

2026 RAS Canine Hero Awards



Royal Agricultural Society of NSW

The Royal Agricultural Society of NSW Canine Hero Awards are a celebration of 'Man's Best Friend'.

Every year amongst our canine companions, heroes emerge, having performed remarkable feats that reinforce how incredibly fortunate we are to have them in our lives.

From astonishing acts of bravery, to keeping communities safe and transforming the lives of people with special needs, these heroes are ordinary dogs doing extraordinary things.

The Royal Agricultural Society of NSW Canine Hero Awards thanks to the Australasian Animal Registry aim to acknowledge and honour these deserving dogs with a presentation to be held during the ADVANCE™ Sydney Royal Dog Show, 'Best in Show' Day at the 2026 Sydney Royal Easter Show.

Awards:

The Royal Agricultural Society of NSW Canine Hero Awards will be decided in two categories.

1. AAR Government Service Dog Award

Open to a dog who through a single act or over time has displayed exemplary commitment to humans through service with a government department or agency.

2. AAR Assistance or Companion Dog Award

Open to a trained support, assistance or therapy dog or a treasured pet dog who through a single act or over time has demonstrated the human-canine bond in an exceptional manner.

Applications will be considered, and winners decided by Judges from the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW. Finalists and the ultimate Canine Heroes will be invited to accept their awards at the ADVANCE™ Sydney Royal Dog Show, Best in Show Day on Sunday 12 April, 2026.

The winners, their stories and photos will be featured in the Dog News Australia publication and the Dogs NSW Gazette.

Royal Agricultural Society of NSW

1 Showground Road, Sydney Olympic Park NSW 2127

Locked Bag 4317 Sydney Olympic Park NSW 2127 | ABN 69 793 644 351

Tel: (02) 9704 1111 | Email: info@rasnsw.com.au | Fax: (02) 9704 1122 | www.rasnsw.com.au



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Entry Rules and Regulations:

The awards are open to residents of New South Wales, Australia at the time of entry who own the nominated dog or are the authorised agent of the owner of the nominated dog.

All entries must meet the criteria on the entry form in one of the following categories.

1. AAR Government Service Dog
2. AAR Assistance or Companion Dog

Entries must include a completed and signed awards entry form, photograph, and narrative description.

Prizes:

A \$1500 cash prize is awarded to the winner of each category, sponsored by the Australasian Animal Registry (AAR). (Cash prizes can also be donated to your selected charity)

How to Enter:

Please complete the awards entry form and forward to the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW with a high-resolution picture of you and the dog.

Entries can be submitted by;

1. Completing the entry form
2. Emailing your entry form and photo to companionanimals@rasnsw.com.au
3. Post the entry including photo attached to;

RAS of NSW Companion Animals Section
Canine Hero Awards
Locked bag 4317
Sydney Olympic Park, NSW 2127

The closing date of the competition is Friday February 20, 2026

For further information regarding the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW Canine Hero Awards, please contact the Companion Animals Manager, at companionanimals@rasnsw.com.au or on 02 9704 1007.

2026 RAS Canine Hero Awards ENTRY FORM

Entries for the **Royal Agricultural Society of NSW Canine Hero Awards** will be accepted up to Friday February 20, 2026.

To enter, please complete the entry form. Include a photo (jpeg format preferred) and a narrative of up to 400 words describing how the dog has exhibited qualities that make him or her a Canine Hero.

Select one of the categories:

- ☐ AAR Government Service Dog Award
- ☐ AAR Assistance or Companion Dog Award

Please complete:

Dogs Name	
Breed (if crossbreed specify cross type)	
Dogs date of Birth (if known)	
Service organisation (if applicable)	
Handler/Owners name	
Address	
Phone Number	
E-mail	

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How has the dog exhibited qualities that make him or her a Canine Hero? (Answer below)

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