

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA
ROYAL HOBART SHOW 2025
OPENING ADDRESS BY
HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA
HOBART REGATTA GROUNDS, THURSDAY 23 OCTOBER 2025

Good morning to you all and welcome to this 2025 Royal Hobart Show of the Royal Agricultural Society of Tasmania (RAST).

Thank you very much Rodney for your Welcome to Country.

As Patron of this Royal society, I am proud to continue the long tradition of Tasmanian Governors being closely associated with this Show.

Hobart's first agricultural show was held in 1822¹, and was organised by the Van Diemen's Land Agricultural Society. It was a modest gathering where farmers showcased their best produce, livestock, and home crafts. They proudly compared skills and innovations.

Today, our Show offers something for everyone, with a lively and diverse program over three days. Families flock to see champion woodchopping contests, pet parades and local produce. For children, there are rides, showbags, fairy floss and this year, Paw Patrol.

In recent years, while the Glenorchy Showgrounds undergo major redevelopment,¹ the Show has found a temporary home here at the Regatta Grounds. Despite this temporary change of venue, the spirit of the Royal Hobart Show remains a celebration of Tasmanian life.

May I extend my congratulations and thanks to everyone who has supported and contributed to bringing this year's Show to life.

¹ Email Mitch Spong and ADC

To the longstanding CEO, Scott Gadd, the RAST Committee, and the many volunteers who give so much of their time and energy — on behalf of a grateful community, I thank you all.

And, in case you forget, remember to plant your tomatoes today.

It is now my great honour to declare the Royal Hobart Show 2025 officially open.