

Gazette No. 211 (2016)



**The Royal Agricultural Society of New Zealand.  
(Incorporated pursuant to the Agricultural & Pastoral Act  
1908)**



**Annual Report & Statement of Financial Performance**

For the year ending March 31 2016

**THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the  
Royal Agricultural Society of New Zealand  
will be at the James Cook Hotel, Wellington**

**on Sunday 26 June. The meeting will be combined as follows - UBS/MRC/AGM,  
commencing at 8.45am.**

**AGM Business**

- Roll call of duly appointed delegates
- Consideration of the annual report, audited statement of financial performance
- Confirmation or Election of Administration Officers and members to vacancies on the Executive. Mr. Geoffrey Smith offers himself for election as President. Mr. Ian Tippet offers himself for election as President. Mr. Brent Snelllex offers himself for election as Vice President. Mrs Megan. Hawkins stood down from her co-opted position to the Equestrian executive portfolio. Mrs. Megan Hawkins offers herself for election to the Equestrian executive portfolio. Ms. Rachel Walker offers herself for election to the Legal/Constitutional/Health & Safety executive portfolio. Mrs. Melissa Jebson offers herself for the election to the Marketing & Sponsorship executive portfolio.
- Appointment of auditors
- Consideration of Recommendations and Notices of Motion.
- Annual Review of subscriptions/levies
- Special or general business
- Presentation of National Service Awards
- Presentation of Honorary Life Membership/s
- Presentation of Life Membership/s

**THE RAS ANNUAL DINNER**

To be held at the James Cook hotel in Wellington, Saturday 25 June 2016 at 7.30pm.



Thanks goes to sponsors and supporters:

	
	

**THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND**  
**Officers 2015 – 2016**

**PATRON**

His Excellency Lt Gen Rt Hon Sir Jerry Mateparae

**PAST PRESIDENTS**

Sir William Perry Kt	(1923-1931)	L.R.C. Macfarlane MC	(1931-1934)
L.J. Wild CBE. OBE	(1934-1945)	B.E. Keiller CMG	(1945-1952)
J.S. Marshall	(1952-1958)	M.S. Rennie OBE	(1958-1966)
J.H. Rutherford CBE	(1966-1972)	D.M. MacDonald	(1972-1975)
D.L. Ensor	(1975-1978)	J.L. Herrick	(1978-1980)
I.A. Barnett	(1980-1983)	T.M.R. Maskew OBE	(1983-1986)
H.D. Treadwell	(1986-1989)	J.G. Gunn MNZM	(1989-1992)
W.C. Scott ONZM	(1992-1995)	K.G. McKenzie	(1995-1998)
I.R.F. McKelvie	(1998-2002)	P.G. King	(2002-2005)
M.G. Lester	(2005-2009)	B.L. Orr MNZM	(2009-2013)

**HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS**

H.R.H. The Duchess of Kent

G.I.C. McDouall OBE (Wanganui)	1970	E.W. Sadlier (Gore)	1980
H.D. Treadwell QSM (Taupo)	1992	R.S. Mackenzie MBE MC (Akaroa)	1994
J.G. Gunn MNZM (Darfield)	1996	E.M. Chittock (Gore)	1997
H.D. Chittock (Alexandra)	1997	F.W. Arnold MNZM (Pukekohe)	1998
W.C. Scott ONZM (Morrinsville)	1999	K.G. McKenzie (Invercargill)	2002
M.F. Vernon (Christchurch)	2003	J.R. Bruce (Ashburton)	2004
I.R.F. McKelvie (Palmerston North)	2005	R F James (Springfield)	2006
K Cholmondely-Smith (Kumeu)	2006	C.J. Mason (Whangarei)	2006
W.D. Mitchell (Wyndham)	2008	N. Hutchinson (Banks Peninsula)	2009
R Tilsley MNZM (Auckland)	2010	A Paratene QSM, QPM (Orewa)	2010
B.L. Orr MNZM (Tauranga)	2013	M.G. Lester (Hawkes Bay)	2014
M McKerrow (Whangarei)	2014	P.G. King (Hawkes Bay)	2015

**PRESIDENT:** J.M Grigg (Horororata)

**VICE PRESIDENT:** G. R Smith (Pukekohe)

**IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT:**

B.L. Orr MNZM (Tauranga)

**HONORARY TREASURER:**

B Snelllex (Rangiora)

**CEO:**

D.A. Cameron (Rangiora)

**ADMINISTRATOR:**

C.M. Roberts (Oxford)

**EXECUTIVE:** Megan Hawkins (Feilding), Kelly Allison (Mosgiel), Brent Snelllex (Rangiora)

**UNITED BREEDS SOCIETY 2015 - 2016**

**CHAIRMAN:** Richard Bradly (Helensville) **EXECUTIVE:** Alan Windle (Shannon), Mark Fleming (Canterbury), Digger McCulloch (Waimate), Peter Gilbert (Ashburton).

**HORSE STEWARDS COUNCIL EXECUTIVE 2015 – 2016**

**Chairman:** Alan Windle (Shannon)

**RAS Equestrian:** Megan Hawkins (Feilding)

**Measuring Convenor:** John Fleet (Pukekohe); **Forbidden Substance Convenor:**

Megan Hawkins (Feilding); **Judge's Convenor:** Nicky Hutchinson (Banks Peninsula)

The Society also gratefully acknowledges the assistance it receives from

**HONORARY ADVISOR:**

Prof. R.A. Anderson (Palmerston North)

## **MEMBERS, FRIENDS AND SPONSORS OF THE SOCIETY**

It seems like just the other day I was giving you my report as a first year RAS President; however I now find myself at the end of my three year term. It has been a great privilege to serve as your President, and I have enjoyed working with you all.

Achievements for the year – aside from our Royal A&P Shows/Events and our competitions, which I report on later, I would have to say our stand-out achievement is our youth. While progress may be slow, it is certainly steady. Northern District have added to the Malcolm Hutchings Young Handlers Award to give their District a presence at the RAS Young Judges & Handlers Competitions. Mid Northern, Eastern and Western Districts have all brought on board some very competent young people, and they are working closely with the Districts to strengthen their youth base and assist with any competitions. Central District Youth once again hosted a youth forum for those interested in the agricultural side of things, and this was a huge success. Southern District's annual youth judging competition at Gore is gaining in both popularity and diversity, with poultry recently added to its ranks. Southern District also has the youngest Junior Vice President, who also happens to be the RAS Youth Chairperson. With the calibre of young people coming through the ranks it gives me heart to know the organisation is going to be in good hands in the years to come.

Communication continues to be our greatest strength and weakness. Recent developments with the RAS newsletter and a notification Facebook page to highlight items being placed on the RAS website, has given the RAS a whole new set of followers, who are keen to know the latest and greatest within the RAS organisation. I mention Facebook, and I will be quick to point out, that it is merely a Facebook notification page, not a page, where people can engage in conversation. Why you might ask? Not being a Facebook person myself, I can still understand the appeal of instant communication and keeping in touch with family and friends. However, sadly we have seen too many instances where the

Facebook concept has been abused, so for the time being a notification page will be the extent of our Facebook foray.

I am always intrigued when a small minority of people say to me the RAS don't appear to be listening, and I ask, "Why would you say that?" When they say "Well I forwarded feedback on such and such and my feedback hasn't been taken on board"; I remind them – the RAS is a membership organisation and democracy rules. Feedback is always tabled at the appropriate meeting, whether it be the Tutor Judges, Horse Steward's Council Executive meetings or sent out to the members for them to report back directly or through their District representatives at the Executive-District Summits. The majority consensus determines the path the organisation follows, and it just may be that your feedback is not the majority consensus. While mentioning the Executive District Summits it is timely to say these continue to be very successful and allow for a good exchange of ideas.

The RAS Constitution has been a major item for the last three years, and the final options will be tabled at conference this year for voting on. The Executive have shown due diligence to the members by passing on the legal advice that has been received. As trustees of the organisation, the Executive believed this was their responsibility to do so; however believe either constitution option (A or B) will take the organisation in to the future and hold them in good stead.

Before moving on to report on the various other activities, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the showing movement volunteers. This embraces a large group of people, who are passionate about the A&P showing movement, and wish to give back to their movement. The RAS of New Zealand is very lucky to have this support, as without these volunteers the showing movement would cease to exist.

Finally, I am pleased to report on the 2015/16 Royal A&P Events, Rural Ambassador, Junior Judging, Paraders, Golden Fleece and the South Island Dairy Heifer Competitions in the following pages.



**Hosted By:**



The 2015/2016 show season saw the return of the Royal A&P Show, New Zealand to the North Island.

This has been a huge achievement for the Hawkes Bay A&P Society, who have worked diligently at rebuilding their show to ensure the North Island competitors had a Royal Show in “their home patch.”

Thank you to the committees and volunteers for all their work and the hospitality extended. The organisation looks forward to supporting you for the next two years as the organisation’s Royal A&P Show host.



**Hosted By:**

**CANTERBURY A&P  
ASSOCIATION**

Canterbury A&P Association requested Royal Event status in the Equestrian section in support of their President, Nicky Hutchinson. This was a huge success, and Canterbury A&P Association continue to hold an excellent show overall.

Once again thanks must be given to the committee and volunteers who all make this possible.



## **RAS GOLDEN FLEECE EXHIBITION**

**Hosted By:**



Oxford A&P Association were first time hosts for this exhibition. Building on the solid base created from other host associations, Oxford excelled in their first year. Over 160 fleeces were received for judging, and there was an excellent turnout for the exhibition and the dinner that followed.

The committee and the volunteers are to be commended for all their hard work in creating this display. Thanks must also go to all of the sponsors, especially Ravensdown, who has been a long-time supporter of this particular competition.

Winners:

Strong Wool – Butler No 2 Trust, Waipawa

Fine Wool – A, D & S Paterson, Omakau



## **RAS YOUNG JUDGES & PARADERS COMPETITIONS**

**Hosted By:**



The winners were:

Dairy Young Judge – Frances Hayden

Dairy Parader – Hannah Lawson

Beef Young Judge – Lauren Knauf

Beef Parader – Ben Burgess

Meat Breeds Sheep – Kate Cummings

Merino Fleece – Scott Maultsaid

Thanks to the Hawkes Bay A&P Society for hosting the finals. These young finalists will represent NZ at the Australasian (FCAS) in Launceston in October.



**NZ RURAL  
AMBASSADOR  
AWARD**



The finals for the 2016 Rural Ambassador were held at the RAS Conference in Hawkes Bay and the overall winner Tryphena Carter will compete in Launceston with her fellow young judges and paraders in October.

2016 District winners:

Northern – Ben Burgess

Mid Northern – Zach Mounsey

Central – Georgia Davies

Southern – Tryphena Carter



**SOUTH ISLAND DAIRY  
HEIFER COMPETITION**

While to date the is competition has not extended to the North Island, it is fiercely competed for in the South Island

2015 overall winners were:

Rising 1 Year Heifers – Canterbury Region

Rising 2 Year Heifers – Canterbury Region

Special thanks go to the convenors and volunteers who put the time in to the Competition. It remains a strong supporter to the showing movement.

## **NZ NATIONAL EWE HOGGET COMPETITION**

The overall winner – Bevan and Wendy Hopcroft (Composite) - was announced at the award dinner held in Christchurch.

Congratulations to all those who entered and thanks go to the A&P Associations who support this competition. Congratulations also to NZ Sheepbreeders', administrators of the competition, for a well-run event.

The 2016 competition is well underway, and will be reported on at the RAS annual conference and in next year's annual report.

## **EQUESTRIAN SECTION**

I would like to thank our national convenors – Megan Hawkins, Nicky Hutchinson and John Fleet – along with Equestrian Chair – Alan Windle for their dedication and hard work this year. The equestrian section continues to gain momentum, which is pleasing; however this does bring its challenges at times.

Vice President, Geoff Smith has been working closely with Megan Hawkins to ensure our partnership with Equestrian Sport New Zealand (ESNZ) remains a positive and productive one. Geoff, with his business background, has been invaluable in breaking new ground with ESNZ. I would also like to thank ESNZ CEO, Vicki Glynn, who understands the showing movement, and is a very positive supporter of ours. Geoff, Megan and Vicki have been working closely together and the signing of a new Memorandum of Understanding is imminent.

This brings me to the Horse of the Year (HOY). Under new management this year HOY had its challenges across all its disciplines. Again Geoff and Megan have been working with the event management company SMC, to ensure the HOY Showing Section is the best it can be for our competitors. I would also like to take the time to thank the RAS HOY Showing committee for their dedication, and wish them well for the future years.

In finishing on commenting on the equestrian section, we must not forget the initiative of one man, Kevin Cholmondeley-Smith. Kevin, along with other passionate equestrian people in the United Kingdom and Australia, have put together an opportunity for young equestrian people to represent their country in an international event. This year the United Kingdom is the host association, followed by Australia in 2017, with New Zealand taking their turn in 2018. We wish our team – Lily Moss, Denby-Rose Tait, Maia Waretini, Chloe Roach, Tyler Porteous and Amy Sage, ably supported by team managers Kevin and Megan Hawkins, all the best and look forward to hearing of their experiences.

## **OBITUARIES**

Our sympathy is extended to the families of those Society members who have passed on during the 2015-2016 year.

## **PATRONAGE OF THE SOCIETY**

His Excellency Lt Gen Rt Hon Sir Jerry Mateparae was the Society's patron during the year, and we thank him for his ongoing support of the Society.

## **SUMMARY**

No President can survive their tenure without support from their Executive and the management staff. I have been extremely lucky in my time on the Executive and in my RAS President's term – my fellow colleagues have brought a great balance of skill sets to the RAS Executive table, and they have given me their utmost support. I know I leave the organisation in good hands, should the membership deem the reins are handed to Geoff Smith. Geoff has given his heart and soul to this organisation in very trying times. His passion to make a difference, in what some see as an organisation struggling to come to terms with the 21<sup>st</sup> century, is immense.

He will be ably supported by Vice President, Brent Snellix, who in his role as treasurer has probably one of the most difficult portfolios. Balancing the

accounts is a juggling act, and I should know, having handled that portfolio in previous years. There is no doubt that this year has been financially strained; however Brent has given the organisation a very clear picture of where the expenses have accumulated, and in the main they are one off costs, but costs that will stand this organisation in good stead for the future.

Without an Executive member holding the Sponsorship & Marketing portfolio, this has also put a strain on Executive resources. Once again Vice President, Geoff Smith has stepped in to the breach, offering his business acumen to steer us in the right direction. We have been talking to a potential major sponsor over the last year. Geoff has advised caution, and a slow and steady approach to the matter. There is potential for an excellent partnership between the RAS and this sponsor, and we need to get it right. Negotiations are continuing, and any further developments will be announced accordingly.

To Kelly Allison and Megan Hawkins – both have a great showing background in their respective sections, and their expertise and experience in these fields are greatly appreciated. They have been valued members of the Executive and have supported both myself and Geoff through the past years.

I would like to welcome Rachel Walker and Melissa Jebson, who with Kelly and Megan will form the body of the Executive for the following year. Thank you for giving your time and support to the organisation and I wish you well.

Having a head office has provided a more outward form to our organisation, as well as a more cohesive work environment. The dedication from Christine has been immense. Whether it be in the office, out drug-testing, organising the Golden Fleece, at Horse of the Year, or helping out at conferences, you will always find Christine working quietly and efficiently. The support of Wayne has also been to the organisation's benefit, especially with regard to sound systems.

I have enjoyed working with Debbie during my time in the Executive and through into official roles. She is someone who believes passionately in the organisation, and works long hours to achieve what is asked of her. The Executive only meets

occasionally, so a huge amount of the organisation's background work is left to her. Following the will of the Executive can be demanding and I have always appreciated the open communication so we all know what path we are following. Thank you for all you have done for this organisation.

Finally, I must acknowledge my most ardent supporter – my wife, Hilary, without whom I would not have been able to devote the abundance of time nor mental effort to give my very best to the organisation. Thank you for all you have done and the load you have taken whilst I have been on A&P business.

I wish the RAS all the best for the future. Be positive, look forward, not back, and always be passionate about this organisation.

**John Grigg**  
**PRESIDENT**

## **UNITED BREEDS SOCIETY**

With the prospect of a very dry El Nino weather pattern predicted, many livestock farmers went into summer with a lighter stocking rate. For most parts of the country it was an excellent summer for grass growth, leaving many with surplus feed and not enough stock on hand to control it.

It does not seem likely that the dairy payout is going to return to a profitable level in the immediate future. With two years of low payout, this does have a flow on effect to grain and dairy support grazing farmers.

With the recent conviction of a person responsible for last year's 1080 contamination threat, we have to congratulate the police for their role in this investigation. It does remind us of the importance of border security to maintain the success of our livestock industry.

With social media so freely available we all have to be vigilant in regard to animal welfare. It is so easy for the news media to give a one sided impression without knowing all the facts.

I would like to thank all breeders who prepare animals and compete at shows. Your support is very much appreciated by the public and the show committees.

I wish all breeders a good calving and lambing season and favourable winter weather.

**Richard Bradly**  
**Chairman**

## **ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF NZ TREASURER'S REPORT**

The following report to members is on the financial outcomes for the Society for the period ending 31 March 2016. For the last two years the Society has returned a financial surplus, however this year has seen a considerable amount of expenditure in a number of one-off areas which has meant that we have ended the year with the first financial loss in 3 years.

This year we are required to meet the new Charities Commission financial reporting standards by providing a consolidated set of accounts, which includes the financial performance of each of our Districts, the meeting of this new reporting standard has added to our administration and consultancy costs across the organisation.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

Life membership as of the 31 March 2016 stood at 750 members. There are 2 Corporate memberships, and 168 Breed, Kindred and A & P Society memberships.

### **SUBSCRIPTIONS**

As in the past we continue to credit 5 percent of the life members fund to the current account which will assist in meeting the cost associated with servicing life members.

### **INVESTMENTS/SHARES**

The investment and share portfolio remains steady with a slight value increase compared to last year.

### **OVERALL INCOME/EXPENDITURE**

As noted above, this year we have seen a number of one-off expenses that have made the difference between the present financial loss and what would have been another positive return. Those costs include:

- \$19,000 legal expenses – one off costs of the Constitution (\$7,000) and trademark opposition to the Auckland Easter Show being the balance.
- \$8,000 increase in printing & stationery which is mainly attributed to the reprint of the equestrian rulebook and the reprinting the Red Judge's Manual.
- \$2,000 increase in postage primarily to send out rulebook and judges manuals.
- Increases in consultancy and the addition of the new MYOB system not only added to our costs but have contributed to our meeting the new financial reporting standards.
- Alongside these one-off costs \$15,000 cash was placed on deposit to assist in future funding options.

The Income for the Society was again slightly down when compared to last year, one area showing a reasonable reduction was equestrian levies, where a reduction of \$10,000 has been seen this year compared to last. While this reduction in levies is noted, the Equestrian section continues to provide a major contribution to the Society as a whole. When we return to a positive financial outcome next year, this contribution must again be recognised through the provision of an equestrian rebate back to the Districts.

### **FUTURE PLANNING**

While the one-off costs this year have contributed to a negative performance for the Society for the first time in 3 years, the current Executive are mindful that future financial planning for the organisation is vital. While work is under way to secure a long-term partner that will be a good fit with the organisation, this cannot be our sole ambition. There must be a solid plan behind the sponsorship activities to ensure the organisation remains vital and vibrant, and we must strive to develop revenue opportunities, both existing and new, to ensure that the organisation advances over the coming years. We must also not forget to give back to our A&P Shows and Breed Societies – if they are healthy, the RAS will be healthy.

## **SUMMARY**

May I take the opportunity to thank our Chief Executive Officer, Debbie Cameron; Administrator, Christine Roberts, and the members of the Executive for their superb on-going commitment to our Society.

To the Executive thank you also for your support of the Chief Executive Officer and Treasurer, we continue to operate in what is sometimes a challenging environment in an effort to ensure the long term benefit of the Society. To our President John Gregg, who has not only performed a superb leadership role for the Society over the last 3 years, he has done so without accepting his honorarium to assist at any stage – thank you John and Hilary for your valuable contribution to our Society.

Mr. President, I formally move the adoption of the audited financial statements for the year ended 31st of March, 2016.

**Brent Snelllex**

**Treasurer**