

# ANNUAL REPORT 2016

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA LIMITED





# CONTENTS

RASV Introduction	2
President's Message	4
CEO's Message	6
2015 Royal Melbourne Show	14
RASV Events & Awards	18
Melbourne Showgrounds	26
2015/2016 Summary of Awards	35
Corporate Governance	38
Financial Reports	41



# RASV INTRODUCTION

The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria (RASV) promotes and celebrates agriculture through events which connect industry with consumers and ultimately aims to improve the quality and increase demand for Victorian agricultural produce.

**RASV has inspired excellence for more than 165 years and has a proud history of providing industry with valuable platforms to advance excellence in agriculture, primarily through conducting highly credible benchmarking award programs and events. These award programs and events provide those with a direct involvement in primary and secondary production, particularly in Victoria, with unique opportunities to improve industry standards, grow the reputation of Victorian agrifood and fibre and directly connect with consumers.**

The Royal Melbourne Show, Victoria's largest and most iconic annual community event conducted by RASV, provides industry with opportunities to engage and connect annually with half a million consumers and build their knowledge and understanding of the vital role agriculture plays in everyday life.

The Royal Melbourne Show also provides industry, particularly beef, dairy, sheep and fleece, with an integral platform to benchmark and celebrate quality through livestock competitions.

The RASV hosts a full calendar of events designed to support a range of sectors in the agricultural industry, including:

- Australian International Beer Awards, renowned for showcasing the highest quality beer and celebrating brewing excellence from around the world;
- Royal Melbourne Wine Awards, the celebration of excellence in Australian winemaking and one of the nation's most respected wine awards;
- Royal Melbourne Fine Food Awards, one of Australia's most celebrated fine food awards;
- Australian Distilled Spirits Awards, introduced to recognise the burgeoning growth in Australian distillery production; and

- Australian International Coffee Awards, attracting significant entry numbers from local and global producers in only its second year as a stand alone event.

Each event celebrates product quality, presents valuable opportunity for all producers, large and small to benchmark their products and provides differentiation in the market for award winners.

Furthermore, RASV manages Melbourne Showgrounds, Victoria's largest and most versatile venue for trade shows, exhibitions and events, which attracts close to a million visitors annually across over 650 events, significantly supporting Victoria's major events calendar

Focusing on delivering value to industry, RASV is committed to:

- Improving quality and increasing demand for Victorian agricultural produce;
- Providing platforms for industry to celebrate quality, set benchmarks and encourage excellence;
- Delivering successful events that connect industry with consumers;
- Growing membership and enhancing member value;
- Generating operating surpluses for prospective investments in events, member benefits and facilities at Melbourne Showgrounds;
- Improving the organisation by supporting and developing employees, volunteers and the next generation of leaders;
- Implementing effective systems, processes and infrastructure to ensure quality events and superior service are delivered.



### Board of Directors

**Top row, left to right:** Alan Hawkes, Scott Chapman, Noelene King OAM, Mark O’Sullivan (CEO),  
**Middle row, left to right:** Deborah Hodgson, Stephen Spargo AM (President), Joy Potter, Darrin Grimsey.  
**Bottom row, left to right:** Geoff Phillips, Matthew Coleman, and Jason Ronald OAM.



### Executive Team

**Left to right:** Jon Perry (General Manager, Corporate Services), Kate Heeps (General Manager, Agricultural Programs and Events),  
 Mark O’Sullivan (Chief Executive Officer), Linda O’Halloran (Manager Human Resources),  
 Brad Jenkins (General Manager, Marketing & Business Development).

Absent: Michael Martin, General Manager, Site Operations & Logistics

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Embarking on the first year of our five-year strategy 'Towards 2020', The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria (RASV) has been focused on delivering world class award programs, agricultural events and venue management, to drive development and excellence in agriculture.



**With the State Government's announcement during the Royal Melbourne Show in September of further significant growth in food and fibre exports from Victoria, the last year has given us the opportunity to set the foundations for maximising opportunities and outcomes across the entire value chain.**

Reflecting our core purpose of promoting the development of and celebrating excellence in agriculture, we have enhanced and expanded our various agricultural, food and beverage competitions and awards to attract new and diverse audiences to the program and provide greater value for participants.

Our flagship event, the Royal Melbourne Show once again delivered a number of unique platforms for rural and agricultural industries to connect with urban consumer communities, with increased opportunities for attendees to interact with animals, an enhanced food offering, educational and hands-on activities and world-class entertainment and attractions.

With a strong commitment to offering compelling future development, the Royal Melbourne Show competition schedule was further developed with an emphasis on attracting young people to the industry, which resulted in a high level of participation.

In September, two young people were celebrated for their contribution to the industry through presentation of the Emerging Leaders in Victorian Agriculture awards. Brandon Sykes and Hayden Findlay were both bestowed the honour, presented by Her Excellency the Honourable Linda Dessau AM, which recognise people under 40 who show leadership and make a contribution in their industry and local community.

This year also saw the presentation of the inaugural Dairy Youth Handler's Scholarship to 18-year-old Keeley Warren. The travel bursary will allow Keeley to travel to emerging dairy regions in South-East Asia and highlights the career opportunities for youth industry participants.

RASV was delighted to invite a delegation from China to see and experience the 2015 Royal Melbourne Show, as part of an ongoing discussion to identify future partnership opportunities for industry participants and investors.

The RASV food and beverage awards program experienced continued growth, both in reputation and numbers of participants. The introduction of new trophies to the Australian International Beer Awards, Royal Melbourne Wine Awards, Royal Melbourne Fine Food Awards and the Australian International Coffee Awards is reflective of industry trends and production techniques and is evidence of RASV's commitment to ensuring the awards are relevant and credible for those who participate.

These awards continue to grow nationally and globally attracting entries from around the country and around the globe due to their relevance to commercial outcomes, high calibre of judges and the prestige and seal of excellence that comes with a medal or trophy win.

Melbourne Showgrounds has experienced continued progress with the attraction of new clients and improved delivery and growth of existing events, significantly contributing to Victoria's major events calendar.



The future of agriculture is dependent on the support of State Government and I thank the Premier of Victoria the Hon Daniel Andrews MP and Minister for Agriculture and Regional Development the Hon Jaala Pulford for their strong commitment to the industry.

We appreciate the continued support of the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources, the Department of Treasury and Finance and all relevant State and Federal Government Offices.

RASV also acknowledges all members of the Unincorporated Joint Venture, in particular the Chair, Christine Gilbertson for continued support of the ongoing development of Melbourne Showgrounds.

On a sad note, all at RASV mourned the passing of former President, Mr Jack Seymour AM in October last year. Jack was appointed a Councillor and a member of the Board of Directors of RASV in 1994. He was appointed President of the Council and Chairman of the Board in 1999. He played a leading role in ensuring a bright future for RASV securing State Government support for the redevelopment of Melbourne Showgrounds and encouraging and leading organizational change. Jack was also Chairman of Rural Finance Corporation, a member of the Management Committee of Bestwool 2010 and President of Australian Council of Agricultural Societies. Jack Seymour's contribution to RASV, and the promotion of excellence in agriculture generally, was immense and appreciated by all concerned.

I personally express my gratitude to my fellow Directors for their dedication and enthusiasm in leading RASV and supporting the agricultural industry.

The delivery of our events and award programs would not be possible without the generous contribution of our Committees, Judges, Stewards and Officials and I thank them for their ongoing commitment.

On behalf of the RASV Board, thank you to the management team, staff, volunteers and partners for your valuable efforts in promoting and celebrating excellence in agriculture.

**Stephen Spargo AM**  
President



# CEO'S MESSAGE

As we look forward to 2020, we are encouraged by and pleased with the successes of the first year of our new strategy. Our continued commitment to the promotion and celebration of excellence in agriculture during this era of opportunity allows us to maximize opportunity and outcomes for food and fibre producers across the state, around the country and from all over the world.



**The first year of our 'Towards 2020' Strategy has been focused on laying the foundations to achieve long term success for the organisation and further assist the wider agricultural industry. With the best people delivering world-class award programs, agricultural events and venue management, we have taken the first critical steps on our ongoing journey of quality and excellence.**

On behalf of the Board and Management I am pleased to report that our financial position is the most stable it has been in the history of RASV. Cash reserves have continued to grow in the 2015/2016 financial year which will enable RASV to continue to invest in vital programs and activities that support our core purpose.

Our actions over the last financial year have been driven by five key strategic themes, providing clear direction for achieving outlined goals in line with our core purpose.

## **Deliver world-class award programs**

RASV's world-class award programs continued to grow in participation and reputation this year with successful delivery of the Australian International Coffee Awards, Australian International Beer Awards, Royal Melbourne Fine Food Awards and Royal Melbourne Wine Awards.

Whilst the movement of the Australian Distilled Spirits Awards from March- April meant no delivery of the program in this financial year, the promotion of winners of all awards continued throughout 2015/2016.

Increasing the value of participation in the awards, RASV focused on international engagement to connect with export markets, promote award-winning food and beverage producers and recruit participants for the international awards with a focus on coffee and beer.

With a strong commitment to developing important partnerships within ASEAN region, RASV participated in a number of food and beverage trade missions and events throughout the financial year including:

- Attendance at Food Hotel Asia, Jakarta, the premier international food and hospitality trade show in Indonesia with Victorian Government;
- Attendance at the Asia Beer Cup (ABC), Japan as an observer of the Craft Beer Industry Association's competition. ABC is Japan's largest annual beer competition, focusing on Asia's beer and brewing industry;
- Attendance at HOFEX, Hong Kong with Victorian Government. HOFEX is the largest biennial food and beverage trade show conducted in SE Asia;
- Activation of a Royal Melbourne Fine Food Awards stand at the Victorian Government inbound trade mission, during International Food and Beverage Trade Week, showcasing five award winning producers;
- Activated a Royal Melbourne Wine Awards feature area as part of the Wine Australia stand at the Hong Kong International Wine and Spirits Fair, showcasing seven award-winning wine brands;
- Business development with 15 Japanese craft breweries to grow entries into the AIBA;
- Attendance at the Foodex Trade show in Japan, Asia Pacific's largest food and beverage trade event.

To further connect consumers with award-winning producers, RASV has also developed the 'Winning Tastes' brand as an educational communication tool and showcase within the Royal Melbourne Show to drive brand awareness and direct sales for awards participants.





### Grow the Royal Melbourne Show as a world-class event, showcasing agriculture

The 2016 Royal Melbourne Show saw a number of changes to the layout and offering including expanded animal precincts for more opportunities for consumers to interact with and learn about agrifood and fibre production, animals, and the introduction of the Winning Tastes Pavilion, located in the Masterchef Set showcasing award winning producers from RASV's awards programs.

The Show again attracted thousands of entries across the various blue ribbon competitions including beef cattle, sheep, horses, dogs, woodchop and art, craft & cookery. This year also marked the first delivery of the revised Dairy Program, comprising the Dairy Youth Handlers Classic and All Breeds Elite Dairy Heifer Show, providing more opportunity for young dairy participants to put their best foot forward in front of family, industry and thousands of consumers attending the Show.

In a demonstration of our commitment to maximising the appeal and success of the Royal Melbourne Show, RASV invited a number of Chinese delegates to the event in a prelude to hosting China as a Guest Nation at the 2016 Show, internationalising the event to provide further value to the state and the agricultural industry.

In 2015/2016 we:

- Hosted a number of Chinese delegates at the Royal Melbourne Show as a prelude to China being the guest nation in 2016;
- Revised the layout of the Show to increase animal interaction opportunities and better utilise space;
- Introduced the Winning Tastes Pavilion, located in the Masterchef Set, showcasing RASV award winners.

### Develop Melbourne Showgrounds as Victoria's premier indoor/outdoor events venue

Melbourne Showgrounds has continued to contribute to the growth of the Victorian events calendar with over 650 returning and new events held at the venue this year.

Our strong commitment to continually upgrading facilities and improving our event services has resulted in the venue being selected for an increasing number of events with Harvey Norman Electrical Tradeshow, Lorna Jane Warehouse Clearance, Ultimate Sports Expo, Australian Construction & Equipment Expo, SEEK Family Day, GO Festival and the TET Festival celebrating the Vietnamese New Year, all new to the venue during 2015/2016.

The reputation of the venue's suitability for tertiary exams, with the large scale spaces able to accommodate for a significant number of students at once, has continued to grow with RMIT joining Victoria University, ACER and CPA on the list of educational institutions utilising Melbourne Showgrounds.

Improvements and enhancements across the site continue in line with the Melbourne Showgrounds Master Plan. After a lengthy formal process, the demolition of the former Sheep Pavilion was approved by Heritage Victoria, due to it no longer being fit for purpose and unsafe for occupancy. The removal will allow for the space to be better utilised for the Royal Melbourne Show and other events in the future.

Facilities have also been updated to improve the environmental sustainability of the venue and reduce energy costs including the installation of LED lighting around the grounds.

# CEO'S MESSAGE (CONT.)



In 2015/2016 we have:

- Acquired four new large exhibitions including: Xerocon, Horticulture & Gardening Festival, Australian Construction & Equipment Expo, Harvey Norman Computers Tradeshow;
- Maintained 90% retention rate of existing clients;
- Successfully applied for approval from Heritage Victoria to demolish the former Sheep Pavilion.

## Advance agriculture

With a strong focus from the Victorian Government on the important role of agriculture to the State's economy, providing valuable platforms for industry participants to come together and share ideas and work more collaboratively, has been an important role of RASV.

The inaugural AgriVictoria: State of Opportunity Summit held in partnership with Victorian Farmers Federation and supported by State Government Victoria, ANZ Bank, PriceWaterhouseCoopers, the Victorian Agribusiness Council and The Global Foundation explored vital domestic and international connections, new innovations and provide real business solutions for Victorian farmers, producers and industry professionals from across the food and fibre value chains.

An important vehicle for thought leadership, the Summit was focussed on helping ensure that Victorian agribusiness is well placed to take advantage of trade and investment opportunities.

The event was followed by the Agriculture: Heart of Victoria gala dinner, a showcase of the breadth, depth and strength of Victoria's agricultural industry and quality produce.

The 2015/2016 financial year also marked the first time the prestigious RASV Dairy Cattle Interbreed was presented as part of International Dairy Week (IDW), a result of our strengthened partnership with the event, the largest expo in the Australian dairy industry. Continually growing in attendance and entry numbers, IDW is an excellent showcase of Australian dairy cattle, and an important forum for discussing practices, innovation, breeding and genetics, technology and machinery, environmental management and commercial opportunities.

RASV also hosted the Dairy Industry Leader's Breakfast as part of the event, providing a unique opportunity for industry professionals to connect and discuss issues and opportunities, as well as hear from business leaders and industry decision makers.

Our efforts to highlight the agricultural industry as a rewarding career path and to identify and develop future industry leaders has continued with the presentation of the Emerging Leaders in Victorian Agricultural awards and the introduction and presentation of the inaugural Youth Dairy Handlers Scholarship, providing a \$10,000 travel bursary to a young person who has demonstrated their interest in and early contribution to the industry.

Identifying and connecting producers with international investment opportunities and business growth into foreign markets, RASV participated in the largest Austrade supported mission to Indonesia in November, with over 360 delegates and five Government Ministers led by Australia's Trade Minister, The Hon Andrew Robb, AO.

RASV participated in the Premium Food and Beverage Stream as part of eight different industry streams for Indonesia-Australia Business Week 2015; spending two days in Jakarta and Bali respectively, allowing for great insight into how we might seek to assist food and beverage exhibitors access Indonesian market opportunities into the future.



In 2015/2016 we have:

- Conducted the inaugural AgriVictoria: State of Opportunity Summit in partnership with key stakeholders;
- Strengthened our partnership with International Dairy Week, Australia's premier dairy event;
- Introduced the Dairy Youth Handler's Scholarship, a \$10,000 travel bursary to visit emerging dairy regions in South- East Asia;
- Participated in the Federal Government Trade Mission to Indonesia.

#### **Enhance our governance and organisational capability**

In our efforts to be recognised as an employer of choice, we further developed our organisational structure, continued to provide opportunities for our team members and implemented new ways to recruit both staff and volunteers.

Encouraging cross functional activity and learning has allowed for internal promotion and has given staff the opportunity to develop skills in various areas of the organisation. This sharing of information also allows for improved succession planning and more efficient processes.

In 2015/2016 we have:

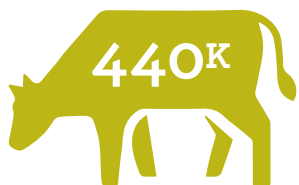
- Developed a new organisational structure;
- Introduced new recruitment processes to attract high level candidates and increase organisational capability;
- Established clear succession plans to encourage internal promotion.

I thank our President Mr Stephen Spargo AM and the entire RASV Board of Directors, Senior Executive Team, Councillors, Members, operational and event committees and all staff for their dedication and commitment, in this successful first year of our 'Towards 2020' Strategy.

**Mark O'Sullivan,**  
Chief Executive Officer



# 2015 HIGHLIGHTS



440,000 PEOPLE  
ATTENDED THE ROYAL  
MELBOURNE SHOW



AROUND 900,000 VISITORS  
ATTENDED OVER 650  
EVENTS AND MEETINGS AT  
MELBOURNE SHOWGROUNDS



RASV EVENTS AND  
PROGRAMS PROVIDED OVER  
\$320M IN VALUE TO THE  
STATE OF VICTORIA



109 CHAMPION / MAJOR  
TROPHIES PRESENTED ACROSS  
THE FOOD & BEVERAGE  
AWARDS PROGRAMS

OVER 25,000  
COMPETITION  
ENTRIES  
PROCESSED



TRADE ENVOYS TO CHINA,  
HONG KONG, INDONESIA,  
SINGAPORE, USA AND NZ.



1,592  
VOLUNTEERS  
DONATED 21,616  
HOURS TO RASV  
EVENTS AND  
PROGRAMS



685,000 UNIQUE VISITORS TO  
ROYALSHOW.COM.AU



150+ INDUSTRY EXPERTS JOINED  
RASV FOOD & BEVERAGE AWARDS  
JUDGING PANELS



650+ INDUSTRY  
STAKEHOLDERS  
ATTENDED  
AGRICULTURE:  
HEART OF VICTORIA  
GALA DINNER.



AROUND 900,000  
VISITORS ATTENDED  
OVER 650 EVENTS  
AND MEETINGS  
AT MELBOURNE  
SHOWGROUNDS



3.2 MILLION  
PEOPLE REACHED  
THROUGH ROYAL  
MELBOURNE  
SHOW FACEBOOK  
CAMPAIGN

# 2015 ROYAL MELBOURNE SHOW

**Victoria's largest and most iconic annual community event, the Royal Melbourne Show, delivered an estimated \$240 million to Victoria's economy and connected more than 440,000 visitors to the state's booming agribusiness sector, over 11 days at Melbourne Showgrounds in September.**

The Victorian State Government announced during the event that Victorian food and fibre exports reached an all-time high of \$11.6 billion in 2014-15, with Victoria's top agriculture event, the Royal Melbourne Show, a critical platform for educating the public, promoting and benchmarking excellence in agrifood and fibre and identifying emerging talent in the agribusiness sector.

Playing an integral role in reinforcing rural identity and building bridges between rural and urban Victoria, the 2015 program saw a strong focus on youth participation, resulting in high entry numbers across a number of competitions.

With a commitment to highlighting the industry to youth, providing opportunities for development and growth and recognising and rewarding the future leaders in agriculture, the 2015 Show saw increased numbers in the Beef Carcase competition, strong candidates for the inaugural Dairy Youth Handlers Scholarship, high levels of school engagement and record numbers for the Young Farmers Challenge.

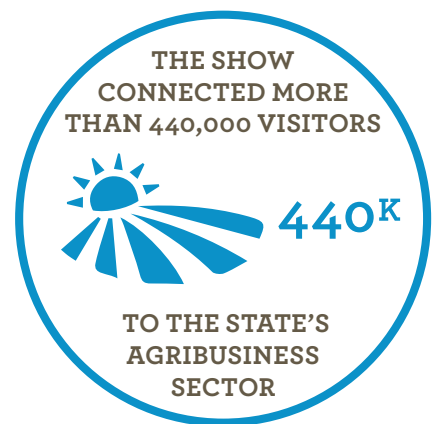
The Royal Melbourne Show received high competition entries across its prestigious blue-ribbon competitions, reaching capacity in most programs.

Showcasing medal and trophy winning produce from RASV's food and beverage awards program, the Winning Tastes Pavilion in its first year located on the MasterChef Set, proved a popular destination for Show attendees with pop-up restaurants from renowned Melbourne eateries Rumi, Huxtaburger with a taste of Huxtable and City Wine Shop rotating over the 11 days.

Tempting visitors with his signature macarons and desserts, Adriano Zumbo's pop-up dessert bar was a must-visit for all food-lovers and a true highlight of the food experience at the Show.

The new Farmhouse and Animal Farmyard precinct, allowed urban audiences to get up close offering direct animal interaction and invaluable insight into working farms, was a well-received addition to the 2015 Show layout.

World-class entertainment was on offer each day of the Show, with performances from leading musical artists including Jessica Mauboy and Justice Crew, as well as Australia's most popular children's character Peppa Pig.







**ZUMBO**  
BERRY BAR

Starts \$9	White choc \$
Verdines \$10	Pistachio \$12
Zumbarons \$25.00	Books
6pk \$15	Zumbo Fiks \$45
12	Zumbarons \$25
Milo	Zumbo \$25
acappella	Zumbo \$25



As part of an ongoing program of connecting with foreign investors and traders, RASV welcomed more than 70 business delegates from China to this year's Royal Melbourne Show ahead of hosting China as a Guest Nation at the 2016 Royal Melbourne Show.

The event was also visited by ABC international and MNC TV, Indonesia's leading free-to-air broadcaster, reaching millions of viewers throughout the region each day.

The 2015 event attracted significant crowds, with a bumper weekend over Saturday, 26 and Sunday, 27 September seeing a record 120,000 people through the gates. More than 60 per cent of visitors pre-purchased tickets online, confirming the Royal Melbourne Show is a major destination event.

The online presence of the Royal Melbourne Show continued to grow with the development of a new responsive website, resulting in the Royal Melbourne Show Facebook campaign reaching over 3.2 million people.



The delivery of the Royal Melbourne Show is made possible through the highly valued support and generous contributions of all valued sponsors, members, exhibitors, staff and volunteers.

RASV acknowledges and appreciates the support of the following sponsors of the 2015 Royal Melbourne Show:

<b>Principal Partners</b>	Woolworths	ADVANCE
	Coca-Cola	Jayco
<b>Major Sponsors</b>	RACV	Herald-Sun
	The Weekly Times	
<b>Sponsors</b>	Telstra	Kubota
	Crust	Whiskas
	Dilmah	Stock & Land
	Di Bella Coffee	

# 2015 AUSTRALIAN INTERNATIONAL BEER AWARDS

The 23rd annual Australian International Beer Awards (AIBA), the largest annual beer competition in the world judging both draught and packaged beer, was held in May 2015, boasting a record number of entries with an 11% increase to 1732, received from 344 exhibitors across 35 countries.

AIBA entries, made up of a wide variety of beer styles were assessed over three days at Melbourne Showgrounds, by an expert industry panel of 58 judges from around the world led by Head Judge Warren Pawsey, with 28 Champion and Major Trophies awarded.

Presented at the AIBA Presentation Dinner on Thursday 21 May, the Champion Australian Beer Trophy went to Mountain Goat Beer, Victoria awarded for their Barley Wine- Barrel Beer, with Champion International Beer awarded to Lion Beer Spirits Wine, New Zealand for their Speight's 5 Malt Old Dark.

This year's Champion Australian Large, Medium and Small Australian Brewery Trophies were awarded to 4 Pines Brewing Company, Thunder Road Brewing Company (for the second consecutive year) and Boatrockers Brewing Company, respectively, whilst Brouweris De Halve Maan, Belgium, Pelican Pub & Brewery, USA and ParrotDog Brewing took out the International champion brewery honours.

The remaining 23 trophies, including two champions Yantai Platinum Brewing Co., Shanghai (Gary Sheppard Memorial Trophy for Best New Exhibitor) and Luke Robertson from aleofatime.com (AIBA Media Award), were split evenly between local and international breweries, including four to New Zealand and one each to breweries in USA, UK, Germany, Thailand and Vietnam.

The unique and highly-anticipated Collaboration Beer, which has become a highlight of the AIBA was also unveiled during the official proceedings. This year the brew, named Girt by Three was released by the 2014 large, medium and small Australian champion breweries, Carlton & United Breweries, Thunder Road Brewing Company and 3 Ravens and was a celebration of Australia's rich brewing history, along with a nod to the future direction of the industry.

RASV acknowledges and appreciates the support of all AIBA sponsors.



<b>Major Sponsor</b>	Federation University Australia	
<b>Presenting Partners</b>	Barrett Burston	GrainCorp
	Cryermalt	
<b>Event Partners</b>	City of Ballarat	FB Propak
	Exponet	Kegstar
<b>Trophy Sponsors</b>	Bargo Events	GrainCorp
	Barrett Burston Malting	Hellmann Beverage Logistics
	Beer DeLuxe	Kegstar
	Brewtique	Labelmakers
	City of Ballarat	Plasdene
	The Crafty Pint	The Post Project
	Cryermalt	Spiegelau
	Exponet	Three Degrees Marketing
	FB Propak	Time Out
	Federation University Australia	Weyermann



# 2015 ROYAL MELBOURNE FINE FOOD AWARDS

**Victorian producers excelled at the Royal Melbourne Fine Food Awards (RMFFA) in 2015, claiming more than 60 per cent of the esteemed Trophies.**

Highly regarded as Australia's premium fine food event, the 2015 competition saw 49 RMFFA Trophies and 1172 medals presented to recognise excellence in 16 fine food categories.

Fine food producers from Victoria were awarded an impressive 30 champion trophies and 672 of awarded medals overall, making them the most successful region in the country with the prestigious Victorian Award for Best Victorian Product taken home by Cobram Estate in Northern Victoria for its Reserve Hojiblanca Extra Virgin Olive Oil.

New to the program in 2015 the 'Easter Chocolate' specialty classes gave chocolatiers the chance to benchmark and credibly market their products, with Melbourne's Chocolat the inaugural winner of the Champion Easter Egg Trophy.

Receiving 1796 entries from 408 exhibitors, the RMFFA were judged over two seasonal programs, Autumn and Spring, with categories including garlic, chocolate, table olives, cider and perry, pantry goods, pasta, dairy, ice cream, bread and baked goods, branded beef and smallgoods.

RASV acknowledges and thanks the 2015 RMFFA sponsors:

<b>Trophy Sponsors</b>	Dairy Australia
	Majors Group





# 2015 ROYAL MELBOURNE WINE AWARDS

The Royal Melbourne Wine Awards presented 24 Champion and Major trophies to 16 producers across 12 wine regions in 2015, awarded by an adept judging panel of 35 industry professionals.

The panel led by Acting Chair Jim Chatto, who assumed the role after Chair Tom Carson sustained a leg injury in the days before the judging commenced, assessed 3097 entries from 537 exhibitors, including 114 first time entrants, over five days at Melbourne Showgrounds in October.

Tasmanian winery Home Hill Wines, located in the Huon Valley Tasmania, was awarded two major trophies - the highly coveted Jimmy Watson Memorial Trophy for Best Young Red, and the James Halliday Trophy for Best Pinot Noir, with their 2014 Kelly's Reserve Pinot Noir.

For the first time, the Victorian Trophy for Wines of Provenance were awarded for both red and white varieties recognising the best wines over a minimum of 10 years, spanning three vintages of the same label. This trophy awards the skill and consistency of the winemaker, with the white trophy awarded to TarraWarra Estate's Chardonnay 2014, 2006, 2004, Yarra Valley and the red trophy to Castagna's Genesis Syrah 2012, 2006, 2002, Beechworth.

Celebrating ongoing success, Oakridge Wines were awarded the Douglas Seabrook Trophy for Best Single Vineyard for the second year running, this year for their Chardonnay, the Oakridge Local Vineyard Series Barkala Ridge 2013, also awarded the Best Chardonnay trophy.

In a true sign of sustained quality, the viticultural team behind the Barkala Ridge Chardonnay were also awarded the Kim Ludvigsen Trophy for Viticultural Excellence, for the second year running. This award in Ludvigsen's name recognises excellence in viticulture and is awarded to the team behind the grapes that produce the single vineyard trophy winning wine.

The Royal Melbourne Wine Awards presentation, attended by the Minister for Agriculture, The Hon Jaala Pulford, was held in The Great Hall, National Gallery Victoria on Thursday 15 October.

RASV acknowledges and thanks for the following sponsors of the Royal Melbourne Wine Awards:



<b>Event Sponsor</b>	Portavin	
<b>Trophy Sponsors</b>	Dan Murphy's	Reidel Australia
	Kubota	James Halliday's Wine Companion
	ExpoNet	Seabrook Wines
	The Australian United Professionals	





ROYAL MELBOURNE  
**WINE**  
AWARDS

# 2016 AUSTRALIAN INTERNATIONAL COFFEE AWARDS

**Eight Champion Trophies were presented to winners from Western Australia, Victoria, ACT, Queensland and Indonesia at the 2016 Australian International Coffee Awards (AICA), with trophies for Cold Brew Coffee and Direct Trade or Microlot Coffee introduced to the awards for the first time.**

Jakarta's Tanamera Coffee Indonesia celebrated their second consecutive win of Champion International Roaster, as well as being awarded the Champion Filter Coffee for their Malabar Natural, whilst ACT-based roasters Bean!Roasters by Cosmorex took home top honours receiving the Champion Australian Roaster trophy.

Winning both of the new awards, Queensland's Bellissimo Coffee were named Champion Cold Brew Coffee & Champion Direct Trade or Microlot Coffee Trophy for the CHNO Panama. The CHNO Panama is lovingly brewed by hand from a high quality Panama Giesha coffee sourced directly from the outstanding farmers at Los Cantares Estate.

Indicative of the wide-spanning, high-quality coffee production in Australia and the truly national nature of the awards, Western Australia's Grouch & Co and Grindhouse were awarded Champion Espresso (Diamond Mule) and Champion Milk Based Coffee (Grindhouse Blend) respectively,

whilst Grinders Coffee, based in Victoria took home Champion Soy Based Coffee for their single origin blend Fix Three Origin Fairtrade Organic Coffee.

The first and only international coffee roasting competition in Australia, the awards received 658 entries from 143 local and international coffee roasters in 2016, including coffees from New Zealand, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Korea, Singapore, Canada, USA and UK.

A total of 234 medals including 10 gold, 68 silver and 156 bronze were awarded over four days of judging which took place at Melbourne Showgrounds, with a panel of 30 industry experts assessing the entries.

The awards were presented as a partner event of the Melbourne International Coffee Expo Launch which was held at The Meat Market, North Melbourne in March.

RASV acknowledges and thanks the following sponsors of the Australian International Coffee Awards:



Event Partners	MICE	
Trophy Sponsors	Pullman Tampers	Riverina Fresh
	Bonsoy	Mr Black Spirits
	Espresso Mechanics	



# MELBOURNE SHOWGROUNDS

As Victoria's largest and most flexible indoor/outdoor venue, Melbourne Showgrounds is a significant contributor to Melbourne's major events calendar, providing specifically designed spaces suitable for hosting a variety of events and activities including trade shows, exhibitions, expos, festivals and more.

Over 900,000 people attended more than 650 events at Melbourne Showgrounds in 2015/2016, which was also the selected venue for 63 other large scale exhibitions and trade shows.

The size and scale of events continued to grow with a number of new events successfully held for the first time at the venue. Camp Gallipoli, Harvey Norman Electrical Tradeshow, Lorna Jane Warehouse Clearance, Ultimate Sports Expo, Australian Construction & Equipment Expo, SEEK Family Day, GO Festival and the TET Festival celebrating the Vietnamese New Year were all new venue events in 2015/2016.

The large scale indoor pavilions at Melbourne Showgrounds have been increasingly used for tertiary exams, with Victoria University, ACER, CPA and newly acquired RMIT mid-year and end of year exams all held at the venue this year.

Multiple agricultural events were also hosted at the venue including judging of RASV's award programs, Kubota Tradeshow, Melbourne International Coffee Expo, Horticulture and Gardening Festival and the International Food & Beverage Trade Week.

Highlighting the ability of the venue to host diverse events, Melbourne Showgrounds was the selected venue for a number of community events including The Smith Family hamper packing, CBA Operation Plum Pudding and the MasterChef fete, raising money for the Royal Children's Hospital.

A fourth series of MasterChef was filmed at the venue, in addition to the MasterChef Top 50, which was produced at Melbourne Showgrounds for the first time.

RASV is committed to making ongoing improvements to Melbourne Showgrounds facilities and exhibition areas with the following works completed in 2015:

- Grand Pavilion (Building 7) skirt replacement and addition of concrete area at rear of building for placement of temporary toilets.
- Indoor and outdoor lighting upgrades including use of LED, to reduce energy consumption.
- Upgraded meeting room facilities including improved audio-visual equipment.

THERE WERE MORE THAN



EVENTS AT MELBOURNE SHOWGROUNDS

THE SELECTED VENUE FOR



LARGE SCALE EXHIBITION & TRADE SHOWS





## 2016 INTERNATIONAL DAIRY WEEK

**The RASV's highly coveted Dairy Interbreed Champion was for the first time presented at International Dairy Week (IDW) in Tatura, 17-21 January, as part of the organisation's revised dairy program.**

Increasing our support through major sponsorship of IDW, considered Australia's premier dairy event, RASV also sponsored a number of other competition classes, conducted the RASV Dairy Industry Leader's Breakfast and had an onsite presence throughout the duration of the event.

On the final day of judging the prestigious awards of Junior Interbreed Champion, Intermediate Interbreed Champion and Australia's Grand Champion were awarded by an esteemed panel of six judges, including local and international experts from Australia, Canada and the USA.

Junior Champion was awarded to Brunchilli Excitation Belle (Jersey) of Brunchilli Farming Trust, Finley NSW, with Paringa Fever Opa of Paringa Holsteins, Invergordon Victoria taking home the ribbon for Intermediate Champion.

A veteran of the Dairy Show circuit, nine-year-old Shirlinn Icy Eve of Shirlinn Jerseys, Tamworth NSW took out the coveted title of Australia's Grand Champion, after impressing the judges throughout the competition.

As part of RASV's commitment to supporting regional events and providing greater opportunities to industry participants, the addition of the RASV Interbreed to the IDW schedule was well received, with the competition boasting record entries this year.



## 2015 AGRICULTURE: THE HEART OF VICTORIA

**The third annual Agriculture: The Heart of Victoria dinner brought together over 700 industry stakeholders, recognising the importance of Victoria's agricultural industry.**

Hosted by The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria and the Victorian Farmers' Federation, the event focused on the future of Australia's emerging trade and investment opportunities.

Held on Thursday 11 June at Central Pier, Docklands, following the AgriVictoria: State of Opportunity Summit, guests had the chance to sample some of Victoria's finest produce and join distinguished industry influencers.

The pinnacle of Victoria's agricultural calendar, Agriculture: The Heart of Victoria celebrated the importance of Victoria's \$11.4 billion agri-economy and its reputation for producing world-class food.





## 2015 AGRIVICTORIA: STATE OF OPPORTUNITY

**The inaugural AgriVictoria: State of Opportunity Summit was held in June 2015, providing pathways for over 240 industry professionals to map and build the future of Victoria's diverse agri-economy.**

Growers, producers, processors and industry professionals along the value chain were invited to attend the Summit on Thursday 11 June at the Park Hyatt Hotel in Melbourne, delivered in collaboration between RASV, The Victorian Farmers Federation (VFF), ANZ, PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC), The Victorian Agribusiness Council (VAC) and The Global Foundation (TGF) and sponsored by State Government Victoria.

The Summit placed itself as an unparalleled opportunity to forge vital domestic and international connections, demonstrated how to become investment ready and identified new market opportunities for Victorian farmers, producers and industry professionals from across the food and fibre value chains.





## 2016 RASV HEIFER CHALLENGE

**The fifth annual RASV Heifer Challenge was held in January 2016, as part of Stock & Land Beef Week with close to 50 beef cattle properties participating.**

Assessed by experienced Cattle Judge Bob Dent, the on-farm competition took place over nine days, travelling across Victoria and into NSW, before culminating in the awards presentation in Bendigo on Friday 5 February.

The RASV Heifer Challenge highlights the quality of the herd replacement females in seed stock operation throughout the regions and is held as part of Stock & Land Beef Week, which celebrated its 25th anniversary this year.

After being named a finalist last year, Boonaroo Angus of Corndale in South West Victoria stepped up to take the title of 2016 Champion, with owners Shane and Jodie Foster awarded the \$3000 cash prize.

Five of the ten 2016 finalists were also named in the top ten in 2015, including Reserve Champion Eloora Shorthorns, of Bulart, who received a \$1500 cash prize.

Run by Stud Beef Victoria, Stock & Land Beef Week provides more than 200 beef producers with a unique opportunity to market, showcase and select genetics for breeding operations.

# 2015 YOUTH IN AGRICULTURE

**As part of an ongoing commitment to offering compelling future development and highlighting career opportunities in the industry, RASV awarded a number of scholarships and awards recognising outstanding young participants in 2015.**

With a significant increase in exhibitors for the Royal Melbourne Show Beef Carcase competitions, strong candidates for the inaugural Dairy Youth Handlers Scholarship, high level of schools engagement, a record number of teams for the Young Farmer Challenge, and two high standard recipients of the Emerging Leaders in Victorian Agriculture award, the organisation received a significantly encouraging response to all youth programs.

## Emerging Leaders in Victorian Agriculture

The third annual RASV Emerging Leaders in Victorian Agriculture (ELVA) awards were presented at the Royal Melbourne Show Agribusiness Leaders Luncheon on 25 September, with two recipients receiving the award and \$5000 scholarship.

Brandon Sykes and Hayden Findlay joined a list of previous winners and identified young industry leaders, after being nominated for their contribution to their profession, industry and community and demonstrated leadership in the food and fibre sector.

Brandon Sykes, a third generation beef farmer, is currently President of Herefords Australia Youth, founded the Victorian Hereford Youth Group and has presented cattle at the Royal Melbourne Show. Brandon was previously selected as one of six Herefords Australia Youth Ambassadors and later selected as Ambassador of the year.

Hayden Findlay is a pioneer in various alternative farming techniques and has turned a standard beef farm into a biodiverse environment with a variety of enterprises including a farm shop and cafe, PYO berries, grass-fed beef, free range pork, honey, free range eggs, seasonal vegetables and cut flowers. He was The Weekly Times Farm Magazine Outstanding Farmer of the Year in 2014.

The awards recognise people younger than 40 who have demonstrated leadership qualities in the food and fibre sector, and also contribute to their profession, industry and community. Recipients of the awards receive up to \$5,000 to help them develop their career.

## Dairy Youth Handlers Scholarship

As part of RASV's revised dairy program, the introduction of the Dairy Youth Handlers Scholarship received a strong response in its first year, with outstanding applications entered by five industry participants aged under 21 across Victoria and into NSW.

The scholarship, providing the recipient with a \$10,000 travel bursary for the chance to travel to emerging dairy regions in South-East Asia, was won by 18 year old animal science student Keeley Warren, of Nowra NSW.

After successfully completing the pre-Show tasks of a 1000-word essay and panel interview, applicants were required to participate in the Dairy Youth Handlers Classic during the Royal Melbourne Show Dairy Competition, with all three elements considered by the judges.

THE ELVA AWARDS  
RECOGNISE PEOPLE  
YOUNGER THAN 40 WHO  
HAVE DEMONSTRATED



LEADERSHIP QUALITIES  
IN THE FOOD AND  
FIBRE SECTOR

THE DAIRY  
YOUTH HANDLERS  
SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS



\$10K

FOR THE RECIPIENT TO  
TRAVEL TO EMERGING  
DAIRY REGIONS  
IN ASIA



WEEKLY TI

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STEWARDS

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# ROYAL MELBOURNE SHOW



SECTION	AWARD	EXHIBIT	EXHIBITOR
<b>Royal Melbourne Show</b>			
Art, Craft & Cookery	The Florence Monod Memorial Award	Crochet Blanket	Carolyn Budge - Ivanhoe VIC
Beef Carcase	Grand Champion Carcase	Exhibit 200	Longerenong College - Longerenong VIC
	Borthwick Trophy	Simmental	Lewis Bruggemann, Webb Black Simmentals
Beef Cattle	Supreme Beef Exhibit	Kodiak	Pine Creek Angus Stud - Woodstock NSW
Dairy	RASV Interbreed- Australia's Grand Champion	Shirlinn Icy Eve	Shirlinn Jerseys - Tamworth NSW
Royal Melbourne Championship Dog Show	Best In Show	Champion Picardy PS I Love You (Standard Poodle)	Mr M I & Mrs L S Boyd - The Oaks NSW
	Best Puppy In Show	Champion Airebis I Will Always Love You (Samoyed)	Mrs J, Mr G & Miss K Hughes - Reservoir VIC
	Best Baby Puppy In Show	Sleykh Suit and Tie, Pharoah (Hound)	Dr A L Oksa Walker - Day Boro QLD
	Obedience	Ellagant Great Rhythm (Australian Shepherd)	Mrs A Mann - Whittlesea VIC
	Agility	Yeoville Catch Me if You Can (Border Collie)	Dr R F Atyeo - Narre Warren North VIC
	Jumping	Kayladene Ignite My Fire (Border Collie)	Mrs G, Mrs K and Mr K Kisielnicki - Cranbourne South VIC
Horses in Action	The Garryowen Equestrienne Turnout	Chosen One	Shae Hanger - Pearcedale VIC
Garryowen Hall of Fame	Garryowen Hall of Fame Horse	Ark Royal	
	Garryowen Hall of Fame Rider		Mrs Eileen Coffey
	Garryowen Hall of Fame Exceptional Service		Mrs Marion McKinnon
Woodchop	Golden Axe - Grand Aggregate Trophy		Lawrence M O'Toole - Doncaster VIC
	The Two Garrys' - Handicap Aggregate Trophy		Andrew Cox - South Canterbury NZ
Sheep	The "Dalmore Trophy" - Interbreed Champion Ram		AE Day & Sons - Bordertown SA
	Interbreed Champion Ewe		Wattle Park Border Leicester Stud - Temora NSW
Goats	Supreme Champion Boer Goat	Dora	J Vesty (Vesty Boers) - Deniliquin NSW
Fleece	Champion Lambs' Wool	Exhibit 196	Doug Hopkins (Challicum) - Buangor VIC
	Champion Skirted Fleece	Exhibit 123	Craig Trickey (Coryule) - Willowvale VIC
	Champion Black & Coloured Fleece	Exhibit 117	Helen Wright - Glenlofty VIC
	Champion District Fleece	Exhibit 152	Warrnambool Agricultural Society - Berrybank VIC
<b>RASV Events &amp; Awards</b>			
Royal Melbourne Fine Food Awards	Award for Best Victorian Product	Reserve Hojiblanca Extra Virgin Olive Oil	Cobram Estate - Boundary Bend VIC
Emerging Leaders in Victorian Agriculture	Emerging Leader Award		Brandon Sykes - Longford VIC
	Emerging Leader Award		Hayden Findlay - Moriac VIC

# RASV EVENTS & AWARDS



SECTION	AWARD	EXHIBIT	EXHIBITOR
<b>RASV Events &amp; Awards</b>			
Royal Melbourne Wine Awards	Jimmy Watson Memorial Trophy	Home Hill Kelly's Reserve Pinot Noir 2014	Home Hill Wines - Ranelagh TAS
	The James Halliday Trophy for Best Pinot Noir	Home Hill Kelly's Reserve Pinot Noir 2014	Home Hill Wines - Ranelagh TAS
	The Victorian Trophy for Red Wines of Provenance	Castagna Genesis Syrah 2012, 2006, 2002	Castagna - Beechworth VIC
	The Victorian Trophy for White Wines of Provenance	TarraWarra Estate Chardonnay 2014, 2008, 2004	TarraWarra Estate - Yarra Valley VIC
	The Trevor Mast Trophy for Best Shiraz	Mea Culpa Syrah 2014	Innocent Bystander - Yarra Valley VIC
	The Francois De Castella Trophy for Best Young White Wine	Coldstream Hills Reserve Chardonnay 2014	Coldstream Hills - Yarra Valley VIC
	The Douglas Seabrook Single Vineyard Trophy	Oakridge Local Vineyards Series, Barkala Ridge, Chardonnay 2013	Oakridge Wines - Yarra Valley VIC
	The Kym Ludigsen Trophy for Viticultural Excellence	Barkala Ridge Viticultural Team	David Bicknell, John Funder, Val Diamond, Steve Sadlier & Mario Pagotto
The Bill Chambers Trophy for Best Fortified in Show	Morris Cellar Reserve Grand Liqueur Tokay, NV Muscadelle	Morris Wines - Rutherglen VIC	
Australian International Beer Awards	Champion Large Australian Brewery		4 Pines Brewing Co. - Brookvale NSW
	Champion Large International Brewery		Brouweris De Halve Maan - Bruges BEL
	Champion Medium Australian Brewery		Thunder Road Brewing Co. - Brunswick VIC
	Champion Medium International Brewery		Pelican Brewing Company - Oregon USA
	Champion Small Australian Brewery		Boatrocker Brewing Co. - Parkdale VIC
	Champion Small International Brewery		ParrotDog Brewing - Wellington NSW
Australian International Coffee Awards	Champion Australian Roaster		Bean!Roasters by Cosmorex - Canberra ACT
	Champion International Roaster		Tanamera Coffee - Jakarta IDN
	Champion Espresso	Diamond Mule	Grouch & Co - Myaree WA
	Champion Milk Based Coffee	Grindhouse Blend	Grindhouse - Bundal QLD
	Champion Soy Based Coffee	Fix Three Origin Fairtrade Organic Coffee	Grinders Coffee - Melbourne VIC
	Champion Filter Coffee	Malabar Natural	Tanamera Coffee - Jakarta IDN
	Champion Cold Brew	CHNO Panama	Bellissimo Coffee - Fortitude Valley QLD
	Champion Direct Trade or Microlot Coffee	CHNO Panama	Bellissimo Coffee - Fortitude Valley QLD
McLennan-McColl Flock of the Year	Champion		GF & RK Davidson - Walpa VIC
Stock & Land Beef Week	RASV Heifer Challenge		Boonaroo Angus - Corndale VIC
Royal Melbourne Poultry Show	Supreme Champion in Show - in Memory of Mr G Sheppard	Silky Pullet	Ian Nash - Teesdale VIC
Royal Melbourne Alpaca Show	Supreme Champion Suri	Kurrawa Ready Aim Fire	Natasha Clark (Kurrawa) - Bellbrae VIC
	Supreme Champion Huacaya	Kurrawa Legends Armed N Dangerous	Natasha Clark (Kurrawa) - Bellbrae VIC

# CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The Board will continue to foster strong relationships with the RASV's joint venture partner and ensure that the Redevelopment Project Objectives are achieved.



## Board of Directors

The Board's overarching objectives are to represent and serve the interests of members, guide and monitor the business and affairs of RASV, and implement good corporate governance structures consistent with relevant ASX governance principles, specifically to:

- Provide strategic guidance and approve the organisation's strategic/business plans, budgets and performance targets;
- Lay solid foundations for management and oversight;
- Structure the Board to add value;
- Promote ethical and responsible decision making;
- Safeguard integrity in financial reporting;
- Recognise and manage risk;
- Encourage enhanced performance – from economic, social and environmental standpoints;
- Remunerate fairly and responsibly;
- Recognise the legitimate interests of RASV's stakeholders.

The Board will continue to foster strong relationships with the RASV's joint venture partner and ensure that the Redevelopment Project Objectives are achieved.

## Board Composition

The Board comprises of a maximum of ten Directors and is chaired by the person so elected by the Directors.

The Board requires its Directors to have a broad range of expertise and experience, in a field which is complementary to RASV's activities and strategy, or with appropriate professional qualifications and proven ability to make meaningful contributions to the Board's deliberations.

## Membership Committee

The Membership Committee is appointed by the Board of Directors. The Committee consists of a minimum of three members and is chaired by a person nominated by the chairman and assisted by RASV's General Manager Marketing & Business Development.

The Committee provides an efficient and effective mechanism for developing, assessing and recommending where necessary to the Board strategies and initiatives in relation to membership growth, member value and benefits, member utilisation, member satisfaction and member service and experiences.





## Audit and Risk Management Committee

The Audit and Risk Management Committee consists of Non Executive Directors and suitably qualified independent persons.

It is charged with:

- Assisting the Board and RASV senior management in discharging their responsibilities for financial reporting and in maintaining a reliable system of internal controls covering all of RASV's operations and activities;
- Monitoring the implementation of RASV's relevant strategies, in relation to their risk management components;
- Fostering the organisation's ethical environment;
- Overseeing and appraising the quality of the audits conducted both by the internal and external auditors;
- Fostering and maintaining open lines of communication between the internal and external auditor to ensure information exchange and coordination of activity;
- Monitoring and assessing the adequacy and scope of RASV's procedural, operating and accounting controls;
- Providing an independent and objective review of operational and financial information provided by management to the Board.

## Nominations Committee

The Nominations Committee is appointed by the Board of Directors and is primarily responsible for making recommendations to the Board regarding the selection and nomination of chairpersons and members of:

- The Board;
- Board Committees;
- Industry Advisory and Show Event Committees.

The Committee is also appointed to oversee the implementation of performance evaluation processes for members of the above groups.

## Political Activity

RASV is politically impartial and it does not provide donations to any political party.



FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

# FINANCIAL REPORTS



Directors' Report	42
Auditor's Independence Declaration	46
Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income	47
Statement of Financial Position	48
Statement of Changes in Equity	49
Statement of Cash Flows	50
Notes to the Statement of Cash Flows	51
Notes to the Financial Statements	52
Directors' Declaration	69
Independent Auditor's Report	70

# DIRECTORS' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

The directors present their report together with the financial report of The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria Limited (“the Company”) for the year ended 31 March 2016 and the auditor’s report thereon.

<b>DIRECTORS</b>	
The directors of the Company at any time during or since the end of the financial year are:	
<b>Name</b>	<b>Experience and Special Responsibilities</b>
Stephen Charles Spargo AM	Stephen has experience in commercial law and corporate finance. He was appointed a Director in July 2000 and Chairman of the Board in December 2009. He also chairs the Nominations Committee.
Douglas Scott Chapman	Scott has a broad experience in business growth, marketing and major event management and sits on a number of Boards with rural connections. He is currently CEO of the Royal Flying Doctor Service and was appointed a Director of the Company in June 2009. He is a member of the Audit and Risk Management Committee.
Matthew John Coleman	Matthew has experience in rural representation, economic development and policy design and administration at both State and Federal levels. He sits on a number of Boards and Committees directly relevant to the rural sector and owns a commercial dairy farm in West Gippsland. Matthew joined the Board in September 2011.
Darrin Grimsey	Darrin has extensive experience in the projects environment as an engineer, project manager and financial / commercial adviser and is a partner with Ernst & Young. Darrin joined the Board in April 2015 and is a member of the Audit and Risk Management Committee.
Alan John Hawkes	Alan has significant financial, banking and treasury experience. He is a member of the Board Audit and Risk Management Committee and a member of the Nominations Committee. He joined the Board in April 2008.
Deborah Anne Hodgson	Deborah has extensive experience in finance, commercial management, strategic planning and project management and has worked in several industries including construction, energy, facilities management and the public sector. Deborah was appointed to the Board in August 2010 and is a member of the Audit and Risk Management Committee.
Noelene Elizabeth King OAM	Noelene runs a beef property and a dairy heifer replacement enterprise in Gippsland. She is involved in local Agricultural Societies, the Stud Beef Victoria Handlers Camp and actively promotes youth in agriculture. She represented the Society on the Young Farmer Finance Council from 1999 to 2011 and serves on several agricultural committees. Noelene was appointed to the Board in September 2011.
Geoffrey James Phillips	Geoff has a background in rural journalism and marketing with a particular interest in the beef industry. He was appointed a Director in April 2002.
Joy Anita Potter	Joy has extensive experience in sheep, beef cattle farming and cropping and serves on several agricultural committees. She has an interest in the arts and is a Board member of the Port Fairy Spring Music Festival. Joy was elected as a Director and her term commenced in August 2007.
Peter Jason Bruce Ronald OAM	Jason has worked for the University of Melbourne, Ballarat University, Federal and State Governments and Qantas. He runs a property fattening cattle and conducts the Brolga Pony Stud. He is a member of the Nominations Committee. Jason was appointed a Director in September 2009.
<b>COMPANY SECRETARY</b>	
Jonathan Perry	Jonathan is a Certified Practising Accountant with over twenty years’ experience in financial management. He was appointed as Company Secretary on 1 June 2009.

## PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The principal activities of the Company during the course of the year ended 31 March 2016 have comprised organising and staging the Royal Melbourne Show and other agriculture, food, wine and related competitions, and also the venue management of the Melbourne Showgrounds.

There were no significant changes in the nature of these activities during the year.

## OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES FOR ACHIEVING OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Company are to promote the development of all phases of the agricultural, pastoral, horticultural, viticultural, stock raising, manufacturing and industrial resources of Victoria.

The short term objectives of the Company are to promote and celebrate agriculture through events that link industry to consumers and aim to improve quality and increase demand for Victorian agricultural produce.

The long term objectives are to ensure financial sustainability of the Company whilst allowing for the enhancement of existing events, the development of new initiatives and further investing in the Melbourne Showgrounds site.

The Company's strategy for achieving these objectives is to hold, promote, assist or subsidise exhibitions, displays or shows of any nature or kind at any time or place. This includes conducting Victoria's largest community event, the Royal Melbourne Show, and leading industry events such as the Royal Melbourne Wine Awards, the Australian International Beer Awards, the Australian International Coffee Awards and the Royal Melbourne Fine Food Awards. In addition, the Company is also responsible for management of the Melbourne Showgrounds event and exhibition venue.

## PERFORMANCE MEASURES

The objectives of the Company are able to be measured using various performance measures. These include numbers of members and exhibitors, event attendances, customer satisfaction ratings, number of agricultural industry organisations involved in events and competitions, and growth in returns from the Show, the venue and other events.

## REVIEW AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The operating result of the Company for the year before income tax and joint venture contribution was a surplus of \$296,136 (2015: surplus of \$1,317,824). After inclusion of the RASV share of loss in the joint venture accounted for using the equity method of accounting, the net deficit of the Company for the year after tax was \$3,722,024 (2015: deficit \$2,524,696). During the year:

Rental and associated income from the Venue operation was \$7,414,891 and the net result for the current financial year is a surplus of \$999,600. During the year the Company was obliged to make a contribution toward capital investment of \$658,450. The capital investment contribution is a minimum annual contribution specified by the Showgrounds Venue Management Agreement. This contribution ensures that a portion of the profits from the venue operation are reinvested back into the Showgrounds site. The Company has fulfilled its obligations by investing \$697,849 in projects including Building 7 gas, water and sewer modifications, fibre cabling upgrades, LED lighting upgrades to Building 13 and external flood lighting, and CCTV and wireless access improvements across the site.

- After submissions to the Australian Taxation Office, the Company received exemption from GST under Section 38-250(2)(v)(ii) of the GST Act for certain classes of admissions and entries relating to the Royal Melbourne Show.
- The Company paid fees to the Joint Venture and the Concessionaire as part of its contractual obligations. These fees will be ongoing until the completion of the 25 year term of the Concessionaire in 2031. The State of Victoria has agreed to provide a loan to the Company to settle any shortfall in funding. At the conclusion of the concession period this loan may be repaid in the form of a transfer to the State of all or part of the Company's interest in the Joint Venture (refer Note 8).
- The Company was appointed Venue Manager for the Melbourne Showgrounds in December 2007 for the provision of venue management services for a term of five years, effective 1 April 2007. This was subsequently extended while further negotiations for the renewal of the contract were undertaken. Effective 1 July 2014 the Company has been appointed Venue Manager until the conclusion of the concession deed in 2031.

## DIVIDENDS

The Company is limited by guarantee and is prohibited by its Constitution from paying a dividend to its members.

# DIRECTORS' REPORT CONT'D

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

## SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN THE STATE OF AFFAIRS

Other than as described elsewhere in this report there were no significant changes in the Company's state of affairs during the year.

## EVENTS SUBSEQUENT TO BALANCE DATE

There are no matters or circumstances that have arisen since the end of the financial year that have significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Company, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the Company, in future years.

## DIRECTORS' MEETINGS

The number of Directors' meetings and Audit and Risk Management Committee meetings attended by each of the directors of the Company during the year are:

	Directors' Meetings Attended	Directors' Meetings Eligible to Attend	Audit and Risk Management Meetings Attended	Audit and Risk Management Meetings Eligible to Attend
DS Chapman	4	6	4	5
MJ Coleman	6	6	-	-
D Grimsey	5	6	3	5
AJ Hawkes	5	6	3	5
DA Hodgson	6	6	4	5
NE King OAM	6	6	-	-
GJ Phillips	4	6	-	-
JA Potter	4	6	-	-
PJB Ronald OAM	6	6	-	-
SC Spargo AM	6	6	5	5

## FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Company's activities expose it to changes in interest rates. It is also exposed to credit and liquidity risks from its operations. The Board has confirmed policies and procedures in each of these areas to manage these exposures. Management reports to the Board at each Board meeting as to the monitoring of policies in place, and adherence to the policies is strictly observed.

Operating cash flows are managed to ensure that the Company is not exposed to any adverse liquidity risks. Adequate standby facilities are maintained to provide liquidity to meet unexpected and material cash outflows in the ordinary course of business.

## LIKELY DEVELOPMENTS

The Company will continue to pursue its objectives by growing the venue management business and building on the success of the Royal Melbourne Show. Further information on likely developments in the operations of the Company and expected results of those operations have not been included in this report because the Directors believe it would result in unreasonable prejudice to the Company.

## PERFORMANCE IN RELATION TO ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION

The Company aims to ensure that the highest standards of environmental care are achieved. The Board maintains the responsibility for ensuring that the Company is aware of and is in compliance with all relevant environmental legislation. The operations of the Company are not subject to any site specific environmental licences or permits which would be considered as particular or significant under laws of the State of Victoria or the Australia Commonwealth Government nor does the Company have any exposure to significant environmental reporting requirements.

## INDEMNIFICATION AND INSURANCE OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS OR AUDITORS

### Indemnification

The Company has an agreement indemnifying those persons who are and have been directors and/or officers, against all liabilities to another person (other than the Company or a related body corporate) that may arise from their position as directors and/or officers of the Company, except where the liability arises out of conduct involving a lack of good faith. The agreement stipulates that the Company will meet the full amount of any such liabilities, including costs and expenses. No indemnities have been given during or since the end of the financial year to the auditor of the entity.

### Insurance premiums

During the year, the Company has paid premiums in respect of directors' and officers' liability and legal expenses for the year ended 31 March 2016. The contracts insure against certain liability (subject to specific exclusions) for persons who are or have been directors or executive officers of the Company.

Directors have not included details of the nature of the liabilities covered or the amount of the premium paid as such disclosure is prohibited under the terms of the contract.

## MEMBER'S LIABILITY

The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria Limited is a company limited by guarantee. In the event of the Company being wound up the liability of each of its members is limited by its Constitution to an amount not exceeding \$20 while that member is a member, or within one year after that member ceases to be a member.

## PROCEEDINGS ON BEHALF OF THE COMPANY

No person has applied for leave of Court to bring proceedings on behalf of the Company or intervene in any proceedings to which the Company is a party for the purpose of taking responsibility on behalf of the Company for all or any part of those proceedings. The Company was not a party to any such proceedings during the year.

## AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION

The Auditor's Independence Declaration under the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission Act 2012 is set out on page 46.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors made pursuant to the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission Act 2012.

On behalf of the Directors



**S C Spargo**  
Director  
Chairman

Dated this 21st day of June 2016  
Melbourne, Victoria



**D A Hodgson**  
Director

# AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION



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Australia

## DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE BY DAVID GARVEY TO THE DIRECTORS OF THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA LIMITED

As lead auditor of The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria Limited for the year ended 31 March 2016, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

1. No contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* in relation to the audit; and
2. No contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'David Garvey'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

David Garvey  
Partner

**BDO East Coast Partnership**

Melbourne, 21 June 2016



# STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

	Note	2016	2015
		\$	\$
<b>Revenue</b>			
Rendering of Services	2	24,844,607	26,249,621
Other Income	2	2,162,851	2,154,695
		<b>27,007,458</b>	<b>28,404,316</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Advertising, Promotion and Marketing		1,428,925	1,337,345
Contribution to Asset Replenishment Fund		-	26,505
Depreciation		1,277,981	1,094,489
Event Expenses		5,607,559	5,429,736
Finance Costs		2,053	2,485
Maintenance, Hire and Event Set Up		5,315,289	4,933,581
Professional Fees		1,332,917	1,931,900
Salaries and Wages		7,357,960	7,155,456
Utilities and Rates		796,343	891,440
Venue Access and Service Fees		1,501,214	1,668,374
Other Expenses		2,091,081	2,615,181
		<b>26,711,322</b>	<b>27,086,492</b>
<b>Profit before income tax and Joint Venture loss</b>		<b>296,136</b>	<b>1,317,824</b>
Share of loss from equity accounted investment in Joint Venture	8	(4,018,160)	(3,842,520)
<b>Loss before income tax</b>		<b>(3,722,024)</b>	<b>(2,524,696)</b>
Income Tax Expense	13	-	-
<b>Loss after income tax attributable to members</b>		<b>(3,722,024)</b>	<b>(2,524,696)</b>
Other Comprehensive Income, net of tax		-	-
<b>Total Comprehensive Income for the Year</b>		<b>(3,722,024)</b>	<b>(2,524,696)</b>

The Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income is to be read in conjunction with the attached notes.

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 31 MARCH 2016

	Note	2016	2015
		\$	\$
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	4	7,353,464	7,318,115
Trade and Other Receivables	5	320,879	466,568
Prepayments	6	558,775	427,670
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>8,233,118</b>	<b>8,212,353</b>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>			
Property, Plant and Equipment	7	6,601,553	7,004,232
Investment in Joint Venture accounted for using the Equity Method	8	63,719,776	67,737,936
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		<b>70,321,329</b>	<b>74,742,168</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>78,554,447</b>	<b>82,954,521</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Trade and Other Payables	9	2,562,769	3,287,890
Provision for Employee Benefits	10	674,073	608,363
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>3,236,842</b>	<b>3,896,253</b>
<b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>			
Interest Bearing Liabilities	11	96,869	106,302
Provision for Employee Benefits	10	118,806	128,012
<b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>		<b>215,675</b>	<b>234,314</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>3,452,517</b>	<b>4,130,567</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>75,101,930</b>	<b>78,823,954</b>
<b>Equity</b>			
Issued Capital	12	-	-
Retained Earnings		50,452,010	54,160,782
Land Revaluation Reserve		24,500,000	24,500,000
Asset Replenishment reserve		149,920	163,172
<b>Total Equity</b>		<b>75,101,930</b>	<b>78,823,954</b>

The Statement of Financial Position is to be read in conjunction with the attached notes.

# STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

	Issued Capital	Land Revaluation Reserve	Asset Replenishment Reserve	Retained Earnings	Total Equity
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>As at 31 March 2014</b>	-	24,500,000	136,667	56,711,983	81,348,650
Loss after income tax for the year	-	-	-	(2,524,696)	(2,524,696)
Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax	-	-	-	-	-
Transfer to Asset Replenishment Reserve	-	-	26,505	(26,505)	-
<b>As at 31 March 2015</b>	-	24,500,000	163,172	54,160,782	78,823,954
Restatement of Asset Replenishment Reserve	-	-	(13,252)	13,252	-
Loss after income tax for the year	-	-	-	(3,722,024)	(3,722,024)
Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax	-	-	-	-	-
<b>As at 31 March 2016</b>	-	24,500,000	149,920	50,452,010	75,101,930

The Statement of Changes in Equity is to be read in conjunction with the attached notes.

# STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

	Note	2016	2015
		\$	\$
<b>Cash Flows From Operating Activities</b>			
Receipts from customers (inclusive of GST)		28,699,520	31,911,880
Payments to suppliers and employees (inclusive of GST)		(27,906,129)	(27,562,301)
Interest received		128,704	190,774
<b>Net Cash flows provided by Operating Activities</b>	<b>(ii)</b>	<b>922,095</b>	<b>4,540,353</b>
<b>Cash Flows From Investing Activities</b>			
Payments for property, plant and equipment		(875,302)	(1,004,232)
<b>Net Cash flows used in Investing Activities</b>		<b>(875,302)</b>	<b>(1,004,232)</b>
<b>Cash Flows From Financing Activities</b>			
Payments of trophy funds		(11,444)	(3,281)
<b>Net Cash flows used in Financing Activities</b>		<b>(11,444)</b>	<b>(3,281)</b>
<b>Net Increase in Cash held</b>		<b>35,349</b>	<b>3,532,840</b>
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Financial Year</b>		<b>7,318,115</b>	<b>3,785,275</b>
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Financial Year</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7,353,464</b>	<b>7,318,115</b>

The Statement of Cash Flows is to be read in conjunction with the attached notes.

# NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

(i) **Financing Facilities**

A commercial bill facility of \$1 million (2014: \$1 million) exists with National Australia Bank Limited. The facility is available until 30 June 2016 and is renewed on an annual basis. At 31 March 2016, \$nil (2015: \$nil) was in use.

The commercial bill facility is secured by the Company's interest in the Joint Venture as well as by way of a fixed and a floating charge on all assets. Liquidity risk is considered low.

(ii) **Reconciliation of Net Cash provided by Operating Activities to Loss after Income Tax**

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
<b>Loss after Income Tax for the Year</b>	<b>(3,722,024)</b>	<b>(2,524,696)</b>
<b>Add/(less) non-cash items:</b>		
Depreciation	1,277,981	1,094,489
Interest accrued on trophy funds	2,010	2,485
Bad debts expense	51,794	85,442
Loss from equity accounted joint venture	4,018,160	3,842,520
Assets transferred from joint venture	-	(37,109)
<b>Changes in Assets and Liabilities:</b>		
Decrease in Receivables	93,895	1,565,515
(Increase) / Decrease in Prepayments	(131,105)	402,673
Decrease / (Increase) in Inventories	-	2,729
(Decrease) in Payables	(725,121)	(17,244)
Increase in Provisions	56,505	123,549
<b>Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities</b>	<b>922,095</b>	<b>4,540,353</b>

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

## 1. A) CORPORATE INFORMATION

The financial report of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2016 was authorised for issue in accordance with a resolution of the Directors on the same date as the directors' declaration.

The Company is a company limited by guarantee incorporated and domiciled in Australia.

The nature of operations and principal activities of the Company are described in the Directors' report.

The Company's registered office and principal place of business is at Melbourne Showgrounds, Epsom Road, Ascot Vale, Victoria, 3032.

## 1. B) SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

### (a) Basis of Preparation

These general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board ('AASB') and the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission Act 2012.

The financial statements have been prepared under historical cost convention.

The RASV has early adopted AASB 2015-2 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Disclosure Initiative: Amendments to AASB 101. The financial report has been re-ordered this year and significant accounting policies are now provided throughout the notes to the financial statements.

### (b) Reclassification

Comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year on the statement of financial position in accordance with Accounting Standards. The reclassifications have not had any impact on net assets or retained earnings.

### (c) Significant Accounting Judgements and Estimates

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts in the financial statements. The key estimates and assumptions which are material to the financial reports are found in the following notes:

- Note 5 : Trade and Other Receivables
- Note 7 : Property, Plant and Equipment
- Note 10 : Provision for Employee Benefits

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

## 2. REVENUE

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
<b>Rendering of Services</b>		
Admissions Revenue	7,256,854	6,985,952
Catering Income	2,900,175	2,967,164
Client Servicing	714,018	1,027,308
Competition Income	1,466,356	1,696,541
Members Subscriptions	252,950	261,459
Parking Revenue	858,417	906,380
Rental Income	8,990,221	9,943,556
Secretarial and Management Fees	-	1,493
Sponsorship	2,405,616	2,459,768
	<b>24,844,607</b>	<b>26,249,621</b>
<b>Other Income</b>		
Assets transferred to Company from Joint Venture (Note 8)	-	37,109
Government Grant	15,405	-
Interest	128,704	190,774
Ticketing Promotions	1,226,397	1,165,973
Other Revenue	792,345	760,839
	<b>2,162,851</b>	<b>2,154,695</b>
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>27,007,458</b>	<b>28,404,316</b>

Revenue is recognised when it is probable that the economic benefit will flow to the Company and the revenue can be reliably measured. Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable.

Revenue from rendering of services is recognised in the accounting period in which the services are rendered. Show admission revenue is recognised during the period when the Royal Melbourne Show is held.

Rental income is recognised as it accrues over the period that the properties are leased to third parties.

Interest revenue is recognised as it accrues using the effective interest method.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

## 3. EXPENSES

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
<b>Loss before Income tax includes the following specific expenses:</b>		
Ticketing Promotions	1,133,719	1,131,112
Depreciation Expense	1,277,981	1,094,489
Bad and Doubtful Debts	51,794	85,442
Lease Rental Expense - operating leases	34,788	46,308
<b>Employee Costs</b>		
Employee Annual and Long Service Leave Entitlements	431,110	492,285
Salaries – Permanent Employees	4,494,333	4,265,254
Salaries – Casual Staff and Contractors	1,831,543	1,919,735
Superannuation Contribution Expense	495,910	408,196
Other Employee Costs	65,064	69,986
	<b>7,317,960</b>	<b>7,155,456</b>

## 4. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash and cash equivalents in the Statement of Financial Position comprise cash at bank and in hand and short term deposits with an original maturity of three months or less. These are carried at face value of the amounts deposited. The carrying amounts of cash and short term deposits approximate net fair value.

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
Cash on hand	55,518	53,653
Cash at bank and on deposit	7,297,946	7,264,462
	<b>7,353,464</b>	<b>7,318,115</b>

Average interest rates at 31 March 2016 on cash accounts were 1.86% (2015: 2.05%).

## 5. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
Trade Receivables	367,129	503,582
Allowance for Doubtful Debts	(50,000)	(50,000)
	<b>317,129</b>	<b>453,582</b>
Sundry Receivables	3,750	12,986
	<b>320,879</b>	<b>466,568</b>

All credit and recovery risk has been provided for in the Statement of Financial Position.  
As at 31 March 2016 debts that were past due but not doubtful amounted to \$141,120 (2015: \$253,989).



## 5. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES (cont.)

At 31 March, the ageing analysis of trade receivables is as follows:

	As at 31 March 2016		As at 31 March 2015	
	Trade Receivable	Allowance	Trade Receivable	Allowance
Current	226,009		249,593	
31 – 60 days	134,077		210,645	
61 – 90 days	-		25,045	
91 days and over	7,043	(50,000)	18,299	(50,000)
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>367,129</b>	<b>(50,000)</b>	<b>503,582</b>	<b>(50,000)</b>

Trade receivables are initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost which is the original invoice amount less an allowance for any uncollectible amount. Trade receivables are generally due for settlement within 30 days.

Collectability of trade receivables is reviewed on an ongoing basis. Debts which are known to be uncollectable are written off by reducing the carrying amount directly. A provision for impairment of trade receivables is raised when there is objective evidence that the company will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

The provision for impairment of receivables requires a degree of estimation and judgement. The level of provision is assessed by taking into account the recent sales experience, the ageing of receivables, historical collection rates and specific knowledge of the financial position of individual debtors. Significant financial difficulties of the debtor, probability that the debtor will enter bankruptcy or financial reorganisation and default or delinquency in payments (more than 60 days overdue) are considered indicators that the trade receivable may be impaired. The amount of impairment allowance is the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows. Cash flows relating to short-term receivables are not discounted if the effect of discounting is immaterial.

Other receivables are recognised at amortised cost, less any provision for impairment.

## 6. PREPAYMENTS

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
Prepaid Insurance	222,032	232,657
Prepaid Other	336,743	195,013
	<b>558,775</b>	<b>427,670</b>

Expenses paid in the current financial year for which the economic benefits have not been completely consumed at reporting date, have been deferred and recorded as a prepayment in the Statement of Financial Position. Prepayments are amortised as an expense in the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income in future years as the economic benefits of the payment are consumed.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

## 7. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
<b>Buildings and Structures</b>		
At cost	6,000,858	5,821,361
Accumulated depreciation	(1,299,373)	(934,576)
	<b>4,701,485</b>	<b>4,886,785</b>
<b>Motor Vehicles</b>		
At cost	85,119	85,119
Accumulated depreciation	(71,053)	(64,235)
	<b>14,066</b>	<b>20,884</b>
<b>Plant and Equipment</b>		
At cost	6,649,945	6,165,890
Accumulated depreciation	(4,763,943)	(4,069,327)
	<b>1,886,002</b>	<b>2,096,563</b>
	<b>6,601,553</b>	<b>7,004,232</b>

### Reconciliation of Movements in 2016

	Opening Balance	Additions	Depreciation	Disposals	Closing Balance
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Buildings and Structures</b>	4,886,785	179,497	(364,797)	-	4,701,485
<b>Motor Vehicles</b>	20,884	-	(6,818)	-	14,066
<b>Plant and Equipment</b>	2,096,563	695,805	(906,366)	-	1,886,002
	<b>7,004,232</b>	<b>875,302</b>	<b>(1,277,981)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6,601,553</b>

### Reconciliation of Movements in 2015

	Opening Balance	Additions	Depreciation	Disposals	Closing Balance
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Buildings and Structures</b>	4,784,515	424,917	(322,647)	-	4,886,785
<b>Motor Vehicles</b>	27,556	5,103	(11,775)	-	20,884
<b>Plant and Equipment</b>	2,245,309	611,321	(760,067)	-	2,096,563
	<b>7,057,380</b>	<b>1,041,341</b>	<b>(1,094,489)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,004,232</b>

Property, plant and equipment is recorded at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Directly attributable costs arising from the acquisition or construction of fixed assets are also capitalised as part of the cost.

Costs incurred on property, plant and equipment subsequent to initial acquisition are capitalised when it is probable that future economic benefits in excess of the originally assessed performance of the asset will flow to the Company in future years. Where these costs represent separate components they are accounted for as separate assets and are separately depreciated over their useful lives.

## 7. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT (cont.)

Assets are depreciated from the date of acquisition or, in respect of internally constructed assets, from the time an asset is completed and ready for use. The residual values, useful lives and depreciation methods are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each reporting date. An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

The depreciation rates used for each class of asset is calculated on a straight line basis to write off the net cost of each item of property, plant and equipment over their expected useful lives as follows:

Building and Structures	2.5% - 10%
Plant and Equipment	10% - 33.3%
Motor Vehicles	20%

An item of property, plant and equipment is derecognised upon disposal or when there is no future economic benefit to the company. Gains and losses between the carrying amount and the disposal proceeds are included in the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income.

### Impairment of non-financial assets

For an asset that does not generate largely independent cash inflows, the recoverable amount is determined for the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. If any such indication of impairment exists and where the carrying values exceed the estimated recoverable amount, the assets or cash-generating units are written down to their recoverable amount.

The recoverable amount of non-current assets is the greater of fair value less costs to sell and value in use. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset.

Impairment losses are recognised in the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income.

### Estimation of useful lives of assets

Management determines the estimated useful lives and related depreciation charges for property, plant and equipment and finite life intangible assets. The useful lives could change significantly as a result of technical innovations or some other event. The depreciation charge will increase where the useful lives are less than previously estimated lives, or technically obsolete or non-strategic assets that have been abandoned or sold will be written off or written down.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

## 8. INVESTMENT IN JOINT VENTURE

Joint ventures are contractual arrangements between the Company and one or more other parties to undertake an economic activity that is subject to joint control, and the parties that have joint control of the arrangement have rights to the net assets of the arrangement. Joint control only exists when the strategic financial and operating decisions relating to the activity require the unanimous consent of the parties sharing control (the venturers).

A joint venturer shall recognise its interest in a joint venture as an investment and shall account for that investment using the equity method of accounting. Under the equity method the Company will recognise its share of the net assets of the joint venture on a single line in the Statement of Financial Position and its share of the net profit or loss on a single line in the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income.

Profits or losses on transactions with the joint venture are eliminated to the extent of the Company's ownership interest until such time as they are realised by the joint venture entity on consumption or sale.

The joint venture structure involves an unincorporated Joint Venture and an incorporated entity known as the Project Company – Showground Nominees Pty Ltd – which has the role of holding the project land on a bare trust basis for and on behalf of the Joint Venture participants. Each participant, the State of Victoria and the Company, owns 50% of the shares in the Project Company. It has been determined by the Company that the structure and the legal form of the Showgrounds Joint Venture through a separate legal entity, along with the rights and obligations of the joint venture participants as set out in the agreements, indicate that this joint arrangement meets the definition of a joint venture under AASB 11.

The reporting date for the Joint Venture is 30 June 2016. Interim information has been extracted for the purpose of preparation of the Company's financial statements as at 31 March 2016, which is subject to audit by the Company's auditor.

The RASV interest in the net assets and share of the net loss of the Joint Venture at 31 March 2016 is as follows:

		Interest	
		2016	2015
Name of Entity	Principal Activity	%	%
Unincorporated Joint Venture	To carry out the redevelopment of the Royal Melbourne Showgrounds	50	50

The joint venture is accounted for using the equity method in these financial statements.

## 8. INVESTMENT IN JOINT VENTURE (cont.)

	Notes	2016	2015
		\$	\$
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash		1,196,203	689,929
Trade and Other Receivables	(a)	12,666,088	9,649,786
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>13,862,291</b>	<b>10,339,715</b>
<b>Non Current Assets</b>			
Land - fair value	(c)	100,000,000	100,000,000
Buildings and Structures - net carrying amount		79,888,136	82,516,082
Trade and Other Receivables	(a)	31,588,833	42,862,878
<b>Total Non Current Assets</b>		<b>211,476,969</b>	<b>225,378,960</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>225,339,260</b>	<b>235,718,675</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Trade and Other Payables		3,473,932	3,340,546
Income in Advance		110,000	110,000
Interest Bearing Liabilities	(b)	2,611,144	2,366,482
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>6,195,076</b>	<b>5,817,028</b>
<b>Non Current Liabilities</b>			
Income in Advance		4,651,935	4,761,935
Interest Bearing Liabilities	(b)	87,052,697	89,663,841
<b>Total Non Current Liabilities</b>		<b>91,704,632</b>	<b>94,425,776</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>97,899,708</b>	<b>100,242,804</b>
<b>Net Assets of Joint Venture</b>		<b>127,439,552</b>	<b>135,475,871</b>
Proportion of the Company's ownership interest in the Joint Venture		50	50
<b>Carrying amount of the Company's interest in the Joint Venture</b>		<b>63,719,776</b>	<b>67,737,936</b>

- (a) Trade and other receivables includes the unreceived balance of the \$100.7 million funding commitment from the State of Victoria, discounted back to present value.
- (b) The interest bearing liabilities represents the finance lease relating to the Showgrounds buildings development with a lease term of 25 years.
- (c) In February 2016, by directive from the Department of Treasury and Finance, the Royal Melbourne Showgrounds Land asset was re-valued by the Valuer-General Victoria. The property comprises three separate titles and each title was valued using the highest and best economic use of the land resulting in a valuation of \$178,180,000, an increase in value of \$78,180,000. The option of highest and best use for development of the land is not considered by the Company to reflect the true value of the land and the Valuer-General Victoria has been requested to prepare a valuation based on development which would be complementary to activities on the Showgrounds site. The Company has undertaken to defer the recognition of the land revaluation in the financial statements until the valuation based on complementary use is received from the Valuer-General Victoria.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

## 8. INVESTMENT IN JOINT VENTURE (cont.)

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
Income	5,256,800	5,412,453
Expenditure	(13,293,119)	(13,097,492)
<b>Loss for the Year</b>	<b>(8,036,319)</b>	<b>(7,685,039)</b>
Other Comprehensive Income	78,180,000	-
<b>Total Comprehensive Income for the Year</b>	<b>70,143,681</b>	<b>(7,685,039)</b>
Proportionate share of Loss	(4,018,160)	(3,842,520)
The above loss for the year includes the following:		
Depreciation	2,627,946	2,627,946
Interest Income	3,512,594	4,131,480
Interest Expense	9,080,018	9,301,756
Income Tax Expense	-	-

The State of Victoria has made a funding commitment of approximately \$100.7 million and the Company has transferred its land with buildings and improvements to the Joint Venture. The redevelopment of the Showgrounds, which was completed in August 2006, was delivered under the Government's Partnerships Victoria methodology.

Showgrounds Nominees Pty Ltd, as nominee for the Joint Venture, has entered into a number of agreements with the developer of the Showgrounds, referred to as the Concessionaire. These agreements included settlement for the construction of the buildings and infrastructure and the ongoing maintenance and life-cycle costs during the duration of the concession deed of 25 years.

These costs will be met from existing assets of the Joint Venture, some of the future revenue streams from the Showground facilities, and where necessary, funding from the State Government, in accordance with agreements entered into between the Joint Venture, the Joint Venture participants and Showgrounds Nominees Pty Ltd.

Under the State Support Deed – Core Land, the State has undertaken to ensure the performance of the payment obligations in favour of the Concessionaire and the performance of the Joint Venture financial obligations in favour of the security trustee.

Under the State Commitment to the RASV, the State has agreed to support certain obligations of the Company which may arise out of the Joint Venture Agreement. In accordance with the terms set out in the State Commitment to the RASV, the State will pay (in the form of a loan), the amount requested by the Company. If any outstanding loan amount remains unpaid at 25 August 2031, which is 25 years after the commencement of the operation term under the Development and Operation Agreement, the Company will be obliged to satisfy and discharge each such outstanding loan amount. This may take the form of a transfer to the State of the whole or part of the Company's participating interest in the Joint Venture.

A fixed and floating charge over the assets of the Company has been entered into between the Company and the State. The Company has granted the fixed and floating charge to the State as security for the due and punctual performance of the Company's obligations under or in connection with the charge, the Project Objectives Agreement, the Intellectual Property Agreement or the Events Agreement.

## 9. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
Trade Payables	1,052,068	1,603,620
Accruals	1,249,921	1,224,231
Income in Advance	260,780	460,039
	<b>2,562,769</b>	<b>3,287,890</b>

Liabilities for trade creditors and other amounts are recognised for amounts to be paid in the future for goods or services received, whether or not billed to the Company. Trade and other payables are carried at amortised cost which is the fair value of the consideration to be paid in the future for goods and services received.

## 10. PROVISION FOR EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
<b>Aggregate employee benefits, including on-costs</b>		
Provision for Employee Benefits (Current)	674,073	608,363
Provision for Employee benefits (Non-current)	118,806	128,012
	<b>792,879</b>	<b>736,375</b>

Provisions are recognised when the Company has a legal or constructive obligation to make a future sacrifice of economic benefits to others as a result of past transactions or events, it is probable that a future sacrifice of economic benefits will be required and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

### Wages, Salaries and Annual Leave

The provisions have been calculated at undiscounted amounts and are based on amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled. The employee benefit liabilities expected to be settled within twelve months from reporting date are recognised as current liabilities.

### Long Service Leave

The liability for long service leave is recognised in current and non-current liabilities depending on the unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after the reporting date. The liability is measured as the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date using the projected unit credit method. Consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures and periods of service. Expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the reporting date on corporate bonds with terms to maturity and currency that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

## 11. INTEREST BEARING LIABILITIES (NON-CURRENT)

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
Trophy Funds	96,869	106,302

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

## 12. ISSUED CAPITAL

The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria Limited is a company limited by guarantee. In the event of the Company being wound up the liability of its members is limited by its Constitution to an amount not exceeding \$20 while that member is a member, or within one year after that member ceases to be a member.

## 13. TAXATION

### Income Tax

The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria Limited has an exemption from income tax under Division 50 of the Income Tax Assessment Act (1997).

### Goods and Services Tax

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Tax Office (ATO). In these circumstances, the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense.

Exemption from GST has been determined under Section 38-250(2)(v)(ii) of the GST Act for certain classes of admissions and entries relating to the Royal Melbourne Show. The determination of GST-free status for admissions and entry fees is carried out on an annual basis.

Receivables and payables are stated with the amount of GST included. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included as a current asset or liability in the Statement of Financial Position.

Cash flows are included in the Statement of Cash Flows on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO are classified as operating cash flows.

## 14. COMMITMENTS

### Leases

Leases where the lessor retains substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of the asset are classified as operating leases. Operating lease rental expense is recognised as an expense and charged to profit and loss on a straight line basis over the lease term.

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
<b>Future operating lease rentals not provided for in the financial statements</b>		
<b>Payable:</b>		
Not longer than one year	30,915	15,708
Longer than one year but not longer than two years	28,620	2,295
Longer than two years but not longer than five years	38,160	-
	<b>97,695</b>	<b>18,003</b>

Operating leases have an average lease term of 4 years. Assets that are subject to operating leases include office and IT equipment.



## 14. COMMITMENTS (cont.)

### **Asset Replenishment Fund**

As part of the contractual obligations with the State, the Company is obliged to contribute to the Joint Venture a defined percentage of its cash surplus based on a pre-determined formula as specified in the RAS Events Agreement. Subject to a floor of \$2 million (indexed), the Company must contribute 25% of its cash surplus (before including the 50% share of joint venture results) for the remainder of the operating term.

Based on the Company's result, the current year contribution payable to the Asset Replenishment Fund is \$0 (2015: \$26,505).

### **Capital Investment Obligation**

As part of the contractual obligations set out in the Showgrounds Venue Management Agreement 2014 – 2031, the Company is obliged to make a contribution toward capital investment in relation to the Showgrounds. This means capital reinvestment by way of facility modifications or venue fixtures, fittings & equipment of a substantial nature.

The Company must contribute at least \$650,000 (indexed) each year toward capital investment. In any year where the profits exceed \$1,600,000 (indexed), an amount equal to 25% of the profit exceeding the \$1,600,000 (indexed) must also be contributed toward capital investment. Any capital investment obligations not expended must be held in a capital investment account until such time as the funds are required to fund approved capital investment.

During the year ended 31 March 2016, the Company's capital investment obligation is \$658,450. The Company has fulfilled its obligations by investing \$697,849 in projects including Building 7 gas, water and sewer modifications, fibre cabling upgrades, LED lighting upgrades to Building 13 and external flood lighting, and CCTV and wireless access improvements across the site.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

## 15. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

### (a) Financial risk management objectives and policies

The company's principal financial instruments comprise receivables, payables, and cash and cash equivalents. These activities expose the company to a variety of financial risks: market risk, interest rate risk, credit risk and liquidity risk.

Financial risk management is the responsibility of the Board, which takes advice from the Audit and Risk Management Committee under an authorised Investment Policy. This policy outlines the key objective of achieving the maximum possible investment return within approved investment criteria and risk parameters.

The following authorised investment instruments have been approved by the Board of Directors:

- Cash Deposits
- Short Term Money Market Trust Accounts
- Fixed Interest Term Deposits
- Australian Government Securities and Bonds
- Bank Bills

Authorised investment instruments may only be transacted with the following institutions:

- Commonwealth Government
- Victorian Government
- Australian Banks or institutions with a Standard & Poors rating of A+ or higher

The following financial instruments are specifically prohibited:

- Foreign Exchange Transactions of a non-commercial nature
- Derivatives
- Australian or Foreign share transactions
- Any transaction undertaken solely for the purpose of speculating

In accordance with Board policy, certain levels of investments require Board approval:

- For working capital, any intended investment in any particular instrument with a total holding in any one institution of higher than \$10 Million at any time or \$6 Million for a period greater than 90 days is to be ratified by the Board.
- For investments, any intended investment in any particular instrument resulting in a transaction over \$2 Million and a total holding in any one institution of higher than \$5 Million is to be ratified by the Board.

Any recommendation for the utilisation of investment instruments or institutions not separately authorised within the Investment Policy must be presented to the Board for approval. A mechanism for reporting all current investment instruments to the Audit and Risk Management Committee is undertaken.

Although the company does not have documented policies and procedures other than an authorised investment policy, the Board manages the different types of risks to which the company is exposed by considering risk and monitoring levels of exposure to interest rates and by being aware of market forecasts for interest rates. Ageing analyses and monitoring of specific credit allowances are undertaken to manage credit risk, liquidity risk is monitored through general business budgets and forecasts.

## 15. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (cont.)

The entity holds the following financial instruments:

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
<b>Financial Assets:</b>		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	7,353,464	7,318,115
Receivables	320,879	466,568
<b>Total Financial Assets</b>	<b>7,674,343</b>	<b>7,784,683</b>
<b>Financial Liabilities:</b>		
Trade and Other Payables	2,562,769	3,287,890
Interest Bearing Liabilities	96,869	106,302
<b>Total Financial Liabilities</b>	<b>2,659,638</b>	<b>3,394,192</b>
<b>Net Exposure</b>	<b>5,014,705</b>	<b>4,390,491</b>

As of 31 March 2016 the Company had net financial instrument assets of \$5,014,705. The directors of the RASV believe that the Company will be able to settle the liabilities summarised above as and when they fall due.

### (b) Risk Exposures and Responses

#### Interest Rate Risk

The entity's exposure to market interest rates relates primarily to short term deposits held.

Management monitors term deposit rates and balances the achievement of high rates against the flexibility offered by at call funds.

#### Sensitivity analysis

Management are of the opinion that applying a sensitivity analysis rate of 1% is a reasonable estimate of the uncertainty in the market over the next twelve months.

At 31 March, if interest rates had moved, as illustrated in the table below, with all other variables held constant, post tax loss and equity would have been affected as follows:

	Net Loss Higher / (Lower)		Net Assets Higher / (Lower)	
	Year Ended 31 March		As at 31 March	
	2016	2015	2016	2015
	\$	\$	\$	\$
+1% (100 basis points)	(73,535)	(73,181)	73,535	73,181
-1% (100 basis points)	73,535	73,181	(73,535)	(73,181)

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

## 15. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (cont.)

### Price Risk

All investment decisions are subject to regular Board review, after scrutiny and recommendations received from the Audit and Risk Management Committee. The Company does not engage in any significant transactions which are highly speculative in nature. The Company does not have any material exposure to price risk.

### Credit Risk

The maximum exposure to credit risk at reporting date in relation to recognised financial assets is the carrying amount of those assets as disclosed in the Statement of Financial Position and notes to the financial statements. These include a receivable from the State of Victoria which carries no risk. The Company had no significant concentrations of credit risk with any single counter party or group of counter parties.

### Liquidity Risk

The Company manages liquidity risk by monitoring forecast cash flows and ensuring that adequate unutilised borrowing facilities are maintained.

### Maturities of trade and other payables, and interest bearing liabilities

The table below analyses the company's financial liabilities:

	Maturing within 0 – 60 days	Maturing 60 days – 1 year	1 year +	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>2016</b>				
Trade and Other Payables	2,165,301	397,468	-	2,562,769
Interest Bearing Liabilities	-	-	96,869	96,869
<b>Total Financial Liabilities</b>	<b>2,165,301</b>	<b>397,468</b>	<b>96,869</b>	<b>2,659,638</b>
<b>2015</b>				
Trade and Other Payables	2,467,781	820,109	-	3,287,890
Interest Bearing Liabilities	-	-	106,302	106,302
<b>Total Financial Liabilities</b>	<b>2,467,781</b>	<b>820,109</b>	<b>106,302</b>	<b>3,394,192</b>

### (c) Net Fair Values

The net fair value of assets and other liabilities approximates their carrying value.

## 16. EVENTS SUBSEQUENT TO BALANCE DATE

There are no matters or circumstances that have arisen since the end of the financial year that have significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Company, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the Company, in future years.

## 17. AUDITORS REMUNERATION

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
Total of all remuneration received and receivable in connection with:		
(a) Audit of the Annual Financial Report	31,100	29,600
(b) Other Services:		
Royal Melbourne Show Assurance Procedures	2,555	2,500
Other Audit Services – Joint Venture	20,400	20,400
Accounting Advice	-	1,000
	<b>54,055</b>	<b>53,500</b>

## 18. DIRECTORS REMUNERATION

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
Directors of the Company did not receive any remuneration for services provided	-	-

## 19. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

- (i) The names of all Directors who have held office during the year are:  
Douglas Scott Chapman  
Matthew John Coleman  
Darrin Grimsey  
Alan John Hawkes  
Deborah Anne Hodgson  
Noelene Elizabeth King OAM  
Geoffrey James Phillips  
Joy Anita Potter  
Peter Jason Bruce Ronald OAM  
Stephen Charles Spargo AM
- (ii) Mr D S Chapman is the Chief Executive of the Royal Flying Doctor Service Victoria (RFDS). The Company provides exhibition space to the RFDS at no charge during the Royal Melbourne Show.
- (iii) Directors and Councillors had related party transactions at arms-length with the Company involving the purchase of goods/ services considered to be trivial or domestic in nature.
- (iv) The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria Limited has a 50% interest in an unincorporated joint venture. Refer to note 8 for transactions for the year ended 31 March 2016.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

## 20. KEY MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

Key management personnel comprise persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the Company. These persons consist of the Chief Executive Officer, Mark O'Sullivan and General Managers, Bradley Jenkins, Michael Martin, Jonathan Perry and Benjamin White.

The amounts paid or payable to key management are as follows:

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
Short-term employee benefits	1,406,736	1,355,713
Other long-term benefits	247,615	226,463
Termination benefits	55,624	-
	<b>1,709,975</b>	<b>1,582,176</b>

## 21. ACCOUNTING STANDARDS AND INTERPRETATIONS ISSUED BUT NOT YET EFFECTIVE

The Company has adopted all of the new, revised or amending Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board ('AASB') that are mandatory for the current reporting period.

Certain new accounting standards and interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for the current reporting period. With the exception of AASB 2015-2 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Disclosure Initiative: Amendments to AASB 101, the Company has elected not to early adopt these new standards or amendments in the financial statements.

The Company is yet to complete a full analysis. However, the Directors do not believe that any other new or revised standards issued by the AASB that are not yet effective will have any material impact on the financial statements.

# DIRECTORS' DECLARATION

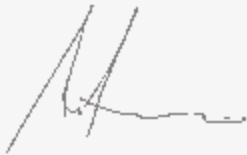
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

In the opinion of the directors of The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria Limited:

- (a) the accompanying financial statements and notes thereto, are in accordance with the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission Act 2012, comply with the accounting standards and the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission Act 2012, and give a true and fair view of the Company's financial position as at 31 March 2016 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
- (a) at the date of this declaration there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the directors made pursuant to the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission Act 2012.



**S C Spargo**  
Director  
Chairman



**D A Hodgson**  
Director

Dated this 21st day of June 2016  
Melbourne, Victoria

# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA LIMITED



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Australia

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the members of The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria Limited

### Report on the Financial Report

We have audited the accompanying financial report of The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria Limited, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 March 2016, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the responsible entities declaration.

#### Responsible Entities' Responsibility for the Financial Report

The responsible entities of the registered entity are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 (ACNC Act)* and for such internal control as the responsible entities determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the responsible entities' preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the registered entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the responsible entities, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.





**Opinion**

In our opinion the financial report of The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria Limited has been prepared in accordance with Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- (a) giving a true and fair view of the registered entity's financial position as at 31 March 2016 and of its financial performance and cash flows for the year ended on that date; and
- (b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.

**BDO East Coast Partnership**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'David Garvey', is written over a small, faint BDO logo.

**David Garvey**  
**Partner**

Melbourne, 21 June 2016





