



The Royal

The Official Journal of
The Royal Agricultural Society
of Victoria

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1979 ANNUAL REPORT & NOTICE OF
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
SHOW SCHEDULES: ARTS & CRAFTS,
FARM & DAIRY PRODUCE.

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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

I have been surprised at the number of people who have commented to me on the remarks I made on this page in our December issue, regarding the important contribution the farming community makes to the national economy, and how the really top, expert farmers go along unrecognised in Australia, compared to those professionally qualified in other fields.

To continue along that vein; while attending our recent field days, I met with some of the progressive young managers in the Western District, and what applies to them would apply equally to farmers in the 30-40 years age group in all parts of the State. Many of this group are tremendous farmers, real experts in three or four areas of farming and most capable in every facet of their management, and also in what's going on in the world today.

Some of them are products of Farm Management Colleges, some are from Young Farmer Clubs (and this Society is proud of its close association with the V.Y.F.), but all of them are prepared to question former accepted principles, and are ready with great energy, to try new ideas and methods. Most are running investments equal in value to a large engineering company, or an important trucking company, but in this country their fame is only noticed in their own district. I "dips me lid" and we all should, to this new generation of outstanding farmers.

I have been very touched by the vast number of letters and messages, some from mere acquaintances, which came in after the announcement of the New Year Honours. One does not take on a job like President of the R.A.S.V. to be given awards — it is indeed an honour in itself — nevertheless I am proud, both for the Society and myself, and gratified by everyone's kindness. I would also like to think that the Government in recommending this award show they recognise the important role of this Society in the State of Victoria.

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Sir Zelman Cowen, A.K.,
G.C.M.G., K.St.J., Q.C.

Official Opening Address – 1979 Royal Melbourne Show

By His Excellency Sir Zelman Cowen,
A.K., G.C.M.G., K.St.J., Q.C.,
Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia

As mentioned in the President's Annual Report, we are proud to reproduce below, the address by Sir Zelman Cowen, on the occasion of the Official Opening of the 1979 Royal Melbourne Show.

I am delighted to perform the Official Opening of this 123rd Royal Melbourne Show. It was the Show to which I looked forward as a small city boy growing up in Melbourne, and I came here in many years in the latter 1920's and 1930's, and I retain a vivid memory of the things that boys remember about shows. As a city boy, it gave me a glimpse of the agricultural and rural sector which has always been and continues to be of great importance to the life of this country. I now come back, I think, with a greater measure of understanding, because in the years since we left Melbourne in 1966, I have had much greater experience of and insight into the rural sector of our national life. From 1967 until the beginning of 1970, I lived in Armidale, New South Wales, and came to know that area well, and I

was Vice Chancellor of the University of New England, which is the rural Australian university, with great strengths in rural and agricultural disciplines. Then for the next eight years, my home was in Queensland, and as Vice Chancellor of the University of Queensland, which has great strengths in rural disciplines, I think that I expanded my knowledge and I travelled widely in non-metropolitan areas of the State. And since I have been Governor-General, I have increased my experience and knowledge of the rural sector. I have opened shows in some of our great cities; I have done so in rural areas, and I keep on learning. Recently I opened the Bathurst Show and in preparing for that I came upon a statement by my predecessor, Lord Casey, when he opened the Hundredth Bathurst Show. In the course

of his speech, he asked the question: What is a Show?, and I think that his answer bears repeating here.

"It is (he said) a feeling of achievement an exhibitor has in winning a blue ribbon. It is a feeling of exhilaration a rodeo star has when he stays aboard his horse. It is a feeling of pride a businessman has in showing his products, of competition by a side show man in luring the crowds his way, of delight a little girl has with her first piece of fairy floss, of wonder a small boy has as he gazes skywards at the ferriswheel. It is a feeling of happiness a family has in enjoying so much together. It is a feeling of accomplishment felt by everyone who works so hard to make the Show a success."

I am sure that that will strike many responsive chords. The President and Council of the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria are to be congratulated on their achievement on the occasion of this 123rd Show. They work very hard, in a long and proud tradition, to promote the development of all aspects of the agricultural, pastoral, horticultural, viticultural, manufacturing and industrial resources of the State. They sponsor and hold competitions to stimulate efficiency of production in every possible phase of rural life and activity, and this is the central purpose of this great Show. The Show is justly described as the "display window" of rural Victoria: it is a splendid means of telling that story to the city and its dwellers. Last year, almost 863,000 people attended this Show; there were then more than 39,000 entries in more than 85 separate competition sections. The Dog Section which drew 7,500 entries is the largest dog show in Australia and is believed to be the biggest in the Southern hemisphere.

The Show provides the financial resource for the Society to carry on the wide range of activities provided for in its Charter. So it holds State-wide farm management competitions, competitions for commercial beef herds, dairy herds and sheep flocks in Victoria. It is joined in this work by the Victorian Agricultural Societies' Association, and the Victorian Department of Agriculture plays an important part, particularly by providing advice and expertise in the adjudication field. There are well attended farm field days. Then the Society provides support, through secretaries, for a very wide range of organisations. It is important, I believe, to say this to make the point that the Royal Agricultural Society works continuously throughout each and every year to fulfil the obligations set out in its Charter.

This year, in preparing for the Show it has faced particular difficulties because of the destruction by fire of the Dairy Industry Pavilion early in May. The Council moved speedily to rebuild: excellent progress was made — at no small cost.

The story of the Australian rural sector has been a happier one in the last two years. The most recent Quarterly Review of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, published last month, forecasts that for 1979-80 the gross value of farm production will rise marginally to a new record of \$10,450 million. Average income per farm is estimated at \$25,800, a little down on last year, though over half of Australia's farmers will be below this average. The improved incomes are confined largely to the grazing and cropping industries. The calculations reflect an expectation that export demands for grains and for livestock products, particularly meat, will be strong this year. The rise in average prices for wheat, livestock, and livestock products, is estimated to more than offset the estimated 11% drop in output. Wool production is estimated to rise to a four-year high level. While, as I have said, the producers in the rural sector who are most likely to benefit are those in the grazing and grain areas, some gains are also expected for dairy, sugar and some fruit producers.

Let me turn from the Australian to the Victorian scene. Early this year, Victoria delivered a record wheat harvest of more than three million tonnes; barley was at a record level of 460,000 tonnes, and oat crops were also heavy. In the crop field there is encouraging and successful diversification into oil seed, rape, sunflowers and lupins. These are profitable; they also improve soil fertility. Likewise in the pastoral industries, beef growers have enjoyed renewed prosperity, and there have been encouraging developments in the dairying, sheep and woolgrowing industries. The pattern of reduction in numbers of farms persists, but this is matched by increased production; science, technology and improved management techniques contribute to this. This is particularly evident in the dairying industry where there have been dramatic reductions in the number of farmers over the last 25 years, but high skills in herd management have done much for this industry. This is assisted by courses conducted by the Department of Agriculture for the dairy industry and indeed for

other rural areas. In all areas: in wool, in animal industries generally, in the cropping industries there is an emphasis on greater efficiency; through increase of knowledge and improved management, with a keen eye to the formidable problems of cost control.

Much of course depends upon the season. In mid winter there was a worry about rain and pastures were deteriorating; I am told that more recent rains have been very beneficial and yield promise of a good spring. With anything like an average finish in September and October, Victoria should have a good year. This is important and makes a significant contribution to the economy.

That, in very brief compass, is a statement of the current rural situation and it is good to be able to report it. It remains for me to congratulate the President, Mr. R.T. Balderstone, and his Council on their continuing efforts on behalf of the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria. I now have a much better picture than I had when I was a boy enjoying this Show of the extent of the work that goes into the organisation and preparation of this Show; and it is important to stress once again that this is but one very important aspect of continuing and ever increasing work by the Society. Mr. Balderstone and I share a common school experience at Scotch College, Melbourne, and since then, unlike me, he has had wide experience in the primary industry field and he is well equipped to lead this long established and distinguished Agricultural Society.

I have much pleasure in declaring this 123rd Royal Melbourne Show open and I wish it great success.



OUR COVER

BALALAIKA KALINKA, the Supreme Australian Pony Exhibit at the 1979 Victorian Stud Pony Show — Bred by Mrs. G. Brennan of Cranbourne South and owned by B. & M. Chaundy of Tooradin North.

Results of 1980 Victorian Stud Pony Show appear in this issue of the "Royal".

The Scots School

BATHURST

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The Science Wing completed in 1974 contains three Laboratories, Preparation Rooms and a Mathematics centre.



The front gates and drive.



Looking from the Science Wing across the Quadrangle. The School Farm buildings are seen in the distance.



A view of the front of the Aikman Hall seen from the side of the Swimming Pool.



The Science Wing offers excellent facilities for study.



Small classes and a high degree of individual attention.



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The Farm Mechanics and Welding Workshop.

APPLICATIONS FOR ENROLMENTS MAY NOW BE MADE FOR 1981 & FUTURE YEARS

FOUNDATION AND HISTROY

The Scots School owes its foundation to Scots College, Bellevue Hill, which evacuated a number of its junior boys to Bathurst during World War II.

The foundation of The Scots School dates from 1946, when the present Council assumed control and management following the closing of the Scots College Branch School.

The School has grown around "Karralee", the original homestead of the Lee family, who were pioneers in the Bathurst District.

The School is a Presbyterian Church foundation for both boarders and day boys and is a member of the Western Associated Schools Amateur Athletic Association.

ITS AIMS

To provide the highest standard of secondary school education in its most modern and liberal sense, leading to University or other tertiary education, to commerce, agriculture or the trades.

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J.R. HUNTER, M.A. (CANTAB) M.A.C.E., HEADMASTER

Our President Receives the C.M.G.

THE SOCIETY'S President, Mr. R.T. Balderstone, M.C., was awarded the C.M.G. by Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, in the New Year's Honors, for his service to the society.

Mr. Balderstone was elected to Council in 1971 and became a Vice President two years later. His contribution to the Society through his membership of the Beef and Fat Cattle Committee, the Finance and Animal Nursery Committees has been of great benefit to the Society. He also served as Chairman of the Media, Public Relations and Advertising Committee from 1975 until succeeding Mr. P.B. Ronald, C.M.G., as President in March 1977.

As President, Mr. Balderstone has overseen important change within the Society, an outward expression of this being an extensive rebuilding and improvement programme on the Royal Melbourne Show Grounds. This has included the completion of the Victorian Government Pavilion and K.C.C. Dog Complex, the construction of the magnificent P.B. Ronald Arts and Crafts Pavilion and Dairy Industry Pavilion, the original Dairy Pavilion having been destroyed by fire in May 1979.

Following distinctive service as a member of the 2/6th Australian Commando Squadron in the Second World War, during which he was awarded the Military Cross while fighting in New Guinea, Mr. Balderstone returned to the family property at Moulamein for 12 months before managing "Aratula", another family holding at Tocumwal where he stayed for seven years.

In 1954, Mr. & Mrs. Balderstone purchased "Koonje", a property at Ballangeich near Warrnambool and developed a successful grazing enterprise in addition to a top commercial herd of Angus/Beef Shorthorn Cattle, a fine flock of Corriedale sheep and Fat Lambs.

As the Executor of his brother-in-law, Mr. John Glenn, he supervised "North Yathong" Station, Jerilderie until this property was sold in October 1979.



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

Apart from the demanding duties imposed on him by his Society office, Mr. Balderstone involves himself in other varied fields of Community life. A firm believer in Youth and Service Organizations, he was President of Geelong Legacy Club in 1978/9.

His keen interest in youth and their educational advancement, particularly in the field of agriculture, is exemplified by his occupation of a position on the Council of the Marcus Oldham Agricultural College, where he currently chairs its Farm Advisory Committee and is a member of the College's Endowment Fund Committee.

Mr. Balderstone is a Director of Dennys Strachan Mercantile which, when combined with all other demands on his time as indicated above, must leave very little time for relaxation on his property at Wallington near Geelong.

It is with pride and the expression of "well done" that Society members, Council and Staff offer their sincere congratulations to Mr. Balderstone on his achievement of this high honour.

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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

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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

--

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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 trotting meetings and 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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A further milestone in the success story of the PORT-A-STALL system has just been completed in the Wallgrove areas of Sydney. PORT-A-STALL have just completed an installation of 106 stables and 6 indoor exercise arenas for the Quarantine Department, built under the supervision of the Department of Construction.

The building consists of seven blocks of stalls, 1 containing 10 stalls fully air-conditioned, for re-acclimatising horses brought in from different climates of the world. The remaining six blocks are standard 12'X12' PORT-A-STALL units and contain a number of 12'X20' mare and foal stalls or stallion boxes. These blocks are also insulated and have a number of new features that make PORT-A-STALL the premier stabling system in Australia.

The company have also just completed building complexes for Mr. Vic Moffat of Twin Springs Stud, Toowoomba and Mr. Lionel Israel's Sedgenhoe Stud at Scone.

Mr. Moffat's complex consists of 22 stalls and has the benefit of half grill walls for the horses to view their stable mates. Mr. Israel has also chosen to include half grill walls in his complex of 12 stables on Sedgenhoe. As you well know, Mr. Israel has recently purchased the magnificent "Yallah Native" from the U.S.A. for one million dollars.

Other stall complexes recently completed by this progressive company have been the Riverina Agricultural College, Wagga, additions to Mr. Hugh

Deakin's veterinary surgery in Moss Vale, Mr. Cliff Vincent's Charleston Stud, Braidwood and Max McTaggart's Quarter horse stud, 'El Grando' at Benalla. The success of the PORT-A-CALL stabling system amongst our equestrian fraternity is also proven by the re-orders received, such as Mr. William Isaacs of Wyong and Mr. Robert Parsonage of 'Edgewood Park Stud' near Singleton.

Adding further to the success of PORT-A-STALL is a second major order placed by the Australian Jockey Club, Randwick for a Barn of stalls. This Barn will comprise 40 stables plus Feed and Tack rooms, wash and toilet rooms and a mess room.

This order was only formally received by PORT-A-STALL on 19 December 1979, the project to be completed by 28 February, 1980 for use by visiting trainers and owners for the Rich Autumn Racing Carnival, which the Australian Jockey Club will be holding at Easter time in Sydney.

We look forward to bringing you news in the near future of a number of very important building complexes currently under negotiation.

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FARMING

The Outlook for the Next Decade

By Kenneth Baxter



Computerized farming, cloning of stock, no more small family farms, and grain replacing oil as the world's strategic commodity, are among Kenneth Baxter's predictions for agriculture in the next decade. He also sees this period as an exciting one for Australian agriculture.

We wish to express our gratitude to The Bulletin magazine for allowing us to reproduce Mr. Baxter's thought provoking article in the "Royal".

THE DECADE which started off with surpluses of beef, sheep, butter, wine, grapes and grain has ended with the outlook for Australian agriculture reasonably favorable and primary industry in good health.

In spite of the multitude of doomsayers in the early 70s, the prophecy that we would all be "ru'ned" like Hanrahan has proved false. The wide cross-section of Australian rural producers has exhibited, yet again, the traditional ability to satisfactorily cope with economic, social and political change.

As the Bureau of Agricultural Economics pointed out, the real income of primary producers as they move into the next decade is the same as it was in 1970. In addition to holding their income position many primary producers are now sitting on land the value of which is very much greater in real terms than it was in 1970.

One of the greatest factors in the capacity of primary industry to cope with the changing circumstances has been the rate and nature of implementation of new technology. In simple areas such as labor use, plant varieties, transport and handling methods, water utilisation and pest control the advances have been staggering.

It is not inconceivable that by 1985 wheat will be able to survive on less water and will be grown further and further into what is now regarded as marginal country.

Ploughing, planting and harvesting equipment and techniques will change quite radically. By the turn of the next century the nuclear tractor will probably be a reality, and because of the equipment it will be able to haul, most grain country will need to be ploughed only once.

Grain, instead of being shipped by rail, will be transported in vast

pipeline networks, and the average wheatfarmer will have to know a great deal more about computers and be able to interpret the information they provide. The men with the gnarled, dirty hands will be a dying race.

In the livestock field the changes will probably be less radical, but ovum transplants and artificial insemination will be more widely used with better techniques and broader-based supplies of semen. Herd and flock selection techniques will be revolutionised by computer data bank access to international breeding information.

In horticulture, the traditional nursery will probably be a thing of the past. By 1990 cloning of stock will predominate and plants will be bred to specification. As ridiculous as it may sound, a rectangular tomato may be a possibility.

The greatest increases in pro-

FARMING — cont.

ductivity will arise from the greater access to and availability of information. Farmers will be able to use computers to find out the price of wheat in Chicago, London or Paris. Futures offered on all the major commodity and financial markets will be technically available and the only restraint will be the Australian Government's attitude to their use.

The small family farm probably will be disappearing. It will be replaced by larger family-owned units employing substantial amounts of contract labor. The corporate farmers will remain about the same small proportion of the total agricultural industries as they are today.

The value of land in the high rainfall and wheat-sheep belts will continue to grow faster than the rate of inflation, while the prices of arid zone areas will continue to be closely related to the economic fortunes of the pastoral industries.

In spite of pressures from sections of primary industry, stabilisation schemes will still be unable to control fluctuations in product prices and

farmers' individual incomes. More accurate weather forecasting by greater use of satellite systems will help reduce some of the immense risks created by the variability of the weather.

Temporary food surpluses will occur, but the much-criticised Common Agricultural Policy of the EEC will have changed markedly. The first signs are already available. Jean Francois-Poncet, the French Foreign Minister, said on November 28: "As for the CAP, we are all aware today that adjustments are needed. Its financial cost is too high. The surpluses of certain products are too big. The position of Mediterranean products is not satisfactory. The faults must be corrected in the CAP's interest. What is more, France is the first to want it". In trade terms, that is one of the most pleasant sounds for Australian agriculture as it approaches a new decade.

As populations in underdeveloped countries continue to grow, demand for food will increase. More so than oil, grain will become the strategic commodity for the 80s.

There will be pressures on the

major grain producers — Canada, the United States, Australia and the Argentine — to increase their production.

As a result of those pressures and Australia's proximity to Asia, greater pressures will be put on Australian farm management to boost the rate of both agricultural production and commodity handling.

The cut-backs which are now being felt in tertiary agricultural education and the failure of agriculture to attract and maintain large numbers of young people will rebound by 1985. There will be very serious shortages of skilled farm technocrats. There will be accompanying shortages of skilled mechanics to service the more and more sophisticated equipment.

While the busts and booms will cause short-term anxieties and people will continue to shift out the Australian agriculture, the outlook across the broad spectrum is quite exciting. If institutional rigidities and red tape can be minimised, the opportunities will exist for Australian agriculture to end up better off in real terms in 1990 than in 1980.

The results of the

WANDARA

15th Annual

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OUR THANKS TO ALL THE PEOPLE
WHO HELPED MAKE THE SALE SUCH A SUCCESS

SALE SUMMARY

1310 First-Cross Ewes sold to \$44, av \$43
12 Stud Suffolk Ewes sold to \$80, av \$52
109 Stud Border Leicester Ewes sold to \$130, av \$99
64 Stud Poll Dorset Ewes sold to \$380, av \$115
12 Stud Border Leicester Rams sold to \$1600 (twice), av \$950

3 Stud Poll Dorset Rams sold to \$800, av \$900
145 Flock Border Leicester Rams sold to \$230, av \$161
91 Flock Poll Dorset Rams sold to \$280, av \$143
32 Flock Suffolk Rams sold to \$200, av \$182
Sale grossed \$129,570

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This Year's Entry Closing Dates

ROYAL SHOW Entry Closing Dates for all stock and other competitive sections have been finalized and are as follows:—

Friday, 30th May	— Horse events and contests
Wednesday, 18th June	— Woodchopping
Wednesday, 2nd July	— Viticulture
Wednesday, 2nd July	— Sheep Dog Trials
Wednesday, 9th July	— Cattle (Fat, including V.Y.F. entries, Beef, Dual purpose, Dairy), Dogs, Pigeons
Wednesday, 23rd July	— Apiculture, Arts & Crafts, Cats, and Kittens, Poultry, Pigs, Dairy & Farm Produce, Sheep, Goats, School Competitions.
Wednesday, 6th August	— Bacon & Pork Pig Carcass Competition
Thursday, 7th August	— Sheep Shearing, including V.Y.F. entries
Friday, 8th August	— Prime Lamb Carcass Competition
Tuesday, 12th August	— Photography, Farm Inventions Contest
Wednesday, 20th August	— Cage Birds, Cavies, Trotting Races, Tug-O-War
Wednesday, 27th August	— Budgerigars (including unbroken cap classes)
Monday, 8th September	— All Fleeces

Prize schedules for Arts and Crafts and Farm and Dairy Produce are available now from the Society and schedules for all other sections can be obtained within the first week of May.

Prospective exhibitors writing to the Society for prize schedules are asked PLEASE to state the section in which they want to exhibit and if more than one entry form is required. This makes our job a lot easier and also ensures that exhibitors get the right schedule.

Requests for all Show schedules can be addressed to the Director, Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria (Show schedules), Royal Show Grounds, Epsom Road, Ascot Vale, 3032, telephone (03) 376 0471.



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IRRIGATED PASTURES IN VICTORIA

Development of their potential in fodder production

by RICHARD STOCKDALE,

Research Officer, Department of Agriculture, Kyabram, Victoria.

Establishing the potential of various irrigated pastures as animal fodder — growth rate, dry matter content, percentage of dry matter digestibility, is a vital field under research at the Kyabram Research Institute.

Richard Stockdale is currently employed on this important programme and outlines the Department of Agriculture's research effort in this area.

Background

THE MAIN irrigation area of Australia lies within the south-eastern Riverine Plain which was formed by the deposition of up to 200m of water-borne materials, eroded by ancient streams from the ranges to the east and south. There are about 0.25 million hectares of irrigated perennial and annual pastures in the Goulburn Region; the majority of which are grazed by dairy cattle. Much of this area is also used for irrigated cropping.

In 1959, the Victorian Department of Agriculture purchased a 208 ha property, three kilometres south-east of Kyabram to establish a Research Station to serve the dairying, cropping, prime lamb and beef industries of the Northern Victorian irrigation areas. Kyabram is situated in the Goulburn Valley, 200 kilometres north of Melbourne and is centrally located to a large proportion of Victoria's irrigated areas. It has a Mediterranean type climate, the annual rainfall of 454 mm being supplemented by an average of 800 mm of irrigation water from August to May. The red-brown earth and associated grey soils of the property, and its flat topography are typical of the surrounding irrigated areas.

In the past at Kyabram, particular emphasis has been placed on the responses of irrigated pastures to nitrogen and phosphorus fertilizers and the effects of nitrogen fertilizer and stocking rate on the productivity of irrigated pastures and grazing dairy cows. Also in conjunction with the CSIRO, a large amount of work has been carried out on the prevention of bloat on irrigated pastures. In addition to the research work specifically related to the dairy industry, there has been a large input into studies on salinity and the production of field crops and tomatoes under irrigation.

Emphasis of Research

The emphasis of research at Kyabram has changed recently with the re-organisation of research and extension within the Department of Agriculture. The Kyabram Research Station was elevated to the status of Research Institute in late 1978 when Dr. B. Cockroft was appointed its Director with the charter to improve the productivity of pastures and fodder crops for use by animals, and in particular dairy cattle.

The need for a substantial research effort into plant productivity becomes obvious if we look at some facts. We have been monitoring the growth and quality of paspalum — dominant perennial pastures at Kyabram for several years and the growth rate, digestibility and dry matter content of these pastures are given in Table 1.



Richard Stockdale, Research Officer, Dept. of Agriculture Kyabram, Vic.

Table 1: Actual and potential growth of irrigated pastures

	Dry Matter	Dry Matter	Growth rate kg DM ha ⁻¹ year ⁻¹	
	Content %	Digestibility %	Present	Potential
January	27	63	79	265
February	28	61	70	247
March	26	61	50	196
April	31	64	35	146
May	30	64	8	94
June	29	63	10	71
July	30	63	11	81
August	26	69	18	113
September	23	72	52	157
October	24	73	79	204
November	23	70	82	243
December	25	66	93	275
TOTAL			17,800	63,500

Explanation: DM = Dry Matter
ha⁻¹ = Per hectare

Pasture Production

Whilst on average the annual pasture production is 17,800 kg DM ha⁻¹, growth during winter is very low and quality, as measured by digestibility, is poor for most of the year, spring excepted. When we calculate the amount of solar energy available for conversion to pasture dry matter, we see that the potential is very great indeed. If we conservatively assume that a plant can convert solar energy to dry matter at 4% efficiency, 63,500 DM (ha⁻¹ year⁻¹) could be produced. Therefore production under irrigation is grossly inefficient at present and the major thrust of research at Kyabram must centre around the production of fodder for animals.

We can envisage several aspects of research into fodder production. Firstly we can consider irrigated perennial pastures and analyse the current situation to find out why the existing pastures grow to about only one-quarter of potential. This

involves the measurement of the root environment and the plant canopy environment. We will respond to the finding from this by research into ways of improving any deficiencies. This will probably involve soil amelioration and modification of the canopy structure to increase light interception. Secondly we can consider projects designed to improve the pasture species.

Plant Improvement

Once we know what edaphic and canopy features the dairy farmer can economically build into his farming practice, we can set about a plant improvement approach to pasture production, using breeding selection within existing irrigated pastures and selection in various Mediterranean environments outside the irrigation areas and outside Australia too. At present we are mainly utilizing species from milder climates which may be unable to adequately adapt to our environment.

Thirdly, we must investigate the possibility of developing a dairy production system based on fodder crops. Experienced agronomists point out that even the best pastures under the best conditions may only produce between 20,000 and 30,000 kg DM ha⁻¹. Therefore to even approach the potential of over 60,000 kg DM ha⁻¹ we may have to rely on fodder crops. Even with present technology, experimental plots produce 20,000 kg DM⁻¹ of maize as fodder and 20,000 kg DM ha⁻¹ of lupins as fodder and at least two crops a year can be grown given irrigation. Finally, animals must be able to utilize the fodder produced; this aspect must therefore be an integral part of the whole programme.

This work at Kyabram is only beginning; only the future can tell the eventual potential of our irrigated land. We think that present levels of fodder production can be greatly improved.



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Royal Show Essays

TWO YOUNG ladies, Martine Le Fontaine of Braybrook and Claire Miller of Canterbury, were the successful entrants in our 1979 Royal Melbourne Show Essay Competition.

The reward for their skills in essay writing is a cheque for \$200 each, presented by the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria.

goals

Martine who attends Christ the King College in Braybrook won the Section for students under 13 years of age and Claire was the winner of the under 16 years Section. She is a

student at Canterbury Girls' High School.

The Competition, now an annual event, called for an essay of about 500 words on the general topic "My Day at the Show", and is conducted in Victorian Schools by the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria, with the approval and assistance of Dr. Tom Moore, the Deputy Director General of Education.

We have pleasure in reproducing the winning essays in the "Royal" and again offer our congratulations to Martine and Claire.

My Visit to the Royal Show

by Claire Miller (Winner under 16 years Section)

The Mad Mouse, high off the ground and scary with its tiny carriages that nip so nimbly and quickly around the sharp bends, is almost a symbol of all that is the Show for the younger generations: amusements, sideshows, rides and showbags, all bright, gaudy and colourful but a little expensive perhaps for what you get...

I reached the Show by train which I found to be very efficient and hassle-free. I noticed a downfall in the number of people there but I did go on a weekday. The first thing that struck me after looking around a bit was the attitude of a few of the competitors, especially those involved with the horses. They seemed to be rather stand-offish and curt and failed to realise maybe that many of the children patting the horses and asking questions were only trying to show interest; many seldom see horses and certainly such beautiful ones.

But on the whole, I liked looking around the animals and especially the ever-popular animal nursery which in years gone by I usually gave a miss due to the crowds. I was fascinated by the pigs; after all, a city child seldom sees them alive, and this opportunity of seeing the farm animals up close helps to contribute to bringing city and country together.

I liked the Arts and Crafts Pavilion best. In particular, the tiny little fruits made of marzipan; they must have taken hours to do. But where were all the packed display cases one used to see? I used to think that only the very best went on display but it seemed to me that this year they put all entries in to try and fill up the cases. School entries seemed to have fallen away from what was once a very popular competition. Somewhere, I feel there has been a breakdown in communication between organisers, schools and students. I'm sure that if students were encouraged by their teachers to enter needlecraft etc, then not only would high class entries, competition and packed displays return, attendance would be greater from people anxious to see a friend's or relative's entry that was "good enough to go in the Show".

Speaking of the Arts and Crafts Pavilion, I loved that section of junior-primary school paintings. It was novel and original as well as giving would-be entrants a sense of purpose and ambition. And the "band of 1000" was to be commended. I took part in this band which was made up of brass and woodwind players from schools all over Melbourne and that terrific feeling of harmony with so many others of my age group was marvellous as so often this factor is ignored in society and our general education.

Participation of the public during an Arena event is nearly as important as the crowd itself, and for this reason, I like the Gymkhana event (bare back ball race) that I watched the best of all the Arena events I saw. I was totally carried away with the elated crowd as they cheered every competitor on, laughing if a rider was particularly careful and as a result, won; sighing with sympathy if the ball just missed the barrel. It was a tremendous experience — I wouldn't have missed it for the world.

Unfortunately, hack classes and to a lesser degree showjumping, don't attract the crowds although, in some ways, they require more skill than a Gymkhana event. Thinking about it, I decided it was because the general public didn't **understand** what was supposed to be happening in either of these events or appreciate what the objectives were. Therefore, they were attracted to the simpler, faster, more exciting Gymkhana events.

The Show is terrific entertainment for the average family, depending on where your values lie. Commercialism will kill the Show's magic quality and main objective of bringing country and city together unless it is sharply checked. As it is, all the Show means to the little kids I know, is showbags and lollies.

It has so much more to offer than merely that, both as an educational medium and in new experiences.

Melbourne wouldn't be Melbourne without the Show — don't let cheap commercialism spoil its tradition.

The Show

by *Martine La Fontaine (Winner under 13 years Section)*

For the past twenty years I have been working as a donut seller. Each September when the Show started, I would board a train from Glen Iris right into the Show. The transport for as long as I can remember has been good. There has always been trains running express to the Showgrounds, every minute, from Flinders Street Station. Buses and trams stop right outside the front gate.

Each year farmers bring their prime stock to the Show, hoping that their animals, birds and other produce will win first prize when judged. Afterwards the farmers sometimes sell their goods and buy from others. Some of the farmers buy farming materials, harrows, windmills, tractors and bulldozers, at the Show. Being a city person I love meeting the country folk and I know they enjoy the bustle and thrill of the Show.

I have always loved going to the Show to see its colourful sideshows, magnificent processions and bands, its large range of livestock, fabulous fireworks and recently its outrageous rides.

The display I enjoyed the most this year, was the Arts and Crafts, especially the cakes. I always find the cakes interesting but this year they were outstanding. These was one cake I particularly liked. It was a boy's chest of drawers with one draw out, showing socks and shirts and other clothes which had been untidily thrown in there.

To my disgust the sample bags or show bags are trash. They used to be REAL sample bags, filled with miniature cans of sauce or little bags of cookies and they were free! Now the bags are filled with rubbish food and games that usually don't even work, and they cost two dollars!!

Every five minutes I have children and adults asking directions to the Arena where the Grand Parade takes place every year. I could almost say, without contradiction, that the Grand Parade holds the greatest attractions for Show-goers. The long procession of prize-winning livestock, controlled by Stewards in bright jackets, makes for a breathtaking scene. Of course, the stunt cars, daredevil motorcycle riders and show jumping also draw large crowds to the Arena.

Those not particularly interested in the agricultural side of the Show (mostly teenagers) are busy screaming above my head as they whirl, rock and jolt, spinning and turning, yet secure in the arms of mechanical contraptions. The rides are always great fun though I remember when they were a little less expensive. Since the Show is expanding every year, getting bigger and better, it is reasonable to expect some price rises. (to cover the cost of new pavilions and more exhibits). Not all the amusements are hair-raising or designed to scare you. From the giant ferris wheel there is a marvellous view of the Showgrounds and the city in the distance and this year I

even enjoyed the scenic chair lift tour.

Even though 1979 is the International Year of the Child every year is children's year at the Show. There is even a special Children's Day when children are admitted into the Show free and special activities take place (like donut give-aways at my stand).

Of course, there is an educational side to the Show. There is an Animal Nursery where the children can see young animals being nursed. Children can see police at work at an exhibition or they can see the animals or poultry from which we get our food.

In a milk exhibit the children can see the milk being purified and also can taste different cheeses. Near the main gate is a Bicycle Safety place, where the children can learn safety rules and practise riding bikes properly.

The Show is a perfect place for a family outing with picnic areas and food stores (coming from a large family myself, though, I am aware of how expensive this "outing" may become. Perhaps a "family ticket" could be introduced, a discount to entrance cost).

The Show is so entertaining and attractive that one visit is never enough, and you never get tired of going. The thing I love most about the Show is the fascinating crowd of people - and the smiling faces.

The Show is one great adventure (that for me and thousands of others, will never lose its magic).

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SK195—Apr 79

Now it's the Farm Inventions Contest

THE ROYAL Show Farm Aids Competition has been scheduled for the 1980 Melbourne "Royal" under a new name - the "Farm Inventions Contest".

The "revamp" of the Section for the '80's goes further than just a name change though, with a new simplified method of entry, upgraded prizes and further promotion for the winning entry at Show time.

Contest Entry

While the entry procedure in past years was by no means unwieldy, this year will be easier because the entrant need only complete a single section entry form, lodge it with his invention with the Society, and the judges do the rest.

Six prizes will be awarded to those inventions which incorporate the best ideas in:

- * STOCK HANDLING
- * IMPLEMENTS
- * MODELS AND/OR PLANS

OF METHODS AND SYSTEMS

- * MODIFICATIONS
- * HYDRAULICS AND FARMING
- * FUEL SAVING DEVICES AND IDEAS

The new approach will allow inventors far more scope for innovation and inventiveness.

Prizes and Promotion

The inventor whose entry receives the judges' decision as the best overall, will win a cash prize, the Society's sash and medallion and in addition will have his/her invention featured in the Royal Show's Grand Parade.

These improvements when added to the 50% extra in display area

given recently to the Section by the R.A.S.V., will give those farm "gadget wizards" just that little extra incentive to "give it a go".

Younger inventors are encouraged to try their hand also with the special prize for members of the Victorian Young Farmers, apprentices and students of tertiary institutions again being awarded.

Prize schedules and entry forms for the Farm Inventions Contest will be available shortly from the Society and requests can be addressed to the Director, Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria, (Farm Inventions Contest Prize Schedule), Royal Show Grounds, Epsom Road, Ascot Vale, 3032, or telephone (03) 376 0471.

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Information may also be obtained from the company's offices at Sale, Box 370, P.O. Sale Telephone (051) 44 3343.



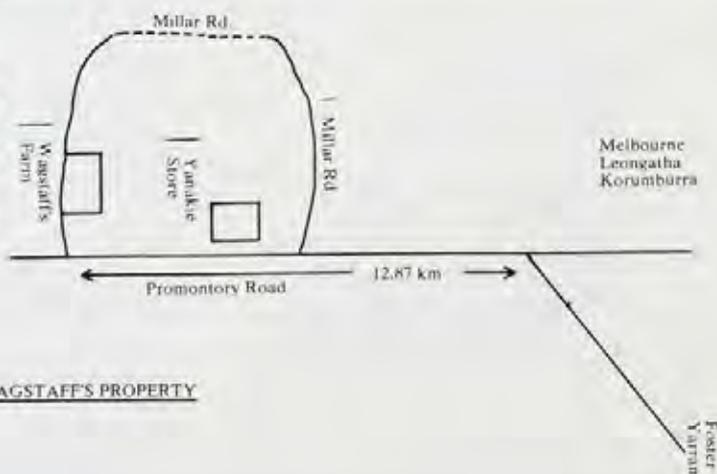
THREE MAJOR FIELD DAYS IN VICTORIA THIS MONTH

THIS MONTH sees three important Field Days being conducted on the properties of winners of various 1979 R.A.S.V./V.A.S.A. competitions.

Brief details of the Fields Days and property locations follow:—

(a) Thursday 6th March:—

1979 Commonwealth Development Bank Victorian Farm Management, Production and Improvement Competition, on property of Section A, winners Mr. & Mrs. L. Wagstaff at Yanakie, commencing at 10.45 a.m.



LOCATION OF WAGSTAFF'S PROPERTY

PAT AND ELSA ARE TOPS

by JACK GREEN, Dairy Extension Officer, Department of Agriculture

The latest competition to be conducted under the banner of the R.A.S.V./V.A.S.A., is the Share Dairy Farmer of the Year Award. And as with the Gippsland & Northern Dairy Herd of the Year Award, Mr. Jack Green has played a major part in its establishment, smooth conduct and adjudication.

We are fortunate to be able to have Mr. Green's comments on the competition and Pat and Elsa Horan's win in this the first of the annual Share Dairy Farmer Awards.

THE RECORDS will show that Pat and Elsa Horan of Dumbalk were winners of the first Share Dairy Farmer of the Year Competition.

Introduced in 1979, the Competition is designed to select, in the Judges' opinion, the best share dairy farmer in Victoria, and it aims to:

- (1) Recognize the contribution share farmers make to our dairy industry (over 10% of our herds are milked on a share basis).
- (2) Lift the image of the share farming profession.
- (3) To give back-up support should the share farmer be seeking financial assistance to purchase his own farm.

The competition is sponsored by Asian Dairy Industries (A.D.I.) through the efforts of its Chairman Mr. Tony Webster, conducted by the R.A.S.V. and V.A.S.A., and also supported by the United Dairy Farmers of Victoria.

State Zones

The competition is decided on a zone basis, the State being divided into five areas — South and West Gippsland, East and Central Gippsland, North and North East, North West and Western.

Prize money totals \$1,100, trophies and sashes are also provided and are awarded as follows:—

1st — Title of Share Dairy Farmer of the year — \$250, Trophy and Supreme Champion Sash.

2nd — Trophy and \$150.

3rd — Trophy and \$100.

The five zone winners receive \$100 and Champion Sash and the Agricultural Society nominated on the winner's entry form is also awarded \$100.

Zone winners this year were:—

South and West Gippsland — Pat Elsa Horan.

East and Central Gippsland —



Geoff and Carol Landy.

North and North East — Ray and Glenda Winnell.

North West — Fred and Maureen Rodda.

Western — Hank and Trix Hayden.

First placing overall, as mentioned, went to the Horans with Haydens coming second and Landys third.

Murray Goulburn Trading under the direction of Leo Ryan provided the trophies for the Zone runners-up.

Why Did Horan's Win?

Let's look at the Horan's performance. Firstly, they share farm for Mr. Stan Vardy of Tatura, they own the herd and part of the plant.

Pat and Elsa have been share farming for 15 years prior to which Pat was a truck driver. They spent eight years share farming on another property in the district and the past seven years for Mr. Vardy with whom they have an excellent relationship.

Both Pat and Elsa are keen members of the Mardan Discussion Group.

The farm is 80 hectares (200 acres) with another 40 hectares (100 acres) leased, the milking shed is a seven unit doubled up low line plant to which cup removers will be fitted this season — Pat and Elsa do the milking.

Production

Last year, the 189 cows produced 30,123 kg B.F. at the factory, 160 kg B.F. per cow (352 lbs) and in addition 40 calves were fed on whole milk.

Calving commences in mid June and A.I. is used for five weeks to get the replacements. Thirty three replacement heifers are reared and bulls are run with the herd to join the late calvers and those cows which did not "click" with A.I.

At the time of judging (August 1st) 130 cows were producing 22½ litres per day at a 4.2% fat test — butter fat production, 1.90 lbs per day.

The Herd

The herd comprises Jersey and Friesian cows and Jersey/Friesian crossbreds.

Pat increased the herd three years ago from 130 cows to the 190 being milked this year, which meant that he was not able to cull as many as he would have liked.

Rotational grazing is instituted during the day and the herd is strip grazed at night but later in the season

they will be on a 21 day rotation.

No feed is brought onto the property, 8,000 bales of hay being conserved last year of which only 3,700 were used.

The herd is wintered at home in two groups — the two and three year olds in one group, grazing ahead of the older group. Calves are run on an eight hectare area leased by the Horans from the Council.

The five point mastitis control programme is practised and young stock are drenched during winter and spring-monthly for worms. All stock are treated for lice annually.

The pasture receives three cwt of 2-1 super and potash annually and three and a half tons of nitrogen was applied last winter.

Summary

The judges were most impressed with all aspects of the farm's management — it was difficult to find a weakness.

The herd was in excellent condition with young stock well grown and calves reared extremely well.

The feed requirements of the

milking herd were watched closely. The production per cow and total herd production were the highest of all finalists. The breeding programme was 100% A.B., and considering the herd has increased from 130 to 190 cows in three years, the production per cow was high under the conditions.

Another highlight was the quality of the pasture — Pat is constantly watching for weeds such as thistles, ragwort, tussocks, etc and they are removed by hoe. The considerable improvement in the pasture on the 40 hectares leased during the past three seasons is due to Pat's management.

The final compliment to the Horans was paid by the owner, Stan Vardy — "I secured the services of the Horans as share farmers before I bought, otherwise I would not have purchased the farm".

As mentioned elsewhere, a **Field Day** will be held on the **Dumbalk** property on **WEDNESDAY, 26 MARCH, 1980** and will prove of interest to all Victorian Dairy Farmers.

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See Top Commercial Beef Herd

THE ANGUS herd of L. & V. Kerr, "Tibooburra", Hoddles Creek, winners of the 1979 Dalgety Commercial Beef Herd of the Year Award, will feature at a special Field Day at Hoddles Creek on Friday, 11th April.

The herd improved its placing in the Competition over the last three years from eighth to first and according to Mr. J.H.H. Sleigh, R.A.S.V. Councillor and Chairman of the Competition's Judging Panel, this progress is a direct result of the intense rivalry engendered by the Award, and putting into practice the knowledge gained from the confidential reports made available to each Regional Finalist by the Judging Panel.

"Tibooburra" is a 607 hectare property combining a 110 cow Angus stud with a commercial Angus herd of 173 females, its purpose being vealer production, sale of heifers at premium prices and sale of bulls.

Mrs. Kerr has the full responsibility of this grazing enterprise, her husband, Mr. Laurie Kerr being engaged as Managing Director of a large Public Relations Consultancy. Mrs. Kerr is assisted by her Manager, Mr. W. Milne and the judges were



Mrs. V. Kerr and Tibooburra stud master Mr. W. Milne, with the top sire Mann Uranium, which defeated the Australian record auction price of \$71,000 in 1978.

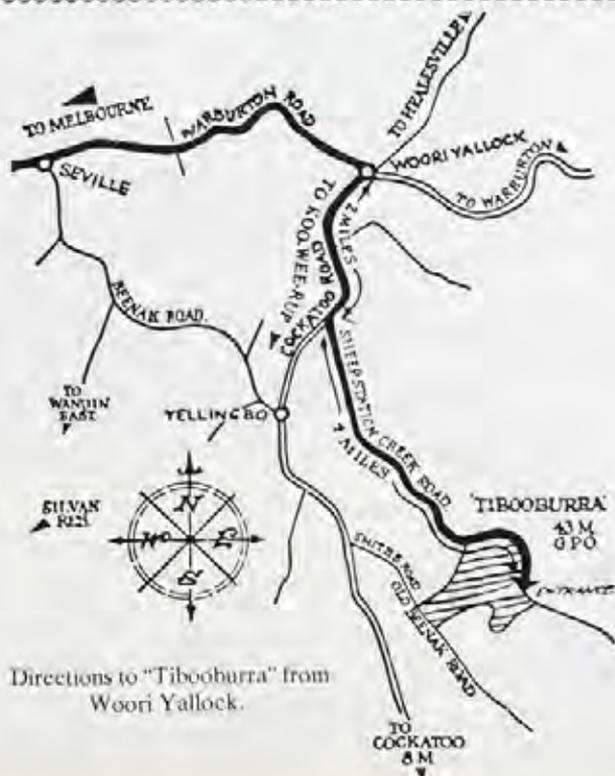
greatly impressed by their sound management techniques and the fact that future production objectives were so closely defined.

The award is conducted annually

by the R.A.S.V. in conjunction with the V.A.S.A. and is sponsored by Dalgety Australia Limited, which make available approximately \$2,500 in prize money each year.

FIELD DAY PROGRAMME

- 11.00 a.m. Arrival and morning tea.
- 11.15 a.m. Preliminary comments on property by Mr. L.K. Kerr, followed by inspection of Breeding Herd.
- 1.00 p.m. Lunch
- 2.00 p.m. Official Opening and presentation of Awards by Mr. R.B. Vaughan, Managing Director of Dalgety Australia Ltd.
- 2.45 p.m. "Why Tibooburra", Questioning of Judging Panel (Messrs. J.H.H. Sleigh, W.A. Angliss, K. Forsyth and Alex McDonald). Final comments Mr. J.H. H. Sleigh and Mrs. L.K. Kerr.
- 2.30 p.m. Te Mania Uranium U46 Introducing "Tibooburra's" leading sire. (Mr. W. Milne and Dr. Ian Gunn).
- 3.15 p.m. President of V.A.S.A., Mr. G.B. Marriott, thanks those responsible for conducting Field Day.



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Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria

ANNUAL REPORT



THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA
Royal Showgrounds, Ascot Vale, 3032. Phone 376 0471

OFFICE BEARERS 1979

PATRON-IN-CHIEF:

His Excellency The Hon. Sir Zelman Cowen, A.K., G.C.M.G., 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:

A. Gibson, J.H.H. Sleigh, G.R. Starritt, O.B.E.

TRUSTEES:

W.J.T. Clarke, The Hon. Sir William McDonald Kt.,
P.B. Ronald, C.M.G., G.P.H. Wilson, C.M.G.

LIFE COUNCILLORS:

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

J.M. Buchanan
W.J.T. Clarke
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Prof. H.C. Forster, O.B.E.
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C.O. Moore
P.B. Ronald, C.M.G.
G.R. Starritt, O.B.E.
G.P.H. Wilson, C.M.G.

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL:

R.T. Balderstone, C.M.G., M.C.
W.R.R. Beggs
E.W. Best, C.M.G.
C.A. Boff
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
J.W. Kelly
R.B. Langdon
F.B. Langlands
F.J. Lithgow

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Colonel Sir Malcolm H. McArthur
Kt., O.B.E.
The Hon. Sir William McDonald Kt.
Sir Ian M. McLennan, K.C.M.G.,
K.B.E.
I.K. Morton
B.N. Naylor
J.W. Rae
J.S.A. Robb
J.H.H. Sleigh
The Hon. I.W. Smith, M.P.
F.R.I. Stephens
K.W. Urquhart
R.G. Walker
J.W.D. Ward
The Hon. Vernon F. Wilcox,
C.B.E., Q.C.

EXECUTIVE STAFF:

DIRECTOR: H.J. Clappison

DEPUTY DIRECTOR: J.C. Buckland

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

CHIEF ACCOUNTANT: J.F. Clifford

GROUND MANAGER: K.J. Monkhouse



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 Showgrounds, Epsom Road, Ascot Vale, on Tuesday, the 18th March, 1980, 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 the 25th day of February, 1980.

H. J. CLAPPISON,
Director.

LIST OF NOMINATIONS

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

(Eleven to be elected)

BEGGS, W. R. R., "Buln Gherin West"
Beaufort, 3373.

BUCHANAN, A. M., J. K., "Gleneira"
Flinders, 3929.

GREAVES, W. McL., 4B Peel St.,
Berwick, 3806.

KELLY, J. W., "Eulo"
Caramut North, 3274.

LANGLANDS, F. B., "Kalimna Park"
Horsham, 3400.

LITHGOW, F. J., "Flowerfield"
Coldstream, 3770.

LOOKER, Kt., SIR CECIL, 26 Tormey St.,
North Balwyn, 3104.

McARTHUR, Kt., O.B.E., COL. SIR
MALCOLM H., "Melrose Farm", Wollert, 3750.

NAYLOR, B. N., Coombs Rd.,
Kingslake West, 3757.

WARD, J. W. D., 173 Walsh St.,
South Yarra, 3141.

WILCOX, C. B. E., Q. C. Hon. V. F.
"Carwoola", Alexandra, 3714.

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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my pleasure, on behalf of the Council, to present the report of the Society's activities for the year ended 31st December, 1979.

Change in Official Opening Day

For the first time in the Society's history the Official Opening was held on a Sunday. The task was splendidly performed by our Patron in Chief, His Excellency, Sir Zelman Cowen, A.K., G.C.M.G., K.St.J., Q.C., Governor General of Australia, attending our Show for the first time since assuming office. During the Grand Parade which followed, I felt it fitting to compliment His Excellency on the research into his speech and the trouble he had taken, his brief reply was –

"It's a very important occasion."

This excellent speech is reproduced in its entirety elsewhere in this edition of the "Royal".

We were also delighted that at the opening, His Excellency was accompanied by Her Excellency Lady Cowen, Miss Kate Cowen – in the official capacity of Lady in Waiting to her mother – also their fourteen year old son Benjamin.

Other distinguished guests on that day included the Prime Minister, the Right Honourable J.M. Fraser, C.H., and Mrs. Fraser, The Premier of Victoria, the Honourable R.J. Hamer, E.D., M.P., and Mrs. Hamer, the Lord Mayor of Melbourne Councillor R. Bernardi and the Lady Mayoress, His Worship The Mayor of Essendon Councillor K.A. Dowling and the Mayoress Mrs. D. Bateman, also the newly appointed General Officer Commanding Logistics Command, Major General P. Gration, O.B.E. and Mrs. Gration.

Prior to the opening, His Excellency inspected a fine Guard of Honour by the Army School of Signals, a combined Band from the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards and 3rd Military District, the Victorian Mounted Police Escort and the Victorian Police Band; who all combined in a spectacle of pageantry, greatly appreciated by those fortunate to witness it.

Changes in Council

It is with deep regret that I have to record the death of Mr. Kenneth P. Palmer on the 3rd of June last. Mr. Palmer joined the Council in November, 1962 and was one of its most enthusiastic and respected members. He possessed a wide knowledge of farming generally and in particular Hereford cattle and will be greatly missed by his many friends from all over Australia.

In August the Council welcomed Mr. J.S.A. Robb, a well known vigneron from Avoca. His expertise will add strength to the Viticulture, Catering and Media, Public Relations and Advertising Committees to which he was immediately elected.

Honoured by Her Majesty The Queen

We congratulate Mr. P.B. Ronald on having received the award of C.M.G. in the Queen's Birthday Honours.

Other Outstanding Achievements

May I also bring to your attention the outstanding service rendered to your Council by two of its members, Messrs. H.L. Lyall and W.J.T. Clarke. They have both completed 44 years service, thus equalling the record established by Colonel Sir Charles Merrett on his retirement in 1946.

Improvements and Buildings

The Society suffered a severe setback on 2nd May, when its Dairy Industry Pavilion was completely destroyed by fire. At a special meeting one week later, your Council carried a resolution to proceed with a replacement building to cost \$620,000 in two stages; Stage 1 costing \$450,000 to be completed and ready for occupancy by the Show, and Stage 2 – the completed project – by the end of January. Stage 1 was in fact ready for the Show, and the Society was able to keep faith with the Industry.

This courageous decision to re-build inspired the Victorian Dairy Industry Authority to such an extent, that it too, commissioned a new building in the shape of a "Big M" milk carton on the adjacent site. This building has also drawn much favourable comment. Thus the Society has acquired two new buildings valued at over \$750,000. A number of old buildings between the Dog Pavilion and the Main Gate have been demolished to make way for a new open Agricultural Machinery area, and this too proved most successful with machinery exhibitors and public alike.

In addition, an amount exceeding \$500,000 has been expended on maintenance, and the grounds are looking in much sprucer condition as a result.

The 1979 Royal Show

As in the two previous years the Show was ushered in by a City Parade down Swanston Street. This year's parade was well organised and focused considerable attention on the Show. The salute was taken by the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, Councillor R. Bernardi, and the Society would like to take this opportunity of thanking the Lord Mayor and Officers of the Melbourne City Council for their considerable assistance in getting the event under way.

The Show itself was an outstanding success, despite the fact that the last three days were marred by wet weather. Although attendances suffered slightly as a result, the quality of exhibits was without parallel; and the arena programme the most comprehensive the Society has ever undertaken. It was highlighted by the two magnificent bands of the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards which rivalled the Grand Parade in drawing crowds to the arena area.

The Centenary Hall had a non stop programme featuring the Australian Shearing Championships, the Bands of the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards; and the New Hebridean Custom Dancing troupe, the Centre Point proved an ideal venue for the Australian Wool Corporation's Fashion Parades.

It is interesting to note that the above attractions were all free of charge to Show patrons, as indeed were many others including:—

- The Puppet People from Brisbane,
- The Animal Nursery,
- The Government Pavilion,
- The Meat Demonstrations,
- International Woodchopping,
- Horticultural Exhibits,
- Arts & Crafts Exhibits,
- The Dairy Industry Display,
- Bands in Concert,
- All Livestock Exhibits.

Any of these features would merit a substantial admission charge if shown in a separate venue elsewhere. It is only with the assistance of its many sponsors that the Society is able to provide such wonderful attractions, and I would like to take this opportunity to place on record my Council's sincere appreciation to the many Companies and individuals who help us in this regard.



Part of the band playing in the arena at the 1979 Royal Melbourne Show.

Agricultural Extensional Activities

While the Royal Show achieved its purpose by providing such a high standard of excellence in all Sections, and bringing to city people a better knowledge and understanding of country life, there are other activities of the Society, not so widely recognized, which are just as much a part of its charter as the organising of the Show.

Just as the Royal Show is centred around competition, so are the Agricultural Extensional activities which the Society conducts throughout the year.

These include five competitions each culminating in a Field Day held on the property of the winning owner; and acting as a stimulus to improve the excellence of the branch of farming for which the competition was designed. I would expect that competitions of this nature will assume a much more important role in the Society's future work.

All these competitions are held in conjunction with the Victorian Agricultural Societies' Association, and on behalf of the Council may I express sincere thanks and appreciation to V.A.S.A. and its President, Mr. G.B. Marriott, for all the assistance given, and the wonderful partnership which is continuing to grow between our two organisations.

These activities are all sponsored, and again I would like to thank the Companies responsible. May I also pay a tribute to the Department of Agriculture for its assistance with these competitions by providing the expertise in the adjudication field.

Because of the difficulties in obtaining judges, it was necessary, several years ago, to discontinue District Crop Championships, however a move has now been made to retrieve the situation and the Society is confident, Crop Competitions will recommence next year.

May I take this opportunity of congratulating the 1979 Competition Winners viz.:—

Horses

Best Equestrienne Turnout for Garryowen Trophy —
Mrs. P.S. Heagney, Greenvale, Vic. on "Jolson".

Champion Saddle Horse —
Mrs. M. Burkitt, Cobram, Vic. on "Jamar Karumba".

A.N.Z. Bank Grand Prix for Jumping —
Mr. R.A. Chester, Combiobar, via Orbost, Vic. on
"Blue King".

Woodchopping

Grand Aggregate Trophy —
Mr. P. Dingle of Gympie, Q'ld.

Competition Results

Cattle

Supreme Beef Bull —
Majestic Poll Hereford Stud, Bordertown, S.A. —
Poll Hereford "Moorlands Labrador".

Champion Dairy Cow —
B.A. & M.C. Vallenge, Coorimungie, via Timboon,
Vic. — Friesian "Elmslea Maggie 6th".

Champion Dairy Heifer —
R. & H.E. McKean, Rochester, Vic. — Jersey
"Amberly Bouquet".

Sheep

Supreme Champion Ram —
Elouera Dorset Stud, Cowra, N.S.W. — Poll Dorset.

Goats

Supreme Champion Doe (Dairy Breeds) —
R. & Mrs. M. Matthews, Dubbo, N.S.W. — "Wondalee
Celebrity".

Pigs

Most Successful Exhibitor —
R.M. & W.J. Butler, Newstead, Vic.

Poultry

Best Bird in Show —
Mr. A.E. Hill, Knowfield, Vic. — Indian Game Hen.

Pigeons

Best Fantail —
Mr. J.W. Bennetts, Ballarat, Vic.

Cage Birds

Best Buderigar — B. Dadd, Richmond, Vic.
Best Finch — G. & S. Doneian, Ringwood, Vic.
Best Cage Bird (other than Finch) — J. & P. Rose,
Boronia, Vic.

Arts & Crafts

Florence Monod Memorial —
Mrs. M. Buckler, Glen Waverley, Vic.

Cats

Guineas Finals —
Longhair — D. Ivory, Box Hill, Vic.
Siamese & Foreign Self — P. Petrie, Narre Warren,
Vic.
Other Shorthair — Mr. & Mrs. R. Brown, Mt. Eliza,
Vic.

Dogs

Best Exhibit in Show —
Afghan Hound —
Alquadar Kennels, Greensborough, Vic.
Best Opposite Sex in Show —
Welsh Corgi (Pembroke) — Mr. & Mrs. K. Anderson,
Noble Park, Vic.

Victorian Young Farmers

Pig Carcass Competition —
St. James Club.

The Commonwealth Development Bank Victorian Farm Management Production and Improvement Competition

Section A — L.B. & M.L. Wagstaff, Yanakie, Vic.
Section B — T.F. & G.J. Moresi, Boort, Vic.

Dalgety Commercial Beef Herd of the year Award
L. & V. Kerr, "Tibooburra", Hoddles Creek, Vic.

Elders Commercial Wool Sheep Flock of the Year Award

Mr. S. Cuming, "Fernleigh", Glenthompson, Vic.

Gippsland and Northern Commercial Dairy Herd of the Year Award

I. & M. Dobson, Lavers Hill Road, Simpson, Vic.
**Asian Dairy Industries' Share Dairy Farmer of the
Year Award**
P. & E. Horan, Dumbalk.

Sun Country Show Girl

Miss Lauren Burnside, Euroa, Vic.

Australian Dried Fruits Association

State Rich Fruit Cake Competition —
Mrs. G. Bennett, Cobram, Vic.

Royal Show Essay Competition

Under 16 years — Claire Miller, Canterbury Girls'
High School, Canterbury, Vic.
Under 13 years — Martine LaFontaine, Christ the
King College, Braybrook, Vic.

Royal Show Poster Competition

Section A — 11 years and under — Eastbourne
Primary School, Rosebud, Vic.
Section B — Over 11 years — Waverley High School,
Chadstone, Vic.

The Royal Show is competition. The results of all
Sections would be too voluminous for such a report
so therefore only the above main results are listed.

Use of Showgrounds between Shows

It is pleasing to report that the grounds are now being used more frequently.

Apart from trotting training and meetings, some of the usages are storage, cattle, sheep, horse and goat sales, horse and pony shows, soccer, dressage, weddings, dinner dances and luncheons, flower shows, poultry, pigeon and rabbit shows, fencing demonstrations, start preparation and finish of Repco Reliability Trial, public dances, carpet and furniture sales and auctions, equestrian academy, week-end market, book and toy sales, basket ball, breed society meetings, also a quarantine station for live stock going overseas.

Every endeavour is being made to use the Showgrounds to its fullest capacity.

Shell/R.A.S.V. Journalists' Tour

Commencing on 29th July a number of representatives of press, T.V. and radio media journeyed throughout the North East of Victoria with the objective of providing advance publicity for the Royal Show and meeting some of the persons likely to exhibit.

The Society is sincerely appreciative of this sponsorship by the Shell Group of Companies, and of the hospitality given to those taking part by the many people throughout North Eastern Victoria.

The Royal Magazine

During 1979 five issues of the magazine were published. The "Royal" is now firmly established, and is proving an excellent means of communication between Council and the Society members.

Finance

The Financial Statement of this Society as contained in this Report discloses a deficit of \$98,480 after providing for depreciation of \$255,387 for the year ended 31st December, 1979.

Despite tight controls over expenditure, costs continued to increase. The result was effected by a lower than expected revenue from admissions, due to inclement weather during the latter part of the Show.

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1979

	1979 \$		1978 \$	
FIXED ASSETS				
Land at Council valuation 1972		1 068 000		1 068 000
Buildings and improvements at Council valuation 1972	8 489 774		8 489 774	
Additions at cost (Note 1)	2 174 321		1 702 188	
	10 664 095		10 191 962	
Less provision for depreciation	1 106 555		936 091	
		9 557 540		9 255 871
Services and utilities at cost	585 023		585 023	
Less provision for depreciation	71 659		61 422	
		513 364		523 601
Plant and motor vehicles at cost	356 218		377 961	
Less provision for depreciation	233 062		301 605	
		123 156		76 356
Office furniture fixtures and fittings at cost	385 849		303 081	
Less provision for depreciation	144 383		97 251	
		241 466		205 830
		11 504 526		11 129 638
INVESTMENTS				
Depositories, deposits, bonds and cash at bank at cost				
— General	85 780		194 213	
— Special Purposes Insurance Fund	108 477		93 328	
— Trust Accounts	27 261		24 883	
— Short Call	156 623		123 977	
		378 141		446 401
CURRENT ASSETS				
Cash on hand		700		800
Prepayments and accrued interest		25 974		26 587
Sundry debtors	186 063		210 433	
Less provision for doubtful debts	7 000		3 000	
Stock on hand at cost		178 085		207 433
		85 268		54 762
		12 172 672		11 805 631
LESS				
CURRENT LIABILITIES —				
Bank overdraft — secured	154 546		130 889	
Loans — secured	34 815		31 224	
Loans — unsecured	39 807		28 908	
Sundry creditors and accruals	358 406		186 412	
Provision for long service leave	90 291		56 342	
Received in advance	270		5 549	
Short call deposits	156 623		123 977	
		805 658		675 901
LONG TERM LIABILITIES				
Loans — secured	508 280		542 462	
Loans — unsecured	448 640		955 346	
		956 920		1 497 808
TRUST ACCOUNTS —		27 261	24 883	
TOTAL LIABILITIES		1 767 719		1 448 592
TOTAL NET ASSETS		\$10 384 953		\$10 417 039
REPRESENTING				
Accumulated Funds		1 955 186		1 955 666
Reserves —				
Assets Revaluation	7 759 190		7 759 190	
Special Purposes Insurance Fund	108 477		93 328	
Dog Complex Contribution (Note 1)	612 100		610 855	
		8 479 767		8 463 373
TOTAL ACCUMULATED FUNDS & RESERVES		\$10 384 953		\$10 417 039

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

We wish to report to the members that we have audited the books and accounts of the ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA for the year ended 31st December, 1979. We have obtained the information and explanations required and, in our opinion the above Balance Sheet is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and fair view of the results of the operations of the Society for the year according to the best of our information, the explanations given to us and as shown by the books of the Society.

Dated at Melbourne this 22nd day of February, 1980.

J.A. COURT, F.C.A.
 & McG. ROUGH, F.C.A.
 Chartered Accountants

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1979

EXPENDITURE	1979	1978	INCOME	1979	1978
	\$	\$		\$	\$
Wages and payroll costs	1 949 228	1 716 076	Show admissions and car parking	1 522 636	1 412 168
Maintenance and cleaning	340 585	193 757	Space and ground rentals	735 455	684 320
Depreciation	255 387	240 546	Secretarial service fees	503 463	465 682
Show attractions	195 350	101 081	Show entry fees	155 444	150 523
Printing and stationery	166 894	117 975	Materials and services	153 750	132 345
Show running costs	135 817	93 162	Members subscriptions	161 574	118 955
Insurance	127 204	88 959	Show sales and sundry revenue	131 259	60 343
Catering	113 233	113 237	Donations and sponsorship	127 195	74 969
Trophies and prizes	108 394	97 865	Surplus on disposal of assets	76 142	
Advertising and publicity	74 443	72 504	Catering premiums	67 121	32 530
Interest	73 177	45 955	Computer fees	56 892	44 670
Telephones and postage	60 525	37 193	Advertising	36 543	41 440
Rates	57 207	47 263			
Electricity and gas	55 183	50 430			
Judges expenses	29 375	28 310			
Sundry costs	25 839	43 287			
Computer costs	22 674	26 645			
Audit and legal	14 439	14 717			
	<u>3 807 954</u>	<u>3 131 050</u>			
Special Purpose Insurance Fund	5 660	10 000			
Deficit (Surplus) for year	(98 480)	76 835			
	<u>\$3 717 474</u>	<u>\$3 217 885</u>		<u>\$3 717 474</u>	<u>\$3 217 885</u>
ACCUMULATED FUNDS					
	1979	1978		1979	1978
	\$	\$		\$	\$
Balance at start of year	1 953 666	1 526 831	Deficit for year	98 480	
Grant for capital improvements	50 000	50 000	Balance at end of year	1 905 186	1 953 666
Surplus for year		76 835			
	<u>\$2 003 666</u>	<u>\$1 953 666</u>		<u>\$2 003 666</u>	<u>\$1 953 666</u>

Note 1 to the accounts

Dog complex. During the year the Kennel Control Council contributed an additional \$1 245 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.

Acknowledgements

My Council would like to place on record its appreciation of the continued support given by the Victorian State Government, and in particular the Premier, the Hon. R.J. Hamer and Members of his Ministry. The Hon. I.W. Smith as Minister of Agriculture is himself a Member of the Council, and the Society has been most fortunate in having his advice and assistance. His Department too has been most helpful and I would like to take this opportunity of thanking the Ex-Director General of Agriculture, Dr. D.S. Wishart, and extending best wishes to him for a happy retirement, and also welcome his successor in office, Dr. D.F. Smith.

The media too has been most helpful to the Society by way of publicity and its coverage of the Royal Show; and to all concerned we would like to express sincere appreciation.

The Society would like to pay a special tribute to the Judges at our Royal Show; particularly those who came from overseas, also our stewards, officials and other voluntary helpers who gave freely of their time to assist us in so many capacities. Without this voluntary assistance it would not be possible to stage a Royal Show.

May I take this opportunity to thank the Vice Presidents, Councillors and their wives, from whom my wife and I have received such wonderful support and assistance throughout the year; also on behalf of the Council thank the Director and members of the staff. The Society is indeed fortunate to have such a loyal, enthusiastic and dedicated staff. May I add my personal thanks to them and conclude by stating that it is a pleasure to work with them.

R.T. BALDERSTONE
President

COMPARATIVE LIST OF ENTRIES

Section	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979
Clydesdales	100	108	128	113	133	119	156	168	181
Farm and Lorry	30	26	31	31	35	42	53	55	40
Arabs	72	83	80	112	147	169	151	187	169
Trotters	41	45	37	32	40	52	24	49	35
Palomino	34	43	52	52	63	57	61	61	55
Quarter Horses	12	11	17	30	41	14	78	44	33
Appaloosas	—	—	—	—	—	30	45	35	39
Galloways	46	62	48	57	60	69	58	85	58
Horses	307	328	356	394	481	528	459	492	453
Connemaras	—	21	16	17	12	15	19	22	81
Horses (Lad)	36	34	46	48	72	66	45	64	2485
Saddle Horses, etc.	1,875	1,615	1,895	2,104	1,981	2,255	2,289	2,406	169
Stallions	77	93	89	125	146	149	148	167	307
Harness Horses	212	241	265	279	310	367	385	394	60
Stock Horses	—	—	—	41	56	56	74	64	1689
Donkeys	—	—	—	58	57	94	102	99	578
Riding Competitions	1,441	1,614	1,878	1,853	1,854	1,782	1,766	1,558	622
Novelty Horse Events	480	515	539	579	523	687	468	665	88
Jumping Competitions	640	663	718	642	748	871	680	438	1901
Wood Chopping and Sawing	655	865	750	915	670	1,874	1,789	1,962	16
Tug-O-War	17	16	18	12	12	5	12	313	131
Fat Cattle	243	364	355	349	226	293	335	115	130
Beef Shorthorns	165	158	145	209	149	151	129	126	171
Poll Shorthorns	61	45	56	99	74	74	102	206	311
Herefords	147	134	185	235	198	182	223	259	260
Poll Herefords	162	155	205	259	283	217	259	260	299
Angus	253	267	291	380	317	304	283	280	3
Devons	—	—	7	17	7	7	5	—	52
Santa Gertruds	27	28	42	49	27	27	46	69	9
Galloways	37	20	41	45	39	42	122	72	189
Murray Greys	86	92	117	150	148	148	155	170	12
Brahmans	42	33	37	52	39	22	9	15	129
Braford	14	9	18	20	15	28	26	40	22
Branqu	8	5	10	9	12	8	16	17	8
South Devons	—	7	—	2	—	—	—	—	9
Charolais	—	4	11	12	27	28	34	41	73
Simmental	—	—	—	—	1	15	24	38	94
Limousin	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	5	245
Mixed Galloways	—	—	—	—	—	—	24	8	24
Mane Anjou	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	18
Chianina	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	5
Australian Shorthorn - Lincoln Red -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—
Herdsmen's Competition	13	11	11	10	10	5	11	—	—
Red Polls	36	43	51	83	78	65	63	60	3
Dairy Shorthorns	243	266	286	209	149	138	128	141	15
Australian Illawarra Shorthorns	155	209	145	90	82	60	75	73	79
Jerseys	176	226	202	172	156	108	119	152	107
Guernseys	681	572	562	585	452	312	338	385	71
Friesians	255	266	247	283	280	180	201	280	163
Lincolls	462	490	476	520	397	311	386	476	530
Border Leicesters	4	7	2	3	3	—	1	1	227
English Leicesters	5	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	501
Romney Marsh	137	106	58	28	38	42	50	67	6
Cheviots	33	38	32	26	54	74	72	102	9
Southdowns	40	80	60	48	56	46	53	63	86
Shropshires	123	108	95	95	94	72	70	83	78
Suffolks	4	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	70
Dorset Horns	25	20	44	51	42	57	84	83	92
Ryeland	138	124	127	142	129	128	108	116	146
Hampshire Downs	113	123	128	104	72	72	85	58	142
Dorset Downs	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	23	81
Poll Dorsets	1	—	—	2	—	3	4	4	22
Corriedales	314	302	329	305	305	294	360	424	4
South Suffolks	44	37	25	22	35	19	21	24	373
Perendales	11	8	8	8	8	4	8	16	29
Wiltshire Horn	12	8	7	6	10	13	6	27	22
Tradit Lamb Competition	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	24
Lamb Carcass Competition -	17	22	24	18	40	—	28	42	NE
Fleeces	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	43	NE
Sheep Dog Trials	309	288	288	321	206	225	246	286	343
Sheep Shearing Competitions	58	94	68	80	76	68	100	53	78
Goats	66	90	74	101	115	99	142	140	121
Pigs	498	212	256	471	361	312	402	337	171
Poultry	951	1,158	884	631	665	591	544	956	327
Eggs (Commercial)	1,723	1,846	1,654	1,899	1,791	1,661	1,817	2,289	464
Pigeons	207	174	181	159	112	112	74	103	2195
Budgerigars, etc.	666	476	597	463	487	534	778	963	88
Wines, etc.	1,300	1,208	1,578	1,657	2,007	2,337	2,195	2,200	571
Dairy Produce	244	236	184	186	175	192	171	188	2486
Farm Produce	138	142	151	85	121	103	61	91	187
Horticulture	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	273
Apiculture	134	102	135	90	90	64	75	125	103
Arts and Crafts	2,987	4,136	4,075	4,271	4,472	4,204	4,195	5,218	4842
Photography	950	952	1,061	869	1,235	1,444	1,447	1,161	1,091
Dogs	4,827	5,557	5,713	5,438	6,161	6,582	6,991	7,500	6814
Young Farmers' Competitions	126	161	197	110	202	168	198	175	1186
Trotting Races	324	319	337	296	176	248	194	153	51
Farm Aids	53	60	53	41	40	34	31	51	2152
Cats	748	885	1,499	1,568	1,771	1,832	2,470	2,125	177
Cavies	—	—	—	78	181	179	179	—	602
Total Competitive Entries	27,752	30,184	31,385	32,917	33,319	35,145	33,897	39,217	37,862

Australia's Challenge to American Poll Herefords

by BRIAN RICHARDSON, Principal of the "Majestic" Poll Hereford Stud, Bordertown, S.A.

In the December 1979 issue of the "Royal", we ran an article titled "\$311,000 Bull to Australia" relating to the purchase by an Australian syndicate of an American Poll Hereford bull which reportedly is the largest ever shown in the world, and the world's highest priced auctioned animal ever to have been imported into Australia.

Brian Richardson makes no argument about the price paid for the bull being a record, but does query the fact that it is the largest ever shown and issues his challenge to the American bull's "International Supremacy" in this article about "MOORLANDS LABRADOR", the stud Poll Hereford bull owned and shown by the Majestic Poll

Hereford Stud.

MOORLANDS LABRADOR was purchased in June 1978 from the Moorlands Stud of S.B. & L.W. Reynolds, Toowoomba, Queensland for \$18,000 — the price being considered high in view of the state of the cattle industry at that time. But according to his breeder, "Labrador" was the best bull ever bred at Moorlands.

Royal Melbourne Show

At the 1979 Royal Melbourne Show and under one of Australia's top beef cattle judges, Mr. David Wright from Wallamundi, N.S.W., "Labrador" was awarded the title of Grand Champion Poll Hereford Bull. Mr. Wright commented that "Labrador" "played" with the judging ring and was the type of bull that Australian cattle breeders should be looking for today. He also said that "Labrador" was possibly the best Poll Hereford bull he had seen.

It was a pity that Mr. Wright could not have been present the day after judging to see his judgement ratified by 14 leading cattle judges from Australia and overseas.

Supreme Beef Award

The day following "Labrador's" success in the Poll Hereford ring, the title for the 1979 Royal Melbourne Show Supreme Beef Breed Bull was decided on the main arena. "Labrador" won the award from the 14 beef breed Champions represented, gaining seven first placing points from other beef breed judges.

(Ed. We have included the Official result sheet for the 1979 Supreme Beef Breed Bull Award.

NOTE: *The 14 beef cattle judges (with the exception of Mr. Wright whose place was taken by Mr. Reynolds from Queensland) are involved in the judging.



Moorlands Labrador, held by Mrs. Judy Richardson, Majestic Poll Hereford Stud, Bordertown, S.A.

*The winning bull has the lowest points total because he has the highest number of judges first placings.

Each judge had to place the breed he actually judged for the Show, last. This is signified by 16 — in some cases a judge may have officiated in more than one breed section for the Show, however he was still required to place those breeds last. (e.g. Mr. J. Onley and Mr. B. Starritt).

Statistics:

"Labrador" was the heaviest beef bull at the 1979 Melbourne "Royal" weighing 1,129 kg. and to prove he was not carrying excess fat, a scan was undertaken by Mr. R. Muntz of Dalgetys, the result being a reading of 12.

On November 6, 1979, "Labrador" was measured by Mr. M. Milne, Senior Livestock Advisor, Department, Narracoorte S.A.

Moorlands Labrador, Tattoo No. 0187

Height at Shoulder — 157.5 cms.

Height at Loin — 160 cms.

Length from Shoulder to butt of tail — 157.5 cms.

Below hock circum. — 63.5 cms.

Heart girth circum. — 254 cms.

Loin to flank — 81.3 cms.

Flank to ground — 78.7 cms.

Scrotum — 42 cms.

Proved Dehorner

The Majestic Poll Hereford Stud purchased "Labrador" to paddock mate with a draft of 60 outstanding females bought from the Carrawigra Poll Hereford Stud and he was taken to the Melbourne "Royal" only because of the quality of his calves.

He has proved a 100% dehorner progeny from 30 selected stud Hereford females, all being polls. "Labrador" joins his females under paddock conditions, running in 300 acre paddocks.

"Labrador" has the best constitution and is the most active bull ever used at the Majestic Stud, and it is worth noting that he was not shedded prior to the Melbourne Show and fed only on a paddock self-feeder for four weeks before going to Melbourne.

"Labrador" is passing his type and quality to his progeny and, I believe, has the ability to contribute greatly to the genetic pool of the Poll Hereford breed in Australia.

**SUPREME BEEF BREED BULL - 1979
RESULT SHEET**

	R.L. McEACHERN (Vic.)	S.H. CLARKE (N.Z.)	J.R. GRIEVE (Qld.)	R. REYNOLDS (Qld.)	D.W. MOYLE (S.A.)	H. DOUGLAS (Qld.)	G. GORDON (Vic.)	A.M. DOHERTY (N.S.W.)	A. DUBBINS (Vic.)	J.W. YOUNG (S.A.)	J. ONLEY (Qld.)	W.B. THORNE (N.S.W.)	P. SPORLE (Vic.)	B. STARRITT (Vic.)	TOTAL
BEEF SHORTHORN	16*	8	11	11	8	12	1	8	14	9	14	8	12	12	144
POLL SHORTHORN	1	16*	4	1	9	2	10	3	16	2	6	4	8	6	88
POLL HEREFORD	3	1	1	16*	2	1	5	1	1	4	4	1	5	1	46
ANGUS	8	13	9	10	16*	9	2	4	3	11	3	3	3	4	98
SANTA GERTRUDIS	7	6	3	3	6	16*	11	6	5	6	9	12	13	8	111
GALLOWAY	5	14	16	13	11	14	16*	12	13	10	13	14	11	14	176
MURRAY GREY	4	9	5	6	7	5	7	16*	7	8	7	9	14	9	113
CHAROLAIS	9	3	10	5	3	8	8	7	16*	5	5	2	6	5	92
SIMMENTAL	6	2	2	2	1	6	4	2	2	16*	1	5	1	2	52
BRAHMAN	16	15	14	15	16	11	16	14	10	16	16*	16	15	15	205
BRAFORD	10	7	6	9	5	3	9	5	4	15	16*	7	16	10	122
BRANGUS	13	12	13	10	10	10	14	13	11	14	16*	13	4	7	166
SOUTH DEVON	11	10	12	14	16	16	12	16	15	13	11	16*	16	16	194
LIMOUSIN	12	11	15	12	12	13	13	15	9	12	2	10	16*	13	165
CHIANINA	15	5	16	8	13	15	16	10	8	7	8	15	9	16*	161
LINCOLN RED	2	16*	7	4	4	4	6	9	6	1	10	6	2	3	80
AUST. SHORTHORN	16*	4	8	7	14	7	3	11	12	3	12	11	6	11	125
SUSSEX	14	16	16	16	15	16	16	16	16	16	15	16	10	16*	214

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1980 VICTORIAN STUD PONY SHOW

THE VICTORIAN Branch of the Australian Pony Stud Book Society conducted its 15th Annual Stud Pony Show during the Australia Day weekend at the Royal Melbourne Show Grounds. This show is certainly the largest annual show of its kind in Australia and entries totalled 1816, which exceeded last year's figure by 286.

Foal Futurity

Events judged on the Saturday included child-handler classes, saddle and harness events, activity and educated sections and the third Foal Futurity competition. To be eligible for the final judging of this event, breeders must have nominated an unborn foal two years prior. A nominal fee is charged for the unborn foal entry, then at yearling age, the breeder confirms his entry by paying an additional fee. At two-years-old, if the breeder considers the pony worthy of participating in the final judging, he pays a final fee. The prize money for each futurity is made up of the total amount of entry fees paid by breeders over the two year period. This amount is then divided proportionally between the five placegetters. There are three judges for this event and a points system is used to determine the prizewinners. The judges this year, all Victorians, were Mr. A. Ferry from Meredith, Miss H. Green, Moorooduc, and Mr. L. Peck from Grassmere.

The winners were:

Australian Colt (two years): G. & Mrs. A. Paynter's nomination - Owendale Elvis.

Australian Filly (two years): M. & J. Hannah's nomination - Yarrayong Sioux.

Shetland Colt or Filly (two years): Mrs. A. Morgan's nomination - Janal Jenny.

Welsh Mountain Colt or Filly (two years): Mrs. R.D. Owen's nomination - Owendale Glimpse.

Welsh Colt or Filly (two years): Marbet Pony Stud's nomination - Marbet Troy.

The Best Futurity Pony Colt or Filly, selected from the winners of the above class was Mrs. R.D. Owen's grey Welsh Mountain filly, Owendale Glimpse.

The Futurity Pony Gelding (two years) award was won by Mrs. C. Brudenell's nomination, Pennylane Tjakamarra. This Gelding futurity class includes fully paid-up colt nominations that have been gelded prior to the final judging. It is hoped this event will entice breeders to geld colts that they would otherwise have kept entire purely for the futurity judging.

Child Handlers

These are age group classes in which the emphasis is on the ability of the child to present the pony and show it off in the ring. Classes were well supported with 99 entries in the five events and the judge was Mrs. Judith McLaughlin of Moorooduc, Victoria. The winners were as follows:—

Child Handler - 6 years and under - Miss. E. McDonald

7 & 8 years - Miss T. Parish

9 & 10 years - Miss B. Bowman

11 & 12 years - Miss L. Payne

13, 14 & 15 years - Miss N. Cooper

The Best Junior Handler award selected from the class winners was Miss L. Payne from Cranbourne.

Activity and Educated

The Activity and Educated events attracted a large entry where all breeds of ponies registered with the A.P.S.B. competed against each other, giving each breed the opportunity to show its versatility. Each competitor had to complete an obstacle course including dismounting and mounting off a drum whilst their pony remained stationary.

They also negotiated bending poles, small jumps, a ring of tyres, the opening and closing of a gate, and had to load and off load from a float, and walk over a ramp. Points were awarded for each part of the course, the possible overall total being 100.

There were four activity classes with a trophy awarded to the pony gaining the highest number of points. The award was won by Miss Karen Chipperfield riding an Australian Pony gelding, Green Valley Tarago.

The Educated section is similar to a dressage test and once again points are awarded for each movement. A trophy was awarded to the pony gaining the highest number of points from the four class winners and was won by Mrs. B. Smith's nomination, Birralee Merinda - once again an Australian Pony.

Side Saddle

Another interesting event that was judged on the Saturday was the pony ridden in side-saddle. This was the first year for the competition and it attracted a satisfactory entry of nine. The difficulty in obtaining a pony-size side saddle, let alone the cost of one, certainly didn't deter any of these competitors and a lot of time and thought had gone into their costumes and presentation - the overall picture of the riders was very good. The winner was Miss Jill Bradford on Glenway Lucille, second was Miss Karen Chipperfield on Green Valley Tarago, third was Bott's nomination, Birralee Sweet Briar, and fourth was Winzler's nomination, Birralee Tamus. The versatility of the Australian Pony was again demonstrated, the four prize winners being of that breed.

Led Classes - Australian

The second day of the Show saw the judging of the led breed classes. The Australian Pony section was well supported and the judges were Mr. P. Davis of N.S.W. (seniors) and Mrs. W. Galbraith, also from N.S.W. (juniors). Supreme Australian Pony was Narada Laramie, owned and bred by Mr. Roy Jolly of Anakie in Victoria. This pony also captured the Supreme Australian Pony award at last year's Royal Melbourne Show.

Welsh

The Welsh Mountain section was judged by Mr. R.W. Richardson of the Bereen Stud in N.S.W. and he awarded the Supreme exhibit sash in this section to Mrs. A. Osborne's imported mare, Moorfields Siskin.

The Welsh B Championship was won by Mr. T. Wakelam's imported chestnut stallion, Breccles Roundelay with Reserve Champion going to Mrs. Margie Whyte's and Mrs. B. Sitch's imported chestnut mare Weston Rosebud.

Stud Pony Show Cont.

Mrs. A. Chipperfield's Wingara Justin was awarded the Welsh C Championship and she also paraded the Reserve Champion, Wingara Harmony.

The class for Welsh D Cobs was won by Mark Bullen's imported pony, Llanwarth Jack Flash with second place going to Mrs. S. Walsh's pony Acheron Dant-Y-Llew. The Welsh B, C and D sections were judged by Mrs. Mary Willsallen of Harden in N.S.W.

Shetlands

Mrs. P.B. Ronald of Pakenham, Victoria, officiated in the Shetland Section and her selection for the Supreme Shetland award was Mr. C. Goldsmith's stallion, Barrymore Marquis. Entries were well up in this section compared to previous years, and the overall quality was very good.

Hackneys

The Champion Hackney award went to Mr. E. Wright's bay stallion, Rangeworthy Swell Time, with the Reserve Champion sash going to Mr. R.W. Jolly's Narada Heather. The number of entries in this section has greatly improved and the recent formation of the Hackney Pony Enthusiasts Group has assisted in increasing interest in these classes.

Moreland Breeds

The three Moreland breeds of pony, Highland, New Forest and Connemara, were judged by Mr. Anthony Deane from Tonimbuk, Victoria. The Champion New Forest exhibit was Yarborough Partnership's brown stallion Wootton Shooting Star (imp.) with the Reserve going to James and Jackson's nomination, Ramblers Pickanother (imp.). The Champion Connemara exhibit was Miss C.J. Storey's grey mare Abbeyleix Fiona (imp.) with Reserve being D. & K. Jackson's Abbeyleix Grey Pearl (imp.).

A class for Highland ponies was introduced this year and two entries paraded before the Judges. The winner was Mrs. P.B. Ronald's grey stallion Barrymoor Grand Final. It will be some time before entries increase in this section due to the lack of imported purebred ponies in Australia.

Geldings

The Supreme Gelding award which is competed for by the geldings from all the breed sections was won by B. & D. McDonald's grey Australian pony gelding, Allambie Carlyle. The McDonalds hope to take this pony to compete overseas in 1981, the year of the Australian Pony Stud Book's Golden Jubilee.

Overall, this year's Stud Show was another tremendous success, the presentation of all exhibits was excellent and the standard very high. Competition was keen in all sections leaving no doubt that this Show is held in very high regard by Australia's Stud Pony breeders and owners.

Marion Costello
Publicity Officer,
A.P.S.B. Society (Victorian Branch)



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For further information contact:

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Orange Agricultural College,
P.O. Box 883, Orange, N.S.W. 2800
Phone (063) 62 4699

National Slaughter Levy

IT IS interesting to hear and read that the joint presidents of the Victorian Farmers and Graziers' Association Pastoral group are proposing the introduction of a \$2 national slaughter levy, to provide a floor level price fund for use in depressed cattle market situations.

It will be even more interesting to see the reaction of rank and file beef producers to the proposal. Will memories be short and the whole scheme dismissed or will producers encourage the development of a self help exercise to buffer low prices in future times?

Obviously, now is the time to develop a "fighting fund" whilst a degree of affluence is returning to the rural sector and cattle prices are good. A \$2 slaughter levy would appear on the surface to be very cheap insurance when it is considered that the average price of cattle is around 80 cents per kg. live-weight.

Whilst a \$2 slaughter levy may not be the right or final answer, at least it is some form of self help scheme and unless producers are prepared to insure themselves to some degree against low prices in the future, then they can neither expect or receive the sympathy of Government or the city voter in times of depressed markets.



A set slaughter fee would appear to be a most equitable scheme in that the person most likely to need assistance in times of stress is currently selling his product in the lower halls of the market and is therefore likely to pay a greater percentage of his gross proceeds in insurance than the producer selling in the top market bracket.

Historically the Australian farmer has been a character of independent

thought and decision, depending on his foresight and acumen to survive, however, at the same time farming was considered a way of life with disappointment, disaster and satisfaction accepted in the lifestyle.

Today farming is a business and as such must be run that way with any opportunity taken to develop protection against disaster.

YOUNG FARMERS ON THE MOVE

THE MONTH of March 1980 will see the Victorian Young Farmers promoting themselves in the community and gaining new members with a "Push In The Bush".

The "Big Push" is to involve all current members and most District Councils in the State will be pushing beds, trolleys or bicycles around their local communities, promoting their activities and raising money for a worthy cause on the way.

The new slogan — "Join Young Farmers — You'll Love The Movement" — is being launched to coincide with the campaign. The "Big Push" will take place in most areas on the 22nd or 23rd of March.



L. to R. Geoff Went (Tanjil Valley Club), Gay Beasley (Geelong Club), and Steve Whitworth (State Executive). Proved co-operative subjects for the photography session at the public relations officers camp.

Young Farmers Cont.



State Festival will be held on March 28th, 29th and 30th, at the Gippsland Field Days site at Lardner near Warragul. A unique attraction of the weekend will be a proposed "tent city" on the site, and hundreds of Young Farmers are expected to take advantage of the camping facilities.

Mr. Brian Dixon, Minister for Community Services, will officially open the State Festival with the theme "Down On The Farm".

There are going to be some amusing competitions for participants including a brick holding event, tube race on water, cow milking and balloon shaving, to name a few.

P.R. Camp

The first ever State Camp for Public Relations Officers was held late last year at Frankston, where approximately 50 Young Farmers from Club and District Council level holding the position of Public Relations Officer, attended a very interesting and rewarding weekend.

Sessions were held on communications, press releases and photography, radio and television interviews (with video tape equipment), poster and T-shirt designing and "brain-storming" on slogans and promotion ideas.

It was a very successful Camp and will be held again in 1980. The skills gained from this weekend will benefit not only Young Farmers but also the community.

News From the Victorian Poll Hens

OUR LONG Christmas break has left me with very little news, however we had a very successful sale of our promotion goods at Christmas amounting to \$453.55.

The Hereford Society placed with us an order for 200 key tags to take overseas for the Hereford Conference in South America. We thank them for their support and hope they prove a great success.

Our only bit of bad luck for the year has been a late account sent to us for Sales Tax on our cushion-bags. At the time of ordering and accepting quotes there was no Sales Tax on these articles.

Quite a number of our Victorian

Poll Her members are embarking on the South American Tour to attend The World Hereford Conference and we take this opportunity of wishing you all a most successful trip.

As The Australian Hereford Society is taking Australian made gifts as a token of appreciation for hospitality given, why not let some of our Victorian Poll Her goods be given as well? Our cushion-bags would be an excellent and useful gift.

On that note I will close until after the 1980 Sydney Royal Show.

Shirley Sleight
Marketing Manageress
Victorian Poll Hens

GUNGA

Poll Hereford stud Wootton, NSW

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Phone: (02) 76 9423**

Angus Futurity Show/Sale

THE 1980 Angus Futurity Show sale will be staged at the Royal Melbourne Show Grounds on Wednesday, 23rd April.

The Show segment of the Futurity will take place on the Show Grounds' Woodchop lawn in the morning of the 23rd where exhibitors will parade their animals under the adjudication of Mr. Marty Alberni from Berwick, for \$4,000 in prize money provided by Hoechst Australia Limited.

A sale of stud Angus males and females including those shown earlier, will be conducted in the No. 5 Cattle Pavilion following the Show.

Organizers of this the second Angus Futurity Show, Sale are confident that entries will be in excess of the 1979 fixture, breeders being aware of the success of the first sale.

It is anticipated that the sale catalogue will contain animals to suit any buyer whether he be looking for a stud female or a commercial bull. In 1979 vendors did not place ridiculous reserve prices on their cattle and 1980 should be exactly the same.



1979 Angus Futurity Show. Judge, Mr. J.R. Fraser "The Stern" Stud, New Zealand with one of the Bull Classes.



The error factor in registration from Stud Breeders makes questionable the pedigree of many stud animals.

Make it Easier on Yourself – and us!

A RECENT plea from the Manager of a breed society to his members to take more care when filling out animal registration forms, brings to mind the cross that stud breeders bear unnecessarily.

Today, stock registration forms supplied to breeders by the societies are simplicity itself. They require a minimum of information yet the error factor is remarkable – it is commonplace for 60% of returns from breeders to contain errors, often requiring long and tedious checking and correction by breed society staff.

Continued next page

Make it Easier Cont.

Costs

The cost of processing a clear and correct form is relatively small but it can escalate dramatically when there are mistakes to be sorted out.

Breeders complain about the costs of registering animals, yet do very little to help themselves in reducing expenses by making sure that their forms are right. It is also an unfortunate fact of life that breeders who are meticulous in their bookwork, still have to pay for the "slap dash" operator.

Accuracy

The keeping of accurate records is almost more important in stud breeding than buying the right bull to "click" with your females and the error percentage known to breed societies lays grave doubts on the records kept by many stud breeders.

Perhaps some of the advances and development of breeds can be attributed to errors by breeders — who knows? conversely the error factor could make questionable the pedigree of many stud animals — who knows?

We have agreed that the keeping of accurate records is important, yet how often have we come across stud breeders whose records were abysmal?

Is it any wonder that breed societies are now tending to require blood typing of every 50th, 100th or 250th calf submitted for registration?



Red Poll Carcass Awards

IN ADDITION to second place in the coveted Borthwick Trophy competition at the 1979 Royal Melbourne Show, the Red Poll breed has chalked up some impressive results at carcass competitions throughout the Victorian countryside late last year.

Euroa

A Red Poll cross steer exhibited by Messrs. M.A. & M.W. Cresswell of Violet Town, was awarded the third prize ribbon "on the hooks" at the Euroa A. & P. Society Carcass Competition held in October 1979.

Heathcote

The Red Poll entry of the Cathro Stud, owned and operated by Mr. H.M. Spalding of Smythes Creek, near Ballarat, accounted for the second prize, "on the hoof" for a pen of three Steers in the vealer class at the Heathcote Carcass Competition in November.

The "on hook" judging again saw Red Polls amongst the top three, with a third placing for a pen of three steers, and it is significant that the best Red Poll carcass, which scored 76 points, was the highest scoring vealer and was evaluated equal second in the carcass appraisal for the competition as a whole — not bad going!

The Cathro Stud was again a prominent placegetter at Maryborough where three pure bred Red Poll steers were entered in the carcass competition.

In the class for vealers to 11 months of age "on the hoof", the Red Poll exhibited gained third placing and first placing "on the



Red Polls: The breeds has "chalked up" some impressive results in carcass competitions over last year.

hook" with a score of 76 points.

In the class for steers aged 11 to 19 months, Red Polls were placed equal second and equal third "on the hook" scoring 76 and 77 points respectively.

Wangaratta

Benalla Red Poll breeders, Messrs. A.W. & W.L. Stafford exhibited the winning steer in the "on the hook" section at the Wangaratta Carcass Competition. It's interesting to note

that the Staffords' entry took out the top award in the same competition in 1978.

Entries in the vealer class at Wangaratta in October totalled 22 and Red Polls featured in the five top awards.

A special mention must also go to breeder Don Suter whose two Red Poll steers filled the 4th and 5th placings "on the hook" in the Wangaratta competition.



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Look Before You Leap

THE PREPARATION and showing of cattle particularly at Royal Shows is a very costly business and each year breeders spend many hours and dollars in educating, grooming and feeding their animals for the Show ring.

Each year also, we at the "Royal" have the difficult task of telling a number of exhibitors to take their "pride and joy" home because (a) they are not tattooed or (b) they bear the wrong tattoo.

It should be automatic for an exhibitor to check the tattoo of his

intended show exhibit before commencing to plough time and effort into "getting it up" for the Show such a simple exercise, yet neglected by experienced exhibitors as well as the "New Chums". Whilst very few exhibitors are caught twice, it is such a pity that they must learn by bitter experience.

We urge all intending cattle exhibitors to ensure that all their animals' tattoos are in order before commencing the preparation of Show Cattle.

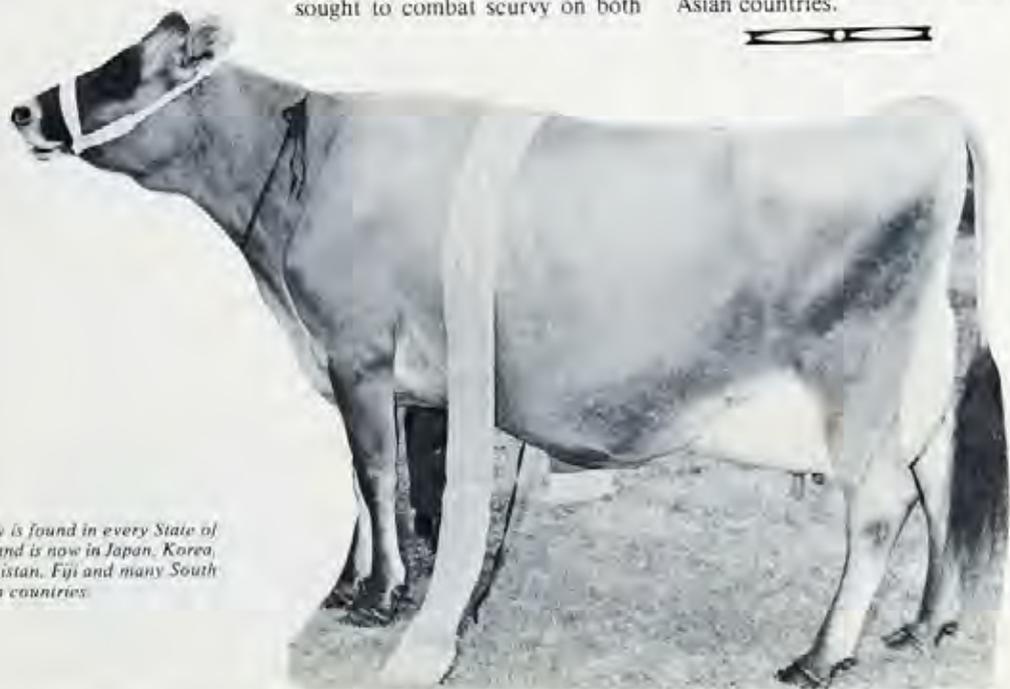


Breed History: The Jersey

ORIGINATING AS a purebred species on the small island of Jersey in the English Channel, the Jersey cow has spread through Europe and the 'New World' to South Africa, where she is the premier dairy cow, and more recently into the communist block countries of Eastern Europe.

She was introduced to Australia over 100 years ago aboard passenger vessels, providing milk on the journey and extra cash for the captains when sold to settlers on the quayside. Her rich, high protein milk was eagerly sought to combat scurvy on both

the sea and land, as it contains an energy content 25% higher than ordinary milk. The majority of Australia's National Dairy Herd descends from these early "ships' cows" and later importations, and despite the establishment of other breeds, the Jersey remains the basis of Australia's highly efficient dairy industry. She is found in every State of Australia, under extreme climatic conditions, and the breed is now working in Japan, Korea, India, Pakistan, Fiji and many South-East Asian countries.



The Jersey is found in every State of Australia and is now in Japan, Korea, India, Pakistan, Fiji and many South East Asian countries.

SHOW DATES March, April, May

Mar. 4, 5 & 6	Wimmers Mach. Field Days	Noel R. Curran, P.O. Box 272, Horsham, 3400. Phone (056) 82 2424.
Mar. 7 & 8	Deniliquin (NSW)	Mr. V.J. Anderson, P.O. Box 128, Deniliquin, 2710. Phone (058) 81 1694.
Mar. 8	Heytesbury	Mrs. Mary M. Free, Bloek 270, Coorimungle, via Timboon, W.S.D. 3268. Phone (055) 94 3316. March 31.
Mar. 8	Pakenham	D.J. Bourke, Racecourse Road, Pakenham, 3810. Phone (059) 41 1075.
Mar. 8	Tallangatta	Mrs. M.A. Ross, R.M.B. 2080, Tallangatta, 3700. Phone T. 9. A.H. (060) 71 7221.
Mar. 10	Orbost	G. Chapman, Box 372, Orbost 3888. Phone (051) 541 463. Post entries.
Mar. 11	Glengarry Car-cass Competition	J. Waldron, P.O. Box 4, Traralgon, 3844. Phone (051) 74 2569.
Mar. 14 & 15	Cohuna	Mr. Arthur W. Cherry, Box 155, Cohuna, 3568. Phone (054) 56 7397.
Mar. 15	Jingellic (NSW)	W. Gadd, Box 51, Walwa. Phone (060) 77 9257.
Mar. 15	Corryong	Mrs. I. Lochhead, P.O. Box 140, Corryong, 3707. Phone (060) 77 4273 A.H. Phone (060) 76 1233 B.H.
Mar. 15	Neerim	Mrs. K. Marshall, 29 Kean Street, Drouin, 3818. Phone (056) 25 1243.
Mar. 15	Tatura	J.R. Rayne, Box 224, P.O. Tatura, 3616. Phone (058) 24 1844.
Mar. 15	Yarra Glen	Mrs. V. Walker, Yarra View Road, Yarra Glen, 3775. Phone (03) 730 1216.
Mar. 20, 21, 22 & 23	Gippsland Field Days/Farm World	A.G. Farrington, South Road, Warragul, 3820. Phone (056) 23 2178.
Mar. 22	Balmoral	Mrs. M.N. Menzel, Telangatuk, 3401. Phone (053) 88 2231.
Mar. 22	Red Hill	A. Birkett, "Westvale", Flinders Road, Main Ridge, 3928. Phone (059) 89 6119.
Mar. 22	Wakool (NSW)	Andrew Hagan, "Minnil" R.M.B. 375, Deniliquin, 2710. Phone (058) 87 1117.
Mar. 29	Branxholme Bushwhackers Carnival	Mrs. J.A. Hewer, Box 40, Branxholme, 3302. Phone (055) 786 276.
Mar. 29	Bunyip	Mrs. K. Halvy, C/-P.O. Box 33, Bunyip, 3815. Phone (056) 29 5267.
Mar. 28 Apr. 8	Sydney Royal	Maj. Gen. C.M.J. Pearson, A.O., D.S.O., O.B.E. M.C., R.A.S. of N.S.W., G.P.O. Box 4317, Sydney, N.S.W. 2001. Phone (02) 31 7781.
Mar. 28 & 29	V.Y.F. State Festival, Lardner	State Secretary, V.Y.F., Showgrounds, Epsom Road, Ascot Vale, 3032. Phone (03) 376 0471.
Apr. 7	Glengarry	J.G. Waldron, P.O. Box 186, Traralgon, 3844. Phone (051) 74 2569.

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New world records were established within minutes of each other at the 11th Annual Premier Angora Sale at the Royal Melbourne Showgrounds last Friday 8th February. The Glenroy Angora Stud, Victoria sold Glenroy Langwell Triad for \$32,000 and within a few minutes the Banyen Bounty Stud, Rupanyip received \$42,000 for Banyen Bounty 2016.

A pre-sale show was held and well supported with South African expert Mr. G. Grobbelar judging assisted by two local judges. Though the line-ups in each class were large the show did also result in displaying one very definite problem in the industry and that is the existence of black and coloured hairs through Angoras from some established studs.

The Angora industry now must take stock of its position,

leading studs are turning their backs on their responsibility and that is to supply pure stock as a foundation for a world standard economically viable mohair producing industry.

The industry consists of nearly 1,000 Angora Studs and two societies, where are the leaders and classifiers while many people are getting their fingers burnt?

Prospective onlookers shrug their shoulders in dismay as the industry turns yet another corner.

Angoras can play a vital part in the agricultural world in Australia and mohair is a much sort after fibre by the manufacturers, but with prices of animals as high as they are there is no incentive to produce mohair commercially and with black and coloured fibres being overlooked in breeding stock what future is there?

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CENTRAL VICTORIAN AXEMEN'S ASSOCIATION COMPETITION DATES March and April

Mar. 10	Moomba (Mon)
Mar. 16	Mornington-Association for Blind
Mar. 22	Yarra Glen
Mar. 29	Red Hill
Apr. 6	Ringwood Highland Games

All entries close 14 days prior to each Carnival with Handicapper, Mr. Gary Stewart, 134 Noga Avenue, East Keilor. Phone: 336 1336.

For further information contact Secretary, J.I. Macilwain, 81 Rosella Street, Doncaster East, 3109. Phone: 842 2087.

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Mr Graham McConnell, the Principal of the College, says that "the college's success in producing leading farmers and farm managers is largely due to the emphasis put on practical skills which are taught by farmers in the community and top management tuition which is given by the College lecturers and a large number of invited guests. These include farmers, accountants, valuers and veterinarians.

The College also benefits from the substantial experience of its Council Members, who include leading farmers and businessmen. Mr Bob Balderstone, the President of the Royal Agricultural Society, Victoria, is also a member of our council. Two years ago Marcus Oldham College offered for the first time, a Horse Management Course of one years duration. This course put a greater emphasis on practical skills and about 40% of the course is devoted to business management aspects of horse enterprises. The first years graduates all have positions of responsibility. It is anticipated that 1980's students will also be successful in gaining positions which will lead to management and ownership roles.

Two of the leading trading banks of Australia choose to use Marcus Oldham's expertise to give tuition to Rural Bank Managers. These courses are held during vacation times when students are out of the College gaining further practical knowledge. Numerous other short courses are offered by the College and are normally held in the May vacation.

Marcus Oldham College is recognized as Australia's largest external studies College and had over 1500 new enrolments from farmers throughout Australia in 1979. In 1980 over 2000 enrolments are anticipated as a large number of new courses are developed.

Marcus Oldham College, which is situated on the outskirts of Geelong, is in many ways unique amongst agricultural institutions in Australia. It was the first to offer Farm Management tuition — prior to its existence the few Australians who sought farm management tuition went to either New Zealand or one of the English Colleges.

Marcus Oldham is Australia's only independent agricultural institution, and whilst independence means that fees must be charged to students, the benefits of independence far outweigh the price disadvantage.

The college has been offering since its inception a Farm Management Diploma which is of three years duration, the first and third years are spent on campus receiving tuition from the College's highly trained lecturers. The second year is spent doing full time farming on hand picked properties throughout Australia. Substantial farming knowledge is required before entry to the College.



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CAT SHOW DATES March, April, May

The following dates may be subject to alteration. Enquiries can be directed to the Feline Control Council, Royal Show Grounds, Epsom Road, Ascot Vale, 3032, telephone (03) 376 0471.

MARCH

Central Highlands Cat Club — M. Poole (053) 32 2970

Yarra Glen Agric. Society — V. Walker 730 1216

Goroke Agric. Society — E. B. Caldwell R.M.B. 2183 Goroke

Murray Goulburn Cat Club — M. Guppy (058) 21 9672

APRIL

Akoonah Park, Berwick (Easter Monday) — C. Houghton, P. Petrie 796 869

Royal Sacred Siamese Cat Club — N. Meaney 795 3104

Border District Cat Club — J. Lawrence (057) 62 3719

Bendigo Cat Club — P. Durston (054) 43 7022

MAY

Croydon Agric. Soc. — P. Bowers 729 3119

Cameo, Smoke, Tabby & Patched Persian Soc. — V. Hornbuckle 754 3556

Westcity Cat Club — K. Bond (054) 72 2659

Pedigreed Persian Cat Club — M. Chusemore 874 2243

Shorthair Cat Club — J. Dahlenburg 569 9409

Wodonga District Cat Club — M. Mildren (060) 24 4201

Sat. 8th

Sat. 15th

Sat. 22nd

Sat. 29th

Mon. 7th

Sun. 13th

Sat. 19th

Sat. 26th

Sat. 3rd

Sun. 11th

Sun. 18th

Sat. 24th

Sun. 25th

Sat. 31st

1980 Show Dates Booklet Available

THE POPULAR pocket sized edition of the Show Dates booklet has been re-introduced by the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria and the Victorian Agricultural Societies Association and is now available containing Australian Royal Show dates, all 1980 Country Agricultural Show Dates, Horse Events, Dog and Cat Show Dates.

The booklet also includes names, addresses and telephone numbers of Show Secretaries and in most cases provides closing dates for entries.

Requests for the booklets can be addressed to the Director, Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria (Show Dates Booklet), Royal Show Grounds, Epsom Road, Ascot Vale, 3032 — telephone (03) 376 0471.



Royal Show Dates for 1980

THE SHOW dates for all Australian "Royals" are as follows:—

SYDNEY — 28 March to 8 April (incl.)

BRISBANE — 7 to 16 August (incl.)

ADELAIDE — 29 August to 6 September (incl.)

MELBOURNE — 17 to 27 September (incl.)

PERTH — 20 to 28 September (incl.)

LAUNCESTON — 8 to 11 October (incl.)

HOBART — 21 to 25 October (incl.)

The Royal National Show in Canberra was conducted from 22 to 24 February.



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R.A.S.V. MEETINGS March, April, May

March:

Monday 17	1.30 p.m.	Finance Committee
Tuesday 18	9.30 a.m.	Committee Meetings
	12 Noon	Annual Meeting
	1.45 p.m.	Council Meeting
Wednesday 26	10.30 a.m.	Works and Planning Committee

April

Monday 14	1.30 p.m.	Finance Committee
Tuesday 15	9.30 a.m.	Committee Meetings
	1.45 p.m.	Council Meeting
Wednesday 23	10.30 a.m.	Works and Planning Committee

May:

Monday 12	1.30 p.m.	Finance Committee
Tuesday 13	9.30 a.m.	Committee Meetings
	1.45 p.m.	Council Meeting
Wednesday 21	10.30 a.m.	Works and Planning Committee

SHEEP DOG TRIAL DATES March, April, May

March

<i>Benalla 6-8</i>	R. Chapman, 45 Monds Ave., Benalla, 3672 (62 3585)
<i>Moyston 13-15</i>	Mrs. J. McLean, Moyston, 3377 (53 5563)
<i>Goroke 20-22</i>	J.R. Hawkes, Walkers Lane, Goroke, 3412 (147)
<i>Kaniva 24-26</i>	Mrs. C.A. Merrett, R.M.B., 697, Kaniva, 3419 (93 1237)
<i>Wando Vale 27-29</i>	S.E. Donehue, R.S.D., 516, Casterton, 3311 (82 0273)
<i>Seymour 27-29</i>	D.P. Leahy, 33 Emily St., Seymour, 3660 (92 2124)

April

<i>Euroa 8-10</i>	B.F. O'Connor, R.S.D., 244, Euroa, 3666 (904 204)
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May

<i>Cohuna 5-7</i>	A.W. Cherry, Leitchville, 3567 (56 7397)
<i>Werrabee 14-17 (Vic. C'Ship)</i>	Mrs. B.L. Arnold, Maiden Gully R.S.D., Bendigo, 3551 (469 114)

Further details relating to Victorian Sheep Dog Trials can be obtained from Mrs. B.L. Arnold, Registrar, Victorian Working Sheep Dog Association, Maiden Gully R.S.D., Bendigo, 3551 — telephone (054) 469 114.

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BREED SOCIETY MEETINGS

March, April, May

- March:**
 Friday 7 2.30 p.m. Australian Sheep
 Breeders' Association
- Friday 14 11.00 a.m. Guernsey Cattle Society
 of Australia (V.B.)
- Wednesday 19 6.00 p.m. Kennel Control Council
- April:**
 Wednesday 16 6.00 p.m. Kennel Control Council
- May:**
 Wednesday 21 6.00 p.m. Kennel Control Council

HORSE & EQUESTRIAN SHOW DATES

March, April, May

- Mar. 3 & 4 The Vic. State Quarter Horse Championships & Foal Futurity. Mrs. L. Roberts, 'Nokomis', P.O. Selby, 3159. Phone 754 5121.
- Mar. 9 Hobart Royal Stud Horse Show Tasmania, P.O. Box 94, Glenorchy, 7010. Phone (002) 72 6812. B. Christie-Johnston, R.A.S. of Tasmania, P.O. Box 94, Glenorchy, 7010. Phone (002) 72 6812.
- Mar. 9 Somerville Lions Club Annual Horse Show Fruit Growers Reserve, Somerville. Mr. W.E. Hunt, 248 Jones Road, Somerville, 3912. Phone (059) 77 5584.
- Mar. 10 Sorrento Rotary & Lions Gymkhana M.L. Johnston, 75 Ocean Beach Rd., Sorrento, 3943.
- Mar. 22 Shepparton All Breeds Horse Show, Shepparton Showgrounds D.R. Forsyth, Box 286, Shepparton. Phone (058) 21 4677.
- Mar. 23 Fourth Lions Grand Horse Show, Eastfield Park, Eastfield Road, Croydon. Mr. Bales, 9 Stephen Crescent, Croydon. Phone 723 4555.
- Apr. 7 Lang Lang Rodeo Mrs. N. Sampson, Westernport Road, Lang Lang, 3984. Phone (059) 97 5452.
- Apr. 12 Avenel One Day Event Mrs. H. Chisholm, "Fernside" P.O. Box 193, Seymour, 3660. Phone (057) 96 9221.
- Apr. 13 Eastfield Gymkhana Eastfield Park Eastfield Road, Croydon. Mr. G. Courts, 37 Ronald Road, Croydon, 3136. Phone 723 3001.
- Apr. 20 Castlemaine Clydesdale Mare and Foal Show. Secretary, P.O. Box 65, Castlemaine, 3450. Phone (054) 721 1548.
- May 4 Rupertswood Gymkhana Salesian College, Sunbury, 3429. Phone 744 1899. Secretary, Rupertswood Gymkhana, Salesian College, Sunbury, 3429. Phone 744 1899.

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BEGGAR'S BUDGET Q1969 CHESTNUT 15.1 HANDS



ROMEDIO—THE PERFECT REMEDY!

About five years ago, the Van Gaal family of Sale began a search for a big strong riding horse suitable for showjumping, eventing and dressage. After a fruitless quest, it decided it would have to breed one, and so the search began for a stallion.

They looked for a sire to put bone and height into stock from a Thoroughbred mare, and finally bought a Thoroughbred-Holsteiner cross colt, although he was not the ideal of the picture they had firmly set in their minds. They subsequently wrote to the International Holsteiner Centre at Elmshorn, West Germany.

The Van Gaals presented the centre with a list of requirements which seemed impossible to fulfill. The horse had to be over 17 hh, have good substance and bone, of the modern Holsteiner type, thus being free of coarseness, and of course he had to be attractive.

The Holsteiner Centre replied with the offer of a grey stallion, Romedio. He came from a proven family of showjumpers, eventers and dressage horses and had passed his performance testing with the incredibly high average of 88.09 per cent.

In June, 1975, the FN (equivalent to our EFA) awarded him and A1 classification with a number 1 listing — as high as you can go, and ranking him with the best Government stallions in Germany.

In 1972, Romedio was awarded the rank of premium champion foal with honors, and on his second presentation at 18 months, he again was awarded the premium championship.

At three years, when the final performance testing is carried out, he scored that 88.09 per cent, which graduated him top of his year.

On top of all these impressive facts was a photograph which showed a most striking dappled grey horse with an attractive head — a quality sometimes lacking in warmbloods.

Despite a daunting price tag, after family consultation Hans Van Gaal bought Romedio.

Romedio was still in Germany at the time of the 1976 Olympic Games, although now in the ownership of the Van Gaals.

In the words of Hans Van Gaal: "We really were incredibly lucky buying this horse. I only found out just how good he was after he arrived in 1977 and I read up on Holsteiners and their breeding lines.

"Still I wasn't prepared to make sweeping statements about him then; he had to prove himself first.

"He has. The foals are all so alike — they have the stance, the small ears and pretty head. They're so stereotyped, strong with driving hind action."

The Brokeford Holsteiner stud was established in 1977 with Romedio and the Australian-bred Siegfried (a son of Australia's first Holsteiner Flaneur) as sires. The 40 broodmares are mainly of carefully-chosen Thoroughbred stock. Three are by Flaneur, and will drop virtually purebred Holsteiners this season.

Already, Romedio's progeny are making their mark overseas. News has come from Germany that Ramon, foaled in 1976 and sired by Romedio, while at the Government-approved stud, has been selected to undergo performance testing. This is an honor in itself, as the selection is most stringent and more fall the selection than pass.

Quiz No. 2

How did you go with our Special Show quiz in the December issue of the "Royal"?

Well, get out your Show Catalogues and put on your thinking caps for these —

1. Horses and saddles are synonymous, however you find Saddlebacks in two other sections of the Show — which?
2. What are the male and female of each of the following called?
Donkey

Cavey
Budgie
Pig
Geese

3. In what section of the Show would you find tating?
4. The Dog Section of the Show is one of the biggest in the World. Each breed of dog is categorised into one of 6 groups, can you name them?
5. Where would you find Chocolate Points.
6. In what part of the Show would you find Underhand Events?

7. We all know that a Limousine is a car, but what is a Limousin?
8. What is the name of the Pavilion where most of the sheep are housed?
9. In what section of the Show will you find a 24 hour milk Production Test?
10. We all know that the Garryowen Perpetual Trophy is presented for the Best Equestrienne Turn-out but what is the Alice Laidlaw Memorial Trophy awarded for?
11. In what section of the Show would you find an Andalusian?

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ANSWERS TO OUR QUIZ:



Show to date
the Royal Melbourne
diced for them at
have not been intro-
ever breed classes
breed of horse, how-
Andalusian is also a

11. Poultry

Hounds
Working Dogs
Non Sporting
Cats
Woodchopping
Breed of cattle
Breakin Pavilion
Dairy Cows
Lady rider over 18 years old
smatches about 16" high

1. Pigs and Pigeons
2. Jack & Jenny
3. Cuck & Hen
4. Bull & Sow
5. Gander & Goose
6. Arts and Crafts
7. Tents
8. Cuddles

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GUNYAH



Gunyah Pirate: c.27-10-76. Sire: Gildervale Devon. Dam: Gunyah Loyal 36 by Hobartville Drummond. Pirate was 1st 27-30 months and sold for 3rd top price of \$18,250 at Sydney Royal 1979 to Moorlands Stud in Queensland.

(See his full brother at Sydney 1980 for show only under 17 months)

Sydney Team 1980

- 4 bulls by Gildervale Devon (3 for sale)
- 1 bull by Lucky Star (for sale) (Full brother to 1979 Wodonga Champion)
- 1 bull by Hobartville Innes (for sale)
- 1 bull by Courallie Milligan (for show only)
- 3 heifers by Gildervale Devon (for show only)

Wodonga Show-Sale

- 6 bulls (1 by Crown Robert 2 (Suik)
- 1 by Clear Springs Gunwale
- 1 by Gunyah Lucky Star
- 1 by Gunyah Osby
- 2 by Gildervale Devon

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