

**HAMILTON DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SHOW SOCIETY INC
OPENING OF THE 2025 HAMILTON AGRICULTURAL SHOW
REMARKS BY
HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA
HAMILTON RECREATION GROUND, SATURDAY 1 MARCH 2025**

Good morning, everyone.

It is my great pleasure to join you all, in this beautiful Derwent Valley, for the opening of the 2025 Hamilton Agricultural Show.

May I acknowledge the Tasmanian Aboriginal people upon whose land we gather. I acknowledge today's Tasmanian Aboriginal Community as ongoing custodians of country. I recognise their enduring culture and deep connection to land, sea, sky, and waters.

For more than 70 years, this Hamilton Show has been held on the first Saturday in autumn. And what a beautiful day for it.

May I extend my warmest congratulations to the Hamilton Agricultural Show Society committee for your dedication and tireless efforts which have made today possible. I appreciate the countless hours of volunteer work involved in bringing this event to life.

Today is a celebration of rural life and all that makes our country communities so vibrant. From the equestrian events to the dog competitions, from the impressive displays in the home industries hall to the shearing demonstrations, the colour and excitement of traditional agricultural shows are on full display here in Hamilton.

This year, your Show has something new with the Society initiating a Sustainable Agriculture Showcase. This showcases farmers across the Derwent Valley and the Central Highlands working to make everyday agriculture sustainable. This initiative is raising awareness of the work farmers are doing to make their farms environmentally, socially, and economically sustainable. We

know that sustainable agriculture is not only about protecting our environment but also about improving farm productivity, supporting local jobs, and safeguarding the wellbeing of farmers and their families.

To all the exhibitors and competitors here today, congratulations on your hard work making this show so special. To the sponsors, thank you for your generosity and support. And to the volunteers, thank you for everything you do.

May I also especially acknowledge and thank Mr Scott Ashton-Jones for more than 50 years of contributions to the Show and the local community. Scott has attended almost every show since 1952 and served on the committee for 48 years from 1976 to 2024. He remains involved as one half of the ground announcing team, so you will be hearing from him throughout the day. Shortly, I will have the pleasure to present Scott with a gift on behalf of the committee to recognise his service.

But before that, I have the great pleasure of declaring the 2025 Hamilton Agricultural Show officially open.

Thank you.