



8 January 2018

Guy Barnett, Minister for Resources

Liberal Member for Lyons

## 57th Tasmanian Government Thousand Woodchopping Carnival

Tasmania has had a long history of competitive woodchopping, and the Liberal Government is continuing to support this traditional Tasmanian sport.

The Eric Reece Memorial event (the Thousand) is the richest woodchopping handicap event in Australia, and the Tasmanian Government provides funding of \$10,000 annually to the Tasmanian Axemen's Association for the event.

I would like to congratulate 17-year-old Tyson Rowe for winning this prestigious event, and it was my absolute pleasure to present Tyson with his award.

The Hodgman Liberal Government is a very strong supporter of the sport of woodchopping. This partnership builds upon the recent partnership between Sustainable Timber Tasmania (STT) and the Tasmanian Axemen's Association, which will see STT supplying chopping blocks for woodchopping events at shows and carnivals for the next five years.

The sponsorship agreement is valued at up to \$10,000 per year, and the secure supply of chopping blocks will help ensure these competitions featuring strength, stamina and technique continue to be a part of Tasmania's history.

We have also recently announced ongoing sponsorship for the Christmas Carnivals Series of \$200,000 per year for three years.

This year's Thousand featured 70 axemen, including several international and interstate axemen taking on the best Tasmania has to offer.

Axemen competed in a series of heats and semi-finals to determine the finalists, and Tyson took home a total of \$5000 prize money.

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