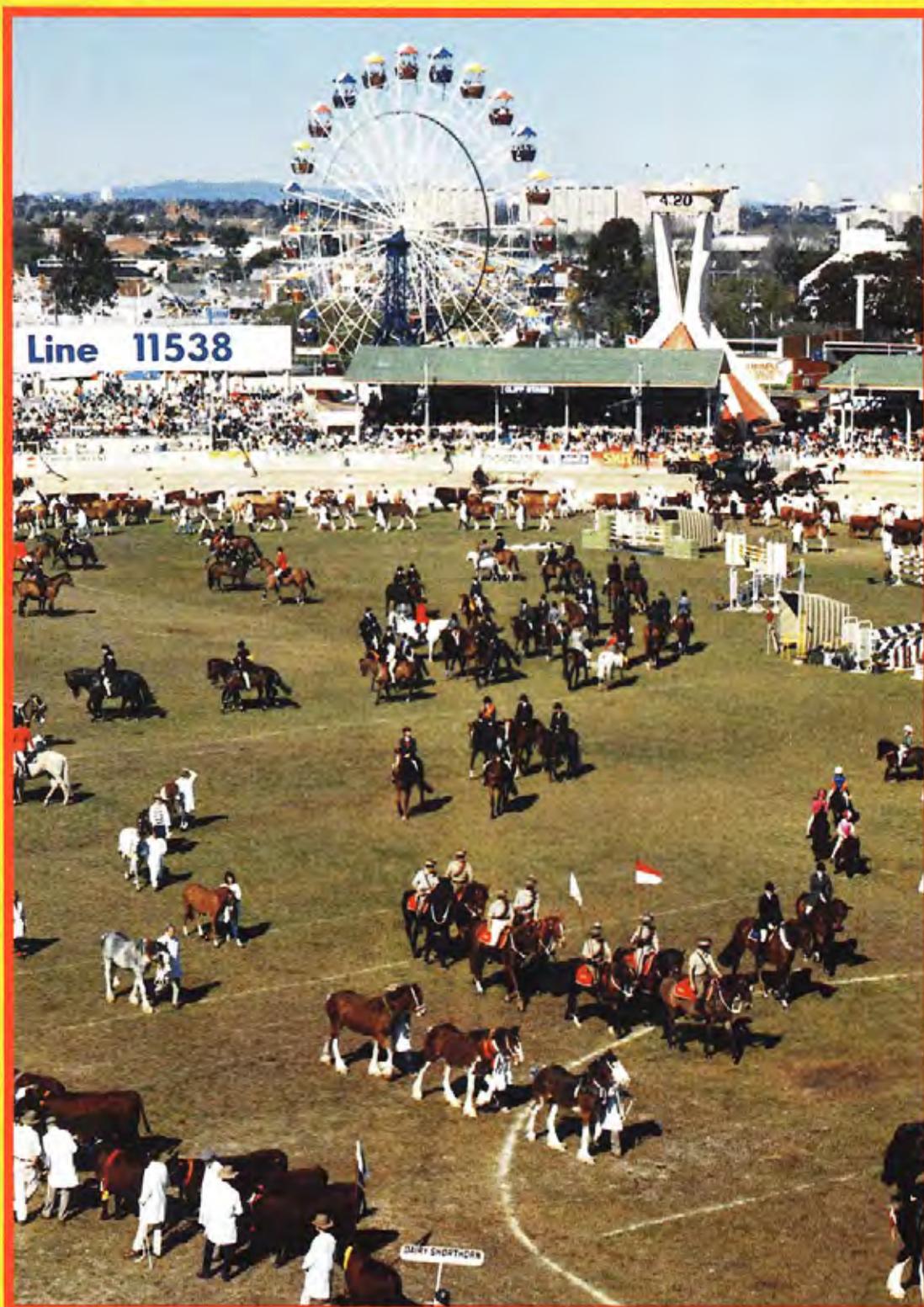




The Royal

The Official Newsletter
of the Royal Agricultural
Society of Victoria

MARCH / APRIL 1991



1990 Annual Report

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ladies and Gentlemen,



Mr. W.R.R. Beggs,
President

Before commencing the review of the Society's activities for 1990, I would like to pay tribute to my predecessor, Mr John Sleigh, who was President of the Society from April, 1986 to April, 1990.

There were two occasions during Mr Sleigh's presidency when

the Society was without a Director, and Mr Sleigh devoted himself tirelessly to ensuring that the Society's management was not without leadership during those periods. Throughout his presidency, Mr Sleigh was most capably assisted by his wife, Shirley, and Mr and Mrs Sleigh were outstanding ambassadors for the Society.

It is a great honour to be President of the R.A.S.V. and I thank my fellow Councillors for showing their confidence in electing me to this position when Mr Sleigh decided last year not to stand for re-election for a further term.

I would like to congratulate Mr Geoffrey Howell and Mr George Wilson, as 1990 marked their 40th year as Councillors of the Society.

On May 6th, 1990, the Society celebrated the centenary of the granting by her Majesty Queen Victoria, of "the requisite permission for the Society to assume the title of the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria".

It was disappointing that Melbourne was not successful in its bid for the 1996 Olympic Games and so our hope to see an Olympic Velodrome located at the Showgrounds will now not go ahead. However, on a more positive note, the Society is progressing its plans for a new and larger Animal Nursery and for new horse stalls in the western area of the Showgrounds.

I am also pleased to report that the Society, with the assistance of town planning consultants, made a comprehensive review of our planning and development strategy for the Showgrounds. A detailed submission supporting changes to the Essendon and Melbourne Planning Schemes was made to the respective City Councils in October, 1990. The proposed changes are directed towards allowing the Society greater flexibility in utilising the Showgrounds' facilities all year round.

In February, 1990, the Council established a Finance Committee to monitor the Society's financial planning, reporting and performance and this Committee, chaired by Mr Keith Buchanan, has made an important contribution to the Society.

During the year the Equestrian Federation of Australia (Victorian Branch) set up an administration independent of the Society, although their offices remain at the Showgrounds and a number of R.A.S. Horse Section



A happy family getting to know some kids on Farm Sunday

staff transferred to the E.F.A. The Society remains in close contact with the E.F.A. at all levels.

In February, 1990, the Minister for Agriculture appointed the Society's Director, Mr Bob Carr, to represent the Society on the Victorian Government's Animal Welfare Advisory Committee.

W.R.R. Beggs
President

1990 ROYAL MELBOURNE SHOW

Official Opening

The Governor of Victoria, His Excellency, Dr Davis McCaughey, A.C., officially opened the 1990 Royal Melbourne Show on Saturday, 22 September, 1990.

The occasion was marked by a spectacular display, which included a special show of pageantry and youth groups from the Essendon area. The pageantry was to mark the 100th anniversary of the Society being granted Royal assent by Queen Victoria in 1890 and the participation by young people was in keeping with the theme of "Young Horizons".

Attendances

The attendances in 1990 were very satisfactory, with a total attendance for the 11 days and eight nights of 774,926.

This compares favourably with 1987, the last normal year unaffected by outside factors. In 1988 numbers were down because of the exodus of Victorians to visit Expo '88, and in 1989 figures were

slightly higher than normal because of the pilots' strike, which prevented many Victorians from travelling interstate during the September school holidays.

The day most people came to the Show in 1990 was Show Day, 27 September, when 135,064 patrons came through the turnstiles - an increase of 15% over Show Day 1989. Just as pleasing was Friday, 28 September, which saw a record attendance for a second Friday of the Show.

Theme

The theme chosen for 1990 was "Young Horizons", a focus on the skills and abilities of young people and the potential they have to contribute to society and industry. It was a recognition by the RASV of the enthusiasm and vision of the younger generation.

Special youth events were conducted throughout the Show. For the first time there were junior woodchop events for those aged from nine to 13 years old. These classes attracted much attention.

Work Skill Australia conducted competitions for young tradespeople in the butchery, breadmaking, baking, pastrycooking, cake decorating and floristry disciplines. The winners of these took part in national competitions later in the year.

Attention was focused on the junior handler and judging competitions in the cattle section. State and national finals of sheep and cattle judging for young people aged 25 years and under were staged by the Victorian Agricultural Societies' Association Incorporated and the Federal Council of Agricultural Societies. A special "Young Horizons" pavilion was created where young patrons could obtain information on career possibilities and browse among youth oriented stalls.

Free Attractions

The free attractions at the Show were once again a highlight and proved very popular with Show patrons.



The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of members of the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria will be held in the Royal Banquet Rooms, Plummer Avenue, Royal Showgrounds, Epsom Road, Ascot Vale on Tuesday, April 16, 1991, at 12 noon.

BUSINESS

1. Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting.
2. To receive the Annual Report and Balance Sheet.
3. To receive the declaration of election of Councillors.
4. To appoint two auditors.

Dated 4th Day of March, 1991

R. E. Carr
Director

LIST OF NOMINATIONS MEMBERS OF COUNCIL (Eleven to be elected)

- *A.C. BOTT, "Naranghi", Yarrowonga, 3730
 - *I.I. BUCKNALL, "Yaralla", RMB 1073, Maryborough, 3465
 - *A. GIBSON, 4th Floor, 400 Collins Street, Melbourne, 3000
 - *W.H. HILL, RMB 2330, Benalla, 3672
 - *C.R. KELLY, "Barwidgee", Caramut, 3274
 - *C.R. LYONS, "Dundas Park", Vasey, 3407
 - *K.J. McIVER, P O Box 594, Ballarat, 3350
 - *SIR IAN McLENNAN, K.C.M.G., K.B.E., C/- Level 26, BHP House, 140 William Street, Melbourne, 3000
 - *J.W. RAE, "Granite Grove", 124 A'Beckett Road, Narre Warren North, 3804
 - P.J.B. RONALD, "Koo-man-goo-nong", Pakenham, 3810
 - *K.W. URQUHART, "Boonerah", Hexham, 3273
 - *R.G. WALKER, O.A.M., "Pleasant Park", Goroke, 3412
- (*Denotes Councillors retiring by rotation and eligible for re-election)

Note: Nominations being in excess of the vacancies, a ballot will be conducted. Refer to enclosed ballot paper for voting directions.

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1990

	CONSOLIDATED WITH RASV LTD.		CONSOLIDATED WITH RASV LTD.		SOCIETY		SOCIETY	
	1990	\$	1989	\$	1990	\$	1989	\$
FIXED ASSETS								
Land at Council Valuation 1988		16,525,000		16,525,000		16,525,000		16,525,000
Buildings and Improvements at Council Valuations 1988	20,416,000		20,416,000		20,416,000		20,416,000	
Additions at Cost	1,461,039		1,461,039		1,461,039		1,461,039	
	21,877,039		21,127,879		21,877,039		21,127,879	
LESS Provision for Depreciation	727,019	21,150,020	357,280	20,770,599	727,019	21,150,020	357,280	20,770,599
Services and Utilities at Cost	1,880,348		1,880,348		1,880,348		1,880,348	
LESS Provision for Depreciation	281,601	1,598,747	248,695	1,631,651	281,601	1,598,747	248,695	1,631,653
Plant and Motor Vehicles at Cost	867,577		797,885					
LESS Provision for Depreciation	387,660	479,917	281,097	516,788				
Furniture, Fixtures and Fittings at cost	1,226,472		618,972					
LESS Provision for Depreciation	391,489	834,983	262,952	356,020				
		40,588,667		39,800,060		39,273,767		38,927,252
INVESTMENTS								
- Special Purpose Insurance Fund			671,490					
- Trust Accounts	30,156		29,592					
- Short Call	432,023	462,179	341,460	1,042,542				
CURRENT ASSETS								
Cash on hand	1,000		1,200					
Prepayment and Accrued interest	100,128		76,093					
Sundry Debtors	578,735		838,341					
LESS Provision for Doubtful Debts	(38,000)		(38,000)					
Stock on Hand at Cost	124,836	766,699	140,001	1,017,635				
TOTAL ASSETS		41,817,545		41,860,237		39,273,767		38,927,252
LESS								
CURRENT LIABILITIES								
Bank Overdraft Secured	106,620		24,415					
Loans Secured	135,000		41,500		135,000		41,500	
Loans Unsecured	480,441		1,237,452		11,110		11,110	
Loan from RASV Limited					997,086		549,124	
Sundry Creditors and Accruals	587,777		619,437					
Provision for Long Service & Annual Leave	362,967		352,804					
Received in Advance	2,939							
Short Call Deposits	432,023	2,107,767	341,460	2,617,068		1,143,196		601,934
LONG TERM LIABILITIES								
Loans Secured	1,288,853		1,472,486		1,288,853		1,472,486	
Loans Unsecured	387,174	1,676,027	102,680	1,575,166	55,570	1,344,423	66,680	1,539,166
TRUST ACCOUNT		30,156		29,592				
TOTAL LIABILITIES		3,813,950		4,221,826		2,487,619		2,141,100
TOTAL NET ASSETS		<u>\$38,003,595</u>		<u>\$37,638,411</u>		<u>\$36,786,148</u>		<u>\$36,786,152</u>
REPRESENTING								
Accumulated Funds		3,470,704		1,741,132		2,253,261		1,560,364
Reserves								
Asset Revaluation	34,532,891		34,532,891		34,532,891		34,532,891	
Special Purposes Insurance Fund			671,491					
Dog Complex Contribution		34,532,891	692,897	35,897,279		34,532,891	692,897	35,225,788
TOTAL ACCUMULATED FUNDS & RESERVES		<u>\$38,003,595</u>		<u>\$37,638,411</u>		<u>\$36,786,152</u>		<u>\$36,786,152</u>

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER, 1990

1. Note On Auditor's Report

Messrs. J.A. Court and D.O. Kew of Pannell Kerr Forster, the Auditors of the R.A.S.V. Limited and the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria, have audited the financial accounts of both entities for the year ended 31 December 1990, and those audit reports accompany the statutory financial accounts of the respective entities. The Auditors advise that the respective financial accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards and comply with the rules of the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria and R.A.S.V. Limited.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies adopted by the Society are stated in order to assist in a general understanding of the financial statements. These policies have been consistently applied by the Society except as otherwise indicated.

(a) Basic Accounting

The accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical costs and except where stated do not take into account current valuations of non-current assets.

(b) Consolidated Balance Sheet and Consolidated Revenue Account

The Consolidated Balance Sheet as at 31 December 1990 and the Consolidated Revenue Account for the Year ended 31 December 1990 is the consolidation of the financial accounts of the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria and R.A.S.V. Limited. These consolidated accounts are prepared for the members of the Society to give them a better understanding of the financial affairs of the two entities. These consolidated accounts are not required under the Companies (Victoria) Code.

(c) Depreciation and Amortisation of Property, Plant and Equipment

Items of property, plant and equipment other than freehold land are recorded at cost, unless otherwise stated, and are depreciated over their estimated useful lives using either the prime cost or diminishing value method. New items are depreciated from the date of acquisition or revaluation.

(d) Income Tax

Any income derived by the Society or R.A.S.V. Limited is exempt from Income Tax under S.23(h) of the Income Tax Assessment Act.

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA
CONSOLIDATED REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1990

	CONSOLIDATED WITH RASV LTD.		SOCIETY	
	1990 \$	1989 \$	1990 \$	1989 \$
INCOME				
Show Admissions & Parking	4,372,765	4,217,481		
Advertising	55,673	85,851		
Catering Premiums	283,955	341,846		
Competition Entry Fees	432,353	337,709		
Computer Fees	129,986	204,559		
Donations & Sponsorship	861,286	959,540		
Improvement Grant	25,000	50,000		
Materials & Services	83,141	76,506		
Members Subscriptions	311,993	299,362	311,993	299,362
Secretarial Services	679,956	569,788		
Show Sales & Sundry Revenue	23,216	162,767		
Space & Ground Rental	2,698,293	2,356,278		
Contribution from RASV Ltd			265,065	276,002
	<u>\$ 9,957,617</u>	<u>\$ 9,661,687</u>	<u>\$ 577,058</u>	<u>\$ 575,364</u>
EXPENDITURE				
Advertising & Publicity	369,672	358,606		
Audit & Legal	123,908	99,233		
Catering	94,253	80,736		
Computer Rental & Maintenance	142,151	237,383		
Depreciation	658,069	617,509	402,645	389,841
Directors Fees	1,250	1,250		
Electricity and Gas	270,324	222,537		
Insurance	179,390	282,100		
Interest	318,638	426,346	174,413	185,523
Judges Expenses	104,959	92,935		
Maintenance & Cleaning	1,582,366	1,396,524		
Printing & Stationery	279,009	242,449		
Rates	139,157	113,283		
Show Attractions	592,041	324,334		
Show Running Costs	252,908	227,505		
Special Purposes Insurance Fund		25,000		
Sundry Costs	124,095	87,781		
Salaries, Wages & Payroll Costs	4,101,225	4,191,862		
Telephone & Postage	155,588	129,007		
Trophies & Prizes	378,430	374,359		
	<u>\$ 9,867,433</u>	<u>\$ 9,530,739</u>	<u>\$ 577,058</u>	<u>\$ 575,364</u>
Trading Surplus for Year	90,184	130,948	--	--
Abnormal items - Special Purposes Insurance Reserve	671,491			
- Dairy Pavilion Settlement	275,000			
SURPLUS FOR YEAR	<u>\$ 1,036,675</u>	<u>\$ 130,948</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>--</u>
ACCUMULATED FUNDS				
Balance at Start of Year	1,741,132	1,610,184	1,560,364	1,560,364
Surplus for Year	1,036,675	130,948		
Transfer from Reserve - Dog Complex Contribution	692,897		692,897	
Balance at End of Year	<u>\$ 3,470,704</u>	<u>\$ 1,741,132</u>	<u>\$ 2,253,261</u>	<u>\$ 1,560,364</u>

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER, 1990

(e) Inventories

Inventories have been valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, and represent maintenance stock, promotional products, stationery and supplies.

(f) Employee Benefits

The amount expected to be paid to employees for their pro-rata entitlements to long service and annual leave are accrued annually at current wage rates based on past experience.

3. Special Purposes Insurance Fund and Dog Complex Contribution Fund.

The Society believes there is no longer a requirement for these specific reserves and they have been transferred to Accumulated Funds. For the Special Purposes Insurance Fund this has resulted in an abnormal item of \$671,491 and for the Dog Complex Contribution Reserve the amount of \$692,897 was transferred to retained profits.

4. Dairy Pavilion Settlement

The Society received a settlement from an action for damages following the construction of the Dairy Industry Pavilion. This settlement has resulted in an abnormal item of \$275,000.

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

OFFICE BEARERS 1990

PATRON:

His Excellency, Dr. Davis McCaughey, A.C.

PRESIDENT:

W.R.R. Beggs

VICE-PRESIDENTS:

I.I. Bucknall, A. Gibson, J.G.W. Head

TRUSTEES:

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

LIFE COUNCILLORS:

W. A. Angliss

E. W. Best, C.M.G. (appointed 12.6.90)

Sir Rupert Clarke, Bart., M.B.E., M.A.

K. A. Drummond

C. B. Gardiner (appointed 14.8.90)

J. M. Gardiner

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

W. McL. Greaves

J. G. W. Head

G. Howell

R. Hunter

J. W. Kelly

D. W. R. Knox

C. O. Moore

L. G. C. Nicholas

J. H. H. Sleigh, A.M.

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

J. W. D. Ward

The Hon. Vernon F. Wilcox, C.B.E., Q.C.

G. P. H. Wilson, C.M.G.

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL:

R. T. Balderstone, C.M.G., M.C.

J. Balfour Brown

W. R. R. Beggs

A. C. Bott

J. K. Buchanan, A.M.

I. I. Bucknall

J. M. Burston

R. M. Butler

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

E. Drinkwater

N. A. Edwards (elected 16.10.90)

K. A. Finnin, A.I.A.B., F.S.S.E.

C. J. Fox

A. Gibson

B. R. J. Hallows

R. F. Haselgrove

W. H. Hill (elected 16.10.90)

C. R. Kelly

R. B. Langdon

F. B. Langlands (resigned 14.8.90)

F. J. Lithgow

C. R. Lyons

The Hon. Sir William McDonald, Kt.

K. J. McIver

Sir Ian McLennan, K.C.M.G., K.B.E.

M. T. Marriott

I. K. Morton, A.M.

R. Potter

J. W. Rae

J. S. A. Robb

The Hon. B. Rowe, M.P.

G. J. Sheppard (elected 14.8.90)

I. McK. Starritt

F. R. I. Stephens

K. W. Urquhart

R. G. Walker, O.A.M.

A.J. Woods (resigned 12.6.90)

EXECUTIVE STAFF:

DIRECTOR: R.E. Carr, B.Ec., M.B.A., T.S.T.C.

COMPUTER SERVICES MANAGER: D.G. Hay

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION MANAGER: J.F. Clifford, A.A.S.A., C.P., A.C.I.S.

GROUNDS MANAGER: M. Martin

MARKETING MANAGER: V.A. Hilton, A.F.A.I.M.

The very successful Farm Sunday, on 23 September, was held in perfect weather conditions. A warm sunny day saw thousands of people strolling around the Main Arena taking in the displays and active demonstrations.

The Commonwealth Bank Farm Animal Expo was once again well patronised, allowing people to touch and learn about farm animals.

Harness Racing made a popular return to the Show after an absence of nine years. Races were held under lights on four nights with the finals conducted on the evening of Show Day.

An innovation in 1990 was the staging of five music concerts during the Show. The musical styles ranged from rock to jazz to country/folk. The major concert, on the evening of Show Day, saw the rock group Noiseworks attract a crowd of 25,000 to the Main Arena.

The ever popular National Australia Bank Animal Nursery attracted huge crowds every day.

Entries

Competitive entries for the 1990 Royal Melbourne Show were very good. There was a total of 36,372 entries with increases in several areas.

Record entries were received in the following sections: Harness Horses, Australian Stock Horses, Riding Ponies, and in these cattle sections:— Santa Gertrudis, Charolais, Limousin, Salers, Belgian Blue, Braunvieh, Gelbvieh and Brown Swiss.

New Breeds

Three breeds of beef cattle made their debut in the judging ring of the Royal Melbourne Show in 1990. These were Highland Cattle which are a Scottish breed, Welsh Black which originated in Wales and Piedmontese, an Italian breed.

New Industries

Two relatively new farming industries had displays at the Show in 1990.

The deer industry had animals of several breeds on display as well as information and samples of deer products.

Two ostriches in the Goat Pavilion certainly attracted attention as did the samples of ostrich-leather goods and painted eggs.

COUNCIL

New President

Mr. W.R.R. Beggs was elected President of the Society in April 1990, for the following 12 months. Mr. J.H.H. Sleigh, President since 1986, did not stand for re-election.

New Vice-Presidents

The following were elected as Vice-Presidents in April 1990 for the ensuing year: Mr. I. Bucknall, Mr. A. Gibson and Mr. J.G.W. Head.

New Life Councillors

Mr. E.W. Best, C.M.G. and Mr. C.B. Gardiner were honored with Life Membership of Council during 1990. Both have served 20 years on Council.

Mr. Best was appointed as a Councillor of the Society in June 1970 and has served actively on several sub-committees during this time. He is currently a member of the Public Relations Committee.

Mr. Gardiner was elected to the Council of the Society in August 1970. He has been chairman and judge of the Commercial Dairy Herd Competition and the RASV's representative to the Victorian Agricultural Societies' Association. Mr. Gardiner is currently serving on the Dairy Cattle, Sponsorship and the Sheep and Goats committees. During the Royal Melbourne Show he is the Steward-in-charge of the Holstein-Friesian ring.

Council Resignations

Council regretfully accepted the resignations of two Councillors in 1990. Mr. A.J. Woods and Mr. F.B. Langlands both resigned for personal reasons.

Award

Mr. Bob Walker, O.A.M., who was elected to Council in 1977, was awarded the Medal Of The Order Of Australia in the 1990 New Year's Honors List for service to the rural community, in particular to sheep breeding.

New Councillors

Four new Councillors were elected to fill the vacancies caused by the creation of the two Life Councillors and the two resignations.

Mr. R. T. Balderstone has made a welcome return to Council after an absence of six years. Mr. Balderstone was first elected to Council in 1971 and served as President from 1977 to 1982. He has been involved in the primary industry area for many years both as a producer of beef cattle and serving on industry bodies.

Mr. G.J. Sheppard has been involved with the Poultry Section of the Royal Melbourne Show for over 20 years, serving as steward and judge in that time. Mr. Sheppard has extensive experience in State Government administration and also with the Pakenham and District Agricultural Society.

Mr. N.A. Edwards is well known to woodchop enthusiasts as the handicapper and commentator of the Royal Melbourne Show Woodchop section. Mr. Edwards has been associated with that section for over 15 years. He is a member of the Victoria Police CIB.

Mr. W.H. Hill has been involved with the Society and the Royal Melbourne Show for several years as Chairman of Bonlac Foods Limited, one of the RASV's major sponsors. Mr. Hill is actively involved in dairy farming and has a wide knowledge of the rural industry scene.

NEW HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Honorary Life Membership of the Society was conferred on twenty-nine people during the year, each of whom has served the RASV for at least 20 years.

The recipients and their respective areas of involvement were:

Beef Cattle Section:

Mr. M. Alberni, Mr. W.H.P. Charles, Mr. N. Corrigan, Mr. L. Jackson, Mr. D.B. James, Mr. J. McDiarmid, Mr. A. McDonald, Mr. B. Minns, Mr. J.B. Richardson, Mr. J.L. Sullivan, Mr. P. Sutherland, Mr. S.G. Western, Mr. J.D. Wilson.

Dairy Cattle Section:

Mr. D. James, Mr. P. McGilivray, Mr. P. Shanahan.

Horse Section:

Mr. W.B. Mahncke, Mr. K. Male, Mr. G. Whitaker.

Sheep Section:

Mr. P.J. Mactier, Mr. G. Grayson.

Shearing Section:

Mr. F.D. Allen, Mr. I. Cuttler, Mr. R. Harris.

Other Sections:

Mr. D. Simpson (Poultry), Dr. N.F. Millis M.B.E. (Wine), Mr. N. Bunting (Cattle), Mr. G. Briggs (Animal Nursery), Mrs. J.G.W. Head (Arts & Crafts).

The Society is very grateful to all of these members for the contribution they have made.



RASV President Robert Beggs (right), Chairman of the Australian Wheat Board, Clinton Condon and Mrs. Condon guessing how many seeds in the jar at the 1990 Grains Competition Presentation.

PRESIDENT'S MEDALLIONS

During the 1990 Royal Melbourne Show the President, Mr W R R. Beggs, presented four people with President's Medallions in recognition of, and thanks for their contributions to the Society and the Show.

The recipients were:

Mr. Vincent Fitzpatrick, who was actually born on the Showgrounds, and has worked 33 years for the Society and the Show.

Mr. Brian Alford, who last year attended his 36th Show, received his medallion for his contribution to not only the Beef Cattle section but the Royal Melbourne Show as a whole.

Mr. Val Quanchi has been associated with the Royal Melbourne Show Woodchop section for many years and he first served as a steward in 1973.

Mr. Les Batten has been involved with the Society in many capacities since 1948. He began as an exhibitor of pigs and was in charge of the Centenary Hall displays during the 1950's. He was instrumental in starting the Shell/RASV Journalists' Tour which commenced in 1957. Mr. Batten was the instigator of the popular Australian Wool Corporation Fashion Parades at the Show and is currently the driving force behind the Commonwealth Bank Farm Animal Expo.

SENIOR STAFF APPOINTMENTS AND CHANGES

(Since September, 1990 edition of The Royal)

New Appointments

Greta Weissmann joined the RASV staff in August, as secretary to the Director. Her stay, however, was brief. Greta resigned in January, 1991 to return to England for personal reasons.

Staff Changes

Belinda Drew, secretary to the Finance and Administration Manager, has taken 12 months maternity leave and her position has been temporarily filled by Nicole Ilesue.

In January, 1991 the Public Relations section was restructured. The position of Public Relations Manager was made redundant and the incumbent, John Westbury, left the Society. There is now only one permanent staff member instead of two and Leonora Curnick was appointed as Senior Public Relations Officer. Consultants will be employed to assist with the promotion of the Royal Melbourne Show.

Prue McLeod, a member of the Sheep Section staff, left the Society in February 1991. Prue is soon to be married and will then be living outside Melbourne. Her duties will be taken over by Linda Lewis and Meredith Daly.

After the 1990 Royal Melbourne Show, Tim Morgan, who was Acting Space Marketing Executive, was appointed to the position on a permanent basis.



This photo of the Shetland Derby won the Unpublished Section of the 1990 Royal Melbourne Show Press Photographic Awards for Di Gatehouse, a freelance journalist.

The Commercial Space Section has taken on an extra staff member. Michelle Horn has transferred from the Accounts Section to take up the position of Commercial Space Officer (Royal Show).

She joins Tim Morgan, who is in charge of the section, and Sharyn McIntosh the Commercial Space Officer responsible for the Out-of-Show events.

BREED SOCIETIES

During 1990, 32 breed societies and associated rural organisations used the RASV as their secretariat.

The organisations were:

Cats

Feline Control Council

Cattle

Angus Society of Australia (Vic. Committee)

Australasian Dexter Association Inc
Australian Ayrshire Breeders' Association Inc.

Australian Highland Cattle Society Inc.
Australian Simmental Breeders' Association Ltd (Inc. in NSW) (Vic. Branch)

Beef Improvement Association of Australia Inc.

Charolais Society of Australia (Vic. Region)
Dairy Shorthorn Association of Australia Inc.

Shorthorn Society of Australia (Vic. Branch)

Victorian Stud Beef Cattle Breeders' Association

Dogs

Australian National Kennel Council
Kennel Control Council

Goats

Cashgora Fibre Association of Australia

Horses

Australian Palomino Horse Breeders' Association
Australian Pony Stud Book Society (Vic. Branch Inc.)
Australian Warmblood Sporthorse Association
The Commonwealth Clydesdale Horse Society (Federal Council)
The Victorian Dressage Club Inc.

Sheep

Association of Stud Sheep Breeders of Australia
Australian Corriedale Association Ltd
Australian Corriedale Association Ltd (Vic. Branch)
Australian Sheep Breeders' Association Inc.
Australian Society of Breeders of British Sheep Ltd (Vic. Branch)
Australian Superfine Woolgrowers' Association
Sharlea Ultra Fine Society of Australia Ltd
Victorian Prime Lamb Committee
Victorian Stud Merino Sheepbreeders' Association Inc.
Victorian Working Sheep Dog Association

Rural Activities

Australian Council of Rural Youth
Australian Nuffield Farming Scholars' Association
Victorian Agricultural Societies' Association Incorporated

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Encyclopaedia Britannica Travel Grant
Andrew Gray, Head of the RASV Cattle Section, was the recipient of the 1990 Encyclopaedia Britannica Travel Grant.

He travelled to the United States of America in November and attended two international conferences as the RASV's representative.

The first was the Annual Conference of the International Association of Fairs and Expositions held at Ballys Grand Hotel in Las Vegas. 4,500 delegates attended, representing 3,500 fairs.

Andrew enjoyed the experience of mixing with organisers of other shows and fairs and learning new ideas. He collected some very valuable information relevant to the Royal Melbourne Show.

One thing Andrew was very proud to learn was that the Royal Melbourne Show's attendance figures are among the top 25 in the world.

Andrew also attended the American Society of Association Executives Management Convention in Washington D.C.

Commercial Farmer Competitions

During the year successful commercial farmer competitions were conducted by the Society, in association with the Victorian Agricultural Societies' Association Incorporated and the Department of Agriculture and Rural Affairs.

These competitions enable the entrants to have their enterprises assessed by expert judges and to learn from those appraisals.

The competitions are educational for the entrants and for the whole farming community. Field days are held on the winners' properties and guest speakers from relevant industries and government bodies give talks and answer questions.

In 1990 the following competitions were conducted:

- * Dalgety Farmers' Commercial Beef Herd of the Year Award
- * Bonlac Commercial Dairy Herd of the Year Award

- * VAB Share Dairy Farmer of the Year Award
- * Victorian Farm Management, Production and Improvement Competition, sponsored by the Commonwealth Development Bank
- * Elders Pastoral Commercial Wool Sheep Flock of the Year Award

(See Major Award Winners Section for results)

Shell/RASV Journalists' Tour

Each year for the past 34 years, Shell and the Society have combined to conduct a four day tour for 20-30 journalists to a specific region of Victoria.

The tour takes place in late July and is a lead up to the Royal Show. It serves to create an understanding and a link between the media and people engaged in rural industries.

In 1990 the tour took in the Sunraysia district, centred on Mildura. Activities covered included the fruit and wine industries, cereal farming and the Mallee Machinery Field Days.

Royal Melbourne Wine Show

The Society conducts the Royal Melbourne Wine Show which is the premier wine industry event in Victoria.

In 1990 there were 2,438 entries. The wines were assessed by a panel of judges which included M. Sacha Lichine from Bordeaux in France.

1990 was a championship year in which two special trophies were presented. (Championship years are rotated between three Shows, Sydney, Adelaide and Melbourne.) The Australian Wine and Brandy Producers Association donated the following trophies: The T.C. Seabrook Trophy for the best Sweet White Table Wine in Class 44 and The

J.C.M. Fornachon Memorial Trophy for the Most Successful Exhibitor of Sherry, Amontillado Style in Classes 49 and 68. (See Major Award Winners section for results)

THE SHOWGROUNDS

Grounds Improvements

Major works were carried out around the grounds during the year in the form of maintenance, alterations, beautification and construction.

Refurbishment of the Administration Building continued during 1990. Many staff are now established in their new areas.

The old children's creche in Skene Street, adjacent to the Administration Building, was demolished to make way for the new horticulture area. Phase One of the Horticultural Proposal, the construction of Stone Park at the Plummer Avenue end of the old creche site, was completed for the 1990 Show.

Alterations to the aisles in Cattle Pavilion No.3 have been completed and the interior steel work in No. 3 and No. 5 Cattle Pavilions has been painted.

Painting was also carried out on the exterior of Centre Point in Degraives Street and the H.T.C. Woodfull Pavilion in Merrett Avenue in the Dog area.

Windows have been replaced in the Sheep Pavilion and alterations were made to the Pig Pavilion.

Landscapes have been constructed to beautify the areas of McNabb Street beside Cattle Pavilion No. 1, and the front of the Poultry Pavilion.

The major construction for 1990 was the AMP Rotunda on the AMP Lawn, at the corner of Plummer Avenue and Degraives Street. The large, square rotunda is the ideal setting for the musical entertainment on the AMP Lawn during the Show.

Out-Of-Show Use Of Showgrounds

Increased use of grounds facilities during the year remains one of Council's primary considerations in view of the potential financial return to the Society.

In the year under review, Out-of-Show use of the Showgrounds yielded net income of \$674,000. This is an increase of 8.5% on the 1989 figure of \$621,000.

The diverse range of events and activities conducted on the Showgrounds is highlighted by the following:

- * Stud Stock Shows & Sales
- * Standardbred Horse Sales
- * Oktoberfest Beer & Food Festival
- * Speedway Events
- * Catering Trade Exhibitions
- * Plant, Furniture, Carpet, Toy and Skiwear Sales
- * AFL Football Club training and practice matches
- * State Opera rehearsals
- * Local league basketball
- * Boxing
- * Vintage Car Swap Meet
- * Poultry Shows
- * Corporate Christmas parties
- * Secondary School examinations
- * Hobby Club Events/Shows
- * 21st Birthday Parties
- * Meetings, Conferences, Staff training days
- * Fire Safety Training days



John Lamb of The Age newspaper won the Published Section of the 1990 Royal Show Press Photographic Awards with this photo.

While the 1990 income figure represents a reasonable result, strategies were decided upon in the second half of the year to maximise potential in the year round use of the Showgrounds.

These strategies included a reorganisation of the Commercial Space Sales section of the Society's Marketing Department and budgeting for a first stage Marketing/Advertising plan, aimed specifically at attracting additional business to the Showgrounds.

As part of the Marketing plan, the Society will investigate opportunities of positioning the Showgrounds as the preferred permanent location for companies/organisations with rural industry associations.

COMPUTER SERVICES

During 1990 RAS Computer Services completed the installation of a new Mainframe Computer (an ICL Series 39), which has been networked remotely to the RAS/NSW System and locally to our Office Automation System, which has provided dynamic terminal/printer access within the total System.

This diverse range of computer systems also gives us a much greater capacity to develop new applications, a number of which were developed during the year; for example

* The computerisation of Woodchop entries for the Royal Show. Further development of this system will be undertaken during 1991 following consultation with the persons responsible for the control of this section.

* The redevelopment of the total Wine Show System, which resulted in a 74% productivity saving.

* The Royal Show Results System, which provided fully formatted results for The Weekly Times Royal Show Supplement, in addition to providing local results to regional media areas.

For the second successive year the Show Space Booking System has shown its benefit by providing management information and increased control over the revenue from Show rentals.

1990 also saw the introduction of "In-house" Typesetting Systems, with Computer Services formatting the Media Pack for the PR Department and providing assistance to the Protocol area in the presentation of name tags, guest lists etc.

1991 will see the further expansion of this area following the installation of a Xerox Publishing System which is capable of producing our high volume typesetting requirements, such as schedules and catalogues (in fact this magazine was typeset on the Xerox by RAS Computer Services using text prepared by the PR Department and input to the word processor on our Office Automation System).

In addition to the above achievements, we were also laying the groundwork for the implementation, in 1991, of a number of new systems and for the extension of existing services. One such project is the implementation of the new Cash Receipting System which will be installed during the first quarter of the year.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Society is very grateful for the financial support given by many organisations and individuals during 1990.

Special thanks go to our major sponsors listed below:

Australian Airlines
Australian Meat & Live-stock Corporation
Australian Mutual Provident Society
Australian Wool Corporation
Benson Trading Company Limited
BHP Steel Group
Bonlac Foods Limited
Boral Cyclone Limited
Bowens Timber & Hardware
Bunge Australia Limited
Castle Bacon Pty Ltd
CC Stockfeeds Pty Ltd
Cadbury Schweppes Pty. Ltd.
Coles New World Australia
Comalco Aluminium Limited
Commonwealth Bank of Australia
Commonwealth Development Bank of Australia
Continental Airlines
Dalgety Farmers Limited
Elders Pastoral
Federation Insurance Limited
Gippsland & Northern Company Limited
Herald & Weekly Times Limited
ICI Australia Limited
ICL Australia Pty Ltd
Kubota Tractors (Australia) Pty Ltd
KZFM
National Australia Bank Limited
Patterson Cheney Pty Limited
Pavier Amusements
Phosphate Co-operative Company of Australia Limited
Radio 3UZ
Royal Parade Motor Inn
Rural Finance Corporation
Shell Company of Australia Limited
Southern Cross Hotel
St Kilda Road Travelodge
Starlauro Cruises
State Bank Victoria
Stihl Chainsaw (Australia) Pty Ltd
Uncle Ben's of Australia

THEME FOR 1991

'Our Agriculture On Show' will be the theme of the 1991 Royal Melbourne Show which will run from Thursday, 19 September to Saturday, 28 September. (Note: there will not be a second Sunday this year.)

It has been chosen in order to highlight the very positive aspects of Victorian agriculture.

To support the theme, it is planned to mount a special display in the Centre Point building which will bring together the following components:

- Land Care
- Agricultural research
- Safe use of agricultural chemicals
- A focus on the efficiency of Victoria as a "producing" State and its farmers
- Historical implement display

A planned highlight of the theme pavilion will be a produce display, mounted by the Victorian Agricultural Societies Association Incorporated.

It is anticipated there will be a display of farm machinery near Centenary Hall.

Special emphasis will be placed on all the agricultural aspects of the Show.



One of the frequent and popular cattle displays in the Commonwealth Bank Farm Animal Expo.

MAJOR AWARD WINNERS 1990

HORSES

Best Equestrienne Turnout (Garryowen)
Mrs V. Lawrie, Ungarra, S.A., on Breughel.

WINES

The State Bank Trophy for the Best Muscat in Show

Morris Wines Pty Ltd

The Francois De Castella Trophy for the Most Successful Exhibitor in all Wine and Brandy Classes

B. Seppelt & Sons Ltd.

The Victorian Wine Industry Association Inc. Trophy for the Most Successful Exhibitor in the Victorian Wine Classes (33 to 39)

Brown Brothers Milawa Vineyard Pty Ltd

The Jimmy Watson Memorial Trophy for the Best Red Beverage Wine of the year prior to the Current Vintage Year

Peter Lehmann Wines

The T.C. Seabrook Trophy for the Best Sweet White Table Wine in Class 44

Thomas Hardy & Sons Pty Ltd

The J.C.M. Fornachon Memorial Trophy for the Most Successful Exhibitor of Sherry, Amontillado Style in Classes 49 and 68

B. Seppelt & Sons Ltd

1990 MISS "SUN" COUNTRY SHOW GIRL

Miss Elizabeth (Liz) Porter, Strathmerton, Vic. representing the Goulburn Valley Region.

ARTS & CRAFTS

Florence Monod Memorial Award for the Best Exhibit in Arts & Crafts
Mrs. G. Schwarze, Glenroy, Vic., for a knitted layette.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Best Print in Exhibition
M. Vickers, Macleod, Vic., for "Azure Kingfisher"

Best Slide in Exhibition
N. Male, AAPS, EFIAP, Beerburum, Qld., for "Roos on the Lookout"

"THE WEEKLY TIMES" FARM INVENTIONS

Grand Champion Exhibit
Mr. Richard Armstrong, Albury, N.S.W., for "The Down Under Sheep and Goat Handling Machine"

WOODCHOPPING

Grand Aggregate Trophy
Mr. D. J. Foster, East Devonport, Tas

DOGS

Best Exhibit in Show
Old English Sheepdog - Ch. Hartwyn Royal Pageant, CDX (N)
Exhibited by Mrs. P. A. Hartwell, Castle Hill, N.S.W.

Best Puppy in Show
Border Collie - Kennoway Kiwi Connection (S)

Exhibited by Kennoway Kennels, Evanston Gardens, S.A.

Best in Obedience Trial
Shetland Sheepdog - Symphony's Pace-Maker (Imp-USA), UD
Exhibited by Mrs. A. Neeson, Gladstone Park, Vic

SHEEP

Supreme Champion Ram
G. Armstrong, Marrar, Vic. - Poll Dorset

Supreme Champion Ewe
J. & M. Gilmore, Oberon, N.S.W. - Poll Dorset

Dalgety Farmers Feature Breed Sheep - Suffolk

Champion Ram
G. E. Pfeiffer & Son, Mt. Barker, S.A.

Champion Ewe
I.M. O'Sullivan, Roma, Qld

SHEARING

The Watswool Pty Ltd Senior Shearing Championship
W. Johnston, Mortlake, Vic.

The Sunbeam Corporation Australian Merino Shearing Championship
M. Mephram, Elsmore, N.S.W.

The Federation Insurance National Invitation Shearing Competition
T. O'Connor, Euroa, Vic

FLEECES

Best Sample Lambs Wool (Classes 1 to 15)
Challicum Partnership, Buangor, Vic.

Feature Breed Fleece - Corriedale
Stanbury Stud, Ceres, Vic

GOATS

Supreme Champion Doe - Dairy
Mrs. C. Johnson, Thornton, Vic. - Saanen

Champion Angora Doe
C.D. & D.J. Finch, The Rock, N.S.W.

Champion Mohair Fleece
D.A. Chadwick, Macclesfield, Vic

PRODUCE

Champion Honey - Small Producer
J. Van Weeghel, Noble Park, Vic.

Champion Honey - Open Producer
A.K. Gell, Maryborough, Vic

Champion Honey - Packers
Capilano Honey, Maryborough, Vic.

Best Mead in Show
Maxwell Mead, McLaren Vale, S.A.

Champion Butter for Export
Murray Goulburn Co-op. Co. Ltd, Koroit, Vic

Champion Butter - Fresh
Bonlac Foods Ltd, Shepparton, Vic.

Champion Dried Milk Product
Allowrie Foods, Aust. Ltd., Warragul, Vic.

Champion Yoghurt
QUF Industries Ltd, South Brisbane, Qld

Champion Hard Wheat
C. Dalton, Balranald, N.S.W.

Champion Soft Wheat
F. Old, Balranald, N.S.W.

Champion Australian Standard Wheat
M.N. & M.J. Lang, Warracknabeal, Vic

Champion Oats - Echidna
No Award

Champion Oats - Variety other than Echidna
No Award

Champion Oats - Milling, Echidna
W. Jenkins, Stawell, Vic.



The award presentation for the 1990 Interbreed Champion Ram and runner up, sponsored by Federation Insurance.

MAJOR AWARD WINNERS 1990

Champion Oats - Milling, variety other than Echidna
No Award

Highest Scoring Oats Champion
W. Jenkins, Stawell, Vic.

Champion Barley
I.V. Pipkorn, Dimboola, Vic

Champion Grain Legumes
G.H. Holmberg & Sons, Elmore, Vic

Champion Oil Seeds
D.K. & L.A. Symons, Carisbrook, Vic

Victorian Championship for Meadow Hay
A.W. & I.F. Bunn, Tatura, Vic

CHEESE

Most Successful Exhibitor - Cheddar (Open Section)
Dairy Vale Co-op. Ltd, Bordertown, S.A.

Most Successful Exhibitor - Cheddar (Small Factory Section)
The Darling Downs United Food Co-op. Assoc. Ltd, Toowoomba, Qld.

Champion - Cheddar (Small Factory Section)
The Darling Downs United Food Co-op. Assoc. Ltd, Toowoomba, Qld

Champion - Fancy Cheese (Small Factory Section)
Jindi Cheese Pty Ltd., (Brie), Jindivic, Vic

Champion - Cheddar (Open Section)
Farmers Union Foods Ltd, Mile End, S.A.

Champion - Fancy Cheese (Open Section)
Lactos Pty Ltd., (Camembert), Burnie, Tas.

PIGS

Supreme Exhibit
Duroc - Exhibited by B.J. Hamblin, Toolleen, Vic.

CATS

Best Entire Cat - Longhair
Black Persian, CCCoFA DBI. GD.CH., GOLD GD. CH. TUAM BROOKLYN; owned by D. Turner, R.C. & J. U'Ren, Seville, Vic.
Bred by Mrs. K. Scalan, Qld.

Best Entire Cat - Siamese/Oriental
Seal Point Siamese, CHITON CAMILLE, owned and bred by Ms H.M. Ferris, S.A.

Best Entire Cat - Other Shorthair
Tawny Abyssinian, MERINDALEE MAKE MY DAY, owned and bred by Mrs. E. & Mr. K. Pittaway, Werribee, Vic.

CATTLE

Elders Pastoral Beef Breed of the Year (Simmental)

Grand Champion Bull
Tangara Jamaica exhibited by P. Gorrie, Merrig, Vic

Supreme Beef Breed Bull
Gelbvieh, Trisun Syndicate, Warrumbungle, N.S.W. - LA Trisun 1

Supreme Beef Breed Female
Salers, Inverary & Classic Cattle Co., Toowoomba, Qld. - SR Blue Slammer 031X

Supreme Junior Champion Beef Breed Bull
Simmental, P. Gorrie, Merrig, Vic. - Tangara Jamaica



1990 G & N Champion Dairy Cow with owner Mr. Frank Sorraghan and Mr. Peter Nixon, Chairman of Gippsland & Northern.

Gippsland & Northern Champion Dairy Cow
Holstein-Friesian, F. Sorraghan, Arcadia, Vic. - Rockwood Park Warden Cretonne

Gippsland and Northern Champion Dairy Heifer
Holstein-Friesian, H. V. & J. Gardiner, Carrum Downs, Vic. - Avonlea Top Essie

Federation Insurance Champion Dairy Bull
Holstein-Friesian, H. V. & J. Gardiner, Carrum Downs, Vic. - Avonlea Astro Compliment

U.D.V. Interbreed Type and Production Cow
Holstein-Friesian, Tui-Glen Holsteins, Fish Creek, Vic. - Tui-Glen P.J. Joanne

COMMERCIAL FARMING COMPETITIONS

Elders Pastoral Commercial Wool Sheep Flock of the Year
J. & P. Heard, via Horsham, Vic.
Victorian Farm Management, Production & Improvement Competition
Section A - W.B. & J.M. McGregor, Dingee, Vic.
Section B - H. Hilton, Stanley, Vic.

Dalgaty Farmers Commercial Beef Herd of the Year
Cascade Pastoral Co., Tallangatta Valley, Vic.

Bonlac Commercial Dairy Herd of the Year
AK & P. Lawrie, Dingee, Vic.

VAB Share Dairy Farmer of the Year
J. & L. Versteden, Longwarry South, Vic.

BIRDS

Poultry - Best Bird in Show
M. L. Harman, Byaduk, Vic. - Orpington Black Cock

Best Finch in Show
C. Bush, North Fitzroy, Vic. - Parson

Best Parrot Type Bird

C. Bush, North Fitzroy, Vic.

Best Cage Bird (Other than a Finch)

C. Bush, North Fitzroy, Vic.

Grand Champion Budgerigar

K. A. & D. Seeley, Chadstone, Vic.

CARCASE COMPETITIONS

Grand Champion Beef Carcase

Charolais - R. S. & Mrs J. C. Burgmann, Singleton, N.S.W.

Champion Bacon Pig Carcase

J. & A. Watson, Berrillock, Vic.

ROYAL SHOW MEDIA AWARDS

Royal Show Press Photographic Awards

Best Show Photograph (Published) - John Lamb, The Age

Best Show Photograph (Unpublished) - Di Gatehouse, Freelance

Olympus/Royal Show Press Journalism Awards

Best Agricultural Story - Sean Gleeson, The Weekly Times

Best Show Story - Non Agricultural - Vitali Vitaliev, The Age

Royal Show Radio Broadcast Awards

Best Radio News/Talkback Report - Lawyers, Guns & Money, Radio 3AW

Olympus/Royal Show TV Journalism Awards

Best Show Report - News - Ian Baker, ABV 2

Best Show Report - Non News - No Award