

**ROYAL LAUNCESTON SHOW 2022**  
**OPENING ADDRESS BY**  
**HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC**  
**GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA**  
**CARRICK, THURSDAY 6 OCTOBER 2022**

Good morning and thank you for inviting me to open this year's Royal Launceston Show. It is a pleasure to be here in this beautiful country setting at Quercus Park.

I pay my respects to the traditional and original owners of this land: the palawa people. I acknowledge the contemporary Tasmanian Aboriginal community and recognise their enduring culture and continued connection to land, sea, and culture. I recognise a history of truth, which acknowledges the impacts of colonisation upon our First People. I commit to a future that listens to and respects Aboriginal stories, culture and history.

I also acknowledge:

- The Honourable Mark Shelton MP
- Bridget Archer MP
- Brian Mitchell MP
- Mayor Mary Knowles

The first Launceston Show was held in December 1834. There was then a long hiatus until it was held in 1873, after which the Show was held annually until 2019. Both 2020 and 2021 shows had to be cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Launceston Show had been part of a Royal visit schedule in 1981. However, it was not until 1984 that the prefix 'Royal' was attached to the Show. From that time, the Society became known as the Royal National Agricultural and Pastoral Society of Tasmania.

This Royal Launceston Show represents a series of firsts. It is, of course, the first time that the Royal Launceston Show has been held here at Quercus Park. This is also the first time that I have attended the Royal Launceston Show in my role as Governor and also as Patron of the Royal National Agricultural and Pastoral Society of Tasmania. We have, however, followed the success of the event and the way that it has become an integral part of the Launceston community calendar.

This is also the first time, in a number of years, that the Royal Launceston Show will be conducted over three days, from today until Saturday.

The Show is principally an agricultural event focusing on primary industries. But it has something for everyone. There are the traditional competitions for farm animals ranging from alpaca to sheep, livestock judging, demonstrations by working dogs, and equestrian events. There are community arts and crafts, produce competitions, food tasting, fashion shows, sporting events, and woodchopping. And of course, sideshow alley with rides, food stalls and of course much-loved show bags.

I shall conclude by congratulating everyone involved with the Volunteer Committee of the Royal National Agricultural and Pastoral Society of Tasmania. Your outstanding efforts make the Royal Launceston Show possible to plan and run each year.

To Brian Bennett and your hard-working and dedicated colleagues – well done everyone. We thank you all. We are proud of what you do for Tasmanians in the north of our State and more widely. I now have the greatest pleasure to declare the Royal Launceston Show for 2022 officially open. I now invite you all enjoy the three days of exhibits, demonstrations and fun.

Thank you.