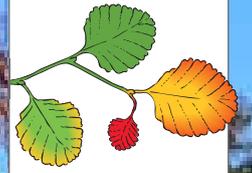


Royal  
Tasmanian  
Botanical  
Gardens



ROYAL TASMANIAN  
BOTANICAL GARDENS

**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**2018/2019**





## BRIEF OVERVIEW

The Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens (RTBG), established in 1818, is Tasmania's only botanical gardens and is custodian of the state's botanical collections. In addition to responsibility for the management of Tasmania's botanical collections and associated functions, the Gardens is responsible for providing and promoting horticultural and botanically based recreational, educational and tourism services and facilities, the development and delivery of innovative and engaging interpretation and information services, and the conservation and presentation of the significant built and cultural heritage of the site in accordance with the RTBG Strategic Master Plan 2009-2029 (SMP).

As one of Australia's premier cool climate gardens with a plant collection in excess of 4,000 taxa, the RTBG strives to provide a range of experiences that will enhance the community's awareness and appreciation of plants and the Gardens' cultural heritage. The RTBG is distinguished by a number of unique collections and is home to the world's only Subantarctic Plant House showcasing the flora of Macquarie Island. The Tasmanian native collection is significant due to the unique nature of Tasmania's flora with around 30% of species being endemic to the State. Complementing this is the Tasmanian Seed Conservation Centre (TSCC), which since it was established in 2005 has become the cornerstone of the Botanical Gardens conservation strategy currently holding 1,852 collections of 1,155 taxa and 44.9million viable seeds



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## FOREWORD FROM THE CHAIR

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF THE ROYAL TASMANIAN BOTANICAL GARDENS IT IS MY PLEASURE TO PRESENT THE ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2018-19.

Once again, this year gave us further reason to celebrate the 200th year of the RTBG and the dedicated staff and volunteers have truly surpassed themselves in ensuring that the Gardens were nothing less than spectacular during the year. The feedback from visitors has been consistently positive. I would like to thank once again our Patron, Her Excellency Professor the Honourable Kate Warner AC, Governor of Tasmania, for the support that we have been given during the year with a number of events being held at Government House; most notably one to thank the Friends, volunteers and staff for all their efforts in November 2018.

The Bicentenary has been celebrated in a number of different ways including the publication of the *Tomato: know, sow, grow, feast*; a definitive publication on everything about tomatoes including wonderful recipes and, in conjunction with the Tasmanian Orchestra, an evening of Symphony Under the Stars which attracted an audience of 4000.

Several other public music events were well-attended and the Gardens has proved to be one of the most popular venues for large scale events in Hobart. We were delighted to entertain over 75,000 people to the Dark Path in June which was a part of the Dark Mofo event.

Of course, all of us associated with the Gardens are mindful of our primary purpose; that of being a botanical garden and all of those associated with the Gardens including the Board, the management and the staff and volunteers take very seriously and consider it a privilege to ensure that the living collections, the seed bank, and the education of the public are front of mind while at the same time managing the commercial activities that are needed to provide financial sustainability. Managing these often-competing priorities in fast-changing times has been, and will continue to be, a challenge.

This year, the Gardens have seen a further increase in visitor numbers to more than 500,000 which has put additional pressure on the infrastructure. A capital works programme has begun that will ensure that infrastructure is improved over the next two years to accommodate the growing numbers of visitors in a way that supports the Tasmanian Brand.

The Board and management are aware that every decision made, is made in the context of our three core goals:

- > *The promotion of the Gardens and engagement of the Tasmanian community*
- > *The strategic management of thriving living collections and*
- > *The maintenance of a quality environment that provides an exemplary visitor experience.*

I would like to thank Gary Davies, Director, Tory Ross, Business Enterprise and Marketing Manager and David Reid Gardens Operations Manager for working so well together as a team to manage the changes that have been necessary to increase revenue while at the same time, maintaining the quality of the horticultural displays.

We are fortunate to have the full support of the State government which provides annual funding to the Gardens for horticulture staff salaries. More funding will be required to complete the master plan over a 10-year period and to this end, a capital raising program is being undertaken by the Board in 2019-20.

In accordance with the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens Act 2002, I submit this annual report on behalf of the Board.

**Beth Mathison**

*Chair of the Board*

## DIRECTOR'S HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

Overall it has been another highly successful year as the Gardens has accomplished a great deal including the completion of numerous projects, and at the same time achieved our outcomes within the budget.

The RTBG had an operating surplus during the financial year that was achieved by each of the Sections undertaking good fiscal discipline.

Visitor numbers for the financial year set another record with a visitation of 524,000. This equates to 48,000 more visits than last year. Donations are an important revenue source for the RTBG with over \$135,000 in donations received in the year ending 2018/19, with 65% of donations being received at point of entry and the balance through seat and tree sponsorships, online and general donations.

The Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens continued to celebrate its Bicentenary. The momentum that was gained in the first half of the bicentennial year, continued throughout 2019, with ongoing events and celebrations. In total, ten official bicentennial events were held across the year, attended by 10,500 patrons.

A further twenty-four community, cultural and music events occurred in the calendar year, which increased the profile and visitations to the Gardens, and reinforced its position as a culturally vibrant destination.

The Gardens' patron, Her Excellency Professor The Honourable Kate Warner AC, Governor of Tasmania hosted a reception in November at Government House to celebrate the Bicentenary which included staff and stakeholders of the Gardens.

The final event marking the Bicentenary was a highlight with a ceremonial tree planting by The Honourable Will Hodgman MP Premier of Tasmania. This event included staff, volunteers and the Friends of the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens, who donated the tree for this milestone planting.

Further to the announcement of the \$3.6 million funding by the Premier in June 2018, the Capital Works Project Manager Teena Guest has been appointed and commenced in February 2019. The overall Project Plan and Framework is complete, with the principle objective of increasing visitor engagement and improved visitor experience through the provision of contemporary fit-for-purpose facilities that meet the needs and expectations of visitors and provides increased yield opportunities.



The final event marking the Bicentenary was the ceremonial tree planting by The Hon Will Hodgman MP Premier of Tasmania, including staff, volunteers and Friends of the Gardens in February 2019.



The Gardens' patron, Her Excellency Professor The Hon Kate Warner AC, Governor of Tasmania hosted a reception at Government House including staff and stakeholders of the Gardens.



The Business Enterprise Section established two years ago to assist the RTBG to increase its self-generated funding has successfully achieved this with just under \$1 million total revenue being generated for the year ending June 2019, which is more than a 20% increase on the previous year, with growth in all areas of the business.

Events are an effective way to reach new audiences and engage with the Tasmanian community as well as position the RTBG as a culturally vibrant destination for both locals and visitors to the State. The Gardens has hosted an array of events including four high profile music concerts, including the Tasmania's Symphony Orchestra's 25th *'Symphony Under the Stars'*, and the ongoing theatre productions in the Gardens. The Gardens was also a significant element of the inaugural 'Dark Path' as part of the major winter Dark Mofo Festival, with over 75,000 visitors attending the activations in the Gardens across the eight night festival period.

The RTBG was awarded a bronze medal at the 2018 Tasmanian Tourism Awards. Achieving finalist status and progressing to a bronze award was significant, considering it was the first time in over 25 years that the Gardens have entered the national awards. The RTBG was also given 'Hall of Fame' status by Trip Advisor. This accolade recognises five consecutive years of a Certificate of Excellence, earned through consistently high ratings received in traveller reviews.

In line with the Branding review completed last year, the roll-out of the graphic design elements of the Gardens continued, with the installation of the new wayfinding signage. New signage across the site, including donations boxes, point of sale and visitor information on notice boards has also been completed.

Partnerships with volunteers and Friends of the RTBG continue to develop positively and the development of the volunteer program at the RTBG has been an area of focus. In December 2018, a Visitor Experience Coordinator was appointed, with this management of volunteers included in the responsibilities of the position. This position has enabled improvements to systems and processes to support volunteers.

Ongoing partnerships with the Botanic Gardens of South Australia, Macquarie Point Development Corporation and with key industry bodies such as Destination Southern Tasmania, Tourism Tasmania and the Tourism Industry Council of Tasmania have continued to position the Gardens as a significant botanical garden and tourism destination, and increase share of voice through partner marketing channels.

The Gardens Operations unit undertook significant work throughout the year, along with the regular maintenance and upkeep of the RTBG's living collections. New developments have been carried out in various sections of the Gardens throughout the year.



*The Gardens has hosted an array of events including four high profile music concerts, the ongoing theatre productions in the Gardens and the Gardens was also a significant element of the inaugural 'Dark Path' as part of the major winter Dark Mofo Festival.*

Most notably was the installation of new seasonal display beds flanking the central path below the Wisteria arch, which have provided striking displays which are popular with visitors.

Other new additions were the creation of the Mediterranean collection, located between the main gates and the Lily Pond and a new planter bed constructed in the southeast corner of the Lily Pond, adjacent to the new Lily Pads Viewing Deck.

A new Visitor Services Tour Buggy storage facility was installed behind the Gatekeepers Cottage in June 2019. This welcome and much needed new addition will provide a secure and convenient home for the three vehicles that are used by the Visitor Services team. The funding for this project was made available through an annual grant from the City of Hobart.

The annual Spring Plant Sale was held in October 2018, and as part of the RTBG Bicentenary celebrations a stunning book called *Tomato- know, sow, grow, feast* was launched in the days leading up to the sale. This publication, was a great complement to the huge range of heirloom tomatoes on sale. Overall, the Spring Plant Sale was a great success and one that has become a key event in the Gardens' calendar.

A new initiative has been the introduction of a monthly plant sale, which commenced in February 2019. Held on the first Tuesday of each month, the sales were run as a pilot program to establish if there is demand for a regular plant sale. As of June 2019, five monthly sales have resulted in overwhelming support from members of the public, purchasing plants that were either excess to needs of the nursery or selections from its production arm. Based on initial results and public feedback, these sales will continue.

The Tasmanian Seed Conservation Centre is our flagship conservation program of the RTBG. This year a new 5 year strategic plan has been adopted and implemented to ensure, focus and manage the future work of this program.



*Installation of new wayfinding signage and donations boxes, point of sale and visitor information on notice boards is now complete.*

In addition to the core funding, the RTBG Board has committed \$50,000 generated through donations, to vitally important seedbank freezer room improvements and expansion. This will ensure that there is sufficient capacity for seeds for the future and at the same time adequately safeguarding this important collection.

Achievement such as these are accomplished during the year through strong team work and an enormous amount of hard work.

I would like to thank our patron Her Excellency Professor The Honourable Kate Warner AC, Governor of Tasmania and I take this opportunity to recognise the Chair of the Board Beth Mathison, the Board, staff, Friends of the Gardens and volunteers for their continued unselfish dedication and commitment to ensuring the Gardens continue to remain such an iconic place to visit.

**Gary Davies**

Director

# VISION, MISSION, VALUES AND GOALS

## VISION

Create and maintain an exceptional Garden that enriches Tasmania's social and cultural life, showcases and contributes to the conservation of the flora of Tasmania and educates the community about the importance of plants.

## MISSION

We sustainably manage the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens, conserve and develop our living collections and heritage, and create and deliver an exemplary and enlightening visitor experience and thriving organisational culture.

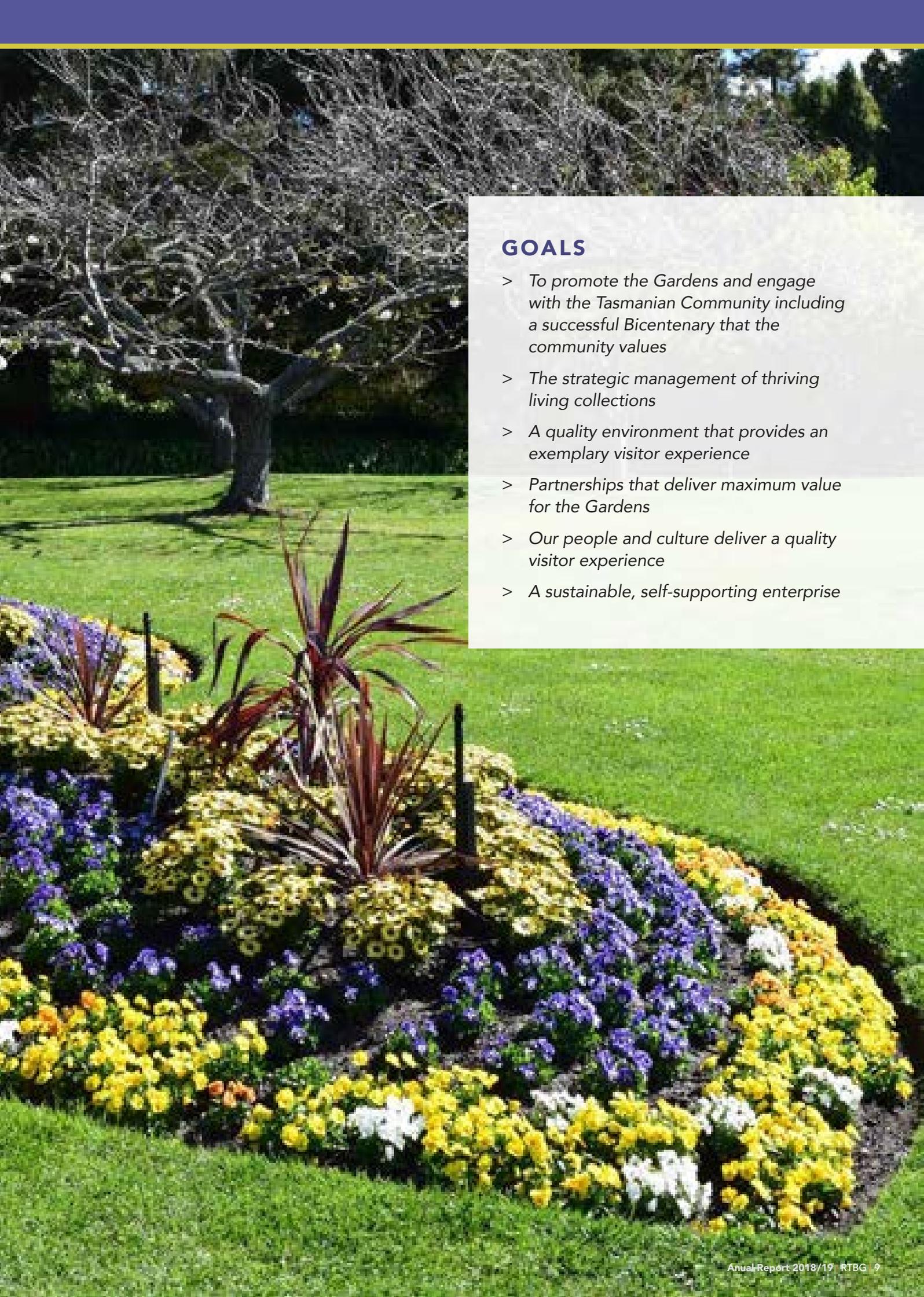
## VALUES

In achieving its vision and mission, the RTBG is committed to a range of values that will guide its operation. These values include:

- > *Sustainability;*
- > *Pursuit of excellence;*
- > *Fair dealing in commercial and community service;*
- > *Social and environmental consciousness;*
- > *Scientific inquiry and integrity;*
- > *Public accessibility and responsiveness;*
- > *Staff involvement in planning and programs;*
- > *Recognition of, and assistance for, Friends, volunteers and supporters;*
- > *Administrative efficiency and accountability; and*
- > *Respect and recognition for employees and all other stakeholders.*

*New seasonal display beds have been installed, flanking the central path below the Wisteria arch, providing striking displays.*





## GOALS

- > *To promote the Gardens and engage with the Tasmanian Community including a successful Bicentenary that the community values*
- > *The strategic management of thriving living collections*
- > *A quality environment that provides an exemplary visitor experience*
- > *Partnerships that deliver maximum value for the Gardens*
- > *Our people and culture deliver a quality visitor experience*
- > *A sustainable, self-supporting enterprise*

# GOVERNANCE

The RTBG is a State Government statutory organisation, governed by the *Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens Act 2002* and is administered by the Department of Primary Industry, Parks, Water and the Environment (DPIPWE). The RTBG Board is appointed by, and reports to,

the Minister for the Environment, Parks and Heritage.

The Board is responsible for managing, conserving and enhancing the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens in accordance with the Act.



## BOARD MEMBERS Board Members as at 30 June 2019

**Beth Mathison – Chair**  
Jo Bailey

**Paul Oxley**  
Therese Taylor

**Abigail Foley**  
Danielle Poirier



## HOW WE OPERATE

### STAFF

RTBG staff are employed through DPIPWE under the *State Service Act 2002* and are managed under DPIPWE's policies and guidelines. At 30 June 2019, the RTBG had 35 staff members, employed at the equivalent of 29.0 full-time staff (FTE). The employment status of the staff comprised 29 permanent staff at 25.5 FTE, 4 staff on fixed term contracts at 3.5 FTE, and 2 casual staff. Salaries in 2018-19 utilised 96 per cent of the Government Appropriation funding and 68 per cent of total revenue (Government Appropriation plus RTBG generated revenue).

The RTBG recognises and values the wealth of experience and knowledge of our staff, which have helped to develop and manage these gardens. The RTBG manages its human resources in line with staff requirements, the *State Service Act 2002* and DPIPWE policies and guidelines ensuring that staff policies and procedures are consistent and fair.

### ASSET MANAGEMENT

The RTBG maintains a register of all assets exceeding \$10 000, which are recorded and reported in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards. Property and infrastructure are revalued on a regular basis by external industry experts and reported annually in the financial statements on a fair value basis. Asset maintenance is managed in-house by the Facilities & Infrastructure Maintenance Unit; the Strategic Conservation and Asset Management Plan determining the priorities and nature of works for the maintenance.

A separate register is maintained for portable and attractive items costing less than \$10,000, and inventory held for sale is recorded through a computerised point of sale system. Separate database records are also maintained for specialist collections including the seedbank, plants, herbarium and library.

### RISK MANAGEMENT

The RTBG takes a proactive approach to Risk Identification and Mitigation, and has developed a Risk Profile and comprehensive Risk Mitigations Strategies associated with all aspects of operations. The RTBG manages risk through participation in the whole of government risk management fund for staff worker's compensation coverage. Public liability, professional indemnity, motor vehicle and personal accident risks are managed through brokered insurance policies. The Board this year established an Audit and Risk Committee to assist in managing risk.

### MANAGING DIVERSITY

The RTBG is committed to the principles and values of diversity in the workplace and maintains relevant statistics in response to workplace initiatives.

### WORKPLACE HEALTH AND SAFETY

The RTBG is committed to providing a safe and healthy workplace through adherence to relevant legislation and implementation and monitoring of appropriate work practices. A WH&S Committee provides a representative and professional development opportunity for all staff to be actively involved in a wide range of Gardens-related WH&S matters. The Committee meets monthly and records outcomes and makes recommendations to RTBG management. It also implements regular WH&S site audits and reviews procedures and work practices.

Worker's compensation claims are actively managed through DPIPWE and the Department's contract rehabilitation services, which have provided invaluable assistance to staff with active worker's compensation claims.

# INTRODUCTION TO EACH BUSINESS UNIT

## THE ROYAL TASMANIAN BOTANICAL GARDENS' ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE COMPRISES FIVE SEPARATE BUSINESS UNITS AND A CAPITAL WORKS PROJECT MANAGER.

The area of responsibility for each unit is detailed below.

### GARDENS OPERATIONS

This Unit is responsible for the management of horticultural and botanical operations including the development and maintenance of the Gardens plant collections and displays, heritage landscapes including garden elements and lawns, waste management, student work place training and event support.

The unit is also responsible for the implementation of minor infrastructure projects throughout the RTBG estate, including the day to day and programmed maintenance of assets and infrastructure under the control of the RTBG.

### MAJOR PROJECTS, SCIENCE, INTERPRETATION AND EDUCATION

The Tasmanian Seed Conservation Centre sub-unit is responsible for the long-term conservation of the Tasmanian flora through collection, storage and germination research.

The Botanical Resources sub-unit is responsible for the documentation of the plant collections and plant health protocols and monitoring. Responsible for maintenance of the ancillary library, herbarium and archival collections and assistance with plant research through grants and conservation collections.

### CAPITAL WORKS PROJECT

Responsible for managing the capital works at the RTBG, including the delivery of a new Visitor Centre, associated roadworks and upgrade of existing facilities including parking, thereby delivering improved visitor experience and increased yield opportunities.

### BUSINESS ENTERPRISE & MARKETING

This Unit is responsible for the business enterprise and marketing components of the Gardens. It incorporates the visitor services functions, which includes the commercial partnerships with tour operators and onsite visitor experience. It also incorporates the coordination of the Gardens' volunteers.

The management of the Botanical Shop and the Licensee delivering the catering products through Succulent Restaurant and Sprout Café also falls within the Business Enterprise Unit, along with the administration of the donations and giving program.

The Marketing area is responsible for delivering the content of the annual marketing plan and undertaking promotions, media liaison, event management and venue hire. It has a focus on facilitating and supporting revenue generating business units as required and an additional focus of developing and maintaining the RTBG Website and social media channels.

### BUSINESS SERVICES

This Unit is responsible for providing business and administrative support to the RTBG including: reception and primary point of contact for the RTBG; administrative support for the Executive, Senior Management and Business Units; budget preparation and monitoring; records management; coordination of human resources, asset management, information technology and financial management issues.

# GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

## To promote the Gardens and engage with the Tasmanian Community (including a successful Bicentenary that the community values)

- 1 To define, prioritise and fund strategic and appealing Bicentenary projects
- 2 To develop strategic partnerships that deliver value to the Bicentenary
- 3 To promote and engage with the Tasmanian community in Bicentenary celebrations

## The strategic management of thriving living collections

- 4 To maintain, sustain and develop the living collections
- 5 To maintain and develop the Botanical Estate
- 6 To maintain our commitment to plant conservation programs

## A quality environment that provides an exemplary visitor experience

- 7 To improve the experience for visitors in the Gardens
- 8 To improve visitor access to the Gardens
- 9 To deliver high quality interpretation to visitors based on core values
- 10 To facilitate use of the Gardens for creative and targeted education opportunities
- 11 To ensure environmental sustainability of the Gardens

## Partnerships that deliver maximum value for the Gardens

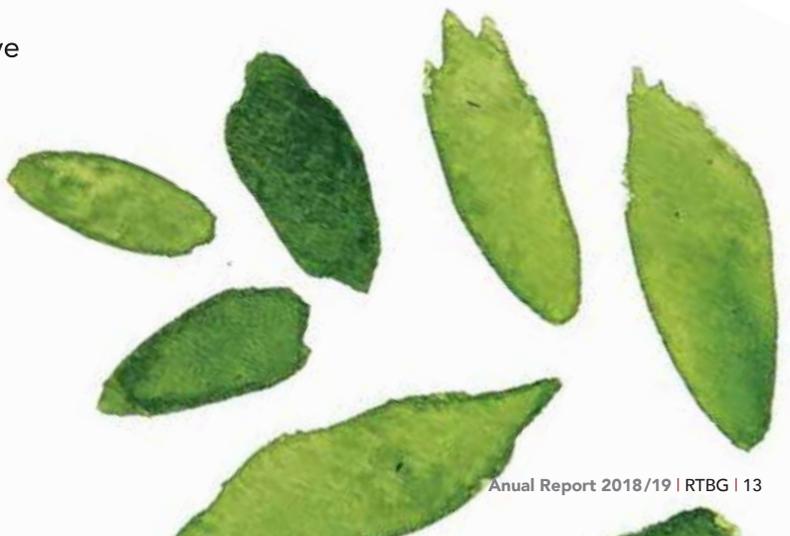
- 12 To achieve a collaborative, focused approach with Friends, Volunteers and Support groups
- 13 To deliver mutual benefits with key strategic partners
- 14 To engage the corporate sector in the Gardens

## Our people and culture deliver a quality visitor experience

- 15 To attract, develop and retain skilled and appropriate staff
- 16 To develop Volunteer capability and their contribution to the Gardens

## A sustainable, self-supporting enterprise

- 17 To maximise revenue to support Gardens' development
- 18 To investigate new revenue opportunities
- 19 To increase the contribution of philanthropy to the Gardens resources
- 20 To operate under an effective governance model





## BUSINESS UNIT OUTCOMES 2018-2019

# MAJOR PROJECTS, SCIENCE, INTERPRETATION AND EDUCATION

## CAPITAL WORKS PROJECT

Project funding of \$3.6 million has been confirmed to go towards a new Visitor Centre, with Year 1 funding allocated. Project Manager, Teena Guest commenced in February 2019. The overall Project Plan and Framework is complete, with the principle objective of increasing visitor engagement and improved visitor experience through the provision of contemporary fit-for-purpose facilities that meet the needs and expectations of visitors and provides increased yield opportunities.

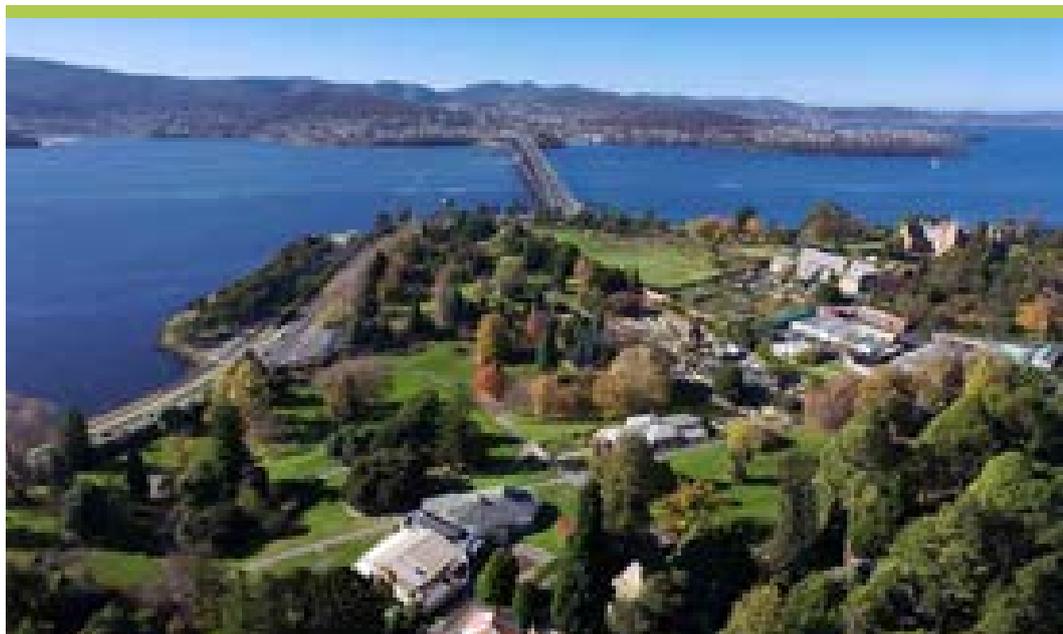
The Request for Tender was advertised in June 2019 and a preferred tenderer will be nominated to the Department's Procurement Review Committee early August 2019.

To assist the lead consultant, surveyors and an arboriculturalist have been engaged to provide an up to date survey of the entry site including the naming of the listed and significant trees and also surveying potential future parking along Lower Domain Road. The Project Manager is also working with council on two key areas, firstly to potentially align the City to Gardens bike track with the new Visitor Centre and secondly to discuss road works and parking strategies along Lower Domain Road.

The upcoming engagement of a lead consultant is anticipated in late August, with the design of the Visitor Centre likely to commence in earnest in September.

The commencement of quality stakeholder engagement, will enable a broad spectrum of stakeholders to work with the lead consultant to develop a befitting entry sequence to the Gardens. The Request for Tender broadened the scope of works beyond just looking at the Visitor Centre, but rather looking at the associated built assets on site and undertaking a schematic design for these works.

These schematic designs will be fully costed and utilised for realistic funding bids. The design of the Centre is likely to be complete mid-2020, with the award of a construction contract estimated for late 2020 to early 2021, with Construction of the Visitor Centre anticipated to be complete by early 2022. The enthusiasm to design the new Visitor Centre and have a guiding hand on the Gardens Master Plan was clearly showcased in the number and quality of tender submissions, this enthusiasm has been echoed by staff support for this project.



*A befitting entry sequence to the Gardens is set to be completed by 2022.*



The Lily Pad decks received an Award of Excellence for Small Projects in the Australian Institute of Landscape Architects (AILA) Tasmania Awards.

## MAJOR PROJECTS

The Lily Pad decks received an Award of Excellence for Small Projects in the Australian Institute of Landscape Architects (AILA) Tasmania Awards. An Award of Excellence is the highest honour a project can receive and only one is given in any category. The AILA award follows on from the Lily Pads winning the 2018 Dangerous Design Award, at the Australian Timber Design Awards. The Lily Pads moved on to the AILA national awards to be announced in October 2019.

### Tasmanian Seed Conservation Centre

The Tasmanian Seed Conservation Centre's (TSCC) focus has been driven from inception by collection targets and actions associated with, and funded by, its major international partner, RBG Kew's Millennium Seed Bank (MSB). MSB funding is now managed and dispersed via the Australian Seed Bank Partnership (ASBP). The now significantly reduced funding is generally allocated against predetermined seed collection and conservation targets. This changed scenario saw the development of a Strategic Plan for the TSCC highlighted as a major requirement in the RTBG's 2017 Business Operations Plan.

The 2018-2019 Financial Year saw the planning and commencement of the construction of a new walk-in freezer room for the long-term storage of seeds at the TSCC. The new facility will significantly increase capacity by providing space for an additional 30 plus years of on-going seed collection and storage. The completed facility will have built in redundancy and warning systems to ensure the security of the collections into the future. The work will be completed in August 2019 and will expand our current storage capacity by approximately 680%.

The fires of 2019 seriously impacted the collecting program this year. Unfortunately the two main areas for collecting which had been surveyed during the spring were both impacted by the fires, one area being totally consumed and the second area becoming inaccessible during the main period of collecting. Despite this unfortunate set of circumstances the seedbank program was still able to make some interesting finds and collections. Perhaps the most notable additions to the collections are two recently described endemics – *Ozothamnus floribundus*, a rare shrub known from a single site near Cygnet and *Xerochrysum alpinum*, a potentially widespread alpine herb.

## MAJOR PROJECTS, SCIENCE, INTERPRETATION AND EDUCATION (CONT)

Surveying also discovered our largest populations so far for *Cardamine tryssa* and *Carex canescens*, two poorly reported herbs. From these populations we were able to secure 21,000 *Cardamine* seeds and 15,000 *Carex* seeds. Also this season surveying on Ben Lomond found *Carex cephalotes*, a herb that up until this year was only reported from Mt Anne. It is hoped to do more thorough surveying next year and hopefully collect this very rare sedge.

This year 577 germination tests were set up on 187 collections bringing the total number of tests to 8,623 for 1,282 collections. The testing highlight this year was 95% germination from our first tested collection of *Grevillea australis* in its very first round of testing. The successful test required 74 weeks of pre-conditions and further research is now under way to evaluate the benefit and relevance of all the steps involved. This result came as a surprise as *Grevillea* species are generally known to be difficult to germinate, typically requiring scarification and/or chemical treatments to illicit some germination.

### Botanical Resources

The horticultural botanist attended a workshop in Melbourne in October 2018 to discuss the establishment of a plant pest surveillance program for botanic gardens and arboreta. The meeting was attended by delegates from throughout Australia and New Zealand and the general consensus was that a national surveillance network should be established and potential target pests were discussed. The RTBG was highlighted as high risk for the introduction of pests due to its close proximity to both the port and airport. Five target pests were selected by the Network to be monitored and team leader David Marrison and nursery horticulturist Megan Marrison attended a training workshop in Sydney in June to 2019 to learn about the target pests in order to establish a monitoring program at the RTBG that will begin in September 2019.



Despite the widespread summer fires the Seedbank had a successful collecting season.

Plant health continued to be a focus for the RTBG with two of the horticultural staff and the horticultural botanist seconded to the Biosecurity Tasmania fruit fly response on Flinders Island for a number of weeks during the 2019 summer monitoring period. RTBG staff were involved with the response in Devonport in early 2018 and with the successful eradication there, attention turned to eradicating the pest on Flinders Island. This was successful and Tasmania was declared fruit fly free at the end of March 2019.



*The Fuchsia House with the Friends Mixed Border in full flower.*



*Tulips and wallflowers herald the beginning of spring.*



The team leader of horticulture from the Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria Cranbourne Gardens, Trent Loane, visited the RTBG in June 2019 to discuss the management of *Armillaria* root rot fungus. The disease has recently been found at Cranbourne and we were able to discuss the management of the disease and treatments trialed at the RTBG following its discovery here in the 1990s. There is still one active site at the RTBG and ongoing monitoring for fruiting bodies is undertaken during autumn each year.

An audit of the library and ancillary collections was undertaken once the summer collecting season for the Seedbank was over. The collection consists of books, scientific papers, magazines, framed images, maps, archives and artefacts. Space is limited for the book collection and duplicate copies of books were sold at the monthly plant sale in June 2019. The plant database was established in 1983 and currently has more than 23,000 records, over 10,000 of which are Australian plants. The database was updated to include current scientific names and authors for all records and the distribution for all Australian species was also updated.

A major audit of the living collection began at the end of 2018 with the Subantarctic and Nursery collections completed and work has now begun on the in-ground collection. This involves checking what is alive in the ground against the record on the database. The database record has information about the source of plants and provenance of wild collected species as well as when it was received and planted. The RTBG is divided into 55 discrete areas and the location of each specimen is recorded when it is planted. One of the defining features of a botanic garden is that it holds documented collections of living plants and the ongoing stocktake of the collection is one way of ensuring that this documentation is accurate. As the collection is documented, another important aspect is informing the public what the plants are and the labels are being updated as each area is audited.

### Tasmanian Orchid Conservation and Research Program

The Tasmanian Orchid Conservation and Research Program continued to operate out of the portable site office turned laboratory in the depot area of the RTBG. Managed by Drs Nigel Swarts and Magali Wright, with the help of 10 volunteers from the Friends of the RTBG and Threatened Plants Tasmania and with support from RTBG Horticulture staff, the program continues to propagate Tasmania's most threatened orchids. The program has successfully germinated 15 threatened orchids over the last three to four years and had over 200 flowering plants in spring of 2018. We anticipate significantly more flowering plants this season as the orchids continue to mature in the potting mix they are grown in. Key species that have been a focus of the program include *Caladenia saggicola*, *Caladenia anthracina*, *Pterostylis ziegeleri*, *Prasophyllum incorrectum* and *Prasophyllum olidum*. Program activities are centred around the multispecies Tasmania Threatened Orchid Flora Recovery Plan.

The program continues to be supported by the Australian Orchid Foundation, Westlands Nursery and Natural Area Consulting as well as in kind support from the RTBG and UTAS.



## GARDENS OPERATIONS

### Horticulture Unit

The Gardens Operations unit undertook some significant work throughout the year, along with the regular maintenance and upkeep of the RTBG's living collections.

New developments included the installation of new seasonal display beds flanking the central path below the Wisteria arch. The spiral like style of the design provides opportunity to create striking displays of intertwining colours and textures and these beds are proving to be popular with visitors to the Gardens. The new Mediterranean collection replaces the Tasmanian Ericaceae collection that was underperforming due to the presence of *Phytophthora cinnamomi* in the soil. The use of plants of Mediterranean areas allows for the display of many familiar plants that will provide strong visual interest, while informing visitors of their origins.

A new bed in the southeast corner of the Lily Pond was constructed, adjacent to the new Lily Pads Viewing Deck. There was a need to place more plants closer to this side of the deck in order to nestle the structure into the landscape and disguise some infrastructure associated with the pond overflow. The bold foliage of *Gunnera manicata* will provide a striking contrast to the smooth lines of the viewing deck.

The RTBG nursery continued its role of maintaining the housed collections, including the Subantarctic Plant House and Conservatory, and to propagate specimens for the in-ground collections. Maintenance of the seed orchards, Tasmanian orchid conservation project plants and conservation collections, is an important focus of the nursery. A highlight of this work was the flowering of the Tasmanian endemic orchids *Caladenia anthracina* and *Prasophyllum incorrectum*. A special viewing of these orchids in October 2018 in the Visitor Centre by RTBG volunteers actively engaged with approximately 400 people about the Native Orchid Conservation Program.



The Spring Plant Sale was a great success with a wide range of tomato varieties available.



RTBG horticulturists planted Gondwana conifers in the Floral Clock Lawn.

A new initiative by nursery staff was the introduction of a monthly plant sale, commencing in February 2019. The sales were run as a pilot program and as of June 2019, five monthly sales had resulted in overwhelming support from members of the public, purchasing plants that were either excess to needs of the nursery or selections from its production arm. Based on initial results and public feedback, these sales will continue.

The annual Spring Plant Sale was held in October 2018, and as part of the RTBG Bicentenary celebrations a stunning book *Tomato: know, sow, grow, feast* was launched. This publication, which is a comprehensive piece of work, was a great complement to the huge range of heirloom tomatoes on sale. Overall, the Spring Plant Sale was a great success and one that has become a key event in the Gardens' calendar.



Tips on propagation were given to the Begonia Group by a horticulturist from Ballart Botanical Gardens.

The RTBG continued in its role of mentoring Horticulture students, hosting both Certificate II and Certificate III students throughout the year. All students are given the opportunity to work alongside horticulture staff in the nursery and grounds, experiencing a diverse range of tasks associated with the ongoing maintenance and development of the living collections.

ABC Television's Gardening Australia team continued their regular filming program in the Tasmanian Community Food Garden throughout the year. A particular highlight was the program focussing on the Tasmanian Seed Conservation Centre, its challenging work, and the links that it has with the RTBG nursery in the ongoing program of seed banking and plant conservation. Annual production in the Food Garden is between 1,500 and 2,000kg and this is harvested weekly and sent to Loaves and Fishes for distribution to people in need and those experiencing homelessness.

### Assets and Infrastructure Unit

The Assets and Infrastructure team provided invaluable maintenance support to all business units across the Gardens as well as the implementation of planned minor works. A building contractor was engaged to carry out new works to the current Visitor Centre in the latter part of 2018. These works were managed by the Assets and Infrastructure team and included the construction of a new storeroom for the shop and installation of bi-fold doors between the Visitor Centre foyer and the restaurant deck.

The Assets and Infrastructure unit installed a new Visitor Services Tour Buggy storage facility in June 2019. This new addition provides a secure and convenient home for the three vehicles that are used by the Visitor Services team. The funding for this project was made available through an annual grant from the City of Hobart.



*The Huon pine sculpture Antipodean Voyage in the French Explorers Collection.*

# BUSINESS ENTERPRISE & MARKETING



## THE BICENTENARY

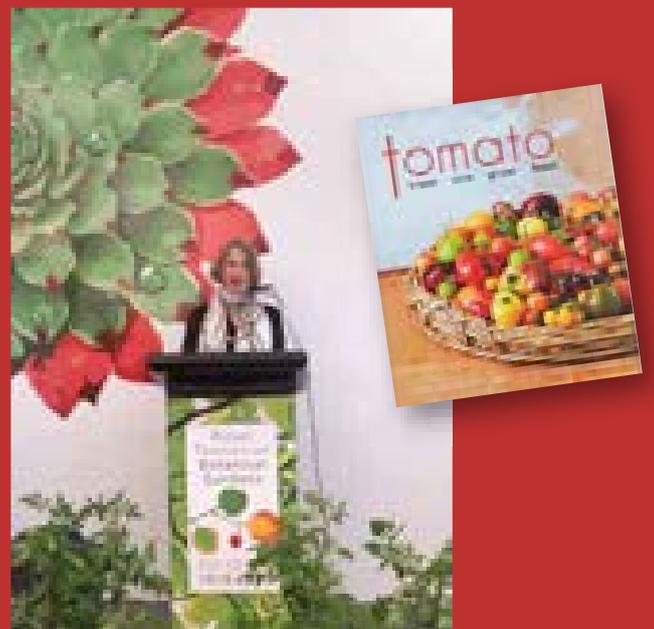
The momentum that was gained in the first half of the bicentennial year, continued throughout 2019, with ongoing events and celebrations. In total, ten official bicentennial events were held across the year, attended by 10,500 patrons. A further 24 community, cultural and music events occurred in the calendar year, which increased the profile and visitations to the Gardens, and reinforced its position as a culturally vibrant destination.

For the first time in the Gardens' history visitation exceeded 500,000 visitors, with a total of 524,000 visits to the Gardens across the 2018/19 financial year. This record was celebrated with a presentation to mark the 500,000 visitor, which received significant media attention.

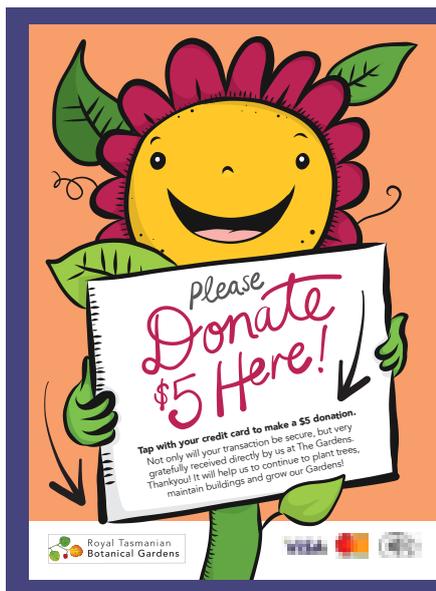
Bicentennial events that were held in the second half of 2018 include the Botaniko Art Exhibition held at the Gardens in August and September. This display included 30 pieces of artwork reflecting some of the significant botanical specimens grown at the Gardens through its history.

As part of the Bicentenary, the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens hosted the Council of Heads of Australian Botanical Gardens (CHABG) annual meeting, which coincided with the Botanic Gardens Australia and New Zealand (BGANZ) AGM, also held in Hobart in October 2018.

In November 2018, in partnership with the Royal Society and Tasmanian Museum & Art Gallery, the Gardens hosted an event in the Gardens to promote the upcoming TMAG 'Dinosaur rEvolution' exhibition that opened in the weeks following, as well as marking the significant bicentennial celebration of the Gardens and the 175th anniversary of the Royal Society.



Botaniko Art Exhibition; Angus Stewart, Peter Cundall and Tino Carnevale at the Governor's reception; ceremonial tree planting; and launch of the co-authored book *Tomato: know, sow, grow, feast*.



New signage across the site, including donations boxes, point of sale and visitor information on notice boards has now been completed.

The final event marking the Bicentenary was a ceremonial tree planting by the Premier in February 2019. This event included staff, volunteers and the Friends of the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens, who donated the tree for this milestone planting.

Ongoing marketing through the bicentennial year continued, with civic banners lining the streets of Hobart through the month of September, ongoing social media activations and increased print media, including a double page spread advertorial feature in the opening pages of the November edition of ABC's *Gardening Australia* magazine, which has a readership of 548,000.

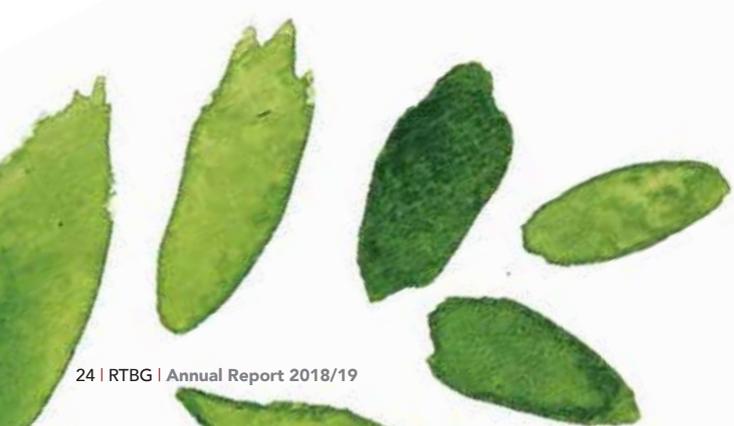
The activities and events that ran throughout the Bicentenary successfully increased the profile of the Gardens, not only with visitors, but also key corporate and strategic stakeholder groups. Media exposure was also significantly heightened during the year, along with increased commercial performance across all areas of the organisation.

### Marketing & Business Enterprise

The Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens was awarded a bronze medal at the 2018 Tasmanian Tourism Awards. Achieving finalist status and progressing to a bronze award was significant considering it was the first time in over 25 years that the Gardens have entered the national awards. The RTBG was also given 'Hall of Fame' status by Trip Advisor. This accolade recognises five consecutive years of a Certificate of Excellence, earned through consistently high ratings received in traveller reviews (and an overall ranking of #5 out of 113 things to do in Hobart and an average rating of 4.6 out of 5).

Ongoing partnerships with key industry bodies such as Destination Southern Tasmania, Tourism Tasmania and the Tourism Industry Council of Tasmania have continued to position the Gardens as a significant tourism destination, and increase share of voice through partner marketing channels.

Although leveraging the Bicentenary continued to be the core marketing platform through the year, a significant events program was also delivered, with the Gardens hosting four high profile music concerts, including the Tasmania's Symphony Orchestra's 25th 'Symphony Under the Stars', and the ongoing theatre productions in the Gardens. The Gardens was also a significant element of the inaugural 'Dark Path' as part of the major winter Dark Mofo Festival, with over 75,000 visitors attending the activations in the Gardens across the eight night period.



## BUSINESS ENTERPRISE & MARKETING (CONT)

The roll-out of the graphic design elements of the Gardens continues, with the installation of the new wayfinding signage in June 2019. New signage across the site, including donations boxes, point of sale and visitor information on notice boards has also been completed. Three new interpretation signs were installed, one explaining the design of the Arthur Wall, the second featuring the Tasmanian Community Food Garden and a third in the Greater Hobart Garden highlighting some local Tasmanian plants suitable to grow in the home garden.

The brand has been extended through advertising in targeted publications such as *Weddings Tasmania*, garden related publications and local print media.

The RTBG was also one of six tourism operators to commit to an Augmented Reality marketing initiative initiated by Destination Southern Tasmania, The Tasmanian Travel & Information Centre and delivered by Handbuilt Creative.

This project uses emerging technology and user-experience (UX) design to come together to enhance a 3D experience of the Gardens for the user, with the Virtual Reality map located at Mawson's Place on the Hobart waterfront, launched in April 2019.

In January 2019, EMRS (Enterprise Marketing & Research Services), was engaged to undertake visitor research in the Gardens over the peak summer period, to inform the demographic profile and motivations of visitors to the Gardens. The results will inform future product development and marketing strategies.

The Business Enterprise & Marketing Unit generated just under \$1million dollars in total revenue for the year ending June 2019, which is more than a 20% increase on the previous year, with growth in all areas of the business. The revenue generated through events doubled, exceeding \$50,000 for the year, due to an increase in major events being held in the Gardens.



*The Hobart City Council hosted Japanese Children's Day in the Japanese Garden in May 2019.*



*The Botanical Shop underwent a significant shift in product offering over the year, with a focus on stocking locally made and brand aligned items.*

Venue Hire also increased 36% percent, reaching just over \$68,000 in revenue. Tour revenue also grew to a record of just over \$38,000, and the RTBG was one of only 10 southern tourism operators to be part of the Tasmanian Cruise Expo in 2018, opening up opportunities for future partnerships. In addition, new staff have also been recruited with skill sets to deliver tours. Revenue generated through the restaurant licensee also grew over the year, particularly in the first quarter of the year (July – September 2018).

The Botanical Shop underwent a significant shift in product offering over the year, with a focus on stocking locally made and brand aligned items.

The revenue generated through the shop increased significantly, with total revenue of over \$550,000 for the year, with over \$80,000 generated through the sales of plants produced by staff and volunteers on site.

There was a 26% increase in Donations to the Gardens compared with the year ending 2018, with a total of just over \$135,000. The percentage of onsite donations remained consistent with previous year at 65%, with the balance generated through seat and tree sponsorships, online and general donations.

## BUSINESS ENTERPRISE & MARKETING (CONT)

### Volunteers Program

Development of the volunteer program at the RTBG has been an area of focus over the first six months of 2019. In December 2018, a Visitor Experience Coordinator was appointed, with the coordination of volunteers included in the responsibilities of the position. This position has enabled improvements to systems and processes to support volunteers. A full audit of the 126 Gardens volunteers has been undertaken, with all volunteers completing the registration process. Changes to the sign in procedures aiming to improve efficiencies and to minimise risk.

A quarterly newsletter has commenced, sharing relevant information and updates as well as being a platform to recognise volunteer achievements. Other events have also recognised volunteer contributions, including a celebration barbeque as part of National Volunteers Week in May.

In addition to the operational progress, the RTBG is involved with the broader DPIPWE Volunteer Management Review Project, with representatives on both the Working Group and Steering Committee. This is a priority project for the Department to work towards delivering best practice of Volunteering Tasmania's standards.

### Business Services

The incorporation of some of RTBG's administrative processes into the DPIPWE business systems continued this year, with the goal of improving efficiencies through access to the better technologies and corporate support provided by DPIPWE. The RTBG's equipment database was transferred into DPIPWE's new Portable and Attractive Items Register (PAAR). The main advantage of using PAAR is that it has a workflow authorisation functionality that provides for greater separation of duties and reduces the risk of accidental or non-authorised changes to the data.

Work also commenced on moving RTBG's records into the DPIPWE records management system. An audit carried out on RTBG's paper-based files in preparation for transfer highlighted the inability to accurately classify RTBG's specialised records using the standard Government archive schedule and recommended that the RTBG create its own records management schedule specific to its functions. Work has already commenced on the new schedule, which will be implemented immediately on completion and approval by the Archives Office of Tasmania. The new schedule will also form the classification structure of RTBG's electronic records when they are transferred to the DPIPWE Electronic Data Records Management System (EDRMS).



*Begonia Group volunteers in the RTBG nursery.*

## GIVING PROGRAM

Donations, fundraising and philanthropy are an important income stream for the Gardens and contributes to the ongoing conservation of the Gardens and its programs.

The RTBG Board Fundraising Sub-committee endorsed the annual strategy in relation to donations, philanthropy and general fundraising, and in 2018/19 approved \$50,000 raised through fundraising to replace aging infrastructure in the Seed Bank as well as \$30,000 for the initial phase of the revitalised Tasmanian Native Section.

The total amount raised through donations and giving in 2018/19 was just over \$135,000 representing a 25% increase compared with the previous year. The percentage of onsite donations (donations boxes, Tap 'n' Go and over the counter) remained consistent at approximately 65%, with the balance generated through seat and tree sponsorships, online and proactive donations.

### 2018 – 2019 SPONSORS (OVER \$100)

|                                    |          |                  |
|------------------------------------|----------|------------------|
| Anonymous                          | \$10,000 | General Donation |
| Phillipa Pitt                      | \$5,500  | Memorial Seat    |
| Stuart Clutterbuck                 | \$4,000  | General Donation |
| Australian Plant Society Tas (Inc) | \$4,000  | General Donation |
| Suzanne King                       | \$3,000  | Memorial Seat    |
| Westland Nurseries Pty Ltd         | \$2,182  | General Donation |
| Diane E Matthews                   | \$1,500  | Tree Sponsorship |
| Will Kruimink                      | \$1,250  | Tree Sponsorship |
| Tony James                         | \$1,000  | Tree Sponsorship |
| Antonia Lenstra                    | \$1,000  | Tree Sponsorship |
| Mark Bravington                    | \$1,000  | General Donation |
| Lenah Valley Garden Club           | \$500    | General Donation |
| Peter Stevenson                    | \$500    | Tree Sponsorship |
| Richard & Ada Williams             | \$500    | General Donation |
| School for Seniors – Rosny         | \$400    | General Donation |
| Jenny Gardener                     | \$300    | General Donation |
| Charlene White & Sharen King       | \$250    | Tree Sponsorship |
| Anne Geard                         | \$250    | Tree Sponsorship |
| Lyndal Ayres                       | \$250    | Tree Sponsorship |
| Tory Ross                          | \$250    | Tree Sponsorship |
| Wendy Whitham                      | \$250    | General Donation |
| Pierre Hugo                        | \$250    | General Donation |
| AR & CY Kappler                    | \$250    | General Donation |
| Newtown Primary School             | \$205    | General Donation |
| Richard Tucker                     | \$200    | General Donation |
| William Heap                       | \$200    | General Donation |
| Dr Clare Roberts                   | \$125    | General Donation |
| Suzanne Lewin                      | \$100    | General Donation |
| Robert Heazlewood                  | \$100    | General Donation |
| Louise Williams                    | \$100    | General Donation |



## OUR SUPPORTERS

**THE RTBG WOULD LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE GENEROUS ASSISTANCE OF GOVERNMENT, INDUSTRY AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS WHO CONTINUE TO PROVIDE INVALUABLE FINANCIAL AND NON-FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO THE GARDENS.**

### Public Donations

The RTBG recognises the importance of access to the Gardens to the Tasmanian community. The degree of ongoing community support is evident in the level of donations made at various collection points located throughout the RTBG and through sponsorship programs for memorial seats and trees.

### Project Partnerships

In addition to the many anonymous public donors the RTBG also wishes to thank the following organisations and individuals for their support and collaboration with the following projects:

#### The Friends of the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens

The Friends of the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens are a membership group who advocate for and undertake activities that support the operations of the Gardens. The Friends regularly undertake tours for specific special events, including the support of Seniors Week in October 2018. The Friends of the Gardens also donated \$750 toward the cost of the tree and plaque that was planted by the Premier in February 2019 to commemorate the Bicentenary of the Gardens. The support of this dedicated group of individuals is gratefully acknowledged and very much appreciated.

#### Tasmanian Seed Conservation Centre (TSCC)

Royal Botanic Gardens Kew,  
Australian Seed Bank Partnership,  
Tasmanian Herbarium (TMAG), DPIPW

The RTBG wishes to recognise and thank our Joint Partners in this major conservation initiative. In particular we wish to recognise the contribution of RBG Kew, not just for the provision of initial funding for the project, but also for their ongoing invaluable technical and scientific support at every stage of the project.

The development of the TSCC provides a critical 'insurance policy' for Tasmanian flora into the future. The TSCC is especially grateful for the dedicated work of the seedbank volunteers.

#### The Tasmanian Orchid Conservation and Research Program (TOCRP)

This program is focused to conserving Tasmania's rare and threatened orchids. Orchid specialists Dr Nigel Swarts and Dr Magali Wright volunteer their time to co-manage the Orchid program through self-generated grants and sponsorship with the support of a dedicated team of volunteers. TOCRP is grateful to Threatened Plants Tasmania for their ongoing support.

#### Hobart City Council – Annual Grant Program

Hobart City Council continued to provide valuable support both financially and in kind to assist various RTBG projects by way of its annual grant and through the aegis of our shared MOU.

#### Department of Justice – Corrective Services Labour and Training Program

The long-standing Corrective Services labour and training partnership program between the RTBG and the Department of Justice continued to provide valuable underpinning horticultural maintenance support work to the Gardens, while providing important educational and re-socialisation opportunities for minimum security inmates.

#### Nursery Programs

The RTBG Nursery's work to conserve the rare and threatened *Lomatia tasmanica* is made possible through ongoing tissue culture research supported by the School of Plant Science and the dedicated contribution of research assistant Aina Price at UTAS.

# STAFF LIST AS AT 30 JUNE 2019

## EXECUTIVE

### Director

Gary Davies

### Deputy Director

Mark Fountain

## CAPITAL WORKS

### PROJECT MANAGER

Teena Guest

## BUSINESS SERVICES

### Manager Business Services

David Hunt

### Business Services Assistant

Sharron Paul

## BUSINESS ENTERPRISE

### AND MARKETING

### Business Enterprise and

### Marketing Manager

Tory Ross

### Visitor Services

### Visitor Services Coordinator

Esther Beecroft

### Visitor Services Officer

Les Winspear

Daisy Beattie

Kate Crossin

Dani Sutherland (Casual)

Debbie Hinchin (Casual)

### Retail Services Officer

Penny Ruthberg

## GARDENS OPERATIONS

### Horticultural Coordinator

David Reid

### Botanical Estate

### Team Leaders

David Marrison (Northern Team)

Anne Griffin (Eastern Team)

James Young (Estate)

### Curators

Chris Lang

Lorraine Perrins

### Horticulturists

David Eaves

Adam Lancaster

Kenneth Littler

Megan Marrison

Jeremy Patterson

Kathryn Saunders

Margot White

### Horticultural Assistant

Paul Hohler





**Nursery Horticultural Assistant**  
Joanna McEldowney

**Estate Assistant**  
Jeremy Robinson

**Assets and Infrastructure**

**Team Leader**  
Don Heazlewood

**Utility Officer**  
Mark Johnson

**Cleaners**  
Antony Moroni  
Stephen Ross

**MAJOR PROJECTS, SCIENCE,  
INTERPETATION AND EDUCATION**

**Botanical Resources**

**Horticultural Botanist**  
Natalie Tapson

**Tasmanian Seed Conservation Centre**

**Seedbank Coordinator**  
James Wood



# ROYAL TASMANIAN BOTANICAL GARDENS

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED  
30 JUNE 2019

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# AUDITOR'S REPORT



## Independent Auditor's Report

### To the Members of Parliament

### Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens

### Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

#### Opinion

I have audited the financial report of Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens (the Gardens), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2019 and statements of comprehensive income, changes in equity and cash flows for the year then ended, notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and the statement of certification by the Chairman.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial report:

- (a) presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Gardens as at 30 June 2019 and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended
- (b) is in accordance with the *Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens Act 2002* and Australian Accounting Standards.

#### Basis for Opinion

I conducted the audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of my report. I am independent of the Gardens 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 my audit of the financial report in Australia. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

The *Audit Act 2008* further promotes the independence of the Auditor-General. The Auditor-General is the auditor of all Tasmanian public sector entities and can only be removed by Parliament. The Auditor-General may conduct an audit in any way considered appropriate and is not subject to direction by any person about the way in which audit powers are to be exercised. The Auditor-General has for the purposes of conducting an audit, access to all documents and property and can report to Parliament matters which in the Auditor-General's opinion are significant.

...1 of 3

To provide independent assurance to the Parliament and Community on the performance and accountability of the Tasmanian Public sector.  
Professionalism | Respect | Candour | Continuous Improvement | Customer Focus

Strive | Lead | Excel | To Make a Difference

My audit is not designed to provide assurance on the accuracy and appropriateness of the budget information included in the financial report.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

### **Responsibilities of the Directors for the Financial Report**

The directors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, and the financial reporting requirements of the *Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens Act 2002* and for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the Garden'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 Gardens is to be dissolved by an Act of Parliament, or the directors intend to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

### **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report**

My 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 the 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 this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I 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 my 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 Gardens' internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty

...2 of 3

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## AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONT)

exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Gardens' ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusion is based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Gardens to cease to continue as a going concern.

- 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.

I communicate with the directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.



Stephen Morrison  
**Assistant Auditor-General Financial Audit Services**  
**Delegate of the Auditor-General**

**Tasmanian Audit Office**

30 September 2019  
Hobart

...3 of 3

To provide independent assurance to the Parliament and Community on the performance and accountability of the Tasmanian Public sector.  
Professionalism | Respect | Consideration | Continuous Improvement | Customer Focus

*Strive | Lead | Excel | To Make a Difference*

# MANAGEMENT DECLARATION

## ROYAL TASMANIAN BOTANICAL GARDENS

### Board of Management Declaration

The accompanying Financial Statements of the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens are in agreement with the relevant accounts and records and have been prepared in compliance with:

- Australian Accounting Standards
- Treasurer's Instructions issued under the provisions of the *Financial Management and Audit Act 1990*

I believe that, in all material respects, the financial statements present a view which is consistent with my understanding of the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens financial position as at 30 June 2019, results of operations and its cash flows for the year then ended.

At the date of signing, I am not aware of any circumstances which would render the particulars included in the Financial Statements misleading or inaccurate.

The completed Financial Statements Preparation and Submission Checklist is enclosed.

Dated this the 30<sup>th</sup> day of September 2019

On behalf of the Board

Signed:



**Beth Mathison**

(Chair – Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens)

# STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

|   | Notes | 2019<br>Budget<br>\$ | 2019<br>Actual<br>\$ | 2018<br>Actual<br>\$ |
|---|-------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Continuing operations</b>                                |       |                      |                      |                      |
| <b>Revenue and other income from transactions</b>           |       |                      |                      |                      |
| Revenue from Government                                     | 2.1   | 3 828 000            | 3 828 000            | 3 082 000            |
| Sales of goods and services                                 | 2.2   | 673 000              | 651 938              | 555 673              |
| Fees and fines  |       | ...                  | ...                  | 26 365               |
| Interest  | 2.3   | 35 000               | 60 469               | 40 280               |
| Rents received  | 2.4   | 150 000              | 142 095              | 126 392              |
| Donations and contributions                                 | 2.5   | 246 000              | 213 470              | 162 040              |
| Other revenue   |       | 20 000               | 8 198                | 23 351               |
| <b>Total revenue and other income from transactions</b>     |       | <b>4 952 000</b>     | <b>4 904 170</b>     | <b>4 016 101</b>     |
| <b>Expenses from transactions</b>                           |       |                      |                      |                      |
| Employee benefits   | 3.1   | 2 955 000            | 2 726 650            | 2 539 266            |
| Depreciation  | 4.3   | 321 000              | 376 237              | 347 167              |
| Grants and subsidy payments                                 |       | ...                  | ...                  | 35 134               |
| Supplies and consumables                                    | 3.2   | 1 278 000            | 1 065 602            | 1 128 652            |
| Other expenses  | 3.3   | 25 000               | 22 468               | 22 569               |
| <b>Total expenses from transactions</b>                     |       | <b>4 579 000</b>     | <b>4 190 957</b>     | <b>4 072 788</b>     |
| <b>Net result from transactions (net operating balance)</b> |       | <b>373 000</b>       | <b>713 213</b>       | <b>(56 687)</b>      |
| <b>Other economic flows included in net result</b>          |       |                      |                      |                      |
| Net gain/(loss) on non-financial assets                     | 4.4   | ...                  | (9 227)              | (12 189)             |
| <b>Total other economic flows included in net result</b>    |       | ...                  | <b>(9 227)</b>       | <b>(12 189)</b>      |
| <b>Net result</b>   |       | <b>373 000</b>       | <b>703 986</b>       | <b>(68 876)</b>      |
| <b>Other comprehensive income</b>                           |       |                      |                      |                      |
| Changes in asset revaluation reserve                        | 7.1   | ...                  | 1 675 224            | 495 361              |
| <b>Total other comprehensive income</b>                     |       | ...                  | <b>1 675 224</b>     | <b>495 361</b>       |
| <b>Comprehensive result</b>                                 |       | <b>373 000</b>       | <b>2 379 210</b>     | <b>426 485</b>       |

*This Statement of Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.*

*Budget information refers to original estimates and has not been subject to audit.*

*Explanations of material variances between budget and actual outcomes are provided in Note 1 of the accompanying notes.*

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

## AS AT 30 JUNE 2019

|                               | Notes    | 2019<br>Budget<br>\$ | 2019<br>Actual<br>\$ | 2018<br>Actual<br>\$ |
|-------------------------------|----------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Assets</b>                 |          |                      |                      |                      |
| <i>Financial assets</i>       |          |                      |                      |                      |
| Cash and deposits             | 8.1      | 53 000               | 1 349 672            | 535 400              |
| Receivables                   | 4.1      | ...                  | 53 599               | 43 449               |
| Other Financial Assets        |          | 68 000               | ...                  | ...                  |
| <i>Non-financial assets</i>   |          |                      |                      |                      |
| Inventories                   | 4.2      | 81 000               | 79 428               | 75 928               |
| Property, plant and equipment | 4.3, 4.4 | 9 634 000            | 11 260 245           | 9 871 890            |
| Infrastructure                | 4.3, 4.5 | 4 854 000            | 4 508 437            | 4 401 212            |
| Other non-financial assets    | 4.6      | ...                  | 27 955               | 25 325               |
| <b>Total assets</b>           |          | <b>14 690 000</b>    | <b>17 279 336</b>    | <b>14 953 204</b>    |
| <b>Liabilities</b>            |          |                      |                      |                      |
| Payables                      | 5.1      | 84 000               | 33 014               | 50 369               |
| Employee benefits             | 5.2      | 654 000              | 751 516              | 677 971              |
| Other liabilities             | 5.3      | 61 000               | 20 442               | 129 710              |
| <b>Total liabilities</b>      |          | <b>799 000</b>       | <b>804 972</b>       | <b>858 050</b>       |
| <b>Net assets</b>             |          | <b>13 891 000</b>    | <b>16 474 364</b>    | <b>14 095 154</b>    |
| <b>Equity</b>                 |          |                      |                      |                      |
| Reserves                      | 7.1      | 14 096 000           | 16 267 006           | 14 591 782           |
| Accumulated funds             |          | (205 000)            | 207 358              | (496 628)            |
| <b>Total equity</b>           |          | <b>13 891 000</b>    | <b>16 474 364</b>    | <b>14 095 154</b>    |

This Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Budget information refers to original estimates and has not been subject to audit.

Explanations of material variances between budget and actual outcomes are provided in Note 1 of the accompanying notes.

# STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

|   | Notes | 2019<br>Budget<br>\$ | 2019<br>Actual<br>\$ | 2018<br>Actual<br>\$ |
|---|-------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>                             |       |                      |                      |                      |
| <b>Cash inflows</b>   |       |                      |                      |                      |
| Revenue from Government   |       | 3 828 000            | 2 828 000            | 2 824 000            |
| Sales of goods and services   |       | 673 000              | 649 523              | 541 564              |
| Fees and fines  |       | ...                  | ...                  | 26 365               |
| GST receipts  |       | 130 000              | 89 072               | 101 117              |
| Interest received   |       | 35 000               | 57 590               | 40 413               |
| Rents received  |       | 150 000              | 133 676              | 126 392              |
| Donations and sponsorships  |       | 246 000              | 182 766              | 162 040              |
| Other cash receipts   |       | 20 000               | 8 197                | 122 355              |
| <b>Total cash inflows</b>   |       | <b>5 082 000</b>     | <b>3 948 824</b>     | <b>3 944 246</b>     |
| <b>Cash outflows</b>  |       |                      |                      |                      |
| Employee benefits   |       | (2 955 000)          | (2 653 096)          | (2 479 128)          |
| GST payments  |       | (130 000)            | (89 072)             | (101 117)            |
| Grants and subsidy payments   |       | ...                  | ...                  | (35 134)             |
| Supplies and consumables  |       | (1 303 000)          | (1 089 083)          | (1 195 268)          |
| Other cash payments   |       | ...                  | (97 468)             | (22 570)             |
| <b>Total cash outflows</b>  |       | <b>(4 388 000)</b>   | <b>(3 928 719)</b>   | <b>(3 833 217)</b>   |
| <b>Net cash from/(used by) operating activities</b>                     | 8.2   | <b>694 000</b>       | <b>20 105</b>        | <b>111 029</b>       |
| <b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>                             |       |                      |                      |                      |
| <b>Cash inflows</b>   |       |                      |                      |                      |
| Receipts from non-operational capital funding – Revenue from Government |       | ...                  | 1 000 000            | 258 000              |
| Proceeds from the disposal of non-financial assets                      |       | 13 000               | ...                  | ...                  |
| <b>Total cash inflows</b>   |       | <b>13 000</b>        | <b>1 000 000</b>     | <b>258 000</b>       |
| <b>Cash outflows</b>  |       |                      |                      |                      |
| Payments for acquisition on non-financial assets                        |       | (1 045 000)          | (205 833)            | (744 965)            |
| <b>Total cash outflows</b>  |       | <b>(1 045 000)</b>   | <b>(205 833)</b>     | <b>(744 965)</b>     |
| <b>Net Cash from/(used by) investing activities</b>                     |       | <b>(1 032 000)</b>   | <b>794 167</b>       | <b>(486 965)</b>     |
| <b>Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held</b>        |       | <b>(338 000)</b>     | <b>814 272</b>       | <b>(375 936)</b>     |
| <b>Cash and deposits at the beginning of the reporting period</b>       |       | <b>391 000</b>       | <b>535 400</b>       | <b>911 336</b>       |
| <b>Cash and deposits at the end of the reporting period</b>             | 8.1   | <b>53 000</b>        | <b>1 349 672</b>     | <b>535 400</b>       |

This Statement of Cash Flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Budget information refers to original estimates and has not been subject to audit.

Explanations of material variances between budget and actual outcomes are provided in Note 1 of the accompanying notes.

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

|                                   | Notes | Accumulated Funds<br>\$ | Asset Revaluation<br>Reserve<br>\$ | Total Equity<br>\$ |
|-----------------------------------|-------|-------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Balance as at 1 July 2017</b>  |       | <b>(427 752)</b>        | <b>14 096 421</b>                  | <b>13 668 669</b>  |
| Net result                        |       | (68 876)                | ...                                | (68 876)           |
| Other comprehensive income        | 7.1   | ...                     | 495 361                            | 495 361            |
| <b>Balance as at 30 June 2018</b> |       | <b>(496 628)</b>        | <b>14 591 782</b>                  | <b>14 095 154</b>  |
| <b>Balance as at 1 July 2018</b>  |       | <b>(496 628)</b>        | <b>14 591 782</b>                  | <b>14 095 154</b>  |
| Net result                        |       | 703 986                 | ...                                | 703 986            |
| Other comprehensive income        | 7.1   | ...                     | 1 675 224                          | 1 675 224          |
| <b>Balance as at 30 June 2019</b> |       | <b>207 358</b>          | <b>16 267 006</b>                  | <b>16 474 364</b>  |

*This Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.*

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## Note 1: Explanation of material variances between budget and actual outcomes

### 1.1 Statement of Comprehensive Income

Statement of Comprehensive Income variances are considered material where the variance exceeds 10 per cent of the original budget estimate and \$70 000. Budget information refers to original estimates as disclosed in the 2018-19 Budget Papers and is not subject to audit.

|                                      | Notes | Budget<br>\$ | Actual<br>\$ | Variance<br>\$ | Variance<br>% |
|--------------------------------------|-------|--------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|
| <b>Expenses from transactions</b>    |       |              |              |                |               |
| Supplies and consumables             | (a)   | 1 278 000    | 1 065 602    | (212 398)      | (17)          |
| <b>Other comprehensive income</b>    |       |              |              |                |               |
| Changes in asset revaluation reserve | (b)   | ...          | 1 675 224    | 1 675 224      | 100           |

### Notes to Statement of Comprehensive Income variances

- (a) The reduction in supplies and consumables from budget relates to a reduction in administration expenditure that was applied to the overall management of the net budget position, and capital additions in the year of property plant and equipment totalling \$90 000.
- (b) The increase in the asset revaluation reserve is due to the revaluation of the land and buildings class of assets totalling \$1.38 million and indexation applied to the infrastructure asset category of \$291 457.

### 1.2 Statement of Financial Position

Statement of Financial Position variances are considered material where the variance exceeds 10 per cent of the original budget estimate and \$70 000. Budget information refers to original estimates as disclosed in the 2018-19 Budget Papers and is not subject to audit.

|                               | Notes | Budget<br>\$ | Actual<br>\$ | Variance<br>\$ | Variance<br>% |
|-------------------------------|-------|--------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|
| <b>Assets</b>                 |       |              |              |                |               |
| Cash and deposits             | (a)   | 53 000       | 1 349 672    | 1 296 672      | 2 447         |
| Property, plant and equipment | (b)   | 9 634 000    | 11 260 245   | 1 626 245      | 17            |
| <b>Liabilities</b>            |       |              |              |                |               |
| Employee benefits             | (c)   | 654 000      | 751 516      | 97 516         | 15            |
| <b>Equity</b>                 |       |              |              |                |               |
| Reserves                      | (d)   | 14 096 000   | 16 267 006   | 2 171 006      | 15            |

### Notes to Statement of Financial Position variances

- (a) The increase in cash and deposits is primarily due to unspent capital grant funds of \$898 705 resulting from the delay in construction of the new visitor centre. In addition the opening budget balance is understated as it does not reflect the improved cash position from 2017-18.
- (b) The increase in property, plant and equipment primarily relates to the revaluation of the land and buildings asset classes in 2018-19 resulting in an increase of \$1.38 million.
- (c) The increase in employee benefits primarily relates to the movement in discount rates and probability factors.
- (d) The increase in reserves is due to the revaluation of the land and buildings class of assets totalling \$1.38 million and indexation applied to the infrastructure asset category of \$291 457.

### 1.3 Statement of Cash Flows

Statement of Cash Flows variances are considered material where the variance exceeds 10 per cent of the original budget estimate and \$70 000. Budget information refers to original estimates as disclosed in the 2018 - 19 Budget Papers and is not subject to audit.

|  | Notes | Budget<br>\$ | Actual<br>\$ | Variance<br>\$ | Variance<br>% |
|--|-------|--------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|
| <b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>                                |       |              |              |                |               |
| <b>Cash inflows</b>  |       |              |              |                |               |
| Revenue from Government  | (a)   | 3 828 000    | 2 828 000    | 1 000 000      | 26            |
| <b>Cash Outflows</b>   |       |              |              |                |               |
| Employee benefits  | (b)   | 2 955 000    | 2 653 096    | (301 904)      | (10)          |
| Supplies and consumables   | (c)   | 1 303 000    | 1 089 083    | (213 917)      | (16)          |
| Other cash payments  | (d)   | ...          | 97 468       | 97 468         | 100           |
| <b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>                                |       |              |              |                |               |
| <b>Cash inflows</b>  |       |              |              |                |               |
| Receipts from non-operational capital funding<br>– Revenue from Government | (a)   | ...          | 1 000 000    | 1 000 000      | 100           |
| <b>Cash outflows</b>   |       |              |              |                |               |
| Payments for acquisition of non-financial assets                           | (e)   | 1 045 000    | 205 833      | (839 167)      | (80)          |

#### Notes to Statement of Cash Flows variances

- (a) The variance is due to the funding transaction for the new visitor centre of \$1 000 000 being reclassified as receipts from non-operational capital funding representing a cash flow from investing activities instead of a cash flow from operating activities.
- (b) The decrease in employee benefits reflects the delay in filling vacant positions during a structural review of the business enterprises, savings on contingency for Board salary review and the whole of Government staff salary increase being postponed until 2019-20.
- (c) The reduction in supplies and consumables from budget relates to a reduction in administration expenditure that was applied to the overall management of the net budget position, and capital additions in the year of property plant and equipment totalling \$90 000.
- (d) This variance in other cash payments is due to a return of funds to the Department of Primary Industries Water and the Environment which were incorrectly paid in the previous financial year.
- (e) The decrease in payments for acquisition of non-financial assets is due to the delay in the capital works for the new visitor centre.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONT)

### Note 2: Revenue from transactions

Income is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income when an increase in future economic benefits, related to an increase in an asset or a decrease of a liability, has arisen that can be reliably measured.

Other revenue is recognised when it is probable that the inflow or other enhancement or saving in outflows of future economic benefits has occurred and can be measured reliably.

#### 2.1 Revenue from Government

Revenue from Government, whether recurrent or capital, are recognised as revenues in the period in which the RTBG gains control of the appropriated funds. Except for any amounts identified as carried forward, control arises in the period of appropriation.

Grants payable by the Australian Government are recognised as revenue when the RTBG gains control of the underlying assets. Where grants are reciprocal, revenue is recognised as performance occurs under the grant. Non-reciprocal grants are recognised as revenue when the grant is received or receivable. Conditional grants may be reciprocal or non-reciprocal depending on the terms of the grant.

|                                     | 2019             | 2018             |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
|                                     | \$               | \$               |
| Operational funding from Government | 2 828 000        | 2 824 000        |
| Non-operational capital funding     | 1 000 000        | 258 000          |
| <b>Total</b>                        | <b>3 828 000</b> | <b>3 082 000</b> |

#### 2.2 Sales of goods and services

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised when the significant risks and rewards of ownership have been transferred to the buyer. Revenue from the provision of services is recognised upon the delivery of the service to customers.

|                         | 2019           | 2018           |
|-------------------------|----------------|----------------|
|                         | \$             | \$             |
| Enterprise operations   | 531 584        | 480 999        |
| Other sales of services | 120 354        | 74 674         |
| <b>Total</b>            | <b>651 938</b> | <b>555 673</b> |

#### 2.3 Interest

Interest income includes interest received on bank term deposits. Interest on funds invested is recognised using the effective interest method, which allocates the interest over the relevant period.

|                              | 2019          | 2018          |
|------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
|                              | \$            | \$            |
| Interest on term deposits    | 57 176        | 37 644        |
| Interest on at call deposits | 3 293         | 2 636         |
| <b>Total</b>                 | <b>60 469</b> | <b>40 280</b> |

#### 2.4 Rents received

Rent revenue is recognised when the RTBG gains control of the right to receive the funds.

|               | 2019           | 2018           |
|---------------|----------------|----------------|
|               | \$             | \$             |
| Rent received | 142 095        | 126 392        |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>142 095</b> | <b>126 392</b> |

#### 2.5 Donations and contributions

Donations and sponsorships income are non-reciprocal in nature and are recognised when the right to receive the funds has been established.

|   | 2019           | 2018           |
|---|----------------|----------------|
|   | \$             | \$             |
| Donations, sponsorships and bequests      | 161 761        | 145 540        |
| Industry and private sector contributions | 51 709         | 16 500         |
| <b>Total</b>                              | <b>213 470</b> | <b>162 040</b> |

### Note 3: Expenses from transactions

Expenses are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income when a decrease in future economic benefits, related to a decrease in an asset or an increase of a liability, has arisen that can be measured reliably.

#### 3.1 Employee benefits

Employee benefits include, where applicable, entitlements to wages and salaries, annual leave, sick leave, long service leave, superannuation and any other post-employment benefits.

##### (a) Employee expenses

|  | 2019             | 2018             |
|--|------------------|------------------|
|  | \$               | \$               |
| Wages and salaries                           | 1 942 786        | 1 836 417        |
| Annual leave                                 | 202 244          | 190 241          |
| Long service leave                           | 91 685           | 53 026           |
| Sick leave                                   | 81 512           | 65 279           |
| Overtime and allowances                      | 118 497          | 115 742          |
| Superannuation – defined contribution scheme | 265 678          | 243 160          |
| Superannuation – defined benefit scheme      | 24 248           | 35 401           |
| <b>Total</b>                                 | <b>2 726 650</b> | <b>2 539 266</b> |

##### (b) Remuneration of key management personnel

Key management personnel are those persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the RTBG.

| 2018-19<br>Key management personnel                   | Short-term benefits |                    | Long-term benefits          |                    | Total          |
|---|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|----------------|
|   | Salary <sup>1</sup> | Other <sup>2</sup> | Superannuation <sup>3</sup> | Other <sup>4</sup> |                |
|   | \$                  | \$                 | \$                          | \$                 | \$             |
| J Bailey, Board Member                                | 4 890               | ...                | 464                         | ...                | 5 354          |
| D Davey, Board Member<br>(ceased 23 November 2018)    | 3 210               | ...                | 305                         | ...                | 3 515          |
| A Foley, Board Member<br>(commenced 19 February 2019) | 1 583               | ...                | 150                         | ...                | 1 733          |
| B Mathison, Board Member                              | 18 962              | ...                | 1 801                       | ...                | 20 763         |
| P Oxley, Board Member                                 | 4 843               | ...                | 460                         | ...                | 5 303          |
| T Taylor, Board Member                                | 4 890               | ...                | 464                         | ...                | 5 354          |
| G Davies, Director                                    | 154 926             | 7 647              | 20 063                      | 4 932              | 187 568        |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>193 304</b>      | <b>7 647</b>       | <b>23 707</b>               | <b>4 932</b>       | <b>229 590</b> |

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONT)

| 2017-18<br>Key management personnel | Short-term benefits       |                          | Long-term benefits                |                          | Total<br>\$    |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
|                                     | Salary <sup>1</sup><br>\$ | Other <sup>2</sup><br>\$ | Superannuation <sup>3</sup><br>\$ | Other <sup>4</sup><br>\$ |                |
| J Bailey, Board Member              | 3 600                     | ...                      | 342                               | ...                      | 3 942          |
| D Davey, Board Member               | 3 600                     | ...                      | 342                               | ...                      | 3 942          |
| B Mathison, Board Member            | 10 520                    | ...                      | 999                               | ...                      | 11 519         |
| P Oxley, Board Member               | 3 600                     | ...                      | 342                               | ...                      | 3 942          |
| T Taylor, Board Member              | 3 600                     | ...                      | 342                               | ...                      | 3 942          |
| G Davies, Director                  | 141 725                   | 8 135                    | 14 718                            | ...                      | 164 578        |
| <b>Total</b>                        | <b>166 645</b>            | <b>8 135</b>             | <b>17 085</b>                     |                          | <b>191 865</b> |

### Notes

- <sup>1</sup> All forms of consideration paid and payable for services rendered and compensated absences during the period.
- <sup>2</sup> This comprises the movement in annual leave for the year.
- <sup>3</sup> Based on the *Public Sector Superannuation Reform Act 2016*.
- <sup>4</sup> Movements in long service leave entitlements for the year.

### (c) Related party transactions

AASB 124 *Related Party Disclosures* requires related party disclosures to ensure that the Financial Statements contain disclosures necessary to draw attention to the possibility that the RTBG financial results may have been affected by the existence of related parties and by transactions with such parties.

This note is not intended to disclose conflicts of interest for which there are administrative procedures in place.

There are no significant related party transactions requiring disclosure in 2018-19.

### 3.2 Supplies and consumables

Supplies and consumables are recognised when the items have been received by the RTBG.

|   | 2019<br>\$       | 2018<br>\$       |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| Property services                                   | 314 936          | 316 687          |
| Cost of sales                                       | 236 747          | 231 032          |
| Professional and contract services                  | 160 593          | 100 595          |
| Advertising, promotion and marketing                | 74 373           | 159 222          |
| General Insurance                                   | 64 463           | 59 408           |
| Equipment costs (lease costs, minor purchases)      | 59 424           | 38 087           |
| Travel and transport                                | 34 662           | 34 429           |
| Administrative costs (printing and office supplies) | 25 522           | 45 377           |
| External audit fees                                 | 13 840           | 13 210           |
| Other   | 81 042           | 130 605          |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>1 065 602</b> | <b>1 128 652</b> |

### 3.3 Other expenses

Other expenses are recognised when the associated service and supply have been provided.

|                      | 2019<br>\$    | 2018<br>\$    |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Workers compensation | 17 965        | 13 244        |
| Financial expenses   | 4 503         | 9 325         |
| <b>Total</b>         | <b>22 468</b> | <b>22 569</b> |

#### Note 4: Assets

Assets are recognised in the Statement of Financial Position when it is probable that the future economic benefits embodied in the asset will eventuate and the asset possesses a cost or other value that can be reliably measured.

##### 4.1 Receivables

###### Key judgement

All payments for goods and services supplied by the RTBG are received by DPIPWE and settled in a monthly elimination process between DPIPWE and the RTBG. This process is on an accrual basis and done on the last day of each month so RTBG has no outstanding debtors at the end of the financial year.

Accrued revenue is revenue that has been earned by providing a good or service, but for which no payment has been received because the customer has yet to be billed.

|                          | 2019          | 2018          |
|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|
|                          | \$            | \$            |
| Accrued Revenue          | 49 894        | 42 621        |
| Accrued Interest         | 3 705         | 828           |
| <b>Total</b>             | <b>53 599</b> | <b>43 449</b> |
| Settled within 12 months | 53 599        | 43 449        |
| <b>Total</b>             | <b>53 599</b> | <b>43 449</b> |

##### 4.2 Inventories

###### Key judgement

Inventories are assessed to determine whether any impairment exists. Impairment exists when the recoverable amount of an asset is less than its carrying amount. Recoverable amount is the higher of fair value less costs to sell, and value in use. All impairment losses are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

Inventories held for distribution are valued at cost adjusted, when applicable, for any loss of service potential. Inventories acquired for no cost or nominal consideration are valued at current replacement cost. Inventories are recorded using the periodic system and are measured using the weighted average cost formula.

|                           | 2019          | 2018          |
|---------------------------|---------------|---------------|
|                           | \$            | \$            |
| Inventory held for resale | 79 428        | 75 928        |
| <b>Total</b>              | <b>79 428</b> | <b>75 928</b> |

##### 4.3 Property, equipment and infrastructure

###### (a) Valuation basis - key estimate and judgement

Property and infrastructure is recorded at fair value less accumulated depreciation. All other non-current physical assets, including work in progress, are recorded at historic cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. All assets within a class of assets are measured on the same basis. Cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the asset. The costs of self constructed assets includes the cost of materials and direct labour, any other costs directly attributable to bringing the asset to a working condition for its intended use, and the costs of dismantling and removing the items and restoring the site on which they are located. When parts of an item of property, plant and equipment have different useful lives, they are accounted for as separate items (major components) of property, plant and equipment. Fair value is based on the highest and best use of the asset. Unless there is an explicit Government policy to the contrary, the highest and best use of an asset is the current purpose for which the asset is being used or build occupied.

###### (b) Depreciation – key estimate and judgement

All applicable Non-financial assets having a limited useful life are systematically depreciated over their useful lives in a manner which reflects the consumption of their service potential. Land, being an asset with an unlimited useful life, is not depreciated. Depreciation is calculated on a straight line basis so as to write off the net cost or other revalued amount of each asset over its expected useful life to its estimated residual value. The estimated useful lives, residual values and depreciation method is reviewed at the end of each annual reporting period.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONT)

The depreciation rates used for each class of asset are:

| Class of fixed asset                      | Depreciation Rate |
|---|-------------------|
| <b>Property</b>                           |                   |
| Buildings                                 | 2 – 20%           |
| <b>Equipment</b>                          |                   |
| Vehicles                                  | 10%               |
| Plant and equipment                       | 20 – 33%          |
| Computers                                 | 33%               |
| Shop fittings                             | 25%               |
| <b>Infrastructure</b>                     |                   |
| Roads, paths, walls, fences and gates     | 0.1 – 4.4%        |
| Utility services and other infrastructure | 0.4 – 4%          |
| Gardens, ponds and water features         | 1 – 5%            |
| Water, sewerage and irrigation            | 1 – 4%            |

| Depreciation           | 2019           | 2018           |
|------------------------|----------------|----------------|
|                        | \$             | \$             |
| Property and equipment | 192 005        | 177 308        |
| Infrastructure         | 184 232        | 169 859        |
| <b>Total</b>           | <b>376 237</b> | <b>347 167</b> |

### (c) Asset recognition threshold

The asset capitalisation threshold adopted by RTBG is \$10 000 plus any other assets where it is considered appropriate. Asset valued at less than \$10 000 are charged to the Statement of Comprehensive Income in the year of purchase (other than where they form part of a group of similar items which are significant in total).

### (d) Revaluation

All assets, with the exception of equipment and computers are measured on the fair value basis. Fair value is determined on the basis of an independent valuation prepared by external valuation experts. The fair values are recognised in the financial statements of the entity, and are reviewed at the end of each reporting period to ensure that the carrying value of land and buildings is not materially different from their fair values.

Revaluation increments and decrements arising from recognising land, buildings and infrastructure at their fair values are offset against one another within the class of assets. Net revaluation increments in the carrying amounts of land, buildings and infrastructure are recognised directly in the asset revaluation reserve, except to the extent that the increment reverses a decrement that was previously recognised as an expense in the net profit or loss in respect of the same class of assets, in which case the increment is recognised as revenue in net profit or loss. Net revaluation decrements in the carrying

amounts of land, buildings and infrastructure are recognised as an expense in profit or loss, except to the extent that the decrement reverses a previous revaluation increment in respect of the same class of assets credited directly to the asset revaluation reserve, in which case the decrement is debited directly to reserve to the extent that a credit exists in respect of the same class of assets.

All other non-current physical assets are recorded at historic cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

RTBG adopted a revaluation threshold of \$10 000. Assets are revalued every five years. In accordance with AASB116 *Property, Plant and Equipment*, in years between valuations, indices are supplied by qualified valuers to index valuations to fair value. Roads and paths, walls, and fences and gates were valued as at 30 June 2018 using indexation of 2.34 per cent supplied by Campbell Palfrey, a qualified valuer. Pergolas and garden features, ponds and water features, water services and irrigation, storm water and sewerage infrastructure were revalued as at 30 June 2018 by Campbell Palfrey, qualified valuer.

For 2018-19 indexation of 3.38 per cent has been applied to the infrastructure asset category resulting in an asset value of \$291 457 taken to the Asset Revaluation Reserve.

Land and Buildings were revalued to fair value as at 30 June 2019 by the Office of the Tasmanian Valuer General. The resulting changes of \$1 383 767 in asset value were taken to the Asset Revaluation Reserve.

### (e) Disposal of non-current assets

Gains or losses from the sale of non-current assets are recognised when control of the assets has passed to the buyer.

### (f) Impairment of assets

All non-financial assets are assessed to determine whether any impairment exists. Impairment exists when the recoverable amount of an asset is less than its carrying amount. Recoverable amount is the higher of fair value less costs to sell and value in use. The RTBG's assets are not used for the purpose of generating cash flows; therefore value in use is based on depreciated replacement cost where the asset would be replaced if deprived of it. All impairment losses are recognised in Statement of Comprehensive Income. In respect of other assets, impairment losses recognised in prior periods are assessed at each reporting date for any indications that the loss has decreased or no longer exists. An impairment loss is reversed if there has been a change in the estimates used to determine the recoverable amount. An impairment loss is reversed only to the extent that the asset's carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined, net of depreciation or amortisation, if no impairment loss had been recognised.

(g) Fair value hierarchy

All assets of the RTBG for which fair value is measured or disclosed in the Financial Statements are categorised within the following fair value hierarchy, based on the data and assumptions used in the most recent specific appraisals:

Level 1 – represents fair value measurements that reflect unadjusted quoted market prices in active markets for identical assets and liabilities.

Level 2 – represents fair value measurements that are substantially derived from inputs (other than quoted prices included within Level 1) that are observable, either directly or indirectly.

Level 3 – represents fair value measurements that are substantially derived from unobservable inputs.

For the purpose of fair value disclosures, the RTBG has determined classes of assets on the basis of the nature, characteristics and risks of the asset or liability and the level of fair value hierarchy as explained above.

In addition, the RTBG determines whether transfers have occurred between levels in the hierarchy by re-assessing categorisation at the end of each reporting period.

There were no transfers of assets between fair value hierarchy levels during the current period.

#### 4.4 Property, plant and equipment

|                                | 2019              | 2018             |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
|                                | \$                | \$               |
| Land at fair value             | 6 000 000         | 5 400 000        |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>6 000 000</b>  | <b>5 400 000</b> |
| Buildings at fair value        | 11 187 986        | 9 299 344        |
| Less: accumulated depreciation | (6 132 707)       | (4 895 606)      |
|                                | 5 055 279         | 4 403 738        |
| Works in progress at cost      | 126 557           | 12 499           |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>5 181 836</b>  | <b>4 416 237</b> |
| Plant and equipment at cost    | 175 726           | 141 327          |
| Less: accumulated depreciation | (99 944)          | (85 674)         |
|                                | 75 782            | 55 653           |
| Works in progress at cost      | 2 627             | ...              |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>78 409</b>     | <b>55 653</b>    |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>11 260 245</b> | <b>9 871 890</b> |

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONT)

### Asset Reconciliation

Movements in the carrying amounts for each class of assets between the beginning and the end of the current financial year

| 2019                                     | Land             | Buildings        | Plant and equipment | Total             |
|--|------------------|------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
|  | \$               | \$               | \$                  | \$                |
| <b>Carrying value as at 1 July 2018</b>  | <b>5 400 000</b> | <b>4 416 237</b> | <b>55 653</b>       | <b>9 871 890</b>  |
| Additions                                | ...              | 157 052          | 48 768              | 205 820           |
| Disposals/Write offs                     | ...              | (9 227)          | ...                 | (9 227)           |
| Revaluation Increments/(Decrement)       | 600 000          | 783 767          | ...                 | 1 383 767         |
| Depreciation                             | ...              | (165 993)        | (26 012)            | (192 005)         |
| <b>Carrying value as at 30 June 2019</b> | <b>6 000 000</b> | <b>5 181 836</b> | <b>78 409</b>       | <b>11 260 245</b> |

### Assets at fair value by level of the fair value hierarchy

|                                   |                  |                  |               |                   |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| At cost                           | ...              | 126 557          | 78 409        | 204 966           |
| Level 3 (specialised)             | 6 000 000        | 5 055 279        | ...           | 11 025 279        |
| <b>Fair value at 30 June 2019</b> | <b>6 000 000</b> | <b>5 181 836</b> | <b>78 409</b> | <b>11 260 245</b> |

| 2018                                     | Land             | Buildings        | Plant and equipment | Total            |
|--|------------------|------------------|---------------------|------------------|
|  | \$               | \$               | \$                  | \$               |
| <b>Carrying value as at 1 July 2017</b>  | <b>5 400 000</b> | <b>4 051 899</b> | <b>76 572</b>       | <b>9 528 471</b> |
| Additions                                | ...              | 425 438          | 13 950              | 439 388          |
| Disposals/Write offs                     | ...              | ...              | (12 189)            | (12 189)         |
| Revaluation Increments/(Decrement)       | ...              | 93 528           | ...                 | 93 528           |
| Depreciation                             | ...              | (154 628)        | (22 680)            | (177 308)        |
| <b>Carrying value as at 30 June 2018</b> | <b>5 400 000</b> | <b>4 416 237</b> | <b>55 653</b>       | <b>9 871 890</b> |

### Assets at fair value by level of the fair value hierarchy

|                                      |                  |                  |               |                  |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|
| At cost                              | ...              | 425 439          | 55 653        | 481 092          |
| Level 3 (specialised)                | 5 400 000        | 3 990 798        | ...           | 9 390 798        |
| <b>Fair Value as at 30 June 2018</b> | <b>5 400 000</b> | <b>4 416 237</b> | <b>55 653</b> | <b>9 871 890</b> |

#### 4.5 Infrastructure

|   | 2019             | 2018             |
|---|------------------|------------------|
|   | \$               | \$               |
| Roads, paths, walls, fences and gates at fair value     | 4 531 680        | 4 383 516        |
| Less: accumulated depreciation                          | (2 140 754)      | (2 057 071)      |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>2 390 926</b> | <b>2 326 445</b> |
| Utility services and other infrastructure at fair value | 1 143 094        | 1 105 720        |
| Less: accumulated depreciation                          | (720 042)        | (684 102)        |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>423 052</b>   | <b>421 618</b>   |
| Gardens, ponds and water features at fair value         | 1 799 297        | 1 740 469        |
| Less: accumulated depreciation                          | (766 937)        | (720 586)        |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>1 032 360</b> | <b>1 019 883</b> |
| Water, sewerage and irrigation services at fair value   | 1 440 379        | 1 393 288        |
| Less: accumulated depreciation                          | (778 280)        | (760 022)        |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>662 099</b>   | <b>633 266</b>   |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>4 508 437</b> | <b>4 401 212</b> |

#### Asset Reconciliation

Movements in the carrying amounts for each class of assets between the beginning and the end of the current financial year

| 2019   | Roads, paths,<br>walls, fences<br>and gates | Utility<br>services<br>and other<br>infrastructure | Gardens,<br>ponds<br>and water<br>features | Water,<br>sewerage<br>and irrigation<br>services | Total            |
|--|---|--|--|--|------------------|
|  | \$  | \$   | \$   | \$   | \$               |
| Carrying value as at 1 July 2018                                 | 2 326 445                                   | 421 618  | 1 019 883                                  | 633 266  | 4 401 212        |
| Revaluation Increments/ (Decrement)                              | 148 163                                     | 37 373   | 58 828                                     | 47 093   | 291 457          |
| Depreciation   | (83 682)                                    | (35 939)   | (46 351)                                   | (18 260)   | (184 232)        |
| <b>Carrying value as at 30 June 2019</b>                         | <b>2 390 926</b>                            | <b>423 052</b>                                     | <b>1 032 360</b>                           | <b>662 099</b>                                   | <b>4 508 437</b> |
| <i>Assets at fair value by level of the fair value hierarchy</i> |   |  |  |  |                  |
| Level 3 (specialised)  | 2 390 926                                   | 423 052  | 1 032 360                                  | 662 099  | 4 508 437        |
| <b>Fair value at 30 June 2019</b>                                | <b>2 390 926</b>                            | <b>423 052</b>                                     | <b>1 032 360</b>                           | <b>662 099</b>                                   | <b>4 508 437</b> |

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONT)

| 2018   | Roads, paths,<br>walls, fences<br>and gates | Utility<br>services<br>and other<br>infrastructure | Gardens,<br>ponds<br>and water<br>features | Water,<br>sewerage<br>and irrigation<br>services | Total     |
|--|---|--|--|--|-----------|
|  | \$  | \$   | \$   | \$   | \$        |
| Carrying value as at 1 July 2017                                 | 2 317 001                                   | 446 747  | 581 487                                    | 517 633  | 3 862 868 |
| Additions  | 36 486                                      | ...  | 256 813                                    | 13 071   | 306 370   |
| Revaluation Increments/ (Decrement)                              | 54 111                                      | 9 962  | 217 701                                    | 120 059  | 401 833   |
| Depreciation   | (81 153)                                    | (35 091)   | (36 118)                                   | (17 497)   | (169 859) |
| Carrying value as at 30 June 2018                                | 2 326 445                                   | 421 618  | 1 019 883                                  | 633 266  | 4 401 212 |
| <i>Assets at fair value by level of the fair value hierarchy</i> |   |  |  |  |           |
| Level 3 (specialised)  | 2 326 445                                   | 421 618  | 1 019 883                                  | 633 266  | 4 401 212 |
| Fair value at 30 June 2018                                       | 2 326 445                                   | 421 618  | 1 019 883                                  | 633 266  | 4 401 212 |

#### 4.6 Other non-financial assets

Other assets comprise of prepayments. Prepayments relate to actual transactions that are recorded at cost.

|                                   | 2019          | 2018          |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
|                                   | \$            | \$            |
| Prepayments                       | 27 955        | 25 325        |
| <b>Total</b>                      | <b>27 955</b> | <b>25 325</b> |
| <i>Recovered within 12 months</i> | 27 955        | 25 325        |
| <b>Total</b>                      | <b>27 955</b> | <b>25 325</b> |

#### Note 5: Liabilities

Liabilities are recognised in the Statement of Financial Position when it is probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits will result from the settlement of a present obligation and the amount at which the settlement will take place can be measured reliably.

#### 5.1 Payables

All payments for goods and services received by the RTBG are made by DPIPWE and settled monthly between DPIPWE and the RTBG. Outstanding payables at the end of financial year are recognised in the RTBG financial statements at amortised cost. Payables comprises goods and services received but not yet invoiced.

|                                 | 2019          | 2018          |
|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
|                                 | \$            | \$            |
| Accrued expenses                | 33 014        | 50 369        |
| <b>Total</b>                    | <b>33 014</b> | <b>50 369</b> |
| <i>Settled within 12 months</i> | 33 014        | 50 369        |
| <b>Total</b>                    | <b>33 014</b> | <b>50 369</b> |

## 5.2 Employee benefits

Liabilities for salaries, wages and annual leave are recognised when an employee becomes entitled to receive a benefit. Other employee benefits are measured as the present value of the benefit as at 30 June 2019, where the impact of discounting is material, and the amount expected to be paid is not material. A liability for long service leave is recognised, and is measured as the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date.

Sick leave entitlements are not vested in employees and are not considered to give rise to a liability therefore no provision is made.

Superannuation contributions are made in accordance with the *Public Sector Superannuation Reform Act 2016* and are charged as expenses when incurred.

|   | 2019           | 2018           |
|---|----------------|----------------|
|   | \$             | \$             |
| Accrued salaries                                  | 21 483         | 20 284         |
| Annual leave                                      | 203 602        | 176 606        |
| Long service leave                                | 526 431        | 481 081        |
| <b>Total</b>                                      | <b>751 516</b> | <b>677 971</b> |
| <i>Expected to settle wholly within 12 months</i> | 195 016        | 185 250        |
| <i>Expected to settle wholly after 12 months</i>  | 556 500        | 492 721        |
| <b>Total</b>                                      | <b>751 516</b> | <b>677 971</b> |

## 5.3 Other liabilities

Other liabilities are recognised in the Statement of Financial Position when it is probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits will result from the settlement of a present obligation and the amount at which the settlement will take place can be measured reliably.

|                                 | 2019          | 2018           |
|---------------------------------|---------------|----------------|
|                                 | \$            | \$             |
| Revenue received in advance     | 20 442        | 54 710         |
| Other current liabilities       | ...           | 75 000         |
| <b>Total</b>                    | <b>20 442</b> | <b>129 710</b> |
| <i>Settled within 12 months</i> | 20 442        | 129 710        |
| <b>Total</b>                    | <b>20 442</b> | <b>129 710</b> |

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONT)

### Note 6: Commitments and contingencies

#### 6.1 Schedule of commitments

##### Grant commitments

These items have been included in the Statement of Comprehensive Income in the relevant years the grants were received. The grant monies are spent as specified in the appropriate grant deed, which may not be within the year the money is received.

Additional to the sanctioned Grant funding detailed below, the RTBG has sanctioned \$82 196 of bequest funds to be used for special purposes.

|   | 2019          | 2018          |
|---|---------------|---------------|
|   | \$            | \$            |
| MSB - ASBP Field Work   | 25 816        | 25 816        |
| Australian Orchard Foundation Tasmanian Orchid Conservation Project | 23 500        | 11 500        |
| Seedbank  | 9 400         | 9 400         |
| Orchid Conservation Project - Westland Nurseries                    | 5 021         | 7 291         |
| Natural Area Orchid Project   | 4 517         | 6 787         |
| Seed Orchard Project  | 1 322         | 1 322         |
| Bush Blitz  | 1 091         | 1 091         |
| Australian Orchard Foundation                                       | 1 088         | 1 088         |
| Chairman's Staff Development Fund                                   | ...           | 21 513        |
| Tasmanian Community Food Garden                                     | ...           | 6 054         |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>71 755</b> | <b>91 862</b> |

##### Operating Lease Commitments

The operating lease commitments includes two utility vehicles, two trucks and office equipment leases. All amounts are shown exclusive of GST. The RTBG currently has no other material commitments to disclose.

|  | 2019           | 2018          |
|--|----------------|---------------|
|  | \$             | \$            |
| Not later than 1 year                        | 33 667         | 22 202        |
| Later than 1 year but not later than 5 years | 106 119        | 34 788        |
| <b>Total</b>                                 | <b>139 786</b> | <b>56 990</b> |

#### 6.2 Contingent assets and liabilities

Contingent assets and liabilities are not recognised in the Statement of Financial Position due to uncertainty regarding the amount or timing of the underlying claim or obligation. The RTBG currently has no contingent assets or liabilities.

## Note 7: Reserves

### 7.1 Asset revaluation reserve

The asset revaluation reserve is used to record increments and decrements on the revaluation of non-current assets.

Net revaluation decreases are recognised in 'other comprehensive income' to the extent that a credit balance exists in the asset revaluation reserve in respect of the same class of asset. Otherwise, the net revaluation decreases are recognised immediately as other economic flows in the net result. The net revaluation decrease recognised in 'other comprehensive income' reduces the amount accumulated in equity under the asset revaluation reserve.

Net revaluation increases are recognised in 'other comprehensive income', and accumulated in equity under the asset revaluation reserve. However, the net revaluation increase is recognised in the net result to the extent that it reverses a net revaluation decrease in respect of the same class of asset previously recognised as an expense (other economic flows) in the net result.

Revaluation increases and decreases relating to individual assets in a class of assets are offset against one another in that class but are not offset in respect of assets in different classes. The asset revaluation reserve is not transferred to accumulated funds on de-recognition of the relevant asset.

| 2019                                      | \$                |
|---|-------------------|
| <b>Carrying value as at 1 July 2018</b>   | <b>14 591 782</b> |
| <i>Revaluation Increments/(Decrement)</i> |                   |
| Land                                      | 600 000           |
| Buildings                                 | 783 767           |
| Infrastructure                            | 291 457           |
| <b>Total</b>                              | <b>1 675 224</b>  |
| <br>                                      |                   |
| <b>Carrying value as at 30 June 2019</b>  | <b>16 267 006</b> |
| <br>                                      |                   |
| 2018                                      | \$                |
| <b>Carrying value as at 1 July 2017</b>   | <b>14 096 421</b> |
| <i>Revaluation Increments/(Decrement)</i> |                   |
| Land                                      | ...               |
| Buildings                                 | 93 528            |
| Infrastructure                            | 401 833           |
| <b>Total</b>                              | <b>495 361</b>    |
| <br>                                      |                   |
| <b>Carrying value as at 30 June 2018</b>  | <b>14 591 782</b> |

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONT)

## Note 8: Cash flow reconciliation

Cash means notes, coins, any deposits held at call with a bank or financial institution, being short term of three months or less and highly liquid.

### 8.1 Cash and deposits

|                     | 2019             | 2018           |
|---------------------|------------------|----------------|
|                     | \$               | \$             |
| Short term deposits | 1 212 102        | 364 420        |
| Cash at bank        | 134 270          | 167 680        |
| Cash on hand        | 3 300            | 3 300          |
| <b>Total</b>        | <b>1 349 672</b> | <b>535 400</b> |

### 8.2 Reconciliation of net result to net cash from operating activities

|   | 2019           | 2018            |
|---|----------------|-----------------|
|   | \$             | \$              |
| <b>Net result from transactions (net operating balance)</b>             | <b>713 213</b> | <b>(56 687)</b> |
| Receipts from non-operational capital funding - Revenue from Government | (1 000 000)    | (258 000)       |
| Depreciation  | 376 237        | 347 167         |
| (Increase) decrease in receivables                                      | (10 150)       | 3 457           |
| (Increase) decrease in inventories                                      | (3 500)        | 7 084           |
| (Increase) decrease in other non-financial assets                       | (2 630)        | (3 871)         |
| Increase (decrease) in payables   | (17 355)       | (34 118)        |
| Increase (decrease) in employee benefits                                | 73 545         | 37 568          |
| Increase (decrease) in other liabilities                                | (109 255)      | 68 429          |
| <b>Net cash from (used by) operating activities</b>                     | <b>20 105</b>  | <b>111 029</b>  |

## Note 9: Events occurring after the balance date

The Public Sector Union Wages Agreement 2018 was registered by the Tasmanian Industrial Commission on 19 August 2019. As part of the terms of this Agreement, RTBG employees covered by the Tasmanian State Service Award, are entitled to receive an increase of 2.1 per cent per annum effective from the pay period commencing on 13 December 2018. The RTBG is expecting to pay this retrospective increase in respect of the period from 13 December 2018 to 30 June 2019 by the 16 October 2019. The estimated amount of the payment is \$25 700.

There have been no other events subsequent to balance date, which would have a material effect on the RTBG Financial Statements as at 30 June 2019.

## Note 10: Financial Instruments

### 10.1 Risk management policies

The RTBG has exposure to the following risks from its use of financial instruments:

- credit risk;
- liquidity risk; and
- market risk.

The Director has overall responsibility for the establishment and oversight of the RTBG's risk management framework. Risk management policies are established to identify and analyse risks faced by the RTBG, to set appropriate risk limits and controls, and to monitor risks and adherence to limits.

### 10.2 Credit risk exposures

Credit risk is the financial loss to the RTBG if a customer or counterparty to a financial instrument fails to meet its contractual obligations. No changes have been made to credit risk policy and methods from the previous year.

| Financial Instruments | Accounting and strategic policies (including recognition criteria and measurement basis)  | Nature of underlying instrument (including significant terms and conditions affecting the amount, timing and certainty of cash flows) |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| Receivables           | All payments for goods and services supplied by the RTBG are received by DPIPWE and settled in a monthly elimination process between DPIPWE and the RTBG. The elimination process is on an accrual basis so RTBG has no outstanding debtors at the end of the financial year. | DPIPWE offers 30-day terms of trade.  |
| Cash and deposits     | RTBG cash and deposits are managed through investment in short term deposits to allow for the greatest return on funds and that they are available for operating activities as and when required.   | Cash means notes, coins, and deposits held at call.   |

There is no expected credit loss in relation to trade receivables due to the elimination basis described above. Historically there has been no credit loss in relation to RTBG receivables as all outstanding amounts debts have been recovered by RTBG debtors.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONT)

### 10.3 Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the RTBG will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. The RTBG's approach to managing liquidity is to ensure that it will always have sufficient liquidity to meet its liabilities when they fall due. No changes have been made to the liquidity risk policy and methods from the previous year.

| Financial Instruments | Accounting and strategic policies (including recognition criteria and measurement basis)   | Nature of underlying instrument (including significant terms and conditions affecting the amount, timing and certainty of cash flows) |
|-----------------------|--|---|
| Payables              | The RTBG liquidity risk is managed by the investment of cash and deposits in short term deposits to ensure funds are available to meet creditor terms. | The RTBG settles its accounts within 30-day terms of trade with the majority of its suppliers.  |

The following tables detail the undiscounted cash flows payable by the RTBG under remaining contractual maturity for its financial liabilities. It should be noted that as these are undiscounted, totals may not reconcile to the carrying amounts presented in the Statement of Financial Position.

| 2019                         |               | Maturity analysis for financial liabilities |            |            |            |                   |                    |                 |  |
|------------------------------|---------------|---|------------|------------|------------|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------|--|
|                              | 1 year        | 2 years                                     | 3 years    | 4 years    | 5 years    | More than 5 years | Undiscounted total | Carrying Amount |  |
| <b>Financial Liabilities</b> |               |   |            |            |            |                   |                    |                 |  |
| Payables                     | 33 014        | ...   | ...        | ...        | ...        | ...               | 33 014             | 33 014          |  |
| <b>Total</b>                 | <b>33 014</b> | <b>...</b>                                  | <b>...</b> | <b>...</b> | <b>...</b> | <b>...</b>        | <b>33 014</b>      | <b>33 014</b>   |  |
| 2018                         |               | Maturity analysis for financial liabilities |            |            |            |                   |                    |                 |  |
|                              | 1 year        | 2 years                                     | 3 years    | 4 years    | 5 years    | More than 5 years | Undiscounted total | Carrying Amount |  |
| <b>Financial Liabilities</b> |               |   |            |            |            |                   |                    |                 |  |
| Accrued Expenses             | 50 369        | ...   | ...        | ...        | ...        | ...               | 50 369             | 50 369          |  |
| <b>Total</b>                 | <b>50 369</b> | <b>...</b>                                  | <b>...</b> | <b>...</b> | <b>...</b> | <b>...</b>        | <b>50 369</b>      | <b>50 369</b>   |  |

#### 10.4 Market risk

Market risk is the risk that fair value of future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. The primary market risk that the RTBG is exposed to is interest rate risk. No changes have been made to the market risk policy and methods from the previous year.

The RTBG exposure to interest rate risk is considered to be low. Minimisation of this risk is achieved by the investment of cash and deposits in interest bearing accounts.

At the reporting date, the interest rate profile of the RTBG's interest bearing financial instruments was:

|                                  | 2019             | 2018           |
|----------------------------------|------------------|----------------|
|                                  | \$               | \$             |
| <b>Variable rate instruments</b> |                  |                |
| Assets                           |                  |                |
| Short term deposits              | 1 212 102        | 364 420        |
| Cash                             | 137 570          | 170 980        |
| <b>Total</b>                     | <b>1 349 672</b> | <b>535 400</b> |

Changes in the variable rates of 100 basis points at reporting date would have the following effect on the RTBG's profit or loss and equity:

#### Sensitivity analysis of the RTBG's exposure to possible changes in interest rates

|                            | Profit or Loss                       |                                      | Equity                               |                                      |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
|                            | 100 basis<br>point<br>increase<br>\$ | 100 basis<br>point<br>decrease<br>\$ | 100 basis<br>point<br>increase<br>\$ | 100 basis<br>point<br>decrease<br>\$ |
| <b>30 June 2019</b>        |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |
| Short term deposits & cash | 13 496                               | (13 496)                             | 13 496                               | (13 496)                             |
| <b>Net sensitivity</b>     | <b>13 496</b>                        | <b>(13 496)</b>                      | <b>13 496</b>                        | <b>(13 496)</b>                      |
| <b>30 June 2018</b>        |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |
| Short term deposits & cash | 5 354                                | (5 354)                              | 5 354                                | (5 354)                              |
| <b>Net sensitivity</b>     | <b>5 354</b>                         | <b>(5 354)</b>                       | <b>5 354</b>                         | <b>(5 354)</b>                       |

All financial assets are unsecured. The analysis assumes all other variables remain constant. The analysis was performed on the same basis in the 2017-18 year.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONT)

## 10.5 Categories of financial assets and liabilities

|  | 2019             |
|--|------------------|
| AASB 9 Carrying Amount                           | \$               |
| <b>Financial Assets</b>                          |                  |
| Cash and deposits                                | 1 349 672        |
| Receivables at amortised cost                    | 53 599           |
| <b>Total</b>                                     | <b>1 403 271</b> |
|  |                  |
| <b>Financial liabilities</b>                     |                  |
| Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost | 33 014           |
| <b>Total</b>                                     | <b>33 014</b>    |
|  |                  |
|  | 2018             |
| AASB 139 Carrying Amount                         | \$               |
| <b>Financial Assets</b>                          |                  |
| Cash and deposits                                | 535 400          |
| Receivables                                      | 43 449           |
| <b>Total</b>                                     | <b>578 849</b>   |
|  |                  |
| <b>Financial liabilities</b>                     |                  |
| Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost | 50 369           |
| <b>Total</b>                                     | <b>50 369</b>    |

## 10.6 Reclassification of financial assets

The RTBG has made no reclassification of financial assets during the 2018-19 year.

## 10.7 De-recognition of financial assets

The RTBG did not de-recognise any financial assets during the 2018-19 year.

## Note 11: Additional Information

The principal place of business for the RTBG is located at Queens Domain, Hobart, Tasmania.

## Note 12: Statement of Significant Accounting Policies

The following explains the significant accounting policies that have been adopted in the preparation of the financial statements of the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens ('RTBG').

### 12.1 Objectives and funding

The RTBG is a State Government statutory organisation, governed by the *Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens Act 2002* and is administered by the Department of Primary Industry, Parks, Water and the Environment (DPIPWE). The seven-member RTBG Board is appointed by, and reports to, the Minister for Heritage. The Board is responsible for managing, conserving and enhancing the RTBG in accordance with the Act.

The RTBG is Tasmania's only botanical gardens and is custodian of the state's botanical collections. In addition to responsibility for the management of Tasmania's botanical collections and associated functions, the Gardens is responsible for the development and delivery of horticultural and botanical based community education and learning programmes, the provision of visitor facilities and services, the development and delivery of innovative and engaging interpretation and information services, and the conservation and presentation of the significant built and cultural heritage of the site in accordance with the RTBG Strategic Master Plan 2009-2029.

An annual appropriation is received through DPIPWE accounting for 78 per cent of the RTBG revenue in 2019 (76 per cent in 2018), with the remaining funds being generated through RTBG programs and initiatives.

### 12.2 Basis of accounting

The Financial Statements are a general purpose financial report and have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens Act 2002*, Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) and the Treasurer's Instructions issued under the provisions of the *Financial Management and Audit Act 1990*.

The Financial Statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs modified by the revaluation of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities for which the fair value basis of accounting has been applied. The accounting policies are generally consistent with the previous year.

Compliance with the Australian Accounting Standards may not result in compliance with International Financial Reporting Standards, as the AAS include requirements and options available to not-for-profit organisations that are inconsistent with IFRS. RTBG is considered to be not-for-profit and has adopted some accounting policies under the AAS that do not comply with IFRS.

The Financial Statements have been prepared as a going concern. The continued existence of the RTBG in its present form, undertaking its current activities, is dependent on Government policy and on continuing appropriations by Parliament for the RTBG's administration and activities.

The following is a summary of the material accounting policies adopted by the RTBG in the preparation of the Financial Statements. The accounting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated.

### 12.3 Functional and presentation currency

These Financial Statements are presented in Australian dollars, which is the RTBG functional currency.

### 12.4 Changes in Accounting Policies

The RTBG has adopted all of the new and revised accounting standards and interpretations issued by the Accounting Standards Board that are relevant to its operations and are effective for the current annual reporting period.

#### (a) Impact of new and revised Accounting Standards

In the current year, the RTBG has adopted all of the new and revised Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board that are relevant to its operations and effective for the current annual reporting period. These include:

*AASB 7 Financial Instruments: Disclosures* - the objective of this Standard is to require entities to provide disclosures in their financial statements that enable users to evaluate the significance of financial instruments for the entity's financial position and performance; and the nature and extent of risks arising from financial instruments to which the entity is exposed during the period and at the end of the reporting period, and how the entity manages those risks.

*AASB 9 Financial Instruments* - the objective of this Standard is to establish principles for the financial reporting of financial assets and financial liabilities that will present relevant information to users of financial statements for their assessment of the amounts, timing, uncertainty of an entity's future cash flows, and to make amendments to various accounting standards as a consequence of the issuance of AASB 9. AASB 9 has replaced accounting for impairment losses with a forward looking expected credit loss approach. The RTBG has applied AASB 9 retrospectively and has not restated comparative information which was reported under AASB 139. There are no differences in the calculation of financial assets or liabilities arising from the adoption of AASB 9.

#### (b) Impact of new and revised Accounting Standards yet to be applied

The following applicable Standards have been issued by the AASB and are yet to be applied:

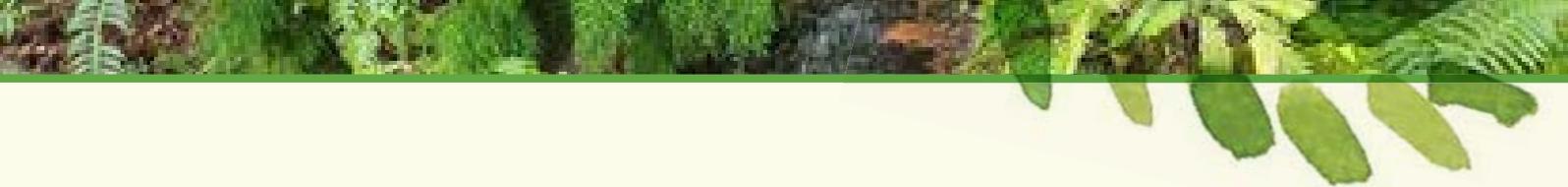
*AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers* – The objective of this Standard is to establish the principles that an entity shall apply to report useful information to users of financial statements about the nature, amount, timing, an uncertainty of revenue and cash flows arising from a contract with a customer. In accordance with 2015 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Effective Date of AAS 15*, this Standard applies to annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2019.

*2014-5 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 15* – The objective of this Standard is to make amendments to Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations arising from the issuance of *AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers*. This Standard applies when AASB 15 is applied, except that the amendments to AASB 9 (December 2009) and AASB 9 (December 2010) apply to annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2018. This Standard will be applied when AASB 15 is applied.

The RTBG has determined the impact of this standard will not materially impact the entity.

*AASB 16 Leases* – The objective of this Standard is to introduce a single lessee accounting model and require a lessee to recognise assets and liabilities. This Standard applies to annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2019. The standard will result in most of the RTBG's operating leases being brought onto the Statement of Financial Position and additional note disclosures. The calculation of the lease liability will take into account appropriate discount rates, assumptions about the lease term, and required lease payments. A corresponding right to use assets will be recognised, which will be amortised over the term of the lease. There are limited exceptions relating to low-value assets and short-term leases with a term at commencement of less than 12 months. Operating lease costs will no longer be shown. The Statement of Comprehensive Income impact of the leases will be through amortisation and interest charges. The RTBG's current operating lease costs is shown at note 6.1. In the Statement of Cash Flows lease payments will be shown as cash flows from financing activities instead of operating activities.

The majority of the operating leases (building and motor vehicle) will come onto the Statement of Financial Position. The financial impact will be material as the application of this standard will require the RTBG to recognise additional assets and liabilities of approximately \$127 000. Recognising depreciation on lease assets and interest on lease liabilities in the Statement of Comprehensive Income will not have a material impact on the Net Operating Result.



## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONT)

AASB 1058 *Income of Not for Profit Entities* - The objective of this Standard is to establish principles for not for profit entities that apply to transactions where the consideration to acquire an asset is significantly less than fair value principally to enable a not for profit entity to further its objectives, and the receipt of volunteer services. This Standard applies to annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2019. The impact is enhanced disclosure in relation to income of not for profit entities.

The impact of this standard is expected to have a minimal financial impact.

### 12.5 Comparative figures

Comparative figures have been adjusted to reflect any changes in accounting policy or the adoption of new standards. Where amounts have been reclassified within the Financial Statements, the comparative statements have been restated.

### 12.6 Taxation

The RTBG is exempt from all forms of taxation except fringe benefits tax and goods and services tax (GST).

Revenues and expenses are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the GST is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). Receivables and payables are stated exclusive of GST. The RTBG is grouped for GST purposes with DPIPW. The RTBG Business Activity Statement reporting is managed through DPIPW. As such, any amount recoverable or payable to the ATO is disclosed in the DPIPW Financial Statements.

In the Statement of Cash Flows, the GST component of cash flows arising from operating and investing activities that is recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is classified as an operating cash flow.

### 12.7 Judgments and assumptions

In the application of Australian Accounting Standards, the RTBG is required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making the judgements. Actual results may differ from these estimates. The estimates and assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period or in the period of revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods. Judgements made by the RTBG that have significant effects on the Financial Statements are disclosed in the relevant notes to the Financial Statements. This includes

Note 3.1 for Employee Benefits. The RTBG has made no assumptions concerning the future that may cause a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

### 12.8 Segment information

The entity operates principally in one industry segment being the management of all functions particular to the operations of a botanic gardens wholly within the State of Tasmania.

### 12.9 Economic dependency

The RTBG derives its revenue principally from Government funding.





## VISIT US:

Queens Domain, Hobart

[www.rtbg.tas.gov.au](http://www.rtbg.tas.gov.au)

 [Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens](#)

