

Roseworthy Old Collegians Association committee meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the ROCA committee held on Thursday June 1 1995
in the Roseworthy College Boardroom at 7pm

Present

Peter Fairbrother, Peter Dunn, Harry Stephen, Allan Alcock, Mia Stephens, Andrew Michelmores, Jack Richards, Dale Manson, Brian Hannaford, David Cooper, Ian Rice, Bardy McFarlane, Peter Dunn, Harry Stephen

Apologies

Prof Malcolm Oades, Peter Lewis, Jennifer Trott

The meeting opened with a welcome from the President.

- 1 President's report
- 2 Treasurer's report
- 3 Report from Faculty Board
- 4 Roseworthy College Report
- 5 Planning for the ROCA annual dinner
- 6 Practicalities of the newsletter
- 7 Association administration
- 8 Donations of historic items and custodianship

The minutes of the meeting of 22nd February 1994 were amended to show the date of the next meeting as the special general meeting of 9th August 1994. The minutes of the 9.8.94 were confirmed with 2 annexures which were circulated at the meeting, the AGM Treasurer's report and the final copy of the Rules. Moved Bardy McFarlane seconded Peter Dunn.

Business arising from the minutes

- 1 The discussion on the Rules for the Award of Merit has not taken place yet. Bardy McFarlane is going to prepare a discussion paper.

1 President's report

Alan Alcock reported on

- 1 Attendance at the Eyre Peninsula meeting in March. Mia Stephens and Andrew Michelmores were also at the meeting and dinner in Port Lincoln. Andy has only missed 1 of the Eyre Peninsula meetings in the last 25 years.
- 2 The success of the Faculty graduation dinner for new students. Alan acknowledged the 3 prizes donated by ROCA [total cost \$300]
- 3 Attendance at the Graduation Ceremony for the Faculty in May

2 Treasurer's report

Brian Hannaford presented a financial statement [copy attached] and drew attention to

- 1 the success of the Annual dinner held at the Feathers Hotel 9.8.94
- 2 the wait for the 1995 subscriptions before we reinvest because it is not efficient to invest less than \$10 000. The Treasurer's report was adopted. Moved Brian Hannaford seconded Andrew Michelmores.

3 Report from Faculty Board

Peter Fairbrother reported that

- 1 There had originally been no representation for ROCA on the Faculty Board but that he has attended 2 meetings now.
- 2 There is concern in the Faculty at the drop in enrolments and that members have commented on the need to promote courses and attract students to the Agriculture and NR Management courses [Oenology is overfilled]. A series of Industry dinners to be held in September has been suggested.
- 3 The Woolhouse library has been opened at Waite.

4 The Dean is optimistic about the prospect of money to be earned from the establishment of Cooperative Research Centres in the areas of premium quality wool production and weed management systems.

5 New facilities have been approved for these areas:

The Refectory

Wine Science laboratory

Pig and Poultry provisions

Computing

Audio-Visual

6 Problems:

.1 catering for the needs of postgraduates

.2 in the upgrade of courses from Associate Diploma courses to degree courses, provisions for the practical component seem anomalous.

Ian Rice commented on the lack of representation at Faculty level for the Farm, and the prospect that the on-farm work for the degree is likely to be reduced to 5 days from the previous 35-40 days.

Responses to this ranged from acknowledgement of the interest in the matter demonstrated by the Farmers' Federation to possible input into the Quality Process at the national level of accountability for tertiary institutions.

It was resolved that we accept the Faculty Report on the changes to the courses.

4 Roseworthy College Report

Alan Alcock reported

1 The College has suffered because of the downturn in enrolments.

In 1994 intake was 30 places down, translating as the loss of \$100 000 and in 1995 there were 40 places less than the reduced figure. The college has responded with 2 staff redundancies and with the closure of areas to minimise costs. Tight administration has enabled preparation of a revised budget. Contract caterers, Gardner Merchant will furnish a savings of \$70 000 per year, which will eventually cover the \$130 000 cost of the redundancies.

2 Previously Roseworthy had no bursary funding for college residents, but \$ 20 000 has been made available to subsidise student places in residence in 1995, and a further \$10 000 has been promised for 1996. The Cowan family trust has contributed \$10 000 for student bursaries. Bob Cowan's father was a librarian with the Barr Smith Library and made a generous bequest which has enabled this assistance.

3 The Chewings bequest of \$4000 for an informal barbecue or social area for residents and visitors has to be allocated in accordance with University planning and council approval. The committee was able to look at the architect's plans for the campus which were on display in the Administration area.

4 An assistant to the Principal is to be appointed to promote the use of Roseworthy for conferences and to undertake pastoral care for residents in terms of moving the culture in the direction of making Roseworthy a good place for serious study.

The last issue related to the question of the college reputation, which it is felt could be placed in jeopardy if the actions of a few irresponsible students and ex-students are given too much attention in the community and press.

It was resolved that the President's report be received.

5 Planning for the ROCA annual dinner

Last year's dinner at the Feathers Hotel attracted 134 participants and it was agreed to settle on the same venue for 1995. The date of September 8, the last day of Show week, was selected, and Brian Hannaford is to check the availability of the Feathers for that night. We'll start the AGM at 6.30 and have the smorgasbord dinner at 7.30

Bardy McFarlane will have the invitations printed.

Arrangements for the special groupings were suggested as follows:

50 yr gp	1945		Alan Alcock
25 year gp	1970	Graham Brookman 085 226450	Brian Hannaford to check
10 yr gp	1985		Alan Alcock to check Alumni

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~~Handwritten scribble~~

Digest

6 **Practicalities of the ~~newsletter~~**

A working party was put together to attack the problems of the ~~newsletter~~ [proofing, printing and mailing]:

Dale Manson
Bardy McFarlane
Peter Dunn
Harry Stephen
Allan Alcock

Digest

7 **Association administration**

The committee acknowledged that the new circumstances of ROCA required attention to administrative responsibilities such as storage of non-current documents of ROCA and the memorabilia of Old Collegians. Members agreed that a working party would be a good idea for later in the year, and it was resolved to seek input from people with skills in archiving and cataloguing.

8 **Donations of historic items and custodianship**

A letter of thanks is to be sent to

Mrs Mitton
c/o Veterinary Surgery,
Floxley rd
Mount Barker SA

in acknowledgement of her kind donation of 2 photographs and a 1930s college blazer which belonged to her late husband, Bob Mitton.

Other Business

Harry Stephen expressed concern that the committee had not met regularly, and while the committee felt that they had needed a break after the intense preparation of the new constitution, they acknowledged the need to keep up the impetus and to invest renewed effort.

Date of next meeting

Next meeting is to be held on 17th July at Roseworthy College

The meeting closed at 9.24 pm

The Chewings Bequest

Jim Chewings was a student at Roseworthy in the early 70's. He was awarded his Roseworthy Diploma of Agriculture in 1975 and he also completed the RDAT in that year. At Christmas 1987, Jim died after a car accident in which mercifully, his wife Jane (also a Roseworthy graduate) and his young family were spared.

As an act of great charity, Jim's Roseworthy mates contributed to a fund that could have been used to care for his children. When it became evident that it would not be required for that purpose, the Chewings family approached Roseworthy College and offered to fund a suitable memorial.

After a lengthy period of careful consideration and consultation we are about to construct the Chewings Memorial Barbecue and an architecturally coordinated pergola. The plans of these buildings are now on display in the window of the College Office.

It is intended that these facilities will provide a much needed venue for informal gatherings. They will be serviced with power, water and lighting and there are toilet and washroom facilities in the near vicinity. A fire pit could also be an attractive feature. They are intended to provide a venue that is an appealing alternative to gathering in a room or house.

The buildings have been designed to be robust and easy to maintain. Loud parties should not be a problem because no-one resides in the near vicinity. It will be possible for residents and their friends to relax and enjoy good company without the usual concerns - disturbing others, damaging property and making a mess that will take a lot of time and effort to clean up.

The Property Services Branch of the University is assisting Roseworthy College to bring this project to fruition and their support is gratefully acknowledged. We can expect some on site progress in the very near future. If you can find the time, there may be some way in which you can help, but with exams looming up fast, I know that is unlikely.

When it is completed and available for you to use, please look after it. In this way we can honour the memory of past students (Jim Chewings in particular) and ensure that future students also enjoy the benefit of their generosity.

Allan Alcock

7 June 1995