabs, Palominos. Appaloosas and Spotted Ponies. Ponies. Saddle Horses, Stock Horses. Pintos, Novelty Horse Events, Jumping Competitions

Cattle Sections — Fat Cattle, Beef Shorthorns, Herefords, Poll Herefords, Angus, South Devons, Charolais, Red Polls, Guernseys.

Sheep Sections — Suffolks, Dorset Horns, Poll Dorsets

Goats: Budgerigars: Dogs, Rabbits.

# "Garryowen" and Stud Shetland Anniversaries

Two golden (50th) anniversaries were celebrated at the 1984 Show

Shortly after the tragic death of Mrs. Violet Murrell in 1934, the RASV was approached by close friends of the

### **OFFICE BEARERS 1984**

PATRON-IN-CHIEF:

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

PATRON:

His Excellency, Rear Admiral Sir Brian Murray, K.C.M.G., A.O., K.St.J.

PRESIDENT:

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

VICE-PRESIDENTS:

J. H. H. Sleigh, J. M. Burston, A. J. Fisken.

TRUSTEES:

The Hon, Sir William McDonald, Kt. P. B. Ronald, C.M.G., G. R. Starritt, O.B.E., G. P. H. Wilson, C.M.G.

LIFE COUNCILLORS:

W. A. Angliss J. M. Buchanan

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

J. M. Gardiner

G. Howell R. Hunter

J. W. Kelly D. W. R. Knox

C. O. Moore

Col. Sir Malcolm H. McArthur

Kt., O.B.E.

L. G. C. Nicholas
P. B. Ronald, C.M.G.
G. R. Starritt, 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.

J. M. Burston R. M. Butler

Sir Roderick Carnegie, Kt.

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

A. J. Fisken C. B. Gardiner

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

A. Gibson W. McL. Greaves B. R. J. Hallows

R. F. Haselgrove J. G. W. Head

C. R. Kelly

The Hon, D. E. Kent, M.L.C.

R. B. Langdon

F. B. Langlands F. J. Lithgow

Sir Cecil Looker, Kt. D. S. MacGregor, M.B.E.

The Hon. Sir William McDonald, Kt. Sir Ian M. McLennan, K.C.M.G., K.B.E.

I. K. Morton

R. Potter J. W. Rae

J. S. A. Robb

J. H. H. Sleigh I. McK. Starritt

F. R. I. Stephens

K. W. Urquhart R. G. Walker

# **EXECUTIVE STAFF:**

DIRECTOR: J. B. Parry

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: I. A. Pedersen, D.F.C.

CHIEF ACCOUNTANT; J. F. Clifford

SHOW GROUNDS MANAGER: K. J. Monkhouse



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 Council Room, Administrative Building, Plummer Avenue, Royal Show Grounds, Epsom Road, Ascot Vale on Tuesday, the 16th April, 1985 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 22nd Day of March, 1985

J. B. PARRY, Director

### LIST OF NOMINATIONS

# MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

(Eleven to be elected)

BOTT, A. C., "Naranghi", Yarrawonga 3730
FISKEN, A. J., "Lal Lal Estate", Yendon 3352
GARDINER, C. B., Box 126, Tongala 3621
GERRAND, R. B., M.B.E., "Malanda", Stradbroke, via Sale 3850
GIBSON, A., 40 Balwyn Road, Canterbury 3126
KELLY, C. R., "Barwidgee", Caramut 3274
MacGREGOR, D. S., M.B.E., "Dalmore", Baringhup 3463
McLENNAN, SIR IAN M., K.C.M.G., K.B.E., B.H.P. House, 140 William Street, Melbourne 3000
RAE, J. W., "Granite Grove", a'Beckett Road, Narre Warren North 3804
URQUHART, K. W., "Boonerah", Hexham 3273
WALKER, R. G., "Pleasant Park", Goroke 3412

(The above are Councillors retiring by rotation and eligible for re-election).

Note: The nominatons not being in excess of the vacancies, there will be no poll.

# ANNUAL REPORT

Show rider to institute a perpetual trophy in her memory, for the Best Equestrenne Turnout at the Royal

Melbourne Show.

The 'Garryowen Trophy' was first competed for at the 1934 Royal Melbourne Show and this anniversary was celebrated in 1984 by the judging of the event on Show Day, Thursday, September 27. The trophy was kindly presented by Mrs. Nancye Cain, wife of the Premier. A special afternoon party was hosted by the Society on the same day to which surviving "Garryowen" winners were invited. In addition to this all 1984 contestants were presented with specially struck commemorative medallions

I take this opportunity to again congratulate Mrs. Vicki Ward on winning the "Garryowen" in its 50th year. It is worth noting that the 1984 win is Mrs. Ward's third, her previous two successes being in 1981 and 1983 on the

same horse, "Picasso"

I wish to acknowledge the contribution made by fellow Councillor, Mr. Peter Ronald, who personally took charge of the Garryowen celebrations and whose efforts resulted in an unforgettable experience for the 1984 Winner, past winners, 1984 contestants and all members of the public who viewed the judging of the event on Show Day

1984 also marked the 50th Anniversary of the Exhibition of Stud Shetland Ponies at the Royal Melbourne Show.

All Stud Shetland classes were well supported and the breed was featured in the State Bank Grand Parade each day, as well as special "Shetland Derby events throughout the Show.

An additional feature was the involvement of top U.K. Shetland breeder and judge: Mr. Dougal Dick from Scotland, who officiated in all Stud

Led Shetland Classes

# Inaugural National Show Girl Competition

The 1984 Royal Melbourne Show nosted the inaugural Miss T.A.A., Japan Airlines Agricultural Show Girl of Australia Competition State Show Girl winners from Queensland, Western Australia, South Australia, Tasmania and Victoria contested the National title which was decided in the Main Arena on the afternoon of Show Day. Thursday September 27

The Victorian entrant and winner of the 1984 Miss Sun Country Show Girl Competition Mareeta Grundy was successful in taking out the first

National title

As the first Miss T.A.A. - Japan Airlines Agricultural Show Girl of Australia. Miss Grundy received an eighteen day Viva holiday for two in Japan, return airfares for two from Japan Airlines, a Country Girl travel wardrobe and return airfares to Sydney from T.A.A.

# Rural Education Programmes at Royal Show

1984 saw the further development of rural education programmes at the Royal Melbourne Show which have been introduced over recent years by the Society, for the specific purpose of creating a greater awareness of the "basics" among urban agricultural families.

The Commonwealth Bank Farm Learning Centre operated over the full ten days of the Show in its new location. at the western end of the Pig Pavilion,

Plummer Avenue.

It is worthy of note that all sessions set aside for formal school groups, were booked out before the commencement of the Show. It can be concluded from this, that the programme has now achieved formal recognition from the teaching profes-

An important move was made this year to use the facilities of the Farm Learning Centre for evening programmes, aimed at adults who were prospective Hobby Farmers. Lecturers from the Melbourne College of Textiles were on hand each evening from Friday September 21 to Friday September 28 to provide resumes of available courses in essential livestock husbandry, machinery maintenance and workshop practices, fencing, wool and mohair production plus a range of additional topics.

Unfortunately, due to the cold, wet weather conditions, these programmes

were poorly attended.

The Westpac Produce Pavilion established last year in Centenary Hall, again proved to be particularly

successful

The philosophy behind this pavilion quickly re-stated, was to provide an opportunity for Show patrons not only to look, but to encourage a direct involvement through touch, smell and taste of the displayed produce. Added to this, patrons also had the chance to see a number of primary processing operalions.

We were fortunate to again have the support of many producer and commodify organisations who supplied and presented displays ranging from wheat to wool, fruit and vegetables, honey, nuts, etc.

Westpac also participated directly in the Pavilion this year, with a working display of their recently introduced "Handyway" retail electronic funds transfer system

The National Australia Bank Animal Nursery proved once more to be one of the Show's most entertaining and

educational attractions.

Its comprehensive selection of domestic and wild animals, com-plemented by birds and reptiles, both Australian and introduced, succeeded in fascinating all visitors, children and adults alike.

The Woolworths Arena Farm Event, introduced this year on Sunday, September 23, was an exciting and innovative concept in the area of rural

education.

Show patrons were encouraged to enter the Main Arena and experience at close quarters, farm machinery demonstrations and simple operations common to everyday farming, both modern and historical While bad weather limited some demonstrations. the overall concept was sound and will be improved upon in 1985.

Distribution of Information Packs to schools - With the vital assistance of the Victorian Education Department and participating sponsors, the RASV was able to send a comprehensive Royal Show Resource Pack to Victorian State and private schools. The pack contained material on all major educational programmes plus those displays and demonstrations of educational value, staged by organisations and authorities other than the RASV.

A report on the Show's educational value could not be complete without acknowledging the very important contribution made by the Australian Meat and Livestock Corporation, and Australian Wool Corporation, the Australian Dairy Corporation and the major departments and authorities of the Victorian government who in their own right, mounted and presented displays and demonstrations of exceptional educational worth.

# Fire Restrictions

Due to new and increased regula tions required by the Metropolitan Fire Brigade, all exhibitors in major Stuck Sections were forced to observe additional precautions pertaining to cooking and heating within Pavilions.

On behalf of Council, I would like to express sincere gratitude to exhibitors for their strict compliance with the new

regulations.

I was also very pleased to have the opportunity to meet with so many exhibitors at a specially arranged meeting during the Show to discuss matters of common interest.

# **ANNUAL REPORT**

# COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATION

### **New Councillors**

In 1984 we welcomed three new Councillors to the Society

Mr. B. R. J. Hallows was elected in February, Sir Roderick Carnegie and Mr. R. F. Haselgrove were elected in

July and September respectively
Mr. Hallows was appointed to the
Horses and Victorian Young Farmers
Committees, Sir Roderick Carnegie to
the Sponsorship and Finance Committees, and Mr. Haselgrove to both the

We are particularly fortunate to have the benefit of the expertise of these gentlemen in their respective fields and hope that they find their association with the Society a long and satisfying

Viticulture and Catering Committees.

In recognition of his contribution to the RASV over a period of 20 years. Mr. Vernon F. Wilcox was elected a Life Councillor on July 10, 1984 I again congratulate and thank Mr. Wilcox for his very valuable and active involvement in the Society's affairs to date.

The Society's immediate Past President Mr. R. T. Balderstone resigned from Council on April 10, 1984 following his decision to reside in Queensland. To Mr. and Mrs. Balderstone we extend every best wish for a long and happy retirement and look forward to welcoming them back to many future Royal Melbourne Shows.

Staff Changes

1984 brought with it a number of important administrative changes within the administration of the RASV and of

associated breed societies

Mr. Robert MacDonald, formerly Officer in Charge of the Cattle Section, took up a new position as Department Head in charge of Sheep and Goats. He is now responsible for the administration of about fourteen Breed Societies as well as providing the secretarial support for the RASV Council's Sheep and Goal Committee

Former Victorian Young Farmer Area Advisory Officer, Mr. Don Dennis, has assumed responsibility for the administration of all Beef and Dairy Cattle Societies. For the past three years, Mr. Dennis has been Mr. MacDonald's Deputy in the Cattle Section. In his new position, Mr. Dennis is being assisted

by Mrs. Elma Murphy

Mr. Brian Sinclair has been appointed Registrar of the Victorian Agricultural Societies' Association. He retains his involvement as Secretary of the Australian Pony Stud Book Society (Victorian Branch) and the Australian Palomino Horse Association, Mrs. Patricia Riley, formerly with the RASV Public Relations Department, has been appointed to assist Mr. Sinclair

The appointment of a Sales Officer to administer the out-of-Show usage of the Showgrounds was effected with Mr. Laurie Keays taking up the position.

Miss Louise Fitzgerald joined the Society's staff as Assistant to the Public Relations Manager

# McKinsey and Company Report

In mid year, Council agreed to commission organisational and management consultants McKinsey and Company, to undertake a study of and consequently produce a report on, the function of Council in its policy making role, the current and future status of the Society's finances and the structure of the Society's administration

In December, McKinseys presented Council with a very detailed report accompanied by a number of important recommendations which will be considered and acted upon early in the new year.

In commissioning McKinseys and acting upon their recommendations, Council is determined to see the Society better equipped, from a decision making viewpoint, to meet its future aims, objectives and responsibilities

### Computer and Word Processor

Late in 1983, the Society's computer system was upgraded in order to accommodate the progressive streamlining of accounting and administrative procedures. As part of medium term planning in the area, this upgrading process has since been enhanced by the installation of electronic cash registers and word processing equipment. Naturally, this new equipment has the ability to communicate with the mainframe computer.

### 1985 Royal Show — Preparations Commenced in 1984

In keeping with Council's determination that the Royal Show should be essentially different in theme each year organisational preparation is well underway for "Victoria on Show" in 1985.

The 1985 Show will be the last major public event on the State's 150th Celebrations calendar and will very strongly reflect Victoria and its resources, highlighting aspects of our future rather than the past.

We are looking forward to the parlicipation of a large number of Victorian community groups, whose likely involvement will spread right across the entertainment board.

A most exciting feature of the 1985 Royal Show will be the International Timber Festival an event which is the first of its type in Australia if not the

world.

In November 1984, FIASV Councillor Mr. John Gardiner, in company with the Society's Sponsorship Manager Mr. Vance Hilton and Mr. Val Quanchi of the Victorian Axemen's Council, visited New Zealand, the United States of America and Cariada to discuss the Timber Festival with representatives of respective timber sports organisations.

As a direct result of their efforts prior to and during this trip, the Festival has excited the interest of the world's top limber sportsmen and women from the U.S.A. Canada, U.K., and New Zea.

land.

The prize purse of A\$60,000 has been identified as the worlds' highest for a schedule of limber sports events which include speed tree climbing, log rolling, axe throwing as well as the more traditional woodchopping contests:

# OTHER ACTIVITIES Preparations for the Royal Agricultural Society of the Commonwealth Conference

The RASV will host the Royal Agricultural Society of the Commonwealth Conference from October 14 to 17 next year. It is expected that about 200 delegates from member Societies overseas will attend.

The formal Conference sessions will be staged at Melbourne's Southern Cross Hotel on October 14, 15, 16 and 17 at which papers will be delivered by speakers of world standing in the agricultural and associated fields. A number of these important sessions will be open to members of the Society and the agricultural community generally. In the week prior to the Conference, the Society has arranged a comprehensive tour for delegates of agricultural and other primary industry enterprises throughout Northern Victoria and Southern New South Wales

Planning for the Conference has already spanned two years and has in cluded a visit to the U.K. in July 1984 by myself and the Director. On this visit we delivered an audio visual presentation highlighting a selection of Victoria's considerable agricultural and primary industry assets to a meeting of executive members of the RASC Secretariat.

# THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA **BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1984**

FIXED ASSETS Land at Council Valuation 1972		1984	1.023.000		1983	
Buildings & Improvements at Council Valuation 1972 Additions at Cost		8,450,974 3,038,131	1,023,000		8,450,974 2,879,462	1,023,000
LESS Provision for Depreciation		11,489,105 2,070,227	9,418,878		11,330,436	9,458,491
Services and Utilities at Cost LESS Provision for Depreciation		615,987 153,890	462,097		604,081 143,319	460.762
Plant and Motor Vehicle at Cost LESS Provision for Depreciation		678,665 405,777	272,888		638,148 359,113	
Furniture, Focures and Fittings at Cost LESS Provision for Depreciation		802,110			732,083	279,035
LESS Provision for Depreciation		342,344	459,766 11,636,629		292,886	439,197 11,660,485
INVESTMENTS						17,000,400
Debentures, Deposits, Bonds & Cash at Bank at Cost:  — General		391.272			112,156	
Special Purposes Insurance Fund     Trust Appoints		391,272 290,063 25,665			239,945	
- Short Call		322,083	1,029,083		25,665 198,932	576,698
CURRENT ASSETS Cash on Hand		700			700	
Prepayments & Accrued Interest Sundry Debtors		33,662			700 35,770	
LESS Provision for Doubtful Debts	538,847 38,000	500.847		467,190 38,000	429,190	
Stock on Hand at Cost	-	137,133	672,342		123,416	589,076
LESS		100000	13,338,054			12,826,259
CURRENT LIABILITIES						
Bank Overdraft — Secured Loans — Secured		415,394			163,617	
Loans — Unsecured		15,900			19,220 179,531	
Sundry Creditors & Accruals		379,531 569,834			376,918	
Provision for Long Service & Annual Leave Received in Advance		224,698			216,854	
Short Call Deposits		100,225 322,082	2,027,664		2,915 198,932	1,157,987
LONG TERM LIABILITIES		- Carlotta	1,021,004		190,932	1,157,967
Loans — Secured		394,138			403,125	
Loans — Unsecured		680,923	1,075,061		793,604	1,196,729
TRUST ACCOUNTS —			25,665			25,665
TOTAL LIABILITIES			3,128,390			2,380,381
TOTAL NET ASSETS			\$10,209,664			\$10,445,878
REPRESENTING			To and the same			
Accumulated Funds Beserves —			1,467,514			1,753,846
Asset Revaluation		7,759,190			7,759,190	
Special Purposes Insurance Fund Dog Complex Contribution		290,063			239,945	The section of
TOTAL ACCUMULATED FUNDS & RESERVES		692,897	8,742,150		692,897	8,692,032
TOTAL ACCOMPLATED FUNDS & RESERVES			\$10,209,664			\$10,445,878

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, 1984, 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 22nd day of March, 1985.

Level 31, 459 Collins Street Melbourne.

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

# THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1984

EXPENDITURE	1984 \$	1983 \$	INCOME	1984 \$	1983 \$
Wages and Payroll Costs Maintenance and Cleaning Depreciation Show Attractions Printing & Stationery Show Funning Costs Insurance Catering Trophies and Prizes Advertising and Publicity Interest Telephones & Postage Rates Electricity and Gas Judges Expenses Sundry Costs Computer Costs Audit and Legal Special Purposes Insurance Fund Provision for Doubtful Debts  (Deficit) Surplus for Year	2,993,962 521,973 332,336 232,374 204,031 135,013 137,425 135,538 169,831 147,198 170,862 83,010 104,337 122,420 47,800 133,362 125,367 25,971 25,900 (336,332)	2,728,051 474,610 357,968 191,730 118,070 152,855 157,968 146,805 127,958 176,835 63,837 81,885 100,425 39,608 71,509 86,376 16,340 25,000 20,000	Show Admissions and Car Parking Space and Ground Rentals Secretarial Service Fees Show Entry Fees Materials and Services Members' Subscriptions Show Sales and Sundry Revenue Donations and Sponsorship Catering Premiums Computer Fees Advertising	2,257,168 1,401,038 587,773 233,838 107,441 205,945 28,452 291,499 223,849 144,513 29,961	2,189,293 1,259,185 667,873 203,810 159,003 184,200 55,162 284,751 210,162 77,545 28,484
	\$5,511,477	\$5,319,468		\$5,511,477	\$5,319,468
		ACCUMULA	TED FUNDS		
Deficit for Year Balance at End of Year	336,332 1,467,514 \$1,803,846	1,753,846 \$1,753,846	Balance at Start of Year Grant for Capital Improvements Surplus for Year	\$1,753,846 50,000 \$1,803,846	1,698,644 50,000 5,202 \$1,753,846

# ANNUAL REPORT

# "Police" Concert at Showgrounds

In March, the Showgrounds was the venue for a popular music concert staged by "The Police", a group from the United Kingdom.

The concert was conducted on March 4 and attracted around 50,000 young people onto the Main Arena.

The event effectively demonstrated to many people, including promoters, the versatility of the Showgrounds and its Main Arena facility in particular, as a venue for large audience events.

This point is supported by an official Melbourne City Council report on the concert, which described the Showgrounds as the "desired venue" for events involving over 15,000 people. The suitability of the Showgrounds as a major "public events" venue will be an important factor in the Society's long range planning for future developments.

# Family Amusement Park

An important step was taken in the approval by the Council of the establishment by the Wittingslow Organisation of a family amusement park in the north-eastern section of the grounds. The income from this development will be important if the Society is to be able to maintain the upneral facilities.

Council has agreed that the development will proceed after the 1985 Show, provided the necessary planning ap-

provals are obtained.

# Commercial Farming Competitions

The Society in conjunction with the Victorian Agricultural Societies' Association, successfully conducted five annual commercial farming competitions in 1984. These being:

- The Commonwealth Development Bank Farm Management, Production and Improvement Competition
- The Dalgety Commercial Beef Herd of the Year Award.
- The G & N Western Star Commercial Dairy Herd of the Year Award.
- The Elders DSM Estates Commercial Wool Sheep Flock of the Year Award
- The V A.B. Share Dairy Farmer of the Year Award.

Each competition is designed to seek out, judge and reward commercial farmers who use their available resources, experience in their parlicular field and management techniques, to extract the best possible production from their operation.

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

There are many organisations and individuals whose combined efforts and involvement over the past twelvemenths, have contributed significantly

to the Society's progress.

Our gratitude goes to His Excellency, The Right Honourable Sir Ninian Stephen, Governor General of Australia, and His Excellency Rear Admiral Sir Brian Murray, Governor of Victoria, for their continued patronage of the Society. Both have shown an ongoing, genuine interest in the Society's affairs and the Royal Show, over the period of their respective association and for this we are particularly grateful.

I acknowledge the continued support the Society has received from the Victorian Government, through the Premier, the Honourable John Cain, M.P., the Minister of Agriculture, the Honourable Eric Kent and the Ministry

in general.

As mentioned previously in this report, the 1984 Royal Melbourne Show was historically significant in view of Japan's participation as our first Guest Nation. The concept could not have developed successfully without the substantial and valuable assistance of many people and organisations.

I want to acknowledge the vital contribution of Mr. T. Hayakawa, Japan's Consul General in Victoria and that of the Senior Consul, Mr. T. Matsumoto.

The Japan External Trade Organisation (JETRO) played a major role in the development and mounting of the P.B. Ronald Pavilion display. This project involved an extraordinary level of organisation and we are therefore indebted to JETRO's Managing Director in Australia, Mr. T. Kimura and his Deputy, Mr. N. Yoshida.

The co-operation of Mr. K. Kanno, Director of the Japan Foundation must be acknowledged in view of that organisation's involvement in sponsoring the visits and performances of Japanese artists at the Show.

Another important partner in the P-B-Ronald Pavilion display was the Japan National Tourist Organisation and to its principal Mr. M. Sofuku, goes

our gratitude.

Members of Victoria's resident Japanese community were involved in complementing many of the Show performances and demonstrations, and it is to the Royal Melbourne Show Steering Committee chaired by Mr T Koizumi, that we direct our congratulations and thanks.

Unfortunately it is impossible to acknowledge the individual contributions of the many remaining organisa-

tions suffice to say, that the Society is most appreciative of the help of each and every one

Our gratitude is extended to the following major sponsors whose financial support has enabled us to stage a bigger, better Royal Show.

Alcoa of Australia, AMP Society, Boral Cyclone Limited, The Broken Hill Proprietary Company Limited, Cadbury Schweppes Proprietary Limited, Carlton and United Breweries, Clarke Mobile Cranes, G. J. Coles & Company Limited. Commonwealth Banking Corporation. Commonwealth Development Bank, Dalgety-Farmers Limited. Diners Club Limited, Elders DSM Estates, EON FM Radio, Federation Insurance Limited, Gippsland & Northern Company Limited, Hortico (Australia) Proprietary Limited, Humes ARC, Japan Airlines, National Australia Bank, Patterson Cheney Holden, Radio 3AK, Radio 3AW, Radio 3DB, Radio 3UZ, Shell Company of Australia Limited. Southern Cross Hotel, State Bank, Sunbeam Corporation, Sun News Pictorial, Trans Australia Airlines, Uncle Bens of Australia, Viva Holidays, Westpac Banking Corporation, Woolworths (Victoria) Limited.

In the organisation of the commercial farming competitions, we are partnered by the Victorian Agricultural Societies' Association. To its President, Mr. John Drum and members of his Council go our genuine thanks for the contribution made by their Association to the success of these competitions.

As in past years, mention must be made of the part played by the hundreds of judges, stewards and other honorary officials whose involvement is integral to the organisation and successful conduct of any Royal Show We are most appreciative of their efforts.

The contribution of our Royal Show Exhibitors must also be recognised and this is probably best done by simply saying that without exhibitors there is no Royal Show

To my Vice Presidents, I express personal thanks for their ongoing support, as I do to all other members of

Council and their wives.

Finally I want to record my own sincere appreciation and the gratitude of Council as a body, to the Director and his staff, whose dedication and cooperation make our tasks and objectives so much easier to achieve.

G. R. Starritt, O.B.E. President



NEWSLETTER OF THE

# VICTORIAN AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES ASSOCIATION



All material for publication in this section of the Newsletter, should be forwarded to Mr Brian Sinclair, Registrar, V.A.S.A. Royal Show Grounds, Epsom Road, Ascot Vale, 3032 (03) 376 3733

# 1985 Convention — Lakes Entrance



**BOAT HARBOUR LAKES ENTRANCE** 

The 19th Annual Convention of VASA will be held at Lakes Entrance in the heart of Victoria's Riviera on 1, 2 and 3 May, 1985.

The Host Group, Gippsland, have planned what they anticipate will be a very enjoyable and most successful Convention both for the business and pleasure segments of your stay.

Delegates, families and friends are assured of a pleasant and enjoyable stay at this lovely part of Eastern Victoria. All accommodation will be within the Glenara Private Hotel/Motel Complex on the Esplanade at Lakes Entrance, where, it is said, you will "Sleep - Eat and Work" within the complex.

There are numerous beautiful spots to visit in and around the Lakes system. and your Hosts are endeavouring to arrange for you to see as much as possible during your visit. These arrangements include a cruise on the wonderful waterways of the Lakes system on the recently commissioned cruiser "M.V. Thunderbird", which carries almost 200 passengers (pictured). The Thunderbird was built locally at Metung by Captain Bull, boatbuilders for generations. You will enjoy the beautiful appointments of this luxury boat and the company of the owners, the Peel family.

With so much to see and do in this beautiful area of Victoria perhaps an extension to your Convention days could be the answer.

Everything possible is being done to make your stay enjoyable and entertaining at the best reasonable Registration Fee that can be offered.

# REGISTRATION COSTS

Wednesday afternoon to Friday afternoon, everything inclusive Double \$200.00

Single \$110.00

Part registration is available for those who cannot attend for the full period of the Convention and this information will be found on your Registration Form

# **EXTENSIONS**

Your Gippsland Group organizers will be happy to arrange an extension for you, simply advise with your Registration form of your requirements.

- Bed and Breakfast \$34.00. \$10.00 per extra person Single - Bed and Breakfast \$28.00

### PROGRAMME

It is anticipated that the programme will be along the following lines

Wednesday 1 May — commmencing 3.00 p.m. — Registration: Thursday 2 May — 8.45 a.m. — Registration, 9 30 a.m. - Lakes Cruise (returning 11.45 a.m.), 1.00 p.m. -Annual Meeting followed by General

Meeting, 7.00 p.m. — Dinner Dance; Friday 3 May — 9.00 a.m. — General Meeting reconvenes.



"M.V. THUNDERBIRD"

# HOST TEAM

Your Host Group for the 1985 Convention is Gippsland and their team consists of

President - Mr Keith Murray Convention Secretary - Mrs. Norrie Goodwin (051) 523 811

Convention Organizer - Mr Norman Marks, BEM (051) 924 322

Your Host Group invites you to come and help make this 19th Annual Convention an outstanding success - you will, by being there. Come along and enjoy Eastern Victoria - you'll love it.

# Sun Country Show Girl Wins National Title

Miss Mareeta Grundy, who represented the Northern Group, was the winner of the Sun Country Show Girl Competition conducted at the 1984 Royal Melbourne Show. Mareeta went on to represent Victoria in the inaugural Miss TAA-Japan Airlines Agricultural Show Girl of Australia Competition and to the delight of all was selected as the wiriner of this Competition.

As winner of the Sun Country Show Girl Competition Mareeta enjoyed two weeks at the Southern Cross Hotel in Melbourne and received as her prizes a holiday for two to beautiful Lindeman Island flying TAA, an engraved silver salver and \$1,000 cash from the Sun News Pictorial, clothing to the value of \$250 from Country Road Australia. and a facial and perfume from Mary Kay Cosmetics.

As winner of the Miss TAA-Japan Airlines Agricultural Show Girl of Australia Competition Mareeta won a return trip for two to Japan, courtesy Japan Airlines, with TAA providing support flights, an 18 day tour of Japan provided by VIVA Holidays, and a travel wardrobe to the value of \$500 from Country Road Australia.

An added bonus for Mareeta was an invitation extended by a Japanese Radio Station to represent Melbourne in the Second Midosuji Boulevard Parade held in Osaka, Melbourne's Sister City, along with girls representing Osaka's other Sister Cities of San Francisco and Sao Paulo.

The Midosuii Boulevard Parade was held in November and Mareeta's visit also included a welcome dinner, a Reception and a tour of both Osaka and Kyoto. The following is a brief report received from Mareeta on her participation in the Show Girl Competitions and the first of her two visits to Japan



Miss Mareeta Grundy — Miss Sun Country Show Girl, Miss TAA-Japan Airlines Agricultural Show Girl of Australia

# MAREETA'S REPORT

I recall being mesmerised by the splendour and grandeur of the Southern Cross Hotel. This was to be my residence for two magical weeks. Finalists representing agricultural societies from all over Victoria faced the judging panel in an endeavour to become the 1984 Miss Sun Country Show Girl I shall always hold dearly the memories of laughter, excitement and pride upon the announcement of my win. The thirteen finalists and mysell had experienced a week of spectacle, intrigue, information and education. However it had just begun for this young lady from Denillouin. An intensive itinerary was introduced to me and was to be my companion for the duration of the Royal Melbourne Show Whilst performing my various duties I was constantly surrounded by new and interesting rural phenomena and always informative and dedicated people.

Much to my delight I was also judged the winner of the Miss TAA Japan Airlines Agricultural Show Girl of Australia competition — a competition making its debut at the 1984 Royal Melbourne Show Five finalists representing Western Australia, South Australia. Tasmania. Queensland and Victoria competed for the title. I represented Victoria. As a result of this success I have travelled to Japan. Whilst in this amazing country my

father and I visited many beautiful and interesting places including Osaka, Kobe and the ancient Kvoto

The Japanese are a people of progress, efficiency and energy but also retain a certain warmth of character 1 fondly recall quaint little tea houses in twisting back streets, exciting and powerful theatrical performances, explosive with colour and the hospitality of the Japanese.

A highlight of the trip was taking part in the Boulevard festival. This was most spectacular with 87 floats, numerous bands and novelties. It coincided with a Sister City relationship between Melbourne and Osaka drawn up at that time and attended by Melbourne's Lord Mayor.

The trip was made at the special invitation of the Mainichi Broadcasting System - a major network in Japan whose hospitality and attention to detail was quite outstanding.

My deepest appreciation to all those people who have in some way contributed to my success. Domo Arigato gozaimasu.

# Competitions for 1985

# **ELDERS-DSM ESTATES** COMMERCIAL WOOL SHEEP FLOCK OF THE YEAR AWARD

Elders-DSM Estates are again sponsoring this Competition with prizes totalling approximately \$5,000, the maor prize being a seven day study tour of New Zealand for two people. Regional judging is at present under way and results of regional winners are to be notified to the Registrar of VASA by April 15, after which time arrangements will be made for State judging.

# V.A.B. SHARE DAIRY FARMER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Sponsored by the Victorian Artificial Breeders Co-operative Society Limited this Competition is open to any share farmer in Victoria, provided always that the cattle on the property are the bona fide property of the share farmer and/or share owner, according to the arrangement under which the farm is currently operating. The owner and share farmer are required to have operated together for no less than a minimum period of two full years. Son or daughter share farmers are eligible to enter provided there is written share agreement between farm owner and share farmer. Herds eligible to compete may be of any breed, stud or commercial, any cross of breeds or mixed breeds.

Entry forms will be available from the Registrar's office and it is anticipated that entries will close at Regional level on 31 May next.

# **G & N-WESTERN STAR** COMMERCIAL DAIRY HERD OF THE YEAR AWARD

In this the eleventh year of the Competition Gippsland and Northern-Western Star have very generously doubled their sponsorship. The object of this Award is to discover the most efficient commercial dairy herd in Victona. Herds eligible to compete may be of any breed, any cross of breeds or of mixed breeds, but herds containing females registered as pure breeds with any recognized Breed Society are not eligible to compete. The prize for the Supreme Champion Commercial Dairy Herd will be \$1,000, and it is expected that entries will close at Regional level at the end of August.

# DALGETY FARMERS COMMERCIAL BEEF HERD OF THE YEAR AWARD

Dalgety Farmers Limited are making available \$5,000 in prize money for this competition. The object of the Award is the improvement of beef cattle herds in Victoria with an emphasis on produclivity, performance and profitability through more efficient commerical practices and better management techniques for the production of quality beef. Emphasis is placed on the true commercial potential of a herd to produce top quality slaughter livestock

The winner of the Supreme Champion Award will receive travel or a study tour to the value of \$2,000 and a

trophy and sash.

Applications for entry forms may be lodged with the Registrar's office and the anticipated closing date for entries at Regional level is the end of August

# THE VICTORIAN FARM MANAGEMENT PRODUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT COMPETITION

This Competition was established in 1960 and at its inception was sponsored by the Commonwealth Banking Corporation, after eighteen years the Corporation decided to allow the sponsorship to rest specifically with the Commonwealth Development Bank.

The Competition is open to any person in Victoria, who, as owner, partner or lessee, personally manages a farm for the production of his/her principal income, and in some cases includes share farmers. The judges will select "that person, or persons, who in their opinion, having regard to his available resources, financial and otherwise, has over the past three years made the most worthwhile improvement in the productivity of his farm" In this context particular attention will be paid to the efficiency of production

The closing date for entries is Friday

3rd May, 1985.

# BEEF AND DAIRY CATTLE JUDGING COMPETITIONS

As part of Victoria's 150th Anniversary celebrations both the State and National finals of the Beef and Dairy Judging Competitions will be conducted during the currency of the 1985 Royal Melbourne Show and Group Secretaries will be required to advise the Registrar's office the names and addresses of their representatives in both these competitions by Monday, 12th August.

# HONDA AGRICULTURAL MOTOR CYCLE COMPETITION

The Honda Motor Cycle Competition is conducted throughout the State and is designed to test the skills of riders under conditions which they may encounter around the farm. Finalists representing the various VASA Groups will compete in the State final to be conducted in conjunction with the 1985 Royal Melbourne Show.

# COMPETITIONS FOR HAND KNITTED GARMENT AND ARTICLE OF CROCHET

Classes for these competitions are conducted at Show level, the winners then compete at Group level and ultimately at the State finals which are run in conjunction with the Royal Melbourne Show. Articles qualifying for the 1985 State finals are required to be delivered to the Royal Melbourne Show Grounds prior to 4 00 p.m. on Thursday, 12 September, 1985.

# A.D.F.A. RICH FRUIT CAKE COMPETITION

The Australian Dried Fruits Association sponsor the prize money for this statewide competition, at country Show level, Group level and for the winner of the State final.

Winners at country Shows are required to bake a second cake for competition at Group level and Group winners then bake a third cake for competition in the State final conducted in conjunction with the Royal Melbourne Show. Group finalists will be required to deliver their cakes to the Royal Melbourne Show Grounds prior to 11.00 a.m. on Sunday, 15 September, 1985.

### VASA MEETING DATES - 1985

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY FIELD DAY COMMITTEE — APRIL 17 ANNUAL CONVENTION — MAY 1, 2 and 3 (LAKES ENTRANCE) COUNCIL — JULY 25

# AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY FIELD DAYS

ELMORE — OCTOBER 8, 9 and 10 WANDIN/SILVAN — OCT 16 and 17 WIMMERA — MARCH 4, 5 and 6 (1986)

# Spotlight on a Special Show Family



"OUR SHOW FAMILY" - L.-R. Gary, Don and Jack Williams.

## THE WILLIAMS OF LEONGATHA

The involvement of the Williams family with the Leongatha Show Society spans four generations commencing with George Williams who settled in Leongatha in 1900 on land which the Williams family still live on and farm.

George was involved in the foundation of the Leongatha Show Society which held its first Show in 1903, and held the office of President in 1919 and 1920, he was a keen exhibitor of horses and pigs and was a recognized judge of Clydesdales.

Jack Williams followed his father into the Show world, his earliest memories in an official capacity go back to 1916 when he acted as an assistant Steward. He carried on showing horses and pigs and also became a recognized judge of Clydesdales. He recalls the early days when up to 100 Clydesdales would be entered for a Show and 200 bullocks.

Jack was President of the Society in 1941 and 1942 and again in 1963, which was Leongatha Show Society's Jubilee Year. He has been a Life Member of the Society for 30 years.

Jack's wife developed a keen interest in the Show and exhibited vegetables, she also stewarded in the Pavilion classes and was made a Life Member of the Society in 1970.

Jack's son Don became a member of the Leongatha Committee during the 1960's and was President of the Society in 1970 and 1971, and again in 1979 and 1980

Don, who has been a Life Member of the Society for ten years, was President of the Central and South Gippsland Group from 1979 to 1981 and was Host President for the VASA Convention held at Phillip Island.

While Don exhibits his vegetables, acts as a steward and helps out generally around the Show wherever he can, his wife exhibits in the cookery section and stewards in the Pavilion classes. Don's sixteen year old son Gary, a student at Leongatha Technical School, has recently joined the ranks by becoming a steward in the cattle section, while Gary's cousin, lifteen year old Kerry, assists with stewarding in the Pavilion and exhibits in the cookery and needlework sections of the Show

The Williams family are always on call whenever they are needed to help out at working bees or with any problems which may arise on Show day they are part of the "Show" tradition.

Our "Spotlight" will fall next on two families. The Ritchie and Goldie families are members of the Port Fairy Society in the South West of the State.

Let us tell our readers about your Special Show Family

# Victoria's 150th Celebrations

Competitions in Art and Photography are now underway through our country. Show Societies as part of VASA's participation in the celebrations for Victoria's Sesqui Centenary.

The Commonwealth Bank of Australia is supporting these competitions by providing special 150th Anniversary Medallions for the winners in the various sections at Group level and for the State final winners.

The finals of both these competitions will be held in conjunction with the 1985 Royal Melbourne Show

Photographs entered for final judging will be on display in the Photography Pavilion, while the entries in the finals of the three sections in the Art Competition will be displayed in the Arts and Crafts complex.

All winning articles at Group level for the Art and Photography Sections must be delivered to VASA Headquarters Building, by 4.30 p.m. on Thursday 25 July 1985.

# Adverse Weather Fund

Rothmans of Pall Mall (Australia) Limited who have, through their generous sponsorship, made possible the VASA Rain Protection Fund since its inception in 1967, have agreed to the cover being extended to take in DAYS OF TOTAL FIRE BAN.

The name of the fund has been changed to Adverse Weather and will work on the same principle as previously. A participating Society whose gatetakings have been affected by rain or the proclamation of a Total Fire Ban Day, can make a claim for compensation to the extent of the difference between the actual gatetakings and the amount of the average gate-takings over the preceding three Shows. The extent of the cover will be for the whole period of the Show and shall include any postponed or extended dates. Claims are required to be lodged within seven days of the date/s on which the Show is held.

Member societies wishing to take pan in the scheme should apply to the Registrar's office for further informa-

# Cooking and Preserves Workshop

Following the very successful Craft Judging Workshop held in April last year the Ladies Committee of VASA is arranging for a Cooking and Preserves Workshop to be conducted on Thursday 18 April next

The planned Workshop is for people interested in either exhibiting, judging or stewarding in these classes and speakers are being invited to talk on preserves, jams and jellies and cookery in general.

A registration fee of \$2.00 will be charged and lunch is B.Y.O. with tea. and coffee provided

For further information on the Workshop contact either Mrs. Judy McRobert, Heathcote (054) 336 214 or Mrs Joy Johnson, Leongatha (056) 622 804

# 1984 Competitions - Results

# ELDERS-GM WOOL SHEEP FLOCK OF THE YEAR AWARD

First - J L Morgan and Co., Donald. Field Day held on the property Friday, 27 July, 1984.

Second -- G H and M Toland. Omeo.

Willera Pastoral Company. Third -Serpentine.

# GIPPSLAND AND NORTHERN-WESTERN STAR COMMERCIAL DAIRY HERD OF THE YEAR AWARD

First — Greenaway Bros., Jack River. (Gippsland).

Field Day held on property Wednesday, 20 March, 1985.

Second - Laurie and Raynor Thomas. Yarroweyeh (Goulburn Valley).

Third - Huon and Jeanette Beauglehole, Gorae West (Western),

# DALGETY FARMERS' COMMERCIAL BEEF HERD OF THE YEAR AWARD

First - Landy Partnership, Bell Point, Tarwin Lower.

Field Day held on property Friday, 14 December, 1984.

Second - Langi Kal Kal Training Centre, Beaufort

Third - Booroola Partnership, Avenel.

# VICTORIAN FARM MANAGEMENT PRODUCTION AND IMPROVEMENT COMPETITION

Section A - Total capital investment less than \$500,000

First — R. S. and G. E. Baker, "Glenar-ron", Katunga,

Field Day to be held on property Thurs-

day, 18 April, 1985 Second — P. E. and L. A. Taylor, Tyacks Road, Waaia.

Section B - Total capital investment more than \$500,000.

- J. P. Tallis, "Boorinda" Dookie

Field Day to be held on property Wednesday, 28 August, 1985.

Second - A. G. and J. J. Gale. "Wainui", Timboon.

# V.A.B. SHARE DAIRY FARMER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Peter and Rosemary First Mathieson, Whorouly, (Owners Roy and Elizabeth Walpole).

Field Day held on property Tuesday, 5 March, 1985.

Equal Second - Stephen and Lorraine McPhee, Gillieston, via Tatura. (Owners - Anderson Bros., Kyabram); Bruce and Rex McGowan. Timboon. (Owners - Roy and Dorothy Parpett, Timboon).

Third - Ron and Elaine Cook, Tinamba. (Owners - Alan and Christine Clyne)

# SUN COUNTRY SHOW GIRL COMPETITION

First - Mareeta Grundy, 314 Henry Street, Deniliquin (Northern). Second -Raelene Alexander, Ber-

rybank (South Western).

Third — Carolyn Roberts, Woomelang Road, Hopetoun (Wimmera).

# NATIONAL SHOW GIRL COMPETITION

First — Mareeta Grundy, representing Victoria

# BEEF CATTLE JUDGING COMPETITION

State Final -

First - Tom White, Allansford (South Western).

Colin Rex. Penola, S.A. Second -(Western District).

Third - Ken Aldous, Mansfield (Upper Goulburn).

### National Final -

First - W. Stacy, Singleton, N.S.W. Second — S. Branson, Hamley Bridge.

Third - R. Cowan, Hagley, Tas.

# DAIRY CATTLE JUDGING COMPETITION

State Final -

First - Steve Darning, Berwick (Port Phillip)

Second - Leeanne Campi, Leitchville (Northern).

Third - Mark Shelley, Bacchus Marsh (Central Highlands)

# National Final -

First - Colin Daley, Millaa Millaa, Q'ld. Second - Steve Dorning, Berwick, Vic.

Third — Phillip Cheffirs, Spalding, S.A.

# HONDA AGRICULTURAL MOTOR CYCLE COMPETITION

Graeme Amery, Tongala (Goulburn Valley).

Second Brett Hunter, Wakool (Northern)

Third - John Beaumont, Jack River (Gippsland).

# VASA HAND KNITTED GARMENT

State final -

First - Mrs. T. M. Hill, Reservoir (South Western).

Second Mrs. Mildren, Myrtleford (North Eastern)

Third - Mrs. E. Ritchie, Heathcote (Central Highlands).

# VASA CROCHETED ARTICLE

First — Mrs. Mildren, Myrtleford (North Eastern).

Second - Mrs. C. E. Etherton, Rainbow (Wimmera)

Third - Mrs. J. M. Hardwick Kingsbury (Port Phillip)

# THE AUSTRALIAN DRIED FRUITS ASSOCIATION RICH FRUIT CAKE COMPETITION

State final

First - Mr. J. Fitzpatrick, Broadford (Central Highlands).

Second Mrs. C. Pethybridge. Myrtleford (North Eastern).

Third - Mrs. D. Russell, Mirboo North (Central and South Gippsland)