September 2021



VAS LTD NEWSLETTER



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VAS Ltd Board

2021/22 Board Update

The VAS Ltd Board held their ACM on the 12th July 2021 via Zoom.

VAS Ltd would like to congratulate Mr Brian Keirl on being declared Chairperson and Mr Vivian Beaumont on being declared Deputy Chairperson of Victorian Agricultural Shows Limited.



Brian Keirl



Vivian Beaumont

We thank Jenny Daffy for her dedication for 4 years of being VAS Ltd Chairperson and look forward to her still remaining on the Board to support Brian, Vivian and the rest of the board for the coming year.

The VAS Ltd Board consists of: (Left-Right in the above photo)
Janelle McDonald, Vivian Beaumont, Scott Somerville, Lorraine
Morris, Greg Macdonald, Jenny Daffy, Brian Keirl & Darren
Maddern.

Infrastructure State Government Grants Open

Applications Close Midnight 3rd October 2021

The Victorian Government is offering grants of up to \$10,000 (GST exclusive) to successful applicants. Grant funds may be used to fund up to 90 per cent of eligible project costs. Applicants are required to contribute at least 10 per cent of the total project cost. All or part of this co-contribution may be provided in-kind.

Societies may apply for multiple grants/projects however the total amount awarded per Society is a maximum of \$10,000 (GST exclusive). Each application submitted must be for one single project only. Previously funded grant recipients may reapply to complete a further stage of a previously funded project. They will, however, need to demonstrate how the funds will build on work already completed as part of a separate stage and without duplicating any part subject of the previous application.

The grants may support projects that have an emphasis on upgrading or establishing new facilities. Funding may also be used for business activities that assist in the planning of agricultural shows and online events.

Projects that will be considered may include initiatives that:

- promote agricultural production
- provide new or upgraded facilities for the exhibition and/or judging of commercial and stud animals
- improve facilities for exhibitions, competitions and displays, such as upgrading fencing and stables, or areas used for shearing demonstrations and wool exhibits
- stimulate local employment, suppliers and producers
- create opportunities for displaying art and craft, and artisan produce
- enhance public amenities at showgrounds such as toilets, seating and disabled access
- improve essential infrastructure for electricity and water supply
- enhance business management, planning for shows and marketing strategies targeting the broader community
- promote reporting of livestock movements to the National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) database such as the purchase of scanning wands
- innovative use of technology to encourage remote community participation in agricultural show activities
- enhance public safety of community attendance, including COVID safe measures that align with current Victorian Government community event guidelines
- applications will be considered for additional stages of previously funded projects providing works are not duplicated.

To download the guidelines please use this link: https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/support-and-resources/funds-grantsprograms/agricultural-and-pastoral-society-grants



Agricultural and Pastoral Society Grants Guidelines 2021-22

Grant Tips

- Provide all information required at the time of applying.
- Don't apply for a project that has previously been funded. (A repeated project will be rejected but you can apply for a separate stage for a project that has already been funded.)
- Make sure you have firm quotes attached, as too many applicants previously just googled and printed off information or a picture of what they wanted to do without providing a quote for the project.
- Read the guidelines carefully and make sure your project fits the criteria.
- If you are stuck for project ideas check out the listing on the Agriculture Victoria Website on what was funded in the 2020/2l Grants

Contact VAS Ltd Office for further assistance if required



COVIDSafe Events Seminar

Supported by Victorian State Government

The session is to support Agricultural Shows in the ability to plan for COVIDSafe Events and the measures you need in place at your Showgrounds for other events as well.

A link has been provided directly to all Show Societies from the State Government for this session on the Thursday 9th September 2021.



Makers & Creators Competition

This vibrant and colourful online competition will offer exhibitors a chance to showcase their carefully crafted masterpieces, offering open classes in: Art, Photography, Basketry, Lace, Papercraft, Patchwork, Toys, Decorated Cakes, Preserves and Restricted.

To be judged in a completely online environment, exhibitors will submit a 30 second video detailing their work and passion for their chosen craft.

But wait - there is more! The Makers and Creators Competition also offers a selection of junior classes for Design Technology, Healthy Muffin, Decorated Cup Cakes, Photography and Art.

Entries Close Tuesday 12th October 2021 & Judging will be from 13th - 20th October 2021



Online Sheep Junior Judging & Showcase your Sheep Competition

The competition provides agricultural students and youth associated with a sheep stud, the chance to engage in an informal competition and celebrate their hard work throughout 2021.

Junior Judging

Participants will have the opportunity to provide a judging summary on a set of three long wool, short wool or cleanskin sheep. The judges will be looking for confidence in delivery, assessment of sheep structure and an overall knowledge and depth of understanding of sheep judging. Keep in mind all parts of the sheep must be judged to maximise your score.

Showcase your Sheep

Students will prepare a mock sales pitch video on a sheep of their choice from their own stud or commercial flock. The purpose of the video is to promote/market a sheep to prospective buyers. Students are encouraged to include relevant information that supports their sales pitch, a good visual of the animal, supporting evidence in the form of actual weights, performance data and the need for true and verifiable sales information. The judges will be looking for confidence in delivery, preparation and presentation in addition to a demonstrated knowledge about their sheep breed and their selected animal.

VAS Ltd State Final Competitions

Winners of 2020/21 Group Finals

With the cancellation of the Royal Melbourne Show meant the VAS Ltd State Final Competitions were not able to proceed. VAS Ltd is pleased to advise we aim to hold the State Finals later on in the year as a stand alone event. VAS will be in contact with all competitors once details are confirmed.

State Finals include:

- Sewing
- Patchwork
- Crochet
- Knitting
- Embroidery
- Senior Photography
- Junior Photography
- Rich Fruit Cake
- Junior Boiled Fruit Cake





Beef Cattle & Sheep State Finals

The VAS Ltd Board are considering other options to host the Beef Cattle & Sheep State Finals. All winners from 2019, 2020 & 2021 Shows will be still eligible. VAS will be in contact with all competitors once details are confirmed.



Rural Ambassador State Finals



The VAS Ltd Board are considering other options to host the Rural Ambassador State Final. VAS has been communicating with the finalists regarding planning of information day, which was postponed due to restrictions.

Agricultural Shows Australia National Finals

ASA has confirmed that the 2021 National Championships for Young Judges and Rural Ambassadors will be hosted at the 2022 Sydney Royal Easter Show. This decision now means that both the 2021 and 2022 National Championships will be held at the Sydney Royal Easter Show 8 - 19 April 2022.



Encouragement to Show Societies to run VAS Competitions

The VAS Ltd Board would like to encourage Show Societies to consider still conducting the VAS Ltd State Competitions as well as any Group Competitions that are conducted at a Group level. This is important so that we have Show Level Winners to compete in Group Finals in 2022 and then compete in State Finals at Royal Melbourne Show in 2022.

Some options to consider that have been suggested by other societies:

- Using a shop front to showcase the entries with drop off & pick up times of entries. Pending restrictions have scheduled viewing times of the exhibits.
- Using a pavilion on your Showgrounds with drop off & pick up times. Use Social Media to publicise the results or if restrictions allow then to open the pavilion to public viewing.
- Online Virtual Competitions

These competitions could take place up until Mid-March or prior to your Group Final.











State Competition

Recap of 2021 State Convention

The 2021 Convention was incredibly lucky to proceed on the 25th & 26th June 2021 in between restrictions easing for regional and also allowing metro residents to attend. Over 50 Show Societies were represented with a total of 110 attending the Convention Day & also 120 attending the Convention Dinner.

Guest Speakers touched on the topics of COVIDSafe Planning, Marketing your Event and Insurance. It was great to see so many Show Enthusiasts in one room again as our 2020 Convetion was unable to proceed.

The Convention Dinner was enjoyed by all with Guest Speaker Margot Spalding OAM captivating the audience and also hearing from our State Finalists of the Junior Show Ambassador.

It was also great to recognise five recipients for their dedication to Agricultural Shows through them receiving a VAS Ltd Meritorious Award.

State Finals for the Carrot Cake and Junior Carrot & Date Muffins was also conducted along with a couple of Convention Competitions. Results are included on next page.

Thank you to all the Convention Sponsors for your support and also the sub-committee for your time in conducting the 2021 Convention.







Meritorious Award Recipients



Ross Meredith
Gippsland Group
Sale & District Agricultural Society Inc.



Bev Tiffin North Eastern Group Wangaratta Agricultural Society Inc.



Rob McPhersonGippsland Group
Bairnsdale & District Agricultural Society Inc.



Janelle McDonald Goulburn Valley Riverina Group Kyabram A H & P Society Inc.



Late Neville McDonald Goulburn Valley Riverina Group Kyabram A H & P Society Inc.

VAS Ltd thanks all recipients for your individual dedication and contribution to Agricultural Shows

Thank you to our State Convention Sponsors

































Goulburn Valley Show Societies

Jenny Daffy

RG Bowles Pty Ltd

Janelle McDonald
Lorraine Morris



Junior Show Ambassador State Final Results

VAS Ltd congratulates each state finalist on the way they represented their Show Society, Group and the State of Victoria. The Judges for this years State Final were Margot Falconer (CEO Australian Sheep & Wool Show), Grace Calder (2019 Rural Ambassador State Final Winner) and Ashley Lamers (RASV Volunteers Manager).

Winner - Elyssa Hausler - Western District Group - Edenhope P & A Society Inc.

Runner Up - Sophie Hodge - Goulburn Valley Riverina Group - Numurkah A & P Society Inc.

State Finalist - Matilda Hill - Midlands Group - Clunes & District Agricultural Society Inc.

State Finalist - Maddison Geddes - North Eastern Group - Myrtleford & District A & P Society Inc.

State Finalist - Rachel Dickson - South Western Group - Noorat & District A & P Society Inc.

State Finalist - Katrina Garraway - Northern District Group - Mildura Show Society Inc.

State Finalist - Mikayla Farmers - Wimmera Group - Nhill A & P Society Inc.

State Finalist - Hayley Young - Central & South Gippsland Group - Foster & District A & P Society Inc.

State Finalist - Michelle Grover - Central & Upper Goulburn Group - Sunbury Agricultural Society Inc.

Carrot Cake State Final Results

Winner - Ian Kohlman - Central & Upper Goulburn Group - Kyneton Show

Second Place - Catherine Rosewall - Northern District Group - Kerang Show

Third Place - June Lockie - Midlands Group - Clunes Show

State Finalist - Grace Gilheany - Central & South Gippsland Group - Foster Show

State Finalist - Judi Sykes - Gippsland Group - Bairnsdale Show

State Finalist - Dossie Parnell - Goulburn Valley Riverina Group - Cobram Show

State Finalist - Libby Garoni - North Eastern Group - Myrtleford Show State Finalist - Alice Hirst - South Western Group - Port Fairy Show State Finalist - Ann Norris - Western District Group - Tyrendarra Show

State Finalist - Elissa Keller - Wimmera Group - Warracknabeal Show



Junior Carrot & Date Muffins Cake State Final Results

Winner - Jaz Davison - Northern District Group - Swan Hill Show

Second Place - Chloe Scott - Gippsland Group - Sale Show

Third Place - Felicity Geisler - Goulburn Valley Riverina Group - Cobram Show

State Finalist - Claire Gallagher - Central & Upper Goulburn Group - Kilmore Show

State Finalist - Abby Coon - Midlands Group - Clunes Show

State Finalist - Maddison Geddes - North Eastern Group - Myrtleford Show

State Finalist - Lucas Rouse - South Western Group - Warrnambool SHow

State Finalist - Neve McClure - Western District Group - Balmoral Show

State Finalist - Chelsea Hawkins - Wimmera Group - Goroke Show



Convention Competitions

Yo-Yo's Competition

First Place - Lynne Wickenton - Noorat Show Second Place - Helen Crafter - Horsham Show Third Place - Maureen Newschafer - Royal Geelong Show





Pin Cushion Competition

First Place - Sharon Clearwater - Royal Geelong Show Second Place - Jenny Campbell - Bendigo Show Third Place - Judith Bysouth - Natimuk Show



Fleece State Final Results

The VAS Ltd Fleece State Final was held at the Victorian Sheep Show in Ballarat on the 4th July 2021. Well done to all the State Finalists and a huge thank you to our State Final Sponsors Australian Wool Network.

Winner - Coryule Merino Stud - Midlands Group

2nd Place - Melrose Merino Stud - Wimmera Group

3rd Place - John Beattie - Goulburn Valley Riverina Group

State Finalist - A & P Harris Koole Vale Merino Stud - Central & Upper Goulburn Group

State Finalist - Kelvin & Jackie Pendergast - Gippsland Group

State Finalist - HM Barty & Sons - Northern District Group







Thank you to our recent State Final Sponsors



Sponsor of Fleece Competition



Sponsor of Carrot Cake & Junior Carrot & Date Muffins



Sponsor of Junior Show Ambassador

Promotion of Events for Spring Show Season

Many Shows have cancelled but many Show Societies are looking at running alternate events. VAS Ltd will be creating a list of all events that Societies are looking at running this Spring.

If your Show Society is running an event/virtual Show please forward through details of event to info@vicaqshows.com.au to be added to the list.

If you have a poster, exhibitor based event with Schedule or online virtual Show schedule please forward them through to be added to the VAS Ltd Website and to be promoted on our VAS Facebook