

# THE ROCA DIGEST

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SPRING 2025

Editor: Dale Manson

## LOOKING BACK – 1966



## LOOKING FORWARD

### JOIN ROCA OR UPDATE YOUR CONTACT DETAILS

Any Roseworthy graduate or final-year Roseworthy Campus student can join ROCA free of charge by clicking on the following link: <https://www.roseworthy-roca.com.au/join-roca/>

Existing members who would like to notify ROCA of a change in their contact details can also do this via the same link: <https://www.roseworthy-roca.com.au/join-roca/>

As a reminder to everyone, without a current valid email address, a ROCA member becomes completely uncontactable by ROCA. It is crucial that ROCA has everyone's current email address on record.

This is particularly important where a ROCA member has used their employment email address for contact, then retires or leaves that employer.

# NARACOORTE REUNION FOR 1983-1987 ROSEWORTHY GRADUATES

In March this year, ten graduates from 1983-1987 Roseworthy courses and their partners gathered for a reunion in the Naracoorte Hotel.

Looking at the photographs, it appears they all had a wild time, despite the severe drought conditions afflicting much of South Australia's South East region at the time.

A number of the Roseworthy graduates attending the reunion were actively involved in farming and agricultural support industries, with the event briefly giving them opportunity to reflect back on happier times during their student days.



Roger Modra (B.App.Sc. Ag 1988), Todd Woodard (Asoc.Dip.App.Sc. F.M. 1987, Assoc.Dip F.M. 1988), Anne Woodard, Graham Smith (B.App.Sc. Ag 1987), Chris Barker (Assoc.Dip. App.Sc. A.P. 1986), Peter Bird (B.App.Sc. Ag 1987), Mark Pridham (B.App.Sc. Ag 1987), Nick Barrar, Craig Hole (Assoc.Dip.App.Sc. A.P. 1987), Nick Smyth (B.App.Sc. Ag 1988).



Back Row: Chris Barker (Assoc.Dip. App.Sc. A.P. 1986), Craig Hole (Assoc.Dip.App.Sc. A.P. 1987), Graham Smith (B.App.Sc. Ag 1987), Nick Smyth (B.App.Sc. Ag 1988)  
Front Row: Phil Brown (B.App.Sc. Ag 1986), Andrew Bryson (Assoc.Dip.F.M. 1985)

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# FROM THE PRESIDENT



In the mid-April special edition of the Digest, under the heading State of the Association, I wrote about the two things that have been a constant focus throughout the Association's 127 years - **Money** and **Members**.

In relation to **Members** your current Committee has been planning and putting into place a number of initiatives to:

- connecting with 'lost members', members for which the Association has no email address;
- recruiting the graduates of the College and the Campus over the last 30 years, the vast majority who have not taken up membership of the Association; and
- ensure current graduates take up membership on graduation.

The proposed changes to the Association's Constitution, to be considered at the Annual General Meeting on Friday 17 October at the Feathers Hotel at Burnside, particularly the proposed change of name to Roseworthy Campus Association, is an important element of the **Members** focus.

The **Money** focus is being addressed by the launch in this edition of the Digest of the Target 100K Campaign.

Target 100K means, by way of donations, the Association's financial reserves are increased from the current \$35,000 to at least \$100,000 over the next three years.

The amount of at least \$100,000 will enable the generation of sufficient interest to cover a number of the Association's fixed annual costs.

In this Digest you will find the details of the Target 100K Campaign and the means by which donations can be made through the Association's new website.

Whilst your Committee has been giving considerable consideration to **Members** and **Money** it has been active in a number of other important areas.

Your Committee has met on 21 January, 18 March and 29 April, and with the assistance of the University now has the advantage of access to high quality video-conferencing facilities, enabling those Committee members attending remotely to fully participate in meetings.

## Future of Wine Offer

After carefully analysing the sales from the Wine Offer in recent years the decision was taken to cease the Offer, with any remaining stock to be auctioned at the Annual Dinner.

## How to contact ROCA:

E-mail: [roca.committee@gmail.com](mailto:roca.committee@gmail.com) Website: [www.roseworthy-roca.com.au](http://www.roseworthy-roca.com.au)  
Phone: 0419 208 102 (President Andrew Eastick) 0419 816 188 (Secretary Andrew Dennis)  
Mail: PO Box 503, Kent Town, SA 5071 AUSTRALIA

## FROM THE PRESIDENT (CONTINUED)

### **Website**

The Association's new website has been well received, and content is being progressively added to and improved. The development of the website included the adoption of a Style Guide for the Association, for the use in the production of future materials and publications. The writing and publication of citations for the Association's Honorary Life Members and for the Association's many Presidents over its past 127 years has required extensive research effort.

### **Facebook**

A Members Facebook page has been established in addition to the Association's Public Facebook page. Very regular postings on both pages are occurring.

### **History of Roseworthy**

Through Committee member and former Dean of the School of Animal and Veterinary Science, Professor Wayne Hein (RDA 1970), your Committee has come aware of a significant amount of funds held by the University for a project to write and publish a comprehensive History of Roseworthy.

The proposed history was to have been written a number of years ago, but the death of the proposed author caused the project to pause.

Your Committee is now giving consideration to taking up the project, noting that whilst the 150 year anniversary of the founding of Roseworthy Agricultural College is still some years away a comprehensive history will take time to prepare.

### **Introduction of Regular Newsletters in addition to the two Annual Digests**

Recognising the need for more regular contact with members your Committee will shortly initiate a regular eNewsletter.

### **Gramp Hardy Smith Memorial Prize / Old Students Cup**

Recent research of the history of the Old Students Cup and the Gramp Hardy Smith Memorial Prize, published in this Digest, has uncovered previously unknown changes that occurred to both over the past ten to fifteen years.

Consideration is being given to how the names of the recipients of both Prizes in their earlier form should be recorded, along with the names of the recipients of the new Old Students Cup which remains a Prize at the Roseworthy Campus.

The Gramp Hardy Smith Memorial Prize is now a Prize for oenology and viticulture graduates at the Waite Campus.

### **Nominations for the University's Distinguished Alumni Award, Alumni Fellow Award, the Association's Honorary Life Member and Award of Merit**

Your Committee has been actively considering and submitting nominations for the University's Distinguished Alumni Award and Alumni Fellow Award, and the Association's Honorary Life Member honour and the Award of Merit.

The criteria for the Award of Merit has been amended to ensure the graduates of the current and future courses offered at the Campus, will be eligible to be considered for the Award of Merit.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT (CONTINUED)

### **Engaging with the Roseworthy Veterinary Alumni Network**

Considering the proposed changes to the Association's Constitution, and particularly the change of name, your Committee has consulted with interested parties including the Roseworthy Veterinary Alumni Network.

As a result, your Association and the Roseworthy Veterinary Alumni Network are considering a range of initiatives that will bring about a close working relationship, leading to veterinary graduates being members of both, a profession specific alumni network and a location focused alumni network.

### **Picketing the Oval Initiative**

In considering a range of opportunities for raising funds for the Association your Committee found the University has an interest in installing pickets around the Campus oval.

Providing the opportunity for purchasing a picket and having the purchasers name attached to the picket has become a popular way for funding similar initiatives.

Your Committee is in discussion with the University about the opportunity for the initiative to be a joint venture.

### **Strengthening Association influence over the Roseworthy Campus and Student Fund**

Your Committee had noted the Rules for the management of the Roseworthy Campus and Student Fund, an initiative of the Association that was first mooted in 2001 and launched in 2006, and included a \$5,000 donation from the Association, whilst recognising the Association's initiative state that in the event the University proposed to alter the Rules consultation with be the Co-Patrons who were associated with the Fund up until 2016. Your Committee has put to the University and the University has agreed that consultation should be with the Association.

### **Introduction of Annual Budgeting**

Your Committee, conscious of the diminishing value of the Association's reserves, has introduced annual budgeting.

### **Privacy Policy**

Conscious of the modern approach to the privacy of members details your Committee has adopted a Privacy Policy for the Association, published on the Association's website at [www.roseworthy-roca.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/ROCA-Privacy-Policy.pdf](http://www.roseworthy-roca.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/ROCA-Privacy-Policy.pdf).

### **Time Capsule**

On Graduation Day in 1976, 23 February, a Time Capsule was lowered into the ground in a lawned area adjacent to the College Chapel. A plaque attached to a large stone placed over the top of the Time Capsule states: NOT TO BE OPENED BEFORE 23RD FEBRUARY 2026.

Your Committee is liaising with the University on the arrangements for raising and opening the Time Capsule. Current indications are that that will occur at a special event at the Campus on Saturday 17 October 2026, the day following the Association's 2026 Annual General Meeting and Annual Dinner.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT (CONTINUED)

### **Finalised Transition from Internal to External Alumni Network**

Your Committee has successfully completed all its responsibilities in transitioning the Association from an internal Alumni Network of the University to an external Alumni Network. The principal requirements were for the Association to obtain its own insurance cover (Public Liability and the Voluntary Workers Personal Accident), and establish separate hosting of the Association's website, an arrangement that whilst time consuming to put into place has had a number of benefits.

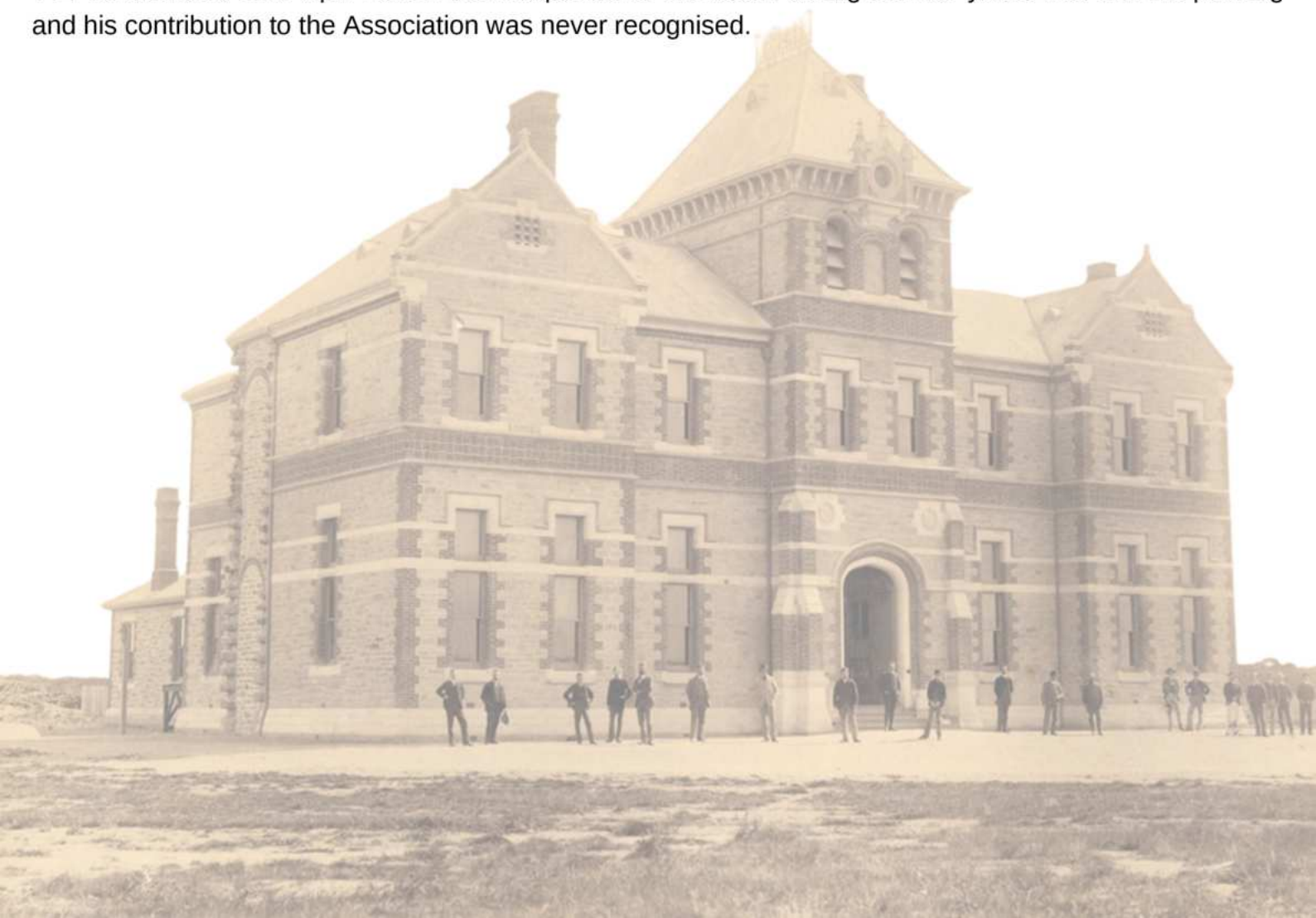
### **Consideration of Recognising the Founder of the Association in 1898 – T E Yelland**

Your Committee has been considering a means by which the previously unheralded founder the Association in 1898, T E Yelland (RDA 1891), should receive recognition. In addition to founding the Association T E Yelland was the Secretary and Treasurer of the Association from its commencement until 1906, continued as Treasurer until 1912 and in recognition of his founding role was elected the President of the Association in 1920, when the practice of the Principal of the College occupying the Presidents position ceased.

T E Yelland was employed by the South Australian Farmers Cooperative Union throughout his working life, rising to Secretary, and in 1931 was appointed as a Director.

T E Yelland was the Mayor of the Unley Council in 1915 and 1916 and served as an Alderman for many years thereafter.

T E Yelland died on 5 April 1943. A consequence of this death during the war years was that his passing and his contribution to the Association was never recognised.



# ROCA COMMITTEE

The 2024-2025 ROCA Committee represents a considerable range of Roseworthy and ROCA experience, with a diversity of insights to expertly manage our Association's affairs.



**President:**

Andrew Eastick (RDA 1976)



**Vice President:**

Bruce McCallum (RDA 1976, RDAT 1977)



**Immediate Past President:**

Dale Manson (RDA 1976, RDAT 1977, M.App.Sc. Ag 1998)



**Secretary:**

Andrew Dennis (B.App.Sc. Ag. 1987)



**Treasurer:**

Mark Egarr (B.App.Sc. Ag. 1989)



**Campus Director:**

Prof. Rob Woodgate (Head of School of Animal & Veterinary Sciences)



**ROCA Public Officer:**

Richard Turnbull (RDA 1969)

**Committee:**



Prof. Graham Hall (RDA 1974)



Prof. Wayne Hein (RDA 1970)



Ian Oliver (RDA 1957)



## ROCA Contact

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 Email: [roca.committee@gmail.com](mailto:roca.committee@gmail.com)  
 Phone: 0419 208 102 (President Andrew Eastick)  
 0419 816 188 (Secretary Andrew Dennis)  
 Web: [www.roseworthy-roca.com.au](http://www.roseworthy-roca.com.au)

Members Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/groups/1816673755819158](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1816673755819158)

Public Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/rocagrad](https://www.facebook.com/rocagrad)

## UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE BESTOWS HONOURS ON TWO ROSEWORTHY OLD COLLEGIANS

The University of Adelaide recently bestowed high level honours on two ROCA members, Peter Clark (RDA 1973) and Alan Richardson (RDA 1972, RDAT 1973).

Held in high esteem by all, Peter Clark was inducted as a recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award, one of the highest honours that can be bestowed by the University Alumni.

He is currently the Director of Monarto Safari Park and a vocal advocate for conservation. Peter's work over a 50-year period in both Australia and New Guinea earned him a UNESCO Achievement Award in 2021. He was also honoured by ROCA in 2023 for "Beneficial Impact and Influence on World Society and International Community Change".

Peter Clark has been extremely interested in nature over his lifetime, coming to a head as a student at Roseworthy Agricultural College where he started an insect collection as part of his course. Following graduation from Roseworthy in 1973, he took a role with the Australian Government in Papua New Guinea. It was here that Peter's love for wildlife and nature really blossomed.

In his 30 years working in Papua New Guinea, Peter Clark founded what was then the country's largest zoo and helped introduce environmental education into the primary school system. He also worked to establish business models such as crocodile and butterfly farming in order to alleviate the pressure on local farmers to engage in logging of the valuable tropical forests.

Upon his return to Australia, Peter Clark became the first curator at Monarto Safari Park, educating the general community in the values of conservation and also actively protecting endangered wildlife from extinction.

The other Roseworthy Old Collegian to be bestowed an honour by the University of Adelaide Alumni was Alan Richardson. A respected member of the South East community, Alan was inducted as an Alumni Fellow for his work for the Roseworthy Old Collegians Association (ROCA) between 1987 and 2018.

Alan Richardson maintained strong links with ROCA members in South Australia's South East and Western Victoria. He was instrumental in organising and supporting successful ROCA events locally in the South East as well as in Adelaide. Through his public profile as manager of the local ABC Radio station, Alan was able to highlight the achievements and activities of ROCA.

In 2012, Alan Richardson was proclaimed a "Rural Media Icon" by Rural Media SA and in 2013 he was bestowed with one of ROCA's highest honours, the "ROCA Award of Merit".

At the University of Adelaide function, both Alan and Peter were proudly supported by numerous members of their respective families.



# ROSEWORTHY OLD COLLEGIANS ASSOCIATION 125TH ANNIVERSARY 2008

## ROCA HONOURS PRESENTED FOR

### Outstanding Contribution to the Benefit of World Humanity

*In Roseworthy Agricultural College's 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year of 2008, Roseworthy Old Collegians Association honoured the five most outstanding living graduates who contributed to the benefit of World Humanity*

***David Lithgow Lewis OAM (RDA 1976; RDA 1977)***

***Anthony Francis John Petch (Grad.Cert.Agron.Farm.Sys. 1997)***

***Reverend Brian Trevor Polkinghorne (RDA 1970)***

***Paul Anthony Kevin Symonds (RDA 1973)***

***Richard Keep Turnbull (RDA 1969)***



***Left to right***

***(Back): Dean Polkinghorne on behalf of The Reverend Brian Polkinghorne, Vice-Chancellor and President Professor James McWha, Paul Symonds.***

***(Front): Anthony Petch, Richard Turnbull, Locky McLaren (ROCA President) and David Lewis.***

# ROSEWORTHY OLD COLLEGIANS ASSOCIATION 125TH ANNIVERSARY 2023

## ROCA HONOURS PRESENTED FOR

### **Beneficial Impact and Influence on World Society and International Community Change**

*In its 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year of 2023, Roseworthy Old Collegians Association honoured the three most influential living graduates who beneficially impacted and influenced world society and international community change*

**Peter Barnett Clark (RDA 1973)**

**Hon. John Sydney Dawkins AO (RDA 1968)**

**Dr Graham Frank Mitchell AO (RDA 1961)**



*Left to right*

***Governor of South Australia, Her Excellency, the Honourable Frances Adamson AC; Dr Graham Mitchell AO; Hon John Dawkins AO; ROCA President Dale Manson; Peter Clark***

# PROPOSED CHANGES TO CONSTITUTION – SURVEY RESULTS

In mid-April 2025 a special edition of the ROCA Digest, setting out proposed changes to the Association's Constitution to be recommended by the Committee to the 2025 Annual General Meeting on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October at the Feathers Hotel at Burnside, was emailed to each Association member for which the Association has an email address.

Members were provided with the opportunity to make use of an online survey tool to vote and comment on a number of major changes. The survey also measured awareness of the Association's new website and its enhanced presence on Facebook.

During the six weeks the survey was available 70 members took advantage of the opportunity to vote and comment.

The results of the survey will be carefully considered at the Association's Committee meetings on Tuesday 15 July and in September before the Committee finalises the changes to be recommended to the 2025 Annual General Meeting.

The results of the survey were:

## Q1 Do you approve of the change of name from Roseworthy Old Collegians Association to Roseworthy Campus Association?

|          |             |
|----------|-------------|
| Answered | 68          |
| Skipped  | 2           |
| Yes      | 42 (61.76%) |
| No       | 26 (38.24%) |

## Q2 Do you approve of the inclusion of the Preamble?

|          |             |
|----------|-------------|
| Answered | 64          |
| Skipped  | 6           |
| Yes      | 55 (85.94%) |
| No       | 9 (14.06%)  |

## Q3 Do you approve of the changes of the Objects and Purposes?

|          |             |
|----------|-------------|
| Answered | 67          |
| Skipped  | 3           |
| Yes      | 59 (88.06%) |
| No       | 8 (11.94%)  |

# PROPOSED CHANGES TO CONSTITUTION – SURVEY RESULTS (CONTINUED)

**Q4 Do you agree with the changes to Membership structure?**

|          |             |
|----------|-------------|
| Answered | 67          |
| Skipped  | 3           |
| Yes      | 60 (89.55%) |
| No       | 7 (10.45%)  |

**Q5 Do you agree with the deletion of the Executive clause?**

|          |             |
|----------|-------------|
| Answered | 63          |
| Skipped  | 7           |
| Yes      | 55 (87.30%) |
| No       | 8 (12.70%)  |

**Q6 Do you agree with the deletion of the Borrowing Powers clause?**

|          |             |
|----------|-------------|
| Answered | 66          |
| Skipped  | 4           |
| Yes      | 59 (89.39%) |
| No       | 7 (10.61%)  |

**Q7 Do you agree with the reduction in the size of the required quorum for General Meetings from 20 to 15?**

|          |             |
|----------|-------------|
| Answered | 68          |
| Skipped  | 2           |
| Yes      | 63 (92.65%) |
| No       | 5 (7.35%)   |

**Q8 Do you agree with Annual General Meetings having the option of, by Special Resolution, allowing the following year's Annual Financial Statement to be prepared by the Committee with the accuracy of the Statement being attested to by the President and the Treasurer?**

|          |             |
|----------|-------------|
| Answered | 66          |
| Skipped  | 4           |
| Yes      | 60 (90.91%) |
| No       | 6 (9.09%)   |

**Q9 Have you visited ROCA's website? – [www.roseworthy-roca.com.au](http://www.roseworthy-roca.com.au). If so, do you have any comments?**

|          |             |
|----------|-------------|
| Answered | 66          |
| Skipped  | 4           |
| Yes      | 28 (42.42%) |
| No       | 38 (57.58%) |

## PROPOSED CHANGES TO CONSTITUTION – SURVEY RESULTS (CONTINUED)

**Q10 If you are on Facebook have you visited and joined ROCA's Group page? – [www.facebook.com/groups/1816673755819](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1816673755819) 158. Do you have any comments?**

|                        |             |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Answered               | 68          |
| Skipped                | 2           |
| Yes                    | 21 (30.88%) |
| No                     | 35 (51.47%) |
| Other (please specify) | 12 (17.65%) |

**Q11 Do you have a comment on any matter?**

|          |             |
|----------|-------------|
| Answered | 65          |
| Skipped  | 5           |
| Yes      | 15 (23.08%) |
| No       | 50 (76.92%) |

Clearly the proposal to change the name from Roseworthy Old Collegians Association to Roseworthy Campus Association is of concern for a number of members.

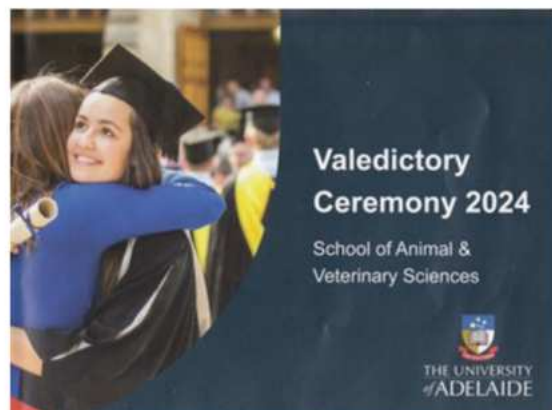
It is interesting to note that in the May 1987 edition of the ROCA Digest the then President, the late Hon Peter Lewis, in his "From The President" reflecting on the changes taking place at the then College of Advanced Education at that time, noted that few graduates were joining the Association, stating: I believe the Old Collegians Association has a profound image problem with the current student body and the very recent graduates - judging by remarks made to me by senior academic staff and some graduating students. We are seen to be conservative, reactionary, irrelevant and out of touch with the current role and future function of the College in the academic scheme of things.

Peter Lewis went on to indicate the steps the Association was undertaking or proposing to undertake to attract recent and current graduates to take up membership, before finishing with: One last point for consideration. Would a name change for the Organisation make any difference? What do you think?

Note that this was a question that Peter posed four years before the merger of the College with the University of Adelaide.

The Survey Results are also published, along with Comments made by members, on the Association's website at: <https://www.roseworthy-roca.com.au/committee/roca-constitution/>

# DOCTOR OF VETERINARY MEDICINE VALEDICTORY CEREMONY



At the University of Adelaide's Roseworthy Campus recently, ROCA was privileged to attend the formal Valedictory Ceremony for 54 brand new Veterinary Surgeons who endured six years of hard study to obtain their Doctor of Veterinary Medicine qualification. Since the veterinary course commenced at Roseworthy, around 600 fully qualified Veterinary Surgeons have graduated.

## Veterinary Oath

'I solemnly swear to practise veterinary science ethically and conscientiously for the benefit of animal welfare, animal and human health, users of veterinary services and the community.

I will endeavour to maintain my practice of veterinary science to current professional standards and will strive to improve my skills and knowledge through continuing professional development.

I acknowledge that along with the privilege of acceptance into the veterinary profession comes community and professional responsibility.

I will maintain these principles throughout my professional life'.



## Doctor of Veterinary Medicine Graduating Class of 2024

|                   |                     |                           |                      |
|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Emma Agardi       | Riley Economos      | Felix Langenbach          | Hinano Shikauchi     |
| Kobi Batson       | Andrea Edmondson    | Caitlin Lawless           | Marina Smith         |
| Madelaine Bing    | Max Fisher          | Alisha Macheh             | Charlotte Tam        |
| Nina Black        | Yan Yi Fung         | James Martin              | Marizaan Williams    |
| Jessica Carpenter | Alexis Giadresco    | Keely Martin              | Genevieve Williamson |
| Hoi Ching Chan    | Akira Glamcevski    | Saul Morelli              | Alexandra Wilson     |
| Kwun Wang Chan    | Katherine Hajicosta | Jaymee Neil               | Angus Winwood        |
| Xinyi Chen        | Freya Halstead      | Stephanie Oliphant        | Callum Woolley       |
| Tze Yi Chin       | Chloe Harbutt       | Samantha Poh              | Hoi Chun Yau         |
| King Yu Choi      | Vanessa Hocken      | Shona Prabhakaran         | Ky Lin Yeo           |
| Wing Sze Choi     | Ella Hodgen         | Ayla-Sophia Qualischefski |                      |
| Syin Yu Choong    | Kristen Holden      | Thomas Rowe               |                      |
| Jodie Cooke       | Mark Kernick        | Natasha Schreurs          |                      |
| Kiara Cotterrell  | Sophie Knight       | Divyansh Sharma           |                      |
| Anna Davidson     | Katrina Kovacs      |                           |                      |



# ROSEWORTHY STUDENTS' BRAVERY IN THE BOER WAR



***Alexander William Nicholas (RDA 1899) died in South Africa's Boer War bravely trying to save the life of fellow Roseworthy graduate, Frederick Joseph Tothill (RDA 1900)***

Little is known of the bravery displayed by Roseworthy Agricultural College's early graduates in the South African Boer War. However a marble plaque donated by ROCA stands affixed to the Roseworthy College Dining Room wall, honouring two Roseworthy graduates who went to the Boer War conflict in defence of the British Empire, but didn't return.

One of those names inscribed on the marble plaque is Alexander William Nicholas (RDA 1899), a brother to ROCA Secretary Andrew Dennis's Great Grandfather, Charles Albert Nicholas (RDA 1896). A third brother from the same family also attended Roseworthy Agricultural College at that time – Frank Parry Nicholas (RDA 1904).

Alexander Nicholas and his brothers were the sons of Mr. D. Nicholas of Lyndoch. Alexander entered Roseworthy Agricultural College with a scholarship in 1896 and after a successful course, was awarded the diploma in 1899. A silver medal was presented to him by Mr J. H. Angas for obtaining second place on the diploma list.

He was a member of the cricket and football teams of his period and when the call came from South Africa for all members of the British Empire to defend the nation in the Boer War conflict, "Nich" joined the South Australian Imperial Bushmen Contingent with his fellow Roseworthy pal, Frederick Joseph Tothill.

On 24th July 1900 at the Boer War engagement of Vrededorf which took place at Stinkhontboom soon after the force landed in South Africa, "Nich's" fellow Roseworthy pal Frederick Tothill fell mortally wounded. Alexander Nicholas rode to his help, but was also mortally shot by Boer forces when he reached his wounded Roseworthy friend.

All back at Roseworthy Agricultural College were filled with pride when they came to know of the bravery and unselfishness of their old student, Alexander Nicholas. However proud as they were, sincere sympathy went out to Alexander's home folk at Lyndoch. Roseworthy mourned the loss of a true student, friend, and hero.

The other Roseworthy Old Collegian to die in the Boer War conflict, Frederick Joseph Tothill was the only son of Mr. F. H. Tothill who was the National Bank manager at Gawler.

"Frank" as he was known during his College days won an entrance scholarship in February 1897 and gained his diploma in February, 1900. While at College, he proved himself a capital athlete.

On leaving Roseworthy Agricultural College, "Frank" joined the South Australian Bushmen's Corps for service in South Africa. He was mortally wounded in his first engagement at Vrededorf.

On leaving Roseworthy Agricultural College, "Frank" joined the South Australian Bushmen's Corps for service in South Africa. He was mortally wounded in his first engagement at Vrededorf.

He died a brave soldier's death and when the sad news reached Roseworthy Agricultural College, everyone mourned the loss of one who genial, yet possessed the manly qualities that endeared him to them all.

Both of the troopers were members of the renowned 'Fighting Fourth' Contingent.

# ROSEWORTHY STUDENTS' BRAVERY IN THE BOER WAR (CONTINUED)

At the unveiling of the Memorial Plaque in the Roseworthy Agricultural College Dining Room on 27<sup>th</sup> July 1903, it was explained that originally it was suggested to the Minister of Agriculture that a memorial tablet should be fixed at the College, but the Government did not entertain a request to defray the cost.

Feeling the duty to be imperative, the ROCA Committee of the day - Messrs. C.F. Heyne, H.E. Laffer, W.J. Dawkins, L.H. Muecke (treasurer), H.A. Parsons LLB, H.B. Robson, J. Wallace Sandford FCS and T.E. Yelland (secretary) decided to solicit subscriptions from old scholars and sympathetic friends for the purpose of honouring the fallen, to which they were met with a ready response.

The Memorial Plaque was officially unveiled by Colonel Rowell, under whom the two fallen troopers served. The Principal of the College, Professor Towar said a number of the members of the College had the courage to leave their homes and those dear to them in order to fight for their Queen and country on the fields of South Africa. These two brave young fellows had laid down their lives for the Empire.

The person who was to shortly take over the role of Roseworthy Principal from Professor Towar, viticulture lecturer Professor Arthur Perkins indicated he had been personally acquainted with the two fallen troopers for three years, finding them to be honest and manly. He firmly believed they were students who always commanded the respect and esteem of their comrades.

*(Factual information sourced from Roseworthy Agricultural College's "The Student" Magazine: Vol 01, Nos. 10-11, July 1901 and the "Adelaide Observer" newspaper- Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> July 1903.)*

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## ROSEWORTHY CAMPUS TO HOUSE FIRST-OF-ITS-KIND HYDROGEN PLANT

Roseworthy Campus will be the home of an innovative pilot plant designed to split water into its components of hydrogen and oxygen using photocatalytic water splitting (PWS) technology.

The innovation will be the production of green hydrogen directly from water and sunlight, without relying on electrolyzers or electricity grids.

This PWS technology sets the project apart from "conventional" approaches to the production of green hydrogen.

From an agricultural perspective, hydrogen plays a crucial role in urea production by serving as a key ingredient in the manufacture of ammonia, which is then used to produce urea. Urea contains four elements: carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen, and oxygen. Hydrogen combines with nitrogen to generate ammonia and with CO<sub>2</sub> to produce urea.

It has also been claimed that hydrogen injected directly into the soil can change the structure of microbial communities, ultimately increasing soil fertility by promoting community growth of beneficial microorganisms.

Australian billionaire Andrew 'Twiggy' Forrest's Fortescue is behind the initiative, in association with the University of Adelaide and SA based ASX-listed company, Sparc Technologies.

Sparc Technologies has also entered into a Collaboration Framework Agreement with Shinshu University in Japan, a leading developer of photocatalyst materials, targeting pilot testing.

## ROSEWORTHY CAMPUS TO HOUSE FIRST-OF-ITS-KIND HYDROGEN PLANT (CONTINUED)

A globally leading pilot plant for R&D and commercialisation will be constructed at Roseworthy Campus. This Australian innovation has the potential to make green hydrogen an even more competitive energy resource by decoupling its cost from the cost of green power.

PWS technology does not rely on renewable electricity sources like solar or wind farms, nor “expensive electrolyzers” to produce hydrogen from water.

Roseworthy Campus will see the incorporation of semi-continuous operating ‘on-sun’ concentrated solar mirrors in its pilot plant. The concentrated solar infrastructure is designed to be inherently flexible and scalable.

Fortescue is investing \$1.48 million in this stage of the project, giving it 36 per cent ownership of the joint venture alongside Sparc (36 per cent) and the University (28 per cent).

As a result of this initiative, South Australia could export green hydrogen internationally to power green steel production worldwide.

Site planning reports to gain the relevant local government approvals have been submitted to South Australia's Light Regional Council.

According to the commercial company behind the initiative, this project aims to demonstrate “key potential advantages over electrolysis”, including the low-cost potential of PWS, the emissions-free nature of the hydrogen output and its comparative advantage in off-grid and remote locations.

Pilot-plant construction completion is expected in mid-2025, and when built will allow the company to independently and concurrently test different reactor designs and photocatalyst materials.

Sparc Technologies is not aware of any similar facilities for testing and scale-up of photocatalytic water splitting under concentrated solar conditions worldwide.



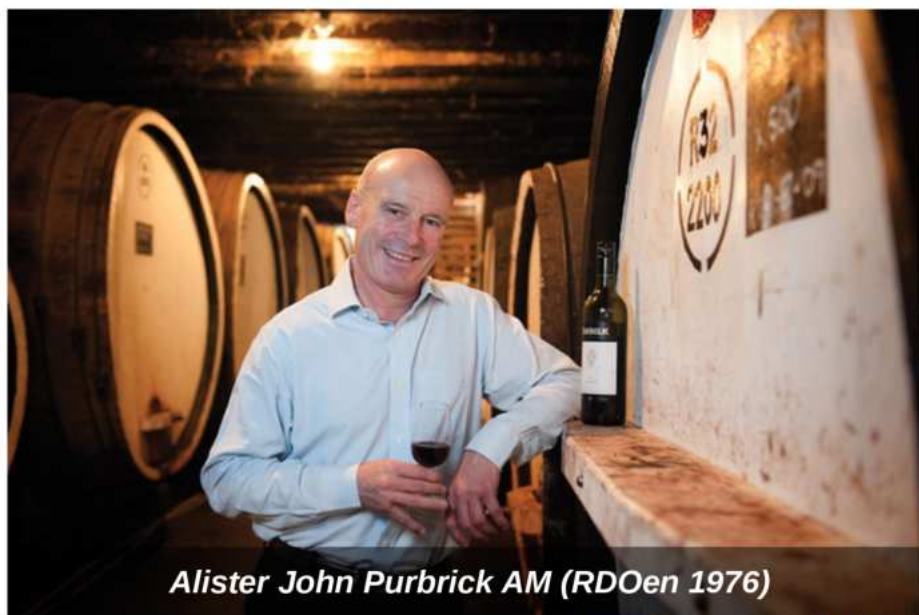
*A prototype of Sparc Technologies' green hydrogen plant.  
(Photo: Sparc Technologies).*

# 2025 AUSTRALIA DAY HONOURS

Three Roseworthy Old Collegians were honoured in the 2025 Australia Day Awards earlier this year.

They were Mr Alfred Neil Wilkinson OAM (RDA 1954), Mr David Edgar Shelmerdine AO (RDA 1974) and Mr Alister John Purbrick AM (RDOen 1976)

Between them, viticulture, agriculture, oenology, environment, business and community have benefited on national and international levels.



# TARGET 100K CAMPAIGN

As a result of internal and external influences, particularly the financial impact of the change of our Association from internal to external Alumni Network of the University of Adelaide, and a recognition of the progressive decline in the value of our Association's financial reserves over a number of decades, your Committee has been taking a close look at our Association's financial position.

As a result, your Committee believes our Association's current financial position is not as strong as it needs to be.

In the past our Association's financial reserves were able to accrue interest with sufficient spending power to cover some of our Association's fixed annual costs.

Our Association ceased charging a membership fee two decades ago and your Committee does not believe the re-introduction of a membership fee is the answer to meeting our Association's current and future financial requirements.

Your Committee has determined the answer lies with a vigorous three-year donations campaign, with a target of lifting our Association's financial reserves to at least \$100,000 by the end of 2028, that is, Target 100K.

Target 100K can be achieved by, for example, 300 members donating \$100 each year for three years.

Of course, any donation of any amount at any time will be gratefully received.

My initial \$100 donation was made today so please join with me in ensuring a strong future for our Association.

To Donate go to [www.roseworthy-roca.com.au/campaigns/roseworthy-old-collegians-association-target-100k-campaign](http://www.roseworthy-roca.com.au/campaigns/roseworthy-old-collegians-association-target-100k-campaign).

Unfortunately, the Australian Government's rules on the tax deductibility for donations to charitable organisations do not apply to our Association.



# HOW TO DONATE

To donate to the Target 100K Campaign please click on this link - [www.roseworthy-roca.com.au/campaigns/roseworthy-old-collegians-association-target-100k-campaign](http://www.roseworthy-roca.com.au/campaigns/roseworthy-old-collegians-association-target-100k-campaign).

## Step 1

Select from:

- \$300 Up front donation
- \$100/year for 3 years
- Custom amount (insert amount)

## Step 2

Click the **Donate** button

## Step 3

Enter your details:

**First Name (mandatory); Last Name (mandatory); Email (mandatory);** Address; City; State; Postcode; **Country (Australia is default);** Phone Number

## Step 4

If donating over three years select **1<sup>st</sup> installment**

**If donating over three years invoices will be send on the anniversary date in the second and third years.**

## Step 5

Select the donation method – **Credit Card** or **EFT** (Electronic Funds Transfer) **Payment**.

## Step 6

If donating by **Credit Card** you may wish to increase the amount donated to cover the cost of the transaction to the Association by selecting: **Yes, I want to cover the Credit Card processing fee of \$?.??.** (Amount will depend on amount donated.)

## Step 7

Click the **Donate** button.

## Step 8

If donating by **EFT Payment**:

1. Complete the verification test.
2. Follow the instructions on the page
  - a. Deposit amount to be donated into the Association's bank account using the provided Account Name, BSB, Account Number and Reference: [Surname] - [Donation Number (found at top of screen)].
  - b. Send email to [committee.roca@gmail.com](mailto:committee.roca@gmail.com) with Surname and the Donation Number (also found in your confirmation email along with your Transaction Receipt (see below).

If donating by **Credit Card**:

1. Enter your Credit Card details, select Country (Australia is default).
2. Click **Donate** button

**After making the donation a Transaction Receipt will be automatically emailed to the address provided. (If necessary, check Junk Email)**

**You also have the option of creating a record of each donation by Registering with a Username and Password of your choosing, useful if you are donating over the three years of the Campaign or may make further donations and wish to have a record.**



# MASSIVE NEW HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS FOR ROSEWORTHY TOWNSHIP AND PRECINCT

The 1,600 hectares of prime farming land that makes up Roseworthy Campus is key to researching a host of agricultural issues, educating students and demonstrating advanced farming techniques to the wider community.

In a recent development, the Roseworthy township area and adjacent precinct will become the focus of many following the passing of new South Australian Government legislation that will permit the opening up of parcels of land to developers by exempting them from S.A.'s legislated Environment and Food Protection Areas.

It is predicted that Roseworthy will one day become a larger township than Mount Gambier, with around 43,300 new homes in greenfield estates due to be built around Roseworthy and toward Two Wells.

What this means to the value and future retention of the 1,600 hectare Roseworthy Campus farm area is up for debate, particularly as the ownership of Roseworthy Campus will transition to the new Adelaide University. On 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026, the University of Adelaide and the University of South Australia will formally merge into a single entity called Adelaide University.

External to the Campus and into the Roseworthy township precinct, there are mixed feelings about the sacrifice of prime farming land for the siting of massive housing estates.

On the other side of the argument is delight at the prospect of job creation in addition to development of additional infrastructure such as shops, transport, health, business centres and education.

Although not a lobbying body or agri-political organisation, ROCA will continue to monitor the situation.



# ROCA MEMBERS HONoured BY THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

As a network within the University of Adelaide Alumni since 1991, the Roseworthy Old Collegians Association has had a number of its members honoured by the University through the bestowal of Distinguished Alumni Awards and appointment as Alumni Fellows.

Bestowal of Distinguished Alumni Awards recognises extraordinary contribution to the wider community by individuals, while appointment as Alumni Fellows recognises outstanding contribution to the University of Adelaide Alumni and its networks.

## **ROCA Members who have been honoured with Distinguished Alumni Awards**

### **1997: Mr John James Messenger (RDA 1957)**

In recognition of his distinguished service as an alumnus to the students, staff and graduates of the University and to the extended community through his Chairmanship of Unibooks.

### **2011: Dr Arthur Ray Beckwith OAM (RDA 1932, D Univ 2004)**

In recognition of his highly significant contribution to the field of Oenology and to the wine industry in Australia and internationally.

### **2014: Mr Philip Laffer AM (RDA 1961, RDOen 1963)**

In recognition of his outstanding leadership and contribution to the Global Wine Industry.

### **2017: Mr John Crosby AM (RDA 1971)**

In recognition of his advocacy for farmers and the Australian farming industry.

### **2024: Mr Peter Clark (RDA 1973)**

In recognition of his contribution to sustainable agricultural production in third world countries, conservation and environmental education.

## **ROCA Members who have been honoured as Alumni Fellows**

A/Prof Wayne Boardman (Roseworthy Staff)

Mr Kenneth (Wilf) Bowen OAM (RDA 1950)

Mr Martin Cochrane (RDA 1968)

Mr David Coyner (B.Ag. 2005)

Mr Ross Dawkins (RDA 1968)

Hon Henry (Peter) Dunn (RDA 1956)

Hon Dr Bruce Eastick AM (RDA 1947)

Mr Peter Fairbrother (RDA 1961, GradDip Ag 1981)

A/Prof Paul Grbin (GradDip Wine 1990)

Prof Simon Maddocks (Roseworthy Staff)

Mr Dale Manson (RDA 1976, RDAT 1977, Grad.Dip. Ed 1990, MAppSc Ag 1998)

Mr Alistair (Bardy) McFarlane (RDA 1972)

Mr Alan Richardson (RDA 1972, RDAT 1973)

Mr Mark Rodda (BAgBus 1996)

Dr Louisa Rose (B.App.Sc.WineSc 1993, Dr.Univ. Honoris Causa 2024)

Mr Mark Seeliger (RDA 1961)

Mr David Spencer (RDA 1971, RDAT 1972)

Mr Milton Spurling (Roseworthy Staff)

Mr Harry Stephen (RDA 1948)

Mr Raymond Taylor (RDA 1952)

Mr Richard Turnbull (RDA 1969)

## GRAMP HARDY SMITH MEMORIAL PRIZE

The Gramp Hardy Smith Memorial Plaque, attached to the inside front wall of the Roseworthy Agricultural College Dining Room, was subject to an annual Prize awarded to a Roseworthy student. For a considerable period the Prize, awarded annually to the student showing the "best all-round character and ability, taking into specific consideration his manliness, his leadership, his sportsmanship and his scholarship", was arguably the most prestigious award presented at the College.

The references to "manliness" and "gender" were subsequently removed to enable female students at Roseworthy to win the Award.

The origins of the Gramp-Hardy-Smith Memorial Prize, were recorded in the Vol. 36 No. 1 edition of the *The Student*, published in December 1940.

Under the auspices of the Winemakers' Association of S. A. Incorporated, the Gramp-Hardy-Smith Memorial Prize was founded to perpetuate the memory of L. H. Gramp, T. M. Hardy, and S.H. Smith, who lost their lives in the "Kyeema" air-liner disaster on 25th October 1938. In the presence of the widows of the three men who lost their lives and the large Speech Day gathering, the Premier (Hon. T. E. Playford) on 1st March 1940, unveiled, in the dining hall, an inscribed plaque recording the foundation of the prize.

The Funds make the Memorial prize worth approximately £10, and it is to be awarded annually to the student showing the best all round character and ability, taking into specific consideration qualities of scholarship, manliness, leadership and sportsmanship. Applications will be called for the prize towards the end of each scholastic year from the students in the final year of studies in either Agriculture or Oenology.

To make the appointment, the procedure as adopted for the first award last year will be the basis. A student preferential ballot is first held. Before the result of the ballot is known the candidates are carefully considered by a meeting of the Principal and Staff. After the relative qualifications of candidates have been well sifted and some order of priority arrived at on the basis of the four main qualities considered, namely scholarship, manliness, leadership and sportsmanship, the student ballot is opened and the results are made known to the Principal and Staff. A final decision is then reached by the latter in the light of their earlier deliberations and the disclosure of the result of the student votes. No announcement of the choices made until Speech Day, when the Principal will announce the prize winner during the Speech Day ceremonies.

The first recipient of the prize was Gordon Scott Brown, and in announcing this choice on Speech Day, after the Premier had unveiled Memorial Plaque, the Principal used these words:-



*"Following a long and protracted staff meeting, and a secret ballot of students, the first Gramp Hardy Smith Memorial Prize has been awarded to Student G. S. Brown.*

*"Student Brown has today taken his Diploma in Agriculture. He has consistently gained first position in his class for outdoor work. In this work he is shown resourcefulness, initiative, and sound ability. In sport he has excelled at cricket, and has been a regular member of the College tennis and football teams. What is more to the point, in all departments he has displayed true sportsmanship.*

*"He is a young man of impeccable character and one in whom we have implicit trust. We know that the prize, and what it stands for, will be worthily upheld by him.*

Student G S Brown, Gordon Scott Brown, born at Riverton on 7 January 1920, enlisted in the RAAF following graduation and with the rank of Flying Officer was killed in the crash of a Lancaster whilst conducting a bombing raid on a synthetic oil and benzol plant at Bottrop in Germany on 3 February 1945.

Brown, the Wireless Operator Air Gunner on the aircraft, is buried at the Reichswald Forest War Cemetery, Kleve, Nordrhein-Westfalen in Germany.

The attached photo taken during its time as a College Prize indicates its appearance and the shields surround the plaque which contained the names of past winners.

## GRAMP HARDY SMITH MEMORIAL PRIZE (CONTINUED)

In the late 1990s the Gramp Hardy Smith Memorial Prize moved to the Waite Campus and is now awarded annually to the "most outstanding graduating student in Bachelor of Viticulture & Oenology and Bachelor of Viticulture & Oenology Honors."

Interestingly this link, <https://set.adelaide.edu.au/agriculture-food-wine/ua/media/172/gramp-hardy-smith-memorial-prize.pdf>, relating to the Gramp Hardy Smith Memorial Prize now associated with viticulture and oenology, lists Prize winners going back to 1986, identifying a number of recipients who were graduates pre the merger with the University of Adelaide and were graduates of the then College applied agricultural and natural resource management courses.

The first non-Roseworthy graduates awarded the Gramp Hardy Smith Memorial Prize might have been Richard Glatz in 1999 or Suzanne McKay in 2000.

The Association Committee is currently considering how best to permanently record the names of the pre-1999/2000 Gramp Hardy Smith Memorial Prize winners at the Roseworthy Campus.

## VALE – OLD COLLEGIANS

It is with our sympathy and condolences to their families, colleagues and friends that ROCA notes the passing of the following members:

**BALLANTYNE, Guy Parkington (RDA 1958)**  
**BRECHIN, Peter Mack (RDA 1963)**  
**CHESTER, Stewart Jason (RDOen 1974)**  
**DAVOREN, Harold Thomas (RDOen 1955)**  
**EMERY, Peter James (RDA 1949)**  
**FLETCHER, Grant Bollen (RDA 1955)**  
**HEASLIP, Jeffrey Gordon (RDA 1954)**  
**HOLE, Craig Bartholomew (AssocDipAppSc Ag Prod 1987)**  
**JEFFERY, Robert Walter (RDA 1960)**  
**JOHN, Prof Ian David (RDA 1951)**  
**JOHNSTONE, Barry Rorke (RDA 1952)**  
**JONES, John Alan (RDA 1968, RDA 1969)**  
**LAMBELL, James Leighton (RDA 1959)**  
**LANG, Alan Roy (RDA 1950, RDD 1951)**  
**MEINK, Hans Hermann (RDA 1957)**  
**MILES, Kenneth George (RDA 1951)**

**MORRIS, Graham (RDA 1951)**  
**MUNN, Paul Raymond (Student in the early 1970s)**  
**NICKOLLS, Jock Develin (RDA 1968)**  
**PUCKRIDGE, Robert John (RDA 1957)**  
**RICE, Ian Mayo (RDA 1957)**  
**ROBINSON, Tim Kerslake (RDA 1958)**  
**SEPPELT, Gerhold Benno (RDA 1954)**  
**SHEARER, Christopher Kerry (RDA 1958)**  
**SMYTH, Allan Roger (RDA 1949)**  
**SNELL, John Spencer**  
**STORY, Donald Frank (RDA 1952)**  
**SYMES, Gregory Ian (RDA 1973, RDA 1974)**  
**THOMAS Christopher Andrew (RDA 1972)**  
**WILKINSON, John Irwin (RDA 1941)**  
**WOOLMER, George Randall (RDA 1956)**  
**YOUNG, Ian Leonard (RDA 1960) (ROCA Award of Merit 1998)**

*ROCA apologises if it has accidentally omitted someone who has passed during the period since the publication of our previous Digest. If you are aware of anyone, please contact ROCA.*

# 1975 "GOLDEN JUBILEE" 50-YEAR GRADUATES REUNITE AT ROSEWORTHY



**1975 Roseworthy "Golden Jubilee" 50-Year graduates:**

***From left: Trevor Bray, Bernie Hickin (Oenology), Bruce Mosey, Mick Flaherty (Reunion Organiser), Alan McMahon, Alf Rapisarda, Greg Sheehy (In Wheelchair) Bruce Pocock, Pete Piggott, Kym Heidenreich, Dave Smith and Neil Jericho (Oenology)***

In April 2025 a group of twenty former students and partners from the 50-Year "Golden Jubilee" 1975 Reunion Group held a gathering at Roseworthy Campus.

Met with perfect weather at the College and thanks to the organiser Mick Flaherty (RDA 1975), it was definitely a great day. Assisting Mick were the Head of Roseworthy Residential College David Purdie and ROCA's Dale Manson.

Greg Sheehy arrived in his wheelchair bright eyed thanks to his sister Marie and his niece Laura. He genuinely relished meeting former acquaintances and was honoured for his outstanding efforts as a student.

Greg was the Dux and Gold Medal recipient for his graduating year, but unfortunately when he went to Ireland following graduation in 1975 to work in the Thoroughbred horse industry, was involved in a terrible car accident.

As a student, his interest in photography resulted in a successful 1975 Student Magazine filled with his photos that captured the essence of College life in the 70s, setting a new standard.

It was a pleasure at the gathering to be joined by winemakers, Bernie Hickin (RDOen 1976) and Neil Jericho (ADipWineMark 1977). Both were warmly welcomed by the group and added an interesting perspective with their anecdotes.

After meeting and greeting in the Roseworthy College Main Building foyer, the group checked the Honour Roll and reflected on the lives of their Roseworthy peers who had passed away. These included Ronnie Howard, Rod Prance, Ian Leibich, Dave McDonald and Pat Tocaciu.

Amongst the reunion group, Pete Piggott hadn't changed much, nor had Trevor Bray. Bruce Pocock was his usual happy self and Dave Smith was busy as usual. Alan McMahon carried out his caring duties pushing Greg Sheehy about and Mick Flaherty ensured the show went smoothly.

Kim Heidenreich displayed his pleasant country boy persona and Rob Mugford remained regal at all times. Bruce Mosey added diversity and an easy-going vegetarian look. Alf Rapisarda held the floor a few times with his conversation focused on climate change and the usefulness of prickly pears as an alternative enterprise.

The Roseworthy crew hosted a tour of the group around the main College buildings, former dormitories and Campus Veterinary Studies facilities. The day was capped off with a barbecue lunch and all parted in good spirits.

## 1975 "GOLDEN JUBILEE" 50-YEAR GRADUATES REUNITE AT ROSEWORTHY (CONTINUED)

Alf Rapisarda arrived an hour early and did a solo tour of the grounds to come across the former Principal's home. In the seventies, the Principal's Residence grounds were a lush arboretum of native and exotic plantings, but all that remained was a tall hedge of the exotic fruit the jujube.

Jujube is a drought tolerant, but unpleasant fruiting hedge due to shocking six to nine centimetre thorns. Alf Rapisarda collected ripe fruit that most amongst the group hadn't tasted and it brought to Alf's mind an interesting anecdote that Jesus is reputed to have been crowned with a wreath of this extremely thorny plant.

Having had a successful day, the idea of a 50-Year College Reunion proved worthwhile. A big thank you is in order for David Purdie, Dale Manson, Mick Flaherty and Greg Sheehy.



*Freshly picked Jujube fruit from the RAC Principal's garden hedge*



*1975 Roseworthy Reunion Group with their partners and family members*

## HISTORIC ADS IN THE RAC PUBLICATION – “THE STUDENT”

ROCA and Roseworthy Agricultural College have been supported over the years by a wide range of individuals and companies through placement of advertisements in Roseworthy's annual "The Student" magazine.

These are a selection of the advertisements placed in support of ROCA and the Roseworthy student body.

Advertisements come from "The Student" in 1938, 1959, 1962 and 1966. Please enjoy looking back over a unique piece of Roseworthy history.

### PINK OR WHITE-CALL FOR STARWINE TONIGHT



No other wine has the delicate, tingling magic of Orlando Sparkling Starwine. No other wine gives you the choice of blushing pink or palest gold.

**ORLANDO**  
*Sparkling*  
**Starwine**

Sparkling Starwine (REGD. T.M.) is produced and bottled by G. Gramp & Sons Pty. Ltd.

**THE** *"Gardener"* **BOOT**  
for any outdoor job.



R. M. Williams designed the "Gardener" for the man who wears a work boot many hours daily and needs comfort and protection for his feet. This high quality hard wearing work boot fits neatly at the ankles and keeps out dirt and grass seeds. Uppers of chrome tanned water resistant oiled kip are attached to butt leather insoles. The two outer butt greenhide wax filled soles are secured by a double row of brass screw wire.

Available in wide or extra wide fittings. Colour: Dark Tan only.

**B585** The Gardener

**\$13.60** post free.

Buy the first pair and you will buy no other brand.

**WRITE TO:**

*R. M. Williams*

**5 PERCY STREET, PROSPECT, S.A.**

## KADLUNGA PERCHERON HORSES

PERCHERON HORSES ARE THE IDEAL TYPE FOR HEAVY WORK. THEY EXCEL IN STRENGTH, ACTIVITY, DOCILITY AND INTELLIGENCE. CROSSED WITH BLOOD MARES THEY PRODUCE EXCELLENT STATION HORSES.

The demand for pure stock from Kadlunga has always exceeded the supply. There is also a constant demand for Half-bred Percherons at excellent prices. Join those wise men who breed them.



## PASTORALISTS

**Put more substance in your Station  
Horses by using Percheron Sires.  
By doing so you will help yourselves  
and help to preserve the horse.**

**PURE-BRED COLTS FOR SALE  
ALEX. J. MELROSE, KADLUNGA  
MINTARO, SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

December 21, 1938.

THE STUDENT.

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"LET THIS SIGN BE YOUR GUIDE"

**START RIGHT**

BUY THE RIGHT MACHINE FIRST

**MOFFAT-VIRTUE****Ball Bearing  
Shearing Gear****First in the Field and Still the Leader!**

After years of research and exhaustive experiment, Moffat-Virtue first introduced the ball bearing headgear and full floating down tube, and to-day this combination is accepted as the World's finest shearing equipment.

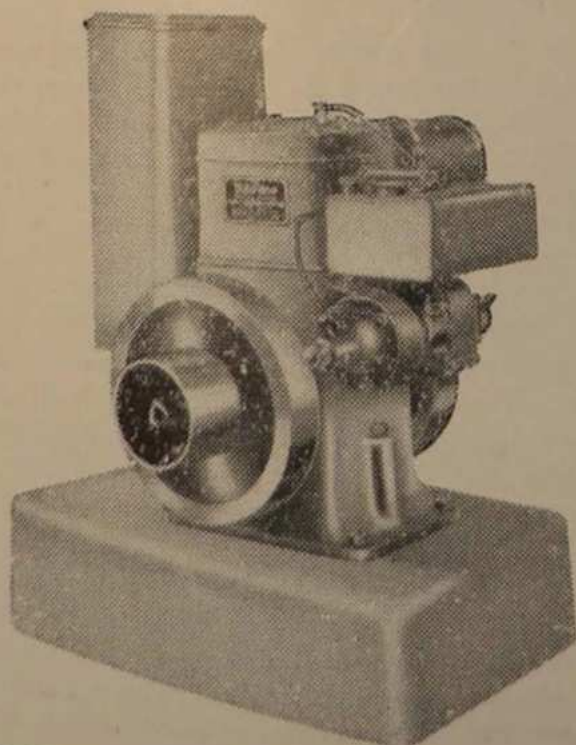
**"IT'S A TRIMMER"**

The Popular "Trimmer" Hand-piece will function sweetly under any conditions and has come through all tests with flying colours. 20% greater oil capacity. More comfortable grip. Coolest running ever made. Friction and vibration eliminated.



The New  
"TRIMMER"  
The Shearers'  
Choice.

Ask us for particulars of our trade-in allowance on your old handpieces. Drenching Guns, Lighting Plants, Pumps, Jetting Plants, Petrol and Diesel Engines, Flame Throwers.



**Portables – Semi Portables**  
Ball Bearing Friction Drive Electric Gear.

And here's the very engine to drive your plant!

Totally enclosed, built to serve you. Highest efficiency. Undoubted reliability. Reasonably priced.

From 2½ h.p. upwards.

*Expert Advice Free.*

Agents :

**Stockowners Co-operative  
Shearing Co., Ltd.**

Quelltaler House, Gilbert Place, Adelaide

Telephone : Cent. 1725

December 21, 1938.

THE STUDENT.

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# The Ideal Country Refrigerator

## The 1939 Model

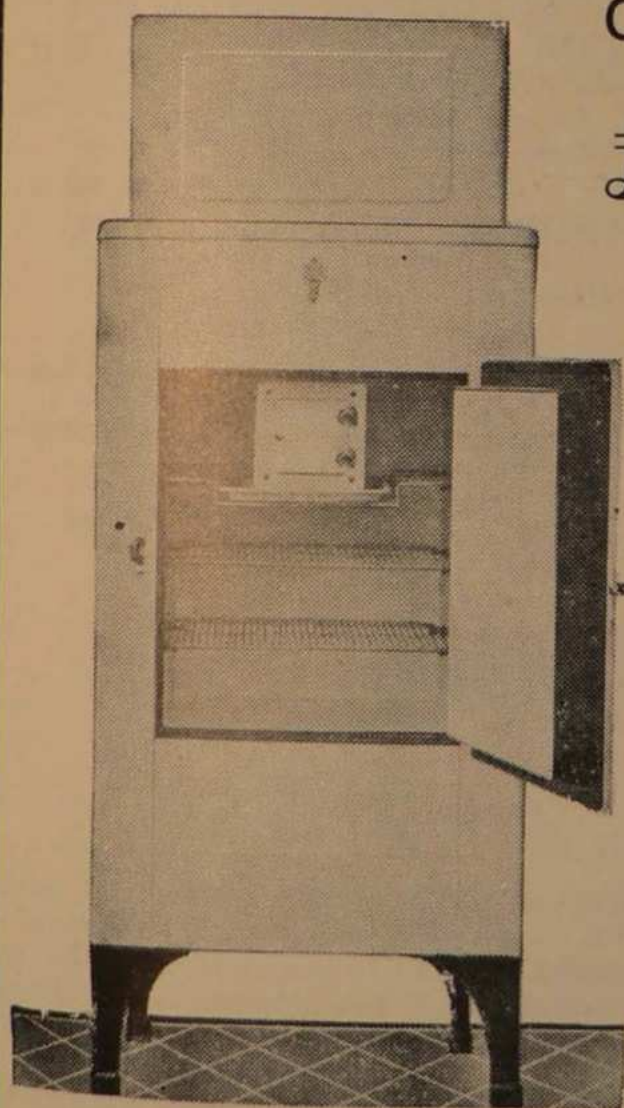
# WALLIS

## Kerosene Operated

### Cash Price

# £47/10/-

(Plus Tax)



The "Wallis" refrigerator has thicker insulation, and a Patented Evaporator Assembly with door fitted, which ensures continuous low temperature in the Freezing Chamber.

All that is necessary to operate the "Wallis" Non-Electric Refrigerator is to fill the container with kerosene and light the burners once every twenty-four hours.

The "Wallis" freezes generous size Ice Cubes, Ice Cream, and Desserts.

Since there are no moving parts, the Refrigerator does not require replacements.

Packed in Case for Transport (no extra charge).

Write for further particulars and terms, if required

**The Implement Co., 92-94 Grenfell St., Adelaide**

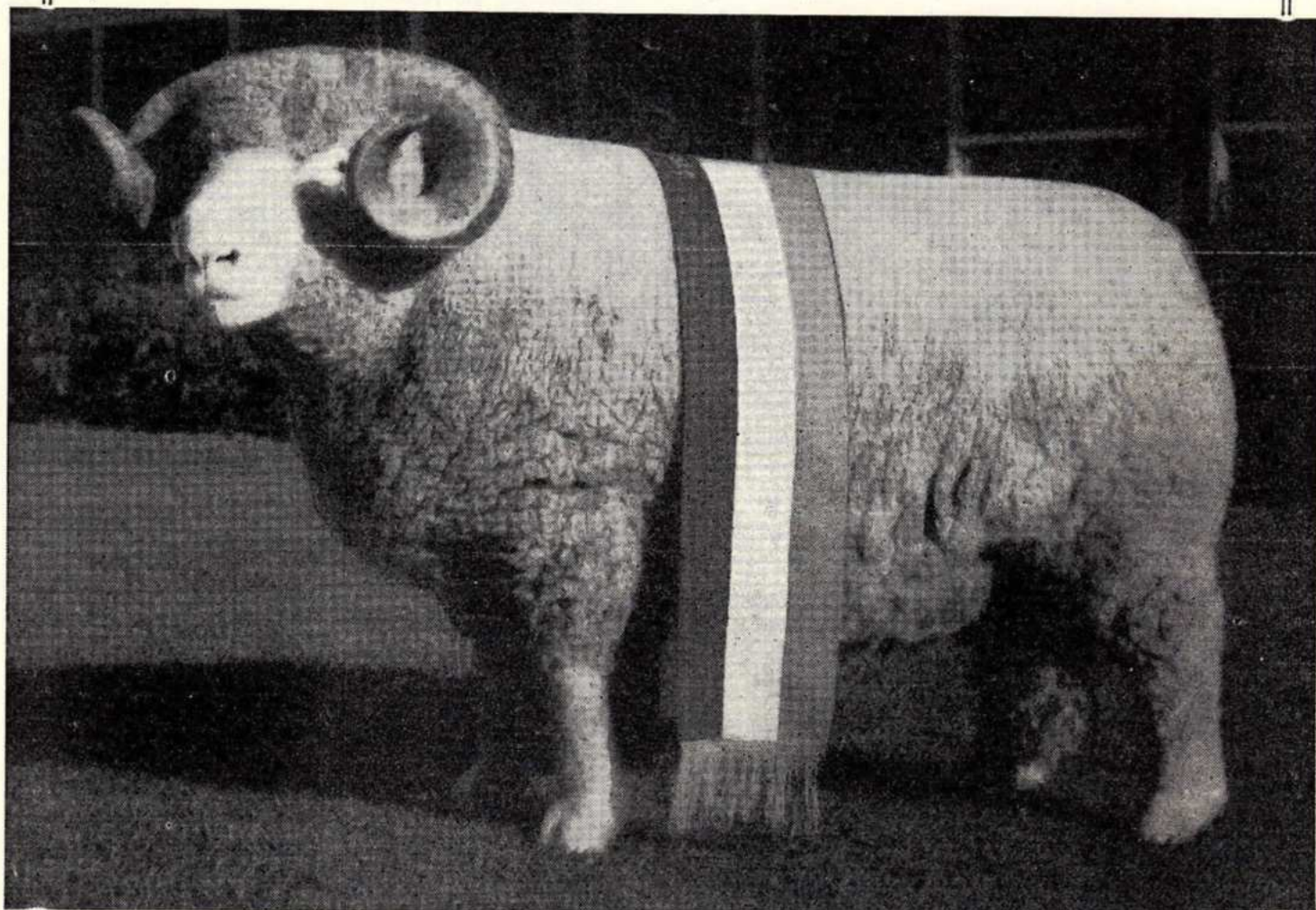
# NEWBOLD

*for Quality Stud Stock*

**Poll Shorthorn Herd**

**Dorset Horn, Flock No. 4**

**Poll Dorset, Flock No. 1**



Newbold 190/58, awarded 1959 Sydney Championship when only 10 months old.

During 1959 Newbold Dorsethorn Rams gained Championship Awards at Sydney and Adelaide Shows and Reserve Champion at Melbourne.

Newbold Poll Dorset Rams were Champion at Sydney, Adelaide and Melbourne.

A Newbold Poll Shorthorn Bull was awarded Junior Supreme Champion at Melbourne Royal.

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**W. J. DAWKINS, NEWBOLD LTD. — GAWLER RIVER, S.A.**

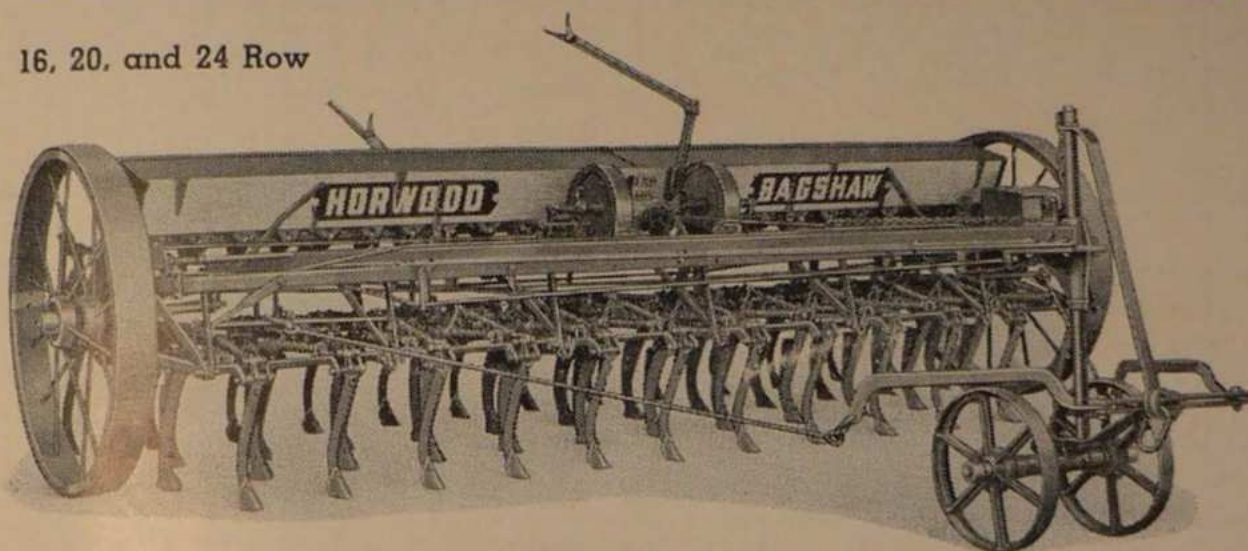
December 21, 1938.

THE STUDENT.

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## The Right Place to Plant Seed is on a Firm Flat Seed Bed—Not in loose, uneven moistureless soil

16, 20, and 24 Row

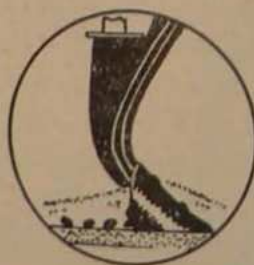


## **THE HORWOOD BAGSHAW** **S.J. RIGID TYNE COMBINE**

*plants under the share!*

### **PROVED!! 100% more grain**

The secret of the success of the rigid tyne is that the seed and super are planted right under the share, on a firm flat bed directly on the moisture holding fallow. Compare this with the spring tyne which plants the seed inches behind the share, in a furrow that has been half filled with loose mulch and which quickly dries out, leaving the grain at the mercy of moisture starvation and consequent deterioration in the crops productivity. This alone is sufficient reason why a Horwood Bagshaw rigid tyne combine should be on YOUR farm.



### **IMPROVEMENTS!**

**CENTRE ROW SOWING** (our tyne and boot sows at equal depth in hard or loose soil.)  
**OVERSIZE GRAIN AND SUPER BOX:** 25 per cent. increase in capacity, which means fewer stops and more acres per day.  
**DOUBLE FOOTBOARD PLATFORMS WITH STEP . . .** the upper platform providing for quick attachment of grass seed box.  
**GREATER CLEARANCE . . .** enabling cultivating work no other combine can handle.  
**LUBRICATION.** Grease gun system throughout.

**Horwood Bagshaw Ltd., 78 Currie St., Adelaide**

December 21, 1938.

THE STUDENT.

31

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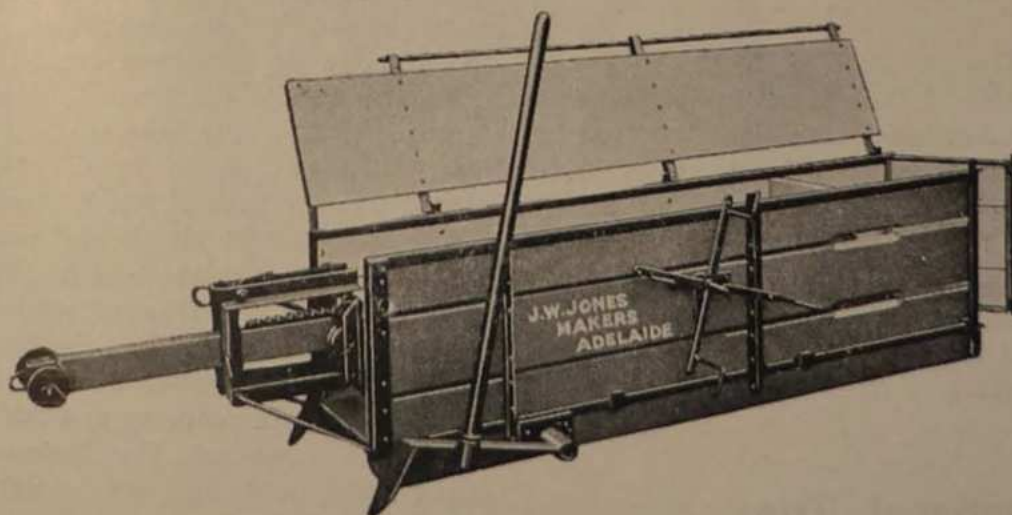
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**ADELAIDE**

## RAC "AGRICULTURE MINISTER KIDNAP" OPEN DAY STUNT

Looking back over the history of innovative activities by Roseworthy students to publicly promote the College or Campus, the most famous incident occurred back in 1975 when the student body was responsible for organising and conducting the annual Agricultural College Open Day.

The idea was to "kidnap" the S.A. Minister of Agriculture, Hon Brian Chatterton MLC from his office in the State Administration Centre building in Victoria Square and entice him to publicly milk a cow by hand at the entrance gates of Government House on North Terrace.

The students however, had "inside assistance" from Parliament House to ensure they wouldn't be arrested by the Police or Security Staff for terrorism and kidnap.

State Member for Light in the SA Parliament at the time, Hon Dr Bruce Eastick AM had a son Andrew enrolled as a student in the 1974 second year of Roseworthy's RDA course. By coincidence, Andrew is now the current President of ROCA, just over half a century after this promotional student stunt was staged.

Dr Eastick calmed the waters with Parliament House security, ensuring the SA Police were made aware of the impending raid on the Agriculture Minister's office by a group of marauding Roseworthy students. The Minister was also alerted that something mysterious, but interesting was going to occur to him during the day.

Back at Roseworthy Agricultural College, student Dale Manson hitched his brother's new horse float to his car and loaded up a College Jersey cow in full-milk, suitably tranquilised by a College veterinarian.

On arrival at the front gates of Government House on North Terrace adjacent to the Boer War Memorial, the media and police were eagerly waiting, as was the man-handled Minister, but not quite as eagerly.

The Jersey cow rugged up in a canvas horse blanket emblazoned with RAC Open Day messages was unloaded from the horse float and the Minister of Agriculture positioned on a bale of oaten hay to successfully squeeze out a bucket full of milk from the cow's udder.

Fellow Roseworthy student and local pig farmer, Ian Oswald Jacobs also brought a small piglet with him and handed it around to the good-natured Police to hold for photographs.

The stunt promoting Roseworthy College's upcoming Open Day was a roaring success, with front-page coverage and full public exposure in the next morning's Adelaide Advertiser. Needless to say, that Roseworthy Agricultural College Open Day attracted an enormous number of the general public to enjoy a well organised fair-like country style event.



**Roseworthy Agricultural College students surround the SA Minister of Agriculture, Hon Brian Chatterton MLC as he hand-milks a Roseworthy Jersey cow at the entrance gates of Government House on North Terrace"**

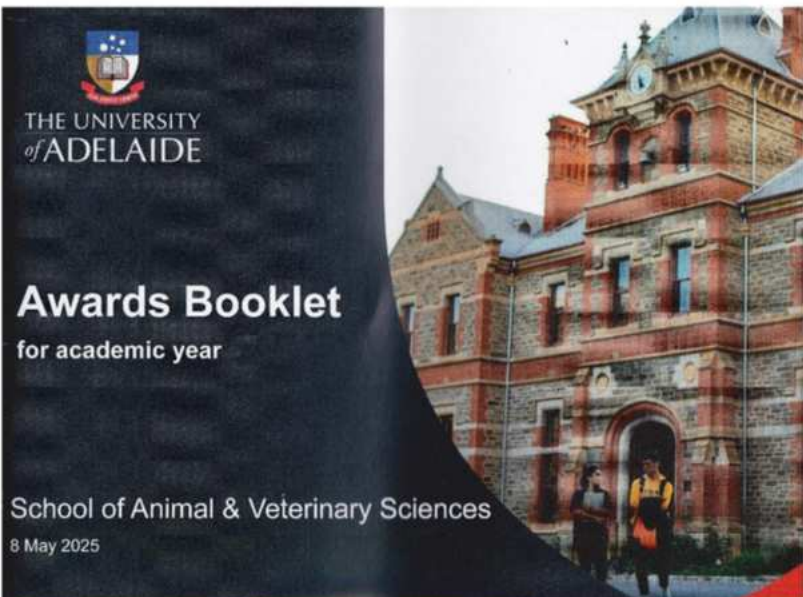
# ROCA PROVIDES ROSEWORTHY'S ACADEMIC STUDENT PRIZES

Each year, the Roseworthy Old Collegians Association provides seven Prizes and Awards for students studying at Roseworthy Campus.

Five of these are based purely on academic merit, being for the Dux or Gold Medallist of the graduating final year in each of the courses conducted at Roseworthy by the School of Animal and Veterinary Sciences.

This year it was a great privilege for ROCA to once again present these five prizes to the "best of the best". ROCA Immediate Past President Dale Manson performed this pleasant duty on behalf of ROCA President, Andrew Eastick who was unable to travel from W.A. for the ceremony.

During the Ceremony, Dale Manson was provided with opportunity to formally address the guests on the merits of ROCA membership for graduates.



THE UNIVERSITY of ADELAIDE

## Awards Booklet

for academic year

School of Animal & Veterinary Sciences  
8 May 2025

### Roseworthy Old Collegians Association (ROCA) Prizes




THE UNIVERSITY of ADELAIDE

Roseworthy Old Collegians Association (ROCA) is a University of Adelaide Alumni association focused on the Roseworthy Campus. ROCA was created in 1898 and has provided an on-going bond for thousands of people who have been associated with the Campus since Roseworthy was established as Australia's first agricultural college in 1883. ROCA boasts a membership of more than 2000 members. These prizes are supported by the Roseworthy Campus and Student Fund, which was established by ROCA in 2004.




# ROCA PROVIDES ROSEWORTHY'S ACADEMIC STUDENT PRIZES (CONTINUED)

## Roseworthy Old Collegians Association Prize in Animal Behaviour

**Criteria:** The prize is awarded to the most academically outstanding student completing a Bachelor of Science (Animal Behaviour) in 2024.

**Recipient:** Julia Robinson

## Roseworthy Old Collegians Association Prize in Animal Science

**Criteria:** The prize is awarded to the most academically outstanding student completing a Bachelor of Science (Animal Science) in 2024.

**Recipient:** Alex Rundle

## Roseworthy Old Collegians Association Prize in Veterinary Bioscience

**Criteria:** The prize is awarded to the most academically outstanding student completing a Bachelor of Science (Veterinary Bioscience) in 2024.

**Recipient:** Lucy Peters

## Roseworthy Old Collegians Association Prize in Veterinary Technology

**Criteria:** The prize is awarded to the most academically outstanding student completing a Bachelor of Science (Veterinary Technology) in 2024.

**Recipient:** Charlotte Hartell



## Hon Dr Bruce Eastick Prize in the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine

This prize was established as a result of a contribution to the University by the Roseworthy Campus and Student Fund in recognition of the Hon Dr Bruce Eastick AM, an outstanding contributor to the veterinary profession and supporter of the Roseworthy Old Collegians Association.

**Criteria:** The prize is awarded to the most academically outstanding student completing the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine in 2024.

**Recipient:** Marizaan Williams



# ROSEWORTHY CAMPUS MAIN BUILDING INKSTANDS UPDATE

From time to time the Digest has published articles about two silver inkstands, both featuring as a backdrop the façade of the Main Building at the Roseworthy Campus. These were presented by ROCA to two people in the early part of the 19th century.

The first inkstand presented was to Mrs Perkins, the wife of Professor Perkins on the occasion of Professor Perkins' retirement from the position of Principal of Roseworthy Agricultural College. That presentation occurred on 17 July 1914.

The second inkstand presented was the Alick J Murray, a significant supporter of Roseworthy Agricultural College for many decades until his death in 1929. That presentation was on 19 September 1919.

The inkstand in the possession of the University of Adelaide is the one that was presented to Mrs Perkins, established by the mark under the base of the inkstand - MEP for Mary Ethel Perkins, and the date - 17.7.14.

The manufacturer of the inkstand presented to Mrs Perkins and very likely the manufacturer of the inkstand presented later to Alick J Murray was an Adelaide firm, F. Basse & Co.

For the moment there is no information available about the location of the inkstand presented to Alick J Murray. If any member of ROCA has knowledge of or contact with known descendants of Alick J Murray, the Association would attempt to establish whether the inkstand remains with the family.

The following are two accounts of the occasions in 1914 and 1919 when the two inkstands were presented to Mrs Perkins and Mr Alick Murray.



**Stamped markings on the Silver Inkstand presented to Mrs Perkins**

# ROSEWORTHY CAMPUS MAIN BUILDING INKSTANDS UPDATE (CONTINUED)

## **Tribute to Mrs Perkins**

**From the Adelaide Mail, Saturday 25 July 1914, page 2**

The staff and students of the Roseworthy Agricultural College held their annual sports and dance on Friday, July 17..... Before supper the Minister of Agriculture (Hon. T. Pascoe) presented Professor Perkins, who is leaving the College after many years of active service to take up a more important position as Director of Agriculture, with an enlarged photo of the staff and students, also a handsome metal clock. The vol. 15 No. 1 edition of The Student described it as a dining room clock.

**Mrs. Perkins also received a beautiful gift in the shape of a silver inkstand, the back of which was a model of the college, showing every feature in detail. The Professor replied suitably, and the new Principal Mr. Colebatch was then introduced to the gathering...**

## **Tribute to Mr A.J. Murray**

**From the Adelaide Register, Saturday 20 September 1919, page 10**

The principal guest at the annual reunion dinner of the Roseworthy Old Collegians Association on Friday evening was Mr. Alick J. Murray of Mount Crawford. The President of the organisation and Principal of the College, Mr. W. J. Colebatch said there was no doubt regarding the obligation under which the College lay to Mr Murray...

**...The Chairman handed to the guest, to the accompaniment of three ringing cheers, a beautiful silver-mounted inkstand bearing a representation of the college in relief...**



**Silver Inkstand presented to Mrs Perkins and currently owned by the University of Adelaide. A similar Silver Inkstand was presented to Mr Alick J. Murray**

## LOUISA ROSE BESTOWED WITH AN HONORARY DOCTORATE

ROCA member, Louisa Rose (B.App.Sc. WineSc 1993) was awarded the honorary degree Doctor of the University (honoris causa) at a University of Adelaide ceremony last September.

Louisa Rose also delivered the graduation address to students at the ceremony, where she offered words of encouragement to the graduates, highlighting the important role they will play in shaping the future.

A renowned winemaker and recipient of the ROCA Award of Merit in 2021 and University of Adelaide Alumni Fellow in 2023, Louisa Rose is head of sustainability and brand ambassador at Hill Smith Family Estates.

The honorary doctorate bestowed by the University of Adelaide acknowledges her leading contributions to the wine industry and the University of Adelaide's Alumni Council.



**LtoR: University of Adelaide Chancellor, Hon Catherine Branson AC SC; Dr Louisa Rose; University of Adelaide Vice-Chancellor and President, Professor Peter Høj AC.**

Louisa Rose grew up in Melbourne and spent her weekends on the family vineyard in the Yarra Valley. She completed a Bachelor of Science degree majoring in physics at Melbourne University, then relocated to South Australia and the University of Adelaide's Roseworthy Campus to study winemaking where she was Dux of her graduating group.

She joined Yalumba in the Barossa Valley in 1992 and became the Hill-Smith Family Estates' head winemaker from 2006-2023. Louisa Rose has been a driving force in sustainability, natural yeast and bacteria to make wine, with the Estates' wines becoming vegan in 2012.

Louisa Rose has been recognised by her wine industry peers several times, including in 2014 when she was voted the best winemaker in Australia by 100 industry leaders.

She has been a director of the South Australian Wine Industry Association, in addition to chair of the Australian Wine Research Institute. and is a long-term member of the University of Adelaide's Alumni Council, having served as chair from 2014 to 2023.

*(Modified from an article appearing in Winetitles Media)*



# OPPORTUNITY TO ADVERTISE IN THE ROCA DIGEST OR BECOME A ROCA CORPORATE SUPPORTER

The ROCA Digest is now accepting advertising to ensure its continued publication and also assist future functioning of the Association.

The Association is also looking to bring on board two Corporate Supporters.

## **ROCA Digest advertising:**

To assist ROCA to function into the future, we are now accepting paid advertising in the ROCA Digest. This is not a new concept, as many years ago the ROCA Digest featured advertising, as did Roseworthy Agricultural College's own "The Student" Magazine.

Advertisers will need to provide ROCA with print-ready copy in pdf or jpeg format, suitable for ¼, ½, ¾ or full A-4 page ads.

The ROCA Digest is published twice per year, with the circulation of each issue having a direct email reach of almost 2,000 Old Collegians, plus a host of visitors to its post on the new ROCA website.

## **Corporate Supporters:**

In past years, ROCA enjoyed the backing of two Corporate Supporters who aligned with the Association's core ethos and in return received widespread public recognition of a close linkage with the Association.

ROCA is once again reaching out to its members with connections to corporate interests. We would love to align with several compatible corporate bodies in a relationship of mutual benefit.

## **Contact and Further Information:**

If anyone would like to assist ROCA by placing advertising in the ROCA Digest or by becoming a Corporate Supporter, please feel free to contact ROCA by email on: [roca.committee@gmail.com](mailto:roca.committee@gmail.com) or by phone to Immediate Past President and Digest Editor Dale Manson on: 0418 811 233.

## OLD STUDENTS CUP

The first Annual Meeting and Annual Dinner of the Roseworthy Old Collegians Association occurred on 9th September 1898.

The Minutes of the Association Committee Meeting on 28 January 1899 record:

- *"That a meeting be held in the Exchange Hotel on Friday evening March 3 (1899) to consider the desirability of offering a prize at the College examinations."*

The Minutes of the Committee meeting on 3 March 1899 record:

- *"That a prize be given at the annual diploma examination. That the prize be a Silver Cup valued at 5 guineas. That it be offered to third year students for agriculture, practical and theoretical, in all its branches."*

The Vol. 1 No. 9 edition of The Student, published in September 1900, reported on the annual presentation of prizes at the College on 23 February 1900:

- *"Third Year Dux and Gold Medalist:- J S Malpas  
Silver Cup (presented by the: Agricultural College Old Students' Association to the student obtaining highest marks in agriculture and veterinary science at the diploma examinations), H E Laffer."*

Laffer was subsequently employed at the college and played a prominent role in the affairs of the Association for many years.

And so commenced the Association's long-standing and continuing tradition of presenting the Old Students Cup.

The Minutes of the Association Committee meeting on 2 February 1935 record the College Principal, Dr Callaghan, put to the meeting that:

- *"The award of the Old Students Cup in the future be for proficiency in agriculture and animal husbandry."*

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Association on 2 March 1945 record:

- *"That after Dr Callaghan explained the system of award of the Cup he was asked to review the matter, and after discussion it was agreed the Association should purchase a good Cup and place it at the College. The annual recipient of the award should receive a medallion and record of his name and year should be inscribed on, or by, the Cup."*

## OLD STUDENTS CUP (CONTINUED)

The Minutes of the Association Committee meeting on 5 April 1945 record: The Principal submitted the following as a basis for awarding the Old Students Cup.

1. *That the Old Collegians Association purchase a suitable Cup to be let in a panel and placed in a permanent position in the Dining Room at College or in any other suitable public place at College eg the common room in the new accommodation block, and that the year and the winner's name be engraved on a medallion and placed in the panel.*
2. *That an annual prize in books of about £2-10-0 be made to give each student a memento of his achievement in winning the Cup.*
3. *That the Cup be awarded to the Diploma of Agriculture student gaining the highest aggregate of marks for all practical examinations in 'animal husbandry' and 'agriculture' in his final examinations, including 'animal judging'.*

The Minutes of the Association Committee meeting on 31 March 1949 records: *A report prepared by a sub-committee appointed by Dr Callaghan was read and discussed. It was pointed out that under the current system, the (Old Students) Cup invariably went to the Gold Medallist. Various alternative systems had been suggested, but none had proved successful. Finally, the sub-committee had recommended that the only means by which the Old Students Cup could be divorced from the Gold Medal was to award the former to the student second in the aggregate in the Diploma class.*

This was reported to the Annual General Meeting on 10 September 1949 where: *several members voiced their opinion, either for or against the suggested change. Despite a certain amount of disapproval to the proposed change the suggestion was adopted.*

Prior to obtaining his veterinary qualifications at the University of Sydney, Bruce Eastick graduated with a Diploma in Agriculture in 1947, with a Second Aggregate Prize presented by the College.

Being pre-1949, the Old Students Cup that year was awarded to C H S (Scott) Dolling, who went on to have an outstanding research and administration career in sheep breeding and genetics, however, Dolling was not the Gold Medalist that year.

The Minutes of the Association indicate the Association continued to present the Old Students Cup until 2012, to the second aggregate graduating student in the Bachelor of Agriculture.

In 2013, when the Association became aware the Old Students Cup would not continue in its previous form, David Spencer, then President of the Association, with the financial support of his 1971 graduation colleagues, established a new Old Students Cup, now awarded annually to the Roseworthy (Residential) College student in their final year *who has made the most significant positive contribution to College culture and College life, including in areas such as College sport, social events, student support and wellbeing, and student mentoring.*

The presentation of the new Old Students Cup is now accompanied by a \$1,000 Prize, sourced, at the recommendation of the Association, from the interest earned from the Roseworthy Campus and Student Fund.

# ROCA'S NEW FACEBOOK PAGE AND WEBSITE

Don't forget that the Roseworthy Old Collegians Association now has a Group Facebook page in addition to its Public Facebook page, established a number of years ago.

The Group page is at [www.facebook.com/groups/1816673755819158](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1816673755819158).

The Public page is at [www.facebook.com/rocagrad](https://www.facebook.com/rocagrad).

To join the Group page, available to all Roseworthy graduates (not just ROCA Members), two questions will need to be answered - the year of graduation and the qualification.

The Group page provides the opportunity for the members of the page to post and comment on posts.

ROCA is also excited about its brand new website: [www.roseworthy-roca.com.au](http://www.roseworthy-roca.com.au).

Considerable effort has gone into ensuring the accuracy of the content on the website.

For example, citations for all ROCA Honorary Life Members, Award of Merit recipients and Alumni Fellows have been loaded on the website in Fact Sheet format.

A range of historic Roseworthy and ROCA documents and publications are also available to view. The publications include The Student, the first published in July 1897, and the ROCA Digest, first published in July 1962.

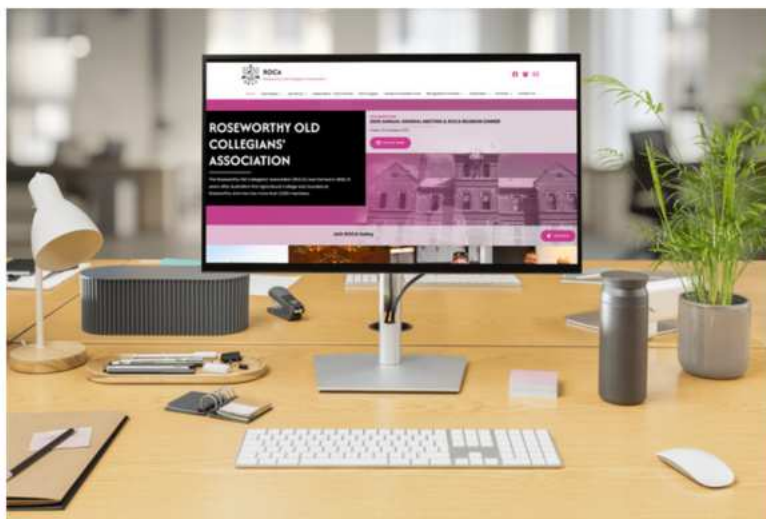
Also available on the new ROCA website are historic documents written by ROCA members:

- RAC – Historical Development of the Land (1988) (Denis Harrison: RDA 1947);
- "The Doc" – Sir Allan Callaghan (1997) (Gavin G. McEwin: RDA 1937);
- History of Horses at RAC 1879-1976 (1976) (Dale Manson: RDA 1976);
- Tales from the RAC War Service Honour Rolls – ROCA 125 (2023) (Dick Turnbull: RDA 1969);
- Roseworthy's Proud Historic Linkages to Veterinarians (2025) (Dale Manson: RDA 1976).

One of the very important aspects of the new ROCA website is the up-to-date listing of "lost" ROCA Members, meaning that ROCA cannot communicate with them due to a lack of valid email address.

Please make it a habit to visit the new ROCA website : [www.roseworthy-roca.com.au](http://www.roseworthy-roca.com.au) and go to the "Join ROCA" button on the top. One of the options that is then made available is a "Lost Members" tab that lists all the ROCA members who ROCA has lost contact with.

If you notice someone on the list who you know, please send their email address to ROCA. We would be most grateful for that.



# facebook





## ROCA HONOUR ROLL

### Honorary Life Members



1901 Lowrie, Professor William †  
 1921 Custance, Professor John Daniel †  
 1921 Perkins, Professor Arthur James †  
 1921 Murray, A Jack †  
 1921 Jeffrey, Mr G †  
 1921 Tassie, John †  
 1922 Weigall, Sir Archibald (posthumous) †  
 1923 Towar, Professor John †  
 1936 Klose, Stanley Raymond †  
 1940 Pritchard, Mr Alexander George †  
 1942 Hewett Jones, Ralph †  
 1949 Mellor, Douglas H †  
 1949 Callaghan, Dr Alan R †  
 1955 Suter, David Driffield †  
 1957 Hill, Roland †  
 1957 Fulton, Colonel D †  
 1959 Philp, Burley C †  
 1959 Krause, Malcolm Rex †  
 1961 McCulloch, Dr Robert N †  
 1969 Stephen, Harry Vernon †  
 1969 Hooper, Clifford Wade †

1970 Habel, John Desmond †  
 1971 Ford, Ross James †  
 1971 Norton, Raymond Sidney †  
 1977 Jones, John Alan  
 1983 Williams, Dr Don †  
 1992 Michelmores, William Andrew †  
 1992 Thistlethwayte, Dr Barrie  
 1995 Woolhouse, Professor Harold †  
 2000 Michelmores, Elizabeth †  
 2001 Manson, Dale Ashley  
 2003 Maddocks, Professor Simon  
 2006 Taylor, Raymond John †  
 2009 Seeliger, Mark Trevor  
 2009 Eastick, Bruce Charles AM  
 2009 Cooper, David John †  
 2010 Bowen, Kenneth Wilfred OAM  
 2014 Ashton, Brian  
 2017 Spencer, David

(† Deceased)



*Students. Roseworthy Agric. College. 1922.*



## ROCA AWARD OF MERIT Past recipients



*The Award of Merit is regarded as the highest honour ROCA can bestow on one of its members.*

|                                |                             |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1961 Roland Hill OBE †         | 1993 Bob Baker †            |
| 1962 Dr David Riceman †        | 1994 Brian Hannaford †      |
| 1963 Len Cook †                | 1995 Grant Mayfield †       |
| 1964 William Dawkins OBE †     | 1996 Robert Knappstein †    |
| 1965 Frank Pearson †           | 1997 James Pocock †         |
| 1966 Sir Allan Callaghan CMG † | 1998 Ian Young †            |
| 1967 Bob Herriot OBE †         | 1999 Don Moyle †            |
| 1968 Denis Muirhead †          | 2000 Grant Paech †          |
| 1969 Jack Reddin OAM †         | 2001 Brian Jefferies AM †   |
| 1970 Ron Badman †              | 2002 Dr Graham Mitchell AO  |
| 1971 Prof Rex Butterfield †    | 2003 Philip Laffer AM       |
| 1972 Rex Krause †              | 2004 John Vickery OAM †     |
| 1973 Rex Kuchel †              | 2005 Ronald Mertin AM †     |
| 1974 Lex Walker AM †           | 2006 Brian Wilson           |
| 1975 Ken Pike †                | 2007 Wilf Bowen OAM         |
| 1976 Len Laffer †              | 2008 Philip Young AM †      |
| 1977 Des Habel †               | 2009 Ian Hickinbotham OAM † |
| 1978 Henry Day AO †            | 2010 Dr Ray Beckwith OAM †  |
| 1979 Dr Mark Hutton †          | 2011 Raymond Taylor †       |
| 1980 Cliff Hooper †            | 2012 Vic Patrick OAM        |
| 1981 Andrew Michelmores †      | 2013 Alan Richardson        |
| 1982 Milton Spurling †         | 2014 Hon. Peter Dunn        |
| 1983 Ralph Hewett Jones †      | 2015 Richard Fewster        |
| 1984 David Suter †             | 2016 David Lewis OAM        |
| 1985 Hon Dr Bruce Eastick AM   | 2017 Rev Brian Polkinghorne |
| 1986 Dr John Obst †            | 2018 John Crosby AM         |
| 1987 Robin Steed †             | 2019 Allan Piggott          |
| 1988 Reg French †              | 2020 Professor Wayne Hein   |
| 1989 Ray Norton †              | 2021 Louisa Rose            |
| 1990 Tony Summers †            | 2022 Graeme Pope            |
| 1991 Scott Dolling OAM †       | 2023 Neil Pontifex          |
| 1992 Rex Anderson †            | 2024 Bardy McFarlane        |

(† Deceased)

**1999: ROCA Centenary Medal - Harry Stephen †**

**2017: Icon of Roseworthy - Hon Dr Bruce Eastick AM**

**2022: Honoured ROCA Fellow - Professor Wayne Hein**



Thrive Marketing is a proud supporter of the  
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**Roseworthy Old Collegians Association Inc.**

## NOTICE OF 2025 AGM

All ROCA members are advised the 2025 Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2025 in the Doulton Room, Feathers Hotel – 516 Glynburn Road, Burnside SA, commencing at 6.30 pm.

### Nomination for 2025-2026 ROCA Committee

All ROCA Committee positions apart from those mandated as preset will be declared vacant at the 2024 AGM. Nominations are invited for the following positions:

|                                          |                                  |
|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| President (preset):                      | Andrew Eastick                   |
| Immediate Past President (preset)        | Dale Manson                      |
| Campus Director (preset)                 | Prof Rob Woodgate                |
| Vice President/President Elect (preset): | Bruce McCallum                   |
| Secretary:                               | .....                            |
| Treasurer:                               | .....                            |
| General Committee (5 positions):         | .....                            |
| Public Officer/ATO Reporting Person:     | To be appointed by the Committee |
| Auditor:                                 | To be appointed by the Committee |

Signature of Nominee: ..... Date:.....

Signature of Nominator: ..... Date:.....

Completed nomination forms should be scanned and emailed to: [roca.committee@gmail.com](mailto:roca.committee@gmail.com)

#### Please Note: ROCA Constitution - Committee Member Nomination Rules:

- A Retiring Committee Member shall be eligible to stand for re-election without nomination but no person not being a Retiring Committee Member shall be eligible to stand for election unless nominated by a Member of the Association at least 14 days before the Meeting and that nomination must be delivered to the Secretary of the Association.
- The nomination shall be signed by the proposer and by the nominee to signify a willingness to stand for election.
- If insufficient nominations are received, nominations may be accepted at the Annual General Meeting.
- If only the required number of persons are nominated to fill existing vacancies, the Secretary shall report accordingly to the Annual General Meeting and the Chairperson shall declare such persons duly elected as Committee Members.
- The President may elect to serve a second consecutive year without contest. If that is the case, the Immediate Past President and President Elect positions also remain uncontested.



## INVITATION

### 127<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING and 2025 REUNION DINNER

*President Andrew Eastick and Committee cordially invite you and your partner/guest to attend the  
127<sup>th</sup> AGM and 2025 Reunion Dinner  
of the Roseworthy Old Collegians Association Inc.*

**DATE:** Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October, 2025  
**AGM VENUE:** Doultou Room, Feathers Hotel, 516 Glynburn Road, Burnside SA  
**DINNER VENUE:** Greenhouse Restaurant, Feathers Hotel, 516 Glynburn Road, Burnside SA  
**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:** \$90.00 per person  
**MEAL:** Marinated local olives & sea salt grissini on arrival  
Entrée; Main Course; Shared Cheese Platter; Tea & Coffee. (refer below for dietary needs) Drinks - cash bar

#### KEY GRADUATE REUNION GROUPS

- **50 Years** (1975) – Contact person: Mick Flaherty 0427 761 996 / littlemick2@westnet.com.au
- **40 Years** (1985) – Contact person: Richard Inwood: 0428 606 420 / rji7@bigpond.com
- **25 Years** (2000) -

General enquiries to Dale Manson 0418 811 233 (manson.daga@bigpond.com)

**RSVP: Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> October, 2025. (Bookings received after this date may not be accepted.) Seating is limited.**

#### Bookings & Payment:

- Via the Eventbrite website:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/roseworthy-old-collegians-annual-dinner-tickets-1287846566749?aff=oddtcreator>

- 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](mailto:roca.committee@gmail.com) without delay please, confirming name and other details.**

Scissors Spouses, partners and guests are very welcome to attend.

**TO:** Treasurer – ROCA (if paying by cheque) or [roca.committee@gmail.com](mailto: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 17<sup>th</sup> October 2025 at the Feathers Hotel, Burnside

Any special dietary needs: .....

Dinner booking(s) (\$90.00 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 Key Graduate Reunion Group: 50 | 40 | 25 | (\*\* Graduation year: The year of Graduation Ceremony)

My first Graduation Year\*\* (if not one of those above) was .....or Please put me with .....

NAME: .....

NAME of spouse/partner/guest: .....

ADDRESS: .....

TELEPHONE: ..... EMAIL CONTACT: .....