

Roseworthy Campus Association Inc - ROCA

HONORARY LIFE MEMBER



Sir Allan Callaghan GCMG

Principal of Roseworthy Agricultural College 1932-1949

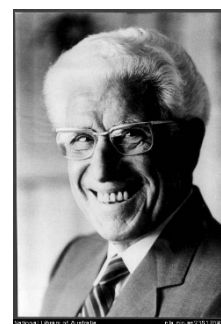
Inducted as ROCA Honorary Life Member - 1949

Sir Allan Callaghan was elected an Honorary Life Membership of the Roseworthy Old Collegians Association at the Association's 1949 Annual General Meeting.

Whilst there was no published citation when Sir Allan's Honorary Life Membership was awarded, it can be assumed the award was made for:

- Sustained support of the Association throughout the period he was Principal of Roseworthy Agricultural College.

Allan Callaghan was born at Perthville in New South Wales on 24 November 1903. Following education at Perthville and Bathurst High Schools, Callaghan secured a cadetship with the New South Wales Department of Agriculture and commenced studies at the University of Sydney, graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture (BScAgr) in 1925.



Selected for a Rhodes Scholarship in 1924, Allan Callaghan entered St. Johns College at Oxford, graduating with a Bachelor of Science in 1926 and obtaining a Doctor of Philosophy (DPhil) in 1928. He returned to Australia and fulfilled the terms of his cadetship as an assistant plant breeder at the Department's Research Stations at Cowra and Wagga Wagga.

In late 1931, at 28 years of age, Allan Callaghan was appointed Principal of Roseworthy Agricultural College. Taking up the position in mid-1932, he found the College in disarray. Allan Callaghan responded by raising entry standards, removed oppressive regulations relating to student behaviour, made judicious staff changes and revised the curriculum.

Commencing in 1942, Allan Callaghan chaired the Crown Lands Development Committee, with the responsibility of devising a scheme to resettle return service personnel on farms. Also in 1942, he was seconded to the Commonwealth Department of War Organisation of Industry (W.O.I.) as Assistant Director for Rural Industry.

Allan Callaghan returned to the College in early February 1944 and in 1945 was appointed Knight Grand Cross of the Order of St Michael and St George (GCMG) in recognition of his work as Principal of Roseworthy Agricultural College.

Appointed Director of Agriculture in 1949, Allan Callaghan established sound relations with the Waite Agricultural Research Institute and Commonwealth Scientific Industrial Research Organisation. In 1959, he took up a position with the Department of Trade as Commercial Counsellor at the Australian Embassy in Washington DC, and in October 1965 was appointed Chairman of the Australian Wheat Board. In 1972 Allan Callaghan was knighted in recognition of service to the rural industry and government.

Also the recipient of the Association's Award of Merit in 1966, Sir Allan Callaghan died in Adelaide on 18 July 1993.