



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
VICTORIA

8 September 2021

Mr Matthew Coleman
President
Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria Limited
Melbourne Showgrounds
Ascot Vale Vic 3032

Dear Mr Coleman,

Following our recent discussion, the Governor of Victoria, the Hon Linda Dessau AC and Mr Anthony Howard AM QC have asked me to extend to the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria an invitation to contribute to the decoration of the 2021 Government House Christmas tree.

The Governor is very proud to be the Patron of the RASV and both she and Mr Howard have, throughout the Governor's term, valued their many encounters with the agricultural sector right across our State.

They are conscious that the necessary cancellation of the 2021 Royal Melbourne Show due to COVID-19 has affected not only exhibitors from the agricultural sector, but also the many talented Victorians who would normally contribute to the impressive Art, Craft and Cookery Competition. It is with that in mind that I am writing to you.

The Governor and Mr Howard would like to invite those who might normally contribute to the RASV's Art, Craft and Cookery Competition to create decorations for this year's Government House Christmas tree, to be enjoyed by visitors to the House in December. They hope that, in this way, the tree might reflect some of the remarkable creativity and artistic skill in our State and showcase some of the talent that would normally be such a highlight of the Royal Melbourne Show.

Although our usual tradition is to invite contributors of decorations to a reception at Government House so they can see their work on the tree, sadly the uncertainty of the current situation means that that may not be possible this year.

Contributors are invited to create a decorative ornament using the method, material or practice of their choice, up to 10cm by 10cm in size, with a sturdy tie for hanging on the tree. An accompanying description of the ornament, including how it was made and what it represents, as well as the name and locality of the creator, would be appreciated. The ornament should be received via post by Michelle Denaro, Government House, Melbourne Vic 3004 by Friday 12 November 2021.

I am aware that thousands of people contribute to the Show in this category each year. Unfortunately we will only have room on the tree for a maximum of 150 ornaments. Therefore, I ask that anyone who wishes to contribute register their interest by emailing michelle.denaro@govhouse.vic.gov.au. Expressions of interest, up to 150, will be accepted in the order they are received.

I hope that this opportunity will be a welcome one for your members to display their talents, as well as an opportunity for Government House Victoria to showcase our State's dynamic arts and crafts sector.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Puls MVO
Official Secretary