



The Royal

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The Royal Agricultural Society
of Victoria

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**1980 ANNUAL REPORT &
NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

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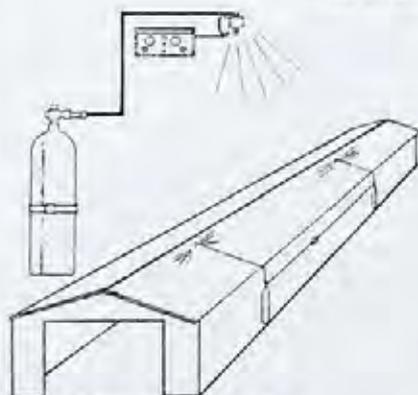
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VICTORIA



President's Message

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

With the start of a new year and a new decade only one month old, it seems the right time to study the objectives of this Society and what we should be attempting to achieve in the next 10 years.

The motto of this Society — "Speed the Plough" — is a simple maxim which applied to our work infers that we should hasten the progress of agriculture.

This aim is encompassed in our charter and we meet it through determined efforts to maintain and improve all aspects of the livestock, farming and grazing industries, crafts and even the pet hobby.

One avenue through which this can be achieved is the Royal Melbourne Show where exhibitors in all classes across the board strive to further improve the standard of their exhibits in the quest for the blue ribbon and perfection.

Another way we meet our obligation to improve and promote agriculture is by our participation, with the Victorian Agricultural Societies' Association, in organizing practical competitions — Farm Management, Beef Cattle Herd of the Year, Dairy Cattle Herd of the Year, Sheep Flock of the Year and Dairy Share Farmer Awards. These culminate in six field days which are considered most important and tend to be among the best attended on the Victorian farming calendar.

The effect of such field days is tremendous because not only do

thousands attend them over all, but many more read about the achievements of the winners in the rural press.

This emphasis on assistance and development of rural industries will continue to extend through our involvement with breed and farming organizations for whom this Society acts as Secretariat. Over many years, the Council has demonstrated its desire to maintain this role.

Although it is important that we do everything to foster those organizations "under our wing", it is also important that, within reason, they pay their way. The R.A.S.V. cannot continue to subsidise their operations as this must eventually result in reduced expenditure on essential Show Grounds works. Each organization must learn to budget and plan that their income will cover their costs.

The Society is criticised by those who consider the Royal Show to be losing its agricultural flavour and becoming more of a carnival. This we do not accept and there is a concerted effort on Council's part to maintain livestock and associated rural produce entries at record levels.

Another main role of the Society, which interests me considerably, is the bringing about of a far greater understanding and knowledge of rural production by city people. To perform this role, the Royal Show must attract city people and put before them country life in the form of livestock.

— Continued page 2

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Two New R.A.S.V. Councillors

Mr. John Balfour Brown of Montrose and Mr. Ian Starritt from Tatura attended their first Council meeting as Councillors of the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria, in December last year.

Mr. Ian Starritt



Mr. John Balfour Brown



The President, Mr. Balderstone, congratulated both gentlemen on their election and presented them with their badges and ties.

Mr. Balfour Brown and Mr. Starritt were nominated and subsequently elected following the appointment of Mr. J. W. Kelly and Mr. J. W. D. Ward as Life Councillors.

Background

Mr. Balfour Brown, 52, has been the Editor of the Weekly Times for 10 years and Assistant Editor for the preceding five years.

Career

His career in journalism as a reporter has included positions as cadet with the Newcastle Morning Herald, cadet of the Sydney Morning Herald's Canberra Gallery, Reporter and Feature writer with the Sun News Pictorial and before moving to the Weekly Times, Editor of Herald Colorgrave Publications.

Awards

Mr. Balfour Brown is the recipient of a number of Journalism Awards including the Adam McKay Cadet Prize, Australian runner up in the Montague Grower Cadet Prize, Herald and Weekly Times Ltd. Scholarship to Europe and U.S.A., United National F.A.O. reporting assignment to the Philippines and he was a member of the first Australian-Japan Foundation Journalists' Tour.

Equestrian Sport

Mr. Balfour Brown has had considerable experience in several disciplines of equestrian sport including Show Jumping, Hunting and Polo.

Committees

Mr. Balfour Brown has accepted nomination to the Media, Public Relations and Advertising Committee, the Exhibitors, Committee and Farm Inventions Committee. He has been The Weekly Times representative on the latter Committee for 14 years.

Mr. Ian Starritt is 33 years of age and with his father, Mr. G. R. Starritt, O.B.E., a Vice President of the Society, and brother Bruce, conducts the "Kelso Park" cattle and sheep studs.

Expertise

Being a member of a family whose association with the Stud Industry is so close, Mr. Starritt has acquired enviable expertise in the areas of animal husbandry, exhibition of stock and stock judging, and this knowledge will make him a valued member of the Society's Sheep and Goat, and Beef and Fat Cattle Committees.

Apart from his involvement with the "Kelso Park" Stud, Mr. Starritt is currently Vice President of the Poll Shorthorn Society, Victorian Branch, Councillor of the Shepparton Agricultural Society and a member of the organizing Committee for the Avenel One Day Event.

He is Emergency Director of Communications for the North West Mooropna Fire Brigade and while exhibiting at the Royal Melbourne Show, he holds the position of Shed Marshall for No. 3 Cattle Pavilion.

For the past four years he has judged the Best Maintained Team Cattle Competition at the Melbourne "Royal".

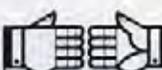
President's Message

Continued

horses, equestrian events, the Grand Parade etc. For example, Show Jumping has become a world T.V. event. If it takes the installation of rides, such as "Super Loop" side shows, and other fun events to provide additional entertainment, then so it has to be.

With the growing importance of rural industries to Victoria's economy, this Society will become even more prominent in the years ahead and will act as shop window and leader in showing the way to better agriculture.

Let us in the 1980's get right behind our new Director and show the community what agricultural and horticultural life is all about. A family life in the city or the country reaches its zenith with animals and gardens. Can we persuade more people to be in it?



INTRODUCING...

the New Minister of Agriculture

With the transfer of the Honourable I. W. Smith, M.P., to the newly created Victorian Government portfolio of Economic Development, the Honourable Thomas Leslie Austin has assumed Ministerial responsibility for Agriculture in this State.

Mr. Austin, who is 58 and M.L.A. for Ripon, has a "first hand" background in agriculture which spans 26 years — 1946-1972, during which time he has worked as a woolclasser, share farmer and farmer.

His parliamentary experience in agriculture has not been lacking either having been a member of the Agricultural Parliamentary Committee since 1972 and has also served a period as Chairman.

A member of the all party Public Works Committee which he has chaired for two years, Mr. Austin has also been involved in the Conservation, Fisheries and Wildlife, Lands and Labour and Industries Committees.

A Liberal Party Member of Parliament since 1972, Mr. Austin won the seat of Ripon in 1976 following its formation as a result of a seat re-distribution.

From 1972 to 1976 he held the old seat of Hampden which he won after the retirement of Sir Henry Bolte.



The Hon. T. L. Austin, Minister of Agriculture

Prior to taking over the Agriculture portfolio, Mr. Austin was Minister of Public Works and Minister for Property and Services, responsibilities he held since August 1978.

Mr. Austin is married, has four children and resides at Camperdown. He was awarded the Queen's Jubilee Medal in 1977.

SOCIETY WELCOMES NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mr. J. B. (Brian) Parry joined the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria on 27th January.

Mr. Parry, who is 49, came to the R.A.S.V. from the Australian Society of Accountants where he held the position of Deputy Executive Director.

Financial Background

Mr. Parry has a solid background in finance. Before becoming an administrator with the A.S.A. he was, for 10 years, Director of Finance and Administration with Meldrum, Burrows and Partners — Architects, Planners and Engineers and prior to this he was Head Office Accountant for Stephenson and Turner.

During the time of his employment with Meldrum, Burrows and Partners Mr. Parry held a position on the Finance Board of the Australian Institute of Architects in Victoria. He was the only non-architect on the Board.



Mr. Brian Parry

His expertise also resulted in his appointment as Chairman of the Finance and Planning Board of the Cairnmillar Institute.

Specialist Areas

Mr. Parry is actively involved in a number of other diverse specialist areas, quite divorced from those of finance and administration.

He and Mrs. Parry have a close association with the Y.M.C.A. Mr. Parry currently spends one night weekly as a Group Leader in the very complex sphere of Human Relations and his wife teaches at the Y.M.C.A. three afternoons during the week. Mr. Parry also finds time to deliver one or two lectures a year at the University of Sydney on the subject of Non-Profit Organizations.

At present he is Chairman of the Victorian Government enquiry into the light entertainment industry and is involved with the Children's Arena Theatre, South Yarra, as Chairman of the Finance Committee.

We extend to Mr. Parry, a warm welcome to the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria.

Victorian Young Farmers' Report...

PERSISTENCE PAYS



by David Smith, State President,
Victorian Young Farmers.

The Victorian Young Farmers' State Council has recently congratulated the State Government on its proposal to make the fitting of protective frames on tractors compulsory throughout Victoria. This legislation has been sought by the Victorian Young Farmers' Movement since 1969.

The legislation is welcomed as over many years in a bid to try and curb tractor fatalities in Victoria, Young Farmers has presented the Government and the public with conclusive evidence in support of safety frames and much credit for the eventual introduction of this legislation should go to those V.Y.F. members who worked so hard to convince people that safety frames do save lives.

Since 1970 there have been 179 fatal tractor accidents in Victoria, 41 of these have involved children. It is estimated that for every death resulting from a tractor accident, there are five serious injuries.

Eighty percent of all fatal tractor accidents involve overturning or the operator falling off and these could have been all but eliminated had a safety frame been fitted.

Sweden was the first country to introduce safety frames, in 1959, and as a result has reduced the number of tractor deaths by 84 percent.

Background

Interest in farm safety as a Young Farmer project commenced in October 1960 when several members and two supervisors attended a safety convention which led to a "Farm Safety Campaign" being undertaken. From that time each Club elected a Farm Safety Officer annually.

Survey

With the co-operation of the National Safety Council of Victoria an annual survey was launched by State Council in 1962, the purpose of which was to record all accidents on the farm either in the field, workshop or home.

The most successful survey was in 1964 when a total of 5,077 returns were received from 118 Clubs representing 91 percent participation. A total of 288 accidents were reported, 25 of these involving tractors.

This was virtually the only survey of its type conducted and the results were of real value to both the Safety Council and the Government.

Also in 1964, with the A.N.Z. Bank as sponsor, the Victorian Young Farmers' Movement launched a Farm and Home Safety Competition.

N.Z. Study

In 1969 the Deputy State President, Mr. John King and Advisory Officer, Mr. Ian Pedersen, undertook a three week study tour to investigate New Zealand farm accident, prevention and farm safety methods.

Part of their report of the tour reads — "As in Australia, tractor accidents in New Zealand account for a minor percentage of the total farm accidents recorded; however, tractors are responsible for almost half the total fatalities recorded. A study of all tractor fatalities by the N.S.A. proved that 60 percent of all such fatalities could have been averted, had safety frames been fitted"

Largely as a result of this tour, a motion was passed at the V.Y.F.'s 23rd Annual Conference (July 1970) which, in part, stated —

"That the V.Y.F. write to the State Government urging the immediate compulsory fitting of safety frames to all tractors"

Tractathon

To further publicize the need for safety frames on tractors a "Tractathon" was held in March of 1971. Three Young Farmer members drove a Massey Ferguson tractor, fitted with a safety frame, from Perth to Melbourne. The publicity received was tremendous and the mammoth effort by all concerned was considered worthwhile.

Regulations

During 1971 the Department of Labour and Industry kept close contact with the V.Y.F. regarding Farm Safety Regulations being proposed. State Conference again passed a motion supporting safety frames and on two occasions requests were made to the Minister to receive delegations of Young Farmers members regarding the proposed legislation. There were other primary industry organizations who had expressed opposition to the draft Bill.

Unfortunately, political rather than practical amendments were allowed by the State Government and a Bill which compelled all tractors sold in Victoria to be fitted with a safety frame

Young Farmers' Report -cont.

was amended to allow individual municipalities to adopt or reject this proposal.

Backward Step

Young Farmers felt that it was a backward step and only 32 of the 211 municipalities adopted the legislation despite overseas evidence which showed that most accidents occur on slopes of less than nine degrees.

Victorian Young Farmers has never accepted the amendment which severely limited the effect of Tractor Safety Regulations. At the Movement's Annual Conferences in 1973, 1974, and 1978, resolutions were passed urging the State Government to make safety frames compulsory in all municipalities.



Summary

For too long the Government has ignored the hard facts put before it in support of safety frames and appropriate legislation. For the past two decades Young Farmers has been working toward reducing the number of farm accidents. I am sure that this new legislation will greatly help to realize that goal.

• Above: To promote their cause, the V.Y.F. conducted a 'Tractorthon' from Perth to Melbourne in the early 1970's.

Tractorthon team member Joan Moore (Left), shakes hands with 'Mr. John Moores of the A.N.Z. Bank before setting off for Perth to begin the Tractorthon.

Other team members were Don Munro (Binnis Mr. Moores) and Brian McClelland.

• The A.N.Z. Bank through Mr. Moores provided invaluable assistance to the V.Y.F. movement in relation to their farm and tractor safety projects.

• Left: Tractor cab testing at the then State Research Farm, Werribee.

• Below: The Victorian Young Farmers have been responsible for focusing attention on tractor safety.



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about Rural Research

The C.S.L. Woodend Field Station

The benefits accruing to all branches of agriculture by scientific rural research are immeasurable — developments in livestock husbandry, disease control and eradication, development of pest resistant crops, to name a few.

Of course, this work will extend into the eighties and beyond, if this were not the case, the repercussions would be obvious.

But what of the organizations behind the research? How do they operate and in what areas will they be concentrating their research resources in this new decade.

The agricultural research is, you will appreciate, extremely complex with very many facets, however we hope that the following short feature will be of interest.

Our sincere thanks go to the C.S.I.R.O., Commonwealth Serum Laboratories, Animal Research Institute and the Shell Company of Australia for their valuable assistance in compiling this feature.

by Dr. Ted Lietman, M.V. Sc.
Officer-in-Charge

The Commonwealth Serum Laboratories is one of the world's great biological institutions, serving both the public and private sectors throughout Australia and overseas. Since its establishment over 60 years ago, C.S.L. has been relied upon for the production of life-saving biological products for both man and animals. The main manufacturing and research laboratories are at Parkville, near Melbourne, and the 618 hectare Field Station at Woodend, about 80 km from Melbourne.

Field Station

In the 20 years since its acquisition the Field Station has become an essential part of the C.S.L. It is used extensively for the breeding and grazing of horses, cattle and sheep and at present carries about 300 horses, 1000 breeding ewes and 100 head of breeding cattle. Besides serving the specialist production areas for which many of these animals are required, the property operates as a normal farm for its livestock production, pasture improvement and fodder conservation programs. As far as practical the property is self sufficient.

• Left: Mr. Ted Lietman, Officer in Charge of Commonwealth Serum Laboratories Field Station at Woodend



OUR COVER



4 Sheep muster in the Flinders Ranges region of South Australia.

All branches of agriculture in Australia today, have benefited from the developments through rural research.

An insight into some major aspects of rural research features in this issue.

about Rural Research cont . . .



• Percheron Horses "Donate" blood which is used in C.S.L.'s Life-Saving Anti Venoms & Anti Toxins.

Livestock

Livestock bred on the property are used in two main areas. Firstly the horses, and to a lesser degree, the cattle and sheep, are used for the production of blood, and blood products, necessary for manufacture of biological products for both human and veterinary medicine. Anti-

venoms used for the treatment of man and animals subjected to snake bite by any of Australia's poisonous snakes, the red back spider and the stone fish, as well as antitoxins used for the prevention and treatment of tetanus, diphtheria, gas gangrene, botulinum and pulpy kidney are produced mainly in horses. The 200 horses in production are predominantly Percherons which, because of their size and temperament, are ideally suited for this purpose.

Secondly the breeding of the main livestock species, sheep, cattle and horses under natural grazing conditions supplies animals of known history for the research and field testing of the C.S.L. veterinary products for the prevention and treatment of many of the diseases from which Australian livestock are constantly at risk.

Vaccination Programs

It is of interest to note that the vaccination programs used against many of the cattle and sheep diseases, especially the Clostridial diseases — pulpy kidney, tetanus, black leg, black disease, botulinum — which the livestock owner uses routinely today were largely elucidated by Australian veterinary research workers 30 to 40 years ago. C.S.L. was in the forefront of manufacturing the vaccines necessary for these programs.

The range of products available for the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of livestock diseases is continually being improved and expanded. Diagnostic agents, vaccines and antibiotics of special value under Australian Conditions are under constant monitoring and research to maintain and improve their standards and value. Many improvements have been made especially in all the livestock vaccines over the years and these have all been evaluated in the Woodend livestock before being issued for routine use by the livestock owner.

Field Trial

One field trial carried out recently to evaluate a possible new clostridial vaccine formulation involved 600 ewes and their lambs. The ewes were vaccinated before lambing, divided into groups of 100 and lambed down in these groups until the lambs could be individually identified. During the period of the trial, over six months, blood samples were taken from all ewes and subsequently from all their lambs at defined intervals. Assays of the blood samples enabled the protective effect of the new vaccine formulation against the Clostridial diseases to be compared to that achieved by vaccines produced at present.

A great deal of work and time is involved in a field trial of this nature, not only in the care and handling of the sheep but also in laboratory procedures for assaying the blood samples.

Although trials of this size are infrequent, C.S.L. is constantly aware of the Australian livestock owners disease requirements and the Woodend Field Station provides the animals and facilities for such trials when required.

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Henry & John Dear



about Rural Research cont...

Significant Achievements and Developments in Agriculture From C.S.I.R.O.

by Dr. M. R. J. Dack,
Officer-in-Charge (Acting)

Bluetongue Transmission Studies

The CSIRO Division of Animal Health has shown that bluetongue viruses present in Australia are transmitted from one animal to another by those species of the "biting midge" (genus *Culicoides*) which are limited to the northern parts of Australia. Other species of the same genus which are much more widely distributed, transmit the viruses inefficiently or not at all. While the results are not yet conclusive, they suggest that bluetongue, which is essentially a disease of sheep, is not likely to become a problem in Australia because the insect vectors which occur in sheep growing areas do not readily transmit the causal viruses.

Killed Tick Fever Vaccine Now A Possibility

Recent studies have shown that it may be possible to develop a killed vaccine against tick fever which could ultimately replace the present live vaccine. Such a development could lead to the eradication of the disease from many parts of Australia and the CSIRO Division of Animal Health and the Molecular and Cellular Biology Unit are about to start a study using genetic engineering methods to manufacture large quantities of the desired vaccine components in bacterial cells.



New Method For Crop Plant Improvement

Research at the CSIRO Division of Plant Industry has shown that plants produced vegetatively from cell culture commonly show genetic traits not present in the original plant from which the cells were obtained.

This finding is quite unexpected because cell culture — the propagation of plants from isolated cells instead of by seed or cuttings — had originally been developed as a method of producing large numbers of genetic copies of a selected plant.

The CSIRO scientists used cells from a variety of sugar cane known to be highly susceptible to the fungus disease eyespot, and produced a number of new lines which show promise of being highly resistant.

A particularly interesting aspect of the research is that the lines of sugar cane have been produced for field-testing in less than a year. The complex genetic system of sugar cane has previously required breeding programs



about Rural Research cont...



which took up to a decade to produce a single variety. The new lines are being field tested by the Queensland Bureau of Sugar Experimental Stations.

The CSIRO team is evaluating the potential of the technique for improving other crops, including wheat. The NSW Department of Agriculture is collaborating with CSIRO in a new project aimed at enhancing the disease resistance of cotton.

Variation from cell culture could be a major avenue for improving crop plants during the 1980's if its early promise is fulfilled.

Vaccinating for Increased Fecundity in Sheep

Some graziers, especially fat lamb raisers, would benefit if they could increase lambing rates. The CSIRO Division of Animal Production has found a way to increase ovulation, and hence lambing rate, by immunising ewes against the effects of the sex hormones oestrogen and androgen produced naturally in their bodies. Results to

date suggest that ovulation rate can be increased about 40% without adverse side effects. The Division is currently negotiating with industry about the commercialisation of a vaccine to immunise for increased fecundity.

Plant Virus Identification

A new immune electron microscopic technique for detecting virus particles in crude plant sap has been developed by the CSIRO Division of Protein Chemistry. Conventional immune electron microscopic methods are not sensitive enough to detect many viruses which occur in low concentration in plants. The new technique is very rapid and is specially suitable for virus particles in low concentration in plants. The technique involved pre-coating electron microscope grids with protein A (a cell wall of protein of staphylococcus aureus) before coating them with the specific antiserum. The new technique would be very useful in the identification and epidemiological investigations of plant diseases caused by viruses.



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THE ANIMAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

by Dr. M. J. Sharkey, Acting Director.

The Animal Research Institute, formerly the State Research Farm, Werribee is administered by the Department of Agriculture, Victoria. Its aims are to improve the economic efficiency and profit of animal production under Victorian conditions and to develop new husbandry practices for the animal industries.

Research Director Dr. P. D. Mullaney has organised his research staff of 150 Graduate and Technical staff into research teams of 10 to 20 persons. These teams conduct research on a discipline basis in physiology, animal behaviour, agricultural systems and the nutrition of pigs, poultry and ruminants.

Most research is contracted with funds for capital and operating provided by Industry and the major part of salary and servicing finance provided by the Victorian Government. Many projects are carried out in co-operation with other sections of the Department of Agriculture, Universities, C.S.I.R.O. and Industry organisations.

Currently the Government has a commitment to increasing agricultural efficiency and production by 25 per cent in this decade. A number of the approaches taken to achieve this goal are discussed below.

Physiology

Oestrus Synchronization in Dairy Cattle.

An ongoing program which has been conducted by staff at the Animal Research Institute working in co-operation with staff at regional offices aims to develop an improved method for synchronization of oestrus and ovulation in dairy cattle. Methods which are currently available, seldom achieve conception rates in treated cows which are better than in non-treated animals and benefits which might accrue from use of oestrus synchronization are at best, restricted to those arising out of convenience in relation to herd management.

At the Institute, work is being undertaken on the development of a synchronization technique which employs the use of a progesterone releasing intravaginal device (PRID) which is placed into the cow for 12 days. On the day before PRID removal each cow is injected with prostaglandin (PG F_{2α}). No heat detection is



required before treatment is begun and all cows are given blanket A.I. at 56 hours after PRID removal. Cows showing standing oestrus after this time are inseminated again.

Results so far indicate that with use of this strategy, conception rates are 13 per cent higher (83%) than in non-treated cows considering an overall mating program lasting 24 days. The ultimate aim of this work is to develop the method to a point such that 90-95% of treated cows come into standing oestrus within a 30-36 hour interval following PRID removal. Once this is achieved, an appropriate time for a single, blanket A.I. can be determined.

Animal Behaviour

Mr. Chris Winfield, Dr. Paul Hensworth and Mr. Greg Cronin have been relating animal behaviour and animal production in a number of species. A high level of contact between mature boars, young gilts and newly weaned sows enhances their reproductive performance some 10 to 15 per cent.

In other studies they have shown artificial heat stress similar to that occurring in many piggeries in Victoria, has a detrimental effect on semen quality and fertility of boars.

about Rural Research cont . . .



Research at the A.R.I. is being conducted by Dr. John Bamett and Mr. Winfield into the way animals respond to different housing techniques. An experiment has recently commenced comparing the long term effects of tethering sows with those of a number of less restricted housing arrangements in terms of a number of indices of welfare status.

Welfare issues are also being examined as part of a research project into the efficiency of handling and transporting cattle on the way from farms to saleyards and abattoirs. Various stockyard and cattle transport vehicle designs are being compared by Mr. Graeme Eldridge in terms of the ease and efficiency with which cattle move in and out of them and in terms of the stress and bruising which may occur.

Nutrition

In conjunction with Drs. Noel Campbell and Paul Presidente of Atwood Veterinary Research Institute, Mr. B. McGregor and Dr. M. J. Sharkey of the Animal Research Institute are studying the influence of stocking rate and mixed grazing of Angora goats and Merino sheep. This program will be studied over the next three years.

Little is known about goats grazing improved pastures, their influence on pasture composition, their growth rates and mohair production. The study will compare the production of sheep and goats grazed at different stocking rates and when grazed together. Internal parasite infections of all animals will be closely monitored and hopefully we will be able to evaluate whether grazing goats and sheep are equivalent and to find out what happens to the carrying capacity and wool production when goats and sheep are grazed at various stocking rates.

A further co-operative study by these officers is in progress to develop management strategies to control drench resistant internal parasites (worms) in sheep. Resistant parasites are becoming a problem in Victoria causing scouring and illthrift in young sheep and goats with consequent loss of production. Methods of parasite control that improve the efficiency of drenching and reduce the dependence on drenches should be used where possible. The effects of an owner with sheep infected with resistant parasites changing to another type of drench will be evaluated in terms of the resistance status of the parasites and the wool production of the sheep.

Pig-Nutrition

It is likely that during the 1980's pig production will change in several ways in that there will be greater emphasis on computer technology to identify and maintain the most profitable level of production. But there may be less opportunity to base this production on the con-

centrated cereal based diets that are currently used. Pig nutrition research at the Animal Research Institute is aimed at catering for such changes. Mr. R. G. Campbell has undertaken a research program to determine the effects on pig growth performance and carcass composition of a wide range of dietary energy and protein intakes. This is basic information that can be used directly by producers in determining optimum feeding strategies and also it is this sort of biological data that has direct application in the computer program already in demand as management tools.

There is to be continued emphasis on evaluating new feedstuffs for pigs. During the 1970's there was a swing from the animal derived feedstuffs such as fish meal and skim milk to the vegetable based feedstuffs (such as lupins) and also synthetic amino acids. This trend is likely to continue in the 1980's and Dr. M. R. Tavener has planned a research program to study alternate feed sources for pigs. He plans to look at the feeding value of whole and de-hulled oats, various grain by-products, and also plans to study the problems and potential of various agricultural and industrial wastes as sources of nutrients for pigs.

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about Rural Research cont . . .

Shell in Agricultural Research and Development

In very few areas of agricultural research has so much work been done in recent years, than in the field of chemicals.

The Shell Group has an extensive commitment to research and development in agriculture worldwide, spending in the region of A\$40 million annually in the quest for safer and more effective crop protection chemicals, together with detailed investigations into their related effects on human safety and the environment.

In Australia, Shell has an expanding agrochemical business particularly with the recent introduction of the synthetic pyrethroid insecticides, Sumicidin and Ripcord. This new group of crop protection chemicals has been a real breakthrough, not only to the farmer in his war against pest damage on his crops, but also in relation to environmental safety. These compounds present a relatively low hazard to humans whilst the amount of chemical necessary to control the pest is generally a tenth or less of a conventional insecticide.

The Development Team

To support their agrochemical business, Shell has an experienced team of some twelve qualified agronomists solely responsible for their research and development effort. There is also an analytical and formulation laboratory facility within the Group's chemical complex at Geelong.

The development teams are based in the important crop areas in Victoria, NSW and Queensland and are available to provide some technical support to the marketing team when required. Their main activity, however, centres



around the evaluation of new crop protection chemicals — either as a completely new and novel molecule or formulated in a more advantageous way, or in combination with other compounds to widen the spectrum of activity. Government regulations relating to pesticide use are strict and demand exhaustive testing over a 2/3 year period. These tests take the form of field trials which are designed to prove the efficacy and selectivity of the compounds to the crop and to clearly define the optimum timing and dose rate of the chemical to be used. At the same time, information on the residue levels remaining in the crop at harvest is obtained — not only of the active compound, but also of any metabolites that may be formed from its breakdown. It is also necessary to study the toxicology in detail to

establish human safety factors, together with any related effects on the environment.

The people involved in this type of work must be highly qualified and experienced to be able to interpret and analyse the information. They need to be painstaking in their efforts not to overlook any aspect in the development of a new compound especially if it is to be used on a food crop.

As a specific example of this type of work the development of Sumicidin shows the amount of time and effort required. The synthetic pyrethroid Sumicidin was first trialled in 1974/75 and some 100 replicated field trials were carried out before the first registration was granted in 1977 for its use on cotton. Since then trials have continued and other crop uses

about Rural Research cont...



been developed. Somicidin is now registered on a wide range of crops including tomatoes, brassicas, sorghum, peas, sunflowers — to name a few. Development work continues both to obtain new use registrations for this exciting new insecticide, and in seeking ways to improve its field performance even further by looking at mixtures with other insecticides or by changes to the formulation.

Looking Towards the 80's

Looking towards the future for research and development in the area of crop protection chemicals, the new decade presents an even greater challenge to the Shell research team. The high cost of research these days will certainly have its effect on the number of new compounds coming

onto the market in the future. On average the time taken from the discovery of a biologically active compound through the laboratory and field evaluation stages to the building of a manufacturing plant and its market introduction can be anything from 7-10 years.

The increased market sophistication coupled with environmental pressures are also having their effects on the types of crop protection chemicals being developed. These are tending to be safer and more pest specific, thus ensuring greater user safety and the retention of natural pest predators as far as possible. An example of this trend was the development of the Shell herbicide Mataven. This herbicide was developed specifically for the control of wild oats in wheat.

Continuing development effort will remain high with the synthetic pyrethroids. The research chemists keep finding new members in this interesting group of compounds. Their efforts are directed nowadays more towards widening their spectrum of activity and it is still early days to predict any degree of success. Other avenues into which research is being undertaken include the use of naturally occurring diseases such as a virus, or by using a chemical sterilant to reduce pest build-up and yet still retain the natural predator activity.

The coming decade presents the research scientist with a challenge in the need to satisfy the farmer in his requirement for economical and effective crop protection and society's desire to protect the environment.



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- Limited number of Does for private sale.
- Limited number of Bucks services, and semen also available.
- Most successful exhibitor at 1981 Australasian Angora Fair.

Owner: Margarete Piccoli (far right); pictured with Mrs G. Jones, Judge and her Champion and Res. Champion Senior Doe.



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Field Day Report



Farm Management Field Day

Geoff and Majorie Heard, winners of the 1980 Victorian Farm Management, Production and Improvement Competition, Section B. (Gross Capital Investment over \$300,000) conducted a field day on their Horsham property, "Wondalea", on Wednesday 26 November, 1980.

The field day program commenced at 9.30 a.m. and following morning tea, a welcome to visitors by Cr. Max Grumble, Arapiles Shire President and introduction of the Competition winners by Wimmera Agricultural Societies' Association President, Mr. Duncan Anderson, an inspection of "Wondalea" commenced with comments on the cropping enterprises by Mark Hyland, and livestock enterprises by Richard Steere, both of the Department of Agriculture.

Background

"Wondalea" covers an area of 2,040 hectares and carries almost 10,000 sheep, 100 breeding cows and 500 hectares of crops comprising wheat and oats. There is an additional 200 hectares which is share cropped.

Cropping

With an average rainfall of 475 mm and a growing season from May to November, about two-thirds of the area is sown to Olympic, Zenith or Egret wheat, the remainder is sown

to Avon oats. Generally two successive cereal crops are followed by pasture in a flexible clover ley rotation, the second cereal crop is usually under-sown with sub clover and sometimes perennial ryegrass.

Herbicides are not extensively used in the cropping program largely because of waterlogging and returns do not justify such a significant addition to variable cropping costs which currently run at \$55 a hectare.

All crop paddocks are top dressed prior to sowing with 90 kilograms of straight superphosphate a hectare.



• Mr. Mark Hyland (Dept. of Agriculture) (far right) provides information on the Cropping Enterprises at "Wondalea". Listening are Mr. R. T. Balderson (far left) and Mr. D. Anderson (centre).

The expected yields on "Wondalea" are 1.4 tonnes a hectare for wheat, and 2.4 tonnes a hectare for oats. This gives a gross margin for the cropping enterprise of \$84 per hectare.

Livestock

The cattle and sheep at "Wondalea" are stocked at eight dry sheep equivalents a hectare (3 DSE/acre) on annual pastures of sub clover and Wimmera and perennial ryegrass.

Both sheep and cattle are set stocked throughout the year, with the exception of the post harvest period, when cereal stubbles are available, and strategic grazing of pastures prior to cropping in autumn. Supplementary feeding is restricted to poorer years, and grain (oats) is currently used in preference to hay.

In the cattle enterprise both horned and polled shorthorns are run with the objective of turning off vealers at eight to ten months of age.

"Barunah Plains" rams have been purchased for use in the sheep flock for 50 years, resulting in a uniform flock producing 19 to 20 micron wool with a 68 to 70 per cent yield.

Maiden ewes are visually culled prior to joining in November to lamb down at two years of age. The culls (approximately 20% of young ewes) and some cast for age ewes are joined to English Leicester rams, the wether

Field Day Report -cont.

progeny of this cross are sold as fats, while the ewe portion meets regular demand from prime lamb producers. Surplus Merino wethers have been sold for live export.

The wool clip is classed to OCP guidelines with about 90 percent of fleeces going into the mainline. An automatic, self-pinning press with scales attachment consistently produces bales up to 200 kilograms.

Commitments to cropping in autumn are such that ewes lamb down without supervision and lambing percentages of 78, 83 and 88 over the past three years indicate that this policy is not incurring undue penalties.

Ewes and lambs are drenched, and lambs marked, mulesed and vaccinated in the one muster, a second drench is administered during pre-lambing crutching. The combination of mulesing, preventive drenching and late October shearing has virtually eliminated fly-strike as a significant problem.

High lambing percentages and a flexible policy towards marketing of livestock enable the contribution of stock sales to gross returns from sheep to be maintained at the unusually high level of 40 percent combined



• Mr. A. Finnis (Manager, Victoria Commonwealth Development Bank) officially opens the "Wondalea" Field Day.

with below average running costs of \$3.00/DSE, this has helped to generate a gross margin for the grazing enterprise of \$107 a hectare (\$43.50/acre) or \$14.50/DSE.

This enterprise is a good example of what can be achieved by combining sound flock management procedures with a philosophy of low cost, high labour efficiency and astute marketing.



• (L/R) Mr. Richard Steers (Department of Agriculture), Mr. & Mrs. Geoff Heard & Mr. John Drum (Vice President of V.A.S.A.), on the dais during Field Day proceedings.

FORTHCOMING FIELD DAYS

The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria in conjunction with the Victorian Agricultural Societies' Association will conduct three field days over the period of March and April, they are:

Thursday 12th March - 1980 G & N Commercial Dairy Herd of the Year award Field Day, on the property of Mr. & Mrs. Gavan Houlihan, Rochester.

Tuesday 31st March - 1980 Commonwealth Development Bank Victorian Farm Management, Production and Improvement Competition (Section A) Field Day, on the property of Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Forsyth, Simpson.

Friday 24th April - 1980 Dalgety Commercial Beef Herd of the Year award Field Day, on the property of Minsmere Farm's "Howquada Station", Mansfield.

Further information about the above field days may be obtained by contacting the Victorian Agricultural Societies' Association, Royal Show Grounds, Epsom Road, Ascot Vale. Telephone (03) 376 0471.

U.S. EXPERT OFFICIATES AT SEMINAR

A leading American Arabian horse trainer and breeder, Sheila Varian, will officiate at a One Day Halter and Performance Horse Training Seminar on Saturday, 7 March at the Royal Melbourne Show Grounds.

The seminar, although organized by the Arabian Horse Society of Australia (Victorian Division), will be open to breeders and owners of all breeds.



Sheila Varian has conducted her now famous, "Varian Arabian" Stud in the United States since 1955 and her success in breeding and training Arabians in the performance discipline of equestrian sport has been outstanding.

She made history in 1961 when she toppled the toughest possible opposition at San Francisco's Cow Palace where the biggest stock horse contest in the world is conducted, and carried off the title of National Champion Reined Cow Horse with a little Arabian mare named Ronteza.



This performance field is not considered to be the Arabian breed's forte however, Ronteza has produced two U.S. National Champions by Arabian Sire Bay Abi, Bay Event, twice U.S. National champion working Cow Horse and Bay Shadow, U.S. National Champion Cutting Horse.

Sheila Varian's success has not been restricted to Western style performance events and horses either — her success with English horses has been every



bit as great. She bred and trained "Mikado" who became U.S. National Champion Park Horse and this stallion sired "Comment", a brilliant chestnut gelding who, in 1978, became U.S. National Champion English Pleasure Horse.



The Seminar program will cover halter breaking, float breaking and

long line in the morning session and in the afternoon Sheila Varian will ride horses who are at different stages of education and demonstrate various riding techniques.

Tickets for the Seminar are \$10 per person and a discounted rate of \$5 per person is available for members of pony clubs to encourage younger people to attend.

Further details regarding the Seminar may be obtained from either Mr Paul Walker (058) 299-450 or Dr. Trevor Hubble (03) 751-1114.



another approach to farm labour

During a recent study tour of New Zealand, the tour party was impressed with the approach of Graeme and Betty Kelly of Okato, to the employment of dairy farm labour.

In past years Graeme and Betty have milked their 170 strong dairy herd and managed a 20 sow piggery using casual labour during the busy periods only. During the last season however, they engaged a full time employee and this is how they have organized the farm labour.

Shed Operation

Graeme has the milking shed geared to a one man operation. He commences milking at 6.00 a.m. each morning and has timed his employee to start at 8.00 a.m. so that he finishes off the morning milking chores while Graeme has breakfast.

The employee undertakes all the afternoon milking, commencing at 3.30 p.m. and finishing at 5.30 p.m. which leaves Graeme free either to work longer in the field or spend a day with his family without having to return for the evening milking. Graeme and the employee alternate the weekend milking.



by Jack Green, Dairy Extension Officer,
Department of Agriculture, Victoria.



Keep In Touch

Graeme comments that such a system enables him to "keep in touch" with his herd through handling the cows every morning. This system of management is far more acceptable to the hired labour and has led to a better social life for Graeme and his family.

The arrangement is kept flexible so that milkings through the week can be alternated should the need arise.

Different Approach

Denis Lepper of Lepperton has another approach to keeping the labour more efficient. With a 500 cow dairy herd, a 100 sow piggery and a couple of hundred head of beef, Denis employs three men plus his own two sons. If any one of the employees makes a mistake such as forgetting to close a gate or being late for milking they contribute a bottle of beer to the refrigerator at the dairy. When there are sufficient bottles in the fridge, Denis calls a meeting with the staff and they drink the contents of the fridge while discussing farm management plans.

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ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

**1980
ANNUAL REPORT**



The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of members of the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria will be held in the Council Room, Administrative Building, Plummer Avenue, Royal Show Grounds, Epsom Road, Ascot Vale, on Tuesday, the 17th March, 1981, at 12 noon.

BUSINESS

1. Minutes of previous Annual Meeting.
2. To receive the Annual Report and Balance Sheet.
3. To elect members to fill the vacancies on the Council.
4. To appoint two Auditors.

Dated 23rd day of February, 1981.

J. B. PARRY,
Director

LIST OF NOMINATIONS

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL (Eleven to be elected)

BALDERSTONE, R. T., C.M.G., M.C.
"Koonje", Rhinds Road, Wallington,
3221.

BEST, E. W., C.M.G., 670 Orrong
Road, Toorak, 3142.

BURSTON, J. M., "East Mount Ada",
Benalla, 3672.

BIJTLER, R. M., "Meadow Banks",
Newstead, 3462.

CROWLEY, W. D., Q.P.M., Railway
Road, Wesburn, 3139.

HEAD, J. G. W., "Grenada Park",
Mangalore West, 3663.

LANGDON, R. B., "Roseparke",
Wallaces Road, Dromana, 3936.
MORTON, I. K., 53 St. Kinnord
Street, Essendon, 3040.

ROBB, J. S. A., "Chateau Remy",
Avoca, 3467.

SLEIGH, J. H. H., "Bayunga", Box
35, Nagambie, 3608.

STEPHENS, F. R. I., "Vermont",
R.M.B. 1154, Benalla, 3627.

NOTE: — The nominations not being
in excess of the vacancies
there will be no poll.



THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA
Royal Show Grounds, Ascot Vale, 3032. Phone 376 0471
Telex: AA34541

OFFICE BEARERS 1980

PATRON-IN-CHIEF:

His Excellency The Rt Hon. Sir Zelman Cowen, P.C., A.K.,
G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., K.St.J., Q.C.

PATRON:

His Excellency The Hon. Sir Henry Winneke, K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O.,
O.B.E., K.St.J., Q.C.

PRESIDENT:

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

VICE-PRESIDENTS:

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

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Sir Rupert W.J. Clarke,
Bart, M.B.E.
Sir Edgar Coles, Kt.
K.A. Drummond
J.M. Gardiner
R. Hunter
J.W. Kelly
L.G.C. Nicholas
F.E.S. Scott, M.B.E.

J.M. Buchanan
W.J.T. Clarke
Sir Alec Creswick Kt.
Prof. H.C. Forster, O.B.E.
G. Howell
D.W.R. Knox
C.O. Moore
P.B. Ronald, C.M.G.
G.R. Starritt, O.B.E.
J.W.D. Ward
G.P.H. Wilson, C.M.G.

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL:

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W.R.R. Beggs
E.W. Best, C.M.G.
C.A. Bott
J.K. Buchanan, A.M.
J.M. Burston
R.M. Butler
W.D. Crowley, Q.P.M.
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C.B. Gardiner
R.B. Gerrard, M.B.E.
A. Gibson
W. McL. Greaves
J.G.W. Head
C.R. Kelly
R.B. Langdon
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Sir Cecil Looker, Kt.
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J.S.A. Robb
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The Hon. I.W. Smith, M.P.
I. McK. Starritt
F.R.I. Stephens
K.W. Urquhart
R.G. Walker
The Hon. Vernon F. Wilcox,
C.B.E. Q.C.

EXECUTIVE STAFF:

DIRECTOR: J. B. Parry

DEPUTY DIRECTOR: J.C. Buckland

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

CHIEF ACCOUNTANT: J.F. Clifford

GROUND MANAGER: K.J. Monkhouse

MEDIA MANAGER: T. R. Morgan

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure, on behalf of Council, to report on the activities of the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria, for the year ended 31 December, 1980.

THE 1980 ROYAL MELBOURNE SHOW

The 1980 Show, conducted from Wednesday 17 September to Saturday 27 September inclusive, attracted an attendance of 822,110 over its 11 days and nine nights, an increase of 36,760 on the previous exhibition.

This was achieved despite inclement weather on the first two days and persistently bad forecasts which were belied by quite reasonable weather during the remainder of the Show.

City Parade

The Show was heralded by the Royal Show City Parade down Swanston Street on Monday 15 September.

This fourth annual Parade was well received by the City of Melbourne and officially greeted by the City's Lord Mayor, Cr. J. W. Woodruff, at the steps of the Town Hall.

Sincere thanks must again be extended to the Lord Mayor and members of his Council and Council authorities for their assistance in staging a successful Parade, in addition to members of the Victoria Police.

Support for the Parade was willingly given by over 70 participants and to these people must go very special thanks.

Official Opening

The Society's Patron, His Excellency the Governor of Victoria, The Honourable Sir Henry Winneke, K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., O.B.E., K.St.J., Q.C., officially opened the Show on Sunday 21 September.

In his opening speech, Sir Henry commented on the role of the Show and I feel that these comments are worthy of reproduction in this report.

Firstly, he described the Show as — "the display window of Rural Victoria" and continued by saying that it "also, of course brings the city to the country and enables the city dweller to gain some idea in practical terms of what the country means to Australia . . . and perhaps more importantly, it provides a means to enable your Council to go out into the country to carry out its charter throughout the remainder of the year".

These comments, I believe, are an accurate reflection of what our Show is all about.

We were honoured to have attend our Opening Ceremony, Lady Winneke, The Right Honourable the Prime Minister, Mr. Fraser and Mrs. Fraser, the Premier, Mr. Hamer and Mrs. Hamer, the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, Cr. and Mrs. Woodruff and the Mayor and Mayoress of Essendon, Cr. and Mrs. McFarlane.



Dale Buggins and his sister Chantell thrilled Show crowds with their High Wire Act

Show Entries

Our Show retains its reputation as the Show with the highest number of competitive entries of all Australian "Royals" with the total of 37,515.

A number of new record entries were established and they are as follows:—
(previous records are shown in brackets)

Horses	7615 (7291 — 1979)
Sheep	
Suffolk	178 (116 — 1979)
Wiltshire Horn	8 (4 — 1976)
Perendale	44 (27 — 1978)
Poll Dorset	439 (424 — 1978)

It is worthy of note that the Merino breed was exhibited at the Royal Melbourne Show for the first time in 31 years, and recorded an encouraging entry of 10.

Beef Cattle	
Poll Shorthorn	148 (130 — 1979)
Poll Hereford	312 (311 — 1979)
South Devon	13 (9 — 1979)
Limousin	31 (24 — 1979)
Sussex	5 (3 — 1979)

In a conscious effort to further increase the value of the Show to patrons, Council agreed to the re-introduction of the family concession ticket and decided also that the individual admission fee should not be increased.

Family tickets were originally introduced in 1957 but their use was discontinued in the middle 1960's.

Two Family Tickets were re-introduced for the 1980 Show — one admitted two adults and two children for \$9.00, the other permitted a family of one adult and three children to enter for \$6.00. In each case the amount saved represented the admission cost of one child.

Attractions — Arena and Around Grounds

Attractions procured for the 1980 Royal Melbourne Show for the Arena and around the Show Grounds did, I believe, represent outstanding value in terms of entertainment and plain "value for money".

When it is considered that the payment of \$4.00 in the case of an adult, or \$1.00 for a child permitted the patron to see such attractions as Dale Buggins, The Flying Gollans (Trick Riders), the Holden Precision Driving Team, the Grand Parade and an extensive "Horses in Action" program in the arena, plus world championship woodchopping, performances by the National Folk Dance Company of Australia, performances of multicultural song and dance groups, popular music concerts, International Wool Fashion Parades, Animal Nursery, to name a random selection of highlights staged outside the arena, the Royal Show as an entertainment medium must rate extremely high.

Of course the presentation of such an extensive entertainment program would be impossible without the assistance from our sponsors, and at this juncture I will record the Society's gratitude to the many companies, organizations and individuals who have generously supported us over the past year.

A cross section of Cattle Exhibitors parade their animals in the 1980 Royal Melbourne Show Grand Parade



September						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
..	..	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30

SHOW DATES

The subject of a change of date for the Royal Melbourne Show is one of such importance, and creates so much speculation in the press, that I feel mention must be made of it.

The matter is under continual review by the Council, indeed has been for the last 20 years and there is now a very thick file covering all aspects of it.

With the advent of colour television and its general appeal, the cold September nights do not attract a satisfactory evening attendance, and this has concerned us for some time remembering that one of our major objectives is to let as many city people as possible see what the country is producing.

It has become an even greater problem to keep the Royal Show date under review since the V.F.L.:-

1. Extended their season by one week to stage the Grand Final on our last day, thereby creating tremendous publicity during that week to the detriment of our Show.
2. Commenced the televising of the Grand Final which has brought about a reduction in the Show's final Saturday crowd of approximately 20 per cent.

The subject of Show dates was discussed immediately after the 1980 Show. There existed the possibility that if the 1981 Show could be conducted two weeks later, we would avoid the above problem and may have the honour of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, opening it.

This was appealing however, at the moment, the Council realizes they are "locked in" to their present dates and many Victorian country and Tasmanian shows are involved in any alternative dates as is the V.R.C., and it would be impossible for the R.A.S. to stage the Show without the V.R.C.'s parking facilities. Protests at any move were received from a number of organizations, and from breed societies where breeding dates for show exhibitors are so important.

The Government is keen to see a move and thereby spread out Melbourne's attractions, but no easy solution appears. Council will continue to carefully watch the position and alternatives. The Royal Show is, and must remain, the No. 1, the premier Show of the State, and very effort will be made to keep it that way.



The Australian Wool Corporation's Wool Fashion Parades again proved to be a popular attraction in Centre Point.

COUNCIL CHANGES

The Society lost a most distinguished Life Councillor on Saturday 15 March 1980, with the death of Mr. H. L. Lyall, aged 88 years.

Mr. Lyall became a member of Council in October 1935 and was created a Life Councillor in March 1957.

During a period of distinguished service, Mr. Lyall undertook the positions of Assistant Ringmaster and Ringmaster, and was also a member of the Finance, Catering, Entertainment, Space Allocation and Horticultural Committees.



The Victoria Police Motorcycle Squad returned to the 1980 Show after a year's absence

New Life Councillors

In August 1980 two members of Council, Mr. J. W. Kelly and Mr. J. W. D. Ward, were elected Life Councillors. Both gentlemen became members of Council in August 1960 and both have played important roles in the Society's development over two decades.

New Councillors

At the December meeting we had the pleasure of welcoming Mr. John Balfour Brown and Mr. Ian Starritt to the Council.

Mr. Balfour Brown is currently Editor of the Weekly Times and is actively involved in various disciplines of equestrian sports including show jumping, hunting and polo. He is also the Weekly Times representative on the Society's Farm Inventions Contest Committee. A position he has held for 14 years.

Mr. Ian Starritt, a son of Mr. Ray Starritt, a Vice-President of the Society, is one of the leading young cattlemen in Victoria and has a wealth of knowledge as a Show exhibitor.

We are most fortunate to have both gentlemen as members of our Council and I am sure that their specialized knowledge and skills will be of great benefit to the Society.

DEVELOPMENT AND USE OF SHOW GROUNDS

Improvements, Alternations and Maintenance.

Over the last year and in preparation for the 1980 Show, the Society's expenditure on building and facility improvements totalled \$1,150,000 with an additional \$250,000 on maintenance.

Almost a quarter of the capital works expenditure involved catering facilities including the upgrading and refurbishing of the Royal Luncheon Block, construction of a Log Cabin style take away food facility at the rear of the Administrative building and improvements to the Horse Bar and Dog Complex catering facilities.

Other major works included:—

- Commencement of Ringmaster's Office re-development;
- Demolishing of old Casualty building;
- Construction of new Public Relations Offices — ground floor Administrative Building;
- Re-decking of Gibsonia Grand Stand;
- Re-modelling of Railway turnstiles;
- Construction of new upper stage, Shearers dressing rooms shearing and holding pens in Centenary Hall;
- Complete renovation of the Hall of Commerce;
- Redevelopment of Ford Pavilion and associated buildings for Roller Disco Centre.

Of particular significance was the construction of an "all weather" Woodchop Arena undertaken by the Boral-Cyclone Group at the cost of \$100,000. We are deeply indebted to Boral for their generosity.

In addition to the above, the following improvements were undertaken.

- Upgrading of arena lighting;
- Improvements to the Woodfull Pavilion — part of the Dog Complex;
- Redevelopment of the racecourse underpass incorporating new landscaping and kerbing, new lighting and more signs;
- Completion of the Dairy Industry Pavilion's interior and the addition of staff quarters to the Big "M" selling complex.

SHELL — R.A.S.V. JOURNALISTS' TOUR

The 24th Annual pre-Royal Show Journalists' Tour sponsored by the Shell Group of Companies, was conducted by the Society through the South Central region of the State, incorporating Werribee, Geelong, Ballarat, Crewsick, Woodend and districts surrounding these centres, from Sunday 3 August to Thursday 7 August inclusive.

The 1980 touring party numbered 36 and comprised representatives of Overseas News Agencies, Victorian and Interstate Rural Publications, Country, Metropolitan and Special Interest press in addition to Metropolitan, Country and A.B.C. Radio, and Metropolitan and Country Television.

Journalists visited a diversity of agricultural and associated rural enterprises which included Beef Cattle, Market Gardening, Sheep, Cropping, Horses, Commercial Egg Production, Potatoes, Viticulture and Forestry.

The tour also visited the Animal Research establishment at Werribee, the Melbourne Metropolitan Board of Works Farm, Werribee, the Commonwealth Serum Laboratory's Station at Woodend and the Australian National Animal Health Laboratory, Geelong, which is under construction at a cost of several million dollars.

I believe the tour enabled participating Journalists to gain a first hand understanding of Victorian agriculture, the way of life and the problems of those who are directly involved, and a valuable insight into the preparation of stock for the Royal Melbourne Show and what the Show is essentially about.

Mr. W. D. Crowley, Chairman of the Society's Media, Public Relations and Advertising Committee, led the tour and resident Councillors Messrs. Robert Beggs and John Fiske were able to join the tour at various time en-route. Mr. Don Ward also joined the tour for a visit on the first day.

The Society's sincere gratitude is extended to the Shell Group of Companies for their extremely generous sponsorship of the tour and our deepest thanks goes to all tour hosts whose willingness to tell their story made the tour a success.



One of the properties visited during the 1980 Journalists' Tour was St. Gabriel's Hereford Stud, Mt. Mercer.

JOINT R.A.S.V. — V.A.S.A. ACTIVITIES

The past year has seen the continuation of a strong and amicable partnership between the R.A.S.V. and the Victorian Agricultural Societies' Association and I extend, on behalf of my Council, an expression of deep appreciation to Mr. G. B. Marriott and members of his Council for their untiring co-operative efforts, particularly in the area of joint organization and conduct of the five important annual farming and farm management competitions.

These are:—

The Victorian Farm Management, Production and Improvement Competition;

Share Dairy Farmer of the Year Award;

Commercial Wool Sheep Flock of the Year Award;

Commercial Dairy Herd of the Year Award;

Commercial Beef Herd of the Year Award.

The role of conducting these competitions is recognized by both organizations as a practical step towards creating and maintaining optimum interest in various areas of Agriculture so vital to Victoria. It is also a means of providing tangible incentives to successful competitors.

I feel it necessary at this point to record the gratitude of both the R.A.S.V. and V.A.S.A. to the Victorian Department of Agriculture whose officers have played such a significant part in the adjudication of the competitions, and planning of the subsequent Field Days.

Thanks must also go to our competition sponsors whose very valuable support has enabled the R.A.S.V. and V.A.S.A. to maintain a high level of involvement in these various extension activities.



The Field Days conducted by the R.A.S.V. and V.A.S.A. are among the best attended by Victorian Farmers.

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1980

	1980	\$	1979	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$
FIXED ASSETS				
Land at Council valuation 1972		1,023,000		1,068,000
Buildings and improvements at Council valuation 1972	9,489,774		8,489,774	
Additions at cost (note 1)	2,507,742		2,174,321	
	<u>10,997,516</u>		<u>10,664,095</u>	
Less provision for depreciation	1,292,176		1,105,555	
		9,705,340		9,558,540
Services and utilities at cost	585,023		585,023	
Less provision for depreciation	81,896		71,659	
		503,127		513,364
Plant and motor vehicles at cost	485,832		356,218	
Less provision for depreciation	244,761		233,062	
		241,071		123,156
Furniture fixtures and fittings at cost	573,814		385,849	
Less provision for depreciation	204,706		144,383	
		<u>369,108</u>		<u>241,466</u>
		<u>11,841,846</u>		<u>11,504,526</u>
INVESTMENTS				
Debentures, deposits, bonds and cash at bank at cost				
— General	184,760		95,780	
— Special Purposes Insurance Fund	129,440		108,477	
— Trust Accounts	27,254		27,261	
— Short Call	338,747		156,623	
		680,201		378,141
CURRENT ASSETS				
Cash on hand	800		700	
Prepayments and accrued interest	30,548		25,974	
Sundry debtors	424,640		185,063	
Less provision for doubtful debts	18,000		(7,000)	
Stock on hand at cost	406,640		95,268	
		93,268		
		<u>531,254</u>		<u>290,005</u>
		<u>13,053,101</u>		<u>12,172,672</u>
LESS				
CURRENT LIABILITIES —				
Bank overdraft — secured	202,771		165,546	
Loans — secured	34,825		34,615	
Loans — unsecured	102,720		39,807	
Sundry creditors and accruals	399,974		356,406	
Provision for long service leave	67,471		60,291	
Received in advance	1,250		270	
Short call deposits	338,747		156,623	
		1,147,758		805,558
LONG TERM LIABILITIES				
Loans — secured	472,271		506,260	
Loans — unsecured	866,521		448,640	
		1,338,792		954,900
		27,254		27,261
		<u>2,513,804</u>		<u>1,787,719</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES				
		<u>1,338,792</u>		<u>954,900</u>
		<u>27,254</u>		<u>27,261</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS				
		<u>10,539,297</u>		<u>10,384,953</u>
REPRESENTING				
Accumulated Funds		2,018,568		1,908,186
Reserves —				
Assets Revaluation	7,759,190		7,759,190	
Special Purposes Insurance Fund	129,440		108,477	
Dog Complex Contribution (Note 1)	632,099		612,100	
		<u>8,520,229</u>		<u>8,479,267</u>
TOTAL ACCUMULATED FUNDS AND RESERVES				
		<u>10,539,297</u>		<u>10,384,953</u>

*The account to be read in conjunction with the Note 1 on the adjoining page.

Auditors report to the members of the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria

In our opinion the attached Balance Sheet and Revenue Account which have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for Land and Buildings and Improvements which have been reflected at Council 1972 valuation, are properly drawn up in accordance with the Rules of the Society and so as to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Society at 31st December, 1980 and the results of the operations for the year ended on that date.

Date at Melbourne this 23rd day of February, 1981

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

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA
REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1980

EXPENDITURE	1980 \$	1979 \$	INCOME	1980 \$	1979 \$
Wages and payroll costs	2,189,171	1,949,228	Show admissions and car parking	1,687,486	1,522,636
Maintenance and cleaning	345,883	340,585	Space and ground rentals	887,292	735,455
Depreciation	277,927	265,387	Secretarial service fees	590,085	503,463
Show attractions	126,998	198,350	Show entry fees	171,476	155,444
Printing and stationery	213,818	166,894	Materials and services	161,846	153,750
Show running costs	103,464	135,817	Members subscriptions	171,746	151,574
Insurance	125,308	127,204	Show sales and sundry revenue	41,159	131,259
Catering	132,732	113,233	Donations and sponsorship	173,931	127,198
Trophies and prizes	122,145	108,394	Surplus on disposal of assets	55,717	76,142
Advertising and publicity	126,012	74,443	Catering premiums	123,549	67,121
Interest	109,376	73,177	Computer fees	48,385	56,892
Telephones and postage	61,162	60,525	Advertising	79,684	36,543
Rates	55,302	57,207			
Electricity and gas	62,829	55,183			
Judges expenses	35,705	29,375			
Sundry costs	46,871	21,839			
Computer costs	39,673	22,674			
Audit and legal	13,598	14,439			
Doubtful debts	11,000	4,000			
Special Purpose Insurance Fund	10,000	8,000			
	<u>4,188,974</u>	<u>3,815,954</u>			
(Deficit) Surplus for year	3,382	(96,480)			
	<u>\$4,192,356</u>	<u>\$3,717,474</u>		<u>\$4,192,356</u>	<u>\$3,717,474</u>
ACCUMULATED FUNDS					
	1980 \$	1979 \$		1980 \$	1979 \$
Deficit for year		98,480	Balance at start of year	1,905,196	1,953,666
Balance at end of year	2,018,568	1,905,186	Grant for capital improvements	110,000	50,000
	<u>\$2,018,568</u>	<u>\$2,003,666</u>	Surplus at end of year	3,392	-
				<u>\$2,018,568</u>	<u>\$2,003,666</u>

*Note 1 to the accounts

Dog complex. During the year the Kennel Control Council contributed an additional \$19,990 to the Society to meet the costs of the erection of a new pavilion and other improvements in the Dog complex. Accordingly this amount has been added to both Fixed Assets and Reserves.



THE ROYAL MAGAZINE

The "Royal" Magazine, of which five issues were produced last year, is gaining increasing acceptance as an authoritative publication, profiling the activities of the R.A.S.V., breed societies and like organizations as well as featuring informative articles and photographs relating to rural industries in Victoria, interstate and overseas.

The Society thanks those who have contributed to the magazine and looks forward to their continued support in the new year.

Thanks must also go to Hearne Printing for their assistance in producing the "Royal".

RETIREMENT OF DIRECTOR MR. H. J. CLAPPISON

In May 1980, the Society's Director Mr. H. J. Clappison announced his desire to retire.

His request was acceded to by Council at its May meeting, and he commenced retirement at the beginning of February.

The Council and indeed the Society as a whole, recognize the very great contribution the Director has made in the areas of Show Grounds development and the Show itself, and this will stand as a credit to his drive and organizing ability.

We all wish both Mr. and Mrs. Clappison a very happy retirement.

At the beginning of February we welcomed our new Executive Director, Mr. J. B. Parry, who took up his appointment with the R.A.S.V. following distinguished service with the Australian Society of Accountants, as its Deputy Director.

Prior to this, Mr. Parry was Director of Finance and Administration for a large group of Architects, Planners and Engineers.

I have no doubt that the Society will benefit from Mr. Parry's wide managerial and financial experience.

FINANCE

The financial statements for the year ended 31st December, 1980 contained in this report disclose a surplus of \$3,382 as compared to a deficit of \$98,480 in the previous year.

Tight controls kept the additional costs lower than the increase in revenue. The result was effected by a greater than expected increase in attendance and a higher return from space and ground rentals.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

On behalf of my Council, I wish to place on record its appreciation of the continued significant support provided by the Victorian State Government through the Premier, the Hon. R. J. Hamer and members of his Ministry.

Our thanks must go to the Hon. I. W. Smith who was, for the greater part of the last year, Minister of Agriculture and in that capacity of particular assistance to us. We take this opportunity to wish him every success in his new and very important portfolio of Economic Development.

We warmly welcome his successor, the Hon. T. L. Austin to the post of Minister and look forward to a close association with him.

To the Director General of Agriculture, Dr. D. F. Smith, and officers of his department, we extend sincere appreciation for the valued assistance provided throughout the year.

The Society is also most grateful for the solid support received from all branches of the Media not only during the Royal Melbourne Show, but right throughout the year.

Special mention must be made of, and thanks extended to, the 260 Judges and 400 Stewards who officiated at the 1980 Royal Melbourne Show. These men and women work in an honorary capacity and their most professional efforts are recognized and greatly appreciated by the Society.

In conclusion I want to thank my Vice Presidents, Councillors and their wives for the tremendous assistance and support they have given my wife and myself over the past year.

And on behalf of the Council appreciation must go to the Director and Staff members, all of whom have addressed their many and varied tasks with enthusiasm, dedication and loyalty. It has been a great pleasure to work with them as President and I personally thank them for their support.

R.T. BALDERSTONE,
President.

COMPARATIVE LIST OF ENTRIES

Section	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980
Clydesdales	108	128	113	133	119	156	168	181	192
Farm and Lorry	26	31	31	35	42	53	55	55	41
Arabs	83	80	112	147	169	111	187	169	159
Standbreds	49	37	32	40	52	40	49	35	46
Palominos	43	43	62	63	57	61	61	55	63
Quarter Horses	11	17	30	41	14	78	44	33	33
Appaloosas & Spotted Ponies	—	—	—	—	30	45	35	39	30
Galloways	62	48	57	60	89	58	65	58	52
Ponies	349	372	411	493	541	478	514	553	551
Horses (Led)	34	46	48	72	66	45	84	61	76
Saddle Horses, etc	1,615	1,995	2,104	1,981	2,255	2,289	2,405	2,485	2,628
Stallions	93	89	125	146	149	148	167	169	139
Harness Horses	241	265	279	310	367	385	384	367	391
Stock Horses	—	—	41	58	58	74	64	69	68
Pintos	—	—	—	—	—	1980 First Year of Exhibition	—	75	—
Australian Riding Ponies	—	—	—	—	—	1980 First Year of Exhibition	—	51	—
Donkeys	—	—	58	57	94	102	99	68	70
Riding Competitions	1,441	1,678	1,863	1,854	1,782	1,766	1,858	1,889	1,730
Novelty Horse Events	518	539	579	523	687	468	665	578	570
Jumping Competitions	663	718	642	748	611	680	498	622	650
Wood Chopping and Sawing	885	750	915	760	1,874	1,789	1,962	1,901	1,756
Tug-O-War	16	18	12	12	6	12	14	18	14
Fat Cattle	364	355	349	226	293	335	313	308	291
Beef Shorthorns	158	145	209	148	151	129	115	131	127
Poll Shorthorns	45	56	89	74	74	102	128	130	148
Herefords	134	185	235	198	192	223	206	171	184
Poll Herefords	155	200	259	263	217	259	280	311	312
Angus	267	291	380	317	304	283	280	229	262
Devons	—	7	17	7	7	5	—	3	6
Santa Gertrudis	29	42	49	27	27	46	69	52	41
Galloways	20	41	45	39	42	122	72	72	84
Murray Greys	92	117	150	148	148	155	170	189	173
Brahmans	33	37	52	39	22	9	15	12	14
Bratords	9	18	20	15	28	28	40	22	17
Brangus	8	10	9	12	8	16	17	12	12
South Devons	2	—	2	—	4	3	2	9	13
Charolais	4	11	12	27	26	34	41	73	70
Simmental	—	—	—	1	16	24	38	99	92
Limousin	—	—	—	—	2	5	24	31	31
Belted Galloways	—	—	—	1977 First Year of Exhibition	24	8	9	4	—
Maine-Anjou	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	N E
Chianina	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	19	18
Australian Shorthorns	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	5	2
Lincoln Reds	—	—	—	—	—	—	1979 First Year of Exhibition	1	N E
Poll Devon	—	—	—	—	—	—	1979 First Year of Exhibition	4	—
Sussex	—	—	—	—	—	—	1979 First Year of Exhibition	1	—
Herdsmen's Competition	11	11	10	10	6	15	11	15	11
Red Polls	43	61	83	78	65	83	80	79	92
Dairy Shorthorns	266	256	208	149	138	128	141	107	96
Australian Illawarra Shorthorns	209	148	90	82	60	75	73	71	71
Ayrshires	228	202	172	156	108	119	152	162	148
Jersays	572	565	555	452	312	338	385	430	580
Guernseys	266	247	262	284	180	201	280	227	217
Friesians	480	476	520	387	311	386	478	501	451
Lincolns	7	2	3	3	4	4	5	6	13
English Leicesters	10	—	—	—	—	1	12	3	6
Border Leicesters	106	59	28	38	42	50	67	56	83
Romneys	38	32	26	54	74	72	102	79	63
Cheviots	80	60	48	56	48	53	63	70	42
Southdowns	108	95	95	94	72	70	83	92	73
Shropshires	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	N E
Suffolks	20	44	51	42	87	84	83	116	178
Dorset Horns	124	127	142	129	128	106	116	142	123
Ryelands	123	128	104	72	72	85	58	61	76
Hampshire Downs	—	—	—	—	—	6	23	23	21
Dorset Downs	—	—	2	—	3	4	4	4	N E
Poll Dorsets	302	329	305	305	294	388	424	372	439
Corriedales	37	25	22	35	18	21	24	29	31
South Suffolks	—	8	8	8	4	6	16	22	18
Perendales	8	7	6	10	13	8	27	24	44
Wiltshire Horns	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	8
Merinos Re-introduced in 1980	—	—	—	—	—	—	1980 First Year of Exhibition	10	—
Lamb Carcass Competition	—	—	—	—	—	—	43	135	95
Fleeces	268	288	321	206	225	246	286	243	254
Sheep Dog Trials	94	88	80	68	100	53	—	78	68
Sheep Shearing	90	74	101	115	99	142	140	121	132
Goats	212	256	413	361	312	402	337	327	207
Pigs	1,158	884	631	665	591	544	956	464	535
Poultry	1,846	1,654	1,899	1,791	1,661	1,817	2,299	2,195	1,996
Eggs (Commercial)	174	161	159	112	114	74	103	67	98
Pigeons	1,259	1,083	955	1,334	1,384	778	963	571	700
Buderigars, etc	476	597	463	487	833	571	461	459	339
Viticulture	1,208	1,575	1,657	2,007	2,337	2,195	2,200	2,486	2,460
Dairy Produce	236	184	188	175	192	171	185	167	200
Farm Produce	142	151	85	121	103	61	91	273	54
Horticulture	—	—	—	—	—	—	826	572	744
Apiculture	102	135	90	90	84	75	125	101	90
Arts and Crafts	4,130	4,075	4,277	4,472	4,204	4,195	5,218	4,942	5,094
Photography	952	1,061	869	1,235	1,444	1,447	1,161	1,061	367
Dogs	5,557	5,713	5,438	6,161	6,582	6,991	7,500	6,814	6,975
Young Farmers Competition	161	187	110	202	168	198	178	127	130
Trotting Races	319	337	266	176	248	194	153	166	94
Farm Inventions Competition	60	53	41	40	34	31	51	51	55
Cats	885	1,499	1,588	1,771	1,932	2,470	2,125	2,152	2,367
Cavies	—	—	78	181	179	179	179	177	182
Rabbits	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	187
	—	—	—	—	—	—	1980 First Year of Exhibition	—	—
Total Competitive Entries	30,184	31,385	32,917	33,319	35,145	33,897	39,217	37,562	37,515



CRAFTS COUNCIL OF VICTORIA

The role of the Crafts Council of Victoria is to co-ordinate craft activity throughout the state, to be a communications and information centre for all craftsmen and interested bodies and to encourage a broader participation in an appreciation of all forms of craft.

Centre Established

In May 1978, in response to the expressed needs of the Victorian community the Crafts Council established a Resource Centre which collects and disseminates a wide range of information and craft resources. As well as providing basic information and reference services the Resource Centre library has an extensive range of craft books and periodicals from all over the world. Many people find the reference library a good place to study and keep abreast of current developments in craft. It is open to the public during office hours, 9 a.m. — 5 p.m., Mon-Fri.

Assistance Given

The Resource Officer, Maggie Durinck, and Assistant Helen Macleod, (pictured), are always willing to help with any craft enquiry you may have. Perhaps you want to learn a craft near to where you live or work — we have a register of over a hundred groups and organisations who run classes available to the public, as well as details of what they teach. A comprehensive calendar of craft exhibitions and events is enclosed with the

monthly newsletter which all members receive. The newsletter, **Craft Victoria**, also contains news on craft activities and developments around the state and throughout the country.

Resource Information Unit

An extension of the Resource Centre, of particular interest to country areas, is the travelling resource and information unit co-ordinated by Field Officer, Greg Spark. This is currently engaged in a "Craftsman in the Community" project.

Aimed to respond to the expressed needs of community groups it takes top class craftsmen into community situations. The project aims to demonstrate the "excellence" that can be achieved in craft, as well as extending the knowledge of those already in craft as an activity.

Among our other resources are:

- information on craft suppliers, outlets and galleries.
- information on craft organisations and centres throughout the world.
- slides of the work of practicing Victorian craftsmen.

— slide kits with notes available for hire.

There is no right or wrong way to use the facilities of the Resource Centre. If you have an enquiry, contact us and we will endeavour to assist you.

Membership

The Crafts Council of Victoria is the corporate member in Victoria of the Crafts Council of Australia. It is funded by the Crafts Board of the Australia Council, the Victorian Ministry for the Arts and through membership.

Membership is welcomed from all people interested in craft. A brochure outlining the full range of services available through the Resource Centre and membership details is available on request from:

The Crafts Council of Victoria,
2nd Floor, 350 Victoria Street,
NORTH MELBOURNE, 3051.
Telephone: 329 8856 —
329 8719.

ARTS AND CRAFTS SCHEDULES AVAILABLE

Schedules for the 1981 Royal Melbourne Show, Arts and Crafts section are now available from the offices of the Society.

Requests for schedules should be forwarded to the —

Director,
Royal Agricultural Society
of Victoria,
(Arts and Crafts Schedule),
Royal Show Grounds,
Epsom Road,
ASCOT VALE 3032.

Telephone (03) 376 0471.

Entries for Arts and Crafts close with the Director of the R.A.S.V. at 4.30 p.m. on Wednesday, 22 July, 1981

ADVERTISERS NOTE:

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OUR BOYS CONQUER 'OLD MAN' MURRAY



• Off and running — 320 entries were received for the 1980 Murray Marathon.

Despite being told that their canoe was "too heavy, too wide, too long and too old" by an official, our boys conquered "Old Man Murray" and put up a pretty creditable performance doing it, while participating in the 1980 Murray River Marathon.

Mike Stickney, Chief Advisory Officer, Victorian Young Farmers and Assistant, Bruce Graham, spent a torturous five days doing battle with the Murray, its snags, the hot sun and other canoeists (not to mention sore backsides and hands, and the food prepared by their shore crew) to cross the finishing line in 12th place in the T.C.2 (Touring Canadian Doubles) Class, which attracted 67 of the 320 marathon entry.

Annual Event

The marathon is an annual event, held over five days (starting Boxing Day) in which amateur canoeists travel 400 kilometres along the Murray River between Yarrowonga and Swan Hill.

Comprising the boys' shore crew were Mike's wife Florence (V.A.S.A. "staffers" Lyn Paynting (V.A.S.A. Office), Mike's 21.C. and Bruce's colleague, Val Farrow and "Lucas", Val's corgi dog.

For some months prior to the great event, we, their mates on the R.A.S.V. staff, noticed Bruce and Mike arriving at work (not late mind you) somewhat weary of limb and sore of hand.

The reason for this strange and strained physical condition lay inverted atop Mike's car — a monstrous green canoe, made of solid oak and purchased, it is rumored, by Mike from a defunct American Picture Company which was disposing of its props from a failed Red Indian movie. Despite this handicap, their training paid dividends and "we're proud of 'em".

Longest leg of marathon

The longest and most treacherous leg of the marathon was negotiated on the second day, and lay between Tocumwal and Picnic Point. The paddlers had to contend not only with distance but numerous snags. The going was not all easy for the boys' shore crew either as the hot weather coupled with rough dusty roads and a blow out took its toll. However, drooping spirits were lifted when the gruelling day came to an end and all members of the courageous team were re-united on "terra firma".

Nudist Camp

Day 3 saw competitors paddling between Picnic point and Echuca with the longest stages of the marathon now behind them.

Bruce had heard that the day's paddling would take them past a nudist camp — just the thing to relieve a canoeist's boredom. After some time of paddling with gusto, Bruce remarked to Mike "It shouldn't be long now till we get there" (the nudist camp) however, you can imagine his dismay when Mike replied — "Oh, didn't you see it mate? We passed it about an hour ago".

Consolidated Position

Mike and Bruce consolidated their position among the leaders in their class over the final two days and despite the physical ordeal of the event, there was more than a twinge of sorrow on behalf of competitor and shore crew that the marathon had run its course.

It had however been a very worthwhile experience and the boys did exceedingly well at their first attempt in what is regarded as the world's greatest canoe race in which competitors from all states of Australia and New Zealand participated.

The marathon is conducted by the Australian Red Cross Society as a major fund raising amateur sporting event.

• Ready to leave home on a rugged five day adventure (L-R) Bruce Graham, Florence Stickney, Lyn Paynting, Val Farrow (S. Lucas) and Mike Stickney.



MOVES TOWARD UNIFICATION IN BOTH CATTLE AND HORSE INDUSTRIES



Late last year the first positive moves were made to bring about unity within two of Victoria's most prominent livestock — cattle and horses.

Ten Beef Breeds

At a meeting at the Royal Melbourne Show Grounds in November, representatives from 10 beef cattle breed societies formed the Victorian Stud Beef Cattle Breeders' Association, whose main aims will be the promotion of the interests of the states beef cattle breeders, in addition to providing the stud industry with a unified voice on issues affecting each breed and/or a vehicle for giving individual breeds the necessary industry backing where their cause would be bolstered by such backing.

The breeds so far represented on the new organization are: Hereford, Poll Hereford, Angus, Beef Shorthorn, Poll Shorthorn, Galloway, Devon Brangus, Limousin, Charolais.

Contact With Societies

No time has been wasted in making initial contact with the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria, the Victorian Agricultural Societies' Association and Country Show Societies to discuss aspects of the exhibition of cattle. The subject of disease, in addition the matter of the stud industry's role in being the source of seed stock for the commercial cattle industry will be on the V.S.B.B.A.'s agenda for discussion in the near future with the Victorian Government and Department of Agriculture.

Future Aim

A future aim of the new organization is to become closely associated with the Australian Registered Cattle Breeders' Association (A.R.C.B.A.) in order to create a close Federal/State relationship for the national registered beef cattle industry.



Office Bearers

Office bearers of the V.S.B.B.A. are: President: Mr. Everett Lumb, "Argyle", Bannockburn.

Vice President: Mr. John Newton, "Glenkelso", Mt. Egerton.

Secretariat: Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria.

Relevant information about the V.S.B.B.A. may be obtained from the above officers or the Secretariat.

THE HORSE INDUSTRY

With what can only be called a dramatic increase in the number of horses, owners, breeders and horse breed organizations in Victoria (and Australia) over the last decade, it is more than timely that some type of overall body appeared from the abyss to take on the onerous task of uniting the horse industry into an intelligible industry — a body which will provide equal representation for each participating horse organization on matters that concern horse breeders, owners and riders as individuals or as groups, clubs, associations etc.

Steering Committee

Taking the bit between their teeth were representatives of most horse organizations, who met in Melbourne before Christmas and who appointed a Steering Committee, under the

Chairmanship of Mr. Lewis Jackson, Arabian Horse Society, with the aim of establishing a Victorian Horse Council, representing all interested horse organizations.

The Council will not encroach on the rules and regulations of various horse organizations and will act under the philosophy that its projects and activities be directed towards promoting, preserving, protecting and strengthening the entire horse industry.

Constitution

A sub-committee, consisting of Mr. Jackson, Mr. Grant Tillett of the Trotting Control Board and Mr. Noel Cook of the Appaloosa and Paint Horse Societies, has the job of preparing a suggested Constitution for the Council. As part of this Constitution, four basic aims have been defined.

1. To further the common interests of the State's horsemen.
2. To serve as a means of communication within the industry and spokesman to those outside the industry where unity and strength are needed.
3. To monitor legislation and administrative decisions which would have an impact on horses and/or horsemen.
4. To promote interest in horse related activities.



SELLING AGENTS

at the

NATIONAL PIG FAIR & SALE

at

**BENDIGO SHOWGROUNDS
11th & 12th MARCH, 1981**

SALE: 1 p.m. MARCH, 12th

**This sale presents an opportunity
for commercial pig breeders
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Prices obtained at previous sales
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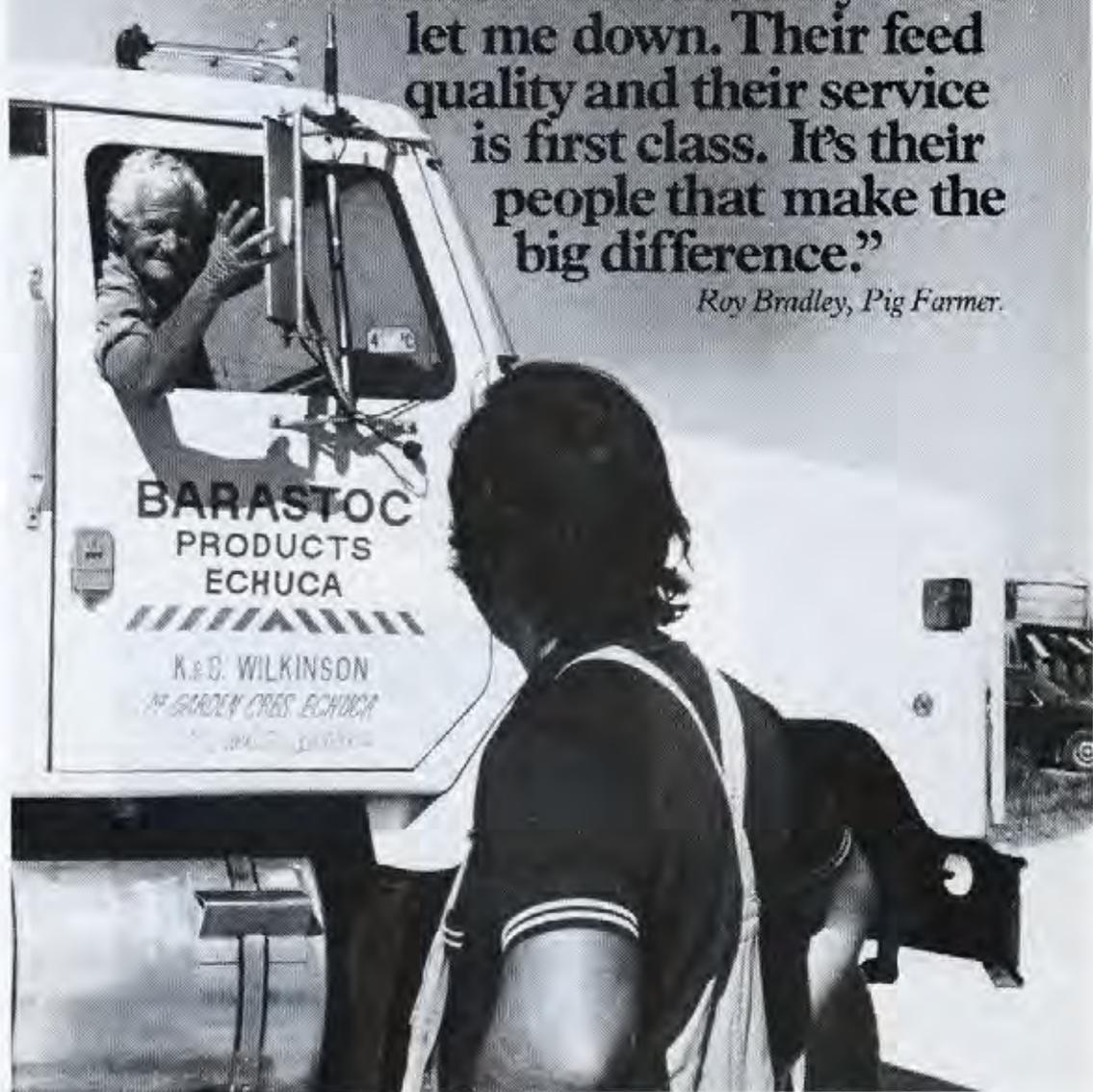
A Board of Directors, made up of representatives from all major segments of the horse industry, will be established to administer the final Constitution. This will ensure that the interests of all these segments will be protected.

It is anticipated that these representatives will be elected at an annual convention of horse owners.

It is hoped that similar organizations will be formed in other States so that State Councils can provide delegates to a National Horse Council. This concept is in line with a submission to the Federal Government by Queensland Veterinarian, Dr Reg Pascoe.

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Roy Bradley, Pig Farmer.



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NATIONAL PIG FAIR

by Richard Maxwell,
Secretary, National Pig Fair
Committee



Australia's top Pig Industry Forum, the National Pig Fair takes place in Bendigo on March 11 and 12.

There is every indication that the 1981 Fair will succeed its predecessors as being the best yet, with a substantial increase in the number of new trade exhibitors and interstate and New Zealand Companies participating. Overall, there will be in excess of 75 trade stands at this year's Fair.

Recognition

The National Pig Fair can boast recognition as a leading pig industry forum by international sources — the United Kingdom and United States of America, and it is expected that visitors from these countries will attend.

Success

The singularly most important reason for the Fair's success is that it has the support of all branches of the pig industry who are actively involved in staging it.

Represented on the N.P.F.'s organizing committee are producers and their wives, seed and chemical companies, the Farmers and Graziers' Association, the Australian Pig Breeders' Association, Department of Agriculture and Pig Industry Journalists. Apart from these organizations, any person who has an interest in the pig industry can contribute as a committee member.

Sponsorship Support

Additional support for the conduct of the Fair is forthcoming from sponsors who represent processors and wholesalers of pork, equipment companies, seed and chemical companies.

Competitions

The judging of three important competitions conducted in association with the Fair was undertaken last month. They are —

- Pork Carcass Competition (40-54.5 kg hot carcass wt.)
- Bacon Carcass Competition — (55-75 kg. hot carcass wt.)
- Aggregate Competition — Highest total score for four eligible carcasses (two from Pork, two from Bacon Carcass Competition).

The pigs were killed at the Mayfair Hams and Bacon Company Killing Centre, Bendigo East, on 15 February and carcasses judged 16 and 17 February by Department of Agriculture personnel using the Australian Pig Carcass Competition System of appraisal.

The presentation of prizes will be made at the Fair on Thursday 12 March and loin cuts from all eligible carcasses will be on display.

Show and Sale

A regular feature of the Fair is the live pig show for which entries have been received Australia wide. A stud pig sale will also be conducted.

The Show takes place on Wednesday 11 March, followed by the Sale on Thursday.

Seminar

The Fair's seminar will this year be split up into "mini" seminars conducted over the two days. The timing of the program will allow visitors to see the trade stands and stud pigs between sessions.

• A show of stud pigs on Wednesday, 11th March will be a feature of the Fair

Top local industry and overseas specialists will speak at the seminar.

Program

Wednesday 11 March — from 9.30 a.m. — 11.00 a.m.

Preventative Herd Programs by Andrew Kelly, Department of Agriculture, Victoria.

Parvo Virus by John Gillick, Department of Agriculture, Victoria.

Sow Reproduction Problems by Ross Cutler (Mr. Cutler is currently studying in the U.S.A. and will be in Victoria for the Fair).

Swine Dysentery by Rick Webster, — from 2.30 p.m. — 4.00 p.m.

Selection and Breeding Techniques in the U.S.A. by Gordon Jones, U.S.A. (Professor of Animal Science Kentucky University — responsible for Beef and Swine breeding programs, specialist in fields of Animal Breeding, Swine Production and Management, Live Animal Evaluation and Judging, Consultant for the National Association of Swine Recording and has operated in eight countries, in that capacity).

Current Approaches to the Pig Industry in the U.K. by Dr Hill, U.K.

Thursday afternoon — 2.30 p.m. — 4.00 p.m.

Stock Density and Ventilation by Art Meuhling.

Can Handling by Stockmen Influence Productivity by Paul Hemsworth, Animal Research Institute, Werribee.

Continued on next page.



What's new?

MONO PUMPS TACKLES PIGGERY EFFLUENT

One of the major problems of intensive pig farming these days is effluent disposal because of the very strict requirements of environmental protection authorities.

Mono pumps (Australia) Pty. Ltd. has been dealing with this problem for years and is considered a specialist in this field with a variety of pumps to suit various needs.

In the majority of cases effluent from piggeries is not permitted to be discharged into waterways and the only way of getting rid of the material is to spray it onto the property.

At one perfect Cheese Company Farm at Seville, 50 km. east of Melbourne, the large Romahill Pig Unit is integrated into the company's operation with the piggery effluent used to fertilise pasture.

Romahill has a modern effluent treatment plant which is designed to treat around 300m³ of effluent per day. Firstly, the effluent is collected in

a main storage tank where two Mono CLL112R5 pumpsets transfer the liquid to two sedimentation tanks. These tanks are filled alternately with excess liquid draining to a number of aeration tanks until the solids reach about 10%. From there, two more CLL2R5 pumpsets transfer the solids-laden liquid to a centrifuge where the solids are removed. The removed liquid then drains back to the aeration tank where it is treated to the stage where two Mono CD80R4 pumpsets pump the treated liquid about half a kilometre to a point where it is sprayed out upon paddocks.

This process goes on 24 hours per day, seven days a week and has been in operation now for approximately two years.

In Queensland, Mono-CD liquid manure pumps are also used for the

same purpose, to create lush pastures to fatten cattle.

At Byron Bay on the far north coast of New South Wales, a Mono L-range pump with a capacity of 36,370 L/h supplies effluent from a piggery to several take-off points for spraying through a mobile spray unit.

In South Australia, the Mono CD pumps are used by a manufacturer of pig sheds of the flush-pit type where gas-producing dung is continually flushed out. The Mono pumps remove the liquid manure and disperse it through a liquid manure sprinkler.

Apart from pumps, Mono also supplies its FIP PVC valves and fittings for plastic pressure pipeline systems for the dispersal of the manure.

As pig-farming intensifies in various parts of Australia, there will be a greater need for more efficient systems to disperse effectively effluent from piggeries. And this system has to rely on an efficient pumps system. Mono Pumps can supply this.

NATIONAL PIG FAIR continued

Displays

Younger visitors to the Fair will gain value from the comprehensive educational displays featuring different pig breeds and pigs of different ages.

A range of educational and general interest films are to be screened in the theatre and a Special Product Award has been organized and will be presented in recognition of the equipment (not necessarily new) which has been or is of outstanding value to the pig industry.

Further Details

Further details may be obtained from the Secretary.

R.C. Maxwell,

P.O. Box 125,

Bendigo, 3550

Telephone (054) 48 4505.



* Lush pasture being fertilized with a rotating held spray fed by a Mono agricultural pump located beside an animal effluent collection pit on a Victorian farm.



BENDIGO
MARCH 11th & 12th 1981

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- ★ Three producer seminars ★ Pork Barbecue
- ★ Competition results ★ Carcase display
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NPF 5/81/18

Details: Richard Maxwell, Secretary, P.O. Box 125, Bendigo, Vic 3550. Tel: (054) 48 4505.

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With the Breed Societies

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE VICTORIAN PRIME LAMB COMMITTEE

In the early 1960's, the then Chairman of the Australian Meat Board, Mr. Jack Schute, O.B.E., approached the Federal Council of the Australian Society of Breeders' of British Sheep and suggested that the Society should sponsor the formation of a body with which the Minister for Primary Industry could consult on matters concerning the lamb industry.

Meeting

Mr. Schute's suggestion resulted in a meeting on 1 May 1962 at the Melbourne Show Grounds between representatives of the A.S.B.B.S. Poll Dorset and Corriedale Associations, the Australian Primary Producers' Union and the Victorian Wheat and Wool Growers' Association of Victoria.

The meeting resolved "that they fully support any move towards unity in various organizations and that each organization represented here study information gained and supplied, in relation to the Lamb Industry, and report back to a future meeting" and "that representatives here present consider the formation of a State Meat Advisory committee and a Meat Institute be referred to their organizations for discussion".

Over two years elapsed before the next meeting on 29 July 1964, which Mr. Schute attended with two members of the South Australian Prime Lamb Committee and representatives of the organizations which attended the initial meeting, with the exception of the Meat and Allied Trades' Federation.

The meeting heard a report on the history and progress of the South Australian Prime Lamb Committee and the importance of selecting an appropriate Chairman for the new body was also discussed. It was considered preferable that the Chairman



by Mr. R. D. Bumell,
Former Chairman,
Victorian Prime Lamb Committee.

be a person who was not bound to any particular organization and that the participating representatives hold executive status with their own organizations so that they were qualified to take appropriate action when needed.

Mr. Schute expressed the opinion that State Lamb Committees could be of great assistance to the Australian Meat Board and he outlined many aspects which were of interest and concern.

Decision to Establish State Committee

The meeting decided to establish a Victorian Prime Lamb Committee and that each organization represented at the meeting be invited to nominate delegates for the meeting in November 1964, at which it was moved that a State Prime Lamb Committee be formed and that a Constitution be drawn up for referral and approval by member organizations.

Adoption of Constitution and Appointment of Chairman

In February, 1965 the constitution was adopted and Mr. Duncan MacGregor, who had been pro-tem Chairman, was elected as Chairman. He

held this position for the next five years and successfully welded the representatives from all the various organizations into a team whose concern was first and foremost the lamb industry. At this meeting the Graziers' Association of the Riverina joined the Committee.

A letter was received from the Acting Minister of Agriculture (Victoria) welcoming the formation of the Committee and advising that he wished to be kept informed of its progress.

No Federal Body

In 1966 the Australian Meat Board was requested to call a meeting of all State Lamb Committees which was subsequently held in January 1967 and where a decision was made not to form a Federal body.

Since then the State Lamb Committees have met annually followed by a meeting with the Australian Meat Board. The Meat Board made a great deal of information and statistics available and has in return received advice, requests for research and promotion and a wide range of matters has been discussed.

Subjects Pursued by Committee

Subjects pursued by the Victorian Prime Lamb Committee since its inception include:

Guaranteed minimum price for lambs sold to the United Kingdom.

— Spreading production of lambs more evenly throughout the year

— Upgrading abattoirs to export standards.

— Co-operating with the Meat Board in educating all sectors of the industry to handle lambs carefully and to avoid damaging the carcass.

— Preventing dirty sheep being offered for sale.

— Liaison with the Meat Board as to the timing of lamb promotion

— Suggestions for a wider use of sheepskins.

— Liaison and mutual understanding with the retail butchers, particularly as to the type of lamb they require.

— Research into footrot, flystrike, cystercystosis, etc., and investigations into cheaper ways of processing aged sheep for pet food.

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With the Breed Societies - cont.

— Keeping a watch on imports of lamb from New Zealand and improving the marketing of lambs by producers here

New Member

In 1976 the Polwarth Breeders' Association joined the Lamb Committee. Due to the increasing purchases by Middle East countries and by Southern European migrants in the community who require lean meat, the commitment of the lamb committee has broadened to cover not only prime lamb, but all lamb.

Present at meetings of the Committee is the Senior Sheep Officer from the Department of Agriculture in Victoria, who can provide important information. He is not a voting committee member.

Acknowledgements

Acknowledgement is made to the breed societies and producer organizations who have not only sent representatives to the Committee but have financed its operation since its beginning and until it was replaced by

the Australian Meat and Livestock Corporation, the Australian Meat Board arranged the annual joint meeting of the State Lamb Committees and paid a delegates' travelling and accommodation allowance from its funds which were derived from the slaughter levy on all lambs.

When the lamb Promotion Coordinating Committee, composed of an equal number of delegates from Australia, New Zealand and the United States of America, met in Australia, the U.S. delegates had discussions with the Joint State Lamb Committee delegates and the Australian Meat Board, and were shown over sheep properties, processing works and other facilities connected with the lamb industry.

Lacked Riverina Representation

Since the formation of the Livestock and Grain Producers' Association in New South Wales, resulting from the amalgamation of the Graziers and D.F.W.A., the Victorian Prime Lamb

Committee has lacked representation from the Riverina. This is most regrettable as a considerable number of lambs from the Riverina are marketed and processed in Victoria. Also the Riverina is the source of many first Border Leicester-Merino cross ewes which are offered at the large regular annual sales in border markets.

With the formation of the Victorian Farmers and Graziers' Association, a further reduction in membership from six to four organizations is contemplated for financial reasons.

Carcass Competition

The Committee co-operated with the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria in staging the first National Lamb Carcass Competition at Shepparton in 1979. The Champion pen was sent to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, and the successful breeder won a free trip to New Zealand.

It is expected that this National Competition will rotate around the States and become a major feature in continuing lamb production.

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ROY/MAR

A TRIBUTE TO MRS. MARGARET SCOTT LEWIS

One of the Society's most respected members, Mrs. Margaret Scott Lewis, passed away on Friday 23 January this year.

Mrs. Lewis was a foundation member of the Welsh Pony and Cob Society of Australia and an original member of that Society's Committee, however she was better known throughout the pony world as the owner of the Fairway Stud, Coldstream which she established with her husband in 1958.

Under her guidance, the Fairway Stud has had considerable influence on the Welsh Pony breed in this country through the importation of quality breeding stock from the U.K. and the subsequent infusion of this stock into local Welsh Pony breeding programs.

In recent years Mrs. Lewis' preference in stud pony breeding has been towards Welsh, however the Fairway Stud has, in the past, been responsible for producing very fine examples of both the Shetland and Australian Pony breeds.

Mrs. Lewis' work in breeding outstanding ponies has been reflected in the Stud's success in the show ring — whether it be at the Melbourne or Sydney "Royals", or major country shows.

Her contribution to the pony breeding industry in Australia generally has been a significant one and in recognition of her valuable association with the Welsh breed in particular, the Welsh Pony and Cob Society of Australia appointed her an Honorary Life Member in 1978.

V.A.B. EXCLUSIVE ON TOP SIRE

Victorian Artificial Breeders at Bacchus Marsh, will soon be marketing semen from the top Canadian Holstein sire Thamesdale Superstar.

"Better Breeding" which is circulated amongst members of the Milk Marketing Board reports that Superstar has the makings of another Linnack. The publication says Superstar is leaving large cows with very good conformation and strong udders.

Thamesdale Superstar is among the best of a team of sires recently given ICC figures in the MMB's progeny test programme. On the weighing of 21, his ICC's are + 335 kg milk, + 23 kg fat and + 8 kg protein. He has a fat variation of + 0.15%.

The 46 of his daughters, which have so far completed lactation, have an average test of 4.11%. This qualifies Superstar as the highest testing Canadian Holstein owned by the MMB at present.

Thamesdale Superstar's sire is Fairlea Royal Mark VG Extra, a widely acclaimed Holstein which has ratings in Canada of +5 for milk and +9 for type. His dam is Nine-Ell Dillyman, a VG daughter of Roybrook Telstar.

Semen from Thamesdale Superstar will be available early in March from V.A.B. at a recommended retail price of \$14.60.



• Wiltshire Poppy 2, a daughter of Thamesdale Superstar



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ROY/MAR

Meeting & Show Dates

SHOW DATES March & April

Mar. 3, 4 & 5	Wimmera Mach. Field Days	Mr. Noel R. Curran, P.O. Box 272, Horsham, 3400. Phone (053) 82 2424 November 30.	Mar. 26-29	Gippsland Field Days (Farm World)	Mr. A. G. Farrington, P.O. Box 222, Warragul, 3820. Phone (056) 232 178.
Mar. 6 & 7	Deniliquin	Mrs. C. David, P.O. Box 128, Deniliquin, 2710. Phone (058) 81 1694 or A.H. 81 2956.	Mar. 26	Corryong	Mrs. L. Lochhead, P.O. Box 140, Corryong, 3707. Phone (060) 77 4273 A.H. (060) 76 1233 Bus Hrs March 24.
Mar. 7	Warragul	H. J. Roberts, Box 116, Warragul, 3820. Phone (056) 23 1005 February 26.	Mar. 27 & 28	V.Y.F. State Festival, Mildura	State Secretary, V.Y.F. Showgrounds, Epsom Road, Ascot Vale, 3032. Phone (03) 376 0471.
Mar. 7	Wodonga	C. H. Garrett, P.O. Box 54, Wodonga, 3690. Phone (060) 24 1872 or (060) 21 1881 February 18.	Mar. 28	Red Hill	A. Birkett, 3 Alameda Avenue, Morrington, 3931. Phone (059) 75 4974 March 14.
Mar. 9	Orbost	G. Chapman, Box 372, Orbost, 3888. Phone (051) 54 1463 Post Entries.	Mar. 28	Tatura	J. R. Payne, Box 224, Tatura, 3616. Phone (058) 24 1844. March 4.
Mar. 14	Heytesbury	Mrs. Mary M. Free, Block 270, Cooriebungie via Timboon, W.S.D., 3268. Phone (055) 94 3316. March 7.	Apr. 4	Branxholme Bushwhackers Carnival	Mrs. J. Hower, Box 40, Branxholme, 3302. Phone (055) 78 6276 Post Entries.
Mar. 14	Pakenham	D. J. Bourke, Racecourse Road, Pakenham, 3810. Phone (059) 41 1075 March 7.	Apr. 4	Bunyip	Mrs. K. Halvy, P.O. Box 33, Bunyip, 3815. Phone (056) 29 5267 March 21.
Mar. 14	Tallangatta	Mr. R. G. Orton, 11 Yamba Street, Tallangatta, 3700. Phone (060) 74 2415 March 9.	Apr. 11	Tahara	Mr. R. Pepper, Tahara R.S.D. 226, Hamilton, 3300. Phone (056) 79 4518. Entries on day.
Mar. 14	Wakool	Andrew Hagan, "Minni" RMB 375, Deniliquin, 2710. Phone (058) 87 1117 Post Entries.	Apr. 10-21 (incl.)	Sydney Royal	Maj. Gen. C.M.I. Pearson, R.A.S. of N.S.W., G.P.O. Box 4317, Sydney, N.S.W., 2001. Phone (02) 35 1101.
Mar. 20 & 21	Cohuna	Mr. Arthur W. Cherry, Box 155, Cohuna, 3568. Phone (054) 56 7397 March 19.	Apr. 20	Glengary	J. G. Waldron, P.O. Box 186, Traralgon, 3844. Phone (051) 74 2569 April 14.
Mar. 21	Balmoral	Mrs. A. Silcock, Telangatuk East, 3401. Phone (053) 88 2238 March 14.	CHAMPIONSHIP DOG SHOWS		
Mar. 21	Neerim	Mrs. K. Marshall, 29 Hearn Street, Drouin, 3816. Phone (056) 25 1243 March 11.	The following dates are subject to alteration. For further details, contact the Kennel Control Council, Royal Show Grounds, Ascot Vale, 3032. — Telephone (03) 376 0471.		
Mar. 21	Yarra Glen	Mrs. V. Walker, Yarra View Road, Yarra Glen, 3775. Phone (03) 730 1216. March 1.	MARCH		
Mar. 26, 27 & 28	Wando Vale Memorial Hall Committee	Max Hurley, R.S.D. 384, Casterton, 3311. Phone (055) 82 0232 March 19.	Warragul & West Gippsland Ag. Society Sat 7		
			Wodonga Kennel Club Sat 7		
			Basenji Club of Victoria Sat 7		
			Bull Terrier Club of Vic. Sat 7		
			Papillon Club of Vic. Sat 7		
			Eastern Suburbs Obedience Dog Club Sun 8		
			Wodonga Kennel Club Sun 8		

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Meeting & Show Dates - continued

Labrador Retriever Club of Vic.	Sun. 8	Geelong German Shepherd & Obedience Dog Club	Sun. 12
Basset Hound Club of Vic.	Sun. 8	Belgrave & Dist. Kennel Club	Sat. 18
Beagle Club of Vic.	Sun. 8	Murray Valley Obedience Dog Club	Sat. 18
Griffon Bruxellois Club	Sun. 8	Glangary C. & A. Society	Sun. 19 & Mon. 20
Schnauzer Club of Vic.	Sun. 8	Sunraysia Kennel Club	Sun. 19
Bull Terrier Club of Vic.	Sun. 8	Hobsons Bay Obedience Dog Club	Sun. 19
Ballarat Dog Club	Mon. 9	Geelong & Dist. Kennel Club	Sat. 25
Warragul & Dist. Kennel Club	Mon. 9	Gordon Setter Club	Sat. 25
Pakenham & Dist. A. & H. Society	Sat. 14	English Setter Association	Sat. 25
Rottweiler Club of Vic.	Sat. 14 & Sun. 15	Lahrador Retriever Club	Sat. 25
Bearded Collie Club of Vic.	Sat. 14	Red Cliffs Ladies K. & O. Dog Club	Sat. 25 & Sun. 26
Cocker Spaniel Club of Vic.	Sun. 15	Seymour Dist. Kennel Club	Sat. 25
Pug Club of Vic.	Sun. 15	English Springer Spaniel Club	Sun. 26
Old English Sheepdog Club	Sun. 15	American Cocker Spaniel Club	Sun. 26
Colac Kennel Club	Sun. 15	Bullmastiff Club of Vic.	Sun. 26
Victorian Obedience Dog Club	Sun. 15	Seymour Dist. Kennel Club	Sun. 26
Cohuna A. P. & H. Society	Sat. 21		
Yarra Glen A. & H. Society	Sat. 21		
Kerang & Dist. Kennel Club	Sun. 22		
Chihuahua Club of Vic.	Sun. 22		
Aust. Cattle Dog, Kelpie & Border Collie Club	Sun. 22		
Scottish Terrier Club of Vic.	Sun. 22		
Airedale Terrier Club of Vic.	Sun. 22		
Sherbrooke Obedience Dog Club	Sun. 22		
Brittany Spaniel Club of Vic.	Sat. 28		
Tatura Agric. Society	Sat. 28		
Irish Setter Club	Sat. 28		
Irish Wolfhound Club of Vic.	Sat. 28		
Poodle Club of Vic.	Sat. 28		
Afghan Hound Club	Sat. 28		
Dachshund Club of Vic.	Sat. 28		
Benalla Kennel Club	Sun. 29		
Warrnambool Kennel Club	Sun. 29		
Wire Fox Terrier Club	Sun. 29		
Shih Tzu Club	Sun. 29		
Dalmatian Club of Vic.	Sun. 29		
Staffordshire Bull Terrier Club	Sun. 29		
Knox Obedience Dog Club	Sun. 29		

APRIL

Bunyip & Dist. Ag. Society	Sat. 4
Victorian Gundog Club	Sat. 4
Fox Terrier Club of Vic.	Sun. 5
Australian Terrier Club	Sun. 5
Samoyed Club of Vic.	Sun. 5
Bairnsdale & Dist. Kennel Club	Sun. 5
Welsh Corgi Club of Vic.	Sun. 5
Shepparton & Dist. Obedience Dog Club	Sun. 5
Kilmore & Dist. K. & O. Dog Club	Sun. 5
Greensborough & Dist. Kennel Club	Sat. 11
German Shorthaired Pointer Club	Sat. 11
Wangaratta K. & O. Dog Club	Sun. 12
Irish Setter Club	Sun. 12
Pyrenean Mountain Dog Club	Sun. 12
Australian Silky Terrier Club	Sun. 12
Miniature Pinscher Club	Sun. 12
Traralgon & Dist. Ag. Society	Sun. 12

1981 ROYAL MELBOURNE SHOW ENTRY CLOSING DATES

Friday 29th May	— Horse events and contests
Wednesday 17th June	— Woodchopping.
Friday 26th June	— Viticulture
Wednesday 1st July	— Sheep Dog Trials.
Wednesday 8th July	— Cattle (Fat, including V.Y.F. entries, Beef, Dual Purpose, Dairy), Dogs, Pigeons.
Wednesday 22nd July	— Apiculture, Arts & Crafts, Cats & Kittens, Poultry, Pigs, Dairy and Farm Produce, Sheep, Goats, School Competitions.
Wednesday 5th August	— Bacon and Pork Pig Carcase.
Thursday 6th August	— Sheep Shearing including V.Y.F. entries.
Friday 7th August	— Lamb Carcase Competition.
Tuesday 11th August	— Photography, Farm Inventions.
Wednesday 19th August	— Cage Birds, Cavies, Harness Races, Tug-of-War, Rabbits.
Wednesday 26th August	— Budgengars.
Monday 7th September	— All Fleeces.

Information regarding the availability of prize schedules may be obtained by contacting the:

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Meeting & Show Dates -continued

HORSE SHOWS

- MARCH** Sun. 8 **Somerville Horse Show**
Sec. Mr. C. Butler,
252 Jones Road, Somerville, 3912
Phone (052) 77 5584.
- Mon. 9 **Sorrento Gymkhana**
Sec. M. L. Johnston,
Ocean Beach Road, Sorrento, 3943.
Phone (059) 84 2039.
- APRIL** Sat. 4 **Shepparton Horse Show**
The Secretary, Box 286,
Shepparton, 3630.
Phone (058) 21 4677
- Sat. 4 **Avenel O.D.E.**
Sec. Miss P. Archer,
"Zintara", Seymour, 3660
Phone (057) 97 0262
- Sun. 5 **Templestowe Junior Horse Show**
Sec. Mr. L. Oakford,
Hallam Road, Hampton Park, 3976.
Phone 799 1527
- Sat. 11 **Tahara Gymkhana**
Sec. R. A. Pepper,
R.S.D. 226 Hamilton, 3300.
Phone (055) 794 518
- Sat. 18 &
Sun. 19 **The Vic. State Quarter Horse
Championships**
Sec. Neville Purchase,
Evans Road, Wandin North, 3139.
Phone (059) 64 3495.
- Sat. 18 &
Sun. 19 **Wandin Junior 2-Day Event**
Sec. Mrs. P. N. Rigby,
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EMPLOYERS!

Can you help young people to find work locally?

Many young job seekers in country areas must move elsewhere to obtain employment.

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Assistance in providing local job opportunities is available through the CES. Manpower training assistance can be given under the NEAT scheme, Special Youth Employment Training Programme (SYETP), and the CRAFT scheme which offers incentives to employers of apprentices.

Contact your local CES office (addresses and phone numbers in the telephone directory) for further information on assistance available and to discuss any vacancies you may have.



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YOUTH DRAIN

With the persisting problem of youth unemployment, there have been associated difficulties being experienced by the community. This has not only meant those directly involved but the community in general. In rural Victoria one of these side effects has been the movement of the young people away from their home towns in search of work. A recent survey conducted by the Commonwealth Employment Service showed that there are approximately 2000 movements per month away from country centres, predominantly to metropolitan Melbourne.

Because of a lack of opportunities in their district many of these young people are being forced to leave home for the first time. While many of these are successful in finding work in the city, they are quite often the country's loss for ever. One of rural Victoria's strengths has been exported.

There is only one way to arrest this drain on the young workforce in the country, and that is for more jobs to be made available for these youngsters in their home towns.

Employers in rural areas already have many burdens on their resources, but the Commonwealth Employment Service is ready to provide assistance where it is needed most. That is through financial subsidies while employers are training the young people to be productive members of the rural workforce. There are schemes such as the Special Youth Employment Training Programme (SYETP) as well as the extended SYETP for long term unemployed job seekers, and the Commonwealth Rebate for Apprenticeship/Full-time Training (CRAFT).

These schemes will lighten the employers' burden and, at the same time, give the young people a chance to find work in the area which they feel closest to, the bush.

Should you want to talk about the problems of the young job seeker and how they can be helped by local employers, contact the local Commonwealth Employment Service. They will explain how the manpower training schemes can help all concerned, the young job seeker, the employer and especially rural Victoria.

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The Royal

The Official Journal of
The Royal Agricultural Society
of Victoria

Registered by Australia Post — Publication No. VBP2524

Vol. 3, No.1. MARCH, 1982



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The Royal

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE
ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF
VICTORIA

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President's Message

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

The first important happening for the RASV in 1982 is the release of its published History. "Speed the Plough", jointly written by the late Mr. Fred Noble, who was a journalist for "The Age" and covered the Melbourne Show for over 40 years, and Mr. Bob Morgan, who spent many days on the history after his retirement as our Public Relations Manager in 1977. I believe the result is an excellent book, beautifully set up and printed by Wilke and Company, with a most interesting selection of pictures all of which vividly reflect the Society's history over more than a century.

The authors have particularly set out to emphasise the role of the Society in developing agriculture in Victoria and of course this commenced long before the Department of Agriculture existed. It is now common knowledge that we work in with the officers of that Department in so many ways, but particularly through our farm competitions.

"Speed the Plough" will be officially launched by the Victorian Minister of Agriculture, the Honourable T.L. Austin, on 15 March 1982 and I commend it to everyone interested in the improvement and growth of farming throughout Victoria's history.

After five years as President I step down at the Council meeting on 16 March following the Annual General Meeting so this will be my final message for "The Royal" magazine.

It has been an interesting and enjoyable period. I have met many fine people and will look back with pleasure on it all.

I believe the Society can face the future with confidence as long as it grasps some of the problems and positively tries to overcome them. Increasing use of the grounds between Shows is a must, not only to justify our superb location, but to supplement our Show income so charges can be kept to the minimum. I believe the Society must also be certain it keeps in touch with the problems of commercial farmers and endeavours to assist them in every way. 1982 has commenced with headaches for many farmers - disappointing cattle and sheep prices, higher costs and inflation which is always a bug bear to the rural community, alarmingly on the increase.

We at the RASV must remember that we are here to truly "Speed the Plough" at all times in any way we possibly can. I believe history shows that when the farmers are doing well Australia's overall economy is also in good shape.

J. B. Páry **Editor**
The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria
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Visits To British Shows

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

Following his retirement as Director of the RASV, Harley Clappison visited a number of agricultural Shows in England and Scotland. In letters to the current Director, Mr. Parry, he has expressed some pertinent comparisons between these and the Royal Melbourne Show. As the total letters are rather too lengthy for publication, the following is an attempt to set out Mr. Clappison's principal observations.

Quote

Of all his discerning comments perhaps the one to quote in full would be — "As a result of my very short visit to Japan and my visit to Royal Bath and West Show at Shepton Mallet, I have one regret that I did not make both of these visits 10 years ago. I earnestly believe it would be to the advantage of both the Society and the Director to make purposeful visits to such places". Without doubt there is a strong message here requiring the Council to look to the future of the present incumbent.

Tents & Marquees

Mr. Clappison stresses the use of tents and marquees at British Shows rather than the Australian system of permanent buildings. The tents are hired by the respective Societies and in turn are hired out to standholders. After the Show, they are removed and the Society has no maintenance problems with old buildings etc. There is no prize for guessing who he was thinking of when he wrote this — he could even have been home-sick!

His comparison of membership and admission prices is interesting and should provide the basis for a press release in early September when our local journalists are sharpening their (knives) pencils for the Melbourne Royal.

Income

At the celebrated Royal Highland Show at Edinburgh (Ingliston Show Grounds) admission was £4.50 (\$9) but membership for the four day Show was lower at £10 (\$20). Thirty per cent of total income was derived from admission fees and parking. The Show caters principally for the man on the land and not the city resident. Thus over four days as opposed to our 11 days, the exhibitors of horses, cattle, sheep, etc. are not put to the same time and expense as in Australia.

The attendance at Bath and Edinburgh Shows was 150,000 to 200,000 over four days which is difficult to compare with Melbourne, 900,000 over 11 days. Mr. Clappison believes that of the 150,000, the majority would be country folk.

Large Venue

Most of the British Shows are held in large areas with arena events of mostly an agricultural nature. Government department participation is good and quite extensive. To conduct such shows in Victoria a site of 1,000 acres in a central area would be needed. Obviously such a centrally located large area could be used for field demonstrations and other agricultural activities.

Differences

In pointing up the differences, he traces the development of the Royal Melbourne Show with the trend towards show bag vendors (once free), rides, fairy floss, hot dogs, cheap jewellery, side shows etc. Whilst these help produce a different picture to their British counterpart, Mr. Clappison properly points out that without the present revenue from these items the Society would incur greater debts.

The Royal Show at Stoneleigh



Former Director of the RASV, Mr. Harley Clappison

made a big impression on him and once again he regrets he did not see it all 10 years ago. "To stage a similar Show in Australia, a very large area of land would be required with both Federal and State Government aid".

Recommendations

In his last letter of 31st August, 1981, Mr Clappison concludes with suggestions for 1982 — "here in London I saw an exhibition called "Collections by Collectors", including match boxes, stamps, bottles, cards, cameras, hats and helmets, wind-up mechanical toys, face masks etc." He recommends this for our "Royal". Secondly, he reports that Societies flew their own flag and had their own coat of arms displayed. Most have full length photos of the Queen, in evening dress on a special named occasion. As we agreed to spend \$150 each year on a painting or similar item. Mr Clappison suggests a good colour copy of Her Majesty.

Whilst the foregoing is only an attempt to set down a few special aspects of these excellent, informative letters, the thanks of all are due to Harley Clappison for the trouble he has taken to gather this material. Though he hasn't said it too bluntly, it is clear that in his opinion "there is no Show like the Melbourne Royal".

New Enquiry/Information Centre

When next you visit the Society's Administrative Building at the Show Grounds in Ascot Vale, prepare yourself for a surprise on entering the main office area — first floor.

We've made some changes over the holiday period — but we believe you'll find them agreeable.

Service

To further improve our member services and more readily assist with queries from members of breed societies and the general public, we have converted a large portion of the general office into a permanent reception-enquiry centre.

The new centre is tended by members of our permanent staff who have been specially selected for the positions and under the supervision of Miss Jan Gray, a senior staff member and section head.

Advantages

The establishment of the new centre will result in positive advantages for both those requiring assistance, and the Society.

Firstly all enquiries will be handled at the centre — whether they relate to the registration of a litter of pups with the KCC, the adult registration of a pony mare with the Australian Pony Stud Book or the request for service certificates for the Ayrshire Breeders' Association — these and all RASV and breed society membership enquiries, plus payment of accounts. No more confusion in trying to find the right counter or waiting to see the "proper person".

In turn, there are advantages for the RASV and breed societies because staff are no longer required

for counter service which in the past has caused them to break off working on a specific task. However, if you particularly want to see a member of either the RASV staff or breed society staff they can be summoned from the centre to assist you.

Computer Assistance

Staff members assigned to the centre have been trained to operate a special Video Display Unit which is located at the counter and connected to the Society's computer.

With the considerable amount of breed society and RASV information on computer, a query about a registration, a membership or account

payment can be handled by the V.D.U. operator and the answer available almost immediately.

Show Entries

Royal Show entries too, will be accepted and processed initially by the centre's personnel, which will allow prospective exhibitors to submit their entries and pay their fees within the one area — obviously, at such a busy time, we can't guarantee that everyone will be attended to simultaneously, but at least the time spent in the process will be shorter, and if you have to wait you will be more comfortable doing so.

The new Enquiry/Information Centre. Staff members Anne Parkes (behind V.D.U.) and Mary Counihan attend to a query.



Young Farmer Scheme

For the young person, buying a farm is fast becoming a dream. But, the recent announcement that the Rural Finance Commission has been given \$3 million by the State Government for young farmer loans, must be welcomed by all the rural community.

For many years we have heard of the possibility of such a scheme. At last, during December 1981, the first loans were approved.

Proposed by Former Minister

The finance scheme was originally proposed by the former Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Ian Smith, several years ago. He appointed the Young Farmer Finance Council, headed by Mr. Bob Balderstone, to report on how such a scheme could operate.

Mr. Balderstone and his committee put considerable pressure on the Federal and State Governments to adopt the recommendations they presented. In fact, when I spoke to Mr. Balderstone recently he said they were still lobbying the Federal Government.

Cannot Contribute

The Federal Government says it cannot see its way clear at present to contribute on a dollar for dollar basis with the State. Mind you the State Government didn't act too hastily in making a decision. Perhaps if an election wasn't forthcoming the lucky recipients might still be waiting.

Productivity Generated by Loans

Mr. Balderstone has pointed out to the Federal Government the merits of such a scheme. He said the increased productivity generated by the loans made it all the more puzzling and disappointing that the Federal Government would not provide financial support. He said in no time at all their money would be recouped.

Many farmers believe the loans will rejuvenate young farmers' confidence in the land instead of seeing them drift into the cities.

Types of Loans

The three types of loans available are —

- **Stock and Equipment:** This is for young people to work in farming as lessees, shareholders or contractors. Interest rates are 12 per cent subject to review after five years.
- **Stepping Stone:** For young people with experience in farming and currently engaged in occupations closely related to farming such as shearers, sharefarmers and farm managers. Interest rates are 10 per cent subject to review after three years.
- **Deposit Gap:** A special form of lending at concessional interest rates to enable the purchase of a first property. This lending



by
Ross Dunkley
"Stock & Land"

would augment finance available from other rural lenders. Interest rates vary from six per cent subject to review after three years.

But, if you're young, don't automatically think you are eligible for a handout. The rules governing the scheme make sure that only special people need apply. The young farmer must be a proven performer and can demonstrate to the "selectors" that he can repay the loan.

Loans Approved

Already close to \$750,000 in loans have been approved. So far recipients have been receiving amounts ranging from \$25,000 to \$60,000. Certainly not enough to buy the dream property, but maybe enough to start you on the way.

NO IMMEDIATE LIFT IN SHEEP EXPORT BANS TO NEW ZEALAND

There is to be no immediate lift of existing bans on the exportation of sheep from Australia to New Zealand.

At one stage it appeared that the embargo imposed on the import of sheep from the mainland of Australia, because of bluetongue, might have been lifted however now, because of another exotic disease affecting goats and the fear that it could be transmittable to sheep, the export bans are to remain.

Annual Report

In their 1981 Annual Report, members of the New Zealand Sheep Breeders' Association received a full explanation by the New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture of the disease threat and we have reproduced that section of the report for the information of our readers, some of whom may be directly affected by the imposition of the export ban.

NEW ZEALAND MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE EXPLANATION

Studies

"The importation of sheep from Australia is in abeyance pending the outcome of studies in Australia, New Zealand and elsewhere in the world to determine the relationship between a recently recognised virus affecting goats and the virus which causes maedi-visna.

"Slow Virus"

Maedi-Visna is a serious disease of sheep which occurs in virtually all sheep raising countries in the world except New Zealand. Australia's status is uncertain because of the existence of the goat disease described below. The disease is one of the 'slow virus' diseases so called because of the long interval between

infection and the appearance of symptoms and the protracted course of the disease. Two forms of the disease are recognised, wasting and symptoms of pneumonia (maedi) or symptoms of brain involvement (visna).

No Complete Agreement

"The disease of goats is now most often referred to as caprine arthritis encephalitis (CAE) but a number of other names are used and there is still not complete agreement that all forms of the disease are part of the same infectious process. As with maedi-visna, lungs and brain may be affected but the commonest manifestation is chronic joint disease.

Close Relation

"The viruses of maedi-visna and CAE are very closely related if not the same and the definitive research to establish whether the CAE virus can affect sheep is in progress in

Western Australia, at the Animal Health Reference Laboratory, Wallaceville and in several other laboratories in the world. Because they are 'slow' viruses, the experiments must run for at least two years to obtain conclusive results.

"For this reason, it is expected that the current ban on importation cannot be reviewed for about two years.

Infection Confined

"CAE has been recognised recently in dairy goats in New Zealand. The infection is considered to have been brought to New Zealand with goats imported from Tasmania. Present evidence indicates that the infection is confined to a very few goat farms. Since transmission of infection requires close, prolonged contact there is little prospect of transmission to sheep if indeed goat/sheep transmission is possible."



Australian Stud Sheep exports to N.Z. are still banned because of a new disease threat.

CRAFTS '82

A new section has been added to the Royal Melbourne Show Arts and Crafts Schedule for 1982 — "Hand Made Porcelain Dolls".

The three classes introduced for this new section will be —

- Reproduced French Doll or Dolls
- Reproduced German Doll or Dolls
- Reproduced Doll or Dolls under 21 centimetres.

The origins of porcelain dolls go back very many years and the art of reproduction requires a great deal of skill.

Reproduction Antique Porcelain Dolls

In view of the RASV's decision to introduce this new section, Mrs. Judith Turner, President of the Doll Association of Victoria, has provided the following article relating to the reproduction of antique porcelain dolls.

Old porcelain dolls have become very precious because of their beauty, scarcity and desirability to collectors. From about 1850 to the late 1920's, many porcelain dolls were manufactured in Europe for the overseas and domestic markets and the few that have survived the tender ministrations of their youthful mothers are finding their way into large collections and museums, often priced far beyond the pockets of those who would like to own and love them.

Reproduction

Reproducing these dolls is a painstaking and exacting craft. The plaster mould, taken from the original doll, is filled with liquid porcelain of a porridge-like consistency and left for about three minutes during which

the plaster leaches out the moisture and setting begins.

Pouring out the porcelain leaves a 1/8" coating (approx.) in the mould which, after another 30 minutes is firm and able to hold its shape. It is released from the mould and after trimming can be left for some days to dry out completely.

Polishing

Polishing requires considerable skill because the article is very fragile at this stage and the surface must be very smooth, especially around the little eyes, nose and mouth. The porcelain is then fired to 1,220°F after which the doll is ready to paint.

Painting

Before painting can commence, the doll must be scrubbed with very fine sandpaper then china painted with a very fine brush and steady hand. It will take several firings to 720°F to complete the painting and achieve the beautifully delicate features of the doll.

The creation of the body for the doll is now the task confronting the doll maker. Depending on the original doll, the body may be made of porcelain (the same way as the head was made), rag or kid, or a composition body can be purchased.

When the doll is complete, the "cosmetic" construction must be seen too — the setting in of the eyes, if they haven't already been painted, and the attachment of hair.

Dressing

Dressing a doll has a great influence on its final appearance and doll makers usually research this aspect very carefully. The sewing, knitting etc. must be as authentic as the designs, and the fabric must also be very carefully chosen. (There were no artificial fibres in 1900!)

When all is complete we have a doll that rivals her elderly sister in beauty and desirability, and has the added attraction that it is within the 'means' of many more of us.

Readers wanting more information on the Doll Association of Victoria or on the art of reproducing antique porcelain dolls may contact Mrs. Judith Turner on (03) 232 9176.



"A.T. Merrile" and "BRU Shandele" are reproductions of French Dolls done in fine bisque porcelains and dressed in silk and lace. They are the work of Kath Hercus and Kerie McElroy.

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Winter Fashions From USA

Just the gear for sitting in front of a fire on a cold night. He is wearing a navy blue pure new wool shirt and grey wool slacks. Her more casual look comes from the tan Woolblendmark shetland shirt from Woolrich worn over a polo neck wool sweater.



DATELINE: NEW YORK

The Wool Bureau, the International Wool Secretariat's US branch, has put together a collection of clothing to show that wool is the best way to beat the winter chill.

The garments are from four well-known Woolmark licencees — Woolrich, Pendleton, Jacques Deloux and Cape West and are all made up in the United States and traditionally sell well.

From top to toes, this wool gear provides a flexible wardrobe for both indoor and outdoor wear. There are knicker-bockers for girls, trousers for men; wool shirts in plain and plaid fabrics, and there's a special jacket called putney... like a heavy over-shirt with a hood and breast pockets.

Sensible thick socks, wool-lined parkas, Aran and Fair Isle-style sweaters also feature — they all add up to good news for wool consumption.

Wool is already strong in the US textile market this year and apparel wool from southern hemisphere merino and crossbred flocks, in particular, has done well, according to Mr. Paul Marois, IWS area director for North America.



Above: This Aran-style sweater is from US Woolmark licensee Deloux. It is machine washable and is worn with golden tweed knickerbockers and long wool socks from another licensee, Woolrich.

Below: Mountain parkas lined with wool plaid blanketing are warm over wool shirts and polo neck sweaters. He wears charcoal herringbone trousers while she has gold tweed knickerbockers and thick wool stockings.



1982 — THE YEAR OF THE DOG

According to Chinese tradition and custom, 1982 is the Year of the Dog and as an introduction to this New Year, we reproduce a report which has probably been seen by many readers, however, we hope that by reading it again, it will stand as a reminder that the dog has served man faithfully almost since the beginning of time. We believe that everyone has an obligation to support this special year.

It would appear almost as if owning a dog, particularly in the Metropolitan area, has become "anti-social" and we call upon all dog lovers to accept the obligation in helping to further promote the dog and so ensure that he may retain his rightful and accepted place in the community — "for the service of man".

Shortly after the Civil War, when Senator Vest was a young man, just beginning the practice of law, and without the fame which afterwards became his, he happened to be in attendance upon a term of the Johnson County Circuit Court, at Warrensburg, Missouri. A suit for damages for the killing of a dog was on the docket, and was in due time called.

Voluminous evidence was introduced to show that the defendant had shot the dog in malice, while other evidence tended to show the dog had attacked the man. There were attorneys engaged in this case who, if not then have since become famous. Senator F. M. Cockrell and Ex-Gov. T. T. Crittenden defended, while Judge John Phillips, of the United States

District Court and Col. Wells H. Blodgett represented the owner.

Senator Vest was not employed in the case, but was invited to speak for the plaintiff. The occasion is said to have been a rare one, and his speech has been highly praised, and has gone the rounds of the Press for forty years.

It is stated by those who were present at the trial that at the outset he took no apparent interest in the case, made no notes and seemed pre-occupied throughout the hearing of the testimony. Certainly he made no reference to any testimony introduced, but arose in his always quiet and dignified manner, deliberately scanned the face of each juror, and in a soft, low tone, unaccompanied by gesture of any kind, began his address:—

"Gentlemen of the Jury.—The best friend a man has in the world may turn against him, and become his enemy. His son or daughter that he has reared with loving care may prove ungrateful. Those who are nearest and dearest to us, those

The dog, a man's . . . everybody's best friend.



Year of the Dog Continued

whom we trust with our happiness and our good name, may become traitors to their faith. The money that a man has he may lose. It flies away from him, perhaps when he needs it most. A man's reputation may be sacrificed in a moment of ill-considered action. The people who are prone to fall on their knees to do us honour when success is with us, may be the first to throw the stone of malice when failure settles its cloud upon our heads.

"The one absolutely unselfish friend that man can have in this selfish world, the one that never deserts him, the one that never proves ungrateful or treacherous, is his dog. A man's dog stands by him in prosperity and poverty, in health and in sickness. He will sleep on the cold ground, where the wintry winds blow and the snow drives fiercely, if

only he may be near his master's side. He will kiss the hand that has no food to offer; he will lick the wounds and sores that come in encounter with the roughness of the world. He guards the sleep of his pauper master as if he were a prince. When all other friends desert he remains. When riches take wings, and reputation falls to pieces, he is as constant in his love as the sun in its journeys through the heavens.

"If fortune drives the master forth an outcast in the world, friendless and homeless, the faithful dog asks no higher privilege than that of accompanying him, to guard him against danger, to fight against his enemies. And when the last scene of all comes, and death takes his master in its embrace, and his body is laid away in the cold ground, no matter if

all other friends pursue their way, there by the graveside will the noble dog be found, his head between his paws, his eyes sad, but open in alert watchfulness, faithful and true even in death."

The effect of the speech is said to have held the court room audience spellbound, and when Senator Vest concluded his remarks there was not a dry eye in the house. The case was submitted to the jury without further argument, and in a very few moments they returned a verdict in favour of the owner of the dog for the full amount sued for.

The case finally reached the Supreme Court where it was affirmed, and is set forth in detail in the 50th Missouri Reports.

Such is the account of the most touching tribute.

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Equipment is now available to allow farmers to produce Fuel Butanol (Butyl Alcohol) by simple anaerobic fermentation of molasses, grains, beet, potatoes, etc. Butanol is a higher energy fuel than Ethanol and needs no Government license. It is much simpler to produce as complicated distillation is not necessary. More importantly, it can be used to replace up to 50% of your diesel fuel and entirely replace petrol.

- Higher energy value than ethanol.
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A limited number of our new comprehensive Farm Butanol Fuel Manual are available giving full construction details, equipment suppliers, vehicle tests, fermentation procedures, etc. and your copy will be forwarded on receipt of the coupon below. We believe this is the most important development in allowing farmers to reduce farm fuel costs and this high quality fuel can be produced very easily using simple, low-cost equipment.

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Please forward a copy of the ON FARM BUTANOL FUEL MANUAL. Payment of \$30 is enclosed including postage.

Name

Address

Postcode

First Open Championship Cat Show Draws Big Entries

The Feline Control Council's move to stage an Open Championship Cat Show is a resounding success.

Entries

Entries received for the F.C.C.'s "1st Open Championship Show" scheduled for Sunday 14 March, P.B. Ronald Pavilion, Royal Melbourne Show Grounds, total about 600 making it one of the largest cat shows in Australia — and that includes those held in conjunction with the Royal Shows in each State.

Judges

Over 20 of Australia's top cat judges will adjudicate in the "Longhair", "Siamese/Oriental"

and "All other Shorthair" breed sections, all of which comprise dozens of subsections and classes.

"Domestic" Classes

Although the Show centres around the exhibition of stud breeds of cats, the good old domestic "moggie" is not forgotten — a highlight of the Show will be the side classes for "Domestic and Part Bred cats".

The advantages of such a special section are obvious, especially to children who consider their pet to be the best of them all.

Making up the section are classes for "owners", "grooming", "coat and colour" and (wait for it), "Purrsonality", all of which will be

good fun for those who have entered. The introduction of such a section has a serious side though because it stands as an "initiation" for those youngsters who have a genuine interest in cats and who are looking to graduate into the breeding and showing of stud cats at a later stage.

The Show will be conducted under the rules and regulations of the Feline Control Council of Victoria and there is a valuable selection of trophies, rosettes and sashes to be won, including a special trophy for the "Best Overall" Cat, Kitten and Neuter in the Show.



The first open Championship Cat Show has attracted large entries.

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A New Concept in Agricultural Education

According to those behind it, Agri-man is a new and unique concept in agricultural education; a fully equipped, self contained facility with programs tailored for the very young or those adults who want to farm, or are in related employment and need a working knowledge of some of the important aspects of farming.

Founders and promoters of the Agri-man concept are Peter J. Sporle, its Technical Director, Doug Lowden, Operations Director and Jim Lowden, Merchandising Director. Their joint backgrounds range over a very wide area of expertise — from professional stud management (cattle, sheep and horses), public relations, complete farm management, tourism, printing and publishing.

Birth of a Concept

Doug Lowden, his wife Pat and brother Jim have operated Farm Education Tours from "Lyndhurst", their property at Kilmore since 1975 — there have been about 50,000 Melbourne school students through since then and all have gone away with a lasting impression of what life is like on a real sheep and cattle farm.

Along with Peter Sporle, who joined the Lowdens in January this year, Doug and Jim have always seen the need for on-farm, practical, courses for farmers; not only established ones, but in more recent times, "new" farmers.

The idea of short courses was a natural progression from the educational tours and with the facilities and close proximity to Melbourne, it was decided to market "Lyndhurst" as a fully serviced rural facility for field days, seminars, and as a film sight for location filming.

Because of the success of National Farm Sunday; an open day for city people to see Victorian farms in 1978 and 1979; the idea of farm tourism for local and international groups appeared to have merit and it tied in with what was already a reality.

Due to the practical background of the Agri-man team and their concern for the small farmers who are becoming a real part of the agricultural scene, farm management consultancy was added as a service.

And so the Agri-man concept became a reality on January 1, 1982.

Objectives

- The broadly based objectives of Agri-man are:—
- To improve understanding of Australian agriculture; especially in relation to young people, by exposing them to real life, down to earth, practical educational programs.
 - To improve appreciation of Australia; in particular rural Australia, at both a local and international level, through farm tourism and special orientation programs.

- To provide a fully serviced rural facility to allied industries in which to disseminate their knowledge and market their products.
- To increase the productive capacity of domestic livestock through a greater understanding of selection criteria, by exposing people to 'revised' judging programs and management techniques.

Operation Centre

Agri-man will operate from "Lyndhurst" a 300 ha grazing property at Kilmore in Central Victoria, 70 km from Melbourne and just 40 minutes travelling time from Tullamarine International Airport. The property has its own 750 m agricultural airstrip, is a fully operational sheep and cattle farm running about 800 cross bred ewes and 80 Angus breeding cows and is also the home of the High Park Angus stud, the High Park Poll Dorset stud and Data Ryeland stud. The property has been in the Lowden family for eighty years; they have farmed in the Kilmore district for 120 years.

Facilities include undercover tiered seating for 200 children in the wool shed and extensive sheep and cattle yards which join an open air sale ring complex with covered seating.

The "Rural Store", operated by Jim Lowden has its home at "Lyndhurst". It stocks a large range of self sufficiency needs, farm supplies and an extensive range of agricultural books.

The Central Victorian Angus Breeders' Group hold their annual sale at "Lyndhurst" each year. High Park Angus have won many prizes at district and feature shows and have done very well at the Royal Melbourne Show.



Doug and Pat Lowden, Doug is the operating director.

Agricultural Education — Continued

Education

The Agri-man programs centre around offering people sound, practical, on-site education in a language and format they can easily grasp. That is not to say a more academic or theoretical approach is ill-advised; indeed, very few private operations would have access to as much academic literature or personnel, it's more a matter of how you interpret and communicate the theory.

Despite pressure from many teachers, the farm educational tours are aimed at those children who may visit a real farm only once in their life-time. Agri-man avoids gimmicks and the "farm zoo" concept, rather it concentrates on the real issues, annual productions, exports, domestic supply of wool and meat, farm costs and the role of agriculture in the nation's economy.

In educating the Hobby Farmer, Agri-man has adopted a professional approach to their special problems. Participants in the Agri-man "new farmer" short courses are told that their role as land owners and stockmen is no different to larger land owners.

Short Courses

Here the emphasis is on one day, intensive, practical, educational courses. It has been found that most people only wish to be away from home for a day, and there is no problem with accommodation and meals. It is surprising to many, just how much can be fitted into one day. Initial briefings on subjects are kept to a minimum; no more than 20 minutes and question time is any time one is asked.

The following courses have been set, and already some are booked out. All courses are pre-paid and booked.

Prime Lamb Seminar	27 March
Cattle Practical	3 April
Horse Handling — The Jeffrey Method	24 April

Home Butchery	8 May
Soil and Pasture	29 May
Farm Fencing and Stockyards	5 June
Developing a small Vineyard	19 June
Goats Practical — Dairy, Meat and Fibre	26 June
Sheep Practical	3 July
Poultry Practical	17 July
Agricultural Computers and Futures Trading	26 July
Worm Farming	31 July
Bees Practical	7 August
Show Preparation	14 August
New and Intending Farmers	20 March
New and Intending Farmers	22 May
New and Intending Farmers	28 August
New and Intending Farmers	20 October

Agri-man will administer other courses for outside interests if requested.

Farm Tourism

Because "Lyndhurst" is a fully operational and economically viable farm, it projects a true picture of Australian farms and farmers.

Tourism in the agricultural sector from all countries is growing; people want to know what we produce, how we produce it and who produces it. Special interest groups visit regularly from Japan, Germany, Canada, USA and the UK.

Agri-man offers an orientation program to special interest agricultural groups either in their Melbourne hotel or at "Lyndhurst". The orientation program is fully researched prior to the groups arrival and covers such things as travelling times, relevant places to visit, numbers of producers in that particular activity, numbers of animals in the national breeding herd, retail prices of animals and products, export information and who they should be sure to talk to.

Agricultural orientation — first segment for all educational tours.



Field Day Report



Forthcoming Field Days

Three important RASV/VASA Field Days will be conducted during March and April.

They are:—

- The 1981 Commonwealth Development Bank Victorian Farm Management Production and Improvement Competition Field Day on Tuesday 2 March.
- The 1981 Victorian Artificial Breeders Share Dairy Farmer of the Year Award Field Day on Wednesday 10 March.
- The 1981 Gippsland and Northern Commercial Dairy Herd of the Year Award Field Day on Friday 2 April.

Commonwealth Development Bank Victorian Farm Management and Improvement Competition.

This Field Day will be conducted on the property of the Section A winners (total capital investment less than \$400,000), Mr. & Mrs. Bob Wild, Mitta North.

Program

- | | |
|------------|--|
| 10.00 a.m. | Morning Tea |
| 10.20 a.m. | Welcome by the V.A.S.A. Group President, Mr. W. J. Bowran |
| 10.25 a.m. | Mr. Bowran introduces Mr. Bob Currie (Dept. of Agriculture) who will be Chairman of all Technical Sessions
Description of winning property |
| 10.45 a.m. | Farm Walk with Messrs. Bob Currie, J. Green, B.E.M. and J. Shovelton as discussion leaders to look at irrigation system, pasture management, herd, young stock and milking system. |
| 12 noon | "Why the Wilds won" — Mr. D. Duncan (Chief Rural Officer, Commonwealth Development Bank) |
| 12.15 p.m. | Comparative Productivity of Winners' Farm — Mr. B. Patterson (District |

Field Day Report - cont.

- Economist, Dept. of Agriculture, Hamilton)
- 12.30 p.m. LUNCHEON
- 1.15 p.m. Official Opening — Hon L.S. Lieberman, M.L.A. (Minister for Local Government and Member for Benambra)
- 1.30 p.m. Irrigation — Costs and Returns — J. Shovelton
- 2.00 p.m. Milking sheds — J. Green
- 2.15 p.m. Dr. Brian Wickham (N.Z. Geneticist)
- 2.30 p.m. Herd Improvement — Speaker from Victorian Artificial Breeders' Co-Op. Society Ltd.
- 3.00 p.m. Running a One Man Farm — B. Wild & B. Currie
- 3.15 p.m. Vote of thanks to those concerned in organising the Field Day by President of the Victorian Agricultural Societies Association, Mr. H. R. English.

Victorian Artificial Breeders' Share Dairy Farmer of the Year Award Field Day.

The winners of this Competition for 1981 were Mr. & Mrs. B. McGregor who are currently sharefarming at Dingee.

The Field Day Program is as follows:—

- 10.00 a.m. Morning Tea
- 10.15 a.m. Welcome by the VASA Northern Group President, Mr. Fred Bridgewater, who will introduce Mr. & Mrs. B. McGregor and Mr. Daryl Ryan (Department of Agriculture), Chairman for the Technical Sessions.
- 10.20 a.m. Farm performance — Mr. S. Brown and Mr. B. McGregor.
— Productivity increase
— Current situation
- 11.00 a.m. Farm Walk —
(a) Herd and young stock — Mr. A. Stubbs (VAB)
(b) Farm layout and pasture management — Mr. S. Brown
(c) Milking system — Mr. J. Green
- 12 noon LUNCHEON
- 12.45 p.m. Official Opening by Mr. R. T. Balderstone, President of the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria.
- 1.15 p.m. "Why the McGregors won" — Mr. J. Rae (Chairman of Judging Panel)
- 1.30 p.m. Farmer/owner relationship
- 1.45 p.m. "What's happened since winning in 1980" — Hank & Trish Hayden
- 2.00 p.m. "Pros & cons of employing Share-Farmers" — Rolf and Ley Malmo

- 2.15 p.m. "Finance for Share Farmers" — Messrs. A. Arbuthnot, A. Finnan and M. Smith
- 2.45 p.m. Other systems of employing labour and panel discussion
- 3.15 p.m. Summary and thanks to those organising Field Day by President of V.A.S.A., Mr. H. R. English

Gippsland and Northern Commercial Dairy Herd of the year Award Field Day.

Mr. & Mrs. Les Wagstaff were the recipients of the 1981 Commercial Dairy Herd of the Year Award and a Field Day will be held on their property at Yanakie.

Program

- 10.00 a.m. Morning Tea
- 10.15 a.m. Welcome by the Field Day Chairman, Mr. Russ Carroll, President, Central & South Gippsland Group, VASA
- 10.20 a.m. Farm and Herd details — Les Wagstaff and Bill Van Ryswyk
- 10.40 a.m. Farm Walk —
(a) Herd — A. Stubbs (VAB) G. Stewart (N.Z.D.B.)
(b) Young stock — Bill Darmody
(c) Farm Management and Pastures — G. Savage (Department of Agriculture Leongatha)
(d) Milking system — J. Green
- 12.15 p.m. LUNCHEON
- 1.00 p.m. Official Opening —
Mr. R. T. Balderstone, Immediate Past President of the RASV will introduce the Honourable Peter Nixon M.P., Minister for Primary Industry who will perform the Official Opening.
Presentation of prizes by the Chairman of ACMAL Mr. C. Harris and General Manager, Mr. J. F. Rourke.
- 1.30 p.m. "Breeding" — Les Wagstaff, Arthur Stubbs (VAB) and Gordon Stewart (NZDB)
- 2.00 p.m. "Raising replacements" — Les & Marj Wagstaff. "The place for minerals" — Dr. David Hall
- 2.15 p.m. "Herd recording on a National basis" — Eric Rowley
- 2.30 p.m. "Young Farmer Finance"
- 2.45 p.m. "The milking system" — The Wagstaffs & J. Green
- 3.00 p.m. "Where to Now?" — The Wagstaffs
- 3.15 p.m. Vote of thanks to Speakers and those organising and taking part in the Field Day by the President of V.A.S.A., Mr. H. R. English.

AFTERNOON TEA.

RURAL COMPUTING

Microcomputers for Stud Records



If you keep records, a microcomputer could help you to use them better.

Many people spend so much time keeping records that they don't have enough time to use them. Computers can help because they remove the chore of doing the basic calculations, and can sort things into order very quickly.

Programs

A set of programs from Rural Computing look useful for the stud and commercial livestock industries. Each program is a set of instructions which tells the computer how to keep the records. The programs have been written in the BASIC computer language for the Apple II microcomputer.

There are two types of programs, one called **STUD BOOK**, and another called **LIVESTOCK SELECTION**.

The **STUD BOOK** programs can be used for keeping records on a stud with up to 400 breeding animals while the **LIVESTOCK SELECTION** programs can be used to rank in order up to 600 animals at a time. Where there are more animals than this the ability to split and combine different lists can be used.

Each **STUD BOOK** program is set up to keep the records required by the individual user. There are ten optional headings available for this. Examples of optional headings are:—

- Wool weight
- Micron count
- Body weight
- Conformation
- Lambings
- Calvings
- Diseases
- Comment

Other headings are essential for each stud — for example the stud prefix and tag number (or name).

The computer can be used to do calculations when information is entered to correct for different weaning ages. For some cattle breeders this would remove the need for tedious calculations to correct weaning weights.

Options

The **STUD BOOK** program offers various ways to sort information. These are:—

- Family tree
- Offspring of a given animal
- Select specific types

Family tree is the most interesting of the options. After selecting it, a tag number is asked for and when this has been entered the computer searches the files and shows the parents and grandparents of the animal.

These can be displayed on the screen, or printed if required.

Using 'Offspring of a given animal' all the first generation offspring of any animal may be listed.

The 'Select specific types' option really highlights the advantage a computer has over the old card and book systems. The computer can search through all the files for animals with a particular comment or value for any item recorded. More than one item may be searched at once — for example the computer could be told to find all ewes which have had more than two lambs, and have recorded an average fleeceweight greater than five kilograms. You can go further than this and specify a profile of the animal you want and the computer will find and list for you those that fit into your profile.

All records are stored by the computer on magnetic disc so that they can be found quickly. Once the record of an animal has been found it is displayed on the screen, and changes may be made if necessary. A revised record is then filed on the magnetic disc.

One disc can hold the records of between 400 and 1000 animals, depending on the amount of information stored on each animal.

Three Versions

The **STUD BOOK** program is available in three versions to suit particular users. **STUD BOOK 1** and **2** are for studs which have up to 100 breeding animals each year. Version 1 is for animals which are tagged with numbers, and Version 2 for names. **STUD BOOK 3** is for larger studs which have up to 400 breeding animals each year, identified by number.

The **LIVESTOCK SELECTION** program is intended for stud and commercial users who wish to rank their animals in order of merit.

In the case of a stud, the information needed may be taken by the computer from a **STUD BOOK** disc. For commercial herds, tag numbers and other information may be entered directly through the keyboard.

Up to ten different values may be entered for a list of animals, and filed by the computer on magnetic disc. Once this has been done, the animals may be selected for merit considering all values simultaneously. The list may be sorted in a variety of ways.

Flexibility

Great flexibility has been built into the selection system so that virtually any method is possible. A scoring system can be used or an equation based on the values for each animal. A variety of scoring systems can be used on the same data. The animals' records, and the selection systems, may be retained on magnetic disc for future use.

Animals which have been ranked can be printed out in different orders depending on requirements. The

Rural Computing — Cont.

order may be by merit or by tag number (or name), or by the size of any particular value. If required, new animals or new values may be added later. This is valuable where measurements are taken at different times for example at weaning and later at shearing.

When a scoring system is used, the program automatically weights values to compensate for the averages. A similar adjustment is made to allow for their amount of variation about the average.

Well Documented

The Rural Computing programs are very well documented and the screen instructions concise. There are many features which make them easy to use:— For example, if a wrong value is entered you can type "BACK" at the next entry, and the program loops back to the previous entry so that a correction can be made. In some other programs on the market, the only thing you can do when you make a mistake is to restart the program and enter EVERYTHING again.

The Rural Computing programs require an Apple II microcomputer with 48K bytes of memory, a video monitor, and one disc drive. Larger studs could require extra disc drives in order to fully use STUD BOOK 3. A printer is almost essential, preferably 80 characters wide.

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Government will make Victorian Farmers first users of Videotex

The State Government would make Victorian farmers the first Australian users of Videotex, this was announced recently by the Acting Premier, Mr. Borthwick. **Go-Ahead**

He said the Government had given the Department of Agriculture the go-ahead to set up a Videotex information service in co-operation with the Victorian company Computer Power, of Port Melbourne and when the service was established, farmers would be able to contact a computer by telephone line and have up-to-date management information displayed on their home TV's within seconds.

Experimentation

Mr. Borthwick said Videotex systems were being used or experimented with in a number of countries. Britain was first off the mark with PRESTEL, which serviced not only farmers but also a wide range of information-seekers. The United States had a Videotex home service called GREEN THUMB and Canada had GRASS ROOTS for farmers.

Victoria's service would be called FARMHAND.

Pilot Study

The Department of Agriculture has already begun a pilot study for FARMHAND that would be carried out in two stages, each lasting about six months.

In Stage 1, the Department would train staff in the use of the new technology and build up an experimental data base. In Stage 2, a group of farmers would be selected to use and criticise the data base and help to develop it. Their response to the service would be used to gauge the likely level of acceptability of Videotex among farmers generally.

Complementary

Mr. Borthwick said farmers had responded enthusiastically to Agnotes, the Department of Agriculture's loose-leaf information service, and this would be maintained. The FARMHAND

service would complement Agnotes and give extra benefits.

"FARMHAND will, for example, provide market reports daily or even more frequently," he said.

"New and updated information will be there when the farmer wants it, and it will be easy for him to find."

Mr. Borthwick said that users of the FARMHAND service would need a small remote control keypad with numbered buttons and an adaptor on their TV sets to enable them to be plugged into existing telephone lines.

Required Information

Special terminals would also be on the market to take the place of the home TV and adaptor. Farmers would get the information they wanted, brightly presented in color and with graphics, by pressing the keypad and calling up a series of index "Pages" on the TV screen.

An interactive facility would also enable users to "talk" to the computer. They could, for example, answer questions the computer asked them to enable it to solve a farm problem, such as the optimal rate of application of superphosphate.



Videotex Contined

"A facility called GATEWAY would also be linked to the Videotex system", Mr. Borthwick said.

"GATEWAY would enable farmers and other users of agricultural information to link up with other, existing computer data banks, vastly increasing the amount of information available to them."

Tremendous Opportunity

Mr. Roger Allen, the Managing-Director of Computer Power, which will provide the computer and software services, said that Videotex offered a tremendous opportunity for Victorian high technology industry to become involved in what was surely a major growth area in the computer field.

The service his company would provide would eventually cover the community at large, not only

farmers. The majority of the community, including people in their own homes, would be able to gain the benefits of computerised information and services.

WHAT IS VIDEOTEX?

Videotex is the first of a new kind of instant information service. A system simple and cheap enough to be used by anybody. Videotex is currently being used by thousands of people around the world in large businesses, small firms, schools, colleges, farms, hotels, shops and in a growing number of private homes. They find Videotex a quick and very easy way to get the information they need every day as well as offering powerful two-way communications. **Business and Domestic Users**

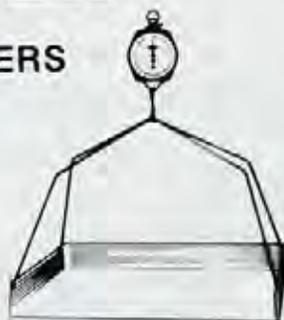
For the first time the advantages of a computer based information system can be made available at low cost to all levels of business and domestic users — no prior training or knowledge of computers is necessary and Videotex can supply information on practically any subject.

Videotex is a combination of three existing technologies; computers, television and the telephone network. It uses a central computer to store information, the telephone network to distribute the information and modified TV sets to display it. This enables Videotex to enjoy significant advantages over conventional computer information services.

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Fuel From Plants Costly

Liquid fuels from 'hydrocarbon' plants in Australia could cost several times as much as other liquid fuels, a national study has found.

Results

The results of the study, conducted by a CSIRO task force and funded by the National Energy Research Development and Demonstration Program, were announced recently by the Minister for Science and Technology, Mr. David Thomson.

Mr. Thomson said the study focussed on the 'hydrocarbon' plant species *Euphorbia*, *Asclepias* and *Calotropis* — species which had not been exploited on a commercial scale.

"Although known as hydrocarbon plants they produce a resinous extract which can then be converted to hydrocarbon fuels.

"The study concentrated on the production of these resins and not on feedstock production for ethanol or vegetable oil.

"The results showed that none of the crops investigated would be commercially viable as fuel crops — given the cost of alternative fuels," Mr. Thomson said.

The study had estimated that the equivalent of a barrel of oil from resin extracts would cost more than \$100 to produce — if a credit value could be assigned to crop residues.

"This compares with \$32 a barrel for Arabian light oil landed in Australia, and \$75 a barrel for oil from rapeseed.

"In the more likely event that no credit can be assigned to the crops residue, then resin production cost might be more than \$150 per barrel," Mr. Thomson said.

The Minister pointed out that the resins would then need to be subjected to a cracking process to yield a liquid fuel — and that this process would add to the final cost.

"However, resins might be produced at a lower cost as by products of rubber production from *Guayule*," he said.

"*Guayule* contains as much resin as other species, but it also produces twice as much rubber as resin. Rubber is worth five times as much as crude oil."

Research

Research into rubber production from *Guayule* was underway both overseas and in Australia.

Mr. Thomson said that the report of the study, which will be published this year, provided "an impartial, objective analysis of an area which is the focus of much public interest and the subject of a number of conflicting claims.

"The report will make a significant contribution to the published information on this topic in Australia," he said.

Background

The possibility of producing crops containing 'hydrocarbons' that could be extracted for use as liquid fuels has received wide publicity around the world. At present, the only hydrocarbon-producing crop

in world agriculture is *Hevea brasiliensis*, the source of natural rubber. Rubber has a high value in its existing uses, being five times higher in cost than crude oil.

Guayule (*Parthenium argentatum*), a perennial shrub native to northern Mexico and southwestern USA, was exploited as an alternative source of rubber in the period 1903 to 1950 largely by harvesting wild stands of the shrub in Mexico.

Most of the recent research on resin-containing crops in the USA has been on *Euphorbia lathyris* (gopher plant).

Of hundreds of species of plants that have been surveyed for hydrocarbons or resins, only a small number of species have been identified as potential crops species. None are cultivated and considerable research and development would be needed to bring them to the stage of commercial development.

The Members of the task force were

Mr. G. A. Stewart, CSIRO Division of Chemical Technology.

Dr. J. S. Hawker, CSIRO Division of Horticultural Research.

Mr. H. A. Nix, CSIRO Division of Land Use Research.

Mr. W. H. M. Rawlings, CSIRO Division of Chemical Technology.

Dr. L. R. Williams, Chemistry Department, Macquarie University.

The cost of producing fuel from plants is now very much a deciding factor.





Wine Victoria

News About Wine

WINE STUDY BY CORRESPONDENCE

Melbourne's William Angliss College has been in the business of conducting courses in wine and liquor studies for a number of years.

The courses have benefited people in related employment and enthusiasts alike, however, country people have had to miss out because they were unable to attend the College regularly.

Now something is being done about this situation. The College is offering a Wine Appreciation and Wine Service Correspondence Course to cater primarily for people in the country and like the other wine courses, it is conducted in association with the Wine and Brandy Producers' Association of Victoria.

Those enrolling are issued with a textbook and additional printed material and are set five assignments to be completed over a period of twelve weeks. To ensure that the course is not entirely "dry", a one day seminar, which includes tastings, is held at the College to complete the program.

The main areas covered are: factors affecting wine production, wine types, selection and appraisal, storage and methods involved and wine service.

If you are interested and require further information on the course, you can contact the Business Manager, William Angliss College, 555 Latrobe Street, Melbourne, 3000. Telephone (03) 67 6321.

Guide to Victoria's Wineries

The Victorian Government Travel Authority has published a guide to the State's Wineries which is now available through tourist information centres.

Listings cover all Victorian regions, includes features of vineyards and wineries with locality maps.

For the true enthusiast or the casual wine "taster", this is an excellent publication and is available free of charge.

A guide to Victorian wineries is available free.





Pig Industry Feature



In this feature we will look briefly at the commercial pig industry in addition to profiling the history of domestic pigs, the main stud pig breeds in Australia and detail some features of the National Pig Fair which will take place in Bendigo on March 10 and 11.

Origins

The pig was one of man's earliest domestic animals and is said to belong to the same ancestral line as the hippopotamus.

The Asian wild pig was first domesticated in Ancient China while the European wild pig was the subject of Spanish cave paintings over 35,000 years ago. Current pig breeds are descendants of these native wild pigs.

Pigs arrived in Australia with the First Fleet and outnumbered sheep and cattle.

In 1788, there were 74 pigs in Australia. Today that population has grown to an estimated 2.2 million.

Stud Pig Breeds in Australia

Today there are six major breeds of pigs in Australia. They are:—

- Large White
- Landrace
- Berkshire
- Large Black
- Tamworth
- Wessex Saddleback

Large White

Colour: White

The Large White Yorkshire, generally known as the Large White, originated in Yorkshire and surrounding counties of England.

In the latter part of the 1700's, the smaller, fleshier Chinese pig was imported into England and was crossed with local strains which produced the Small White, Middle White and Large White breeds.

The Large White as such, came to the fore in the 19th century. The pioneer of the breed, Joseph Tuley, exhibited a pair of pigs at the Windsor Royal Show in 1851 which attracted considerable attention from other breeders. The Large White is numerically the most popular breed in the world and makes up approximately 53% of the Australian herd. It is also recognised as an excellent bacon type pig and is used for pure breeding and cross breeding.



Landrace

Colour: White

The Landrace breed was originally developed in Denmark. Danish bacon became known as the best bacon in the world. When the Germans invaded Denmark during World War II, it was feared that the pigs would be slaughtered for food, so the Danes sent a consignment of the best stock to Sweden so that the Landrace breed would not be lost. The progeny from these pigs eventually found their way across the Channel to England, and later to Ireland.

Landrace were first imported into Australia in 1957, from Northern Ireland, by E. J. Galbraith of Kyabram, Victoria.

Landrace pigs are renowned for length, carcase quality and leanness, and are used extensively for pure breeding and cross breeding. They make up approximately 30% of the Australian herd.



Berkshire

Colour: Black, with white face, feet and tip of tail.

The Berkshire, one of the earliest recognised breeds evolved in England during the 17th century. It was from the county of Berkshire that the breed took its name. Berkshires were an established breed in Britain by 1884.

Hawkesbury Agricultural College, N.S.W., was



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ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

**1981
ANNUAL REPORT & NOTICE OF
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**



THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA
Royal Show Grounds, Ascot Vale, 3032. Phone 376 3733
Telex: AA34541

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CHIEF ACCOUNTANT: J.F. Clifford

GROUND MANAGER: K.J. Monkhouse

MEDIA MANAGER: T.R. Morgan



The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of members of the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria will be held in the Council Room, Administrative Building, Plummer Avenue, Royal Show Grounds, Epsom Road, Ascot Vale on Tuesday, the 16th March, 1982 at 12 noon.

BUSINESS

1. Minutes of previous Annual Meeting.
2. To receive the Annual Report and Balance Sheet.
3. To elect members to fill the vacancies on the Council.
4. To appoint two Auditors.

Dated 22nd Day of February, 1982.

J. B. PARRY,
Director

LIST OF NOMINATIONS

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

(Eleven to be elected)

*BOTT, A.C., "Naranghi", Yarrawonga, 3730.
EDGAR, K.G., 33 High Street, Nunawading, 3131
*FISKEN, A.J., "Lal Lal Estate", Yendon, 3352
*GARDINER, C.B., Box 126, Tongala, 3621
*GERRAND, R.B., M.B.E., "Malanda", Stradbroke, via Sale, 3850
*GIBSON, A., 40 Balwyn Road, Canterbury, 3126.
*KELLY, C.R., "Barwidgee", Caramut, 3274.

*MacGREGOR, D.S., M.B.E., "Dalmore", Baringhup, 3463.
*McLENNAN, SIR IAN, K.C.M.G., K.B.E., 112 Walsh Street, South Yarra, 3141.
*RAE, J.W., "Granite Grove", 124 a Beckett Road, Narre Warren North, 3604.
*URQUHART, K.W., "Boonerah", Hexham, 3273
*WALKER, R.G., "Pleasant Park", Goroke, 3412.

(*Existing Councillors retiring by rotation and eligible for re-election)

In accordance with the Rules, a ballot paper and envelopes are included with this report to all financial Members of the Society as at 31st December 1981. Ballots must reach the Society's office by 5.00 p.m. on Monday, 15th March, 1982.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure on behalf of Council, to report on the activities of the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria, for the year ending 31 December, 1981.

THE 1981 ROYAL MELBOURNE SHOW

The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria conducted the 123rd Melbourne Show from Wednesday 16th September to Saturday 26th September inclusive.

Weather during the first week was sunny and warm but became fickle during the second week, including the Show Day holiday (Thursday 24th September) and the final Saturday. Despite the uncertain weather, the total attendance of 802,578 was most gratifying.

From the administrative point of view the Show proceeded smoothly without hitches and the overall content and publicity received was extremely pleasing.

Official Opening



His excellency, the Right Honourable Sir Zelman Cowen, opening the 1981 Royal Melbourne Show.

We were honoured to have His Excellency, the Right Honourable Sir Zelman Cowen to open this year's Show on Saturday 19th September. Apart from being the Society's Patron-in-Chief, Sir Zelman has expressed and exhibited a genuine interest in the Show and what the Society is aiming to achieve both through the Show and its year round activities.

I believe this true interest was exemplified in the following passage from Sir Zelman's opening speech.

"It is proudly and fairly claimed that this Royal Melbourne Show is the 'display window of Victoria'. It brings the country to the city and provides a meeting place for Australians in many walks of life. It is a spectacular event in so many ways."

Other honoured guests of the Society for the Official Opening ceremony were the State Premier, The Honourable L.H.S. Thompson and Mrs. Thompson, and the Mayor and Mayoress of Essendon, Cr. and Mrs. Colin Clark.

Attractions — Arena and Around Grounds



Dale Buggins and his sister Chantell. Dale will be remembered as a top performer and a true professional.

Before detailing some of the magnificent Show attractions which were in evidence at the 1981 Show, I feel it necessary to make mention of the shock and sadness felt by members of Council and Staff at the very sudden and untimely death of a young and great performer in Mr. Dale Buggins, on Friday 18th September.

In a short but spectacular and successful career, Dale had thrilled many thousands of Show goers throughout Australia and overseas with his routine of motor cycle acts and had just returned from his tour of the U.S.A. and due to commence his Royal Melbourne Show performances on Saturday 19th September, when he died. He will remain in our memories as a top Show performer and a true professional.

I must take this opportunity to thank Colin and Clive Lohta of the "Flying Lohtas" Aerial Acrobatic Group who broke an engagement in Queensland especially to supplement our arena program following Dale's death.

The concepts of "top entertainment" and "value for money" were fully implemented at this year's Show through an arena and around grounds program which I believe, surpassed all that has gone before it.



One of our main attractions in the arena was the "Manchester Unity" Rocket Man from the U.S.A.

Highlights of the spectacular arena program included the "Manchester Unity" Rocket Man from the U.S.A., the "Flying Lohtas", motorcycle displays by the 3rd Military District Police Company and Bull Riding, all of which were either new attractions or had not been seen at the Melbourne Show for some considerable time. These acts were supported by fireworks, horse events and of course the time honoured Grand Parade.



The "Wales" Bank's free family circus proved particularly popular.

Unprecedented free entertainment around the grounds featured the "Wales Bank" Family Circus which attracted capacity crowds each performance and caused us to schedule extra shows during the last half of the second week to cope with its appeal. The circus was that of the famous Perry Brothers, one of Australia's oldest circus families.

Other free entertainments which attracted very favourable attention were the "CBC-CAGA" Colonial Music Concerts, Australian Wool Corporation Wool Fashion Parades, Multicultural song and dance performances, martial arts demonstrations, horticulture, arts and crafts displays, the "National Bank" Animal Nursery, a worthwhile Centenary Hall program and the Street Theatre.

Agricultural Education Programs



The Society's "Learning About Livestock" program proved very successful.

This year the Society embarked on two pilot agricultural education programs — "Learning about Livestock" and the "Story of Haymaking".

The stock program proved overwhelmingly successful, giving approximately 11,500 people the opportunity to learn more about beef and dairy cattle, and wool and meat producing sheep.

The majority of those participating in the programs were children, a large number being members of school groups.

Both programs have formed a firm base that can be developed and extended in years to come. They are positive steps which have been taken by the Society to further increase the knowledge and understanding of different aspects of agriculture among Show patrons, the majority of whom are residents of the Melbourne metropolitan area.

Show Survey

For a number of years now the Society has conducted a Show patrons' survey to indicate reaction of the public to specific parts of each "Royal". Some of the more interesting statistics were—

- **Show Attractions**

Of the specific things that people came to the Show to see, 58% wanted to see the livestock in pavilions.

- **Profile of Visitors**

The profile of Show visitors revealed that 83% resided in the Melbourne metropolitan area, 16% came from the country and 1% were visitors from interstate and overseas.

ANNUAL REPORT

• Age

The ages of people visiting the Show are as follows:—

- 30% — 31-40 years
- 23% — 17-25 years
- 20% — 26-30 years
- 17% — 40+ years
- 11% — 12-16 years

• Free Attractions

64% of Show visitors were aware that there was a wide range of free attractions at the Show.

Royal Show Promotions

City Parade, City Mall and A.M.P. Square Promotions.

On Monday 14th September (the Monday prior to the commencement of Show), the Society conducted its fifth Annual Royal Show City Parade down Swanston Street Melbourne.



The RASV float in the city parade featured a number of baby animals accompanied by children.

More than 60 groups and individual participants took part and succeeded in bringing many aspects of the Show and Victorian agriculture before the people of Melbourne. We were fortunate to have our three City Commissioners, Messrs. Thorley, Smith and Allston, take the salute from the steps of the Town Hall.

The Parade gained us very valuable pre-Show publicity and I take this opportunity to again thank members of the Society's City Parade and Square Committee under the Chairmanship of Mr. J.W. Rae, and the willing participants for their tremendous efforts.



Heats of the R.A.S.V. McWilliams Wine Waiters' Race created a great deal of interest as part of the Society's Mall promotions.

For the first time the Society conducted a series of Royal Show promotions in the City Mall and A.M.P. Square (corner of William and Bourke Streets). The promotions took place on Tuesday 15th and Wednesday 16th September and ran, in each location, for approximately two hours over the city luncheon break.

The promotions comprised shearing demonstrations, obedience dog demonstrations, a mini animal nursery, appearances by the Sun Country Show Girl contestants, the Big M Girls, clowns, heats of the McWilliams/RASV Wine Waiters Race and was highlighted by a hand milking demonstration by the Victorian Minister of Agriculture, the Honourable T.E. Austin.

I must acknowledge the great assistance received from Melbourne 3KZ and the A.M.P. people directly involved in either performing or demonstrating, and again members of the City Parade and Square Committee.

The promotions proved to be a successful vehicle for alerting people to the fact that the Show was about to commence and some of the things that could be seen at the Show.

Show Entries

Show entries have long been considered an important barometer of a Show's success.

Total competitive entries for 1981 were 37,397 and in this a number of significant records are contained.

A criticism levelled at the Show from time to time is that it is fast losing its agricultural base. The following record entries achieved in the major stock sections, with the exception of the horse section, are proof, that the Show is still seen by our studmasters as a significant "proving ground and show case" for their seed stock.

Cattle —		
	Murray Greys	200
	Simmental	106
	Limousin	37
Sheep —		
	Suffolks	239
	Hampshire Downs	49
	South Suffolks	27
	Perendales	65
	Shearing	166

Record entries in what can be called "hobby" sections are also vitally important to us because they signify solid support by a large number of exhibitors who are resident in the metropolitan areas, and this coming together of competitors from country and city is a considerable part of what the Royal Melbourne Show is all about.

	Arts and Crafts	5,640
	Cavies	219
	Rabbits	211

DEATH OF LIFE COUNCILLOR

It is with regret that I report the death of a most distinguished and respected Life Councillor — Professor H.C. Forster, O.B.E. on 14th November, 1981, aged 78 years.

Professor Forster was elected to Council in May 1957 and became a Life Councillor in May 1977. He devoted a great deal of time to RASV affairs despite an extremely busy career.

He served on the Scholarship and Educational Grants Committee (the Committee responsible for establishing the Victorian Farm Management, Improvement and Production Competition), the Beef and Fat Cattle Committee, the Centenary Hall and Commercial Farmers Interests Committees.

Professor Forster will indeed be sadly missed.

RETIREMENT OF MR. J. C. BUCKLAND

After an association with the Society of 17 years, Mr. John Buckland, Deputy Director, retired on December 31st, 1981.

Mr. Buckland joined the staff of the Society in 1964 and assumed the responsibilities of Administrative Officer. He later became Assistant to the Director, Assistant Director and subsequently Deputy Director.

John Buckland's skills in the vital area of protocol have been of tremendous assistance to the R.A.S.V. and, as a



Mr. John Buckland — retired in December after 17 years with the Society.

result, has in many ways set the organisation of the Melbourne Royal Show apart.

In 1964/65 after the formation of the Victorian Agricultural Societies' Association (V.A.S.A.), Mr. Buckland was installed as Secretary Registrar, a post he held until shortly before his retirement. The strengthening of this organisation and the well being of its 120 country Agricultural Society affiliates can be attributed in many ways to the support and guidance Mr. Buckland has provided.

Another area of particular importance in which John Buckland has been involved is Royal Show sponsorship. As Secretary to Council's Sponsorship Committee, he has been directly responsible for securing very many major Show sponsorships.

His expertise in this area is so highly regarded that he has been requested by Council to act as Consultant on matters of sponsorship over the next twelve months.

It is the hope of all Councillors and Staff of the Society that Mr. Buckland has a long and happy retirement.

CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP

During 1981 the Council invited a number of corporations to join the new classification of membership "Corporate Members".

Fees for the 1981 year were set between a minimum of \$250 and a maximum of \$1,000. The following companies have joined as Corporate Members:—

- A.M.A.T.I.L.
- A.M.P. Society Limited
- Alcan Australia Limited
- Aldus Limited
- Allied Mills Limited
- Associated Pulp and Paper Mills Limited
- Australian & New Zealand Banking Group Limited
- 3M Australia Pty. Ltd.
- Australian United Corporation Limited
- Bob Jane Corporation Pty. Ltd.
- Boral Limited
- Brambles Industries Limited

Brash Holdings Limited
Broken Hill Proprietary Co. Limited
C.S.R. Limited
Caltex Oil (Australia) Pty. Ltd.
Cattleman's Equipment Pty. Ltd.
Commercial Banking Co. of Sydney Limited
Dalgety Australia Limited
Elder Smith Goldsbrough Mort Limited
Esso Australia Limited
Gatic Australia Pty. Ltd.
Gordon & Gotch Limited
Grindlays Australia Limited
Group Holdings Limited
Henry Jones (IXL) Limited
Herald & Weekly Times Limited
I.C.I. Australia Limited
James McEwan & Co. Pty. Ltd.
Kemtron Limited
Leo Burnett Pty. Ltd.
Marbon Chemicals Limited
Modern Printing Company
National Bank of Australasia Limited
National Trustees Executors & Agency Co. Ltd.
North Broken Hill Limited
Nylex Corporation Limited
Overseas Corporation Aust. Pty. Ltd.
Phosphate Co-operative Co. of Australia Limited
Shell Australia Limited
H.C. Sleigh Limited
Smorgon Consolidated Industries
Tricontinental Corporation Limited
Tubemakers of Australia Limited
Victorian Broadcasting Network Limited
Victorian Producers' Co-operative Co. Ltd.
Western Mining Corporation Holdings Limited
Wormald International Limited

The progress of this new initiative will be watched with interest and it is hoped that further corporations can be attracted to membership in the future. Corporate membership carries a number of very distinct advantages.

DEVELOPMENT AND USE OF SHOW GROUNDS

More than \$800,000 was spent on grounds and facility improvements and maintenance during the past year. Main projects included:—

- The first step of the Members' facilities upgrading program in the Hunter Stand.
- Completion of the Arena Control Centre and Casualty Complex at the Western end of the Arena.
- Installation of additional fryers and refrigeration equipment in the Royal Block and Members Stand.
- The renovation of the Log Cabin Cafeteria in Degraeves Street.
- The "rebuilding" of the Hall of Manufactures so that

it can be used during non show periods as an additional and complementary exhibition complex to the Victorian Government Expo Centre.

- New fencing along the Epsom Road and railway perimeters.
- Construction and fitting of the Enquiry Centre within the Administrative Building.
- General works including the demolition of several old buildings in the areas of Smith and Peck Streets, the creation of new garden areas and the painting and maintenance of buildings, roadways and public services.

In addition to works undertaken by the Society, the Premier announced a contribution of \$20,000 towards the material cost of a link between the Victorian Government Expo Centre and the Hall of Manufactures, and the Society will contribute the cost of the labour involved.

Council remains acutely aware of the need to have the Show Grounds used far more during the non Show period of the year. To further assist in the dissemination of information and promotion of Show Grounds facilities, the Society has assigned a member of staff to the position of Marketing Officer, responsible to the Grounds Manager for the above function as well as the maintenance of existing contracts.

Non-Show Use of the Grounds

This year was the first since trotting began at the Show Grounds that no meeting was conducted on the grounds, however with the kind assistance of the Ministry for Youth, Sport and Recreation, successful negotiations have been completed with the Trotting Control Board and representatives of trainers resident near the Show Grounds for the continued training of harness horses. Training is held on the track every day throughout the year, except Sundays.

A number of major entertainments were conducted on the Grounds over the past year. They included:—

- The Willie Nelson Country Music Concert in February.
- The May Fair — a children's entertainment staged during the May school holidays.
- The first Supercross Masters in November which proved most successful and will probably be repeated in 1982.

The Show Grounds continue to attract an increasing number and variety of exhibitions including recreational, antique, food and beverage, electronic and commercial exhibitions. It is pleasing to note that the Society now receives considerable contributions from the non-Show letting of the various facilities.

In addition to commercial letting, the Show Grounds are used by a wide variety of organisations for various activities associated with primary industry. In 1981 these

included the annual shows of the Australian Pony Stud Book Society, the Welsh Pony and Cob Society, the Barastoc Horse of the Year, the Australian Sheep Breeders' Association Australian Sheep and Woolcraft Show and the Angora Mohair Association's Annual Show and Sale.

CATERING

During 1981 the McClure contract for catering in certain parts of the grounds ended and the vacated areas taken over by O'Brien Catering Pty. Ltd.

The substantial renovations to the Degrayes Street restaurant mentioned elsewhere in this report were a direct and welcome result of the changeover and proved very popular with Show patrons.

JOINT RASV/VASA ACTIVITIES

The R.A.S.V. is very conscious of its obligation, as an agricultural society, to promote agriculture in a practical way, both to city people and those living on the land.

In the latter case, one might consider it to be "preaching to the converted", however if it can be demonstrated that methods and techniques can be



The RASV and VASA continue to promote better farming through jointly conducted competitions and field days.

bettered, then this must surely be of value to those involved in agriculture.

In view of this the R.A.S.V. maintains a very close and valuable association with the Victorian Agricultural Societies' Association, an association which has realised an effective way of bringing to light improved methods and techniques, and making these known to the farmer.

This is achieved by the joint organisation and conduct of five commercial farmers' competitions and the resulting six field days staged on the property of the winners.

The five competitions are:—

- The Dalgety Commercial Beef Herd of the Year Award.
- The Gippsland & Northern Commercial Dairy Herd of the Year Award
- The Elders Commercial Wool Sheep Flock of the Year Award.
- The Commonwealth Development Bank Farm

Management, Production and Improvement Competition (Sections A and B)

- The Victorian Artificial Breeders' Share Dairy Farmer of the Year Award.

Each of the above has been conducted successfully during 1981 with satisfactory entries and equally importantly, well supported field days where the competition winners have been able to illustrate their success through special open panel discussions, farm walks and demonstrations.

On behalf of the Society's Council, I wish to thank Mr. Harold English, V.A.S.A.'s newly elected President, and Mr. Gordon Marriott, V.A.S.A.'s Immediate Past President who, with their Council, have co-operated willingly with the R.A.S.V. on matters relating to our joint ventures and all other matters throughout the year. I have no doubt that the firm bond between both organisations will be maintained.

Members may not be aware of the voluntary contribution of R.A.S.V. Councillors in the conduct and judging of these competitions all over the State. Their willingness to assist in these areas in addition to giving their time to attend the field days held on the properties of competition winners, indicates the importance they place on these vital activities.

25th ANNUAL SHELL/RASV PRE ROYAL SHOW JOURNALISTS' TOUR

This year marked a quarter of a century association between the Society and Shell Australia through the annual Pre Royal Show Journalists' Tour.

Over the past 25 years, more than 1,000 journalists representing all branches of media from Victoria, interstate and overseas have toured rural Victoria to gain a greater understanding of the many varied agricultural and associated rural activities undertaken throughout the State. They have also witnessed the preparation of the State's top livestock and produce which was later exhibited at the Royal Melbourne Show.

The Silver Anniversary Journalists' Tour covered the Wimmera area of Victoria and for the first time the tour itinerary included a one day seminar which, through specially selected speakers, put before journalists information relevant to wheat, one of the major industries covered on the tour.

To give emphasis to the very high regard for our association with Shell and the importance of the 25th Annual Tour, two Tour Leaders were appointed from the Council — Mr. Peter Ronald, a Past President of the Society and veteran of many tours, and Mr. John Robb, led the group of 30 participating journalists and I thank them both for their tremendous contribution to the success of the Tour.

Sincere thanks must also go to Shell for their staunch support of the Tour over the past quarter century and we hope that our strong association can continue for many years to come.

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1981

	1981		1980
	\$	\$	\$
FIXED ASSETS			
Land at Council valuation 1972		1,023,000	1,023,000
Buildings and improvements at Council Valuation 1972	8,489,774		8,489,774
Additions at cost (note 1)	2,749,721		2,507,742
	<u>11,239,495</u>		<u>10,997,516</u>
Less provision for depreciation	1,484,632		1,282,176
		<u>9,754,863</u>	<u>9,705,340</u>
Services and utilities at cost	604,081		585,023
Less provision for depreciation	92,177		81,896
		<u>511,904</u>	<u>503,127</u>
Plant and motor vehicle at cost	594,370		485,832
Less provision for depreciation	281,961		244,791
		<u>312,409</u>	<u>241,071</u>
Furniture fixtures and fittings at cost	792,419		573,814
Less provision for depreciation	292,422		204,706
		<u>499,997</u>	<u>369,108</u>
		<u>12,102,173</u>	<u>11,841,646</u>
INVESTMENTS			
Debentures, deposits, bonds and cash at bank at cost			
— General	70,000		184,760
— Special Purposes Insurance Fund	151,742		129,440
— Trust Accounts	27,307		27,254
— Short Call	218,772		338,747
		<u>467,821</u>	<u>680,201</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash on hand	800		800
Prepayments and accrued interest	33,388		30,548
Sundry debtors	426,592		
Less provision for doubtful debts	18,000		
	<u>408,592</u>		<u>406,640</u>
Stock on hand at cost	78,908		93,268
		<u>521,889</u>	<u>531,264</u>
		<u>13,091,693</u>	<u>13,053,101</u>
LESS			
CURRENT LIABILITIES —			
Bank overdraft — secured	534,658		202,771
Loans — secured	31,000		34,825
Loans — unsecured	108,416		102,720
Sundry creditors and accruals	282,979		399,974
Provision for long service leave	83,413		67,471
Received in advance	15		1,250
Short call deposits	218,772		338,747
		<u>1,259,255</u>	<u>1,147,758</u>
LONG TERM LIABILITIES			
Loans — secured	447,335		472,271
Loans — unsecured	993,383		866,521
		<u>1,440,718</u>	<u>1,338,792</u>
		<u>27,307</u>	<u>27,254</u>
		<u>2,727,280</u>	<u>2,513,804</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS		<u>\$10,364,403</u>	<u>\$10,539,297</u>
REPRESENTING			
Accumulated Funds		1,760,574	2,018,968
Reserves —			
Assets Revaluation	7,759,190		7,759,190
Special Purposes Insurance Fund	151,742		128,440
Dog Complex Contribution (Note 1)	682,897		632,099
		<u>8,603,829</u>	<u>8,520,729</u>
TOTAL ACCUMULATED FUNDS AND RESERVES		<u>\$10,364,403</u>	<u>\$10,539,297</u>

*The account to be read in conjunction with the Note 1 on the adjoining page.

Auditors report to members of the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria.

In our opinion the attached Balance Sheet and Revenue Account which have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for Land and Buildings and Improvements which have been reflected at Council 1972 valuation, are properly drawn up in accordance with the Rules of the Society and so as to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Society at 31st December, 1981 and the results of the operations for the year ended on that date.

Dated at Melbourne this 22nd day of February, 1982.

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

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1981

	1981	1980		1981	1980
	\$	\$		\$	\$
EXPENDITURE			INCOME		
Wages and payroll costs	\$2,462,345	\$2,169,171	Show admissions and car parking	\$1,710,005	\$1,687,486
Maintenance and cleaning	340,819	345,863	Space and ground rentals	990,361	887,292
Depreciation	329,075	277,927	Secretarial service fees	629,716	590,085
Show attractions	166,081	126,998	Show entry fees	173,572	171,476
Printing and stationery	199,744	213,818	Materials and services	150,386	161,846
Show running costs	100,275	103,464	Members subscriptions	189,437	171,746
Insurance	139,768	125,308	Show sales and sundry revenue	38,367	41,159
Catering	125,489	132,732	Donations and sponsorship	184,874	173,931
Trophies and prizes	138,507	122,145	Surplus on disposal of assets	—	55,717
Advertising and publicity	101,097	126,012	Catering premiums	178,874	123,549
Interest	140,371	109,376	Computer fees	46,553	48,385
Telephones and postage	74,980	61,162	Advertising	29,252	79,684
Rates	72,619	55,302			
Electricity and gas	76,948	62,829			
Judges expenses	39,238	35,705			
Sundry costs	56,219	46,871			
Computer costs	39,967	39,673			
Audit and legal	13,869	13,598			
Doubtful debts	—	11,000			
Special Purpose Insurance Fund	10,000	10,000			
	\$4,627,391	4,188,974			
(Deficit) Surplus for year	(307,994)	3,382			
	<u>\$4,319,397</u>	<u>\$4,192,356</u>			

ACCUMULATED FUNDS

	1981	1980		1981	1980
	\$	\$		\$	\$
Deficit for year	307,994	—	Balance at start of year	2,018,568	1,905,186
Balance at end of year	1,760,574	2,018,568	Grant for capital improvements	50,000	110,000
	<u>\$2,068,568</u>	<u>\$2,018,568</u>	Surplus at end of year	—	3,382
				<u>\$2,068,568</u>	<u>\$2,018,568</u>

* Note 1 to the accounts

Dog complex. During the year the Kennel Control Council contributed an additional \$60,798 to the Society to meet the costs of the erection of a new pavilion and other improvements in the Dog complex. Accordingly this amount has been added to both Fixed Assets and Reserves.

ADMINISTRATION

Breed Societies

This year the R.A.S.V. served as Secretariat for 56 breed societies (Federal and State Branches) and associated rural organisations. Of this number there are four which became associated with the R.A.S.V. during 1981. They are:—

- The Australian Council of Rural Youth.
- The Australian Donkey Breed Society.
- The Sharlea Ultra Fine (Wool) Society of Australia.
- The Victorian Stud Beef Cattle Breeders' Association.

Secretarial services were terminated for two organisations:—

- The Dookie Field Day Committee.
- The Farm Competitions Association.

In many cases, the cost of services provided for breed societies and like organisations is still heavily subsidised by the R.A.S.V., resulting in a not insignificant financial burden for the Society.

This, naturally, continues to concern Council and the Administration, and new methods and procedures are always being sought to streamline breed society operations and save costs.

Computer

The Society's Computer Centre was this year expanded and programmed to cope with the receipt of Royal Show entries, the compilation of most Royal Show catalogues and the production of exhibit entry tickets for Show sections.

This has relieved the considerable pressure on staff in the lead up to the Show and has, in a large number of sections, significantly decreased the need to work overtime, thus resulting in cost savings.

The computer is continuing to be utilised in breed society work and its deployment in this area is being extended to provide a quicker, and cost efficient service to breed society members.

Finance

The Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December, 1981 contained in this report disclosed a deficit of \$307,994 as compared to a surplus of \$3,382 in 1980.

This result was after providing for depreciation of

\$329,075. This included \$192,456 depreciation on buildings.

Tight controls on expenditure have been maintained during the year and the result reflects the uncertain nature of the Society's various sources of income.

Significant moves have already been undertaken in the area of overall staff deployment and there has been a resultant reduction in total staff numbers.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

On behalf of your Council, I want to record the Society's appreciation for the support provided over the past twelve months by the State Government through the former Premier, The Honourable Sir Rupert Hamer, the Premier, The Honourable Lindsay Thompson and his Ministry, and in particular to the Honourable Tom Austin, the Victorian Minister of Agriculture.

We are also sincerely grateful for the valuable assistance provided by Dr. David Smith, the Director General of Agriculture and his officers who have played a particularly important part in the organisation and adjudication of many of our "on farm" competitions.

A very special expression of gratitude must be extended to all branches of the media who have shown interest in the Society's activities during the year and have also solidly supported the Royal Melbourne Show.

To our Judges and Stewards, I pay special tribute to their dedication to the mammoth task of officiating in the many Royal Show sections and to our many sponsors whose financial support enables us to stage a bigger, better Show each year.

Having served five terms as President, I will not be standing for re-election in 1982 and therefore, in conclusion, I want to take this opportunity to record my sincere thanks to my Vice Presidents who have worked solidly with me over this period of time. To my other Council colleagues and their ladies, I am most grateful for the continual support of myself and my wife.

I congratulate our new Director on completing his first year with the Society, for his fresh, enthusiastic approach and to the Staff of the Society with whom I have been proud to work over the past five years.

To my successor, may I wish him every possible success and in so doing pledge my full support

R.T. BALDERSTONE
President.

A party of about 30 journalists representing overseas, interstate and local media participated on the 25th Annual Shell-RASV Journalists' Tour



COMPARATIVE LIST OF ENTRIES

Section	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	Previous	Best
Clydesdales	108	128	113	133	119	156	168	181	192	161	271	1924
Farm and Lorry	26	31	31	35	42	53	55	55	41	36	75	1934
Arabs	83	80	112	147	169	111	167	160	150	128	187	1978
Standardbreds	45	37	32	40	52	24	49	35	48	47	112	1947
Palominos	43	43	92	83	57	61	61	55	63	65	63	1980
Quarter Horses	11	17	30	41	14	78	44	33	33	19	78	1977
Appaloosas & *Spotted Ponies	—	—	—	—	30	45	35	39	30	40	45	1977
Galloways	62	48	57	60	69	56	65	50	52	59	94	1964
Ponies	349	372	411	493	541	478	514	553	551	527	4533	1979
Horses (Ld)	34	46	46	72	86	45	84	81	76	83	84	1978
Saddle Horses, etc	1,616	1,995	2,104	1,991	2,255	2,289	2,405	2,485	2,828	2,740	2,626	1980
Stallions	93	89	125	146	140	148	167	169	139	170	169	1979
Harness Horses	241	265	270	310	367	385	384	367	391	382	391	1980
Stock Horses	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pintos	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Australian Riding Ponies	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Donkeys	—	—	58	57	94	102	99	88	70	58	102	1977
Bucksins	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Riding Competitions	1,441	1,678	1,863	1,854	1,783	1,796	1,558	1,669	1,730	1,792	1,863	1974
Novelty Horse Events	515	538	579	523	687	460	565	578	570	612	697	1976
Jumping Competitions	663	718	642	748	611	660	436	622	650	550	1233	1963
Wood Chopping and Sawing	865	750	915	760	1,674	1,789	1,962	1,901	1,756	1,781	1,962	1978
Tug-O-War	16	12	12	12	6	12	14	18	14	16	21	1963
Fat Cattle	364	355	349	226	233	335	313	308	291	291	364	1972
Beef Shortorns	158	145	208	149	151	129	115	131	127	106	209	1974
Poll Shortorns	45	56	99	74	74	102	128	130	148	131	148	1980
Herefords	134	185	235	198	182	223	206	171	184	142	235	1974
Poll Herefords	155	205	250	263	217	259	260	311	312	274	312	1980
Angus	267	291	380	317	304	283	290	229	262	179	380	1974
Devons	7	7	17	7	7	5	5	3	6	5	19	1955
Santa Gertrudis	29	42	49	27	27	46	69	52	41	69	69	1978
Galloways	20	41	45	39	42	122	72	72	64	47	122	1977
Murray Greys	92	117	150	148	148	156	170	189	173	200	189	1979
Brahmans	33	37	52	39	22	9	15	12	14	13	52	1974
Brarolds	9	18	20	15	28	28	40	22	17	10	40	1976
Brangus	6	10	9	12	8	16	17	12	12	13	17	1978
South Devons	2	2	2	—	4	3	2	9	13	12	13	1980
Charolais	4	11	12	27	28	34	41	73	70	70	73	1979
Simmental	—	—	—	1	16	24	38	99	92	106	99	1980
Limousin	—	—	—	—	2	2	5	24	31	37	31	1977
Belted Galloways	—	—	—	—	—	24	8	9	4	1	24	1976
Maine-Anjou	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Chianina	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Australian Shortorns	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lincoln Reds	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poll Devon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sussex	11	11	10	10	6	15	11	15	11	17	19	1964
Herdsmen's Competition	43	61	63	75	65	83	60	79	82	75	159	1934
Red Polls	266	256	209	149	138	128	141	107	96	89	266	1972
Dairy Shortorns	209	145	90	82	80	75	73	71	71	64	236	1948
Australian Illawarra Shortorns	226	202	172	156	108	119	152	162	146	164	503	1922
Ayrshires	572	565	555	452	312	338	385	530	560	571	826	1965
Jerseys	266	247	262	264	180	201	290	227	217	241	353	1967
Guernseys	490	476	520	397	311	386	476	504	451	384	520	1974
Friesians	7	2	3	—	4	4	5	5	13	22	19	1918
Lincolns	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
English Leicesters	106	59	26	38	42	60	87	56	83	118	230	1962
Border Leicesters	38	32	26	54	74	72	102	79	63	69	159	1949
Romneys	60	60	48	46	46	53	63	70	42	36	308	1961
Cheviots	108	96	95	94	72	70	83	92	73	87	196	1968
Southdowns	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Shropshires	20	44	51	42	57	84	83	116	178	239	178	1934
Suffolks	124	127	142	129	128	108	116	142	123	101	264	1950
Dorset Horns	123	126	104	72	72	85	58	61	75	62	160	1957
Ryelandts	—	—	—	—	—	8	23	22	21	49	25	1978
Hamshire Downs	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dorset Downs	302	329	305	305	294	24	388	424	372	439	436	1980
Poll Dorsets	37	25	37	35	10	21	24	29	31	28	124	1934
Corriedales	—	—	—	—	—	8	16	22	18	27	22	1979
South Suffolks	8	7	8	10	13	8	27	24	44	65	44	1980
Permdales	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wiltshire Horns	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Merinos Re-introduced in 1980	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lamb Carcass Competition	268	288	321	206	225	246	286	243	254	229	591	1979
Fleeces	94	66	80	68	100	53	78	85	68	111	68	1977
Sheep Dog Trials	90	74	101	115	99	142	140	121	152	166	142	1974
Sheep Shearing	212	256	413	561	912	402	337	327	207	210	413	1972
Goats	1,158	994	631	665	601	544	956	464	535	361	1,158	1978
Pigs	1,846	1,654	1,696	1,791	1,881	1,617	2,289	2,195	1,996	2,158	2,289	1979
Poultry	174	161	159	112	114	74	103	67	98	86	222	1970
Eggs (Commercial)	1,259	1,083	955	1,334	1,384	778	963	571	700	646	1,384	1976
Pigeons	476	597	463	487	533	571	461	459	335	411	1,054	1966
Budgerigars, etc.	1,208	1,575	1,657	2,007	2,337	2,195	2,200	2,406	2,460	2,478	2,486	1979
Viticulture	236	194	188	175	182	171	188	167	200	194	357	1961
Dairy Produce	142	151	85	121	103	61	91	273	54	71	431	1930
Farm Produce	102	135	90	90	64	75	125	101	90	86	158	1967
Horticulture	4,136	4,075	4,277	4,472	4,204	4,195	3,218	4,942	5,034	5,640	5,218	1978
Arts and Crafts	952	1,061	869	1,235	1,444	1,447	1,161	1,061	367	1,281	1,447	1977
Photography	5,557	5,713	5,438	6,181	6,582	6,991	7,500	6,814	6,975	7,041	7,500	1976
Dogs	161	187	110	202	168	158	175	127	130	115	349	1953
Young Farmers' Competition	80	53	41	40	34	31	51	51	55	80	71	1986
Trotting Races	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Farm Inventions Competition	885	1,499	1,568	1,771	1,932	2,470	2,125	2,152	2,367	646	2,470	1980
Cats	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cavies	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rabbits	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total Competitive Entries	30,184	31,385	32,917	33,019	35,145	33,897	39,217	37,562	37,515	37,307	—	—

* Denotes Record

© Snr. Amalgamation

* First Year Of Competition



Pig Industry Feature

amongst the earliest importers of British Berkshires to Australia, and some years later, in 1936, Canadian Berkshires were imported by South Australian breeders, Whickham and Candy, and Mr. W. Burgess of Western Australia.

The Canadian breed possessed superior carcase qualities and the blending of these two strains produced the Australian Berkshire.

Berkshires are used mainly for cross breeding, and Berkshire sows are known for their mothering ability.



Tamworth

Colour: Golden Red

Amongst the modern breeds of pig, none exhibits such distinct evidence of wild origin as the Tamworth.

It derives its name from the ancient town of Tamworth in England. The breed is held to be a direct descendant of the wild hog of the Midland counties, an ancient and pure race, distinct from any other breed.

It appears the breed was first brought into Australia in the 1890's by the Hawkesbury Agricultural College, and reached its greatest popularity in the 1950-60 period.

With the advent of more intensified pig-raising, and the introduction of Landrace, its popularity has been reduced to the point where it is on the verge of extinction. It is inclined to become over-fat under intensive pig-raising conditions.

The Tamworth has been used extensively with the Berkshire to provide a commercial dam.



Large Black

Colour: Black

Little is known of the origin of the Large Black, but it seems likely that the breed was evolved by crossing Neapolitan (Italian Blood) importations with old English hogs.

This probably occurred about the same time as the Yorkshires were being developed by the use of Chinese bloodlines.

The Large Blacks, which were commonly seen at large in fields, were bred with huge ears which flapped down in front of their eyes restricting their range of sight, thus rendering them contented and unambitious grazers. Large Blacks were recorded in Australia by Hawkesbury Agricultural College in 1908.

Like the Tamworth, Large Blacks are inclined to become over-fat in an intensive system, and are therefore, now not in great demand.



Pig Industry Feature

Wessex Saddleback

Colour: Black, except for a continuous belt of white over the shoulders and fore legs.

The Wessex Saddleback breed was evolved from crosses between Hampshire, Sussex and Old English Shetted breeds.

During the period of the Great War (1914-18), the forebears of this breed were released in the new Forest in England, and allowed to fend for themselves. After the war, it was found that they had survived the harsh conditions, and it was decided to establish a breed which had as its attributes, hardiness; prolific breeding ability; good mothering qualities; and value as a grazing pig. Wessex Saddlebacks were first imported into Australia in 1934, from England, by Mr. R. Turpin of Queensland.

The most significant feature of the Wessex Saddlebacks is their mothering ability, and they have been used extensively in cross breeding with either Large White or Landrace.



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- Most successful exhibitor at 1981 Australasian Angora Fair.

Owner: Margarete Piccoli (far right), pictured with Mrs. G. Jones, Judge and her Champion and Res. Champion Senior Doe.





Pig Industry Feature

The Stud Pig Breeder — Where to?

by
Dennis Treacy



What future does the Stud Pig Breeder have within the Commercial Pig industry? Along with the many changes within the Commercial Industry itself, the above question is one which is investigated by Dennis Treacy in this article.

Dennis is currently District Pig Industry Officer, Department of Agriculture, Bendigo, and has had special training in pig genetics and breed improvement.

Marked Change

The commercial pig industry in Australia has changed markedly in the last three decades. The nature of these changes is well known to all who have had an involvement with the industry. The industry is no longer a sideline to any other industry, specially formulated dry feed has replaced skim milk, permanent housing systems have replaced lean to's and so on.

The pig industry is continuing to develop, though changes now are perhaps more subtle than the major ones in direction that we have seen in the past. Developments in housing, feeding, health, breeding, and management are being refined and 'fine-tuned' and average herd size is increasing.

Change in Attitude

As well, the attitude of producers towards pig keeping is changing. Because of the large capital investment required for pig production, commercial producers have become more business-like in their approach. Production factors which affect financial returns are identified and monitored and those producers with a 'she'll be right' attitude are becoming part of a declining minority. In keeping with these changes, producers are more keen to listen and learn from others, but also are more discerning in the advice they accept.

The Future

Clearly developments in the commercial industry will have a marked effect on the stud industry. Already the stud industry has felt the effect of the changing circumstances, and not all have benefited advantageously.

What is the future of the present stud industry? Each breeder should reflect on this question and his own situation. To say that stud breeders face a challenge to maintain their influence of the past is almost an understatement. Nevertheless I believe there is a future for the stud breeder who recognizes the needs of the commercial industry and conducts his business accordingly.

The circumstances which led to the establishment of the stud industry still exist. Most commercial producers will continue to purchase their boar requirements rather than use homebred stock. Commercial producers generally are keen to leave the job of breed improvement to the specialist breeder. Whether they make use of the stud breeder as a source of breeding stock, or go elsewhere, will depend on the stud breeder himself. He must earn the confidence of the commercial producer.

Speculate

- I can only speculate, as you can, on how the stud breeder can ensure his product will continue to be in demand. I suggest the successful stud breeder of the future, apart from possessing some business flair, will:
- be a specialist breeder with a genuine interest in breed improvement, and have a basic understanding of modern methods of breed improvement and the needs of the commercial industry,
 - have a pig unit of sufficient size and with suitable testing facilities to give an opportunity for breed improvement and to ensure a commitment to the industry.



Pig Industry

- (c) routinely select his own replacement stock on the basis of traits of commercial importance (i.e. growth rate and carcass quality) in order to continually upgrade his own stock. In doing so the breeder should be willing to incur performance testing costs as a matter of course. A superficial interest in performance records in order to increase sales would not suffice.
- (d) take strict precautions to protect the health status of his stock.

Some breeders already have made their own assessment of the situation and are looking forward to the future. Whereas others are becoming less relevant to the commercial producer. The opportunities do exist, but the challenge lies with each breeder rather than with any organization.



Where does the stud pig breeder fit in as far as the commercial industry is concerned.



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Pig Industry Feature

South Australian Judge for Pig Fair Feature Show

South Australian pig industry leader, Ron Lienert, will judge the Feature Show held in conjunction with the 1982 National Pig Fair.

Ron conducts the highly successful Royal Oak Large White Stud at Sheoak Log, South Australia. Apart from achieving respect with his stock in the Show ring, Ron Lienert conducts a minimal disease commercial piggery and represents pig producers in the political arena, as South Australian delegate to the Australian Commercial Pig Producers' Federation, and as pig industry representative on the National Carcase Classification Supervisory Committee.

The National Pig Fair Feature Show will this year be held on Tuesday, March 9, the day before it opens its gates to the public. This rescheduling will allow exhibitors a chance to view the trade stands and attend the Pig Fair Debate at the Fair on Wednesday. Prizemoney and ribbons worth \$1,200 will be presented by Elanco Products to successful Show exhibitors.

Pig Sale

The National Pig Fair's Sale of Stud Pigs will commence at Bendigo Show Grounds at 1 p.m. on Thursday, March 11 — here, some of Australia's top purebred pigs will be paraded.

New Condition

Buyers of young boars at the sale can be assured that the pigs will be of a high standard. A new condition introduced to the Feature Show ensures that all boars entered in the under seven month class undergo performance testing at a central test station. Only the best of these boars will be permitted to be shown at the Fair.

1982 National Pig Fair

One of the most important "calendar events" for the commercial pig producer is the National Pig Fair, held in Bendigo. It offers pig producers the chance to see a vast range of industry products and services, all on the one site.

Largest Industry Trade Display

The Fair is held over two days, Wednesday March 10 and Thursday March 11 at Bendigo Show Grounds, Victoria, and can boast Australia's largest pig industry trade display. Organisers of the 1982 Fair expect over 100 businesses to be represented.

One of the most informative features of the 1982 National Pig Fair as far as pig producers are concerned will be the exhibition of entries in the Product Award. This Award is now in its second year and gives

recognition to inventions and products that will benefit pig production.

Categories

Three categories are contested, one for production equipment including feed, effluent and environmental equipment, one for building materials and a category for management aids such as pig identification systems, pregnancy testers, weighing facilities and charts and guides.

Bayer Australia, sponsors of the 1982 NPF Product Award will present an Outstanding Product Award of \$150 plus two Highly Commended Awards of \$50 in each of the three categories.

With pig production becoming more specialised and profit margins in the industry tightening, producers need to look to products which will help increase their efficiency. The display of Product Award entries at the Fair should give producers an excellent opportunity to keep up to date with the latest industry innovations and developments.





Pig Industry Feature

Boar Test Station

An Important Innovation for Pig Industry

by

Paul Horsnell,

President, Australian Pig Breeders' Society (Vic. Branch)

The Victorian Branch of the Australian Pig Breeders' Society, in conjunction with the National Pig Fair, has embarked on an innovative and adventurous project by establishing a Boar Test Station, through which boars entered in the National Pig Fair Feature Show under seven months class, must pass. Only the best performance animals will be shown in the class at the Feature Show. The Victorian Department of Agriculture is supervising the growth rate and carcase quality of the 50 boars entered.

Granary Stock Feeds, Kerang, are supplying the feed

while "Elanco", the Fair's major Feature Show and Sale sponsor are providing feed additives.

The Test Station has been established on the property of Mr. Bruce Hamblin, Toolleen, principally by his efforts, with some assistance from the Australian Pig Breeders' Society and members. It is hoped that there will be three intakes annually of boars for the Test Station. The next group is scheduled for entry on 14 March 1982 and upon the completion of this test, successful animals will be offered at a special sale.

The purpose of this venture is to provide commercial pig producers, for use in their herd improvement programs, with boars which have comparative performance figures, independently assessed.

Other classes to be included on the Feature Show Schedule are "mated gilts, born between 12 March 1981 and 12 June 1981", "under seven months gilts" and "under six months boars and gilts".

Memories

by Mr. J. E. H. Fairchild

Mr. J. E. H. Fairchild was a co-founder of the "Vaucluse" Large White Pig Stud (Fairchild and Clutterbuck) which is now the oldest Large White Pig Stud in Australia.

The stud still exhibits at the Royal Melbourne Show and is now managed by Mr. Jim Fairchild Junior.

We feel it fitting that the following article be included in our Pig Feature and are sure that it will jog the memories of many "veteran" Royal Show exhibitors.

The date, 1929, the Melbourne Royal only days away and almost a full team of Large White pigs entered for this "Show of Shows".

The Saturday was devoted to making hurdles to fence off two railway louver trucks into pens suitable for the various entries that could be penned together, and clearing the centre doorways for our own dunnage and room to sleep on the long journey which would take from 11 o'clock on Monday morning to six o'clock the following morning until we reached the Show Grounds siding.

By this time the air could almost be cut with a knife — probably the excitement was intensified by the fact that there had been no classes for pigs in the previous two years on account of an outbreak of Swine Fever.

Other Exhibitors

On the way, we had picked up many other exhibitors and their various breeds of animals so that within a very

short time of arriving, the Show Grounds railway platform was a hive of industry. We walked the pigs up to the "Swine Pavilion" while carriers brought our dunnage and hurdles.

We were fortunate in being allotted a locker in the area known as "Toorak Pigs" which we shared with the late Tom Noble and son Mack. Except in heavy rain when the roof leaked a little and one wanted an oilskin coat over the blankets to keep them dry, we were reasonably comfortable. Each locker had four permanent built in bunks, on which we put two chaff bags loosely filled with straw. These bunks were only two feet wide so left little room for a big man to turn over in. Rumour had it that Gil Butler, a Tamworth breeder, used to sometimes get stuck between the wall and the outside six by one!

Happy

On the whole we were a happy lot and most nights spent an hour or so around one of the coppers — there were three of these and they were kept going night and day to provide exhibitors with hot water for washing pigs. These coppers no doubt did much to promote a spirit of camaraderie among the exhibitors and although competition was very keen, it was seldom that one ever saw any semblence of jealousy or ill feeling.

Superintendent

No article on the exhibition of pigs at the Melbourne "Royal" in 1929 or the pre-war years would be complete



Pig Industry Feature

without a word of praise for that most thorough, that most demanding, that likeable and almost to be feared, Pig Superintendent named Groves. He was the incarnation of all the adjectives used above rolled into one, but with a sugar coating over the lot. I can remember my partner, Cedrick Clutterback inviting him in to have a cup of tea with us and Mr. Groves saying "Yes I will thank you, but no favours in the morning if you're late putting straw out".

Luxury

What luxury we live in now — electric hot water and umpteen gas jets to cook on. For some years we did our cooking over a fire in the open with an iron bar running over the top of it and nothing to stop a gust of wind putting ash in the frypan. The only shower was a cold one that was not overpatronised. We had good sales in 1929, but as the affects of the depression worsened so too did the prices of stud pigs. I can remember, I think in 1934 when we still sold privately but booked through the Auctioneers, a man saying he wanted a boar. From memory, I showed him a nine month boar but when I told him the price, he said "too dear". I then showed him a younger boar and again he said "too dear". He also said "too dear" to an under four months boar so in desperation I took him to one of the litters — we had two — and picked what I thought was a nice shapely little boar and offered that to him and again he said "too dear".

"Well what do you want to pay for a boar?" I said, to which he replied "Well not more than a pound". Perhaps I should have given him one, but we too were poor in those days — it would be nice to think I had.

Successful

After a remarkably successful Melbourne Show in 1929, we bought the First Prize under 12 months Large

White Boar at the English Royal Show and later we followed this up with the purchase of two more boars from England. We had previously bought a boar and a sow-in-pig in New Zealand and later sold that same breeder, a young in-pig sow. When she arrived, he sent us a cable saying "very disappointed, sow arrived strongly in season". We were dumbfounded but ten days later got another cable which said "sow has farrowed ten good pigs".

Closing Note

A closing note about that self same excellent Superintendent Groves. The mature boar we brought down in 1929 was "Bianca Brutus", bred by Rex Guthridge of Mt. Evelyn and purchased by us as a direct result of a visit of the "Better Farming Train" to Maffra and Kilmany in 1925.

This train was sponsored by the Victorian Department of Agriculture and wherever it stopped, it drew hundreds of people anxious to better their knowledge, but back to "Bianca Brutus", who had been reared as a pet and was extremely quiet. We wanted a photo of someone on him, and a lad working for Adamson Strettle & Co. who sold some of our pigs, volunteered to ride Brutus so a photo could be obtained.

We took Brutus out the end of the Pavilion — the boy got on his back and we got the photo. About that time Mr. Groves appeared and demanded of me, "What would you have done if a pregnant woman had come around the corner?", I don't suppose I'd have done anything and I am sure Brutus would not have either!

That was 53 years ago almost to the day! Brutus is gone, Groves is gone and I'm still here and never a miss in exhibiting in 53 years — how lucky can you be!

"Vauchse Vanity". Champion sow and litter at the 1929 Royal Melbourne Show.





Pig Industry Feature

BARASTOC'S RESEARCH BOOSTS PRODUCTION

Animal feeds manufacturer, Barastoc Products, has recently added a new pig nutritional research unit to their research facilities at the Barastoc Research Centre in St. Arnaud.

Barastoc Research Manager, Mr. Tony Edwards, said recently that the main aim of the research unit was to help farmers achieve maximum economic production by ensuring that protein, energy and individual amino acid levels in their feeds (for example lysine) were always available in the appropriate digestible form to ensure optimal production. Although it is possible to chemically determine the amount of particular nutrients which may be present, they may sometimes be present in such a form that the animal cannot fully utilise them.

Recent introduction of new feed ingredients such as Triticale, Peas and Lupins, has created new opportunities for improving feed performance. However as Mr. Edwards pointed out, thorough evaluation of such feed ingredients was needed in order to understand their full potential.

Studies will be undertaken at the unit to quantify the intimate relationships between nutrient intake rates, carcass composition and animal growth rates. For example, most farmers will be aware that pigs tend to consume less feed during summer than winter. This is as a result of their biological control of energy intake. If other nutrients, for example lysine are not varied to suit the feed intake, then either wastage or a deficiency may occur.

It is thought that different strains of pigs may need different feeding programs to ensure optimal economic production. Experiments will be conducted to identify these feeding programs to help the farmer identify the best program for his strain.

Scours in piglets have always been serious problems to most pig

farmers. Mr. Edwards continued. Investigations into the nutritional aspects of this problem and their interactions with other stress factors such as diseases, environment and management practices would help

farmers minimise this disease. Barastoc's Pig Nutritional Research Unit is one of the few research facilities in Australia concentrating entirely on nutritional research.

Barastoc consider this research vital to maintain their lead in supplying top quality feeds to the Australian pig farmer.



ROYAL SHOW DATES FOR 1982

SYDNEY —

April 2-13

BRISBANE —

August 5-14

ADELAIDE —

September 3-11

MELBOURNE —

September 15-25

PERTH —

October 1-10

DARWIN —

July 22-24



One Hundred Years Ago

Following the successful Show of 1881, the Council of the National Agricultural Society of Victoria was more convinced than ever of the need for a larger area of land on which to conduct their annual exhibition. Pressure was being placed on the Society by exhibitors of stock, produce, and machinery, on the one hand, and the Emerald Hill Council was most anxious to have the NASV vacate the very valuable seventeen acre site so that it could be made available for development.

Flemington

As far back as 1877 the Council of the NASV approached the Minister of Lands for a twenty-acre site on the Flemington Road (taking in the area now occupied by the Royal Melbourne and Royal Children's Hospitals), and this request was agreed to by the Royal Park Trustees, and the Minister also gave verbal assent.

When the proposal became public there was strenuous opposition from the residents in the neighbourhood and the Minister withdrew his offer and tried to compromise by offering the Society an area of land known as the Old Pound and Store Reserve at the top of Elizabeth Street north.

The Society was not interested in this proposal because of the proviso that would vest the area in the joint names of the Society and the corporation of the City of Melbourne.

Second Proposal

The second proposal from the Minister was a site on part of the old Model Farm, near the Jika-Jika Reformatory adjoining Royal Park. This site was also rejected by the

Society on account of its 'remoteness from the city and its otherwise general unfitness and ineligibility for such buildings as the Society desire to erect for their exhibitions'.

By this time the Minister was losing patience and made still another offer to the Society, an area of thirty acres abutting on to the Flemington Racecourse, and although the Council acknowledged the grant, the majority of its members considered the site 'too far from the city', and the matter was left in abeyance.

Ultimatum

In early 1882 the Council received an ultimatum from the Minister of Lands stating that the Society should be prepared to vacate the St. Kilda Road site at an early date, as the land was put up for sale, further, that the Society should give up all hope of the site it expected to secure in Royal Park, as the Minister would take immediate steps to have it permanently reserved as park land.

The Minister's attitude drew an immediate response from the Council, and at a meeting held on 14 March 1882, it was resolved to accept the site near the Flemington Racecourse on the understanding that the Government would compensate the Society to the tune of £3,000 (to enable it to fence and improve the new grounds; and that the Government agreed to convey passengers by the railway to and from the Society's Shows on the new ground for threepence (3d) each way.

It was agreed that after the Spring Show of 1882 that the Society would

hand over the St. Kilda Road Showgrounds to the Department of Lands.

Permanent Site

In the Committee of Supply of the Legislative Assembly on 8 December 1881, a vote of £4,500 was agreed to for the purchase of a permanent site for a 'show-yard' for the NSAV.

In July 1882 the NASV organised, sponsored, and conducted the first Intercolonial Champion Ploughing Match, on the estate of Messrs Thomas and Andrew Chirnside at Werribee.

Entries were received from the colonies of New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand, in addition to those from Victoria. There were fifty-five entries for single-furrow ploughs; twenty-nine for double; and seven for the treble-furrow plough section.

The Victorian ploughmen won all the prizes, with the exception of the second prize in the single-furrow event, this was won by a Tasmanian.

Petition

Earlier in the year, a petition was received from a large number of horse owners and breeders in the Kyneton area, requesting the Council to extend the horse parade from one to two or more days so that sales of exhibited stock might be held in the yards after the parade. This petition was supported by three firms of stock and station agents and four importers of Clydesdale horses. Council at first refused the request but later, under pressure, agreed and the August horse parade proved to be most successful with an entry of 245 animals.

"SPEED THE PLOUGH"

A history of the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria and the Royal Melbourne Show.

The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria is proud to present to members and readers of the "Royal" magazine, "Speed The Plough", the official history of the Society and the Royal Melbourne Show.

A faithful documentation of the Society's evolution, development of the Royal Melbourne Show Grounds and the Show from early colonial days to the present time, "Speed the Plough" will be of particular interest to members, exhibitors, standholders and Show goers alike.

Compiled initially from material researched by the late Mr. Fred Noble on land acquisitions, expanded upon and written by Mr. Bob Morgan, the book is generously illustrated with over 100 photographs (colour and black and white) and would be a wonderful gift to take pride of place on any bookshelf.

Tear off and return with your cheque



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The CWA Collect

The Country Women's Association continues to be "of service to the country, through country women, for country women, by country women".

Its contribution to those within the rural communities Australia wide is a substantial one and the association with the Royal Melbourne Show and country agricultural Shows everywhere spans very many years.

It is with the kind permission of the Country Women's Association of Victoria through the General Secretary, Mrs. M. Struthers-Gee, that we reproduce the CWA Collect for our readers.

Keep us, O Lord, from pettiness; let us be large in thought, in word and deed.
Let us be done with fault-finding and leave off self-seeking.
May we put away all pretence and meet each other face to face, without self-pity and without prejudice.
May we never be hasty in judgement, and always generous.
Teach us to put into action our better impulses, straightforward and unafraid.
Let us take time for all things; make us grow calm, serene, gentle.
Grant that we may realize that it is the little things that create differences; that in the big things of life we are one.
And may we strive to touch and know the great women's heart common to us all; and O Lord God, let us not forget to be kind.

Marie Stuart

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OBITUARY

Frederick Eaden Selwyn Scott, M.B.E.

Council, Staff and Members were deeply saddened when advised of the death of Mr. F. E. S. Scott on 21 January, aged 87 years.

Mr. Scott became a Councillor of the RASV in September 1952 and served as Vice President from 1964 to 1968. In addition to his responsibilities as Vice President, Mr. Scott was Chairman of the Society's Sheep and Goat Committee and a member of the Beef and Dairy Cattle Committees. He was made a Life Councillor of the RASV in September 1972.

Outside his RASV activities, Mr. Scott was directly concerned in the administration of the Dorset Horn Association, the Dairy Shorthorn Association and the Australian Sheepbreeders' Association as President of each organization.

Mr. Scott was a respected judge of both Dorset Horn sheep and Dairy Shorthorn cattle, having officiated at Royal Shows in Victoria, New South Wales and South Australia.

Profitable Commercial Mohair Production

The East Gippsland Angora Mohair Production Trial is demonstrating that commercial mohair production is an economically viable proposition.

Field Day

At a field day on 30 January 1982, a one and half year old wether shorn a six months fleece weighing 2.6 kg which was valued at \$17.03. The animal weighed 39 kg off-shears and was bred by the Yarra View Stud. A two year old wether in the same trial shorn 1.75 kg valued at \$12.35. It was bred by W. L. Smith.

Ninety people who attended the field day were able to inspect the angoras before shearing and then compare the weight and quality of mohair shorn from them. Mr. A. Vanderstoep of Carrajung won the competition conducted to identify the most productive animals in the trial.

Aim of Trial

The aim of the trial was to enable producers to identify the better breed types of angora and the mohair fleece characteristics which contribute to high commercial production. It has highlighted the importance of selecting angoras with a big body, constitutionally sound, producing a fleece showing density combined with a long stylish thick staple of mohair, free from kemp.

The smaller framed angoras with pretty fleeces cut a much lower weight of mohair with lower commercial value. These animals are still considered by many breeders to be the desirable breed type.

Kemp

Mr Ian Cameron, Edlers, Melbourne, sorted and valued the fleeces during the field day and emphasised the importance of breeding fleeces free from kemp. The presence of kemp reduces the value of the mohair and increases the time to sort the fleeces into the several descriptions to obtain best market competition.

Sponsored

This trial is sponsored by the East Gippsland region of the Angora Mohair Association of Australia in association with the Department of Agriculture. It commenced in March 1981 with 50 wethers from the 1980 drop entered by Victorian and Interstate breeders. Twenty wethers from the 1979 drop from

two breeders are in the trial. These angoras were delivered to C. & J. Hall's property "Toorloo", Orbost and have run in the same paddock and received the same husbandry treatment. The trial is to run at least for two more shearings.

Crossbreds

Mr. Bob Couchman, Department of Agriculture, Melbourne, explained to those at the field day that a special type of fibre harvested from ferals and crossbreds now had a better commercial value. A Japanese processor was prepared to negotiate private sales to \$11 kg for this "cashgora" fibre — a by product of the angora breeding industry that is wasted at the moment. He had samples of fibre of various descriptions for people to inspect.

The East Gippsland mohair production trials are showing favourable results.





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What's Happening at the Show Grounds

Internationally Acclaimed Ski Show Again at Show Grounds

You would imagine that an event of international importance on the "Ski Calendar" would take place in one of the traditional homes of skiing in either Europe or North America. However, the internationally acclaimed annual Ski Show, conducted by the Victorian Ski Association and Robert Thacker — Ski Show Promotions, will again be held in Melbourne, and at the Royal Melbourne Show Grounds.

From 29 April to 2 May (inclusive) the 1982 Ski Show will occupy over 5,000 square meters in the Expo Centre and remodelled Hall of Manufactures, and will be

representative of all aspects of the exciting Ski Industry.

Equipment and Resorts

Colin Shugg from the Victorian Ski Association says that the Show has been designed to give visitors "a total concept, and understanding of what skiing is all about". And not only will there be everything in the way of equipment plus an indication of what the "nicest people will be wearing on the slopes in '82", but there is to be full information on various ski resorts and how to get there.

Entertainment

Besides the displays of equipment and clothing, visitors can see films,

enjoy other entertainments and sample some special foods and drinks.

For those wishing to exhibit their skiing prowess (or lack of it) there will be two "Movin' Mountains" or simulated ski slopes. Ski professionals will be there to offer their advice.

The 1982 Ski Show will really have everything for almost everybody. The only thing missing will be the snow... and we believe the organizers are working on this.



1982 Vintage Car Spectacular

For all of us with a yearn for the days of real motoring and a love for the vehicles that made those days so special, there is a treat in store when the Vintage Drivers' Club hold their Vintage Car "Spectacular '82" in the Meaklim Pavillion at the Show Grounds on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, May 28, 29 and 30.

Restoration

Have you ever wondered how derelict wrecks can be turned into pristine examples of the finest vintage motor cars?

It has nothing to do with magic — the restoration of a vintage vehicle is

time consuming, costly and requires great skill to re-establish the identity and originality of the vehicle.

On Friday night (28 May) "Spectacular '82" presents a Trade Night where the skills employed in the task of restoration will be demonstrated by qualified tradesmen.

Unique Opportunity

This special exhibition will provide everyone with a unique opportunity to see a whole range of vehicles, those which have been the product of mass production alongside finest examples of the coachbuilder's art.



Trash and Treasure

If you are an enthusiast and happen to be looking for spare parts for your vintage vehicle, "Spectacular '82" becomes a huge "Trash and Treasure" market on the Saturday and Sunday. Commercial exhibitors will also be on hand with stocks of new replica parts — you can avail yourself of the experts services and advice.

True enthusiast or not, the Vintage Drivers' Club "Spectacular '82" will be a fascinating experience for everyone.

2nd National Energy Expo and Conference

— *the Expo that can save Australian Industry \$1 Billion a year*

"The sum would be direct additional profit to Industry. It would certainly be easier to achieve from energy conservation than from increased products sales".

So stated Mr. M. H. Thomas of Merz & McLellan and Partners at the 1981 National Energy Conference in Sydney. He was commenting on the direct contribution to profits made by energy savings — it is conservatively estimated that Australian manufacturing industry alone could save up to \$1 Billion a year with better energy management programs.

2nd Expo and Conference

The second National Energy Expo and Conference, to be held on 25-28 May inclusive at the Royal Melbourne Show Grounds' Expo Centre and Hall of Manufactures, is a natural consequence of its predecessor which was held in Sydney last year, where more than 2,000 trade visitors saw the Expo and 300 delegates attended the Conference.

Emphasis on Energy Savings

Apart from the Expo, the three day Conference will cover all the important facets of energy with particular emphasis on practical energy savings.

The Conference theme will be "Energy — A Practical Approach" and will cover the following subjects:

- Energy monitoring and control in buildings
- Energy monitoring and control in industry
- Alternative energy options for industrial applications
- Oil, gas, coal and electricity and their respective roles
- Solar developments for industrial applications
- The sun's role in buildings and the energy environment
- Government attitudes to alternatives and conservation
- Instrumentation and control of energy
- Boiler combustion technology for efficiency and conservation
- Energy and transport
- Energy management
- The computer and energy

The Expo

The Expo will provide Companies with a market place to show Australian Industry and Commerce just how to go about saving that \$1 Billion. It will constitute the largest single gathering of modern energy technologies ever held in Australia.

Energy managers will be able to see the energy technology industry in action and gain "hand-on"

experience of the newest and most innovative energy equipment and services in Australia as well as compare a full range of product lines designed to meet big and small budgets. They will also have the opportunity to discuss their energy problems with the experts.



The National Energy Expo and Conference details who energy can be saved within industry.

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WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP EQUESTRIAN TOURS TO EUROPE 1982



Global Tours and KLM Royal Dutch Airlines have pleasure in offering two outstanding tours featuring some of the world's major international horse riding events in 1982.

Tour 1 departing June 4th, escorted by Roger Ninham will be highlighted by the World Show Jumping Championship in Dublin where our Australian team will be competing. Also included will be a visit to Aachen in Germany, and Paris, venues for two of Europe's major international show jumping events. Roger Ninham, a former Australian Olympic Oarsman is now actively involved in equestrian sports as Ex-President and currently Vice-President of the Northside Riding Club, Sydney. He also trains, spells and agists horses on his property at Cattal, west of Sydney.

Tour 2, escorted by Trevor Cooper, departs August 15th and will feature the World Dressage Championships at Lausanne in Switzerland and the World Three Day Event Championship at Lumhulen in West Germany where an Australian team will also be competing. Trevor Cooper represented Australia in New Zealand in 1974 where he won the N.Z. Main Three Day Event - the Wills National Horse Trial with his horse Namarack. He also trains thoroughbreds, one of which Hollywood Kingdom, won the 1980 Christmas Club Event in record time. In 1981 Trevor finished 4th in the Sydney Three Day Event.

Both tours not only include visits to studs but ample leisure time for sightseeing and shopping throughout Europe's most scenic areas.

ROGER NINHAM'S TOUR:

- Fri June 4: Depart Sydney
 Sat June 5: Amsterdam
 Sun June 6: Amsterdam - Opportunity to visit the Floriade Exhibition.
 Mon June 7: Amsterdam - Dublin
 Tue June 8-10: Dublin - ATTEND WORLD SHOW JUMPING CHAMPIONSHIPS.
 Fri June 11: Dublin - Free day with visit to Irish National Stud.
 Sat June 12-13: Dublin - WORLD SHOW JUMPING CHAMPIONSHIPS.
 Mon June 14: Dublin - Navan (Visit to Ashfield Stud) - Galway (Banquet at Dunguaire Castle)
 Tue June 15: Galway - Killarney (Visit cliffs of Moher and Bunratty Castle)
 Wed June 16: Killarney and The Ring of Kerry
 Thu June 17: Killarney - Cork (Visit to Blarney Castle)
 Fri June 18: Cork - Stratford-Upon-Avon (Travel via Waterford and Wales)
 Sat June 19: Stratford-Upon-Avon - London (Sightseeing the Cotswolds and Oxford)
 Sun June 20: London - Brussels
 Mon June 21: Brussels - Aachen
 Tue June 22-27: ATTEND INTERNATIONAL EQUESTRIAN COMPETITION (C.S.I.O./C.D.I.O./C.A.I.O.)
 Mon June 28: Aachen - Heidelberg (Visit Cologne and Rhine River Cruise)
 Tue June 29: Heidelberg - Black Forest - Lucerne
 Wed June 30: Lucerne - (Leisure day with optional excursions to Swiss Alps)
 Thu July 1: Lucerne - Paris - Wine tasting in Burgundy.
 Fri July 2-4: Paris - Leisure day with optional visit to a major international show event. (C.S.I.O.)
 Mon July 5: Paris - London
 Tue July 6: London
 Wed July 7: Depart London
 Fri July 9: Arrive Sydney
Cost: Tour 1 \$4,150.00 (Single room supplement \$450.00)

TREVOR COOPER'S TOUR:

- Fri Aug 13: Depart Sydney
 Sat Aug 14: Arrive Amsterdam
 Sun Aug 15: Amsterdam - Leisure day Cruise on canals.
 Mon Aug 16: Amsterdam - Opportunity to visit Floriade Exhibition.
 Tue Aug 17: Amsterdam - Rotterdam
 Wed Aug 18-22: Rotterdam - ATTEND INTERNATIONAL SHOW JUMPING & DRESSAGE EVENT (C.S.I.O./C.D.I.)
 Mon Aug 23: Rotterdam - Heidelberg - Visit Cologne and Rhine River Cruise
 Tue Aug 24: Heidelberg - Lausanne - Via Bern.
 Wed Aug 25-29: Lausanne - ATTEND WORLD DRESSAGE CHAMPIONSHIPS.
 Mon Aug 30: Lausanne - Zurich - (Via the Swiss Alps with visit to Stubben Saddletry in Stams)
 Tue Aug 31: Zurich - Hamburg
 Wed Sept 1-5: Lumhulen - ATTEND WORLD THREE DAY EVENT CHAMPIONSHIPS
 Mon Sept 6: Hamburg - London
 Tue Sept 7: London - Leisure day
 Wed Sept 8: London - Newmarket - Via Cambridge
 Thu Sept 9: Newmarket - Visits to the Gallops, the National Stud and a saddlery.
 Fri Sept 10: Newmarket - London - Afternoon free
 Sat Sept 11: London - Leisure
 Sun Sept 12: Depart London
 Mon Sept 13: Arrive Singapore
 Tue Sept 14: Singapore - Leisure day
 Wed Sept 15: Depart Singapore
 Thu Sept 16: Arrive Sydney
Cost Tour 2 \$4,175.00 (Single room supplement \$440.00)

Tours include air transportation, accommodation in first class hotels, many meals, luxury touring coach travel, sightseeing etc. Also includes costs of Equestrian Events and Show Jumping Events.

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When you are selecting the site for your next function don't forget to add the ROYAL MELBOURNE SHOW GROUNDS COMPLEX to your 'to be checked out' list.

The Show Grounds Complex comprises 16 major pavilions, a Stadium with covered grandstands that has a 2.2 hectare grassed arena and shell grit all purpose track; plus a multiplicity of other Meeting/Function Rooms, Theatrettes, Lawn Areas, Open Display Areas, Workshops and Storage Locations to suit any gathering or event; all on one self contained 27 hectare site.

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So don't forget — The Choice Is Yours. BUT until you have researched all the Show Grounds Complex has to offer then your choice has not been complete.

Telephone the Marketing Officer on (03) 376 3733 for full details.

Superfine Wool Grower Study Course

A special three-day study course for superfine wool producers will be conducted at the Melbourne College of Textiles on April 28, 29 and 30.

The course will be presented by the Australian Superfine Wool Growers' Association (ASWGA) in conjunction with the Melbourne College of Textiles and will provide instruction in the principles of management, breeding and clip preparation skills.

The Council of the ASWGA aims to maintain the excellent standards already achieved by superfine wool producers and to assist in improving these high standards which are world-renowned.

This is an in-service training course in response to requests from growers in this specialised field who

are interested in improving their production techniques. It will provide an opportunity to join with top superfine wool growers in Australia and the various experts in the Technical and Further Education field to assist growers to develop the highest standards of excellence in superfine sheep breeding and wool production.

Application forms, together with details of the course, are available from:

The Australian Superfine Wool Growers' Association,
Royal Agricultural Show-grounds,
Epsom Road,
Ascot Vale, 3032.

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Prime Lamb Field Day

*by Robert Hooper, President,
Southdown Breeders' Association*

Late last year, the South West Southdown Breeders' Group conducted a Prime Lamb Field Day on the property of Mr. Ian Marhood at Purnim.

Under the Chairmanship of Mr. Ian Smith, M.L.A., the day developed into a great forum for people who are involved in different aspects of this important industry.

The program commenced with morning tea supplied by the ladies of the South West Breeders' Group (who also supplied afternoon tea and lunch) and was officially opened by the Honourable T. L. Austin, M.P., the Victorian Minister of Agriculture, who confirmed the Victorian Government's support for the live sheep trade and expressed disappointment at the current Union attitude. He made it quite clear that the Government intended to make sure that nothing would prevent the loading of live sheep.

Mr. Andrew Finnin, State Manager of the Commonwealth Banking Corporation spoke on farm

finance, which was followed by an enlightening talk and explanation of the fat lamb futures market by Mr. Roy Muntz, Dalgety's Melbourne Manager.

Mr. Arthur Hanel of Denny's Strachan Mercantile commented on the expertise of lamb breeders in the Timboon area, stating that because lamb production in most cases is the sole form of income, producers there are very professional in their husbandry programs.

Following a barbecue lunch, the afternoon program comprised:—

— **Sheep yard design** with Miss Judy Franklin, Sheep Industry Officer, Department of Agriculture.

— **Wool shed design** with Dr. Bob Freeman, an Agricultural Engineer from the University of Melbourne.

— **Working dogs** demonstrated by Mr. Greg Harris of the "Moon Shadow" Kelpie Stud.

— **Control of internal parasites** in sheep by Dr. Robert James from the Hoechst Company.

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Show Grounds Calendar of Events

March Date	Event	Location	Admission	Times
3-31	Alcheringa Wonder Horses	Boral Pavilion	Adults \$4.50 Children \$1.50 Family \$10.	2pm Wed to Sun & 7.30 p.m. Sat
3	Dog Show	K.C.C. Centre	Free	7 p.m.
6	Dog Show	K.C.C. Centre	Free	—
6	Bushwackers Bush Dance	Centenary Hall	\$8 including supper	7.45 p.m. to midnight
7	Dog Shows	K.C.C. Centre	Free	—
6,7, & 8	Arabian Horse Show	Main Arena	—	9 a.m.
13	Rabbit Show	Poultry Pavilion	—	—
13	British Alpine Goat Show	Jersey Pavilion	—	—
14	Arabian Horse Show	Main Arena	—	12 noon
14	Open Cat Show	P.B. Ronald Pavilion	—	9 a.m.
14	Dog Shows	K.C.C. Centre	Free	9 a.m.
17	Obedience Dog Trial	K.C.C. Centre	Free	7 p.m.
21	Dog Shows	K.C.C. Centre	Free	9 a.m.
24	Dog Show	K.C.C. Centre	Free	7 p.m.
26, 27 & 28	Dog Shows	K.C.C. Centre	Free	—
April				
1-30	Alcheringa Wonder Horses	Boral Pavilion	Adults \$4.50 Children \$1.50 Family \$10	2pm Wed to Sun & 7.30 p.m. Sat
3	Bushwackers Bush Dance	Centenary Hall	\$8 including super midnight	7.45 p.m. to
3	Rabbit Show	Poultry Pavilion	—	—
3	Slavia Soccer Club Match	Main Arena	—	—
3 & 4	Dog Shows	K.C.C. Centre	Free	—
17 & 18	Dog Shows	K.C.C. Centre	Free	—
18	Arabian Horse Show	Main Arena	—	12 noon
24	Slavia Soccer Club Match	Main Arena	—	—
24	Cavies Show	Poultry Pavilion	—	—
25	Dog Shows	K.C.C. Centre	Free	—
29-2/5	Ski Show Spectacular	Expo Centre & Hall of Manufactures	Adults \$3 Unaccompanied children \$1	Thursday 6 p.m. Friday 12 noon Sat & Sun 10a.m. daily to 10 p.m.
May				
1	Bushwackers Bush Dance	Centenary Hall	\$8 including super	7.45p.m. to midnight
2	Dog Show	K.C.C. Centre	Free	—
5-30	Alcheringa Wonder Horses	Boral Pavilion	Adults \$4.50 Children \$1.50 Family \$10	2 p.m. Wed to Sun & Sat 7.30 p.m.
7-14	U.S. International Marketing Centre Exhibition	Expo Centre	—	—
8 & 9	Dog Shows	K.C.C. Centre	Free	—
8	Slavia Soccer Club Match	Main Arena	—	—
8	Rabbit Show	Poultry Pavilion	Free	—
8-16	May Fair	Amusements, Boral Lawn, Hall of Manufactures	—	9 a.m. daily
15 & 16	Dog Shows	K.C.C. Centre	Free	—
16	Bushwackers Bush Dance	Centenary Hall	\$8 inc. supper	7.45 p.m. to m'night
16	Poultry Show	Poultry Pavilion	Free	—
22 & 23	Dog Shows	K.C.C. Centre	Free	—
22	Slavia Soccer Club Match	Main Arena	—	—
22	Cavies Show	Poultry Pavilion	Free	—
25-28	2nd National Energy Expo & Conference	Expo Centre & Hall of Manufactures	—	10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
28 & 29	Cashmere Goat Show & Sale	Goat Pavilion	Free	—
29 & 30	Dog Shows	K.C.C. Centre	Free	—
28-31	Vintage Cars Market & Exhibition Spectacular '82	Meakim Pavilion	Adults \$3 Children under 12 free with adults swap & sell area \$2	Fri 7.30pm-11pm Sat 8am-6pm Sun 8am-4pm

For further details or information about any of the above events please telephone (03) 376 3733 ext 202.

What's on and Where?

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APPLICATION FORM FOR MEMBERSHIP

Date

I hereby apply for membership of the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria

If my application is accepted, I agree when entering the Showground, and during my stay therein, to wear my Membership Badge in the lapel of my coat or other prominent position where it can easily be seen by any Official

I agree to be bound by the rules and regulations of the Society from time to time in force to abide by such rules and regulations

I shall not permit my Membership Badge to be used by anyone other than myself

Signature

NAME	MR/MRS/MISS	Initials	Surname/Company Name		
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* MEMBERSHIP RATES - PLEASE TICK IN APPROPRIATE BOX AND CALCULATE AMOUNT DUE

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ONE ADDITIONAL GUEST BADGE \$16

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I hereby apply for membership as set out above and agree to be bound by the Constitution and Regulations

SIGNATURE

DATE

In the case of Company Partnership or Club, please print Nominee's name

PLEASE FORWARD THIS FORM INTACT WITH REMITTANCE TO THE DIRECTOR, ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA, ROYAL SHOWGROUNDS, EPSOM ROAD, ASCOT VALE, 3032.

PLEASE INDICATE IN WHICH SECTION(S) YOU INTEND EXHIBITING.
LEAVE BLANK IF NOT EXHIBITING.

HORSES	H
CATTLE	C
SHEEP	S
PIGS	P

GOATS	G
DOGS	D
CATS	F
OTHERS	O

- ***FULL MEMBERS** have the right to purchase up to two (2) additional Guests' badges at \$16.00 each.
- **FULL MEMBERS** may gain free admission to specific functions to be advised, held on the Showgrounds outside the Royal Show period.
- **FULL MEMBERS** requiring reciprocal privileges at Interstate Royal Shows will be required to pay for admission at the gate on their first visit (not refundable) and then must take their Full Member's Badge to the Administrative Office inside the grounds where they will be issued with one Members and one Guest pass.
- **FULL MEMBERS** receive a substantial discount for most Royal Melbourne Show entries.
- **JUNIOR MEMBERS** must be under 18 years of age on the first day of the year, age to be certified in writing by parent or schoolteacher.
- **FULL MEMBERS** have entry to Members' Grandstand Area and Members' Dining Rooms.
- **FULL MEMBERS** receive five issues of the "Royal" magazine each year.

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