

media release

RSPCA Tasmania welcomes patronage by 'Australian of the Year 2010', Professor Patrick McGorry

Eminent psychiatrist, academic, researcher, clinician, and champion of youth mental health and the human rights of asylum seekers, Professor Pat McGorry, was last night named Australian of the Year 2010 by Prime Minister Kevin Rudd before a huge crowd in Canberra.



Professor McGorry is the elder brother of RSPCA Tasmania Director Suzanne Cass, and has agreed to become a patron of the Society's State branch.

'The Society indeed welcomes the involvement of the man who has won Australia's highest accolade', said RSPCA Tasmania President Dr Paul Swiatkowski. 'Professor McGorry's standing in the community is a reflection of his outstanding international success in Youth Mental Health, and his commitment to human rights evidenced by years of working with the most disadvantaged and marginalised in the community and beyond. He has spent his life defending the defenceless'.

RSPCA Tasmania Director Suzanne Cass was present at the ceremony in Canberra which honoured her brother, and enlisted his support immediately for the cause of animal welfare in Tasmania.



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'Obviously, my family is immensely proud of Pat, who has been an incredibly high achiever throughout his life', she said. 'Pat has a very busy year ahead of him, but I know we have his full support for all our initiatives. We have a lot in common in regard to defending those who cannot defend themselves'.

