

ANNUAL REPORT



Newcastle **AH&I** Association

Organisers of the Newcastle Regional Show

2022 – 2023





Newcastle AH&I Association

Organisers of the Newcastle Regional Show

ANNUAL REPORT

For the period ending 30th June 2023

With Statement of Financial Performance and Financial Position

Presented at the Annual General Meeting

to be held in

Newcastle A.H & I Association Building

Newcastle Showground, Broadmeadow

On Wednesday 18 October 2023, 6pm

CURRENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS WITH 15 YEARS OR MORE OF SERVICE:

Roger Geary, Tom Patterson, Robert Saddington, Peter Cliff

LIFE PATRONS: G. Poole, J. Fletcher, N. Fletcher, J. De Luliis

OFFICERS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED

30th June, 2023

PRESIDENT: P. Evans OAM

VICE PRESIDENTS: R. Scruton OAM

TREASURER: M. Hart

SECRETARY: L. Haskins

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT: L. Haskins

BOARD: M. Duncan, N. Fletcher, M. Hoffman, A. Kelly

COMMITTEE: C. Blanch, P. Cliff, M. Duncan, P. Evans, N. Fletcher, R. Geary, L. Haskins, T. Patterson, G. Poole, R. Saddington, C. Johns, O. Johns, P. McCarthy, T McGovern, M Newell, P. Whiteman, M. Hoffman, E. Anson, P. Anson, J. Bourke, Shanelle Pescud, K. Cornack, S. Deegan, H. Ferguson, K. Fitzgerald, K. Freeburn, J. Gander, M. Hart, A. Kelly, R. Scruton

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER EXECUTIVE SUMMARY 2023

The 2023 Show saw the implementation of a number of initiatives that have been put in place as part of a long-term strategic plan to reestablish Newcastle Regional Show as the benchmark in Urban Agricultural Shows in the state.

Financial operations were buoyed by the continuation of the wonderful support afforded by our Naming Sponsor “The Greater Bank’ and the generous provisions for the payment of incomes from the Showmens Guild of Australasia, set in place by the Government as a result of the residual issues attributed to the Covid 19 pandemic. On site income was underpinned with the almost doubling of the commercial space available and once again the Show benefitted from the expertise of the outstanding team of Committee members and volunteers who continue to be the backbone of the Agricultural Show movement.

Lessons were learned along the way of how we can better improve the Newcastle Show experience for competitors, members and other key stake holders which will be translated into a fuller and more focused program of operations in the running of the show in 2024.

“Business as usual is no longer possible in a rapidly changing cultural environment and we must all work together in the mutual vision of ensuring the traditions held so importantly to us, continue for generations to come.

The welcoming of a number of new Board members has heralded in a broader range of Industry and Event expertise and has set us in good stead for the 2024 Show. The introduction of a CEO with specific Event Industry experience and tertiary credentials has allowed for a broader range of initiatives to be introduced.

It is recognised that our best asset is our people, and new initiatives and outlooks have welcomed several past supporters back into the programming of the show. The Show office is supported by a small but dynamic team of predominantly volunteer roles which will be reassessed as we move closer to the 2024 show. The success of our passionate volunteers was acknowledged with the announcement of Jenny Bourke as the winner of the Regional Volunteer of the Year, at the Australian Centre for Volunteers Annual Awards.

We are thrilled to have the support of the Showman s Guild of Australasia and the Newcastle Farmers Market and are excited to continue to expand the support network that is growing around us. Our wish is to refocus our resources to the support and expansion of our Competition Program.

Like every good team we are asking once again for your support in the 2024 show to allow us the opportunity to earn your respect and in 2024 to: “Bring Ag Back!”

Catherine Blanch

PRESIDENTS REPORT

The 2023 Newcastle Show again powered by the Greater Bank was favoured with glorious weather leading up to and during the Show. This good weather was reflected by wonderful public support.

Horse events returned, all of which were washed out for our 2022 Show.

Demolition Darby was back, and many other events as set out in the report; together with Josh Evans and his competitors in the Cutting Competition, this being the 13th year of such support from Josh.

The Show was a great success with better strategies for access enabling the huge line-ups of crowds to enter the showground quickly.

One of our main supporters as a sponsor, Hilton Grugeon (AM) opened the show with a wonderful oration, and we thank Hilton for his ongoing support.

Thank You to Our Current Board Members:

Lauren Haskins

This year, our past president of 2013 and Showgirl before that, Lauren Haskins, has taken up the important position of Secretary and her immense knowledge of all matters relating to the Show and her enthusiasm is of immeasurable value.

Honorary Treasurer's

Our former Treasurer, Peter McCarthy, although having resigned as treasurer is still providing counsel and support. His successor Tim O'Brien, formerly of the Varley Group of companies, has recently resigned with Michael Hart taking up this important position. Tim as well as taking up the role of Honorary Treasurer also volunteered his special talents in solving problems of storage and other essential activities which we are greatly appreciate. We thank Tim for his contribution during his period as treasurer

and for all the matters he did outside this portfolio including the management of funds during the Show and providing copious assistance and guidance wherever it was needed.

We now thank Michael Hart for taking up the role of Honorary Treasurer and wish him well in his Everest climb to assist the Mark Hughes Foundation.

Catherine Blanch

Catherine Blanch has given up her position as Vice President to take on the full-time CEO role. She does so with great skill and diligence, with the promise that 1 March – 3 March 2024 will be our best Show for many, many years. On that, Catherine is taking us back to our grass roots origins with a focus on Agricultural, Horticultural, and Industrial presentations to ensure that the show is profitable. Special thanks to Catherine for her huge efforts for getting the association back on track and the extraordinary hours that she volunteers (on top of her official position).

Emma Spencer

At the time of writing, I have received the resignation from Emma; who took her maternity leave mid-May and has been caring for her beautiful baby girl Murphy since this time. We thank Emma for her huge efforts for our Association. In particular, her undertaking of the General Manager position for the 2023 Show and the lovely manner in which she dealt with all those who came in contact with her.

Adam Kelly

Adam Kelly is a new Board member this year and notwithstanding a huge responsibility at an ever-growing Daracon business started by his father-in-law, David Mingay, Adam contributes to the Show with energy and enthusiasm as though it is his own business.

Rhonda Scruton

Rhonda Scruton has stepped up to the position of Senior Vice President. Rhonda's background in the Hunter branch of Surf Life Saving Inc. ended with her retirement after 24 years acting as CEO. Her efforts saw her being awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) early this year. Her organisational skills are of immense value for this coming year.

Norman Fletcher

Norman has been on the Executive for several years and provides his huge business experience and wealth of engineering knowledge to solve any issues that arise at the Showground.

Professor Mark Hoffman - Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) and Vice President of Newcastle University

Mark Hoffman continues to support the association through his invaluable counsel and great advice that he delivers succinctly and with great wisdom. It is a great asset for the Show to have not only 2 engineers on our Board but also Mark with such an important connection to our wonderful University.

Margo Duncan

Margo was one of the first female graduate from Tocal College and together with her late husband has established and runs very successful businesses in the Hunter. Her daughters and grandchildren are heavily involved in the Show each March and any number of the Duncan Clan bed down with the cattle for the 3 days and nights of the Show. Margo has a talent of communicating on major issues by going straight to the point with her conclusions.

Graham Poole

Although he resigned shortly before this financial year, Graham Poole must be recognised as having made a magnificent

effort over the many years he has been on the board, and in particular, during his period as Vice President. Graham has been a great problem solver and a fabulous contributor to the Executive. But for Graham and Jeanne Walls, the 2021 Show would have been a disaster in that the Showmen's Guild had decided not to provide rides and amusements. Graham and Jeanne Walls spent a day negotiating just ten days before the Show, to ensure the ongoing support of the Showmen's Guild. Consequently, the 2021 Show was very successful in every way, including profitability.

Brian McGuigan

I'm delighted to inform the association that well-known, former board member Brian McGuigan has agreed to rejoin our Board this year.

The enthusiasm of this icon of the Valley will bring a new boost to our future Shows.

General Show Outcomes

Although the 2023 Show saw a good weather return and an excellent attendance it may be that we became a little complacent after a significant loss the year before however, we had not anticipated a loss.

Sponsorship 2022 - 2023

We thank the **Greater Bank** for their sponsorship and trust that when their merger with Newcastle Permanent is finalised, we will see the Greater back sponsoring our Show events.

Next Years Show

For the year ahead, March 1 - 4 2024 the Board and volunteers are determined to return to a profitable outcome and to give rise to that, there is a focus on bringing back all the essentials of an Agricultural Horticultural & Industrial production. Our budget for the coming year takes into account the possibility of rain and still leaves us with sufficient profit to contribute to reserves.

Title of the Showground.

Broadmeadow Sports & Entertainment Precinct.

Since I became President, there have been confidential meetings with **Venues NSW** regarding their concept plans for the 63-hectare precinct, including our Showground, notwithstanding, the **Sports Act (2005)** which guarantees our Association's continued usage of our Showground.

We recognise that a new Entertainment Centre is important. A mistake was made by the Association in allowing and encouraging the Entertainment Centre on our site. This resulted in the above Sports Act (2005), where we lost most of the income from the grounds, including income from the Farmer's Markets.

At a meeting that I had with **Paul Doorn**, Venues NSW's CEO at the time, Venues agreed to a payment of \$350,000 over a 3-year period. The last \$100,000.00 of these payments was denied until we used political pressure to secure the amount. I am again submitting to Venues that a percentage of profits made from parking fees at the Showground be paid back to us by requesting at least \$100,000.00 per annum and the promise of greater use of our Showground be honoured.

Ongoing Destruction of Showground Utilisation by Venues

Notwithstanding our objections, Venues demolished 92 of our stables and the destruction of much of our Show equipment. To date, we have not received any compensation for loss of area or destruction of our stored equipment.

The idea of Sydney-based Venues destroying our Showground by the sale of land for 'affordable housing' is totally unacceptable to our Board and to our city. The right thing for Venues to do is to give back the Title to the Showground to the Association and have the Title registered in the name of our incorporated Association. This would give us the opportunity to make use of the Showground 365 days a year and produce income to restore Agricultural and other pavilions that have been destroyed by neglect since Venues took Title.

I have had meetings with two former sports ministers who assured me that if we could demonstrate that we were not reliant on the Government for ongoing financial support for the Showground, then they would not disagree with us having Title to the Showground back.

We are making the same overtures to the new Labor Government, and we hope in due course to get our Showground Title back and rebuild Agricultural buildings which have been destroyed in the hope that the Show will simply 'go away'. The result will be that we will get our showground back.

Our Current Plans as A Board

1. To restore the Historical, Agricultural, Horticultural, and Industrial strengths of our annual Show.
2. To take back the Title to our Showground and register it as an asset of the Association.
3. Look for grants from the Government to replace buildings that have been destroyed by Venues.

Peter Evans OAM – President

GENERAL COOKERY

Overall a successful show this year and good feedback from entrants and public.

The general cookery competition attracted 154 general cookery exhibits (down from 169 last year) on the Saturday and 59 Junior Cookery exhibits (up from 54 last year) on the Sunday. In the open we have only a few nursing home entries so a focus on attracting more entries for older aged participants going forward. In the juniors the young ages were well represented but low numbers of high school entries. We need to work on attracting more entries in these older age groups. In 2024 we will incorporate the men's cookery with the general Open section, bringing in line with Gosford and Sydney Royal Shows.

We had sufficient volunteers, thanks to previous long term helpers Diane Hammond and her son David who have helped for many years and helped out on Saturday and Sunday. Other volunteers included Bronwen Byrne, and trainee judges Brooke Law and Fiona Duckworth. On Sunday, several mums of junior entrants stepped up and volunteered: thanks to Natalie Malcolm, Sharon McDermott and mum, and Larissa Graham for their help on Sunday. Thanks so much to all our volunteers: we couldn't do it without you.

Thanks to our judges Wailyn Marr, supported by Brooke Law and Fiona Duckworth (trainees) on Saturday. Thanks to our Sunday judge Judy Betteridge. Thank you volunteer judges: you are vital! Thanks for the beautiful decorations to the pavilion which were a new feature this year. Thanks also for the hard work of the office team in providing admin support, and the office volunteers. Thank you to donors for prizes received.

Thanks to everyone who supported me in my first year as head of cookery sub-committee, especially to Ellice Schrader, Jenny Bourke, Catherine Blanch, Jessica Ingram, Hang Peterkin, and Diane Hammond. I intend to head it up again next year.



Recommendations:

As per last years, request I acted as MC on the day to improve engagement from the general public with the cookery competition. External noise can be factor as it is an open judging. This current spot seems as good as any as far as that goes. It is a big schedule in the open and a long day for the judges so I will revise numbers of categories to streamline this and/or look at options.

The display cabinets are in a very unsafe condition and need urgent replacement. I know this has been raised every year for the past decade or so and now it has hit urgent need. The shelves are unstable, and I had one fall and ruin exhibits. They are also unsafe for patrons due to old glass. They are not insulated for food safety or insect proof. I recommend that the cabinets are replaced before next show as they are not in good working order and way past their renovate date. I propose to fund raise to raise capital for improvements and replacements.

There are on-going discussions regarding use of cookery entries for show events with Catherine Blanch.

I recommend having the trophies on display, giving winners the opportunity to be photographed with them on the day. Closing date for entries should be extended as long as possible. The Show time online entering system was not user friendly. It required a lot of personal information. In addition, it is not easy to navigate.

We thank Kathy for taking over the General Cookery Competition this year with a great deal of passion and doing such a wonderful job. Many thanks to the judges over the Saturday and Sunday and volunteers and entrants.

Kathy Cornack – Committee Organiser

Ellice Schraeder, Jessica Ingraham – Sub-committee

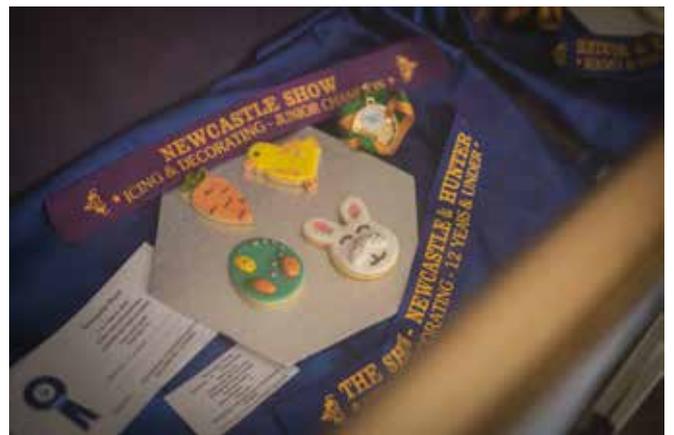


ICING & DECORATING

Entries for 2023 in Icing & Decorating were 31 exhibits of a very high quality.

The Newcastle Show would like to thank Kay Freeburn for all her work in making the Icing & Decorating a success. We thank all the helpers and the Judge.

Kay Freeburn – Icing & Decorating Committee



PRESERVES

There were 102 entries in the Preserves exhibit this year.

We had 16 individuals exhibiting so everyone was very busy and had multiple entries.

This year we had a Best Junior Competitor for the first time. Six-year-old Tobias Thornton won the award and is a very keen young preserver. We plan to promote a junior section for preserves going forward to see if we can encourage other young people to enter.

Our best overall competitor was awarded to Andrew Slater. He is a regular and excellent participant to the Preserves section of the Newcastle Show.

It was my first time co-ordinating the preserves competitions this year. I would like to thank all my volunteer helpers.

We were lucky to have Rhonda Merchant judging this year. Together we were able to run a smooth and streamlined Preserves Competition. Rhonda was particularly interested in explaining her judging decisions and what she was looking for in each category. Competitors were able to ask questions about individual categories which created a friendly and inviting atmosphere.



The display cabinets are looking a bit tired. It would be lovely if a glow could be brought to the jars of preserves with a strip of back lighting next year.

Looking forward to 2024!

Hariette Ferguson – Committee



TENT PEGGING

THREE TENT PEGGING TEAMS PARTICIPATED AT THE 2023 NEWCASTLE SHOW.

We thank the Tent pegging Teams for their participation and great display once again!

Results: 1st Tamworth 2nd Hunter Valley 3rd Gunnedah

Tent pegging is organised by Don Eyb with the assistance from the Ring committee

HORSES

2023 was the first year trialling a new competition schedule, we cut unpopular classes from previous years. This allowed horse classes to finish by lunchtime, approximately. It was unfortunate we had less entries on Friday for Australian Stock Horse classes due to a local ASH show on the same date.

Some basic equipment wasn't supplied as it was not requested but has previously been supplied including: - a 'Horse Office' sign, general rubbish bins, WH&S sign 'No open-toed shoes, no prams, no dogs, no smoking' for Marshall Yard/Centre Ring.

The grounds did not appear remediated following the caravan show prior, causing the ground to be uneven. This had the potential to be dangerous if we had experienced rain and a number of competitors raised how this could affect their performance (points for Royal Easter Shows)

We need to come up with a plan for arrival and parking of the Demo Derby vehicles, as it is not safe to have them arriving and parking between horse floats and stables during competition time. Parking should be a paid position, as done in past years, to prevent the issues we had this year. There were a number of paid labour and cleaning crew, Guild, other people trying to park in front of the stables and between horse floats. There were also a number of vehicles, trucks or trailers parked in this space overnight when I was offsite, causing issues upon arrival in the mornings.



We need to be mindful that vehicles cannot enter the centre ring when horses are competing, as this can cause a disadvantage with judging to effect Royal Easter Show points, not to mention the safety aspect. General consensus from competitors and their families was that the Equestrian Competition was run smoothly, and a great time was had. The judges have hopefully been paid by now and have all promised to return as they were very impressed.

Special thanks to Jeannie Walls for taking such great care of our invited guests. Ideally, their accommodation will have a staffed reception desk, as we continue to have issues with the wrong entry codes being issued, causing judges to not be able to access their accommodation after a several hour commute. Jeannie Walls has made some suggestions about finding funding to build a small seating area near the horse office (grandstand style).

We thank the prize donors for the rugs, prize money and other product.

Thank you to Caitlin Johns, horse steward, Jeanne Walls, Judges and those who assist the Horse Competition for all your great work.

Caitlin Johns – Horse Committee



POULTRY

We are looking forward to the Poultry Display returning in 2024 with some exciting new exhibits!

Peter has asked if cages could be updated and an audit on that area be carried out in preparation for 2024.

Peter Cliff – Poultry Committee



SHOW JUMPING

Show Jumping Entries were online only, via Global Entries.

Total paid: \$1,545.00

Total commission to Global: \$74.59

Total entries: 35

Suggestion for next year once it is determined whether we have Varley sponsorship: huge support from local riders to hold a 6-bar jump competition, maybe instead of the current schedule and potentially at twilight on the Friday evening if lighting is sufficient. This should reduce costs as equipment can be supplied locally.

Horse and Rider Entries were online only, via Nominate.

- Total paid in class entries: \$2075.00
- Total paid in vehicle entry: \$1,065.00
- Total paid in stable fees: \$250.00
- Total paid in commission to Nominate: \$186.77
- Total riders: 79
- Total horses: 114
- Total entries: 413

Proudly Sponsored by the Varley Family

HONEY

There were 64 exhibits in the Honey, with all classes represented: light, medium, dark in liquid honey classes, creamed honey, beeswax blocks, and flow hive honey. Candle making & honey Mead were new classes for 2023 with good representation. The number of exhibits was the same as 2023 which was very pleasing, considering some hives were in the red zone and destroyed during this time.

Steve Deegan suggested we need to remind entrants the jar must be full to the top for judging. This instruction has now been added to schedule. Steve would like to see more education around living with the Varroa Mite.

The honey competition will continue to run in 2024. Exhibitors will still have collected honey prior to their hives being shut down due to the varroa mite this year. As we speak, the DPI has changed rules regarding dealing with the Varroa mite, which may assist entry-wise.

Dianne Call, Honey Steward, and member of the Native Bee Association are looking at some displays for the 2024 Newcastle Show. We will also seek a guest speaker from the Native Bee Association and/or DPI.

The Newcastle Show thanks the members of the Hunter Amateur Beekeeping Association for their involvement with the honey judging and stewarding. The Judge this year was Linda

Winn, with stewards Pre McGee and Dianne Call. Many thanks for their great assistance. Thanks also go to Heather Wightman and Steve Deegan, Committee members, for their great support. Thanks Heather and Geoff Wightman for the set-up of the Bee display cabinet and tastings over the weekend, as well as assisting with the many activations in the horticultural precinct, along with Steve over the three show days.

The Newcastle Show thanks the members of the Hunter Amateur Beekeeping Association for their involvement with the honey judging and stewarding. Judge this year was Linda Winn, with stewards Pre McGee and Dianne Call. Many thanks for their great assistance.

Thanks also go to Heather Wightman and Steve Deegan, Committee members, for their great support. Thanks Heather and Geoff Wightman for the set-up of the Bee display cabinet and tastings over the weekend, as well as assisting with the many activations in the horticultural precinct, along with Steve.

Proudly Sponsored by AGL

Steve Deegan & Heather Wightman

Assist: Linda Winn, Pre McGee, Geoff Wightman, Dianne Call, Honey Committee & support.



RING COMMITTEE

Competitors Parking caused huge confusion and stress, with no assistance to direct parking of more than 50 cars and floats.

The judging area went very well. Horse marshalling lacked volunteers to assist with the dangerous area. Recommend a tight team to assist with all Ring Events. Showjumping was not co-ordinated with no set up assistance from labourers.

Horses had 15 stables and required additional. Tent pegging had 15 stables. 30 stables need to be opened and storage removed in some of the stables.

Equestrians very positive about the Show. A big thank you to the Evans family for their professional support.

Communication needs to be better and pre-induction is essential for proper control of events.



For 2024 we are looking at introducing "The Outback Experience" which involves all displays coming together for a two, 1 hour shows on Friday and Saturday.

***Owen Johns, Roger Geary, Tom Paterson
- Ring Committee***

CUTTING COMPETITION

The Newcastle Show Cutting Competition received around 14 qualifying entrants from the Vacy Charity Day Cutting Competition.

This year saw some great competition in the Horse Cutting which was won by Millers Forrest, Andrew Schulz & Cat Outta Hell. Andrew Schulz is well-known at the Newcastle Showgrounds, as Andrew, with the assistance of his father Gotfried, has been assisting the Newcastle Show since 2009 acting as a stockman for the Hunter Campdraft Cup.

We thank Kentan Machinery for sponsoring this competition and Brenden Bailey for the trophy buckle prize. Thanks to Thomas Cook Boot & Clothing Co for providing the entrants and official's shirts.

Callie Bailey once again produced some amazing photography of the day, which can be viewed on the Newcastle Show Equestrian Facebook page.



Many thanks to Josh Evans who organises this event and puts in a lot of work both on the day and prior, in seeking all volunteers required to run the event including, judges, stockmen, timers, scorers, photographer and announcers - Paul Dooley, Stock & Station Agent, and Penny Evans who provide the excellent commentary. We thank all the many volunteers involved with this competition, who all provide their specialised skills.

***Proudly Sponsored by Kentan Machinery
Organiser Josh Evans***

ART

The Art competition and Awards evening were once again a success.

The show received 185 entries, a great number and up on the 120 entries in 2023 and an increase from 2021.

The art was judged by Gillean Shaw from the UON Gallery. Gillean was impressed with the high quality of exhibits.

The exhibition was staged in the Hall of Industry (Exhibition Centre) as the hanging system is on these walls and the Grandstand room was being used for storing the Maritime Museum display.

Jenni Gander has offered to put a catalogue together for the week of the show for with sales and exhibitions.

Peter Anson has asked that the schedule be sent to schools as soon as finalised. Peter also suggested that the online entry system was not very user friendly, and we are working on this.

It was noted that the bollards which were ordered for the Art Sculptures did not arrive and put the expensive sculptures at risk.

The Art awards evening was well received from everyone attending this year. The Hall of Industry was separated with a partition,

from the Skills Exhibition, which created a great atmosphere. Winners were delighted to receive their awards and two junior entrants were present to accept their award with much delight.

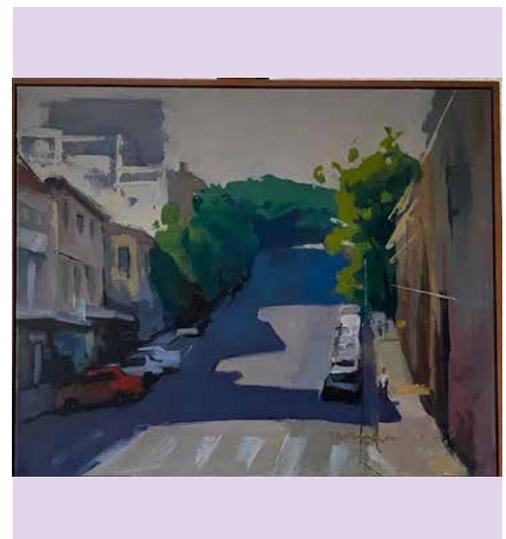
Jenni Varley once again the overall sponsor of the Art Competition, and we are very appreciative of the Support provided to the Newcastle Show. The Winner of the Jenni Varley sponsored 'David Strachan Award'; receiving \$1,500, was local artist Peter Gallagher.

The Newcastle Show thanks Lake Macquarie Art Gallery, Chroma Online and Eleanor Anson – ART2Q4, and Jenny Varley for support of the Art Classes.

Susanne Evans sponsored the catering for the Art Function Awards Evening, with wine provided from her King Valley Winery "Symphonia." Many thanks Susanne. Everyone had a wonderful evening.

We thank those on the Art Committee and the many volunteers for their assistance in providing the technical support required and for the hours spent hanging artworks and taking entries etc.

Jenni Gander, Peter Anson, Eleanor Anson, Bob Saxon – Art Committee



HORTICULTURE

As a team we surveyed the site two weeks prior to the show. Decided on the final list of activities and set up a summary document.

On the week of the show the soil and logs, kindly provided by Saddington's and Newcastle Council, were delivered and arranged, with the marquee set up shortly thereafter. We set up Thursday morning, which took 2 hours with four people with another hour for the honey area.

The marquee was 3 metres x 16 metres approx., with a divider separating four meters of tent, which was utilised by guest speakers, an EPA sponsored guest and Myles from Hunter Backyard Vege Growers. The front walls of the Marquee needed to be closed in the mornings due to the heat and very little shade. Around 11-12am these could be opened. A vegetable bed was placed on one side of the tent and decorative chickens, eggs and hatching boxes at the back. Plenty of plants, pots, flowers, and decorations were used for the interior and exterior, which made for a very inviting look. Heather Wightman brought honey processing equipment and the honey competition exhibits were displayed in the honey showcase within this marquee. Access to the tap at the back of the marquee, was very important.

Students from Broadmeadow Primary School came in to do a trial run of the activities, with the media attending the show around this time also. Altogether six student groups come though, with approximately 25 students per group, alternating in the 30-minute time slot activations. Activities included making an insect hotel from bamboo and candle making, run by Heather & Geoff Wightman. The other activations were the vegetable garden dig, investigation table, and the rock paintings with assistance from Melissa Fogarty and Steve Deegan. Each student was given the opportunity to take one item home.

There were five volunteers on Friday assisting with the School Excursion groups, which was a minimum amount. Honey tastings were



conducted by Heather & Geoff Wightman on the Sunday.

Overall, the children and families really enjoyed the garden dig and activations. Many of the parents sat at the back of the marquee in the shade, while their children participated in one of the activations.

Suggestions for 2024

The Marquee being 3m wide, could have been wider as it made moving through the tent a bit squishy with all the activities, helpers, and children. Overall, we used three tables for the primary students and two for the honey area and another was used in the speaker's section of the marquee, a total of 6 trestle tables. Seven may have been better if we had more space. We considered activities to cater for the disability groups, but in the end, we found the space was not easily accessible by wheelchairs or prams.

The Newcastle Show had difficulty obtaining volunteers to assist in the Horticultural precinct, after lengthy advertising on many horticultural-based social media sites. The Show will continue seeking volunteers for this precinct in 2024.

The Newcastle Show would like to thank the organisers, volunteers and guest speakers for the many hours spent assisting with the activations. We thank them for their tireless support, especially in the very high temperatures, out in the open over the three days.

Proudly Sponsored by Hunter Water.

Report: Melissa Fogarty, Hunter Organic Growers Society

Steve Deegan & Heather Wightman - Committee Members

HANDCRAFT



There were 64 exhibits in the Honey, with all classes represented: light, medium, dark in liquid The Handcraft once again had a beautiful display of some amazing

work. There were 217 exhibits in the Open, disability & aged sections and 22 exhibits in the Childrens section, a great number.

We thank the numerous volunteers involved with the taking of entries and arranging and looking after the exhibits over the 3 hot show days. There were also approx. 13 judges who judged the various Handcraft classes.

Kay Fitzgerald, who took control of the

Competition in 2023, is presently setting up a committee group of members for the Handcraft Competition in 2024, and we look forward to welcoming these new members.

The Newcastle Show would like to thank Catherine Bremmell, Outgoing Handcraft Organiser, for her dedicated assistance over the last few years and wish her all the best in the future. Thanks to Kay who has done a fantastic job overseeing the competition this year.

Note: Woodcraft were displayed in the Exhibition Centre this year, due to lack of available space in the Handcraft Room. We will seek solutions for 2024. We thank the Woodturners of the Hunter and The Port Stephens Woodworkers. John Reid – Woodturners of the Hunter.

Kay Fitzgerald – Handcraft Committee

RURAL ACHIEVER

The Rural Achiever for 2023 was Shanelle Pescud.

Shanelle has been involved with the Newcastle Show for the last few years and is also a Committee Member.

Shanelle suggests approaching local councils for more nominations for entrants and the possibility of a uniform for the entrants, similar to the RAS.

Over the next 12 months, Shanelle wishes to have more input into creating a more engaged profile of the Rural Achiever

The Newcastle Show Congratulates



Shanelle and thank Shanelle for her valued contribution to the Newcastle Show.

**Proudly Sponsored by the Varley Group
*Lauren Haskins & Shanelle Pescud – Rural Achiever Committee***

CATTLE

The Cattle section saw entries down on the previous year but all-around response of success from those that did attend. We had 25 kids in our youth events on Friday and 7 Trade animals. Also 32 Stud animals exhibited on Saturday with Tayla Miller from Blue Gene Cattle Co at Parkville NSW residing over the judging duties over both Friday and Saturday.

Friday saw our Junior Judging and Paraders competition held with Josh Hartup from Singleton winning both overall Junior Judge and Champion Parader. In the School results saw Seaham Public School winning Champion Primary Team for Junior Judging and also achieving Best Dressed School. Hunter River High School had a good day out winning Champion Junior Judging Team in both Junior and Senior High School Team and also Reserve Champion Trade animal.

Champion Trade animal was exhibited by Berdihold Stud of Oswald NSW.

Saturday saw our Stud Cattle classes with a strong showing of quality local exhibits with

Boambee Angus of Seaham winning Supreme Exhibit of the Show.

A big thankyou to all who helped over the weekend including entrants and exhibitors for supporting our show as well as our Naming sponsor GPA Financial Services with donations from Norco Rural at Heatherbrae, Farmland Co at Rutherford and A & C McDonald at Nelsons Plains.

The Newcastle show would like to cattle committee members, Mark Newell & Margo Duncan for their continued support. Thanks also to the tremendous support of Margo's family who assist each year with the School Students, who area a pleasure to have at the Newcastle Showgrounds.

We thank Graham Poole and GPA Financial Services, as the Naming Sponsor for their continued support.

Proudly sponsored by GPA Financial Services
Mark Newell, Margo Duncan – Cattle Committee



RATS AND MICE

Newcastle Rat and Mouse Show 2023 was a wonderful event this year and a great time rodent showing for the NSW Fancy Rodent Society Inc.

We had a pleasing number of competitors with 60 entries, with some not being able to make it on the day. We had some new faces, and plenty of fancy rodents ready for judging.

We were in a new hall this year, which we found to be a good space to showcase our rodents.

Grand Champion Rat of Newcastle Show 2023 went to Oz Rats Bugs, exhibited by Dianne Osborne.

Grand Champion Mouse of Newcastle Show 2023 went to Mouseback Puff, exhibited by Lauren McNair. Best Pet Rat of Newcastle Show 2023 went to Oz Rats Cheese, exhibited by Dianne Osborne.

Best Pet Mouse of Newcastle Show 2023 went to Mouseback Q, exhibited by Wendy Culshaw.



Thank you to Newcastle Show and its committee. The NSW Fancy Rodent Society Inc. and its members look forward to exhibiting again in Newcastle in 2024.

Newcastle Show thanks Lauren and volunteers for presenting the Rats & Mice Competition

Lauren McNair - NSW Fancy Rodent Society Inc. Club Vice President



WOODCHOP

A great display was on show once again!

No problems were experienced.

Noel Marsh ran the event, in the absence of Phil May.

There were fewer entrants this year, due to some other Shows on at the same time, including Tamworth Mudgee, Goulburn, Barraba, Milton, Armidale and Boorowa.

Phil will prepare the same schedule for 2024.

Phil May - Woodchop Committee



HART ACCOUNTANTS

Not-For-Profit - Association Report

NEWCASTLE AGRICULTURAL HORTICULTURAL & INDUSTRIAL
ASSOCIATION INC

ABN 85 194 365 274

For the year ended 30 June 2023

Prepared by Hart Accountants

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NEWCASTLE AGRICULTURAL HORTICULTURAL & INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION INC
For the year ended 30 June 2023

Committee's Report

Your committee members submit the financial report of NEWCASTLE AGRICULTURAL HORTICULTURAL & INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION INC for the financial year ended 30 June 2023.

Committee Members

The names of committee members throughout the year and at the date of this report are:

C. Blanch, P. Cliff, M. Duncan, P. Evans, N. Fletcher, R. Geary, L. Haskins, T. Patterson, G. Poole, R. Saddington, C. Johns, O. Johns, P. McCarthy, T McGovern, M Newell, P. Whiteman, M. Hoffman, E. Anson, P. Anson, J. Bourke, K. Cornack, S. Deegan, H. Ferguson, K. Fitzgerald, K. Freeburn, J. Gander, M. Hart, A. Kelly

Significant Changes

There has been no significant changes over the financial year

Operating Result

The loss after providing for income tax for the financial year amounted to \$34,595

Going Concern

This financial report has been prepared on a going concern basis which contemplates continuity of normal business activities and the realisation of assets and settlement of liabilities in the ordinary course of business.

The ability of the association to continue to operate as a going concern is dependent upon the ability of the association to generate sufficient cashflows from operations to meet its liabilities.

The members of the association believe that the going concern assumption is appropriate.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Committee on:



Peter Evans OAM (President)

Date 13 / 10 / 2023



Michael Hart (Treasurer)

Date 11 / 10 / 2023

Income and Expenditure Statement

NEWCASTLE AGRICULTURAL HORTICULTURAL & INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION INC For the year ended 30 June 2023

	2023	2022
Income		
Income		
Additional Pass Exhibitors	428	652
Club	-	909
Commissions	11,017	7,326
Competition & Entry Fees	9,406	2,540
Donations	2,445	6,724
Grants	1,000	45,000
Insurance Claim	27,343	-
Interest	-	15
Interest Income	787	-
Memberships	1,579	1,510
Other Income	4,704	-
Parking	3,916	-
Site Fees	170,635	113,787
Special Events	-	(2,750)
Sponsorship	143,991	195,836
Sundry Income	127	18,205
Tickets - General admission	575,687	375,816
Total Income	953,064	765,570
Total Income	953,064	765,570
Gross Surplus	953,064	765,570
Expenditure		
Advertising	49,095	35,287
Animals, Bedding & Food	2,820	705
ATM Rentals	361	77
Audit Expenses	3,250	3,000
Bad Debts	32,973	10,000
Bookkeeping Services	23,000	2,400
Broadcasters	1,500	2,600
Catering	5,016	2,920
Corporate Sites	-	11,550
Competition & Hire Expenses	12,628	2,026
Competition Fees Commission	-	208
Contractors	85,516	114,434
Depreciation	21,642	27,035
Emergency Services	12,728	12,133
Equipment & Infrastructure Hire - Audio	72,739	26,211
Fees & Affiliations	4,902	4,533
Food Inspection Fees	2,430	2,480

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.

	2023	2022
Fuel & Gas	-	1,807
Functions	7,425	1,523
Insurances	33,432	34,859
Interest Due/Penalties	-	(2,972)
Judges Expenses	2,088	3,436
Legal Fees	-	10,000
Marketing Consultant Fees	49,090	(85)
Merchant Fees	610	1,477
Mounted Stewards	1,500	-
NEC	77,974	49,395
Office Expenses	2,669	4,337
Parking & Venue Fees	1,686	2,537
Postage	254	619
Printer Maintenance	3,847	3,991
Prize Money and Prizes	23,265	7,870
Recruitment Expenses	2,554	1,130
Repairs & Maintenance	2,239	24,977
Ribbons	2,138	2,637
Ring Entertainment	41,351	53,491
Roaming & Stage Entertainment	19,831	19,302
Rural Achiever Award	500	500
Safety & Security	30,378	21,803
Salaries & Super	122,065	184,488
Show Attractions	23,858	14,720
Signs & Banners	18,159	10,062
Stage, Sound & Lighting	30,112	34,392
Stationery & Printing	1,322	4,764
Subscriptions & IT Support	13,026	13,898
Sundry Expenses	1,715	182
Telephone & Internet	5,473	6,289
Ticketing Fees	29,071	8,937
Ticketing Staff Fees	8,441	1,130
Tickets & Passes	247	-
Traffic Management	21,543	6,841
Travel & Seminars	-	250
Trophies	912	1,055
Uniforms & Safety Clothing	1,730	3,063
Vehicle Exp & Rego	-	916
Veterinary Expenses	2,400	-
Waste & Cleaning Management	74,153	12,325
Total Expenditure	987,660	803,547
Current Year Surplus/ (Deficit) Before Income Tax Adjustments	(34,596)	(37,977)
Current Year Surplus/(Deficit) Before Income Tax	(34,596)	(37,977)
Net Current Year Surplus After Income Tax	(34,596)	(37,977)

Assets and Liabilities Statement

NEWCASTLE AGRICULTURAL HORTICULTURAL & INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION INC As at 30 June 2023

	NOTES	30 JUN 2023	30 JUN 2022
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents			
Cash Register Float		-	300
Petty Cash Float		-	635
Business Cheque - 179 874		140,339	187,486
Cash Reserve - 272 489		100,403	74,618
Debit Card - 417 860		2,794	600
Paypal Account		305	305
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents		243,841	263,944
Trade and Other Receivables		25,496	77,940
GST Receivable		6,575	11,131
Total Current Assets		275,911	353,014
Non-Current Assets			
Plant and Equipment and Vehicles			
Sundry Equipment		55,071	55,071
Accumulated Depreciation Sundry Equipment		(49,081)	(47,613)
Furniture & Office Equipment		77,063	77,063
Accumulated Depreciation Furniture & Office		(59,108)	(52,454)
Leasehold Improvements		90,360	90,360
Accumulated Depreciation Leasehold improvements		(36,273)	(22,752)
Total Plant and Equipment and Vehicles		78,032	99,674
Total Non-Current Assets		78,032	99,674
Total Assets		353,944	452,689
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Trade and Other Payables		2,783	66,932
Total Current Liabilities		2,783	66,932
Total Liabilities		2,783	66,932
Net Assets		351,161	385,757
Member's Funds			
Capital Reserve		351,161	385,757
Total Member's Funds		351,161	385,757

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.

Notes to the Financial Statements

NEWCASTLE AGRICULTURAL HORTICULTURAL & INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION INC For the year ended 30 June 2023

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The financial statements are special purpose financial statements prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act New South Wales. The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historic costs and do not take into account changing money values or, except where stated specifically, current valuations of non-current assets.

The following significant accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless stated otherwise, have been adopted in the preparation of these financial statements.

Income Tax

The entity is exempt from Income Tax under relevant legislation

Property, Plant and Equipment (PPE)

Leasehold improvements and office equipment are carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation.

The depreciable amount of all PPE is depreciated over the useful lives of the assets to the association commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

Leasehold improvements are amortised over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

Accounts Receivable and Other Debtors

Accounts receivable and other debtors include amounts due from members as well as amounts receivable from donors. Receivables expected to be collected within 12 months of the end of the reporting period are classified as current assets. All other receivables are classified as non-current assets.

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the assets and liabilities statement.

Accounts Payable and Other Payables

Accounts payable and other payables represent the liability outstanding at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the association during the reporting period that remain unpaid. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amounts normally paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability.

These notes should be read in conjunction with the attached compilation report.

Movements in Equity

NEWCASTLE AGRICULTURAL HORTICULTURAL & INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION INC For the year ended 30 June 2023

	2023	2022
Equity		
Opening Balance	385,757	2,758
Retained Earnings	-	420,976
Increases	(34,596)	(37,977)
Total Equity	351,161	385,757

Statement of Cash Flows - Direct Method

NEWCASTLE AGRICULTURAL HORTICULTURAL & INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION For the year ended 30 June 2023

Account	2023	2022
Operating Activities		
GST	(11,928)	(17,319)
Cash receipts from other operating activities	1,063,066	735,570
Cash payments from other operating activities	(1,052,967)	(774,031)
Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities	(1,829)	(55,780)
Investing Activities		
Other cash items from investing activities	1,810	(10,551)
Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities	1,810	(10,551)
Financing Activities		
Other cash items from financing activities	(20,083)	32,104
Net Cash Flows from Financing Activities	(20,083)	32,104
Net Cash Flows	(20,103)	(34,227)
Cash and Cash Equivalents		
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	263,944	298,171
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	243,841	263,944

True and Fair Position

NEWCASTLE AGRICULTURAL HORTICULTURAL & INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION INC For the year ended 30 June 2023

Annual Statements Give True and Fair View of Financial Position and Performance of the Association

We, Peter Evans - Chairman, and Michael Hart - Treasurer, being members of the committee of NEWCASTLE AGRICULTURAL HORTICULTURAL & INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION INC, certify that –

The statements attached to this certificate give a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of NEWCASTLE AGRICULTURAL HORTICULTURAL & INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION INC during and at the end of the financial year of the association ending on 30 June 2023.

Signed:



Peter Evans OAM

Dated: 13/10/2023

Signed:



Michael Hart

Dated: 11/10/2023

Certificate By Members of the Committee

NEWCASTLE AGRICULTURAL HORTICULTURAL & INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION INC For the year ended 30 June 2023

I, Peter Evans OAM of 1a Curley Rd, BROADMEADOW, NSW, Australia, 2292 certify that:

1. I attended the annual general meeting of the association held on 18 October 2023.
2. The financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2023 were submitted to the members of the association at its annual general meeting.

Dated: 18/10/2023

Compilation Report

NEWCASTLE AGRICULTURAL HORTICULTURAL & INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION INC For the year ended 30 June 2023

Compilation report to NEWCASTLE AGRICULTURAL HORTICULTURAL & INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION INC.

We have compiled the accompanying special purpose financial statements of NEWCASTLE AGRICULTURAL HORTICULTURAL & INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION INC, which comprise the asset and liabilities statement as at 30 June 2023, income and expenditure statement, the statement of cash flows, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes. The specific purpose for which the special purpose financial statements have been prepared is set out in Note 1.

The Responsibility of the Committee Member's

The committee of NEWCASTLE AGRICULTURAL HORTICULTURAL & INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION INC are solely responsible for the information contained in the special purpose financial statements, the reliability, accuracy and completeness of the information and for the determination that the basis of accounting used is appropriate to meet their needs and for the purpose that financial statements were prepared.

Our Responsibility

On the basis of information provided by the partners we have compiled the accompanying special purpose financial statements in accordance with the basis of accounting as described in Note 1 to the financial statements and APES 315 *Compilation of Financial Information*.

We have applied our expertise in accounting and financial reporting to compile these financial statements in accordance with the basis of accounting described in Note 1 to the financial statements. We have complied with the relevant ethical requirements of APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants*.



Hart Accountants

Michael Hart

Dated: 1/1/2023

10th October 2023

Newcastle A H & I Association
PO Box 53
BROADMEADOW NSW 2292

**NEWCASTLE AGRICULTURAL, HORTICULTURAL & INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION
2023 MANAGEMENT LETTER**

Dear Michael,

We have completed our audit of Newcastle Agricultural, Horticultural & Industrial Association for the year ended 30 June 2023.

During this audit, we have noted that the organisation has adhered to its statutory obligations.

Internal Controls and Accounting Procedures were all deemed to be adequate throughout the audit.

We note any issues we have identified were rectified during the completion of the Audit and note we have no major issues to report.

We have reviewed and accurately accounted for the depreciation of all assets. All funds are held in a bank account in the Organisation's name and sufficient cash is set aside as required to cover the Organisation's liabilities and accumulated depreciation (to use for asset replacement purposes).

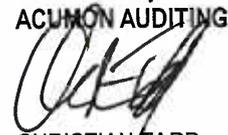
Cash transactions are appropriately controlled and all tested cash transactions have been used in connection with the provision of broadcasting services or in the acquisition or replacement of assets to provide broadcasting services.

We note that the insurance coverage and expenditure controls are adequate.

The board papers and minutes provided by the organisation indicate appropriate decision making and financial management processes.

It is the organisation's responsibility to maintain an adequate system of internal control as the principal safeguard against irregularities which an audit examination may not disclose.

Michael, if you have any queries in relation to this please contact me.

Yours faithfully
ACUMON AUDITING

CHRISTIAN TAPP
Partner

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morisset 2264
tel 02 4973 2877
fax 02 4970 5352

wallsend

49 nelson street
wallsend 2287
po box 597
walisend 2287
tel 02 4955 9195
fax 02 4951 7706

acumon pty limited
abn 78 109 085 672
liability limited by a scheme
approved under professional
standards legislation.



CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS AUSTRALIA
MEMBER OF THE ACCO GROUP



**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
To The Members Of Newcastle Agricultural Horticultural & Industrial Association Incorporated**

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

We, Acumon Auditing have audited the financial report of Newcastle Agricultural Horticultural and Industrial Association Incorporated, which comprises the balance sheet as at 30 June 2023, the income and expenditure statement, the statement of movements in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the responsible entity's declaration.

In our opinion, the financial report of Newcastle Agricultural Horticultural and Industrial Association Incorporated has been prepared in accordance with Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, including:

- (a) giving a true and fair view of the Entity's financial position as at 30 June 2023 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- (b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.

In preparing the financial report, the responsible entity are responsible for assessing the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the responsible entities either intends to liquidate the Entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Responsible entities are responsible for overseeing the registered entity's financial reporting process.

Basis for Opinion

We, Acumon Auditing, conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the registered entity in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. Acumon Auditing have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We, Acumon Auditing believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Responsible Entities for the Financial Report

The responsible entities of the registered entity are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the ACNC Act 20 and for such internal control as the responsible entities determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Email: mail@acumon.net.au Web: www.acumon.net.au

<p>green hills: 7/19 mitchell drive east maitland 2323 po box 2204 green hills 2323 tel 02 4931 1100 fax 02 4931 1196</p>	<p>morisset: suite 2, 49 yambo street morisset 2264 po box 300 morisset 2264 tel 02 4973 2877 fax 02 4970 5352</p>	<p>wallsend 49 nelson street wallsend 2287 po box 597 wallsend 2287 tel 02 4955 9195 fax 02 4951 7706</p>	<p>acumon pty limited abn 78 109 085 672 liability limited by a scheme approved under professional standards legislation</p>	  <small>CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS</small>
--	---	--	--	--

In preparing the financial report, the responsible entity are responsible for assessing the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the responsible entities either intends to liquidate the Entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Responsible entities are responsible for overseeing the registered entity's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole, is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the registered entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by responsible entity.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the responsible entity's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we, Acumon Auditing conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Entity to cease to continue as a going concern.

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acumon pty limited
 abn 78 109 085 672
 liability limited by a scheme
 approved under professional
 standards legislation



SHARED ACCOUNTANTS
 Chartered Accountants

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtain sufficient appropriate evidence regarding the financial information of the entity or business activities within the entity to express an opinion on the financial report. Acumon Auditing are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the Incorporated Association audit. We, Acumon Auditing remain solely responsible for the audit opinion.

We communicate with the responsible entity regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

In accordance with the requirements of section 60-45(3) (b) of the ACNC Act, we are required to describe any deficiency, failure or shortcoming in respect of the matters referred to in paragraph 60-30(3)(b), (c) or (d) of the ACNC Act.

ACUMON AUDITING



Christian Tapp

Partner

Dated 12 October 2023

Declared at Unit 7, 19 Mitchell Drive, EAST MAITLAND NSW 2323

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**AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION
UNDER SECTION 307C OF THE CORPORATIONS ACT 2001
TO THE MEMBERS OF NEWCASTLE AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL
ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED**

We declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2023 there have been:

- (i) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the Corporations Act 2001 in relation to the audit; and
- (ii) no contraventions of an applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.



Name of Firm	ACUMON AUDITING
Name of Partner	CHRISTIAN TAPP
Date	12 October 2023
Address	Unit 7 19 Mitchell Drive EAST MAITLAND NSW 2323

2023 SHOW SPONSORS

Company	Area
Foster Fabrication	City VS Country Derby
HNE Health	White Ribbon
HVTC	White Ribbon
Lord Pleco	City VS Country Derby
Teach NSW	White Ribbon
Your Move Conveyancing	City VS Country Derby
AGL	Honey Competition
DSI	Yellow Ribbon
TriNature	Handcraft
Newcastle Racecourse	Equestrian Events
Spirit Super	The Cubby House
RDA Hunter	Yellow Ribbon
Jenny Varley	Clem Varley Memorial & Art & Prizes function
Norm Fletcher	Animal Nursery
Graham Poole	Cattle Precinct
Hunter Water	Horticulture
Jemena	Splat3D Tool Workshops
Lion Nathan	Bars & Official Beer Sponsor
Newcastle Farmers Markets	
Varley Group	Rural Achiever
Evans family	Reptiles
GWH	Fireworks
Hunter Construction Group	Hot Wheels
Hunter Ready mixed Concrete	Skills & Careers
UoN	Major Sponsor & Volunteer Program
Greater Bank	

IN KIND SPONSORS:

Traffic Plan Professionals, Kennards, Kurri Kurri Golf Club, Gencom, Saddingtons, Komatsu Forklift, Daracon, All life.

Many thanks to our Sponsors, including all in-kind support and that's to all our donors, supporters and volunteers.



