

THE ROCA DIGEST

SUMMER 2025

Editor: Dale Manson



A MOMENT IN ROSEWORTHY HISTORY

This Spring 2013 issue of the University of Adelaide's Adelaidean Magazine celebrated the first cohort of Doctor of Veterinary Medicine graduates to complete their course at Roseworthy Campus.

They started First Year in 2008, graduated from the undergraduate Pre-Vet course in 2011 and became the first DVM graduates in 2014. Six years of hard study.

In the photo (LtoR) Professor Kym Abbott with veterinary students, Danijel Mirrovic, Esther Mayo, Kate Townsend and Pepper the dog.

A MOMENT IN ROCA HISTORY

ROCA has changed its name to **Roseworthy Campus Association Inc**, although the acronym ROCA remains. This was approved at the 2025 AGM and will ensure our Association remains relevant, contemporary and firmly linked to the precious history of Roseworthy.

Welcome to your organisation representing former graduates, current graduates and future graduates of Roseworthy – **Roseworthy Campus Association**.

How to contact ROCA:

E-mail: roca.committee@gmail.com Website: 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

ROCA AWARD OF MERIT IAN BIDSTRUP

The Roseworthy Old Collegians Association is proud to present the 2025 Award of Merit to Ian Bidstrup.

After secondary education at Urrbrae Agricultural High School and graduating from Roseworthy Agricultural College with a Diploma in Agriculture in 1965 Ian Bidstrup returned to the College in 1968 and 1969 as Assistant Farm Manager, before taking on farm management roles at Collinsville in Queensland and Mingenew in Western Australia.

In 1981 Ian was appointed Operations Manager of the University of Adelaide’s Martindale Holdings, an agricultural enterprise that grew from the initial Martindale property at Mintaro to include the Munduney property in the Mid North at Spalding, Moralana Station in the Flinders Ranges north of Hawker, Glenthorne Farm south of Adelaide, and the former Roseworthy Agricultural College, now Roseworthy Campus farm.

Ian was appointed General Manager of Martindale Holdings in 1992, a position he held until his retirement in 2011.

During Ian’s 30 years with Martindale Holdings the properties evolved to encompass a cropping program of 5,058 hectares and ran 25,000 sheep and 2,000 cattle. Ian also utilised a new irrigation pipeline to the Mid North from the Murray to establish a shiraz, cabernet and reisling vineyard on the Martindale property.

Professor Simon Maddocks, a former Director of the Roseworthy Campus of the University and former Director of Science Partnerships at the South Australian Research and Development Institute, and current Chair of Primary Producers SA, says of Ian Bidstrup, “*South Australia, and agriculture in general, is very much richer for the contributions that Ian Bidstrup has made to the sector throughout his career. The University of Adelaide and its graduates have benefited enormously from Ian’s generous advice, commitment and professional dedication to always delivering the best. And the Roseworthy Old Collegians Association could have no more passionate a member and supporter, nor a more deserving recipient of its Award of Merit.*”



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ROCA COMMITTEE

The 2025-2026 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)



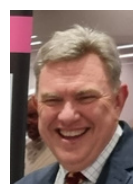
Immediate Past President:
Dale Manson (RDA 1976, RDAT 1977, M.App.Sc. Ag 1998)



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)



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Members Facebook page: www.facebook.com/groups/1816673755819158

Public Facebook page: www.facebook.com/rocagrad

2025 ROCA REUNION DINNER

The 2025 ROCA Reunion dinner held at the Feathers Hotel during October was an outstanding success, with a milestone AGM that preceded it.

History was created at the AGM, with ratification of a new ROCA Constitution and overwhelming approval to alter the name of the Association to the more contemporary "Roseworthy Campus Association Inc".

The ROCA Reunion Dinner attracted around one hundred guests, with the presentation of three well-deserved Honorary Life Memberships to Peter Fairbrother, Andrew Dennis and Richard Turnbull. The 2025 ROCA Award of Merit was presented to Ian Bidstrup.

Enormous gratitude goes to the owner of the Feathers Hotel, Scott Matthews for the very generous support to conduct the Dinner. Scott himself is a former Roseworthy student, graduating with a Wine Marketing qualification in 1992. Without Scott's personal input to assist the Dinner organisers in their task, the event would definitely not have been as successful.

ROCA's thanks also go to Geoff Schrapel (RDA 1968, RDAT 1969) of Bethany Wines for the donation of premium red and white wine for the evening. Also to Alexandrina Cheese Company and its chief Cheesemaker Daniel McCaul (RDA 1978) for the donation of cheese for inclusion on the cheese platters that ended the evening.

The Roseworthy Campus Association is looking forward to the 2026 ROCA Reunion Dinner, to be held on Friday 16th October and again at the Feathers Hotel, Burnside. This dinner will feature the Golden Jubilee 50-Year Reunion Group of 1976 RDA and RDOen graduates, in addition to the 40-Year Reunion Group of 1986 graduates.



HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS



ANDREW DENNIS

Andrew Dennis graduated from Roseworthy Agriculture College with a Bachelor of Applied Science (Agriculture) in 1987.

Andrew joined the Roseworthy Old Collegians Association Committee in 2016 and continues to serve on the Committee. During his time on the Committee to date Andrew has been Secretary since 2019 and has been the coordinator of the Association's Wine Offer fundraising initiative, whilst owning a business that frequently takes him interstate and overseas.

Professionally, Andrew is the owner of Rosewood Wool Services and is a highly sought after adviser and commenter on the wool industry worldwide.



PETER FAIRBROTHER

Peter Fairbrother graduated from Roseworthy Agriculture College with a Diploma in Agriculture in 1961 and followed up with a Graduate Diploma in Agriculture in 1981.

Peter joined the Roseworthy Old Collegians Association Committee in 1974 and served on the Committee until 1997, during which time he was Treasurer for nine years and Secretary for two.

In addition, Peter served on the University of Adelaide Faculty Board and for several decades has been volunteer with the Old Collegians Archive Group at the University.

Professionally, Peter was an Agronomist with the Department of Agriculture.



RICHARD TURNBULL

Richard Turnbull graduated from Roseworthy Agriculture College with a Diploma in Agriculture in 1969.

Richard joined the Roseworthy Old Collegians Association Committee in 2009 and continues to serve on the Committee. During his time on the Committee to date Richard has been Treasurer for two years, President for two years twice, that is for four years it total, and has been the Association's Public Officer throughout.

Richard was the major contributor to our Association's ANZAC Centenary Commemorations in 2015.

Professionally, Richard has been a medical and veterinary laboratory scientist working in many parts of the world, including in a number of humanitarian roles.

The Changing Layouts of the First Buildings on Roseworthy Campus

The former Principal's Residence at the Roseworthy Campus began as a four roomed homestead for Olive Hill Farm.

Established in 1864, Olive Hill Farm was subsequently purchased by the South Australian Government in 1881 for an Experimental Farm and Agricultural College.

Thomas Gardine Williams, Olive Hill Farm's third owner built the homestead in 1868 with stone quarried from the property.

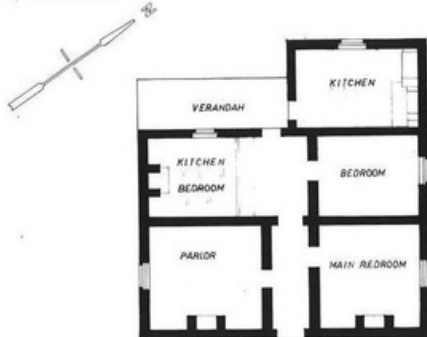


Fig. 1 The Homestead at the time it was purchased by the South Australian Government in 1881

The construction of the Main Building, designed by the Colonial Architect-in-Chief, Edward John Woods, commenced in 1883. The construction, by contractors Sara and Dunstan, was completed in 1885, at a cost of £7,625.



Fig. 3 Layout and uses of the ground floor of Main Building following construction

In 1891 a substantial laboratory was added on the southwestern side of the Main Building.

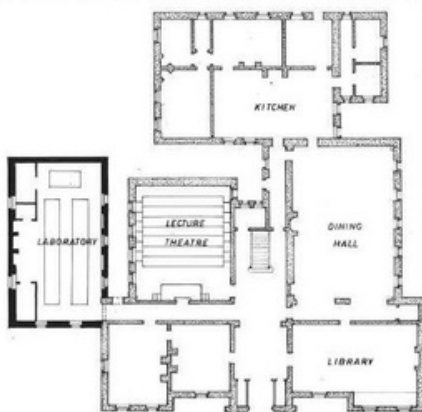


Fig. 5 Layout and use of 1891 addition on the southwestern side of the Main Building

Following the purchase of the property by the Government two large rooms (20ft x 16ft) with marble fireplaces were added to the front of the homestead, providing a library and office for the College.

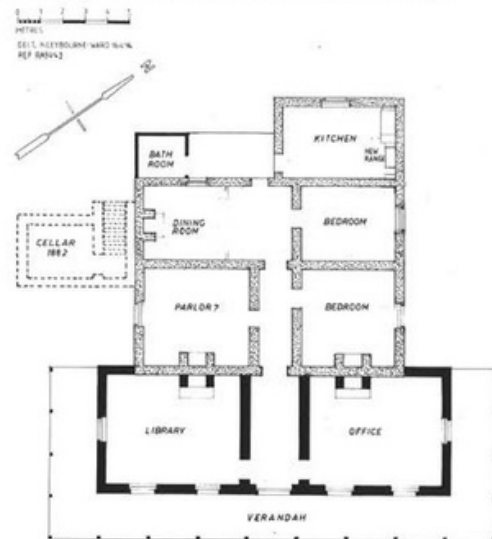


Fig. 2. The additions to the Homestead following the purchased by the South Australian Government

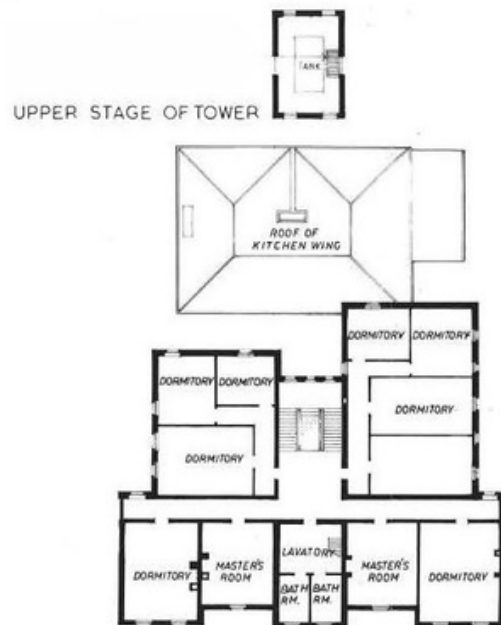


Fig. 4 Layout and uses of first floor and the tower of Main Building following construction

In 1896 the ablutions at the front of the building on the first floor were removed and converted to dormitory space, the tower also became dormitory space, and a detached timber framed change room was constructed adjacent to the kitchen.

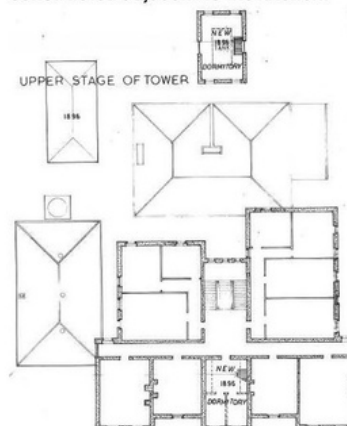


Fig. 6 Layout and use of 1896 changes to the first floor and tower, and location of change room

In 1909, the 1891 Laboratory became the Museum and in 1936 the Museum became the Lecture Room and the Lecture Room became the Museum.

At some point a Common Room was added at the back of the 1891 addition. The Vol. 32 No. 1 edition of The Student, published in December 1936, recorded: *The old common room in the south-west corner of the main building has been renovated and converted to a billiard room. The billiard table was presented by the Roseworthy Old Collegians Association, and was opened by Col. D. Fulton, President of the Association.*

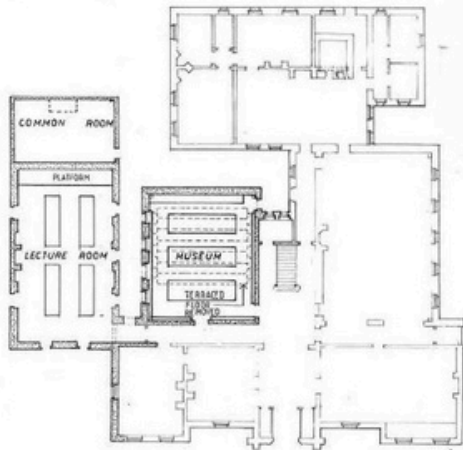


Fig. 7 Layout and uses of the ground floor in 1936

Substantial additions occurred in the 1960's, particularly the construction of a much larger kitchen.

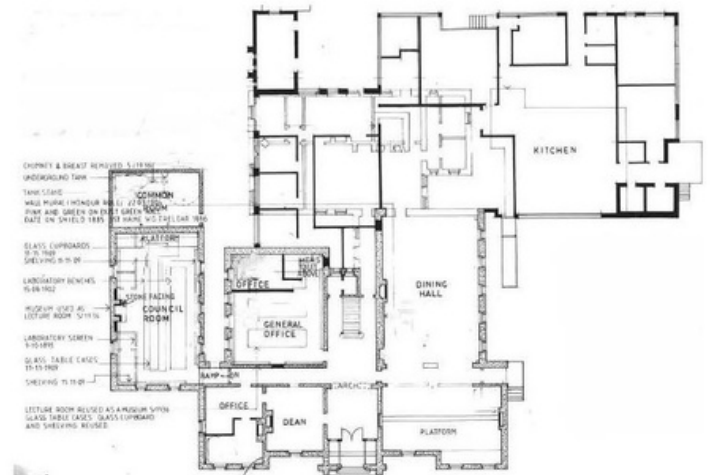


Fig. 8 Layout and uses of the ground floor in 1994

To view this document in its entirety, go to the following web location:

<https://www.roseworthy-roca.com.au/archives/historic-documents/>

MAYOR BILL CLOSE

Roseworthy Old Collegians Association congratulates RDA 1976 graduate Bill Close on his recent election as Mayor of the Regional Council of Light.

This Council encompasses Roseworthy Agricultural College (University of Adelaide's Roseworthy Campus) and having an Old Collegian as the most senior Local Government person representing that site is a genuine honour.

His Worship Bill Close has extremely strong links with Roseworthy, having a grandfather (W.J. Dawkins RDA 1903), uncles, cousins and numerous other close relations also graduate from the College.



LUNCH 'N LEARN

This year ROCA, Roseworthy Residential College and the School of Animal and Veterinary Sciences have been jointly presenting a series of highly inspirational and innovative "Lunch 'n Learn" sessions for Roseworthy Campus students.

Featured speakers have been Director of the Monarto Safari Park, Peter Clark (RDA 1973), Botswana based Professor Graham Hall (RDA 1974) via video link, CEO of Livestock SA Travis Tobin (B.Ag. 2007) and Asian employment consultant Michael Boddington (B.App.Sc. Ag 1988) via video link from Thailand.

Prior to the end of 2025, there will also be another Lunch 'n Learn session featuring prominent NSW horse veterinarian, Dr John Kohnke (RDA 1968). This session is expected to attract around 100 Roseworthy Campus animal and veterinary science students, plus a large number of staff.

The Lunch 'n Learn program is one of many ways that ROCA contributes in a meaningful way to the welfare and future of Roseworthy students.

Upon graduation from their respective courses, it is hoped the new graduates will become part of ROCA's membership as a means of retaining a life-long linkage with Roseworthy.

Due to the busy study schedule of students at Roseworthy, the Lunch 'n Learn series is conducted during the midday lunch break and includes the provision of a complimentary light lunch for the attending students.



Travis Tobin (B.Ag. 2007), CEO of Livestock SA



Michael Boddington (B.App.Sc. Ag 1988), Asian employment consultant via video link from Thailand



Peter Clark (RDA 1973), Director of Monarto Safari Park



Professor Graham Hall (RDA 1974) via video link from Botswana

FORMER WINNER OF OLD STUDENTS CUP VISITS ROSEWORTHY CAMPUS

Recipient of the ROCA sponsored 1956 Old Students Cup, (Ian) Roger Inglis (RDA 1956) recently visited Roseworthy Residential College to view the perpetual Cup and his name that is proudly displayed on the RDA Diploma board.

Following graduation in 1956, Ian worked on the Roseworthy Agricultural College farm for several years.

Now aged nearly 90 years, Roger Inglis thoroughly enjoyed his special trip down memory lane at Roseworthy College.

Right: Roger Inglis and Head of Roseworthy Residential College, David Purdie stand in the entrance doorway of the Roseworthy College Main Building

Below: Holding the Old Students Cup, Roger Inglis stands proudly in front of the RDA Diploma Board bearing his name

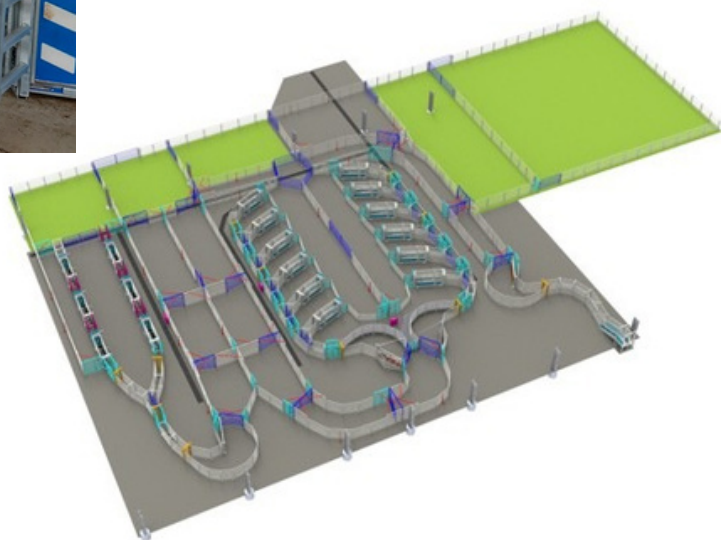


NEW ROSEWORTHY CATTLE AND SHEEP YARDS

To support students studying veterinary and animal science courses at Roseworthy Campus, new sets of covered sheep and cattle handling facilities have recently been constructed.

Protected from the weather, the new yards provide multiple handling units and crush structures, enabling as many students as possible to become involved hands-on in the various livestock tasks.

This range of photos highlight the state-of-the-art nature of the new cattle and sheep handling facilities.



ROSEWORTHY CAMPUS ENTERS THE SPACE AGE

Roseworthy Campus is taking on an expanded role as part of its positioning within the Faculty of Sciences, Engineering and Technology.

At Roseworthy Campus, four analogue astronauts will crew a mission in a controlled environment at the University's Extraterrestrial Environmental Simulation (Exterres) Covered Regolith Analogue Terrain for Experimental Research (CRATER) on-campus facility.

With its expansive areas of land, Roseworthy Campus will no doubt be used for many other types of non-rural endeavours within the new Adelaide University.

View the video clip at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=08XKq8ZiskQ



RDA 1968-1970 GROUP ADVENTURE REUNION

The Roseworthy student cohort of the late 1960s has been a united and collegiate group during the five decades since graduation from Roseworthy Agricultural College.

Several years ago this group published a glossy hard-cover book, "The Roseworthy College Legacy and the '68 Group" outlining their time together at Roseworthy. Each year they also hold reunion functions.

In 2025 the group and their partners gathered together to rough it in the outback and Flinders Ranges.

These photos highlight the spirit of their 2025 journey together.



CORRECTION OF PREVIOUS DIGEST ARTICLE – PRINCIPAL'S HEDGE

In the Spring 2025 ROCA Digest, we made a glaring botanical error on Page 25 under the item about the 1975 Golden Jubilee celebrations.

The hedge adjacent to the Principal's Residence (House on the Hill) was described as being a "Jujube". This was totally incorrect, as it is actually a "Kei Apple" hedge.

Thank you to the former Dean of Roseworthy Campus, Professor Wayne Hein for pointing this out to ROCA. Professor Hein co-authored a small item about it in a recent edition of the Rare Fruit Society of SA (RFSSA) magazine.

Kei Apple fruits in their natural form are almost inedible, but with enough sugar, they make an acceptable jam with a flavour reminiscent of apricots – hence their alternative name as the 'African Apricot'.

The Rare Fruit Society of SA has around 900 members. Professor Hein is currently RFSSA Vice-President and will take over the President's role in March 2026.

**Launching
in 2026.**

**Adelaide
University**



The story of the hedge around the Principal's Residence Roseworthy Agricultural College

Kei apples

by Wayne Hein and Brenton Kortman

A formidable hedge with tasty fruit

While recently driving around the Roseworthy Campus of the University of Adelaide, we came upon a dense green hedge of Kei apples growing alongside what in years long past was the College Principal's residence.

The trees were more like spiny shrubs around 3-4 metres high, had obviously been there for quite some time and while the hedgerow formation suggested they had been planted deliberately, they also looked neglected (Fig 1 back cover).

This discovery prompted digging around for more information about this uncommon plant and the fruits they were bearing.

The Kei apple (*Dovyalis caffra*) is a native of southern Africa. Their natural range extends along the eastern side of the continent from the Kei River in Eastern Cape Province of South Africa to Tanzania in the north. The plant and fruit have various African names in different regions and were dubbed the 'African Apricot' or 'Wild Apricot' by English speaking settlers, giving a clue as to the taste and utility of the fruit.

Kei apples are dioecious, with inconspicuous male and female flowers on separate plants. One male plant can pollinate several female plants. The simple ovate leaves are 3-6 cm long, have a slightly leathery feel and persist for a long time – trees are essentially evergreen in habit, with old leaves abscising only when replaced by new leaves.

Trees grow very sharp 3-6 cm long spines in the leaf axils and large sturdy thorns at other points along mature branches. The hedgerow at Roseworthy comprised several trees with a fruiting female tree at each end (Fig 2 back cover).

Mature fruits are 30 - 60mm in diameter and as they ripen change colour from green through yellow to orange. The flesh is juicy, tasty, sweetish in parts but mainly tart. Each berry-like fruit contains 5-7 seeds in a loosely structured pulp which is easily removed (Fig 3 back cover).

Harvest time for Kei apples typically begins around late summer to autumn, depending on climate, and fruits can be stored for up to six months post-harvest in cool temperatures.

In their native habitat, Kei apples are an important source of food for humans and animals in valley bushveld, wooded grassland, forest edges and arid lands. The fruits are eaten fresh or after cooking in various ways, including as jams and compotes, jellies, pies and other dessert dishes. They are also used as a tenderising garnish in meat-based dishes and in salads.

The trees and bushes have traditionally been cultivated in southern Africa as a border or screen to enclose and protect both humans and animals.

Closely planted trees form a dense and formidable hedge, reportedly impenetrable to lions and other large animals due to the large thorns.

Established trees readily survive in tough conditions with minimal care. They are drought, salt and cold tolerant, making them suitable to a wide range of conditions including coastal areas. They grow in a variety of soil types, including relatively infertile soil.

Kei apples are now grown commercially in several African countries and have been introduced to the USA, Israel and Australia. In Australia it was referred to as the Pioneer plant, capable of providing fruit in dry, harsh conditions, having no common diseases or pests and hence were widely planted across South Australia.

Kei apples can be propagated from seeds or hardwood cuttings treated with hormone gel. All flesh needs to be removed from seeds prior to planting as it contains an inhibitory substance. Cleaned seeds planted at ambient temperatures in February using a standard seedling mix gave more than 90% germination within 3-4 weeks of planting (Fig 4 back cover).

Seeds almost exclusively produce male plants and it takes about four years before the sex of plants is revealed, so taking cuttings from known productive female trees is a better option. Fruit flavour reportedly varies from tree to tree, with some being excessively acidic, providing scope to select and preferentially propagate those with sweeter fruit.

Kei apples do not have aggressive root systems and with moderate care and some judicious pruning, a female plant containing a grafted male branch should fit into many domestic orchards or make an attractive and productive container plant. Either way, they are sure to stimulate interest.

Due to the thorns, it is worth skirting the tree, keeping the bottom foliage above knee height. This makes harvesting easier as the fruit often drop and can be difficult to gather amongst the thorns.

Further information:

Gardener's Magazine. <https://gardenersmag.com/kai-apple/>

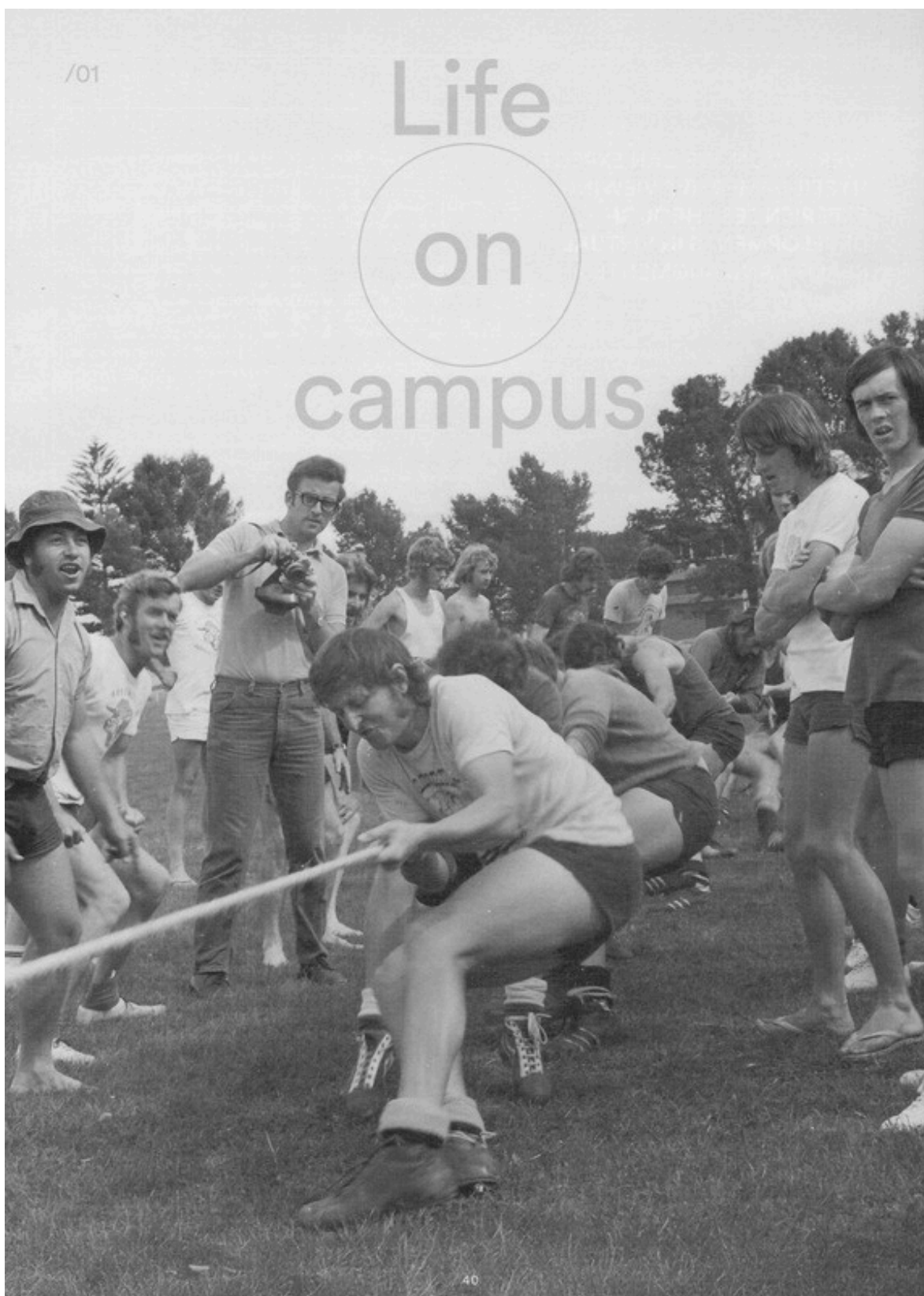
Rare Fruit Club. <https://www.rarefruitclub.org.au/Dovyalis.htm>

South African National Biodiversity Institute. <http://pza.sanbi.org/dovyalis-caffra>

Reproduced from the RFS Newsletter published March 2024, page 15. The Figures appeared on the back cover of the same issue.

LAST ISSUE OF "LUMEN"

The University of Adelaide honoured Roseworthy in the last-ever issue of its coffee-table publication, "Lumen" by promoting Uni Campus life with a full-page lead-photo of Roseworthy Ag College students of the early 1970s engaging in a tug-of-war event at the annual RAC Sports Day. Can you name any of the students?



AGRICULTURAL GRADUATES LAND SETTLEMENT ACT

Few, if any current members of our Association will be familiar with the Agricultural Graduates Land Settlement Act, but for our members in the 1920s, 1930s and 1940s the Act had a particular importance.

At a time when the primary focus of students attending Roseworthy Agricultural College was going onto the land following graduation, the Act, which provided favourable finance for acquiring a farming property, evoked keen interest and was an important focus of our Association.

The Agricultural Graduates Land Settlement Act was passed in the South Australian Parliament on 21 December 1922. Credit for having the Act passed was particularly attributed to the then Principal of the College, W J Colebatch.

To be eligible for the benefits of the Act applicants were required to hold a Diploma of the Roseworthy Agricultural College, and, satisfied the Principal that he has had sufficient experience in the particular pursuit with respect to his application is made to enable him to engage therein with reasonable likelihood of success. Referring to the land to be purchased with monies provided by the Act: No land shall be so purchased unless the purchase is recommended by the Land Board and by the Principal, and, the purchase price of the land, together with all improvements, does not exceed the sum of £3,000.

The first graduate to successfully apply for assistance under the Act was Kenneth Shepley (RDA 1921), who purchase a property at Lower Light. Shepley, born at Hyde Park on 1 July 1901, subsequently moved to Western Australia and died at Mount Barker in 11 July 1968.

At the 1930 Speech Day the Principal, W R Birks reported that during the previous year five graduates had purchased properties with the assistance of the Act, and at the 1937 Speech Day the Principal, Dr A Callaghan, reported that six graduates had made successful applications and a further five applications were under consideration.

Stanley Klose (RDA 1932) was the first Roseworthy Agricultural College graduate to be elected an Honorary Life Member of our Association, at the Association's 1936 Annual General Meeting. Klose was engaged by the College in the position of Cereal Cadet in late 1932 before being promoted to Field Officer, a position he held until 1937. Klose was also the Secretary and Treasurer of our Association from 1934 to 1937, during which time the Association was heavily involved in events at the College commemorating the Centenary of the State, and the Association was particularly active with a significant revision of its Constitution and the introduction of an Association blazer and medal.

The Vol. 33 No. 1 edition of The Student, published in December 1937, reported: Mr. S R Klose also departed from these fields early in the year to branch out on his own land. With that nice little property near Lobethal, a keen business sense and good practical experience, we will not be surprised if Mr. Klose grows into a big landholder and bloated capitalist, though I doubt if the last adjective will ever be used literally. That edition of The Student also recorded that the property (Part of Section 6094 and Part of Section 6375 in Hundred of Talunga, at Cudlee Creek) was acquired by Stanley Klose with the support of the Graduates Land Settlement Act.

Stanley Klose moved to Queensland in 1951 to take up a position with the Department of Primary Production at Toowoomba, working primarily in weed control and certified sorghum seed production.

Klose died at Toowoomba on 10 June 1999.

In 1938 the Agricultural Graduates Land Settlement Act was amended as Section 9 dealt with the making of advances to a graduate settler where his land is uncleared mallee country. As development at that time was now taking place in other than mallee areas the amendment deleted the word mallee from the relevant clause. The Agricultural Graduates Land Settlement Act, as amended, was repealed in 1985.

A full account of the Agricultural Graduates land Settlement Act is published on the Association website at: <https://www.roseworthy-roca.com.au/archives/historic-documents/>

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)

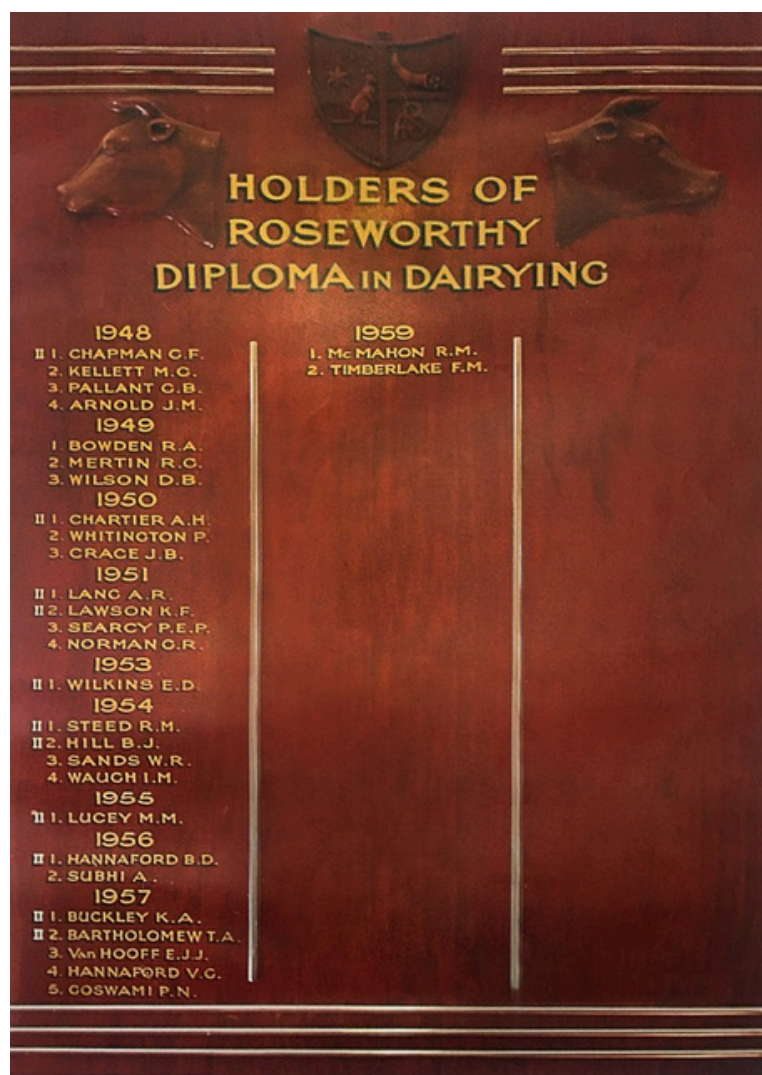
Mr Milton Spurling (Roseworthy Staff)

Mr Harry Stephen (RDA 1948)

Mr Raymond Taylor (RDA 1952)

Mr Richard Turnbull (RDA 1969)

DIPLOMA IN DAIRYING GRADUATE BOARD



At some point in the past decade or so the Diploma in Dairying board listing the graduates of the course that was delivered at the Campus from 1946 to 1959 was removed from the Dining Room in the Main Building and, despite extensive efforts by the Association and Campus staff, has not been able to be located.

A 1970s photograph of students in the Dining Room indicates the location of the board, on the opposite side of the Dining Room to the Diploma in Agriculture and Diploma in Oenology graduate boards.

Thanks to Diploma in Dairying graduates Michael Lucey (RDD 1955) and Ken Buckley (RDD 1957), and Neil Wikinson (RDA 1954), several colour photographs of the board have recently become available. Despite those photographs being taken at an angle the services of a professional Adelaide photoshopping business, at a cost of just \$25, has resulted in the conversion of the photographs to a single sharply focused, proportioned and front on image of the board.

This will enable the Committee to plan for the replication of the board in some form, and the placement of the replica in the board's original location in the Dining Room.

The Committee does however still retain some hope the missing board will be located before it becomes necessary to arrange a replica.

Could any member with information about the possible location of the Diploma in Dairying graduate board please advise the Committee at roca.committee@gmail.com.



ROCA PRIZES OVER THE YEARS

Over its 127 year existence following its founding in 1898 as the Roseworthy Old Collegians Association, the Roseworthy Campus Association has provided a diversity of Prizes to students.

The Old Students Cup was first awarded in 1900.

ROCA Prize for Contribution to Sport, not necessarily on the Field was commenced by ROCA in 1974. This Prize came about as a result of a letter to the Association's Committee from the College Football Club in 1973, requesting a donation for a trophy for the Best Club Man in the Club. Richard Flockhart was the first recipient of the Prize.

The Prize continued until at least 2006. Unfortunately, the name of the recipient of the Prize was not always recorded in the Association's records and as a result there are a number of gaps. Please look at the listing at: <https://www.roseworthy-roca.com.au/archives/working-files/> and contact the Association at roca.committee@gmail.com if you're able to provide the names of the recipients of the ROCA Prize for Contribution to Sport, not necessarily on the Field in those missing years.

Gold Medal to the top graduating student of the B.App.Sc. (NRM)

From the late 1980s until at least 2005 the Association also awarded a Prize, referred to as the Gold Medal to the top graduating student of the Bachelor of Applied Science (Natural Resource Management) as it was titled until 2000, and then the Bachelor of Natural Resource Management.

In 1987, the then Head of the School of Land Management and the Dean of the Faculty of Natural Resources prevailed upon graduating members of the Faculty to each make a donation towards the provision of a Prize for the Best All-round Performance of a Student graduating with a degree in Applied Science in Natural Resource Management and called it the Natural Resource Alumni Association Trophy. Unfortunately, the Associations records do not record the first year the Association awarded the Gold Medal. It is possible the Association's Gold Medal was awarded prior to 1990.

Please look at the listing at: <https://www.roseworthy-roca.com.au/archives/working-files/> and contact the Association at roca.committee@gmail.com if you're able to provide the names of the recipients of this ROCA Prize

Graduation Award

In early 1980 ROCA established the rules of what become known as the Graduation Award, to enable a graduating student to travel to undertake further study. In 1982, from four applications John Liney (B.App.Sc. Oen.) 1982 was selected as the recipient of the 1982 Graduation Award, enabling him to travel to France for further study.

The 1983 Graduation Award recipient was Garry James (Dip.App.Sc. Ag. 1983), the 1984 recipient was Gregory Mitchell (Dip.App.Sc. Ag. 1984) (Grad.Dip.Ag. 1985) and the 1985 recipient was Paul Wilcox (Dip.App.Sc. Ag. 1985).

ROCA PRIZES OVER THE YEARS (CONT.)

In late 1985 the Committee resolved to not make the Graduation Award available in 1986 and to utilise the funds allocated for the Award to purchase and donate a Robert Ingpen watercolour painting of the Main Building to the College.

Over the next few years, the Committee considered the future of the Graduation Award, including considering an unsuccessful 1986 request that the funds allocated for the Award be made available to assist staff with their individual research work, but did not re-offer it. Eventually all reference to the Graduation Award ceased.

Current ROCA Awards and Prizes

With the assistance of ROCA's Roseworthy Campus and Student Fund, each year ROCA now offers five Prizes to students studying in Roseworthy's School of Animal and Veterinary Sciences and a further two Prizes to students residing in Roseworthy Residential College. All Prizes are valued at \$1,000 each.

To view this article in full, please go to:

<https://www.roseworthy-roca.com.au/archives/working-files/>

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:

BARBER, Adrian Allan	(RDAT 1975)
BARNES, Ashley John	(RDA 1971, RDAT 1973)
BROWNRIGG, Peter William	(RDA 1953)
GODDARD, Wayne Noel Graham	(B.App.Sc. Oen 1985)
HOWE, Peter Maxwell	(RDA 1961)
LOBBAN, Bruce Leslie	(Grad.Dip.Ag 1980)
NELDNER, (Christopher) Richard	(RDA 1961)
PITMAN, (James) Barry	(RDA 1956)
TULLOCH, Harold William	(RDA 1953, RDOen 1955)
WOODWARD, Richard Arthur Trench	(RDA 1962)
WRIGHT, Malcolm John	(RDA 1955)

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.

2025 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING DOCUMENTS

The 2025 Annual General Meeting documents (Minutes, including new Constitution: President's Report: Financial Statements) are now available on our Association's website at www.roseworthy-roca.com.au/archives/roca-agm-reports.

ROSEWORTHY SPORTING TOGS

The tradition continues. Although Roseworthy Campus doesn't field many sporting teams itself these days, when the students do represent Roseworthy the good 'ole Pink & Black remains upfront.



GUDRUN HANKE ARCHIVE DONATION

ROCA recently received a very generous “1970s and 1980s era” donation for its Archive Collection courtesy of former Roseworthy Agricultural College (RAC) Administration Officer, Gudrun Hanke.

Gudrun was a long-serving staff member of Roseworthy Agricultural College and had carefully cared for a number of RAC memorabilia items for almost 50 years.

Of particular significance are the items commemorating the 1983 Centenary of RAC.

Gudrun Hanke was a true friend of the student body during her employment at Roseworthy, often attending weekend sporting events and quietly undertaking important administrative tasks such as the typing of project reports for students.

ROCA has a dedicated room on Roseworthy Campus to house its Archive Collection and would welcome further donations of memorabilia from members.



GRAMP HARDY SMITH MEMORIAL PRIZE

The Gramp Hardy Smith Memorial Prize was awarded annually to a graduating Roseworthy student, initially to the student showing the “best all-round character and ability, taking into specific consideration his manliness, his leadership, his sportsmanship and his scholarship”. The references to “manliness” and “gender” were subsequently removed to enable female students at Roseworthy to be awarded the Prize.

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 in Victoria on 25th October 1938.

GRAMP HARDY SMITH MEMORIAL PRIZE (CONT.)

In the presence of their widows, at Speech Day on 1 March 1940, the Premier (Hon. T. E. Playford) unveiled an inscribed brass plaque recording the foundation of the Prize.

In the late 1990s the Plaque was moved to the Hickinbotham Roseworthy Wine Laboratory at the Waite Campus of the University of Adelaide.

The Gramp Hardy Smith Prize continued to be awarded to a graduating Roseworthy student until 1998. In 1999 and 2000 the Prize was awarded to a graduating agricultural student at the Waite Campus and since 2001 has been awarded to a graduating oenology and viticulture student at the Waite Campus.

The names of the recipients of the Prize continues to be recognised by small shields attached to the timber frame on which the plaque is mounted, inscribed with the name of the recipient and the year awarded.

There are no shields for 1979 and 1988, suggesting perhaps the Prize was not awarded in those years. Records available to the Association for those years do not indicate the name of a recipient, perhaps confirming the non-award the Prize.

If any member has knowledge of the circumstances that led to the non-award of the Prize in 1979 and 1988, or is able to confirm the Prize was in fact awarded in those years, and to whom, could they please advise the Committee at roca.committee@gmail.com.

In the near future our Association will be making arrangements to have the Gramp Hardy Smith Memorial Plaque professionally photographed and the image mounted for display in Dining Room of the Main Building at the Roseworthy Campus, as a record of the Prize and the recipients from 1940 to 1998.



THE AGE, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1938. 13

AUSTRALIA'S WORST AVIATION TRAGEDY

LINER CRASHES INTO DANDENONGS

EIGHTEEN DEAD; NO SURVIVORS

Mr. Hawker, M.P., a Victim

In the most appalling disaster in the history of civil aviation in Australia, eighteen persons were killed at Mr. Dandenong at 1.45 p.m. yesterday, when the Australian National Airways Douglas DC2 monoplane Kyeema crashed in the worst fog known at the Dandenongs for years. There were no survivors, ten of the eighteen passengers being incinerated. The plane left Adelaide yesterday morning, and was 25 miles off its course when the disaster occurred. The victims were:-

PLANE'S CREW
CAPTAIN A. C. D. WEBB, 32, married, pilot.
ALAN STEEN, about 30, first officer.
MISS ELVA JONES, 25, air hostess.
PHIL FRING, 25, of Sydney, pupil pilot, a member of the A.N.A. Flying School.

PASSENGERS
MR. C. A. S. HAWKER, M.P., Adelaide.
MR. T. M. HARDY, of Thomas Hardy and Sons, Adelaide.
MR. HUGO GRAMP, of G. Gramp and Sons, Adelaide.
MR. SYDNEY HILL SMITH, of S. Smith and Sons, Adelaide.
MR. J. I. MASSIE, solicitor, Sydney.
MR. L. W. SHIRLEY, solicitor, Sydney.
MR. G. H. GODDARD, accountant, Sydney.
MR. L. S. ABRAHAM, K.C., Sydney.
MR. A. C. GAFF, barrister, New South Wales.
MR. G. W. LING, South Australia.
MR. and MRS. R. GLOE, of West Australia.
MRS. E. SCHRADE, of South Australia.
MR. VAUGHAN FATE, Adelaide.

Careers of the Victims
Mr. Hawker, M.P.
Born in South Australia in 1894, Mr. Hawker was educated at St. Peter's College, Adelaide, and was a member of the Adelaide University. He was a member of the Adelaide University and was a member of the Adelaide University. He was a member of the Adelaide University and was a member of the Adelaide University.

Mr. L. S. Abraham
Mr. L. S. Abraham was born in Adelaide in 1894. He was a member of the Adelaide University and was a member of the Adelaide University. He was a member of the Adelaide University and was a member of the Adelaide University.

The Pilot
Captain A. C. D. Webb was born in Adelaide in 1894. He was a member of the Adelaide University and was a member of the Adelaide University. He was a member of the Adelaide University and was a member of the Adelaide University.

SCENE ON MOUNTAIN SIDE
Bodies and Debris Over Wide Area

SIGHTED AT MONTROSE
"Looked Like Big Shark"

HELPERS RUSH TO SCENE
Held Back by the Inferno

FLAMES ADD TO SCENE OF HAVOC

MILES OFF COURSE
Plane's Tragic Arc

DIRECTION BEACONS
SCANDALOUS OFFICIAL LAXITY

Failure to Initiate System

JOHN HAWKER – FOUNDER OF ROSEWORTHY'S MERINO STUD

During past decades, the various branches of the Hawker family were instrumental in guiding Roseworthy Agricultural College's future. One branch of the Hawker family was John Carey Hawker of Anama Stud, Booborowie and Clare.

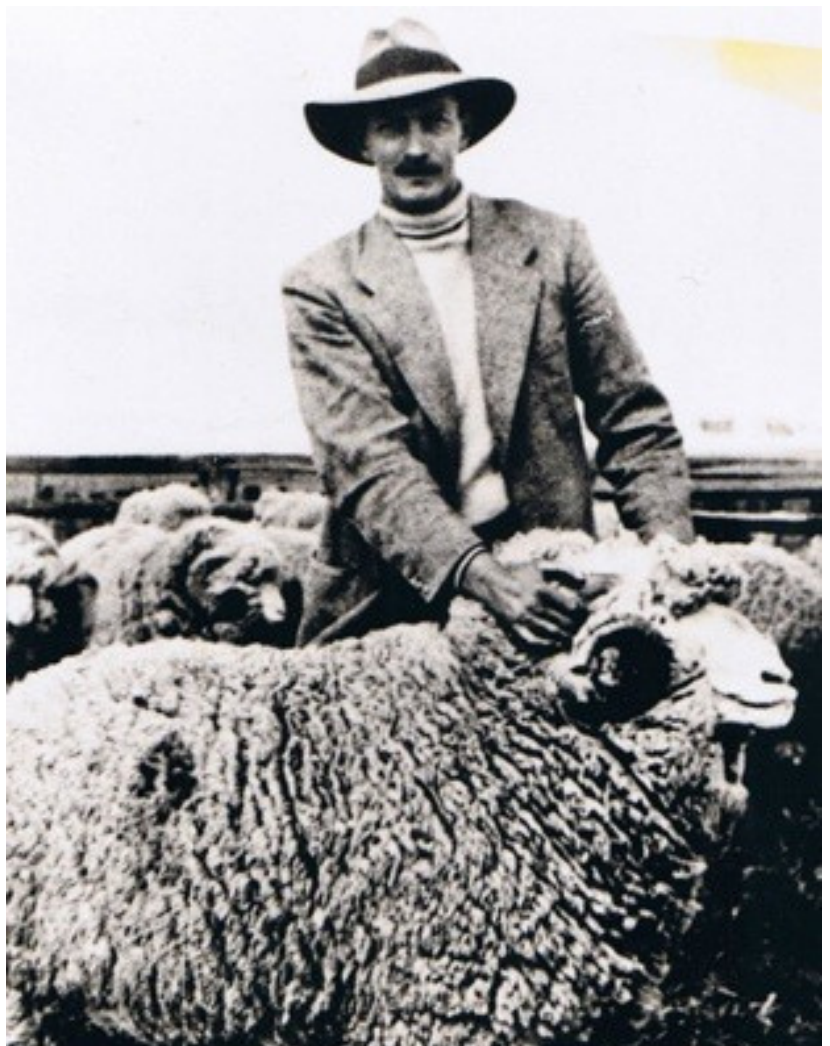
After being educated at Cambridge University and obtaining a Masters Degree in genetics, John Hawker helped establish the Merino Stud at Roseworthy Agricultural College and for years was the College's sheep classer, being involved in the Objective Measurement Breeding Trials in the early 1950s.

He introduced revolutionary Merino breeding techniques based on the ideas of the world-famous Dutch geneticist Dr Hagedoorn and with the help of the CSIRO officer at Roseworthy College, Phil Schinkel.

A long-time member of the Merino Breeders Association, John Hawker took over control of the Anama Merino Stud from his father in 1925 and remained Studmaster until his death in 1970.

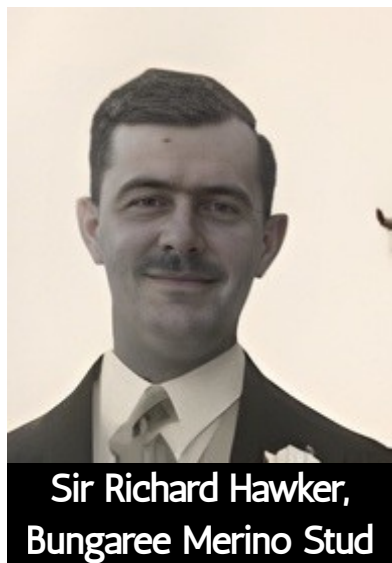
He worked closely with the researchers at the Adelaide University, the Animal Research Laboratory, the Waite Institute and the CSIRO. In 1926 he was noted as one of the pioneers in pasture improvement and in the baling of hay.

John Hawker was Managing Director and Chairman of Anama and the family Company properties of Kalabity, via Olary, S.A., Moorna via Wentworth, NSW, and Kalabity Moorna near Esperance, WA - which in all were selling up to 4,000 Merinos and Poll Merino Rams a year.



John Hawker, Anama Merino Stud

SIR RICHARD HAWKER



**Sir Richard Hawker,
Bungaree Merino Stud**

Recently members of the ROCA Committee had reason to discuss the participation of Sir Richard Hawker of Bungaree Sheep Stud at Clare in the governance of Roseworthy Agricultural College.

Sir Richard was the Chairman of the Roseworthy Advisory Board of Agriculture from 1964 to 1973, and in recognition of this one of the houses in the Custance Centre of the Roseworthy Residential College is named in his honour.

Immediate Past President Dale Manson reminisced that during his working life as a Sheep Adviser with the Department of Agriculture, he had vivid memories of Sir Richard arriving in his Rolls Royce to inspect sheep during the annual on-property Merino Field Days around South Australia.

Sir Richard was awarded his Knight Bachelor in 1965.

During his presentation to current Campus students during ROCA's recent initial Lunch 'n Learn, Committee member Dr Graham Hall recounted his interaction with Sir Richard.

Graham remembered him as a rather stern figure during his time at the College but his main interaction with him was post-Roseworthy. As a Technical Officer with the South Australian Department of Agriculture Graham worked on Kangaroo Island for three years on sheep reproduction - particularly investigating the impact of Clover Disease on reproduction, and the impacts of selenium.

Graham had the responsibility for bleeding rams from various mainland studs to determine if it would be possible to select for certain blood types that were provisionally resistant or susceptible for Clover Disease. One of those studs was Bungaree.

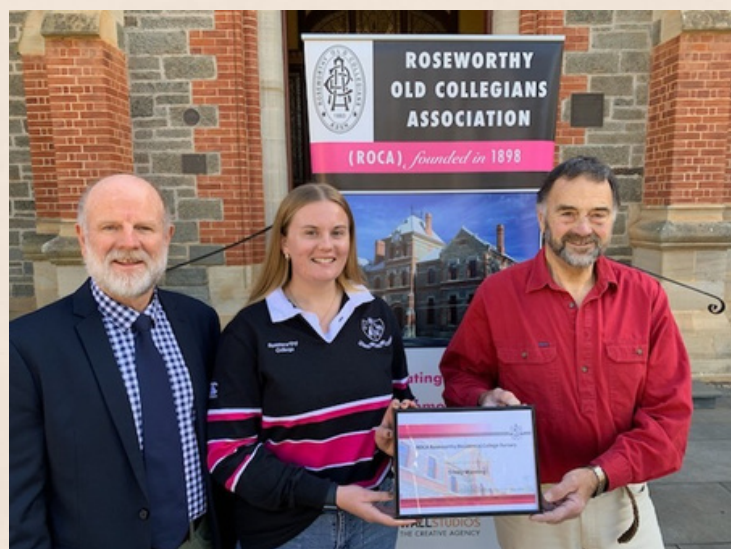
During one bleeding visit Graham was crouched in front of a stud ram, needle poised above the jugular, and the ram collapsed! Do sheep experience needle phobia? Murphy's Law says at that very moment Sir Richard appeared and was not too impressed that this government person was in the process of killing his prize ram.

After some frantic moments of resuscitation, the ram staggered out of the race - and was not selected for inclusion in the investigation! In the post-debacle discussion Graham mentioned to Sir Richard that he was a Roseworthy graduate and had met him briefly whilst a student.

Graham was sure Sir Richard did not remember him, but the mention of Roseworthy allowed Sir Richard to extend to Graham his permission to 'bleed any Bungaree rams that he wanted!'

Graham noted however that Sir Richard always seemed to be present whenever he returned for further 'bleeding'!

INAUGURAL ROSEWORTHY RESIDENTIAL COLLEGE BURSARY WINNER ANNOUNCED



(LtoR) Agricultural Institute's Bruce Hancock; Award recipient Trinity Manning; ROCA's Dale Manson

The inaugural Roseworthy Residential College Bursary sponsored by the Roseworthy Old Collegians Association (ROCA) and the Agricultural Institute of Australia (AIA) has been awarded to Trinity Manning, a third year Animal Science undergraduate student studying at the University of Adelaide's Roseworthy Campus where she lives during semester time in the Roseworthy Residential College.

Eligibility requirements for the bursary included a requirement for the recipient to reside at Roseworthy Campus, in addition to demonstrating their contribution and engagement with professional associations and primary industries.

It was also important for the bursary recipient to demonstrate they shared some of the values and interest of ROCA, such as the promotion of Roseworthy Campus in the sense of it being the guardian of history and tradition of agriculture and livestock industries.

In a personal sense, participation in social connection and professional networks that encourage discussion and passion to be involved in communities involved in primary industry, livestock, veterinary science and agriculture."

Trinity Manning proved she was a role model amongst her fellow students and plans to use the bursary to assist with academic and professional development.

Part of her professional development included costs related to presenting at the Australian Association of Animal Breeding and Genetics (AAABG) Conference in New Zealand, in addition to industry placements and training courses.

Trinity is involved with three professional associations, including being the AIA's 2025 Student Compendium Communications and Socials Intern and member of its Working Group.

The Student Compendium has over four hundred and fifty opportunities for students to connect with primary industries.

Trinity gained hands-on experience in industry communications by creating fortnightly media content profiling the sponsors' opportunities for students, developing and managing sponsor relationships and maintaining a sponsor database.

She led the development of an engaging infographic and coordinated social media postings to highlight student stories and promote the AIA (SA Division). According to Trinity Manning, these roles helped her build confidence in professional communication and strategic outreach, while also improving teamwork and organisational skills. She considered critical success factors for the working group involved clear communication and shared goals.

"From my involvement in the 2025 Student Compendium I have had the opportunity to attend numerous industry events such as the SE field days, AIA working group meetings, the launch of the 2025 Student Compendium and the AAABG Conference in Queenstown, New Zealand" she said.

"I have learnt that innovation in animal science is rapidly evolving and deeply rooted in industry academic partnerships and engaging with professionals through events and media work has given me insight into the importance of effective communication in translating research to practice."

In terms of new and innovative ways for ROCA to further connect with undergraduate students as they transition into the workforce, Trinity suggested Lunch 'n' Learn sessions where ROCA members share their success stories, answering questions on career pathways.

2025 OLD STUDENTS' CUP RECIPIENT – MILLIE STANNARD

For the past 125 years, ROCA has presented the Old Students Cup to a worthy Roseworthy student.

In 2025, the Old Students Cup was awarded to Millie Stannard, a first year Doctor of Veterinary Medicine student and holder of a three-year B.Sc. Veterinary Bioscience undergraduate degree.

Throughout 2025, Millie was a resident in the Roseworthy Residential College and provided an exceptional level of support to her fellow residential students.

The Old Students Cup is supported by a \$1,000 bursary provided by ROCA from the interest generated from its Roseworthy Campus and Student Fund.

This is one of two prize bursaries provided to Roseworthy Residential College students by ROCA each year, in addition to another five similar yearly ROCA prizes provided for the Gold Medallist in each of the courses conducted by Roseworthy's School of Animal and Veterinary Sciences.



Old Students' Cup recipient, Millie Stannard with
ROCA's Dale Manson

ROCA COMMITTEE MEETING

The ROCA Committee hard at work recently week using the latest online technology to connect all members, courtesy of a University of Adelaide meeting room on North Terrace Campus. In addition to those present in the room, members from Botswana, Perth, Eyre Peninsula and Gawler normally participate online.



APPLICATIONS FOR CAS HAWKER SCHOLARSHIP NOW OPEN



The \$75,000 CAS Hawker Residential Scholarship is now open to current and potential Roseworthy Campus residential students, but applications close on 2nd December 2025.

Roseworthy Residential College and St Mark's Residential College are the only two sites in SA open for eligible students. A few interstate locations also, along with Trinity College at Cambridge University.

The 2025 C.A.S. Hawker Scholarship is one of the most generous privately funded residential scholarships, with each of the four Scholarships providing \$75,000 over three years. It is available to undergraduate and postgraduate students who are Australian citizens and living in Australia.

The scholarships perpetuate the memory of scholar, soldier, pastoralist and statesman Charles Allan Seymour Hawker.

Unfortunately Charles Hawker MP died in the same 1938 Kyeema air crash that killed prominent winemakers Hugo Gramp (head of Orlando Wines), Thomas Hardy (head of Hardy Wines) and Sydney Hill-Smith (head of Yalumba Wines) while they were returning from lobbying the Federal Government in relation to wine industry matters.

Information about the C.A.S. Hawker Scholarship and an online application form are available at www.hawkerscholarship.org or by contacting the Secretary to the Trustees in Adelaide on 08 8223 4450.

APPEAL FOR VOLUNTEERS TO INSPECT THE ROSEWORTHY AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE RECORDS HELD AT STATE RECORDS

In 2018 senior staff at the Roseworthy Campus of the University of Adelaide and members of the Association commenced planning for the writing of a History of Roseworthy.

Unfortunately, due to the twin challenges of Covid and the unexpected passing of the historian/writer that had been identified to assist project, Rob Linn, the project stalled.

During that initial period of work some funds for the project were raised and remain available.

Recently your Committee resolved to re-commence the project and established a Sub-Committee for that purpose.

The Sub-Committee members are Professor Wayne Hein and David Spencer, the prime movers of the initial work in 2018, Association President Andrew Eastick and Committee members, Graham Hall, Ian Oliver, and Richard Turnbull.

Your Association aims to have the History of Roseworthy written and published by no later than 2033, the 150th anniversary of the commencement of Roseworthy Agricultural College.

The work of the Sub-Committee to date has identified the importance of locating all relevant historical records required to inform the writing of the History.

The Sub-Committee recently became aware of a significant number of the records of Roseworthy Agricultural College, held by State Records, the South Australian Government's Archive.

As Roseworthy Agricultural College was a unit within the Department of Agriculture the College records passed to State Records following the 1991 merger of the College with the University of Adelaide.

The records held are extensive and advice from State Records is that little attention has been paid to them since they were deposited.

A recent brief inspection of a small portion of the records, the Register of Correspondence from 1883 to 1923, by Association President Andrew Eastick and David Spencer, has confirmed the records will be an important resource for the writing of the History of Roseworthy.

Given the extensive nature of the records, the current limited knowledge of their contents, and their importance to the project, the Sub-Committee is seeking to establish a volunteer working group to methodically inspect the records and identify those likely to contribute to the project.

State Records, located on Cavan Road at Gepps Cross, provides the opportunity to access records on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, with a morning session from 9.30 AM to 12.30 PM and an afternoon session from 1.00 PM to 4.00 PM. Bookings to attend to inspect records are required several days in advance and the records to be inspected need to be ordered in advance.

The Sub-Committee envisages three or four volunteers, attending both the morning and afternoon session once each month for the next year, would be sufficient for all the records to be inspected and for the records important to the project to be identified.

Members who have an interest in volunteering for this important task are asked to contact the Association President, Andrew Eastick, at andreweastick@outlook.com, or 0419 208 102.

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.





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
 2025 Dennis, Andrew
 2025 Fairbrother, Peter
 2025 Turnbull, Richard

(† Deceased)





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 †	1994 Brian Hannaford †
1962 Dr David Riceman †	1995 Grant Mayfield †
1963 Len Cook †	1996 Robert Knappstein †
1964 William Dawkins OBE †	1997 James Pocock †
1965 Frank Pearson †	1998 Ian Young †
1966 Sir Allan Callaghan CMG †	1999 Don Moyle †
1967 Bob Herriot OBE †	2000 Grant Paech †
1968 Denis Muirhead †	2001 Brian Jefferies AM †
1969 Jack Reddin OAM †	2002 Dr Graham Mitchell AO
1970 Ron Badman †	2003 Philip Laffer AM
1971 Prof Rex Butterfield †	2004 John Vickery OAM †
1972 Rex Krause †	2005 Ronald Mertin AM †
1973 Rex Kuchel †	2006 Brian Wilson
1974 Lex Walker AM †	2007 Wilf Bowen OAM
1975 Ken Pike †	2008 Philip Young AM †
1976 Len Laffer †	2009 Ian Hickinbotham OAM †
1977 Des Habel †	2010 Dr Ray Beckwith OAM †
1978 Henry Day AO †	2011 Raymond Taylor †
1979 Dr Mark Hutton †	2012 Vic Patrick OAM
1980 Cliff Hooper †	2013 Alan Richardson
1981 Andrew Michelmore †	2014 Hon. Peter Dunn
1982 Milton Spurling †	2015 Richard Fewster
1983 Ralph Hewett Jones †	2016 David Lewis OAM
1984 David Suter †	2017 Rev Brian Polkinghorne
1985 Hon Dr Bruce Eastick AM	2018 John Crosby AM
1986 Dr John Obst †	2019 Allan Piggott
1987 Robin Steed †	2020 Professor Wayne Hein
1988 Reg French †	2021 Louisa Rose
1989 Ray Norton †	2022 Graeme Pope
1990 Tony Summers †	2023 Neil Pontifex
1991 Scott Dolling OAM †	2024 Bardy McFarlane
1992 Rex Anderson †	2025 Ian Bidstrup
1993 Bob Baker †	

(† 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
ROCA Digest.



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