



The Royal



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

MARCH/APRIL 1987

1986 ANNUAL REPORT

*Ladies and Gentlemen,
I have pleasure in reporting on the activities of the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria for the period ending December 31 1986.*

THE 1986 ROYAL MELBOURNE SHOW "Italy On Show At The Show"

The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria successfully staged its second international theme show from September 18 to 27 inclusive, with Italy participating as Guest Nation.

807,770 people visited the Show over its 10 day, nine night duration which was a satisfactory result in view of the very fickle weather conditions.

The Italian government and major Italian companies mounted a spectacular display in the Ronald Pavilion titled "Italy Today", which highlighted Italy's contribution to fine design and technology, in the office equipment, furniture and automotive fields.

The display was officially opened by the Premier of Victoria, the Honourable John Cain on Saturday, September 20.

Victoria's Italian community made a significant contribution to the success of the Show by presenting an outstanding programme of traditional and contemporary music, song and dance.

"Showfest", another highlight of Italy's involvement, took place on the main arena on Sunday, September 21 and included a comprehensive entertainment programme and a cavalcade of classic Italian cars.

At this juncture, I must mention the significant contribution to the promotion of the Show made by Miss Isolina Cursio, the 1986 "Miss Victoria Charity Queen" and reigning "Miss Italian Community".

In addition to making an appearance at the Royal Show media launch, Isolina featured in the RASV's television and press commercials, and also officially opened the "Showfest" activities.

Her involvement was made possible through the kind co-operation of the Spastic Society of Victoria, organisers of the annual Miss Victoria Quest.

The Show theme was supported by the Australian Wool Corporation, the Australian Dairy Corporation and the Australian Meat & Livestock Corporation all of whom incorporated an Italian "flavour" into their respective displays, demonstrations and presentations.

Official Opening of the 1986 Royal Show

The 1986 Show was officially opened on Saturday September 20 by His Excellency, the Right Honourable Sir Ninian Stephen, A.K., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., K.B.E., Governor General of the Commonwealth of Australia, the RASV's Patron-in-Chief.

Personnel from H.M.A.S. Cerberus, Royal Australian Navy provided the Guard, supported by the Victorian R.A.N. Band.



Mr. John H. H. Sleigh, President, Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria.

Other Show Highlights

The Show's comprehensive free entertainment programme proved popular with patrons and included the Victorian Emergency Services' "Operation Spectacular" which was presented by Radio 3AW and featured the skills of the Victoria Police, Metropolitan Fire Brigade, Country Fire Authority and Victorian Ambulance Service.



His Excellency, The Rt. Hon. Sir Ninian Stephen, A.K., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., K.B.E., officially opened the 1986 Royal Melbourne Show.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

OFFICE BEARERS 1986

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.

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, 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, 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.

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.

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: J. B. Parry,

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

ADMINISTRATION MANAGER: D. J. Reid

FINANCE MANAGER: J. F. Clifford

GROUNDS MANAGER: K. J. Monkhouse

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 7, 1987 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 6th day of March, 1987

I. A. PEDERSEN, D.F.C.,
Executive Director
(Acting)

LIST OF NOMINATIONS

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

(Eleven to be elected)

- *E. W. BEST, C.M.G., P.O.Box 55, Coldstream 3770
- *J. M. BURSTON, "East Mount Ada", Benalla 3672
- *R. M. BUTLER, "Meadow Banks", Newstead 3462
- *Sir RODERICK CARNEGIE, Kt., 55 Collins Street, Melbourne 3000
- *W. D. CROWLEY, Q.P.M., Railway Road, Wesburn 3799
- *J. G. W. HEAD, "Grenada Park", Mangalore West 3663
- *R. B. LANGDON, 351 King Street, Melbourne 3000
- M. T. MARRIOTT, Tatong Estate, Benalla 3672
- *I. K. MORTON, A.M., 53 St. Kinnord Street, Essendon 3040
- *J. S. A. ROBB, 7 Philip Avenue, Ballarat 3350
- *J. H. H. SLEIGH, "Bayunga", P.O.Box 36, Nagambie 3608
- *F. R. I. STEPHENS, "Vermont", R.M.B. 1154, Benalla 3672

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)*



Miss Isolina Cursio, 1986 Miss Victoria Charity Queen.

"Operation Spectacular" was staged on the main arena over five nights, before packed grandstands.

The ANZ-Hortico Garden Display in its new permanent location in Plummer Avenue, also had wide appeal as did the Boral-3UZ Country Music Festival in the Arnotts Biscuits Theatre, AMP Lawn. This festival featured the talents of Slim Dusty, supported by many top Victorian country music and bush bands.

The new "Super K mart" Children's Theatre, created within the remodelled Dugdale Sale Ring, presented an appealing free entertainment programme comprising pantomime, pop fashion shows and appearances by "super heroes".

The Woodchop Lawn was also a venue for diverse free entertainment including World Championship Woodchopping in the Boral Stadium, the "Big M" Ramp Thrash and the "Life Be in it" games, presented by 3KZ and Medibank.

There was a strong educational component in this programme with demonstrations of old bush and home crafts by the Taggerly Pioneer Education Centre, demonstrations by craftsmen and craftswomen from Coal Creek Historical Village, and a special "Working with Wood" programme devised by the Chisholm Institute of Technology and presented by the Bowens Timber Group.

This reinforced the Show's existing comprehensive education programme which included the Commonwealth Bank Farm Learning Centre, the Australian Meat & Livestock Corporation's "Kitchen Capers for Kids", the Westpac Produce Display, the National Australia Bank Animal Nursery, displays in the Victorian Government Expo Centre and the 3MP-Milo Sunday Farm Day.

Split Cattle Show & Stock Change-Over

To satisfy the desire of the majority of cattle exhibitors for a shorter stay at

the Show, a split judging timetable was introduced in 1986.

Dairy cattle were judged on Thursday September 18 and left the grounds the following Sunday while beef cattle arrived on Saturday and Sunday September 20 and 21, with the main judging day being Wednesday September 24.

The stock change-over was effected smoothly and efficiently, thanks to the complete co-operation of exhibitors and the contribution of councillors and staff members who were directly involved in its planning and implementation.

Royal Show Entries

All time records were established this year in the horses (8,000), arts and crafts (6,450) and wines (2,688). The poultry section equalled its 1985 best ever record of 2,794.

Beef and dairy cattle entries increased overall, reflecting support for the RASV's move to shorten the Show for exhibitors. Some individual cattle breed entry records were also broken.

Drug Testing Levy

On the Horse Committee's recommendation, Council approved the introduction this year of a \$10 horse drug testing levy to cover the cost of an intensified, more comprehensive testing campaign.

The RASV is concerned at the alleged level of drug use by some

exhibitors, to modify the behaviour and/or performance of their animals in the show ring.

The levy's introduction met with the support of the majority of horse exhibitors who share the Society's view on the use of illegal substances in the show ring.

Swanston Street Cattle Drive — a successful lead up to Show

The RASV's 10th annual Royal Show City Parade was staged on Sunday September 15 and featured the driving of 50 Hereford cows and calves down Swanston Street by members of the Mountain Cattle-men's Association.

The cattlemen's involvement had the desired effect of attracting the attention of the metropolitan media and thus created additional public awareness of the Show's impending commencement.

Our sincere gratitude is extended to all parade participants for their support of this important promotional event and we must also acknowledge the willing assistance provided by the Melbourne City Council, Metropolitan Transit Authority and the Victoria Police.

The contribution of the City Parade Sub-Committee and that of Mr. Ian Pedersen and Mrs. Joan Ryan in handling the administration, must also receive special mention.

COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATION

Elected Life Councillors

Mr. R. B. Gerrand M.B.E., "Malanda", Stradbroke, via Sale and Mr. D. S. MacGregor, "Dalmore", Baringhup, were made Life Councillors during the year, in recognition of their dedicated service to the RASV over a period each of 20 years. Both gentlemen were elected to Council in February 1966.

Mr. Gerrand currently serves as chairman of the Dairy Cattle Committee, and is also a member of the Farm Management & Inventions, Pigs and Catering Committees.

Outside the RASV, Mr. Gerrand's involvement with rural industry organisations has been extensive and includes associations with the Victorian Farmers' Federation, the Aus-



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



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



The Metropolitan Fire Brigade in action during Operation Spectacular.

tralian Meat Board (now the A.M.L.C.), Australian Primary Producers Union, Australian Farmers' Federation and the Sale Agricultural Society.

He received the M.B.E. in 1979 for his Service to Primary Industry.

Mr. MacGregor is a member of the Beef Cattle, Dogs, Farm Management & Inventions, Sheep & Goats (Chairman), and Woodchop Committees.

He received the M.B.E. in 1977 for Services to Agriculture and the Community and like Mr. Gerrand, has had a long involvement with other rural organisations. These include the Victorian Prime Lamb Committee, of which he was the inaugural President, the Australian Society of Breeders of British Sheep (ASBBS), the Australian Sheep Breeders' Association and the Beef Shorthorn Association.

Mr. MacGregor has also served for many years as a councillor of Maldon Shire and is a past president of the Maldon Agricultural Society.

New Vice Presidents

Following the annual meeting in

April, two new Vice Presidents were elected.

They are Mr. Adrian Gibson of "Greystones", Rowsley and Mr. W. R. R. (Robert) Beggs of "Buln Gherin", Beaufort.

Mr. Gibson became a Councillor in 1973 and currently serves on the Management, Showgrounds Re-development (Chairman), Wine (Chairman) and Beef Cattle Committees. He was previously a Vice President from 1975 to 1981.

Mr. Beggs joined Council in 1977. He is a member of the Management, Public Relations (Chairman), Arts & Crafts (Chairman), Showgrounds Re-development and Sheep Committees.

Re-elected a Vice President for a fifth consecutive term was Mr J. M. (Michael) Burston, "East Mount Ada", Benalla. He has been a Councillor since 1973 and has served on the Beef Cattle, Sheep and Farm Management & Inventions Committees.

He is of course a member of the Management Committee.

New Councillors

Well known sheep breeder and judge, Mr. Ian I. Bucknall, "Yaralla", Maryborough and Mr. Ken J. McIver, partner and manager of the Ballarat manufacturing company, S. J. McIver, were elected to Council in July, to fill the vacancies created by the elevation of Mr. Gerrand and Mr. MacGregor to Life Councillors.

Both gentlemen attended their first Council meeting in August.

Mr. Bucknall's considerable expertise and experience within the stud livestock industry will be put to full effect with his appointment to the Sheep and Beef Cattle Committees while Mr. McIver will serve on the Horse Committee as a result of his high standing within the Equestrian Federation of Australia and like organisations.

Mr. McIver is also a member of the Commercial Exhibits Committee.

Resignation of Mr. J. B. Parry

Mr. Brian Parry, the RASV's Director since 1980 tendered his resignation in December in order to take up the position of President of The Metropolitan Fire Brigade.

Mr. Parry succeeded Mr. Harley Clappison as Director in November 1980, and experienced his first Royal Melbourne Show in September 1981.

During his six year term, Mr. Parry worked closely with Council to significantly increase the level of free family entertainment at the Show in addition to introducing agricultural based education programmes aimed primarily at the urban dweller, particularly school children.

Mr. Parry was successful in significantly reducing the number of rides, games and novelty stands on the Showgrounds and achieved a higher overall standard of amusements.

He has also been responsible for initiating the theme concept for each Royal Show, around which the Show's basic components of entertainment, education and agriculture are structured.



Mr. J. M. Burston



Mr. A. Gibson



Mr. W. R. R. Beggs



Mr. Brian Parry

In 1984 under Mr. Parry's directorship, the RASV staged its first "international" Show featuring Japan as Guest Nation. So successful was "See Japan at the Show" that the Society invited Italy to participate in a similar way this year. This concept is to be a regular feature of the Royal Show every two or three years.

Greater use of the Showgrounds and its facilities outside the Show period has also been one of Mr. Parry's priorities.

He has succeeded in creating a greater awareness of the Showgrounds as a multi-purpose facility which has resulted in them being used for a number of diverse public activities, ranging from open air popular music concerts to national stud livestock shows.

Mr. Parry has seen this policy direction extended with the establishment of the Council's Showgrounds Re-development Sub Committee, whose responsibility it has been to determine likely alternatives for the long-time use of the Showgrounds.

On behalf of Council and RASV members, I sincerely wish Mr. Parry every success in his new position, and thank him for his considerable contribution over the past six years.

Special thanks must also be extended to Mrs. Parry for the assistance and valuable support she has given to successive Presidents' wives and the wives of Councillors prior to and during past Royal Shows.

Retirement of

Mr. I. A. Pedersen

Mr. Ian Pedersen, the RASV's Assistant Director and one of the Society's longest serving officers, announced his decision to retire this year.

Annual and long service leave entitlements saw Mr. Pedersen leave the RASV in November and will carry him through until his official retirement date of July 1987.

Following Second World War service with the RAAF, during which he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross (DFC), Mr. Pedersen resumed farming his family's property at Pearceedale in East Gippsland. In 1957, he assumed the position of Personnel Officer (and later Company Employment Officer) with the Australian Newsprint Mills in Boyer, Tasmania.

Two years later, Mr. Pedersen returned to Victoria to take up duties as the North West Area Advisory Officer for the Victorian Young Farmers movement and in doing so, commenced his employment with the RASV.

In 1962 Mr. Pedersen took 12 months leave from the VYF to lead an expedition to Macquarie Island in the Antarctic for the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs. He maintains an interest in Antarctic exploration.

He was an Australian Government delegate to the Food and Agricultural Organisation's Young World Food Development Project in Bangkok, Thailand in 1966, and for three months in 1971 and 1972, he was seconded by the Department of Foreign Affairs to act as Manager and Director of Studies for the Department's International Training Section.

Upon the retirement of the late Mr. H. J. Keys in 1973 as the VYF's Deputy State Secretary, Mr. Pedersen was promoted to administer the movement from the RASV's headquarters in Ascot Vale. Twelve months later his title was changed to Chief Advisory Officer.



Mr. Ian Pedersen

In 1978, Mr. Pedersen was appointed Assistant Director of the RASV. While retaining overall responsibility for the VYF, he took over the administration of the Australian Council for Rural Youth, the Australian Nuffield Farming Scholars' Association, the RASV Wine Committee (including the organisation of the annual Royal Melbourne Wine Show), RASV catering committee and up until the appointment of an Administration Manager, was

responsible for overseeing the general operation of breed societies (including staffing), for whom the RASV acted as secretariat.

At the last Council meeting before his departure, Mr. Pedersen was made an Honorary Life Member of the RASV in recognition of his commitment and loyalty over the past 27 years.

Staff Appointments

Several staff appointments and changes took place in 1986 within the RASV's general administration and breed society areas. These included:

Cattle Section

— Mr. Andrew Gray, appointed Section Head.

— Miss Leonora Curnick, appointed Breed Society Administrator.

Computer Department

— Miss Jill Hargreaves, promoted to position of Programme Analyst.

Director's Office

— Mrs. Brenda Lee, appointed to the position of Director's Secretary.

Horse Section

— Mr. Robert Weir, appointed Breed Society Administrator.

— Ms. Jean Bedwell, appointed part time Breed Society Administrator.

Marketing Department

— Mrs. Helen Rowe, appointed Events Co-ordinator.

— Mrs. Vera Dunque, promoted to position of Sponsorship Officer.

Rural Activities Section

— Mr. Brian Sinclair, promoted to Section Head.

Sheep Section

— Mrs. Colleen Kavanagh, promoted to Section Head.

— Mrs. Marie Fromholtz, appointed Breed Society Administrator.

Public Relations Manager visits major USA Fairs

The RASV's Public Relations Manager Mr. Tim Morgan, visited Canada and the USA in October to get an understanding of the fair and exhibition industry in those countries.

During the four week trip, Mr. Morgan visited Expo '86 in Vancouver Canada, the facilities of the Pacific and National Exhibition in Vancouver and two of the USA's largest fairs — the State Fair of Texas in Dallas and the Arizona State Fair in Phoenix.

Mr. Morgan also inspected facilities at the Anaheim Convention Centre and Disneyland in California, and on his return to Australia saw some of the developing agricultural research facilities in Fiji.

While there are several things we can learn from the major fairs in Canada and the USA, it was satisfying to note that in his initial report, the Royal Melbourne Show, in Mr. Morgan's opinion, is undoubtedly an event of world standing.

Mr. Morgan's first written report and the suggestions and recommendations contained in it, are currently being studied by the RASV's senior management.

"Farm World" Feasibility Study

Following the guidelines set down by Council, and in particular the RASV's Re-development Sub Committee, a study was commissioned this year to determine the feasibility or otherwise of re-developing the front 25 acres of the Showgrounds complex. The study embraces the idea of establishing a theme park with a heavy emphasis on agriculture.

The "Farm World" concept has a strong bias toward attracting local, interstate and overseas tourism, while incorporating a broad educational component.

Such a re-development would be in keeping with the RASV's aims and objectives, as well as ensuring an additional, constant source of income throughout the year.

It is expected that the results of the feasibility study will be considered by Council in early 1987.

Fire Prevention Report

Two meetings were convened during the Show to inform cattle and horse exhibitors of the latest developments in relation to the fire prevention report, and in particular, the associated problem of exhibitor accommodation within animal pavilions. This issue generated a great deal of strong feeling among exhibitors which was evident over the period of the Show.

I am happy to report that the RASV has been able to provide a solution to the exhibitor accommodation problem which meets both the requirements of the fire brigade and is considered a satisfactory compromise by exhibitors.

During the latter part of the Show and following the RASV's representations, the State Government announced that it would assist with the installation of a new water ring main through the Showgrounds. This work will commence in calendar year 1987, and hopefully completed before the 1988 Royal Show.

Racecourse-Showgrounds Pedestrian Link

During the year, negotiations have been initiated with the Victoria Racing Club (VRC) in order to gain agreement in principle for the construction of a new, larger underground traffic way linking both the Showgrounds and Racecourse complexes.

Should the project proceed, the new link will replace the existing underpass where patrons enter the Showgrounds through the Lennon Avenue turnstiles, from the Racecourse car park.

The new link would be designed to cope with a higher volume of pedestrian traffic and also allow the

passage of service vehicles from one complex to the other.

The concept of a larger link presents distinct advantages for both the RASV and VRC and we are hopeful that positive discussions will continue next year.

Planning for 1987 Royal Show

Detailed planning for the 1987 Royal Melbourne Show (September 17-26 inclusive) commenced in July with the approval by Council of "Show Me Tomorrow" as the theme.

Technological advances in the agricultural, commercial, industrial and domestic fields in the 21st century, will support the Show theme.

An invitation was extended earlier this year to the Commonwealth Scientific & Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) to be involved. I am pleased to report that this invitation has been accepted and the CSIRO have commenced their planning for a major display in the Ronald Pavilion.

Another priority in the Society's planning for 1987 is the relocation of the Farm Learning Centre in order to improve overall presentation and public access.

There will be a special representation from the Fiji Visitors Bureau and our island state Tasmania will take over the old cage birds pavilion in Plummer Avenue to mount a major promotional display.

1987 will also be an important year in that the new school term holidays will coincide with the Show, and we are now planning the best possible ways to capitalise on this.

RASV joins Animal Welfare Federation of Australia

In July this year, the RASV was invited to attend a meeting of rural and associated organisations to discuss the formation of a federation whose function would be to counter the excesses of the animal rights movement.

A subsequent meeting was conducted in early December to consider a draft constitution for the body, which is to be titled the Animal Welfare Federation of Australia Incorporated.

The guiding principle set down for the new federation is as follows:

"The members of the Federation acknowledge that the welfare of human society is dependent on animals for food, clothing, health, education, recreation and companionship, and that animal related activities are legitimate provided a high standard of animal welfare is sustained."

The prime objective of the Federation shall be:

"To promote high standards of animal welfare in accordance with clearly defined Codes of Practice, and to raise the awareness of the community and its elected representatives about society's dependence on animals."

The RASV is looking forward to contributing to the development of this new organisation, the activities of which will have particular relevance to the rural community.

USE OF SHOWGROUNDS

Optimum use of the Showgrounds and its facilities between Royal Shows remains one of the RASV's top priorities.

During the year under review, our facilities were used for the following activities:

Australian Pony Stud Book Society Pony Show, Welsh Pony & Cob Society Show, Arabian Horse Classic, Championship dog and cat shows, Poultry shows, Goat Shows, Australian Sheep & Woolcraft Show, Barastoc

Horse of the Year, Swan Premium Australian Invitational Showjumping, Aussco Standard bred sales, Oktoberfest, Speedway motor cycles event, International Plastic Modellers' exhibition, National Sporting Goods Expo, Toyworld Exhibition, Vintage Car Club swap meet, Ski gear sale, 3 EON FM School Elsteddfod, Finish of the "Sun Fun Run", Fencing demonstrations, Tyre exhibition, Tropical plant sale, Home Flair Furniture exhibition, Prestige motor car auction, Livestock quarantine, Edments crystal sale.



A feature of Showfest was the cavalcade of classic Italian cars.

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1986

	1986	\$		1985	\$
FIXED ASSETS					
Land at Council Valuation 1972		1,023,000			1,023,000
Buildings & Improvements at Council Valuation 1972	8,450,974			8,450,974	
Additions at Cost	3,226,246			3,220,651	
	<u>11,677,220</u>			<u>11,671,625</u>	
LESS Provision for Depreciation	2,475,540	9,201,680		2,271,287	9,400,338
Services and Utilities at Cost	615,987			615,987	
LESS Provision for Depreciation	175,450	440,537		164,670	451,317
Plant and Motor Vehicles at Cost	1,082,388			1,104,515	
LESS Provision for Depreciation	497,885	584,503		456,051	648,464
Furniture, Fixtures and Fittings at Cost	883,726			871,134	
LESS Provision for Depreciation	481,106	402,620		398,030	473,104
		<u>11,652,340</u>			<u>11,996,223</u>
INVESTMENTS					
Debentures, Deposits, Bonds & Cash at Bank at Cost:					
— Special Purpose Insurance Fund	416,304			344,795	
— Trust Accounts	26,626			25,666	
— Short Call	544,888	987,818		383,851	754,312
CURRENT ASSETS					
Cash on hand	900			900	
Prepayment and Accrued Interest	84,032			101,116	
Sundry Debtors	788,179		984,091		
LESS Provision for Doubtful Debts	38,000	750,179	38,000	946,091	
Stock on Hand at Cost	120,472	955,583		100,453	1,148,560
		<u>13,595,741</u>			<u>13,899,095</u>
LESS					
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Bank Overdraft — Secured	23,103			758,268	
Loans — Secured	15,900			15,900	
Loans — Unsecured	470,570			389,572	
Sundry Creditors & Accruals	710,616			534,764	
Provision for Long Service & Annual Leave	306,771			276,188	
Short Call Deposits	544,888	2,071,848		383,851	2,358,543
LONG TERM LIABILITIES					
Loans — Secured	393,807			406,722	
Loans — Unsecured	674,706	1,068,513		853,172	1,259,894
TRUST ACCOUNT		26,626			25,665
TOTAL LIABILITIES		<u>3,166,987</u>			<u>3,644,102</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS		<u>\$10,428,754</u>			<u>\$10,254,993</u>
REPRESENTING					
Accumulated Funds		1,560,364			1,458,112
Reserves —					
Asset Revaluation	7,759,189			7,759,189	
Special Purposes Insurance Fund	416,304			344,795	
Dog Complex Contribution	692,897	8,868,390		692,897	8,796,881
TOTAL ACCUMULATED FUNDS & RESERVES		<u>\$10,428,754</u>			<u>\$10,254,993</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, 1986 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 12th Day of March, 1987.

255 William 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, 1986

EXPENDITURE	1986 \$	1985 \$	INCOME	1986 \$	1985 \$
Wages and Payroll Costs	3,532,077	3,231,521	Show Admissions and Car Parking	3,210,848	2,715,001
Maintenance and Cleaning	756,825	553,906	Space and Ground Rentals	1,758,005	1,552,211
Depreciation	407,975	357,477	Secretarial Service Fees	637,058	586,042
Show Attractions	316,077	317,742	Show Entry Fees	271,409	253,343
Printing and Stationery	246,790	226,836	Materials and Services	116,934	96,976
Show Running Costs	190,938	169,871	Members' Subscriptions	218,238	212,545
Insurance	171,416	143,533	Show Sales and Sundry Revenue	61,380	44,482
Catering	165,418	154,999	Donations and Sponsorship	551,579	592,043
Trophies and Prizes	260,174	267,273	Catering Premiums	272,283	281,782
Advertising and Publicity	295,755	206,717	Computer Fees	192,713	154,525
Interest	265,345	224,691	Advertising	57,386	53,857
Telephone and Postage	99,375	98,567	Commonwealth Conference	—	129,338
Rates	67,369	131,851			
Electricity and Gas	173,347	165,751			
Judges Expenses	52,143	46,116			
Sundry Costs	87,249	93,875			
Computer Costs	143,912	131,315			
Audit and Legal	38,396	22,504			
Special Purposes Insurance Fund	25,000	25,000			
Commonwealth Conference	—	162,002			
	<u>7,295,581</u>	<u>6,731,547</u>			
(Deficit) Surplus for Year	52,252	(59,402)			
	<u>\$7,347,833</u>	<u>\$6,672,145</u>		<u>\$7,347,833</u>	<u>\$6,672,145</u>

ACCUMULATED FUNDS

	\$	\$		\$	\$
Deficit for Year	—	59,402	Balance at Start of Year	1,458,112	1,467,514
Balance at end of Year	1,560,364	1,458,112	Surplus for Year	52,252	—
			Grant for Capital Improvements	50,000	50,000
	<u>\$1,560,364</u>	<u>\$1,517,514</u>		<u>\$1,560,364</u>	<u>\$1,517,514</u>

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

My first year as President of the RASV has indeed been a challenging one, and for this reason I wish to firstly acknowledge the significant support given to me and my wife by my Vice Presidents, fellow Councillors and their wives. I must make special mention here of the help and advice given so willingly by the Society's immediate Past President, Mr. Ray Starritt and Mrs. Starritt.

To the administration, headed by Mr. Brian Parry and his senior management team, I also express my sincere thanks.

The dedication of the staff, not only during the Show and its lead up, but throughout the year, is one of the major factors contributing to the RASV's operational well being.

During the past 12 months the RASV has received assistance from many organisations and individuals, and the purpose of this concluding section of my report is to try to provide some recognition to those special contributions.

The Society is most grateful for the continued support given to it by Victoria's Premier, the Honourable John Cain and his Ministry, in particular the Honourable Evan Walker, Minister of Agriculture & Rural Affairs.

The Director General of the Department of Agriculture & Rural Affairs and his officers throughout the State have also been of immense help and this applies particularly to the assistance given in the process of judging and co-organisation of the commercial farmer competitions and field days conducted by the Society in conjunction with the Victorian Agricultural Societies' Association.

I wish to record the RASV's special appreciation to Mr. Rod McRobert, President of the Victorian Agricultural Societies' Association and his Council, for the assistance given to the RASV during 1986. Without the help of the VASA particularly through its regional network of affiliates across the State, the organisation of the five commercial farmer competitions — the Commonwealth Development Bank Farm Management, Production and Improvement Competition, the Dalgety Farmers' Commercial Beef Herd of the Year Award, the Gippsland & Northern/Western Star Commercial Dairy Herd of the Year Award, the Elders Pastoral Commercial Wool Sheep Flock of the Year Award, the Victorian Artificial Breeder Share Dairy Farmer of the Year Award, would be almost impossible.

The contribution the VASA makes as the governing and advisory body for more than 100 Victorian country agricultural show societies must also be acknowledged and praised.

During the past 12 months the RASV has been fortunate to have had the support of many commercial organisations who have played a vital role in providing financial assistance for the Royal Melbourne Show and our other activities.

As my predecessors have consistently pointed out in past annual reports, the help given by our sponsors cannot be underestimated, and therefore I willingly acknowledge the following organisations and extend to them the RASV's sincere appreciation.

THE A.M.P. SOCIETY, STEREO AM COMMITTEE, A.N.Z. BANK, ARNOTTS BROCKHOFF GUESTS, AUSTRALIAN AIRLINES, BENSON TRADING CO., B.H.P. PTY. LTD., BIG M, BORAL CYCLONE, BOWEN & POMEROY PTY. LTD., COLES MYER, COLES MYER (SUPER K MART), COMALCO, COMMONWEALTH BANK, COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT BANK, C.U.B., DALGETY FARMERS, DAVIDS (VICTORIA) PTY. LTD., ELDERS PASTORAL, FEDERATION INSURANCE, GIPPSLAND & NORTHERN, HORTICO (AUST) PTY. LTD., HUMES ARC., NATIONAL AUSTRALIA BANK, PATTERSON CHENEY HOLDEN, POLL HEREFORD SOCIETY, SHELL AUSTRALIA LTD., SOUTHERN CROSS HOTEL, STATE BANK, SUN NEWS-PICTORIAL, 3MP RADIO, 3AW RADIO, 3UZ RADIO, 3KZ RADIO, UNCLE BENS OF AUSTRALIA, WESTPAC, YELLOW PAGES.

I find it difficult to adequately express the Society's gratitude to the hundreds of individuals who contribute so much to the smooth and professional running of the Royal Melbourne Show. The dedication and attention to detail which is so much a part of their operation has helped establish the Melbourne Royal as one of the world's greatest events of its type. I can only record our sincerest thanks to these people.

The RASV's members, the majority of whom are Royal Show exhibitors, must also receive recognition for their continued support. It has long been said that without members and exhibitors, there can be no RASV or Royal Show and this I wholeheartedly endorse.

In conclusion, I must thank all branches of the media for their wide and generally fair coverage of the 1986 Show, and for the willing support they have given the Society throughout the year. I am pleased to say that we have been able to establish a strong alliance with the metropolitan and country media, which has helped contribute to increased public awareness of our activities.

The next 12 months will be an important period for the RASV, and I look forward with confidence to our progress and achievements during 1987.

**John H. H. Sleigh,
President**



The Super K mart Children's Theatre, one of the popular new attractions at the 1986 Royal Show.

MAJOR AWARD WINNERS 1986

CATTLE

Elders Beef Breed of the Year Award

(Murray Grey)

Orcadia Park Century, exhibited by G. L. & N. L. Wesley, Flinders, Vic.

Gippsland & Northern Champion Dairy Heifer

Jersey, Navillus Rosebud 8th, exhibited by R. W. & M. F. Wilson, Katandra West, Vic.

Gippsland & Northern Champion Dairy Cow

Jersey, Shenstone Linda 258th, exhibited by M. J. & M. A. Emmett & Sons, Stanhope, Vic.

Federation Insurance Champion Dairy Bull

Holstein-Friesian, Sunny South Peration, exhibited by J. & M. E. Slater, Warragul, Vic.

Dalmore Trophy — Supreme Beef Breed Bull, Sponsored by Federation Insurance

Hereford, Courallie Monte Carlo, Courallie Hereford Stud, Bellata, N.S.W.

Dalmore Trophy — Supreme Beef Breed Female, Sponsored by Federation Insurance

Poll Shorthorn, Belmore Gaiety 22nd, Mr. & Mrs. & Miss K. Chipperfield, Kooweerup, Vic.

U.D.V. Interbreed Type and Production Cow

Holstein-Friesian, Parrabel Linmack Dawn, exhibited by C. C. & I. & A. Cochrane, Bega, N.S.W.

DOGS

Best Exhibit in Show

Fox Terrier, (Wire), Australian and American Champion, Santeric Res Ipsa Loquitor, (Imp USA), owned by F. Pieterse & Miss L. Benyon, Kenthurst, N.S.W.

Best Opposite Sex in Show

Whippet, Australian Champion Martinique Seventh Ave (N), owned by G. W. Swan, c/- Eight Mile Plains, Qld.

Best Puppy in Show

Keeshond, Kema Razzle Dazzle, owned by Mrs. B. K. Wigglesworth, Parkholme, S.A.

ARTS & CRAFTS

Florence Monod Memorial Award

Mr. G. M. Rogers, Ashwood, Vic.

Photography — Best Slide in Exhibition

K. Ireland, North Rockhampton, Qld.

Photography — Best Print in Exhibition

A. Raymond, East Lindfield, N.S.W.

FARM INVENTIONS

Grand Champion Exhibit

Mr. R. Collins, Gunbower, Vic.

PIGS

Supreme Exhibit

Landrace, exhibited by P. R. & J. E. McIntosh, Strathmerton, Vic.

WOODCHOPPING

Grand Aggregate Trophy

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

MISS SUN COUNTRY SHOW GIRL

Miss Sue Dawson, Narre Warren North, Vic.

SHEEP

Supreme Champion Ram

Hampshire Downs, exhibited by Misses L. & E. Long, Richmond, Tas.

Supreme Champion Ewe

Poll Dorset, exhibited by J. A. & M. Y. Gilmore, Oberon, N.S.W.

GOATS

Supreme Champion Doe (Dairy)

Mrs. W. McFee, Rhyll, Vic.

Champion Angora Doe

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

Champion Mohair Fleece

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

Victorian Fleece Competition

Most Successful Exhibitor — Challicum Partnership, Buangor, Vic.

Australasian Lambs Wool

Championship

Best Lambs Wool — Challicum Partnership, Buangor, Vic.

Champion Honey

Henry Jones Foods Pty. Ltd., Kyabram, Vic.

CATS

Best Entire Cat — Other Shorthair

British Shorthair, Cyprian Inky, owned by Miss A. Woorall, Fitzroy, Vic.

Best Entire Cat — Siamese

Oriental

Siamese, DB. GD. CH. Malachi King Charles, owned by Mrs. J. Jackson, Paddington, Qld.

Best Entire Cat — Longhair

Persian Lavendel Blue Illusion, owned by Mr. and Mrs. R. U'Ren, Seville, Vic.

Best Equestrienne Turnout

(Garryowen)

Miss J. Smith of Melton, Vic., on Royal Son.

Poultry — Best Bird in Show

J. F. McKinnon, South Ecklin, Vic. (Rhode Island Red Pullet).

Best Finch in Show

N. & P. Smith, Boronia, Vic. (Parson — Australian Finch).

Best Parrot Type Bird

C. Bush, North Fitzroy, Vic. (Rosella).

Best Cage Bird

(other than a Finch)

R. W. McNamara, Croydon, Vic. (Quail).

Grand Champion Budgerigar

B. Page, Oak Park, Vic.

WINES

The Jimmy Watson Memorial Trophy — Best Red Wine

(Classes 25, 26 & 27)

Lindemans Wines Pty. Ltd. — 1985.

The Vic. Wine Ind. Assoc. Trophy for the Most Successful Exhibitor (Classes 37-40)

Tisdall Wines.

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

Seppelt B. & Sons Ltd.

PRODUCE

Champion Export or Fresh Butter

Murray Goulburn Co-Operative Co. P.O. Box 21, Koroit, Victoria.

Champion Prize Cheese

Petersville Milk Products, Waterloo Road, Trafalgar, Vic.

Champion Soft Variety Wheat

R. J. & M. I. Ward, "Murra Warra", RMB 4585, Horsham, Vic.

Champion Hard Variety Wheat

R. W. & W. L. Westendorf, Box 111, Dimboola, Vic.

Champion Oats

G. E. Wiese, Box 340, Bordertown, Sth. Aust.

Champion Barley

E. H. Troutbeck, Mickleham Road, Mickleham, Vic.

Champion Meadow Hay

A. W. & I. F. Bunn, P.O. Box, Tatura, Vic.

1986 Nikon/Royal Show Press Photographic Awards

Best Show Photo (Published) — Craig Borrow, Sun News-Pictorial.

Best Show Photo (Unpublished) — Clive MacKinnon, Sun News-Pictorial.

1986 Olympus/Royal Show Press Journalism Awards

Best Feature Story — John Lahey, The Age.

Best Agricultural Story — Virginia Adrian, The Weekly Times.

Best Human Interest Story — John Lahey, The Age.

COMMERCIAL FARMING COMPETITION

Dalgety Farmers Commercial Beef Herd of the Year Award

Ardgartan Pastoral Co., c/- Mrs. R. Youngman, R.M.B. 2375, Banxholme, Vic.

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

I. & H. Herron, Gainsborough via Darnum, Vic.

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

M. G. & C. T. Neilson, Mitta, Vic.

Commonwealth Development Bank Victorian Farm Management, Production & Improvement

Competition

Section A — Mr. & Mrs. Wayne & Joan Weller, Longwarry, Vic.

Section B — Chiltern Park Partnership, Macarthur, Vic.

Elders Pastoral Commercial Wool Sheep Flock of the Year Award

R. & G. I. McNally & Sons, St. Arnaud, Vic.

'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**



Victoria: 342 Flinders Street, Melbourne, 3000
Phone: 62 0101. Ararat 52 2667. Bairnsdale 52 4856.
Ballarat 31 1653. Bendigo 43 5527. Colac 31 3686.
Dandenong 792 0442. Geelong 97 9008. Horsham 82 2216.
Shepparton 21 4533. Swan Hill 32 2759. Traralgon
74 2574. Wangaratta 21 3487. Warragul 23 1173.
Warramboul 62 2937.



VICTORIAN AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

Showgrounds, Ascot Vale, 3032

— OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER —

Financially Assisted by the Commonwealth Development Bank



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The 1986 Spring Show Season weather-wise caused our affiliates great concern. A cold wet mid October created havoc and full marks to those affected for keeping the "Show Going" at all costs.

The Adverse Weather Fund has paid out \$9,500 to participating Societies with below average gate-takings caused by the unseasonable conditions.

The Melbourne Royal also experienced patchy weather when the final judging and announcement of State winners for various competitions took place.

The Miss "Sun" Country Show Girl final was again a great success culminating at the Dinner Dance, known as the "Best Show in Town", congratulations and thanks to the RASV and "The Sun News-Pictorial" from all the country folk who have the opportunity to attend this yearly function. Miss Sue Dawson is our 1986 Show Girl and will represent Victoria in the National final in 1987.

Policy to include "Owners Liability of Animals" and "Trade Space Liability" was a major step to correct an anomaly which has become more evident each year. In short, our moral obligation to these important people is discharged, and on behalf of VASA I ask all Societies to co-operate with our insurers to make this excellent proposal work.

The Annual Meeting and Convention in May this year will be held at Cobram-Barooga hosted by the Goulburn Valley Group. With the sponsorship of the Commonwealth Development Bank assisting, our hosts, headed by Jeremy Gaylard, G.V.S.A. President, and Ron Ritchie, Cobram Delegate, will leave no stone unturned to make this function an enjoyable and memorable one. To assist the Group in its planning it would be appreciated if members could respond quickly and lodge their registration applications as early as possible.

Judith and I look forward to seeing you all there.

Rod McRobert,
President.

1987 CONVENTION AT COBRAM-BAROOGA

Sponsored by the Commonwealth
Development Bank

The 21st Annual Convention of VASA will be held at Cobram-Barooga on 6, 7 and 8 May, 1987, and this year our major sponsor for the Convention will be the Commonwealth Development Bank.

The Association is very appreciative of the support being given to the 1987 Convention by the Commonwealth Development Bank.

Your Host Group, Goulburn Valley has organized an interesting and varied program which includes a bus tour through the Cobram-Barooga district visiting orange orchards, Seppelts Winery, the Bryant & May Plantation and a Fashion Parade at Cobram Homestead.

Dinner on Wednesday evening will be at the Cobram-Barooga Sports Club and the customary Dinner Dance will be held at the Cobram-Barooga Golf Club on Thursday night. All Conference sessions will be held at the Cobram-Barooga Golf Club.

Registration will take place between 3.00 and 5.00 p.m. at the Cobram-Barooga Golf Club on Wednesday, and again from 8.45 a.m. on Thursday morning. When registering visitors will be asked to sign the Members Books for both the Golf Club and Sports Club to receive an Honorary Membership to these clubs for the duration of the Convention.

The deadline for submission of registrations is Friday 6 March, so please contact the Convention Secretary, Helen Morgan, PO Box 286, Shepparton, 3630, or telephone her between 9.30 a.m. and 3.30 p.m., Monday to Friday, on (058) 21 4677, if you have not already received and forwarded a Registration Form.

The cost of full registration — Wednesday through Friday — is \$120 per person, and there are other options available. Caravan sites and self-contained units are available at the Barooga Golf Resort and pre Conference and extended accommodation and pre Conference organized activities can be arranged from Monday 4 May.

FARM COMPETITIONS

**Farm Management, Production
and Improvement Competition,**
sponsored by the Common-
wealth Development Bank.

Section A of the Competition was won by Wayne and Joan Weller who run a dairy herd on a 67 ha farm on the plains country south of Longwarry in the West Gippsland District.

Wayne and Joan purchased the property in 1978 in a run down condition, including a very old home and a six unit walk-through dairy. They commenced work immediately on building a new home and converting the dairy to a functional eleven aside herringbone. Pasture improvement was an urgent priority and they have also reorganized the fencing and now have reticulated water to all paddocks. They have also recently constructed a new machinery shed.

A field day, with an attendance of approximately 240, was held on the property on Friday 6 February and following a Farm Walk the gathering was addressed by a variety of speakers including Officers from the Department of Agriculture and Rural Affairs.



Rod McRobert

Congratulations to Warracknabeal and Boort Societies on reaching and conducting their Centenary Shows; both Societies made a supreme effort to make the occasion a most memorable one.

The Summer and Autumn Shows are well under way and I trust they enjoy better weather and the same success as their Spring counterparts.

At the November Council meeting the decision to accept the proposal of an extension to our Public Liability

Joan Weller explained the system used in calf rearing. Mr. John Fletcher, Chief General Manager, delivered a message on behalf of the Commonwealth Development Bank as sponsors, and Mr. Ian McLennan, the Bank's Chief Rural Officer, spoke on the subject of coping with high interest rates and repayments.

Section B of the Competition was won by Chiltern Park Partnership situated near Macarthur in the Western District. The partnership is made up of Bill and Joy Young, their son Peter and his wife Barbara. Peter manages the property and they run a self-replacing Merino flock, based on Hazeldean blood. The aim is to produce the maximum quantity of high yielding 21 micron wool.

The Western Group conducted a very successful field day at Chiltern Park on Friday 14 November 1986. The weather was good and the attendance large. Due to the size of the property, instead of the usual farm walk, buses were used to take the visitors to the various points of interest.

An interesting feature is the use of silage as supplementary feed. Wilted silage is cut and stored in either a pit or above ground clamp and a tractor with front end loader and a silage wagon facilitates the feeding out of this fodder. Many other features such as the establishment of plantations, improved fencing techniques and sheep yards designed to reduce labour, add to the excellent management of this enterprise.

The field day was officially opened by Mr. David Asimus, A.O., Chairman of the Australian Wool Corporation. Mr. Asimus was also guest speaker and gave a most interesting talk on the Future Marketing of Wool.

1987 Farm Management, Production and Improvement Competition — entry forms are now available. Entries close 1 May 1987.

Dalgely Farmers Commercial Beef Herd of the Year Award

The winner of the 1986 Dalgely Farmers Commercial Beef Herd of the Year Award was Ardgartan Pastoral Co. in the Hamilton district. A large crowd attended the field day held on Tuesday 6 January, and taking advantage of the glorious weather which prevailed took part in an extensive tour of the property. Ardgartan was purchased by the Youngman family in 1888 and is now run by Mrs. Robina Youngman with the assistance of a Manager, and a Stud Overseer.

Mrs. Youngman in her welcoming address spoke of her varying roles, the first being that of mother to Emma and Harry, her two children; the second and more difficult in the area

of decision and planning towards that bottom line, covering the areas of stock, trees, pasture, machinery, land purchase, finance and so on. The third is the fascinating job of selection of cattle, both male and female, on which the commercial enterprise is based. They plan to bring in a leading sire for the stud each year, to ensure a fast turnover of bloodlines, and the last, but not least, to have the strength to be a woman in a man's world and her need to ask a great number of questions.

The presentation of awards was made by Dalgely Farmers new General Manager for Victoria, Mr. Kerry O'Connell.

Elders Pastoral Commercial Wool Sheep Flock of the Year Award

Regional entries in the 1987 Elders Pastoral Commercial Wool Sheep Flock of the Year Award close on Wednesday 18 March and the Champion Flock in each region will be selected and advice submitted to VASA by Friday 17 April to enable the RASV to arrange for the final State Judging.

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

A field day will be held on the property of Malcolm and Carmel Neilson of Mitta Mitta, winners of the 1986 Gippsland & Northern Western Star Commercial Dairy Herd of the Year Award, on Thursday 19 March.

Malcolm and Carmel run a Friesian/Jersey herd on 27 hectares of which 24 hectares are irrigated. They have shown that the small family farm still has a role to play provided they maximise the important priorities such as breeding and feeding.

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

Ian and Helen Herron, who have been sharefarming with Bill and Bev Pyle for seven years, won the V.A.B. Share Dairy Farmer of the Year Award for 1986 and hosted a field day on the property at Gainsborough on Tuesday 3 March.

The field day afforded a unique opportunity to examine an efficient Share Dairy Farm in operation, and was officially opened by Mr. John Sleigh, President of the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria.

Discussion on the day covered such topics as Herd Health and Milking Management, Replacement Stock, Fodder Conservation, Pasture, Herd Production and Financial Records and Available Finance.

The Share Farmer Competition attracts mostly young farmers who are using the share farming system to gain valuable experience for the time when they own their own farm.

Welcome to New Affiliate Society

We welcome to ranks of VASA a new Society — Yulecart. Yulecart is a small community not far from Hamilton in the Western District of Victoria, and in 1986 became the newest member to become affiliated with the Western Group, and VASA.

Mr. J. H. Ford is their President and Council Delegate to VASA, and Mr. N. J. Loats their Secretary.

Best wishes are extended to the members of the Committee at Yulecart and we look forward to their participation in VASA activities.

SHOW SEMINAR

The 1987 Show Management Seminar will be held on Tuesday 6 October and Wednesday 7 October 1987, at the new Toowoomba Show Grounds.

The 1987 Seminar is the third to be conducted by the Darling Downs Sub-Chamber of Agricultural Societies.

The venue for the 1987 Show Management Seminar is the Toowoomba Show Grounds and anybody interested in further information should contact The Secretary, Darling Downs Sub-Chamber of Agricultural Societies, Box 6246, Toowoomba West, 4350, telephone (076) 34 7400.

1986 COMPETITIONS

RESULTS:

Beef Cattle Judging

First — Nicole Griffin, Bordertown (WESTERN).

Second — Kim Hodges, Lilydale (PORT PHILLIP).

Third — Dick Henderson, Ceres (MIDLANDS).

National Winner — Mathew Burbury, York Plains (TASMANIA).

Dairy Cattle

First — Paul Flanagan, Bacchus Marsh (CENTRAL HIGHLANDS).

Second — David Gass, Timboon (SOUTH WESTERN).

Third — Lee Ann Campi, Cohuna (GOULBURN VALLEY).

National Winner — David Mayo, Albion Park (N.S.W.).

Third — Paul Flanagan (VICTORIA).

Meat Sheep Breeds — Longwool and Shortwool

First — Sharon Marshall, Geelong.

Second — Vicki Pettigrove, Heath Hill.

Third — Richard Bukolsan, Wallington.

National Winner — Sharon Marshall, Geelong (VICTORIA).



Graham Amery — Goulburn Valley.
Winner of the 1986 Honda Agricultural Motorcycle Competition.

Merino Sheep

First — Richard Turner, Maffra.

Second — A. Carter, Hay.

Third — Miss R. Molineaux, Jerildene.

National Winner — David Freeman, Wilmington (SOUTH AUSTRALIA).

Honda Agricultural Motor Cycle Competition

First — Graham Amery, Tongala (GOULBURN VALLEY).

Second — Eddie Peeler, Harkaway (PORT PHILLIP).

Third — Neil Solomano, Talbot (MIDLANDS).

Hand Knitted Garment

First — Mrs. B. Duce, South Croydon (RASV).

Second — Mrs. M. Finn, Warron (SOUTH WESTERN).

Third — Miss E. Maloney, Cohuna (NORTHERN).

Crocheted Article

First — Mrs. M. Mildren, Wangaratta (NORTH EASTERN).

Second — Mrs. O. A. Newman, Chewton (RASV).

Third — Mrs. D. Sedgman, Yuroke (CENTRAL HIGHLANDS).

A.D.F.A. Rich Fruit Cake

First — Miss A. E. Rowe, Korumburra (CENTRAL & SOUTH GIPPSLAND).

Second — Mr. J. Reid, Timboon (SOUTH WESTERN).

Third — Mrs. M. Frye, Castlemaine (MIDLANDS).

Miss "Sun" Country Show Girl

First — Miss Sue Dawson, Narre Warren North (PORT PHILLIP).

Second — Miss Debbie Winn, Tatura (GOULBURN VALLEY).

Third — Miss Madeleine Della, Sunbury (CENTRAL HIGHLANDS).

National Show Girl Winner — Kim Watkins, Mermaid Waters (QUEENSLAND).

Our Miss "Sun" Country Show Girl for 1986 Miss Sue Dawson

The one annual event which brings a whole community together is surely the local agricultural show. The agricultural shows allow people to participate by entering various sections so that they are able to show their individual talents. It was this feeling of being part of a show I had known for years that caused me to enter the Show Girl section at Berwick.

I did not realise entering the Miss "Sun" Country Show Girl competition would lead to such varied activities. By winning the title of Miss "Sun" Country Show Girl at Melbourne, I was privileged to be able to present sashes and prizes, kiss woodchoppers, visit all the pavilions in great detail, attend lunches and be a part of the Grand Parade. The Royal Agricultural society never let my schedule become boring as I was constantly meeting new and interesting people and I was always learning about the Royal Show.

Since the Royal Melbourne Show, I have been invited to judge some Show Girl competitions at the local level. It has been fun to become an interviewer rather than the interviewee. In the near future I will also be attending group final dinners.



The experience I have gained since entering the Show Girl competition a year ago has been tremendous. I have become more relaxed in interview situations and have improved my public speaking abilities. I have grown in confidence when meeting and conversing with people. Aside from these many benefits, I thoroughly enjoyed meeting the other competitors and being part of the excitement of an agricultural show.

I would like to thank the members of the Royal Agricultural Society for all their help and support during my time as Show Girl. I know the experience will always help me both personally and professionally.

Sue Dawson

OBITUARIES

It is with deep regret that we record the passing of five members of affiliated Societies.



JOHN BERCHMANS ENGLISH — 16 November 1986. (Dandenong).

John joined the Committee of the Dandenong Society in February 1955, and served as a member of the Committee for 30 years. He was appointed Secretary of the Society in May 1968, a job he carried out with total dedication and enthusiasm until his retirement in February 1985. John held office as President in 1965, was appointed a Life Committee Member in April 1975 and a Life Member of the Society in May 1982.

Following his retirement in 1985 the Mayor of Dandenong gave a reception in his honour in recognition of his years of service with the Dandenong Society at which he was presented with a letter under seal from the City Council. An honour which John greatly treasured. John was a delegate to VASA from 1968 and will be remembered for his dedication to the job in hand. To Betty, who ably assisted John as Secretary at Dandenong, we extend our deepest sympathy.

ALBERT J. BRUMBY — 3 September 1986. (Heytesbury).

Albert Brumby was a member of the founding Committee of the Lower Heytesbury Agricultural Society which elected its first Committee in 1936 with Albert holding the position of Vice President. He remained on the Committee until 1968, a total of 32 years service. He held the position of President from 1940-45 and 1952-63, a total of 16 years, and in 1944 when the final payment was made for the showgrounds land, he was made a Trustee.

A Life Member of the Society, Albert did not cut his ties after resigning from the Committee in 1968, and



MRS. D. D. ("KIT") McKENZIE — 13 December, 1986. (Heytesbury).

Mrs. McKenzie was elected Secretary of the Lower Heytesbury Agricultural Society at a meeting on July 20 1948, succeeding Mrs. Win Dowse who had been Secretary since the formation of the Society in 1936.

"Kit" McKenzie, as she was popularly known continued her role as Secretary until after the 1963 Show — 16 Shows in 16 years, and a record.

Kit and her late husband "Doog", were both presented with Life Membership badges on 15 February 1965.

ARTHUR YOUNG — 26 December, 1986. (Daylesford).

With the death on Boxing Day of Arthur Young in a diving accident whilst on holiday in New South Wales, the Daylesford Society lost one of its well known identities and supporters. Arthur's involvement in the Daylesford Society stemmed from his interest in Pinto and Pony Club activities. He was a Past President of the Daylesford Society and a Delegate to VASA.

Arthur leaves a wife and five children and our sympathy is extended to his family.

Heytesbury Society members remember with gratitude his dedicated service to promoting the aims and objects of agricultural and livestock improvement and perfection, and acknowledge with admiration the many other roles he undertook in the local community he served with distinction.

KENNETH H. EALES — 13 October 1986. (Lilydale).

With the death, after a long illness, of Ken Eales the Lilydale Society lost one of its most respected, long serving, and dedicated supporters. With his wife Jean, who is well known in VASA circles, he attended the first public meeting convened to consider the restoration of the Lilydale Annual Show, which recommenced in 1953, and as was usual demonstrated his commitment in a practical manner. Ken became a member of the Committee and Steward of the Sheep Section, and in recognition of his service was made an Honorary Member of the Society.

Ken was known for his quiet, sometimes whimsical humour and we extend to his wife Jean and their son Tom, deepest sympathy in their loss.



BALMORAL PREPARES FOR CENTENARY

The Balmoral Pastoral and Agricultural Society has big plans for their Centenary Show in 1988 which happens to coincide with Australia's Bi-Centennial Celebrations.

One of the features of the Balmoral Society's Centenary will be an historical display at the Show. The building of a new facility is planned to securely house the valuable memorabilia which the Society hopes will come its way.

Society historian, Mrs. Avis Denholm, is appealing to the community to make available anything that could compliment the exhibition. Old prize cards, books, sashes, trophies, pictures, etc which could be donated or loaned to the Society for the display would be greatly appreciated and Mrs. Denholm assures all owners that the utmost care will be taken of these relics.

A perpetual trophy, the Vasey Challenge Cup, donated by the late Mr. H. L. Gaussen in 1926 for the Best Pen of Three Wethers, is still keenly contested sixty years on. Many well known district names such as Hobbs, Menzel, Robertson, Smith and Watt feature on the cup. The inaugural winner was Mr. R. S. Falkiner of the 'Glendinning Estate', and the present successful exhibitor is Mr. Paddy Handbury of "The Rises", Kanagulk.

Mrs. Denholm can be contacted at "Bellevue", Balmoral, 3407, telephone (055) 70 1220.



FINANCE FOR FARMERS

Farmers who need financial help but are unable to obtain their requirements elsewhere on reasonable terms and conditions should talk to the Commonwealth Development Bank.

The CDB, a unique and largely unheralded Bank, is a supplementary lender. Its role is to provide finance when, for whatever reason, an applicant is unable to obtain it from his own Bank or normal commercial lending source.

The CDB's lending criteria is different too. It places greatest importance on the applicant's ability to succeed and is often prepared to make loans available that are unsuitable to other lenders because of the repayment term needed or the type of security offered.

Interest rates are broadly in line with rates charged by Trading Banks for term loans. Present interest rate for CDB term loan is 17.5% p.a. simple regardless of the amount borrowed.

All the major Trading Banks are agents for the CDB. Applications may be lodged through the applicant's own bank or direct to CDB.

The CDB also provides hire purchase arrangements for a wide range of new and, in some cases, second hand equipment.

With its different approach to lending, the CDB has been able to support many people in the primary production and small business sectors.

1987 MEETING DATES

APRIL 15 — Agricultural Machinery Field Day Committee.

MAY 6, 7 & 8 — Annual Convention — Cobram-Barooga.

JULY 30 — Council.

SEPTEMBER 17-26 — Royal Melbourne Show.

NOVEMBER 26 — Council.