



February 2017



Harcourts

RAS Newsletter

Announcing Strategic Partnership

The RAS Executive is delighted to announce Harcourts Group Limited (HGL) has become a strategic partner of the Royal Agricultural Society of New Zealand. This partnership has evolved over the last eighteen months with careful consideration on both sides as to how the partnership can benefit both entities and their membership/franchise bases. On reviewing the mission statements of both parties, it became apparent there were similar views on service and excellence within their respective industries.

RAS 'To promote, motivate and support all members by assisting them to achieve their aims and objectives'.

HGL 'To create clients for life through the finest service'.

HGL Is a privately owned franchise structured real estate business. that was founded in 1888 and now operates in 10 countries, with an annual property transaction value of \$32 billion. In NZ, there are 140 individual business owners who own a franchise area. With a total of almost 200 offices and 5000 team members in NZ, it is NZ's largest real estate group. There is a corporate team headed by the CEO who reports to the Harcourt's Board and an elected franchise council who represent the business owners.

There are opportunities for the RAS members to forge their own individual partnerships with local Harcourt's firms as well as implementing the HGL-RAS referral scheme that will give back cash benefits. Further details will be made available but please direct any enquiries you may have on the matter to RAS Head Office in the first instance.

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Harcourts – RAS Rural Ambassador Award

Entries for this Award open end of January.

Entry forms will be found on the RAS website under Competitions & Events.

Take this opportunity to gain experience and further your career within the agricultural industry.

Entries close 31 March with

regional interviews taking place April/May. The final interviews will be held at the HGL-RAS conference in June in Wanaka.

Thanks to supporting sponsors – Wanaka A&P Show, Franklin A&P Society, Hawkes Bay A&P Society and Young Farmers.

2012 Australasian Winner – Tim Van de Molen had this to say about the Award – "I would recommend this competition to anyone thinking of entering as it is a great way to gain some experience, meet some people & test yourself. The RAS has traditionally played a strong role at the grass roots level of agriculture & offers opportunities for benchmarking yourself through competitions and building your network within the industry."

HNZ- RAS Conference Dates

Friday 23 June –

Conference Day 1 –
Excursion & speakers

Saturday 24 June –

Conference Day 2 - Guest speakers, breed meetings, UBS meeting, Ambassador interviews, Youth Council.

Sunday 25 June –

Conference Day 3 - AGM

Due Dates

15 March – nominations for Executive, remits, notices of motion due in to RAS Head Office

Harcourts – RAS Conference

Hosts - Wanaka A&P and RAS Southern District

Conference is shaping up to be a vibrant event this year. Conference is in Wanaka and Show Secretary for Wanaka A&P Show, Jane Stalker, has been tasked with some of the set-up work around the conference programme and venue.

Jane reports accommodation has been booked at Oakridge with the conference venue being just across the road at The Venue.

Jane advises some exciting guest speakers have been booked and there is also time for social interaction, along with a mystery tour.

A point of difference this year, is the RAS Golden Fleece Exhibition being held in conjunction with conference so there will be the opportunity for conference delegates to attend the Golden Fleece Awards dinner on the Friday night. (see page 3 for more details on the Golden Fleece Exhibition)

The Wanaka team has always been very social, and as hosts along with Southern District, prepare yourself for a great time. Jane advises dinner on the Saturday night is going to be a formal affair so dust off those glad rags and get ready to party!

RAS Head Office and Wanaka A&P are working on the draft programme – full details will be made available, as soon as possible – so check out www.ras.org.nz – About RAS – Conference - over the next couple of months.



RAS Golden Fleece Exhibition

The Upper Clutha A&P Assn (Wanaka Show) is holding the Royal A&P Society's National Golden Fleece Exhibition at the Lake Wanaka Centre for a two day exhibition on Friday 23 & Saturday 24 June, 2017.

The exhibition has been increased to a two day event, which will include activities to attract the visitors /tourists as well as the local and farming community.

- Fine and Strong Wool Fleeces
- Black and Coloured fleeces
- Exhibitors of Woollen Products
- Fashion Parade of Woollen clothes
- Exhibits of Sheep breeds
- Videos of Wool Manufacturing
- Shearing demonstrations of Blade & Machine
- Videos of Shearing & Wool preparation
- Junior Fleece Judging Competition
- Running of Merino Rams
- Dinner & Prize Presentations, with a Guest Speaker

It is our intention to hold an interesting and informative exhibition, to celebrate the excellence of New Zealand wool and its products.

For further information contact Martin Paterson.

Ph 03- 443 7399 or 021 -2247511 or
<mailto:mmatakanui@xtra.co.nz>

Main Sponsors



ravensdown



PGG Wrightson Wool

Entry forms for the competition can be found on the RAS website www.ras.org.nz

under Competitions & Events

Entries close – 28 April 2017

Attention Life Members

As has been previously advised communication is becoming more electronic in its format – if you have not already done so, please forward your email address to the RAS Head Office email enquiries@ras.org.nz so, we can add you to our regular communication list. For those life members without an email, a hard copy newsletter will be posted once or twice a year. All newsletters will also be available on the RAS website

Royal Agricultural Society

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RAS Mission Statement
"To promote, motivate and support all members by assisting them to achieve their aims and objectives."

Find us on the Web:
www.ras.org.nz



A few words from the RAS President – Geoff Smith

Welcome to 2017 and the second half of the showing season. Earlier this year I attended several shows including the Royal Launceston in Tasmania to support our Rural Ambassador (Tryphena Carter) and the young judges and handlers. Other shows included our own Royal in Hawkes Bay; the Bay of Islands (Northern - their 174th show); Canterbury (Central); South Otago (Southern – their 150th show); Motueka (Central); Te Kauwhata (Mid Northern), the National Horse & Pony Show (Western) and Warkworth (northern) celebrating their 150th Show with equestrian being a Royal Event. A funeral back home meant I was unable to attend the Waikato Show.

My plans for the remainder of the season include; Taumarunui; of course, my home show Franklin in Pukekohe; Helensville; and Horse of the Year.

As I move around we have been posting pictures of the shows on the RAS face book page (https://www.facebook.com/groups/1082139361828917/?hc_ref=SEARCH). It is great to get around and meet a range of people, volunteers, competitors, and trade exhibitors. Their first hand opinions are encouraging, and helpful. I especially want to thank the South Otago Show and their President, Mr. Jim Berney. Jim shepherded me around the show introducing me to a range of people involved in the show and I also took the opportunity to have a chat with their local MP Todd Barclay.

It has been a positive season so far and we have a lot to look forward to. All the best to you for the new year and the remainder of the season.

Our supporters and sponsors are important to us – thank you!

