Roseworthy Campus Association Inc - ROCA

HONORARY LIFE MEMBER

George Jeffrey

Founder of woolclassing in Australia and instructor at RAC

Inducted as ROCA Honorary Life Member - 1921

George Jeffrey was elected an Honorary Life Member of the Roseworthy Old Collegians Association at the Association's 1921 Annual General Meeting.

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

- **The teaching of woolclassing at the College from 1899 to 1906;**
- **His contribution to the Australian wool industry, including through his founding of woolclassing in Australia.**

George Jeffrey was born in Scotland in 1863 and spent his life among wool from the time of his apprenticeship at Harwick.

After suggesting to the School of Mines that it include woolclassing in the curriculum, Jeffrey resigned from a position at the Onkaparinga Woollen Company to become wool instructor and lecturer at the School of Mines and also at Roseworthy Agricultural College.

In 1899, Jeffrey published "Australian Woolclassing," which became a standard work and in 1907, a "Practical Handbook on Sheep and Wool for the Farmer." He resigned from the School of Mines to become a partner in the woolbroking firm of Luxmoore, Dowling & Jeffrey, which subsequently amalgamated with Bagot, Shakes & Lewis. Ltd., with Jeffrey joint Managing Director.
Jeffrey then entered into partnership with Messrs. Lothrop, Bennett & Gillman, wool buyers and then following recovery from an accident, became the Australian superintendent for H. Dawson & Co. of Bradford. Jeffrey retired from active work in 1926 but continued as a consultant for the company.

During the WW 1 Jeffrey was a member of the Australian Wool Council, Chairman of the State Wool Committee, and the Technical Advisory Committee of Australia, the body preparing the basis of prices on which wool growers were paid in connection with the stabilisation scheme. Jeffrey became Chairman of Directors of the Onkaparinga Woollen Company, a member of the School of Mines Council, and the Advisory Board of Agriculture, and was also a director of New Guinea Gold Company and Guinea Airways.

Jeffrey was described as a man of unlimited energy and although not at any time robust, he never let up. In his younger days he never walked but always ran. Jeffrey died in Adelaide on 26 April 1942.