



Royal Agricultural Society of NSW

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The **Royal Agricultural Society of NSW (RAS)** has been part of the fabric of Sydney and NSW life since its inception in 1822 – **193 years ago**.

- The RAS is a not-for-profit organisation with 16,000 members, an annual turnover of \$60 million, operating from a \$500 million multi-venue site at Sydney Olympic Park.
- The RAS charter is to promote, foster and encourage the sustainable development of agriculture.
- The RAS embraces Australian agricultural excellence and innovation through events and exhibitions, competitions and education.
- The RAS contribution to NSW can be assessed through a range of economic and commercial measures as well as through educational, cultural, environmental, charitable and social impacts.



RAS Culture

- The RAS is a unique organisation – a not-for-profit, contributing a significant benefit to the people of NSW – economically, culturally and socially. In addition, it is a successful commercial operator and asset manager.
- At its heart, the RAS is driven by passionate people who believe their contribution can enrich others and their community.
- The RAS Councillors time commitment in administering the activities of the organisation is huge and is conducted with an acknowledgment that we are the current custodians of the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW – we need to embrace our heritage and look to ensure we leave the organisation in better condition than when we arrived – to ensure it is around for at least another 190 years.



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RAS of NSW Vision

A community that understands and values sustainable Australian agriculture and award-quality produce

RAS Strategic Direction

Assist ASC in the development of competitions at local rural and regional shows

To shore up the grass roots of show competitions and the NSW show movement and so contribute to the continued viability of the SRES;

To build the brand and reputation of RAS in the NSW rural and regional communities;



AGRICULTURE

Supporting and connecting NSW

RAS of NSW – Relationship of country shows to the RAS of NSW

- Initial introduction and education of competitions – Judging competitions
- The Sydney Royal Showgirl competition – 600 entrants per year
- Rural Achiever programme
- Young Farmer Challenge
- Performance attained at country shows for Sydney Royal Horse competition
- Prime Lamb competition at Illabo



Putting the Capital 'A' back in Agriculture

Importance of country show to the RAS of NSW

- Competitors first introduction to agricultural competitions
- Majority of our Sydney Royal competitors come from rural NSW
- Training ground for many of our Judges and Stewards
- The strength in country shows flows on to the Sydney Royal
- RAS and ASC responsible for 1.5 million people visiting agricultural shows per year





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