

THE ROCA DIGEST

SPRING 2019

ROCA COMMITTEE REPORT



How time flies! Except if you're in an area of the country looking to the skies for more rain to sustain crops and/or pastures where the long, dry days drag on. Agricultural production really is a bag of mixed fortunes this year – thankfully there are some areas doing well across the country.

For those Roseworthy Old Collegians in areas around the country doing it tough in agriculture or related industries, our thoughts are with you. Don't forget to lean on your mates if you are doing it a bit tough.

Speaking of mates...the ROCA Committee is pleased to have finalized the details of this year's **ROCA Reunion Dinner and AGM** in Adelaide. Although everyone is welcome at this event on Friday 18th of October, the focus is especially on those who graduated 10, 25, 40 and 50 years ago from Roseworthy.

Please see the official invitation for details, and for year-group coordinator contacts for your cohort. Even if you are not one of the graduating anniversary groups, you are most welcome to attend. A word of warning: the RSVP date is strict, so please don't be caught snoozing!

This Spring ROCA Digest marks our inaugural digital-only edition. It is still possible to get a printed copy for a cost-covering fee. If you know of someone who missed this news in the last edition, please contact us at roca.committee@gmail.com or write to us at PO Box 503, Kent Town SA 5071.

Work is currently underway by the University of Adelaide and some keen volunteers to get a history book project off the ground to capture 135 years of Roseworthy Agricultural College and Campus. It's not a cheap exercise, but one that is most worthwhile when you consider the significant history of the institution. The History Book Committee is working on raising funds to cover the costs, so you may see a campaign hit the streets soon on this.

Interspersed in this edition of the Digest is the latest round of Roseworthy Graduate Profiles, thanks to funding from the University of Adelaide's Alumni department – we are pleased to showcase a few of our achievers from a range of demographics and agricultural industries.

The all new ROCA website is almost ready to roll out. It will contain stacks of archived items and resources related to Roseworthy, including The Student magazines and Roseworthy Graduate Lists. Thanks for the significant work that the University's Alumni Office has put into this project.

Please remember, if you're ever passing through the Clare Valley, drop in to O'Leary Walker Wines at Leasingham and support the winery that supports our ROCA wine fundraiser. You can taste their full range of excellent wines at the cellar door, and if you're lucky you might even run into some fellow Old Collegians, David O'Leary or Nick Walker.

Please enjoy this Spring edition of the ROCA Digest.

Fiona Hill
ROCA President



THE ROCA COMMITTEE
L-R Mark Rodda, Dick Turnbull,
Dale Manson, David Coyner,
Fiona Hill, Kate Forrest,
Melissa Rebeck, Andrew Dennis

ROCA GRADUATE PROFILE



CHESTER OSBORN

Bachelor of Applied Sciences in Oenology

Roseworthy Class of 1983



Meet Chester Osborn, Bachelor of Applied Sciences in Oenology, Class of 1983.

Chester is the Chief Winemaker and Viticulturist at d'Arenberg Cube, which he's been a part of since graduating from Roseworthy.

"Being a fourth-generation winemaker, it was in my blood and heart," he says.

Being born into the wine industry was Chester's biggest inspiration for attending Roseworthy. His father was on the accreditation committee in the late 1970s, and he helped turn the course into a degree.

"I do remember sitting on Len Evans' knee when I was around 7 years old and he asked what wine I was going to make when I grew up. My response was 'a yummy one', so I guess it was always my destiny from an early age!"

"Roseworthy is like no other," says Chester, "in the way that you get the hands-on experience you don't get elsewhere. Many aspects of agricultural work are covered at Roseworthy and the experience you gain from studying there is so valuable for all areas of agriculture. The continual friendship of people that I met at Roseworthy is one of my fondest memories; nearly 40 years on and we still share a close bond."

What does Chester love about the wine industry? Chester enjoys the whole process of taking grapes that have been looked after by farmers, developing the vineyards, and turning them into the best wine possible.

"The other side is selling wine to people who are interested in wine and have a passion for it. More recently, after building the d'Arenberg Cube, I love seeing people's eyes light up when they come and taste our wines."

ROSEWORTHY CAMPUS REPORT

FROM THE SAVS HEAD OF SCHOOL/DEAN OF CAMPUS

WORK BEGINS AT ROSEWORTHY CAMPUS SOLAR PANEL FARM

Site works began on 20th August at the Campus for a new solar panel farm that will supply over 40% of the campus' energy requirements. The 1.2 MW solar panel farm will be integrated with a 420kw/1200kWh battery and microgrid. The Solar and Energy Storage Project was one of 20 to receive funding through the State Government's \$150m Renewable Technology Fund, designed to encourage the deployment of next generation renewable energy technology in South Australia. The University received a \$778,500 grant for a hybrid battery storage solution, as part of the Roseworthy campus' overall \$7 million solar farm project.

The \$1.5 million hybrid battery storage system will demonstrate the hybrid battery's support to the South Australian electricity grid and assist the university to incorporate topics such as remote-energy management, energy storage and demand management into its teaching. The Solar and Energy Storage Project is expected to be operational by May 2020.



Vice-Chancellor Prof Peter Rathjen and Minister for Energy and Mining Mr Dan van Holst Pellekaan MP at the Turning of the Sod ceremony recently.

CAMPUS VISIT BY SON OF 1918/19 DUX MEDALLIST

Mr Dudley Preston, son of the late David Haynes Preston (1918-19), visited the Campus on 4th September with the medal his father received in 1919. Dudley enjoyed a cuppa and chat with College Principal, David Purdie, and photos were taken as shown below.



Front inscription:

*Awarded to
David Haynes Preston
for highest aggregate
marks in Diploma
subjects at College
1918-19*

Rear inscription:

*Agricultural
College Roseworthy.
Presented by Royal
Agricultural and
Horticultural Society
of South Australia
Incorporated.*

1999-2003 ROSEWORTHY & WAITE REUNION

On Saturday 3 August the University of Adelaide hosted the Roseworthy & Waite Reunion for the classes of 1999-2003 at the National Wine Centre.

We had a fantastic response with 154 in attendance, many who travelled from rural SA and interstate, making it the largest reunion to date from the University of Adelaide reunion program.

It was a great night of reminiscing with old friends and creating new memories. We had a great alumni turnout from both Roseworthy and Waite campuses covering degrees in agriculture, agricultural science, agricultural business, natural resource management/environmental management, agricultural production and horse husbandry management.



The event started with a Welcome to Country, followed by a passionate address from Vice-Chancellor Professor Peter Rathjen closing with a panel session moderated by Emily Jenke (B Ag Bus 1999), featuring Bianca Lewis (B Env Mgmt 1999), Haydn Kuchel (B Ag Sc (Hons) 2000) and Jordan Wilksch (B Ag Sc 2003). Throughout the evening guests were serenaded by musician Jake Nickolai.

The reunion was a huge success thanks to the support of the organising committee, Natalie Sommerville (Chair), David Coyner, Damien Sommerville, Jack England and Tristan Baldock. Pictures from the reunion can be found [online](#).

Next year, the University will be holding a Roseworthy & Waite reunion for the classes of 2004-2008. If you have any questions about the reunion or would like to be involved please contact Carolyn McLean, Alumni Relations Officer (Sciences) on carolyn.mclean@adelaide.edu.au. Stay tuned for more details!



REUNION COMMITTEE

L-R: David Coyner, Tristan Baldock, Natalie Sommerville, Damien Sommerville, Jack England

ROCA GRADUATE PROFILE



ANDREW FALTING

Bachelor of Agriculture

Roseworthy Class of 1996



Meet Andrew Falting, Bachelor of Agriculture, Class of 1996.

Since completing his degree at Roseworthy, Andrew has worked on his family farm, Tarree Pastoral. Working alongside him is his father Trevor, sister Karen and wife Sandy. The team drylands 5000 hectares a year of crops at Loxton in the Riverland, where most of the grain goes towards their 1000 sow piggery.

Andrew had been keen to work on his family farm upon leaving school, and he chose to study at Roseworthy to learn more about the technical and business side of running a farm business.

"This has come in handy as our business has continued to grow. We now employ 15 people."

Andrew loved playing footy for the Roseworthy club, the Pink Panthers. "We were still in the Adelaide plains league at the time and got thrashed most weeks, but it was a great bunch of guys and we always ensured we had a good time."

He mentions his least favourite memory of Roseworthy would be the early morning milkings at the Dairy when he was rostered for farm work.

What does Andrew love about agriculture?

"Great people, great scenery, and when you can see a long-term plan come together."

ROSEWORTHY CAMPUS TO FARM THE SUN

The University of Adelaide Roseworthy Campus will soon host a 1.2 Megawatt solar farm, with hybrid battery storage. The solar farm could be expanded in future to 1.3MW.

Of course, at its most basic level, farming IS all about harvesting the sun's energy... for food and fibre production, but this project is aimed at producing electrical energy.

The \$7 million investment will feature a mix of Tesla lithium ion batteries and vanadium flow batteries to store 1200 kWh of energy, connected to a purpose built microgrid. The system is expected to supply on average over 40% of the campus' overall electrical power needs, though at times, it will be able to operate independently of the main grid.

Work on the solar farm started in August and should be completed around May 2020. The location will be near where the old Poultry shed used to be; an area that has more recently been used to store museum items. The paddock has now been cleared in preparation for the solar panel installation, but once the project is completed, trees and shrubs will be re-planted around the site and sheep will be allowed to graze under the panels.

A promotional video of the sod turning ceremony can be seen here: <https://youtu.be/rHF4OX-otps>

The South Australian Government contributed close to \$800,000 towards the overall cost of the battery storage system, through its "Renewable Technology Fund".

The campus will benefit from lower power costs, and increased resilience of supply, while the University will use the state of the art solar and battery facility as a teaching and research aid. Topics covered will include remote energy management, energy storage technology, demand management, grid segregation, system resilience and cybersecurity.

Many universities in Australia are adopting renewable energy; especially solar, to reduce their costs and to demonstrate a commitment to new technology and emissions reduction.

For example, LaTrobe and Monash Universities in Victoria both plan to reach net zero emissions by 2030.

The University of Adelaide under its "Campus Sustainability Plan" aims to hit net Zero Emissions by 2050, in line with the State Government's "Carbon Neutral Adelaide Strategy". A key part of the University's plan includes a 15% reduction in energy use by 2020 (compared with 2014 figures), and the Roseworthy solar and battery installation is a major contributor to that goal. Other strategies to achieve carbon neutrality include reducing waste to landfill, making buildings more energy efficient and looking at a wide range of options to reduce energy consumption.

Alan Richardson



ROCA GRADUATE PROFILE



SAM PENTELOW
Bachelor of Agricultural Business
Class of 1995



Meet Sam Pentelow, Bachelor of Agriculture Business, Class of 1995.

Sam is the founder of Southern Graziers, a livestock enterprise that provides flexible lease or agistment solutions for retiring farmers and absentee landholders, with the option to manage existing livestock they may already have. This allows them to still own the farm, live on it and be a part of it, while not having to worry about the day-to-day jobs.

After leaving college, Sam worked on farms in the mid-north, for agricultural resellers as an agronomist in the south-east and Murraylands, before developing his own construction business Stone Ideas. The company restores heritage assets in South Australia and employs seven full time staff. Major projects included conservation of the Glenside Adelaide Film and Screen Facility, Mortlock Library on North Terrace, and St Peter's Cathedral in North Adelaide. Sam has also completed further study - a graduate certificate in management in the UniSA MBA program.

Sam was inspired to study at Roseworthy because it was the go-to education institution for agriculture in South Australia. His favourite memories of Roseworthy include the live-on campus connection, the continual development opportunities, and a great industry network.

What does Sam love about agriculture?

"The people; they're different in ag – much better and more real!"

ROSEWORTHY COLLEGE AND CAMPUS: A HISTORY

1883 TO 2018

The Roseworthy story began as an idea emanating from the Royal Agricultural and Horticultural Society to promote Agricultural Education and research in a time when Agriculture was the main industry in South Australia. Through an Act of Parliament the Roseworthy

Agricultural College was established in 1883 with the first Diploma Graduates in 1886, unique in Australia at this time.

Over the next century Roseworthy produced graduates who mostly found their place in applied Agriculture but also in a wide range of other occupations.

The University of Adelaide began its long association with Roseworthy as Agricultural Science undergraduates began to do some subjects and practical work on site and later spent up to a year at Roseworthy as part of their 4-year degree course.

In the 1970s Roseworthy became a College of Advanced Education with another major expansion of student numbers and courses. As the 1990s approached a formal amalgamation with the University of Adelaide occurred adding Roseworthy as its new campus. Students were now graduating with a degree in Applied Science in various fields but the long established Oenology course was relocated to the Waite Campus.

As the new century turned the corner a major reorganization occurred at Roseworthy with the campus concentrating on Animal Science and Doctor of Veterinary Medicine.



After 135 years it is timely to consider a professionally produced history of Roseworthy. A project of this magnitude needs considerable resources. A professional writer will take two years to produce the final draft.

To this purpose we have engaged South Australia's most qualified corporate and institutional historian, Rob Linn, author of over 50 commissioned histories, including of the Royal Adelaide Show.

I invite you as a distinguished graduate of Roseworthy to help us to raise funds to pay for the research and writing. The Roseworthy Campus has started the fund by contributing \$20,000.

Professor Wayne Hein
Dean of Roseworthy



Thrive Marketing and Communications is a
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INVITATION

121st ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING and 2019 REUNION DINNER

The President and Committee cordially invite you and your partner/guest to attend the 121st Annual General Meeting and 2019 Reunion Dinner of the Roseworthy Old Collegians Association Inc.

DATE: Friday 18th October, 2019
VENUE: Stamford Plaza Hotel, North Terrace, Adelaide
TIME: 6.30pm (sharp) Annual General Meeting
7.00pm Pre-dinner Informal Gathering
7.30pm Reunion Dinner
DRESS: Jacket & Tie or Smart Casual for gents. Smart Casual or Eveningwear for ladies
COST: \$85 per person
MEAL: Entrée; Main Course; Dessert; Tea & Coffee. (refer below for dietary needs) Drinks - cash bar.

GRADUATE GROUP COORDINATORS

- **50 Years** (1969) – Dick Turnbull (0437 755034 / randcturnbull@bigpond.com)
- **40 Years** (1979) – Ron Shattock (0427 932293 / farmers3@activ8.net.au)
- **25 Years** (1994) – Kym Thiel (0437 939 119 / kym.thiel@outlook.com)
- **10 Years** (2009) – Corbin Schuster (0429 939 582 / corbinschuster@msn.com)

General enquiries to Fiona Hill: 0438 864 498.

RSVP: Wednesday, 9th October, 2019. Bookings received after this date may not be accepted. Seating is limited.

Bookings & Payment:

- Via the website Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/roseworthy-old-collegians-2019-reunion-dinner-tickets-61084851435>
- Via electronic funds transfer (EFT) to ROCA Society Cheque Account BSB#105-009 A/c No 065 129 040 (include name in description);
- Via cheque or money order mailed to the address below. This return slip needs to be included in the envelope with payment.

Everybody paying by EFT must complete the return slip below, scan and e-mail to roca.committee@gmail.com without delay please, confirming name and other details.

Spouses, partners and guests are also extremely welcome to attend. ROCA has arranged special accommodation rates with the Stamford Plaza, to access these please contact your group coordinator or Fiona Hill for a booking code - limited number of rooms at these special rates.

TO: Treasurer – ROCA (if paying by cheque) or roca.committee@gmail.com (if paying via EFT)
PO Box 503, KENT TOWN SA 5071

Please reserve seat(s) for the ROCA Reunion Dinner on Friday 18th October 2019 at the Stamford Plaza Hotel.

Any special dietary needs:

Dinner booking(s) (**\$85 per person**): \$ Donation for ROCA Digest: \$ **TOTAL PAYMENT \$**



Please circle your method of payment: cheque | money order | EFT (BSB#105-009 A/c No 065 129 040)

I am part of the following Reunion Year Group: **50** | **40** | **25** | **10** (** Graduation year: The year of Graduation Ceremony)

My first Graduation Year** (if not one of those above) was or Please put me with the year people

NAME:

NAME of spouse/partner/guest:

ADDRESS:

TELEPHONE: EMAIL CONTACT:



Roseworthy Old Collegians

WINE ORDER FORM 2019

Please either E-mail this form to ROCA Committee Member, Mark Rodda: mark_rodda@bigpond.com or by phone 0417 414 123 or Post this form to ROCA at PO Box 503, Kent Town SA 5071.

WINE

QUANTITY

Roseworthy Old Collegians 2016 Clare Valley Shiraz

Full Dozen \$198 / box (\$16.50/bottle) carton/s

Half Dozen \$102 / box (\$17/bottle) carton/s

Value of wines purchased: \$

CONTACT DETAILS OF PERSON ORDERING THE WINE: Name:

Email: Phone Number:

DELIVERY METHOD

1. Australia POST (cost \$15 / dozen, \$10 / half dozen)

Total Postage cost: \$

(Posted monthly)

Postal delivery address:

..... Post Code

2. Where possible, a ROCA Committee member will attempt to deliver your wine within South Australia, or arrange collection from Adelaide. Please call Mark Rodda (0417 414 123) or Fiona Hill (0438 864 498) to discuss logistics.

PAYMENT METHOD (CIRCLE and complete)

1. Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) - Preferred method

Transfer money to: Roseworthy Old Collegians – Fund Raising Account (FRA)

BSB: 105146 Account number: 027009540

IMPORTANT: Kindly fill out the “receiver reference” on your bank transfer screen with:

wine & your surname so we know what the money is for and who it is from on our bank statement.

ALSO please E-mail Mark Rodda: mark_rodda@bigpond.com when you have completed the EFT

2. Cash / cheque – upon pick up or delivery by or to a ROCA Committee member

(Make cheques out to: Roseworthy Old Collegians Association - Wine Sales)