

CONFERENCE DAY 2 DELEGATES PRESENT

Kelly Allison (RAS Executive, Tokomairio A&P, Life Member), Maria Barta (Southern District), Heather Brake (Rotorua A&P), Kylie Brewer (Galloway Society), Ben Burgess (UBS Chair), Debbie Cameron (RAS CEO), Diane Chesmar (Central District), Wendy Collin (NZ National H&P), Simon Collin (Hawkes Bay A&P), Sharon Cook (Northern Chair), Leanne Cook (Northern District), Louellen Davies (Mid Northern District), Mary Davis (Western District), Christine Fowles (Purebred Jersey / Marlborough A&P), James Fox (Southern District), Mark Fleming (Beef Breeds Chair), Stephanie Gowing (Whangarei A&P), John Grigg (RAS Past President), Rob Hall (Gore A&P), Sophie Hansen (Masterton A&P), Fe Howie (Upper Clutha A&P, Life Member), Jennifer Huddleston (Central Otago A&P), Melissa Jebson (RAS Executive), Jackie Kelly (Southern District, Life Member), Trevor Latimer (Western District), Michelle Mair (Pony Breeders), Chris Mason (Whangarei A&P, Hon. Life Member), Emmy Maxwell (Cheviot A&P), Duncan McArthur (Temuka Geraldine A&P), Malcolm McKerrow (RAS Executive), Helena McLeod (HSCEX Chair), Bruce McRobbie (Mid Northern District), Maxine Mulligan (Clean Sport Convenor), Cara O'Connor (RAS Executive), Brad Powell (Manawatu A&P), Christine Roberts (RAS Admin., Oxford A&P, Life Member), Annette Robinson (Nelson A&P), Sam Rutherford (Central District), Philippa Sanders (Black & Coloured Sheep), Anne Scott (Auckland A&P), Andrea Scott, David Scott (Life Member), Geoff Smith (RAS Executive, Life Member), Mike Smith (Southland A&P, Life Member), Brent Snelllex (RAS Vice President), Jane Stalker (Upper Clutha A&P), Ian Stevenson (Sheep Breeds Chair), Leigh Taylor (Te Kauwhata A&P), Lyn Tetenburg (Rotorua A&P), Gilbert Timms (Perendale Sheep, Cheviot Sheep, Life Member), Diana Timms (Horowhenua A&P), Jill Timms (Horowhenua A&P), Ian Tippet (Southern District), Rachel Walker (RAS Vice President), Anne Watts (Clevedon A&P), Alan Windle (NZ Riding Pony), Kay Worthington, Philip Worthington (Lowline Cattle).

RAS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

CHANCELLOR 1

Sunday 20 June 2021

1. **President's Welcome:** Brent Snellex
2. **Secretary for Meeting:** Debbie Cameron
3. **Apologies:** Shona Addison, Tryphena Carter, Garry Dodd, Marie Fitzpatrick, Hilary Grigg, Sally Jackson, Vicki Jagersma, John Jebson, Paula McIraith.
Moved: Apologies be accepted.
P Worthington/M Jebson **CARRIED**
4. **Obituaries**
Northern District: Mrs. Linzi Jobbitt, Ms. Fiona King, Mr. Roddy West, Ms. Jan Hopkins
Mid Northern District:
Eastern District: Mr. Jim & Mrs. Barbie Heard, Mrs. Rose Tweedie, Mrs. Gwyneth Fairbrother
Western District: Mr. Ian McCormick, Mrs. Molly Kroon, Mr. Fred Gorton, Mr. Keith Bennett, Mr. Rod Polton, Mrs. Melda Gibson, Mr. David Law, Mrs. Molly Akers
Central District: Mrs. Julie Adamson, Mr. Peter Fleming, Mr. Noel Wood, Mrs. Margaret Salkeld, Mr. Arnold van Asch, Mrs. Felicity Nublely
Southern District: Mr. Charles Albert (Bert) Bell, Mrs. Donna Smith.

A minute's silence was held to acknowledge the obituaries.
5. **Minutes of the RAS Annual General Meeting**
Held 22 June 2019, as circulated in Gazette No 218 (2019), pages 57-61.
Moved: The minutes of the 22 June 2019 be approved as a true and accurate record.
G Smith/M Fleming. **CARRIED**
6. **Matters arising from those minutes**
7. **Notice of any Item to be discussed under General Business, not on this Agenda.**
B McRobbie – nomination of Executive.
8. **President's Report**
Report as per Gazette No.219 (2020) and Gazette No 220 (2021), to be received and/or adopted, as necessary.
Moved: President's report be taken as read and adopted.
B Snellex/C O'Connor. **CARRIED**
9. **Treasurer's Report**
Annual Report and Statement of Financial Performance for the year ended March 31, 2020, and 2021 as per Gazette No. 219 (2020) and Gazette No. 220 (2021) respectively.

Sponsorship Equestrian Youth - \$0.00
Sponsorship/Fund Raising Youth Activities - \$0.00

M McKerrow acknowledged and apologised for some minor errors within 2021 report hence the two overlays in the hard copy reports. The report on the RAS website is the correct copy. The suggested re-wording came via the auditor which reinforces the strength of having a quality audit and auditor.

This financial year has been a difficult one for all – uncertainty around income therefore steps were taken to cut back the expenses. The share portfolio had not been reviewed in some time, so a review was undertaken. While the PGG Wrightson shares had been written off, the rest of the portfolio had shown a good return. The decision around the Strategic Review coincided nicely with the share review and selling the shares paid for Stage 1 of the Strategic Business Review.

Moved: Treasurer's report be adopted.

M McKerrow/P Worthington

CARRIED

The matter of uncollected equestrian levies was discussed at the equestrian meeting. Shows must pass on levies collected and levies are applied across all equestrian sections (reference rule EEFSL 1 b). Some shows are either not collecting or not passing on the levies. The Executive are tasked with applying the rules. If the integrity of the A&P is brought into disrepute that is their business. However, when it links to the RAS it becomes the business of the RAS and Executive. The RAS treasurer asked for a mandate from the meeting to follow up any outstanding levies.

Moved: The meeting charge the Executive to enforce the current rule and to take the necessary steps to follow up any outstanding levies.

M McKerrow/P Worthington.

CARRIED

Question as to whether the levies are showing in the current revenue stream and whether the amount outstanding is significant? No, on both counts.

Question – B McRobbie asked for clarification around district rebates not being paid out to the end of the season as this is not what had been reported at the Mid Northern AGM. M McKerrow replied that he had qualified his remark at the AGM and when all information was available the decision had been made (and reported in the treasurer's report) not to pay out until the end of the season.

M Mulligan thanked M McKerrow for his efforts, a treasurer's role is never an easy one.

10. Honorary Life Membership Nominations

Nomination for Mr. John Grigg - The citation, page 51, was read by Melissa Jebson and the motion put.

Moved: G Smith/M Jebson.

CARRIED

RAS President, Brent Snellix presented John with his Honorary Life Member's badge along with the RAS Gold Medal.

Mr. John Grigg thanked the members and said it was a privilege and an honour to be recognised in this way. He had put his heart and soul into his time with the organisation and always concentrated on the points of discussion rather than personalities. He certainly utilised this to good effect when dealing with bureaucratic red tape surrounding the Incorporated Societies discussion. He had enjoyed conference and meeting the members again. He applauded the work being done and

hoped it would result in the Royal Agricultural Society being around for another 100 years plus.

11. Election of Officers

Patron – Right Honourable Dame Patsy Reddy. Current Patron for her term as Governor General. Noted term coming to an end in October and the new governor General will be Dame Cindy Kiro.

President – Current term remains for Mr. B Snelllex.

Vice President – Current term remains for Ms. Rachel Walker.

Tabled and noted.

12. Election of Executive – 3 positions available, 4 nominations received.

Mrs. Maria Barta

Nominee 1 – Mrs. Jackie Kelly, Life Member

Nominee 2 - Palmerston/Waihemo A&P

Mr. Malcolm McKerrow

Nominee 1 - Hawkes Bay A&P

Nominee 2 – Mrs. Chris Mason, Hon. Life Member

Ms. Cara O'Connor retired by rotation.

Ms. O'Connor offered herself for re-election.

Nominee 1 - Mr. Brent Snelllex, RAS President

Nominee 2 - Mrs. Melissa Jebson, RAS Executive Member

Mr. Alan Windle

Nominee 1 – Upper Clutha A&P

Nominee 2 – Lake County A&P

As per 7.4 (e), the RAS Executive resolved to hold a postal ballot for the election of the Executive as per 7.4 (f). The Executive have nominated an independent scrutineer and the votes will be counted by the Chief Executive in their presence. The results will be reported at conference.

RAS President announced the successful candidates as being Maria Barta, Malcolm McKerrow, and Cara O'Connor. Executive badges were presented to all three. Congratulations to all parties.

Election of Horse Steward's Council Executive

Chairperson – current term remains for Ms. Helena McLeod.

Measuring Convenor – nomination for Ms. Stephani Mann.

Nominee 1 - NZ Carriage Society.

Nominee 2 – Mrs. Wendy Collin, Eastern District Chair.

There being no other nominations, Ms. Mann is duly elected.

Clean Sport Convenor – current term remains for Mrs. Maxine Mulligan.

Judge's Convenor – no nominations received.

Election of UBS Council Executive

Chairperson – nomination for Mr. Ben Burgess

Nominee 1 - NZ Hereford Society

Nominee 2 – Mr. Brent Snelllex, RAS President

There being no other nominations, Mr. Burgess is duly elected.

Beef Breeds Chair – current term remains for Mr. Mark Fleming

Dairy Breeds Chair – current term remains for Mr. Kelly Allison

Sheep Breeds Chair – nomination for Mr. Ian Stevenson
Nominee 1 - Merino Breed Society
Nominee 2 – Dorset Down Society
There being no other nominations, Mr. Stevenson is duly elected.
Equestrian Breeds Chair – nomination for Mrs. Diane Chesmar
Nominee 1 - NZ Standardbred Association
Nominee 2 – NZ Pinto Society
There being no other nominations, Mrs. Chesmar is duly elected.

Tabled and noted. Congratulations to all parties elected.

13. Appointment of Auditor

The Executive recommends that the AGM agree to appoint Ashton Wheelan & Hegan as auditors for the 2021/2022 year.

Moved: The auditors for 2021/22 year be Ashton, Wheelans & Hegan.

M McKerrow/G Smith.

CARRIED

14. Review of any levies/fees

14.1 Measuring Fees – the RAS Executive resolved to hold any CPI increase for this season however, fees will be reviewed for the 2022/23 season.

14.2 Equestrian levy – the RAS Executive resolved to hold any increase for this season however, fees will be reviewed for the 2022/23 season.

14.3 A&P Association/Events Membership Fee – the RAS Executive resolved to hold any increase for this season however, fees will be reviewed for the 2022/23 season.

14.4 Breed/Kindred Society Membership Fee – the RAS Executive resolved to hold any increase for this season however, fees will be reviewed for the 2022/23 season.

14.1 -14.4 tabled and noted.

15. Consideration of any Notices of Motion, Business or Proposed Resolution of which notice has been given. None tabled.

16. Discussion on recommendations from Equestrian Meeting or United Breed Society Meeting. No further discussion.

17. Report on remits – none received due to Strategic Review being undertaken at present. Tabled and noted.

18. Acknowledgement of Service Achievement Awards

2020 District Service Awards (already presented)

Northern –

Mid Northern -

Eastern – Mr. Max Morton

Western –

Central -

Southern – Mr. William Mitchell

2021 District Service Awards (already presented)

Northern –
Mid Northern -
Eastern -
Western – Mr. Alan Windle
Central -
Southern –

19. General Business

- 19.1 Brought through from discussions last year – suggest conference is held at Wellington and Christchurch on alternate years.

Rationale: In most situations this will mean one flight for conference delegates and accordingly be more economical.

This is a suggestion for delegates to consider and to be brought back to the table next year.

S Rutherford, on behalf of Central District, invited delegates to attend conference in Christchurch next year.

- 19.2 B McRobbie raised the matter of why his nomination was not accepted for the Executive when portfolios were no longer the basis of the elections. B Snelllex replied that he had already had this discussion with B McRobbie at the time nominations were being called for. Despite portfolios being withdrawn from the election basis, it had been clearly signalled the Executive were seeking skills based members, who would be required to oversee a portfolio, there is even a view that perhaps there should be some independents included as well. B Snelllex had asked B McRobbie to consider whether he was suited for the Executive or one of the Working Groups to be established. (B McRobbie chose to withdraw his nomination for the Executive.)

- 19.3 D Scott advised it had been a constructive day yesterday and requested a recap on some of the points around the Working Groups.
- Community Hubs (Rachel Walker) – where an organisation has facilities or assets, sharing ideas to be able to utilise these to their full extent. Short term group.
- People (Rachel Walker) – likely a group that will continue for some time. Initially concentrating on working with volunteers, provide some examples of job descriptions, basic training material for the members.
- Event & Business Optimisation (Malcolm McKerrow) – firstly concentrating on the event side of things, how to measure the success of the event, set up mentoring group to assist A&P's, identify and run two (2) case studies that are struggling.
- Digital Optimisation (Brent Snelllex) – currently only has 3 people but has been approached by S Rutherford, K Russell & F Howie since S Bramley's presentation. This is a major challenge and will be a matter of scoping and determining what we need.
- All the above groups welcome further interest.
- Equestrian Review Committee (Cara O'Connor) – 7 applications received, all accepted. Good cross section of people including competitors, judges, show convenors and breeders. First zoom call has occurred to meet and greet and establish common ground and principles. Digital optimisation features strongly. Survey monkey will be a key tool.
- Other Working Groups to be established – Royal Show/Events, Golden Fleece, Rural Ambassador, Young Judges, Next Generation.

19.4 Various – R Hall raised the following:

- People do not connect A&P's and RAS – why is not referred to as RAPS?
- Why run Rural Ambassador at conference? If it were run separately they could attend all parts of conference.
- Needs more time, conference could be extended to include sharing of ideas, “chewing the fat” as referred to in Southern (M McKerrow raised the point the reason conference is run the way it is, is because members already say it is too expensive).
- How do we get the Breed Societies involved?
- Why is conference on at the same time as the Field Days? Considering RAS represents Rural Excellence shouldn't we be there? (B Snellex advised Field Days had changed their date.)
- Paid up life member but not able to vote through the postal vote system (B Snellex advised the post ballot had been utilised as it was important COVID did not prevent an election process for the Executive).

Meeting closed at 12.10pm.

Citation for Mr John. Grigg

John Grigg is a fifth-generation farmer from Hororata and runs an 844ha mixed cropping and sheep farm. His involvement with the Royal Agricultural Society has been across all levels – local, district and national.

John joined the Canterbury A&P Show Committee in 1990 after being nominated by Mr Roddy McKenzie. Initially he was on the sheep committee but then moved to the horse committee and served many years as ringmaster. In 2010, John was the President of the Canterbury A&P Association.

In 1994, John was encouraged to attend his first national RAS Conference by Chris Wright, where John was elected South Island Vice Chairman of the RAS Horse Stewards Council. He went on to become the chairman in 1999.

In 1996, John joined the RAS Central District Council as a councillor. He served three terms including time as the chairman of their equestrian committee as well as the District Chair. He was also the convener of the FMG Rural Excellence Award (in commemoration of A.C Cameron) within the Tasman area from 1999 – 2003.

John has always been a forward thinker and prepared to make changes for the betterment of any organisation he supports. He was instrumental in preparing the RAS Equestrian Rulebook along with fellow committee members Barbie Heard, Pat Dobbin, Nicky Hutchinson, and Kevin Cholmondeley-Smith. The preparation of the equestrian rules took two years - 1998 and 1999. In 2000, at the RAS Conference in Auckland the rulebook was tabled and adopted by the members. The rulebook continues to be at the heart of our current equestrian showing competition.

John also assisted in the development of the modern Equestrian Performance Card which was accepted at the Queenstown Conference in 2002. A modified version of this card is still used by our equestrian exhibitors today.

In 2004, John was elected on to the RAS Executive. He served two terms as an Executive member and in 2010 was elected as the RAS Vice President. In 2013 John became the President of the Royal Agricultural Society and he served until 2016. During his time as President, John worked with representatives of the NZ Government to ensure the RAS retained the 1908 A&P Act. The A&P Act is the founding document for the Showing Sector and its importance cannot be underestimated.

It has been the intention of the current Executive to put John forward for Honorary Life Membership for the last few years however life never seems to work out as expected. Last year COVID put paid to any plans, so the Executive are delighted to have the opportunity this year to put forward the nomination. Mr. Geoff Smith Immediate Past President nominates John and I, Mrs. M Jebson, am honoured to second that nomination.

“Mrs. Hilary Grigg could not be with us today, and offers her apologies but she is wholly with you from the other side of the world”, Mrs. M Jebson.