

RAS TIMES

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WE'RE BACK

The 2021 Sydney Royal Easter
Show is coming





President letter



As I prepare for my first Sydney Royal Easter Show as President I am aware of the heightened emotions surrounding this one. For many months it did not seem possible, but once government approval and support was given, there was no doubt the RAS was capable of coming together and working hard behind the scenes to put on a Show like no other. I know all competitors have waited a long twelve months to get back to the Royal and their patience is acknowledged and appreciated. Our horse competitions have been slightly reduced but still promise to be extremely spirited and have attracted an outstanding calibre of entrants. Unfortunately we could not invite international guest judges this year and our

woodchopping and sawing competition will also miss international competitors. However, the prestige of our competitions remains the same, the importance of being judged and the potential for a winning ribbon or trophy is still a motivating force, and the ability to showcase skill or talent is still significant. The Show is running with the theme of 'It's Back' and it certainly is with carnival rides, entertainment, and the Show food that quickly becomes the talk of the grounds. Showbags are back and family fun is back, and the opportunity to picture yourself on the farm is back. To ensure as many people as possible can enjoy the Show it is important that all visitors adhere to the safety guidelines, download the necessary apps, check-in for COVIDsafety requirements, pre-book their tickets and be mindful of all

government and health advice.

Outside of the Show the RAS is hopeful of a busy year. Our education programs are reaching more schools and have received the highest accreditation from the NSW Education Standards Authority, Fine Food competitions are underway, Sydney Showground is taking event and sporting bookings, and the RAS Foundation is continuing to support regional and rural communities where possible.

I'm proud to help guide the way for the dedicated teams behind the scenes as well as the exceptionally supportive Board, Council and Members.

Michael Millner,
President,
Royal Agricultural Society
of NSW

Sydney Royal results

Undoubtedly one of the finest positions in the world is that of a Sydney Royal Aquaculture judge, assessing Australian seafood and enjoying the finest catches from our pristine waters. This year our judges tasted prawns, Sydney rock oysters, smoked/cured seafood, mussels, abalone and fresh fish including barramundi, cod, salmon and kingfish. One of the earliest commercial aquaculture products in Australia was the Sydney Rock Oyster in 1872 and oysters remain a leading contender for favourite seafood, with **Tathra Oysters awarded Champion Aquaculture Product** this year. Tathra Oysters were the inaugural President's Medal winner in 2006 and have received the status of Champion in Sydney Royal competitions sixteen times dating back to 2001. Tathra Oysters are farmed in the pristine waters of Nelson Lake, situated in the Mimosa Rocks National Park on the far south coast of NSW.

Per capita, Australia sits in third place globally when it comes to milk consumption, but the Sydney Royal Cheese & Dairy Produce judges believe we easily sit in first place when it comes to flavour, aroma, texture, and body. Our cheese and dairy produce industries, incorporating milk, butter, cheeses including cheddar, labneh and haloumi, gelato, yoghurt, buttermilk, custard and other milk products from cows, sheep, goats, buffalo and camels are churning out award-quality goods every day. It makes sense, the first dairy cows arrived in Australia with the first fleet in 1788 and with more than 1.6 million dairy cows in Australia today, we've easily been milking cows ever since...

The **Champion Cheese of Show was awarded to Pecora Dairy Yarrawa** - a zippy Spanish style semi-hard with herbaceous, citrus and floral notes with exceptionally clean flavours and a lingering finish, and Australia's first non-cooked raw milk cheese. Pecora Dairy is an artisan sheep milk dairy and cheesery, spread across 200 acres in Robertson, the Green Heart of the Southern Highlands.



Showground update

Continuously winning this award since 2016, Sydney Showground has once again been named winner of the Best Banquet & Catering category in the Meeting & Events Australia (MEA) 2019 NSW State Awards. Held as a virtual event due to COVID restrictions, the team was thrilled to receive good news during a time of such uncertainty and disruption for the events industry.

Making the most of the quieter COVID-impacted period, Sydney Showground continued with their technology upgrades, including the stadium Wi-Fi, new LED signage, and the launch of a new 360-degree virtual reality tool. The digital tool provides a unique perspective for clients, providing a one-stop-shop for all photos, 360-degree videos, and fact sheets whilst also offering a dynamic virtual reality tour of the entire site.

Sydney Showground was the first venue in NSW to publicly list a COVID event support initiative for clients, providing assistance with running events whilst promoting the 30,000 SQM of premium clear span space available to ensure social distancing requirements. It is anticipated this will stand the venue in good stead when confidence in the events industry returns.. and the team is ready to move ahead with fuctions, conferences, concerts and expos.

Other good news was the signing of a new three-year deal with the NSW Education Standards Authority for HSC marking, continuing an arrangement that dates back to Sydney Showground's days in our old home at Moore Park.



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Our commitment to Australian farmers means that all our fresh Woolworths beef is 100% Australian grown.

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Woolworths 
The fresh food people

Chief Executive's column



It has been a long and at times difficult twelve months since I prepared to welcome Members and visitors to the 2020 Sydney Royal Easter Show, but I am proud to announce that we are about to open the gates for the 2021 Show and hopefully see some semblance of normal return to the RAS.

We were certainly not the only organisation or event business to suffer throughout the pandemic, but we are one of the first to come back and I feel a great responsibility to make sure we get it right and reassure the community, sponsors, the commercial world, and the appropriate officials that all guidelines are being followed and events such as ours can safely take place.

The 2021 Show will be one like no other, it has been carefully planned and put together at incredible speed and for that, I thank all RAS staff, volunteers, committees and our exhibitors and sponsors. We are breaking new ground, hosting Australia's largest annual ticketed event during a period of transition – from a pre-pandemic world to one of amplified health and safety concerns. However, we are not strangers to some of the new protocols – we have long promoted the importance of handwashing and protecting oneself at the Show, our 5-step hand wash posters have been in place in all livestock pavilions for many years. I ask all Showgoers to respect the new environment at the Show, to read and follow all rules and regulations, ensuring their safety and that of other Showgoers. My wish is for twelve days of uninterrupted competitions, exhibitions, displays and good old-fashioned family fun and I believe together we can achieve this.

We have successfully re-opened our Wine, Dairy and Fine Food Competitions beginning with Aquaculture and Cheese & Dairy Produce, and we have others launching in April including pasta, specialty foods, smallgoods and bakery. All Fine Food competitions are planned to run throughout August and will culminate with the celebration of all winners at the Taste of Excellence event in September.

As well, Sydney Showground has seen interest in events rise and will see the Dog Lovers Show return, and has international music acts booked for late in 2021.

Thank you for your continued support and all the messages and well wishes we have received over this COVID period, we have done our best to survive as an organisation and look forward to seeing as many of our Members and visitors as possible at the Show. Please check online for all requirements as you plan and book for a day at the Show, and welcome back.

Brock Gilmour
Chief Executive

Show information for Members 2021

MEMBERS LOUNGE

PRE-SHOW DATES 22-31 March 2021 (weekdays only)
 HOURS 8am – 4pm
 DURING SHOW DATES 1-12 April 2021
 HOURS 8am – 5.30pm
 LOCATION The Lounge Café and Bar, 1 Showground Road, Sydney Olympic Park
 SERVICE RAS Membership card collection and general enquiries

CUSTOMER SERVICE DESK AND CLOAK ROOM

DATES 1-12 April 2021
 HOURS 8am – 9.30pm
 LOCATION Members Stand
 SERVICE Purchase merchandise, carnival coupons and general enquiries

PHONE ENQUIRIES

PRE-SHOW DATES: 22-31 March 2021 (weekdays only)
 HOURS 8am – 5pm
 DURING SHOW DATES 1-12 April 2021
 HOURS 8am – 9pm
 TELEPHONE 02 9704 1144
 SERVICE General enquiries

RAS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

DATE Wednesday, 31 March 2021
 TIME 5pm – 6pm
 VENUE Hordern Café, Members Stand

TYRRELL'S MEMBERS PREVIEW NIGHT

Your exclusive preview of the 2021 Show evening

entertainment. Book now, includes drinks and canapés.
 DATE Wednesday, 31 March 2021
 TIME 6pm - 9.30pm
 VENUE Skydeck, Sydney Royal Stand
 COST RAS Member \$70, guest \$75, children \$50
 BOOK Call 02 9704 1144 or online rasnsw.com.au/members
 Please note: Bookings close 22 March 2021 5pm

DINING AND ENTERTAINMENT

HORDERN CAFÉ

Casual dining in the Members Stand.
 DATES 1-12 April 2021
 TIME 7.30am - 9.00pm
 SPECIAL OFFER RAS Members receive 10% discount.
 Hot Breakfast is now being served in the Hordern Café from 7.30am till 9.30am. RAS Member \$15, guest \$20 - no discount on breakfast.

CHARLEY RESTAURANT

A fine dining experience the whole family can enjoy, with stunning views of the Stadium through floor-to-ceiling windows.
 DATES 1-12 April 2021
 TIME Lunch 11.30am - 2.30pm
 Dinner 5.30pm - 9.30pm
 BOOK Open now (during business hours, Monday to Friday) and 1-12 April 2021 8.00am till 9.00pm on 02 9704 1144

Please note: There will be a 90 minute time limit on tables within the Hordern Café & Charley Restaurant & Members must be dining to utilise these tables.

MEMBERS BAR

HOURS 11am – midnight (last drinks at 11.30pm)
 LOCATION Members Stand
 10% discount for RAS Members

PARENTS' ROOM

Available for Members and their guests.
 DATES 1-12 April 2021
 HOURS 8am – 9.30pm
 LOCATION On the upper concourse of Sydney Showground Stadium opposite the Members Stand entrance

MERCHANDISE

Merchandise will be available from the Members Customer Service desk in the Members Stand and Members Lounge

BUGGY SERVICE

Our elderly or disabled Members have access to buggy transportation to and from P1 car park, Olympic Park train station, Accor Hotels and the bus stop opposite the Aquatic Centre.
 DATES 1-12 April 2021
 HOURS 8am – 9pm
 BOOK 02 9704 1144
 Due to social distancing, space is limited. Expect longer wait times.

DRESS REGULATIONS

Whether you're enjoying time in the Stadium, or Charley Restaurant, your time in the Members Stand is special. Appropriate clothing is a key part of the experience for you and your guests. Please read the RAS dress regulations before you visit, go to www.rasnsw.com.au/membership

The Show is coming



We are back... and we are bringing fun, food, farmyard animals and a field of fascinating finals and fierce competitions.

From the Rural Achievers and The Land Sydney Royal Showgirls to the Best in Show, the Grand Champion Fleece to Supreme Exhibit and even the Woodchopping Champion of Champions, all have been waiting and honing their skills or perfecting their entries.

Gastronomic innovators have been deep frying and sugar coating and taste testing things on a stick, showbag suppliers have studied trends and watched and listened to discover the top 100+ must-haves for all age groups, whilst carnival operators have tried out the freakiest, fastest, flying rides and loop-the-loops for thrill seekers and the not-so-easily scared dare devils. It's all coming together and it will be here soon.

A year without a Sydney Royal Easter Show was like December without Christmas or Melbourne without the Cup... but that's all in the past and this year the Show will make up for lost time and deliver the country to the city like never before.

Day 1 opens with poultry judging and horse competitions in the main arena and closes with a whole lot of horses, very fast cars and fireworks. In between there's dogs and cats and mouse and rat breeds to examine, cows to be milked, shopping to be done and showbags to peruse and purchase!

And this goes on for 12 days, right through the NSW school holidays. On 1 April the gates will open and Showgoers will be welcomed in to watch chips fly in the woodchop arena, gaze at goats and see a sow with her piglets, enjoy the excitement of rodeo and the thrill of showjumpers taking their horses to new heights as they complete a circuit under the watchful eye of judges.



Once again cattle will go under the auctioneers gavel, sheep will be shorn and dairy cows milked, chicks will hatch and piglets will wait patiently for a gentle pat. The farmyard nursery will introduce your little ones to those of a farmer - with lambs, ducklings, kids and chicks ready for a brush and a feed and a photo.

The carnival is back, with rides and screams and spinning and turning, and there's a carnival for littler ones too with gentler fun and games to play.

This year's Show will be following all COVIDsafe guidelines and that means a change or two, but it won't stop the smiles and memories being made. Keep your distance – stand a cow's length apart and wash your hands – we've got more hand wash stations than ever before, at the entry gates and all across the grounds. The Show won't be cashless but contactless card payment is encouraged and our COVIDsafe Marshalls will be on hand to keep an eye on movement and queues and keeping entry and exit points clear.

The Green Army of volunteers will once again be there to help and guide all Showgoers, making sure you can find exactly what you are looking for and not miss a thing.

There's a Good Old Days heritage display - farming machinery and equipment from our agricultural past, and an amazing turnout featuring a 14 draught horses and a wool wagon! This truly is a look back and a nod to the way things used to be done by men and women on the land.

The Heritage Pavilion will take you back to the 1920s and 30s with a look at the era that brought enormous changes to rural areas, the establishment of soldier settlements coinciding with others leaving the land for the bright lights of the city. Whilst you peruse the past, take a moment to vote in the RAS 2022 Poster Competition. The winning poster, as voted by the public, could be used to promote the RAS 200 year anniversary Show in 2022!

There's plenty of space to spread out and sit down at the Show, and this is always the best way to enjoy your cheese toastie, chip-on-a-stick, fresh lemonade, ice cream, hot dog, hamburger, cheese-on-a-stick, fairy floss, giant pretzels, ribs, turkey legs, popcorn, hot donuts, pizza and any other mouth watering Show food. Take a seat in the stands of the stadium for lunch or dinner and catch the spectacular entertainment... it gets bigger and better every year and 2021 is no different – there's 12 hours of entertainment packed into every Show ticket!

Try not to miss the Australian Defence Force Air Force Roulettes on 2 April - taking to the skies during the Official Opening Ceremony at 4.00pm or the Bandy & Johnson Clydesdale Team - in the main arena every day at 12.20pm and 7.30pm, or the excitement of The Manny McCarthy Memorial 375mm World Championship Underhand in the MasterChef Woodchop Stadium on 9 April, or the ADVANCE™ Sydney Royal Dog Show Best in Show on 11 April, or the Hordern and Urquhart Trophies on 4 April in the Beef Cattle competition, or the sheep shearing, Riverina Fresh Working Dairy, the brand-new 10 Shake Farmyard Nursery, Mr Alloo's Noodle Market, The Tucker Box, Australian Made Pavilion, 2020 Sydney Royal Ribbon rug sale, the Ag Bag, chook washing, goat mountain, and so much more!

We have worked closely with the NSW Government and NSW Health to ensure we can put on a Show... we missed you and we know you missed us! The 2021 Sydney Royal Easter Show is back and ready to welcome Members, visitors and the people of NSW.



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1920... the come-back Show

Everyone is used to seeing aerial photographs, and now with drones being so affordable, even getting a DIY shot of your own backyard is easy. But in 1920 a bird's-eye view was remarkable – that's when the very first aerial photograph of the Showground was produced. Amongst some of the first photos in Australia to be taken from a plane, it depicts the Show in full-swing, with thousands of people dotting the streets and the Grand Parade underway in the arena.

This was the come-back Show, a life-affirming affair after the 1919 shutdown caused by the Spanish flu.

The pandemic had taken 6,000 lives in New South Wales alone, and on top of that, the country had just emerged from a long war; drought ravaged the regions. Then, as now, people were desperate for a new beginning. Then, as now, the RAS was determined to help provide one.

The Society faced plenty of challenges. Getting the ground ready in time for re-opening was a scramble. It had been an arm-wrestle to get the Showground back from health authorities, who set up a temporary overflow hospital in the grounds during the crisis, but showed no sign of shifting out when it passed.

But that wasn't the biggest issue.

The cancellation of the 1919 Show cost a bomb, especially as it had been styled as an extravagant jubilee to mark 50 years of the Society's incorporation, and 50 years at its Moore Park location. More revenue was urgently needed to service an overdraft, and to meet the rapidly growing costs of administration, ground improvement and maintenance. After looking closely at operations, the Council decided to raise the price of admission to the Show – a fair enough call, considering it hadn't gone up for 60 years! Mindful of families, entry for children remained the same, but under a split-pricing policy adult tickets cost two shillings for the first five days of the nine-day Show, one shilling for the remaining days, and one shilling for night-time admission. This meant people could still afford to make several visits if so inclined.

The plan was a success.

On Good Friday a record crowd of 110,000 turned-up. RAS president Samuel Hordern was moved, saying the support of the people would do much to recompense the Society for its losses. Everyone, he said, seemed to feel impelled to visit their great exhibition. Newspapers noted that holiday-makers could not resist the beckoning of the cloudless blue sky. 'Fathers and mothers,' one paper noted, 'were intent on giving their children an outing in this great common playground of city and country. They tried their best, despite the over-crowding, to make a picnic of it. These little family groups were scattered all over the grounds, eating their sandwiches wherever there was a little shade from the blazing sun. It was a great meeting-place for country cousins, and all appeared to have a jolly time viewing the maze of exhibits and hunting for samples.'

At the official opening it was reported that the grandstand and lawn were packed with gaily-dressed women, and amongst the ubiquitous black umbrellas, coloured sunshades showed up as vivid spots in the moving panorama. The absence of khaki uniforms in the crowd was a loss no one minded.

Producers also had reason to be cheery. After the terrible season, no one could believe the quality of the exhibits. Rains at just the right time, in just enough districts saved the day. And in the halls and stands, manufacturing, retail and industrial displays were bigger than ever.

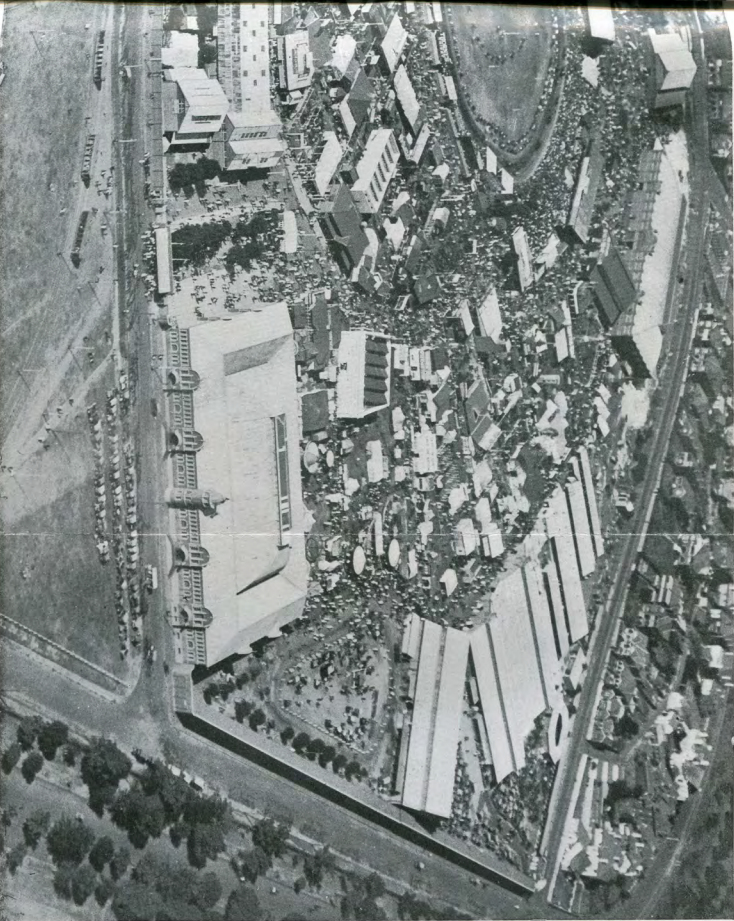
The Show, everyone felt, had not suffered for its 1919 recess. Rather, it seemed reinvigorated. In all, the Royal Agricultural Society of New South Wales was commended for 'carrying on' with such fine spirit and enterprise. There were no guarantees. Putting on the 1920 Show had required a leap of faith, a rallying of energy and courage. The community had been warned that milder attacks of the flu might reoccur for several years.

'That we have been spared the dread visitation so far this year,' said The Sydney Morning Herald, 'is a matter for devout national thankfulness rather than for boasting. It is gratifying to remember that, whereas at Show time last year the conditions of life in the city were dismal in the extreme, this year they are bright and cheerful, for the physical health of the community is very good.'

What a shame the photographer could not hear the carnival burble of the Showground over the engine noise as he leant out of his aircraft to take that first aerial photo. Where illness and death had been, life had returned.



First Photograph from



the Air of Sydney Show Ground. Taken from an Avro Aeroplane by the Australian Aircraft and Engineering Co. Ltd.

Photo: J. Turner

From Track to Field

WORDS: ALYS MARSHALL

Racing Queensland has been called upon to establish an accountable system of retraining and rehoming retired racehorses but, with little industry action underway, independent trainers are taking matters into their own hands.

The treatment of horses bred for the racing industry has been widely criticised since the ABC's 7:30 report last year revealed that hundreds of racehorses were slaughtered after being retired. The report revealed a Queensland abattoir processed approximately 300 racehorses in 22 days.

In response to these allegations, the Queensland Government conducted an independent inquiry into the management of retired racehorses and found the treatment and fate of unwanted horses were widely unregulated.

The inquiry recommended that Racing Queensland and the Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (QRIC) "establish a structured, funded, well-governed equine retraining and rehoming program to facilitate the transition of horses retiring from racing". This recommendation was supported by the Queensland Government.

Zach Cochrane, founder of Track to Field Equine, said there have always been a lot of good thoroughbred horses that have done well in polo and polocrosse, but a lot is going to waste. The Toowoomba couple has been breaking and training client stockhorses for years, but when COVID-19 restrictions began they saw the negative impact it had on the racing industry and were prompted to start Track to Field Equine.

"With COVID, there were lots of horses available because they were only allowed to race in their local zones," Mr. Cochrane said.

"It meant that the weaker horses in the stronger zones were wasting owner's money basically because they couldn't travel to their usual country meetings."

Even though they have proven that off-the-track thoroughbreds have the ability to perform at high-levels in a range of disciplines, Track to Field Equine are the only ex-racehorse retraining business they are aware of within Queensland, and they do not receive any financial assistance from Racing Queensland.

This is in spite of the fact Racing Queensland accepted the 2020 Inquiry into the Management of Retired Racehorses' recommendation for a system of retraining and rehoming.

In a statement, Racing Queensland said, "On January 1, 2020, RQ began collecting a one percent prize money levy on thoroughbred and harness racing that will support equine welfare and build better futures for Queensland's retired racehorses."

However, the inquiry report states, “The money raised by a one percent levy will be only able to rehome a fraction of retired racing horses requiring a good retirement outcome each year (400 of an estimated 2000).”

Professor Nigel Perkins, Head of Veterinary Science at The University of Queensland and Chair of the Thoroughbred Advisory Panel for Agrifutures Australia, said the racing industry has a responsibility under the social licence umbrella, and that responsibility extends beyond a horse’s racing career.

“One percent is not going to cut it, so if the racing industry is going to make a serious contribution, then that contribution needs to be elevated,” Professor Perkins said.

Mr. Cochrane said it would be great if there was a system for people like him, a system where unwanted horses that suit him and his partner can be directed to them.

“Then if there are other trainers that are doing another discipline, they can direct different horses to them,” he said.

“Because at the moment it is all about racing, which is fair enough and that’s what they do, but if they [RQ] want to be seen to be doing something more, they could show an interest in the options out there for when the racing comes to an end.”

Alys Marshall is the recipient of the **2021 JB Fairfax Award for Rural and Regional Journalism**. Not only is Alys an outstanding aspiring journalist, she is also a passionate young rural woman who plans on becoming an advocate for regional New South Wales.

Alys knows that telling the stories of her community and communities across the state will help others understand the realities of life on the land – both the good and the bad.



Growing up in north west NSW’s Burren Junction with a fourth-generation wool farmer father and a mother working as a local nurse, Alys believes hard-work was instilled in her from a very early age and it is because of this hands-on upbringing that she wants to tell the stories of her region and similar communities.

“My long term career plan is to have a job in investigative journalism. I feel that journalism is changing to adapt to our fast-moving digital world, and I would love to be a part of sharing information in this new world. To achieve this career goal, I am completing a dual degree of communications and journalism at the University of Queensland.”

A helping hand

NSW Treasurer Dominic Perrottet has long had a soft spot for the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW - dating back to his days as a university student nearly two decades ago.

While the man who would come to hold the purse strings for NSW concentrated on economics and law at Sydney University, one of his good mates Mark Schembri was studying veterinary science.

"Mark would take great delight in dragging me away from the legal textbooks to head out to the Show and help urine test the horses and cattle, whenever he was short a more willing volunteer," Mr Perrottet said.

Fast forward to 2020 and Dr Mark Schembri - now Vice President of the RAS - and the NSW State Treasurer would be reunited under the most challenging of circumstances, as the iconic Show became one of the first major events cancelled by COVID-19.

"The bush was already grappling with the impacts of drought and bushfires and then COVID-19 struck. It was a proverbial triple whammy that you simply would never have predicted," Mr Perrottet said.

The NSW Government has assisted the Royal Agricultural Society by underwriting the 2021 Royal Easter Show to ensure it goes ahead.

"The Show is a staple of our events calendar, attracting thousands of metro and regional visitors and supporting over 3,000 casual jobs," Mr Perrottet said.

Dr Schembri said: "It remains a privilege to work with the State Treasurer and such a cohesive and talented RAS team to ensure the ongoing viability of the Sydney Royal Easter Show.

"In particular I pay credit to our Immediate Past President, Robert Ryan OAM, our current President, Michael Millner, and CEO, Brock Gilmour, all of whom have worked tirelessly to secure the future of the RAS in the most trying of circumstances.

It has also been a pleasure to once again work with Dom - there could be no better preparation for life in state parliament than trying to corral herds of animals as Dom did all those years ago!"

The NSW Government has provided \$4.5 billion in drought assistance and water security support since 2015, and \$4.4 billion over five years to 2023-24 to assist communities in recovering from the 2019-20 summer bushfires.

In total, the NSW Government has provided \$29 billion in response and recovery measures for the State since March 2020.

The Regional Growth Fund was also boosted in the November Budget to \$2 billion to support the economic growth and development of regional NSW.

In the past 12-months, Mr Perrottet has travelled to the south coast to see first-hand the bushfire clean-up and recovery efforts and the north coast to check how showground stimulus measures are keeping people in work and improving vital infrastructure.

A third trip in November was to the central west to announce a \$7.5 million drug and alcohol rehabilitation centre for Dubbo, to help bridge a gap between services in the bush and those in the city.

"It's always impressive to see how resilient our rural and regional communities are - no matter what life throws at them," Mr Perrottet said.

"We've seen lots of examples of businesses and workers innovating during this pandemic and we know that with continued support we will all get through this. The Show will go on."

And on Budget Day 2020, the Treasurer made a point of proudly wearing a tie he bought from a store in Dubbo that stayed afloat during the pandemic by shifting trade online - with the help of support grants. It's since reopened its doors.

The bush and the RAS have a great friend on Macquarie Street in Dom Perrottet.







2021 Sydney Royal Easter Show

Judging Timetable

Competitions are the heart of the Sydney Royal Easter Show, highlighting the skill and passion of agricultural communities. For judging times and further information visit rasnsw.com.au.

Subject to change. Visit rasnsw.com.au for updates

Dates	Competitions
Wednesday 31 March	YOUNG JUDGES Hard Feather Poultry Young Judges State Final, Soft Feather Poultry Young Judges State Final, Waterfowl Young Judges State Final, Poultry Young Judges State Final Championship
Thursday 1 April	ARTS & CRAFTS Perishable Cooking CATTLE Purebred School Steer, Purebred Open Steer, Simmental-Fleckvieh, Maine Anjou, Other Recognised Breeds, ALPA Young Auctioneers Competition State & National Finals, Purebred Steer Auction DISTRICT EXHIBITS RAS Perpetual Trophy for Display DOG Utility Dog Excellent Obedience, Utility Obedience, Open Obedience, Novice Obedience, Bichon Frise, Azawakh, Whippet, Saluki, Basenji, Beagle, Borzoi, Greyhound, Tibetan Spaniel, Dalmatian, Coton De Tulear, Irish Wolfhound, Australian Shepherd, Old English Sheepdog, Australian Stumpy Tail Cattle Dog, Rottweiler, Dobermann, Bullmastiff, Kangal Shepherd Dog, Dobermann Club of NSW Inc Specialty FLOWER & GARDEN Dahlias, Floristry Students, National Floral Designer Competition, Schools Australian Native Flora Competition, TAFE NSW A Night at the Ballet GOAT Dairy Goat HORSES Percherons, Clydesdales, Shetland Ponies, Showjumping – Young Riders & Juniors, Light Harness, Australian Stock Horses, Sydney Royal Rodeo Series - The Federation Challenge POULTRY All Poultry including Egg Competition and Youth Poultry Showmanship RAT & MOUSE General Classes SHEEP & FLEECE Fleece WOODCHOP 375mm Ladies Double Handed Sawing Championship, 300mm Open Underhand Handicap, 300mm Standing Block Handicap
Friday 2 April	CAT Birman, Aphrodite, Neva Masquerade, Turkish Angora, Turkish Van, Oriental Shorthair, Exotic Shorthair, Foreign White (Longhair), Foreign White (Shorthair), Maine Coon, Norwegian Forest Cat, Oriental Longhair, Persian, Peterbald, Ragdoll, Siamese, Siberian, Balinese CATTLE Beef Paraders' Competitions - Junior (F000), School (F001), RAS/ASC (F002), Open (F003) & State Final Trade Steer & Heifer, Speckle Park, Red Angus, Santa Gertrudis, Limousin, Shorthorns DOG King Charles Spaniel, Karelian Bear Dog, Poodle (Toy), Poodle (Miniature), Poodle (Standard), Papillion, Cavalier King Charles Spaniel, Miniature Pinscher, Australian Silky Terrier, Great Dane, Japanese Chin, Chinese Crested Dog, Bolognese, Cairn terrier, Scottish Terrier, Fox Terrier (Wire), Fox Terrier (Smooth), Flat Coated Retriever, Golden Retriever, Finnish Spitz, Pharoah Hound, Afghan Hound, Akita (Japanese), Akita, Shiba Inu, St Bernard, Specialty GOAT Best Dairy Goat HORSE Showjumping – Young Riders & Juniors, Australian Stock Horses, Light Harness, Clydesdales, Shetland Ponies, Heavy Harness, Entertainment Showjumping, Sydney Royal Rodeo Series - The Federation Challenge SHEEP & FLEECE hgMerino Pair & Group classes WOODCHOP Fourth Division - 250mm Standing Block Handicap, 375mm World Championship Sawing Contest (Single handed), 300mm Ladies Single Handed Sawing Championship, 300mm Handicap Tree Felling Contest, First Division - 325mm Standing Block Handicap, 275mm Open Underhand Handicap
Saturday 3 April	CAT Abyssinian, American Curl, American Shorthair, Bombay (American), Bombay (Australian), Burmilla Shorthair, Burmilla Longhair, Cornish Rex, Devon Rex, Egyptian

	<p>Mau, Japanese Bobtail Longhair, Japanese Bobtail Shorthair, Mandalay, Munchkin Shorthair, Munchkin Longhair, Ocicat, Selkirk Rex Shorthair, Selkirk Rex Longhair, Scottish Longhair, Scottish Shorthair, Singapura, Snowshoe, Cymric, Manx, Tonkinese, Desexed Cats, Australian Mist, Bengal, British Shorthair, Burmese (American), Korat, La Perm (Shorthair), La Perm (Longhair), Pixie Bob, Russian, Scottish Fold, Scottish Fold Longhair, Somali, Sphynx CATTLE Angus, Brahman, Hereford, Red Poll, Charolais, Murray Grey, Australian Lowline, Devon, Heifer Fitting Challenge DOG Staffordshire Bull Terrier, Parson Russell Terrier, Bedlington Terrier, Jack Russell Terrier, Dandie Dinmont Terrier, Irish Terrier, Kerry Blue Terrier, Lakeland Terrier, Welsh Terrier, Bracco Italiano, Pointer, Cocker Spaniel (American), Bergamasco Shepherd Dog, Bouvier Des Flandres, Pumi, Swedish Lapphund, Briard, Maremma Sheepdog, Swedish Vallhund, Puli, Shetland Sheepdog, Australian Cattle Dog, Mastiff, Doque de Bordeaux, Neapolitan Mastiff, Pointer Club of NSW Specialty, American Cocker Spaniel Club Specialty FLOWER & GARDEN Bridal, Cacti and Succulents, Children's Classes (General and Decorative), Decorative, Roses HORSE Heavy Harness, Australian Stock Horses, ASH Station Horse Showjumping – Young Riders & Junior, Light Harness, Shires, Sydney Royal Rodeo Series - The Federation Challenge PIGS All Breeds SHEEP & FLEECE Merino August & March Shorn WOODCHOP 275mm Ladies Underhand Championship, 600mm World Championship Sawing Contest (Double handed), Second Division - 300mm Standing Block Handicap, , 325mm Underhand Handicap, The Interstate Teams Relay (NSW, QLD, VIC) YOUNG JUDGES RAS/Australian Stock Horse Society Australian Stock Horse State & National Final, Horticulture</p>
<p>Sunday 4 April</p>	<p>CAT KITTENS: Abyssinian, Australian Mist, Bengal, British Shorthair, Burmese (American), Korat, La Perm Longhair, La Perm Shorthair, American Curl, American Shorthair, Bombay (American), Bombay (Australian), Burmilla Shorthair, Burmilla Longhair, Cornish Rex, Devon Rex, Egyptian Mau, Japanese Bobtail Longhair, Japanese Bobtail Shorthair, Mandalay, Munchkin Shorthair, Munchkin Longhair, Ocicat, Selkirk Rex Shorthair, Selkirk Rex Longhair, Scottish Longhair, Scottish Shorthair, Singapura, Snowshoe, Cymric, Manx, Tonkinese, Pixie Bob, Russian, Scottish Fold, Scottish Fold Longhair, Somali, Sphynx, Domestic/Companion, Supreme CATTLE Breeders Group Interbreed, Urquhart Trophy, Supreme Interbreed Heifer, Hordern Trophy DOG Shih Tzu, Lhasa Apso, Keeshond, Italian Greyhound, Japanese Spitz, Irish Water Spaniel, Weimaraner (Longhair), Lagotto Romagnolo, Weimaraner, Cocker Spaniel, Curly Coated Retriever, Spanish Water Dog, Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever, German Shepherd Dog (LSC), German Shepherd Dog, Bearded Collie, Lagotto Romagnolo Club of NSW Inc Specialty GOAT Dairy Goat Paraders HORSE Australian National Saddle Horses, Light Harness, Showjumping Young Riders & Junior Riders, Junior Polocrosse, Heavy Harness, Sydney Royal Rodeo Series - The Federation Challenge PIGS All Breeds, Best Pig in Show SHEEP & FLEECE Merino Grand & Supreme classes WOODCHOP 375mm Jack & Jill Championship Sawing Contest (Double handed), 325mm Sydney Royal Easter Show Championship Standing Block, 275mm Sydney Royal Easter Show Standing Block Handicap, The Les Slee Memorial 300mm Underhand Open Handicap, First Division – 300mm Handicap Tree Felling Contest YOUNG JUDGES RAS/ASC Beef Cattle State Final, RAS Pig State Final, Merino Sheep, Merino Fleece, Dairy Goat</p>
<p>Monday 5 April</p>	<p>CAVY All classes CATTLE RAS Youth Show DOG Griffon Bruxellois, English Toy Terrier (Black and Tan), Havanese, Lowchen, French Bulldog, Maltese, Dutch Shepherd, Finnish Lapphund, Icelandic Sheepdog, Komondor, Norwegian Buhund, Polish Lowland Sheepdog, Tatra Shepherd Dog, Collie (Smooth), Collie (Rough) Welsh Corgi (Cardigan), Welsh Corgi (Pembroke), White Swiss Shepherd Dog, Central Asian</p>

	<p>Shepherd Dog, German Wirehaired Pointer, Irish Setter, English Setter, Irish Red & White Setter, Gordon Setter, Schnauzer (Standard), Schnauzer (Giant), Schnauzer (Miniature) FLOWER & GARDEN Cacti & Succulents, Dahlias, Decorative, Floristry Students, Orchids GOAT Angora Paraders, Mohair Fleece HORSE Heavy Harness, Light Harness, Tentpegging, Showjumping, Junior Polocrosse, Sydney Royal Rodeo Series - The Federation Challenge SHEEP & FLEECE Merino Production classes WOODCHOP 375mm Jack and Jill Sawing Handicap (Double Handed), 325mm Sydney Royal Easter Show Championship Underhand, 300mm Standing Block Championship Elimination Contest, Second Division - 275mm Sydney Royal Easter Show Underhand Handicap, 375mm Handicap Sawing Contest (Single handed), 275mm Ladies Underhand Handicap</p>
<p>Tuesday 6 April</p>	<p>AVIARY BIRDS Parrot, African Lovebird, Budgerigar, Canary, Finch DOG Chihuahua (Long Coat), Chihuahua (Smooth Coat), Pekingese, Tenterfield Terrier, West Highland White Terrier, Russian Toy (Smooth Hair), Russian Toy (Long Hair), Dachshund (Smooth Haired), Dachshund (Miniature Smooth Haired), Dachshund (Long Haired), Dachshund (Miniature Long Haired), Dachshund (Wire Haired), Dachshund (Miniature Wire Haired), Skye Terrier, Alaskan Malamute, English Springer Spaniel, Boxer, Sussex Spaniel, Welsh Springer Spaniel, Wirehaired Slovakian Pointer, Field Spaniel, Samoyed, Tibetan Mastiff, Estrela Mountain Dog GOAT Angora HORSE Show Hunter Hacks, Show Hunter Galloways, Show Hunter Ponies, Boy Riders, Leading Rein, Showjumping – Sections 1, 2 & 3, Tentpegging, Sydney Royal Rodeo Series - The Federation Challenge Final & Chute Out WOODCHOP 500mm Handicap Sawing Contest (Double handed), 300mm Underhand Elimination Championship Contest, 300mm Standing Block, Underhand & Tree Felling Team of Three Combination Contest, 300mm Underhand Handicap, 275mm Standing Block Open Handicap YOUNG JUDGES RAS/ASC Grain Competition, RAS/ASC Fruit & Vegetable Young Judges Competition State Final</p>
<p>Wednesday 7 April</p>	<p>DOG Airedale Terrier, American Staffordshire Terrier, American Hairless Terrier, Sealyham Terrier, Pug, Tibetan Terrier, Cirneco Dell'Etna, Sloughi, Siberian Husky, Peruvian Hairless Dog (Large), Peruvian Hairless Dog (Medium), Peruvian Hairless Dog (Small), Kuvasz, Xoloitzcuintle (Intermediate), Xoloitzcuintle (Standard), Xoloitzcuintle (Miniature), Newfoundland, Portuguese Water Dog, Leonberger, Pyrenean Mastiff, Caucasian Shepherd Dog, Hungarian Wirehaired Vizsla, Hungarian Vizsla, Pyrenean Mountain Dog, Italian Spinone, Spanish Mastiff, Landseer ECT, Large Munsterlander, German Shorthaired Pointer, German Shorthaired Pointer Society of NSW Inc Specialty FLOWER & GARDEN Bonsai, Bridal, Decorative, Gesneriads, Miscellaneous Cut Flowers, Roses HORSE Hunter Galloway, Show Hunter Hacks, Skill at Arms, Gentlemen Riders, Show Hunter Ponies, Showjumping – Sections 2 & 3, Hacks, Ida Buring – Mount Rider & Equipment, Standardbred, Polo, Tentpegging, World Championship Campdraft Round WOODCHOP Fourth Division - 275mm Underhand Handicap, First Division - 350mm Standing Block Handicap, Second Division - 300mm Underhand Handicap 275mm Junior (under 21 years of age) Underhand Handicap, 250mm Veterans Standing Block Handicap, First Division - 350mm Underhand Handicap, Second Division - 300mm Standing Block Handicap, First Division - 600mm Standing Block Team of Two Butchers Block YOUNG JUDGES RAS Angora Goat & Mohair</p>
<p>Thursday 8 April</p>	<p>ALPACAS Hucaya Classes, Suri Classes DOG German Spitz (Klein), Shar Pei, German Spitz (Mittel), British Bulldog, Yorkshire Terrier, Norfolk Terrier, Norwich Terrier, Australian Terrier, Bull Terrier, Border Terrier, Bull Terrier (Miniature), Cesky Terrier, German Hunting Terrier, Glen of Imaal Terrier, Manchester Terrier, Portuguese Podengo (Large Smooth), Portuguese Podengo (Large Wire), Portuguese Podengo</p>

	(Medium Smooth), Portuguese Podengo (Medium Wire), Portuguese Podengo (Small Wire), Basset Fauve De Bretagne, Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen, Basset Hound, Portuguese Podengo (Small Smooth), Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen, Belgian Shepherd Dog (Laekenois), Belgian Shepherd Dog (Malinois), Belgian Shepherd Dog (Groenendael), Belgian Shepherd Dog (Tervueren) HORSE Australian Saddle Pony, Polo, Working Hunter, Arabian Derivatives, Thoroughbreds, FL Crane Perpetual Trophy, Showjumping – Section 1, Col AV Pope Cup, World Championship Campdraft Round 2, Skill at Arms, Tentpegging RABBIT All classes classes WOODCHOP 500mm Veterans Handicap Sawing Contest (Double handed), First Division - 350mm Underhand Handicap, Second Division - 300mm Underhand Handicap, 325mm World Championship Tree Felling Contest, Second Division - 500mm Standing Block Team of Two Butchers Block, 250mm Standing Block Handicap, The NSW Inter-Association Relay
Friday 9 April	ALPACA & FLEECE Hucaya, Suri CATTLE Dairy Paraders' Competitions DOG Canaan Dog, Eurasier, Chow Chow, Boston Terrier, Chesapeake Bay Retriever, Clumber Spaniel, Brittany, Labrador Retriever, Tornjak, Border Collie, Anatolian Shepherd Dog, Bernese Mountain Dog, Yakutian Laika, Canadian Eskimo Dog, Russian Black Terrier, German Pinscher, Cane Corso FLOWER & GARDEN Australian Native Plants, Dahlias, Decorative, Four Day Floral Display HORSE Junior Equestrian Showcase, Hacks, Miniature Ponies, Arabian Derivatives, Showjumping – Section 1, 2 & 3, Pony Hacks, World Championship Campdraft Round 3, Tentpegging SHEEP & FLEECE Meat & Dual Purpose Schools and Handler classes WOODCHOP The Manny McCarthy Memorial 375mm World Championship Underhand, Parent & Child 275mm Underhand & Standing Block Combination Relay Handicap, Fourth Division – 275mm Underhand Handicap, 250mm Junior (under 18 years of age) Standing Block Championship, Second Division - 275mm Tree Felling Handicap Contest, 300mm Standing Block Handicap, 275mm Veterans Underhand Handicap, The Under 21yrs State Teams Relay (NSW vs. QLD vs. VIC) Race 1
Saturday 10 April	ALPACA Hucaya, Suri CATTLE Semex Dairy Youth Challenge DOG Affenpinscher, Pomeranian, Schipperke, Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier, Black & Tan Coonhound, Bloodhound, Bluetick Coonhound, Deerhound, Rhodesian Ridgeback, Hamiltonstovare, Harrier, Otterhound, Foxhound, Ibizan Hound, Norwegian Elkhound, Pyrenean Sheepdog Longhaired, Australian Kelpie, Junior Handler, Sweepstakes classes GOAT Boer HORSE Ladies Riding Classes, Welsh, Entertainment Showjumping, Pony Hacks, Galloway Hacks, Showjumping – Sections 2 & 3, Girls Riding Classes, World Championship Campdraft Round 4 SHEEP & FLEECE Meat & Dual Purpose WOODCHOP A Grade 300mm Underhand Championship Hard-hitting Contest, Junior Development Program, 300mm Underhand Handicap, Second Division - 300mm Underhand Handicap, Junior (under 18 years) 250mm Underhand Handicap, The Under 21 years State Teams Relay (NSW vs. QLD vs. VIC) Race 2 YOUNG FARMER CHALLENGE Regional Finals, State Final YOUNG JUDGES RAS/ASC Dairy Cattle State Final, RAS/ASC Meat Breeds Sheep State Final
Sunday 11 April	ALPACA Paraders CATTLE Dairy Cattle All Breeds Youth Class, Brown Swiss Heifer & Dry Cow, Guernsey Heifer & Dry Cow, Holstein Heifer & Dry Cow, Jersey Heifer & Dry Cow, Illawarra Heifer & Dry Cow, Ayrshire Heifer & Dry Cow DOG Toy Group, Terrier Group, Gundog Group, Hound Group, Working Dog Group, Utility Group, Non-Sporting Group, Canine Hero Awards, Best Breeders Group in Show, Best Baby Puppy in Show, Best Puppy in Show, Best Neuter in Show, Best in Show FLOWER & GARDEN Bridal, Carnivorous Plants, Decorative, Fruit and Vegetables (Non-Commercial), Orchids, Roses FROG & REPTILE Lizard & Frog GOAT Boer HORSE Welsh Classes, Girl Riders, Riding Ponies, Child's Hack, Galloway Hacks, Entertainment Showjumping,

	<p>Parent & Child Riders, Showjumping – Mini Prix Riding Class, Showjumping – Grand Prix, Champion Hack, World Championship Campdraft Round 5 THE LAND SYDNEY ROYAL SHOWGIRL Presentation RAS RURAL ACHIEVER Public Speaking Showcase SHEEP & FLEECE Meat & Dual Purpose Interbreed WOODCHOP The Husqvarna 375mm Speed Cutting Chainsaw Operators Contest, The Under 21yrs State Teams Relay (NSW vs. QLD vs. VIC) Race 3, 375mm World Championship Standing Block, 250mm Junior (under 18 years of age) Underhand Championship, 275mm Handicap Tree Felling Contest, Second Division - 300mm Standing Block Handicap, Second Division – 300m Underhand Handicap</p>
<p>Monday 12 April</p>	<p>ALPACA Schools Competitions CATTLE Guernsey Milk, Ayrshire Milk, Holstein Milk, Jersey Milk, Illawarra Milk, Brown Swiss Milk, Dairy Interbreed DOG Novice Agility, Excellent Agility, Masters Agility, Open Agility, Novice Jumpers, Excellent Jumpers, Masters Jumpers, Open Jumpers FROG & REPTILE Snake GOAT Boer Goat Paraders HORSE Australian Ponies, Part Bred Welsh, Pony Clubs Area Teams Showjumping, Pony Club Area Sporting Classes, Pony Club Riding Classes, Pony Club Pairs, Pony Club Teams of 4, World Championship Campdraft Round 6 & Presentation YOUNG JUDGES RAS Boer Goat, RAS Alpaca, RAS/Australian Pony Stud</p>

The Ag Bag is back again



In 2014 the Ag Bag was launched... initially known as “That New Ag Bag”... and a brand-new all-Australian fundraiser was born.

A celebration of Australian agriculture, the bag is packed with goodies donated by Australian farmers, producers and companies, packed onsite by RASF and RAS staff and volunteers, and proudly sponsored by SunRice.

The bag has raised more than \$350,000 in its 7-year history, including a remarkable \$60,000 in 2020 despite the cancellation of the Show (bags were sold online and sold out in less than two weeks).

This year more than ever it is vital that funds are raised for our rural and regional communities – the pandemic on top of the drought and bushfires has had a devastating impact on country NSW and rebuilding could be difficult. Tourism dollars are missing and job figures are grim, charities have been stretched to breaking point and donation fatigue has set in for many of us.

But the Ag Bag gives in a different way... everyone gets something valuable - purchasing one at the Show gives you a bag of products you're guaranteed to use and every single cent from every bag goes towards the community grants and rural scholarships awarded by the RASF. Money isn't gobbled up by administration, outlay for bags nor paying staff to pack and sell the bags – all goods, including the actual bag, and man-hours are donated!

Over the last year, the RASF awarded 77 Rural Scholarships and 8 Community Futures Grants thanks to generous donors, supporters, and the sale of the Ag Bag. Rural and regional communities will be the richer with a fresh crop including doctors, teachers, mechanics, journalists, therapists, carpenters, and agribusiness graduates returning home. The Rural Scholarships have assisted students, keeping them at university, college, or TAFE with financial support and the moral support a scholarship can deliver.

In the words of one scholarship recipient:

“Simply knowing that your organisation believed in me to the extent of providing me with this scholarship has been just as valuable as the economic support, especially with the challenges this year has presented” - Emelia Inwood 2020 Scholar

The Ag Bag will once again be available for \$25 (with \$75+ value) at the Sydney Royal Easter Show, look for the stand in the Home & Lifestyle pavilion.



THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF NSW WOULD LIKE TO THANK ITS 2021 SPONSORS FOR SUPPORTING EXCELLENCE IN AUSTRALIAN AGRICULTURE AND REGIONAL COMMUNITIES

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