

Roseworthy Campus Association Inc - ROCA

HONORARY LIFE MEMBER



John Tassie Snr

Benefactor to Roseworthy and supporter of students

Inducted as ROCA Honorary Life Member - 1921

John Tassie Snr was elected an Honorary Life Membership of the Roseworthy Old Collegians Association at the Association's 1921 Annual General Meeting.

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

- **Funding with his wife Ester, the construction of the Tassie Memorial Library in memory of his son, John (RDA 1906), who during WWI was killed in action in France on 25 April 1918 at the age of 33 years.**
- **Numerous subsequent donations of books and journals to equip the Tassie Memorial Library.**



John Tassie Snr's son, also named John Tassie, was a student of Roseworthy Agricultural College from 1903 to 1905 and prior to enlistment in July 1916 was a farmer at Wirrega. He is buried in the Bonnay Communal Cemetery Extension, Picardie in France.

At the College Speech Day on 18 March 1921 John Tassie Snr presented the Library to the College and invited the Governor of South Australia, His Excellency Lieutenant Colonel Sir Archibald Weigall KCMG (also an Honorary Life Member of the Association), to open the building for the use of the students and staff of the Roseworthy Agricultural College.

In opening the Library the Governor presented £25 to the College to start a new collection of books, and Alexander James Murray (also an Honorary Life Member of the Association) contributed £10.

Vol. 21 No. 1 edition of The Student, published in November 1921, recorded:
"Quite recently the Principal arranged to import a consignment of books from England, and Mr. Tassie, who is at present in London, kindly undertook to arrange for the collection, packing, and dispatch. In due course a case of literature, valued at £60 or £70, reached the College. and by the same mail Mr. Tassie wrote to say that he had been thinking the matter over and had decided that he would make a present of these volumes to the Tassie Library, and was therefore not charging them up to the College. This is but one other instance of Mr. Tassie's generosity towards the College that was so much beloved by his lamented son."

John Tassie Snr died on 8 August 1934.