

Roseworthy Campus Association Inc - ROCA

HONORARY LIFE MEMBER



Professor Arthur Perkins OBE

Principal, Roseworthy Agricultural College 1904-1914

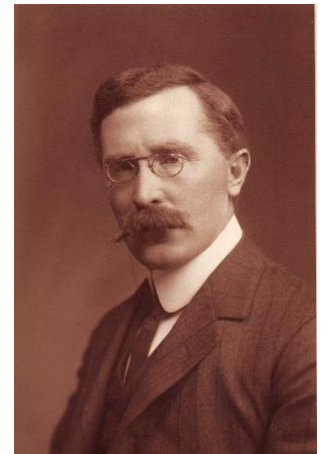
Inducted as ROCA Honorary Life Member - 1921

Professor Arthur Perkins, the fourth Principal of Roseworthy Agricultural College, 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 Professor Perkins' Honorary Life Membership was awarded, it can be assumed the award was made for:

- Leadership of the College as Principal from 1904 to 1914;
- Vice-President of the Association from 1898 to 1903, and in 1918 and 1920; and
- President of the Association from 1904 to 1912.

Professor Perkins was also Vice-Patron of the Association from 1923 to 1931.



Arthur Perkins was born in 1871 in Egypt and was educated at Tunis in England and at the Ecole Nationale d'Agriculture in France, where he had a special interest in viticulture. In 1892 after two years running properties in Tunisia, Prof. Perkins was appointed a member of South Australia's Central Agricultural Bureau and Government Viticulturalist, based at Roseworthy Agricultural College.

He taught viticulture, winemaking and fruit culture at the College, lectured on those subjects in the State's wine growing districts and established the College vineyards & winery in 1895. Prof. Perkins taught European viticultural methods and winemaking techniques, making a major contribution to Australian agriculture and devised the quarantine regulations to protect South Australia from phylloxera.

In 1902 Prof Perkins became Secretary for Agriculture and Editor of the South Australian Journal of Agriculture. In 1904 he was appointed Principal of Roseworthy Agriculture College. An Illustrated Address, presented to Prof. Perkins by staff and students of the College in 1910 on his return from Europe, North Africa and Asia stated: *"We are proud of to have a man of your scientific attainments & high character as Principal of the College ..."*

Professor Arthur Perkins resigned as Principal in 1914 to replace William Lowrie as South Australia's Director of Agriculture, a position he held until his retirement in 1936. He was appointed an Officer of the British Empire (OBE) in 1937 and passed away on 23 June 1944.