



Roseworthy Old Collegians Assoc. Inc.

R.O.C.A. Digest

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EDITOR

Andrew Michelmore.

DECEMBER 1987

CHRISTMAS
GREETINGS



The
Chapel

The Memorial Chapel, Roseworthy Agricultural College.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Roseworthy College is about to disappear - unless you do something about it.

All Institutions providing Tertiary Education in Australia, and the way in which the Government finances these Institutions is under review as a consequence of decisions taken by the Federal Government.

The Minister ultimately responsible for the broad framework within which these decisions will be taken is, himself, an old collegian, the Hon. John Dawkins, who is Minister for Employment, Education and Training. John was at the College during 1965. The current "Green Paper" is being prepared at his direction. It is due for release to the public at large and the States' Governments on December 11th. Therefore, there is only a little time after the release of the "Green Paper" for the likes of you and I to raise our voice about this matter and express our opinion supporting the retention of Roseworthy as a separate autonomous institution.

We all know that the training courses available at Roseworthy provide people with not only the development of academic insight and capacity, but also the acquisition and understanding of practical skills and techniques. There is no other academic discipline and no other profession in which it is absolutely necessary for these skills to be acquired in an environment which, by very definition of the "nature of the beast", has to be on broad acres. It's well known that agriculture depends on our human capacity to interact with the three elements of soil, climate and plants, to produce the desired basic products - either plants or animals. These elements are very variable, being both difficult to control and predict in their variations.

This same rationale applies to the acquisition of all basic skills and knowledge of technique, whether to agricultural production, land management, and/or natural resource management. It's merely a matter of transposing one species for another in the given micro-climate and range of soil types in that given locality to achieve the desired result.

On the other hand, and in conscious acknowledgement of reality, we know that knowledge, and the education process relating to it's transmission from one mind to other minds is both a science and an art which is dynamic. It is in a constant state of change. Not only are the limits of our knowledge about ourselves and the World in which we live and our capacity to manipulate aspects of that physical, chemical, biological and social environment constantly growing, but as part of it, we are improving our understanding and awareness of the techniques by which we can transmit that knowledge (the very education process itself).

Notwithstanding the foregoing, most sensible thinking people agree that it is impossible to produce someone trained in the way that Roseworthy has been able to train people throughout the century or so it has existed, unless it has, not only adequate classrooms and up-to-date text books, but also a huge "laboratory" in which the student acquires skills and sees the conduct - indeed, participates in the conduct - of experiments. (Every time you plant a crop or put a ram with the ewes or change the number of native

fauna in any given native flora regime, or prune a tree, or burn a tract of land, the end result is, definable within parameters, but unpredictable in precise result.

In further support of our case is the fact that land management for-

- retention and conservation for genetic variability within the range of indigenous species, or
- for agricultural production, providing sustenance and/or economic gain for the population

need to be seen as common, compatible goals in the frame-work of responsible stewardship and civilised occupation of our continent. In the past, the public have thought that leading public figures supporting each of these activities saw their respective goals to be incompatible with each other - indeed, diametrically opposed. Thinking people know that this is not so. Therefore, it follows that there can be no better way to ensure understanding and acceptance of this truth by the new generation of qualified professional administrators and academics (who will have an overriding influence on better public understanding) than to be trained at the same institution - on the same campus. Roseworthy has yet again been the pioneering example to the rest of the Nation (if not the World) in this regard!

Provision of appropriate and adequate resources to train people in the skills which are currently being acquired by students at Roseworthy, requires the outlay of more dollars per capita than is necessary for other tertiary students in, say, the Faculties of the Arts, Engineering, Medicine and/or any other major field of academic, professional and productive endeavour in this nation.

The importance of the acquisition of the Roseworthy-type intellectual and technical skills is underlined by the fact that, if we are to survive as a Nation, we must continue to be good at managing the vast resource of land which we have at our disposal and use it to produce the substantial contribution we have always got and will need to continue to get from products of it, to be sold on World markets; whilst at the same time, ensuring that our human occupation on this Continent, the activities we undertake on it, and the genetic diversity of all indigenous species present, can survive in perpetuity. We must not fail in our responsibility to ourselves, our children and future generations and therefore must not fail to recognise this fundamental truth about our very being, as Australians in the latter part of the 20th Century - NOW.

Roseworthy is uniquely placed now, as it has been throughout it's existence, to provide such of training. If we disband that training (philosophically) on the campus of Roseworthy itself, then we will only have to immediately re-establish the same facilities elsewhere, to continue providing the same kind of tertiary education and training as Roseworthy provides at the present.

To argue otherwise, is to ignore reality.

IF YOU BELIEVE THEN, THAT THE EXISTENCE OF THE COLLEGE AS AN INSTITUTION, DOING THE THINGS THAT IT DOES FOR THE STATE AND THE NATION, WITH THE

STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE IT HAS TRADITIONALLY ACHIEVED IN THIS ROLE TO BE IMPORTANT, THEN YOU SHOULD PERSONALLY WRITE A LETTER TO THE HON. JOHN DAWKINS AND THE HON. LYN ARNOLD AND ANY OTHER POLITICIAN YOU CAN THINK OF. OUTLINE YOUR CONCERN AND PROTEST AGAINST ANY PROSPECTIVE DECISION WHICH MAY BE MADE TO CHANGE THE NATURE OF THE INSTITUTION AND THE WAY IN WHICH IT HAS BEEN ABLE TO FUNCTION WITH AUTONOMY IN PERFORMING THIS ROLE FOR THE GREATER GOOD OF ALL AUSTRALIANS TO DATE.

The importance of the Institution and it's role in society is far greater than the professional career aspirations of the academics and the public servants who might otherwise make decisions which, in the short run, are in their personal and professional best interests, but which ignore the National ecological, economic and social responsibility for the consequences of those decisions.

Will you write to both, the Hon. John Dawkins and the Hon. Lynn Arnold or any other Federal or State politician you think may be able to assist in this cause?

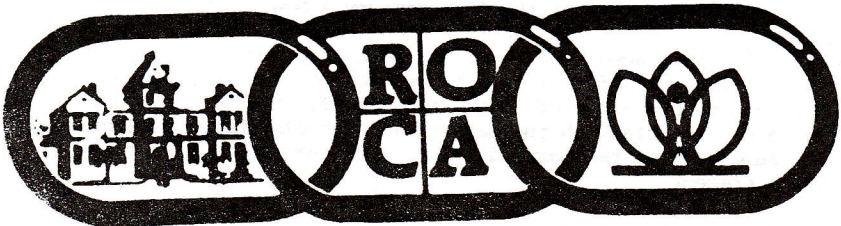
IF YOU DON'T CARE, WHO WILL?



PETER LEWIS, JP, MP, PRESIDENT

The Hon. John Dawkins,
Minister for Employment, Education and Training,
Parliament House,
CANBERRA ACT 2601

The Hon. Lynn Arnold,
Minister of Employment and Further Education,
Parliament House,
ADELAIDE SA 5000



NEWS FROM THE COLLEGE

NEW BROOM

The appointment of Old Collegian John Dawkins as Minister for Employment, Education and Training, has heralded wide-ranging changes to the structure of tertiary education.

It is likely that the College will face merger with another institution as part of moves to increase efficiency by rationalising courses, methods of course delivery, and administrative and teaching support services provided by Colleges and Universities.

There are likely to be increasing pressures on institutions to liaise more closely with industry and to expand cost recovery activities.

Rumours such as these abound in advance of December 11, the date for the release of a Green Paper on the Structure of Tertiary Education in Australia. The Green Paper is expected to contain dramatic, even revolutionary, proposals and in the light of responses to it, it will be developed into a White Paper about March/April 1988 in preparation for the Commonwealth 1988/89 budget and plans for triennial funding of tertiary education 1989/91.

Moves at the Commonwealth level will have a strong bearing on the review of the structure of tertiary education being conducted in South Australia. It is possible that two, or at the most three, higher education institutions will result from mergers and rearrangements of various parts of the existing higher education institutions - Roseworthy Agricultural College, South Australian Institute of Technology, South Australian College of Advanced Education, University of Adelaide, and Flinders University. It does not seem likely that technical and further education will be changed, although increased links between TAFE and higher education will be required.

R.O.C.A.

NEW STAFF

During a period of rapid change, the College expects to have a substantial number of new staff members during the next few months.

Efforts continue to make an appointment to the position of Associate Director.

An appointment to the position of Manager Field Services, following Basil Baldwin's resignation a couple of months ago, is expected soon.

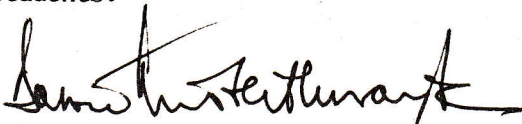
Resignations of Mr Peter Jones, Principal Demonstrator in Horses; Mr Chris Brien, Lecturer in Statistics/Computing; and Mr Tony Spawton, Lecturer in Wine Marketing, will take effect during the next few weeks. In addition, the search for a Lecturer in Business, a position vacated by Mr Michael Boyle several months ago, continues.

Mr Ray Jones, long-serving Accounting Officer, will retire from the College shortly and a new appointee will be sought.

I would welcome assistance from members of ROCA in suggesting the names of men and women who could be approached about appointment to these positions.

NEW STUDENTS

The spate of applications received by the South Australian Tertiary Admissions Centre will not be processed fully for at least another month. At this stage it seems that the College's courses have been well-supported overall, but the new course for 1988, Associate Diploma in Applied Science (Agricultural Mechanisation), has attracted only a relatively small number of applicants. To meet the 1988 student number quotas the College will need to take in about 300 new students.



BARRIE THISTLETHWAYTE
Director
16.11.87.

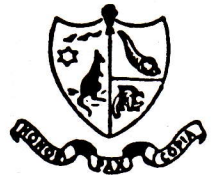


ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 11th Sept. 1987

Main business items included:-

- * Past Principals and 'Re-hab.' students be featured at the 1988 Dinner on 9th Sept.
- * The Constitution of the Association was altered to allow one committee member from each of the three Faculties.
- * The Committee consider approaching the College with a view of naming the paddocks after former landowners.
- * Officers elected are:-

President	Peter Lewis
Vice President	Dale Manson
Secretary	Bardy McFarlane
Treasurer	Peter Fairbrother
Grad. Year	Andrew Sneyd
1-10 year Rep.	Greg Mitchell
Ord. Members	Andrew Michelmore
	Ian Rice
	Michael Milne
	Frank Chapman
Imm. Past Pres.	Harry Stephen
Eyre Pen.Rep.	Jack Richards
	Ken Hayman
Sth.East Rep.	Allan Richardson
College Director	Barrie Thistlethwayte
Auditor	Jack Messenger



During the Dinner, the Award of Merit was presented to Robin Steed, who has made an outstanding contribution to the Dairying industry.

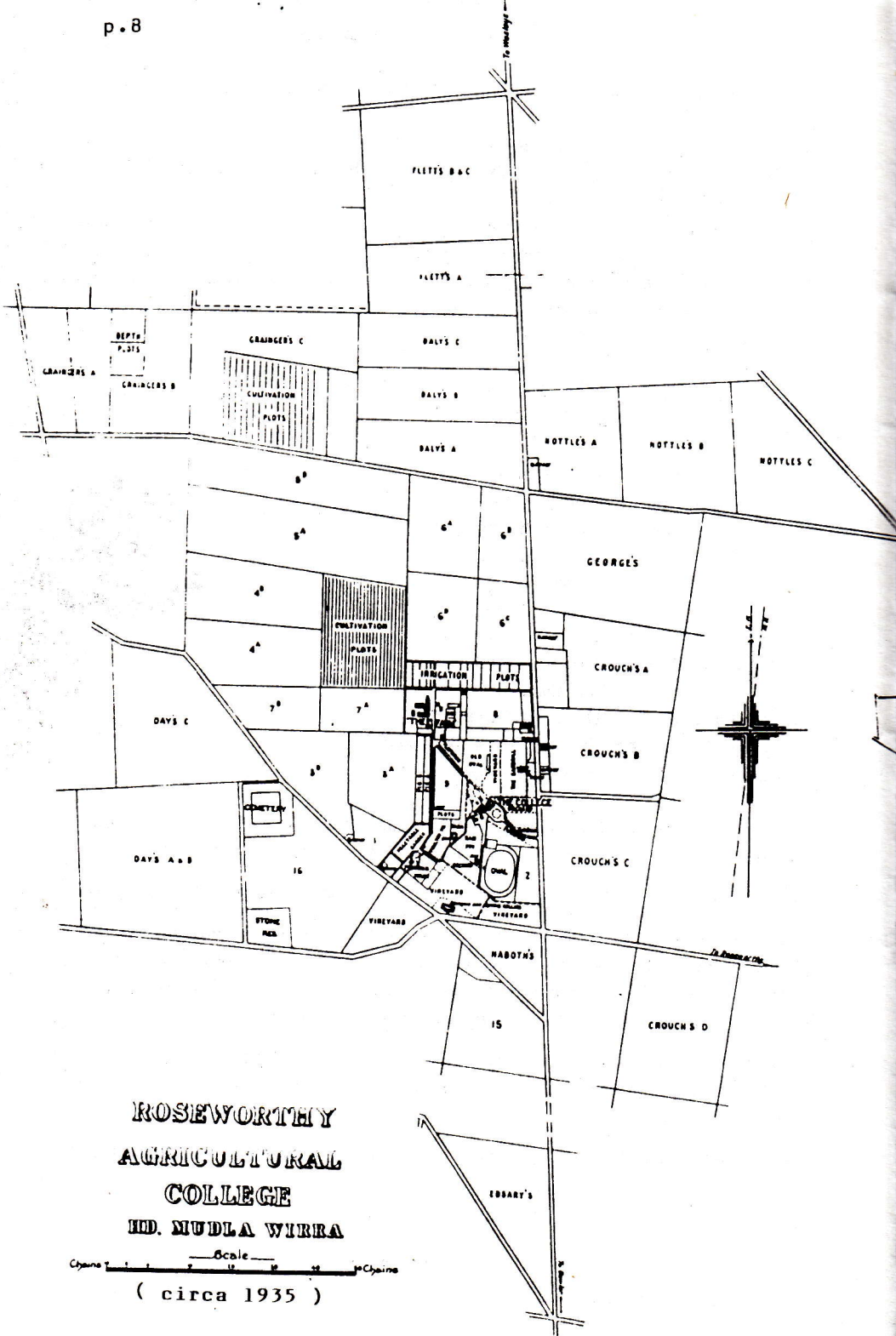
Janet Monroe introduced the 10 year group; Jack Reddin, the 25 year group.

Alick Hancock (1931) spoke on behalf of the 'over 50' year group. He worked in the Wine industry for a few years, then as a machinery salesman in W.A. before finding his niche buying and selling land near Perth.

'Philpy' was the only representative of the 'over 65' year group.

During the Dinner, A. T. A. President Peter Fairbrother presented the A.T.A. Medal to Brian Jeffries, in recognition of his service to the sheep industry.

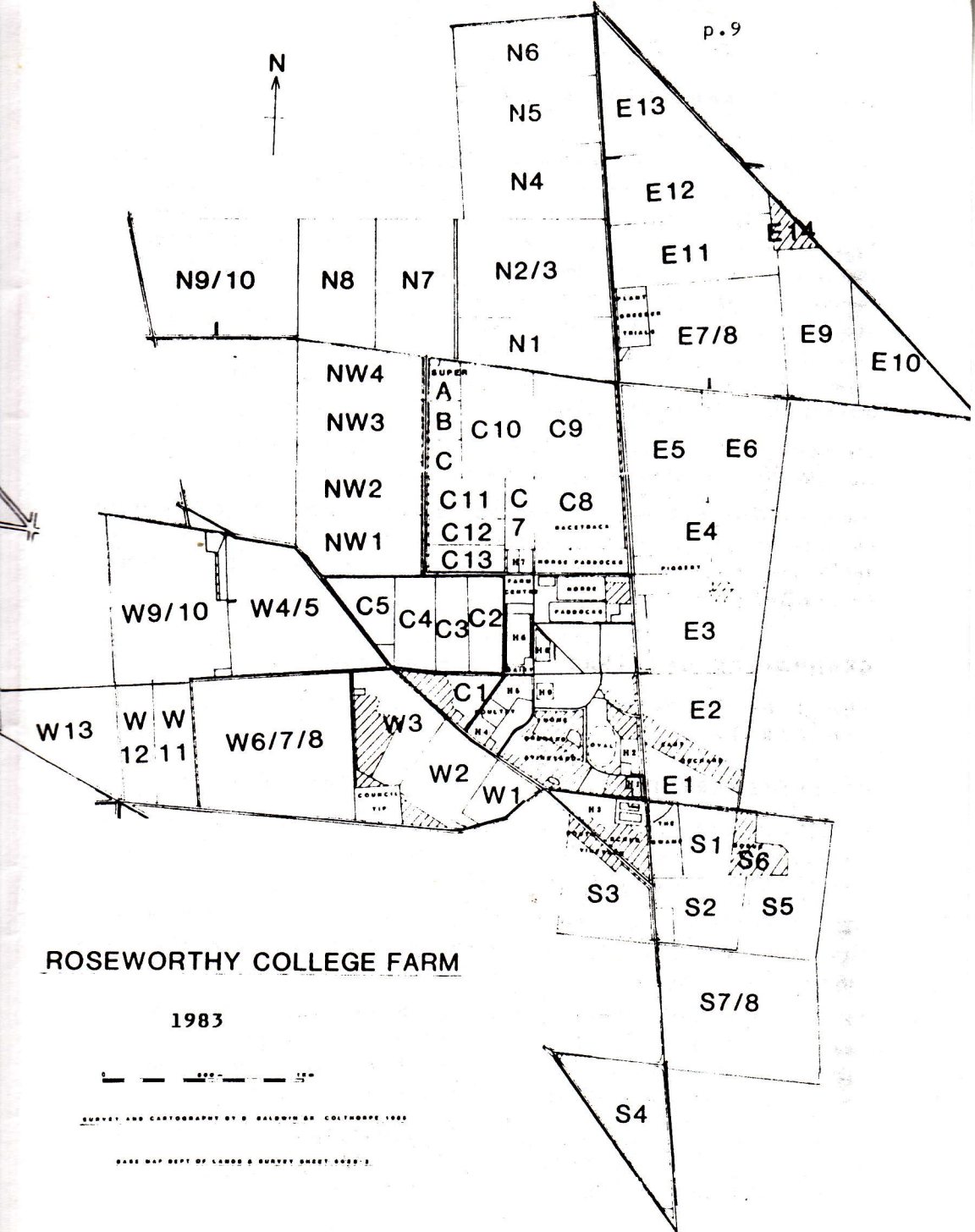
The Dinner was attended by approx 190 members, spouses and friends.



ROSEWORTHY
 AGRICULTURAL
 COLLEGE
 HD. MUDLA WIRRA

Scale
 Chains 0 5 10 15 20

(circa 1935)



ROSEWORTHY COLLEGE FARM

1983



SURVEY AND CARTOGRAPHY BY G. BALDWIN & COLTHORPE 1983

BASE MAP DEPT OF LANDS & SURVEY SHEET 4025-1

COLLEGE FARM PADDOCK NAMES

The A.G.M. received a suggestion that the old names of the paddocks be re-introduced. This has been investigated by the Committee, and we have now received approval from the College Council to prepare a series of maps of the College in its various stages of development since the original land purchase on 1882. Denis Harrison has researched the early records of transfer of land for the property which we all know as 'The College'. The maps in the Centre-fold of this Digest show the farm plan of 1935 with names of the previous owners. Naboth's takes its name from the Biblical reference to Naboth's vineyards (1 Kings 21). The second map shows the present farm plan, with paddocks identified by letter and number. This new identification was introduced in the mid 1940's.

The maps will be suitably framed and displayed in a prominent place in the new Agriculture building which will be opened next year.

Has any Old Student maps, photographs, records or other information which could be of interest in preparation of these maps. If you can help, please let's know. A booklet will be prepared for all information not included on the framed maps.

GRADUATION DAY 1988 - 8th April

The 1988 Graduation Day will be on Friday
8th April.

BI-CENTENARY FUNCTION AT ROSEWORTHY COLLEGE

R.O.C.A. Committee, with A.T.A. Committee will organise a Family Day "Back - to - Roseworthy" Barbeque and Fun Day at the College on 10th April 1988.

Plans are being made to include a Barbeque luncheon, games for young and old, including football kicking competitions, tennis, cricket, swimming, hay-rides and mini-train rides.

It is anticipated that costs will be minimal (about \$6.00) for the B.B.Q., plus whatever you like to spend at the Community Club or at the Wine Cellars (You might like to enjoy some of the College wines when you get home.

We will need to know numbers for catering, so please let the Secretary know as soon as possible. Also, advise if you want a bus tour of the College farm.

CAREERS NIGHT

In association with A. T. A., members of the R.O.C.A. Committee attended a Careers night at the College on 8th Oct. Students, Staff, Consultants and organisers considered it a successful function.

Students and members of R.O.C.A. or A.T.A. seeking further assistance may contact Graham Brookman at the College.

The Association hopes to develop a list of Old Students who are prepared to help Students plan their career. Jack Messenger was unable to attend on 8th Oct., but his name heads the list in the field of Accountancy.

Please contact the Secretary, giving your year of graduation, your field of expertise, and where you can be contacted.

COLLEGE WINES

The 6th Annual Vintage Dinner was held on 6-11-87 at the Botanic Gardens Restaurant. Some 'magnificent' wines were enjoyed by over 100 guests. You can also enjoy these wines by ordering from the College Cellars. A special 'Old Collegians Dozen' has been offered at \$72.50 Ring, write or call for details, but tell them R.O.C.A. sent you, and you can try before you buy from the fine selection of wines.

WORK FOR STUDENTS

College students still need to get work experience on farms during the holidays. If you can help, please contact the College. Graham Brookman is the organiser of this work.

WORK FOR FIJIAN STUDENT

Ken Edwards has written from Fiji, asking for help for a graduate. He would prefer to work with vegetables, dairy, pigs, or poultry. He is used to hard work, and Ken is sure he would work well with any Old Student. He needs work for a few months early in 1988. Please write :-
Pauliasi Masau, C/- Meroni Rokodraki, St. John School,
WAILOKO, SUVA, FIJI.





The Editor,
ROCA Digest

Dear Sir,

As a product of RAC in the late 1960's and as a life member of ROCA, I have followed the activities of both the institution of Roseworthy and the changes which have occurred since that time.

I began my career with an emphasis towards agriculture and have modified that emphasis to view land use management in a more integrated manner, realising that use of land for agriculture must fit into a broad environmental framework. It was therefore with interest, and to some extent relief, that I read the President's article in the May edition of the ROCA Digest.

I believe that Peter Lewis as President is making an important point which should not be lost on agriculture students and graduates from Roseworthy and indeed other such institutions in Australia. The discipline of natural resources management and recognition of environmental factors in land use are receiving increasing consideration as the availability of resources lessens and as land use managers grapple with soil and water conservation, salinity, fire and vegetation management, native and exotic animal and plant management and so on.

Given this variety of factors involving and affecting land managers, I would like to see a group like ROCA officially recognise the legitimacy of the natural resources management function, rather than perhaps having the tendency of viewing it as a trendy occupation for greenies.

Only when we as a community can view our land resources and their management in this way will we really come to grips with long term land use policies and practices. I believe that ROCA should be in the forefront of encouraging the College and its graduates to accept their part in this responsibility and not be seen to be clinging to a narrower view of land use management, which does not reflect the reality.

N. Newland

EDITOR'S NOTE

1. Mr. Newland, who is expressing his personal view as a member of ROCA, is not only an Old Collegian but also Deputy Director of the National Parks and Wildlife Service in S.A.
2. Neither he nor ROCA believe there is any conflict of interest between graduate of Natural Resources or Agriculture or any other Faculty.

R. O. C. A. BRANCH MEETINGS

EYRE PENINSULA

You all know that the E.P. Branch meets on the last weekend in February. Dinner on Saturday 27th and Family Picnic on Sunday 28th February 1988.

SOUTH EAST

The South East group met at Tarpeena on Sunday 4th October. About 30 braved the weather and enjoyed the programme.

DENILIQVIN

I've had a letter from Andrew Solomon who is keen to contact members in the district, or within moderate travelling distance, so if you live within 50 to 500 km of him, please contact Andrew Solomon at Department of Agriculture, Box 736, DENILIQVIN N.S.W. 2710, and let him know that you would like him to organise a meeting. **Phone 058 811499 at work or 085 814485 at home. Michael Butler is the only other member in Deliliquin, but there must be more within reach, so please make an effort.**



1988 REUNION AND DINNER

The 1988 A.G.M. and Dinner will be held at the Renaissance Tower Restaurant, Rundle Mall on Friday 9th September.

Meeting at 5.30 and Dinner 7.00 for 7.30 pm.

Greg Moulds, 4 Allen St. Waikeri, S. A. 5330 will be the contact for the 10 year group.

Peter Ellis, 50 Austral Tce. Malvern S. A. 5061 will be the contact for the 25 year group.

Gordon McHugh, 3 Gordon Tce., Morphettville S.A. 5043 has been nominated as contact for the Re-hab. students. It is 40 years since they graduated.

OBITUARY

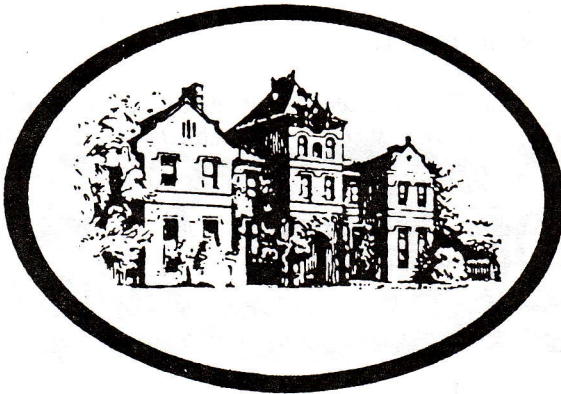
Last year we reported the death of Rex Kuchel, who was well known to many of the Old Students as a fellow student, a lecturer or as a friend.

We were further saddened to hear of the death of Nora, his widow, during September this year.

We extend our sympathy to the family.

We report, also, the death of Bob Kuchel on 23rd October 1987. Bob graduated in 1943 from Roseworthy, and completed a Degree course before working with the Education Department, then for many years with the C.S.I.R.O. Div. Biochemistry & Animal Nutrition.

R. O. C. A. extends sympathy to Betty and family.



1988 AWARD OF MERIT

Nominations for the Roseworthy Old Collegians Award of Merit are required before 30-6-88.

This honour is conferred on outstanding R.O.C.A. members in recognition of meritorious service to Agriculture, the Community or R.O.C.A.

Please post nominations to the Secretary, R.O.C.A., C/- Roseworthy College, ROSEWORTHY 5371

Name of Nominee

Address of Nominee

Age.....Period at R.A.C.

Proposed by

Seconded by

Supporting data must be provided on career, employment, and occupation since leaving R.A.C.

Please list major published papers, achievements, academic qualifications and honours bestowed, including community service so that the selection panel can make an assessment on the information provided.

Nominees must be financial members of R.O.C.A.

Nominations must be proposed and seconded by financial members of R.O.C.A.

R.O.C.A. BADGES

Membership badges are still available. Please order through the Secretary, R.O.C.A., C/- R. A. C. , ROSEWORTHY S.A. 5371 . \$10.00 for the 'saw pierced' or \$5.00 for the plain badge.

PLEASE FILL OUT AND RETURN NOW.

APPLICATION FOR R.O.C.A. MEMBERSHIP

I wish to join Roseworthy Old Collegians Association;

NAME:

ADDRESS:

.....

COURSE ATTENDED:.....

YEAR GRADUATED:.....

Cheque enclosed for LIFE MEMBERSHIP \$40.00
ORDINARY MEMBERSHIP \$ 5.00

SIGNATURE:.....

C H A N G E O F A D D R E S S

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....
.....

Course Attended.....

Year Graduated.....

Old Address.....