

THE ROCA DIGEST

SPRING 2015



PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

By **Mark Rodda**



THE UNIVERSITY
of ADELAIDE

Welcome to the Spring 2015 edition of the ROCA Digest. As you will quickly note, ROCA has had an action packed dance card since over the past 6 months. It has been a pleasure to attend the ROCA reunion dinners in the Riverland and the South East recently. The common link of our time at Roseworthy provides a powerful and timeless bond between us and this is obvious wherever and whenever Roseworthy Old Collegians meet.

It is very pleasing to announce the new national sponsorship of Piper Alderman. Piper's are extremely generous in their support of agriculture and agribusiness pursuits across Australia and a perfect fit for ROCA. As always, I encourage ROCA members to consider our national sponsors – William Buck, Wall Studios and Piper Alderman – whenever you are in the market for such services.

Along with our very successful "Plonky's Pick" fundraising efforts of the past 12 months, and generous support of our national sponsors, the ROCA bank accounts are in good shape. As a result, we are in a position to support new scholarships in 2016 and other capital improvements at Roseworthy Campus, which you will read about in this edition.

A warm welcome to new ROCA Committee Member, David Coyner (Suncorp's SA Agribusiness Manager) and my sincere thanks to all committee members who's brilliant work and commitment to the cause has ROCA striving ahead at a great rate. Attached to this Digest, you will find the order form for our second Roseworthy Old Collegians wine fundraising campaign. It was a pleasure to work with the wonderful team at Oleary Walker Wines to pick this year's wine selection to offer to the ROCA network. Please order with confidence that you are buying superb wines and supporting future agricultural scholarships.

I look forward to seeing you at the Annual ROCA Dinner on the 16 October 2015.

Mark Rodda
ROCA President



Photo: Mark Rodda (ROCA President)

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

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| | |
|--|----|
| • Presidents Report – Mark Rodda | 1 |
| • Dean of Roseworthy report – Wayne Hein | 2 |
| • Ag Grads start on lawyer salaries – Mark Rodda | 2 |
| • Roseworthy Campus update – David Purdie | 3 |
| • Fiona Hill profile – Mark Rodda | 4 |
| • News from the Uni – Leah Grantham | 5 |
| • EP Scholarship – Mark Rodda | 5 |
| • RCSF Report – Ray Taylor | 6 |
| • Letter to the Editor – Brian Jefferies | 7 |
| • ROCA Plonky's Pick 2015 – Fiona Hill | 7 |
| • ROCA 2015 Annual Dinner – Dale Manson | 7 |
| • Riverland Reunion Dinner report – Dale Manson | 8 |
| • ROCA South East ROCA Dinner – Alan Richardson | 8 |
| • ANZAC event summation – Dick Turnbull | 9 |
| • William Buck article – Ben Trengrove | 10 |
| • Passing of members – Dale Manson | 11 |
| • Custance Headstone – Dick Turnbull | 11 |
| • Alumni Council report – Dale Manson | 11 |
| • News from the Archives – Dave Spencer | 12 |
| • BW Stan Watson Roseworthy Connection – Dick Turnbull | 13 |
| • 60 Years from Roseworthy – Rod Woolford | 13 |
| • Blast from the Past – Dave Spencer | 14 |
| • ROCA Wine Fundraiser - Fiona Hill | 14 |
| • Wallstudios article – Matthew & Michelle Wall | 15 |
| • Piper Alderman article – Simon Venus | 16 |

DEAN OF ROSEWORTHY REPORT

DEAN OF ROSEWORTHY REPORT

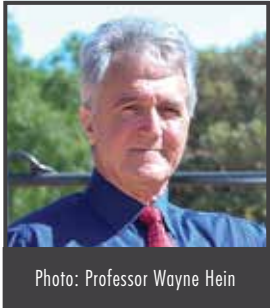


Photo: Professor Wayne Hein

It has been a busy time at Roseworthy since the last Digest report appeared and I will comment briefly about a few key activities.

Utilisation of JS Davies bequest funds. On 2nd July, Professor John Williams commenced a five year appointment to a JS Davies Research Chair. John is an outstanding animal scientist whose pedigree includes senior research leadership roles at the Roslin Institute, Scotland and Parco Tecnologico Padano, Italy.

The JS Davies Research Unit will focus on animal production, global food security, biosecurity and animal welfare. Professor Williams will now lead the Research Unit, build on its existing strengths and develop it into a world-class centre that is recognised by industry and related sectors as a clear leader in research related to genetics and genomics of livestock. One early goal is to achieve formal recognition as a Research Centre within the University of Adelaide and establish a strong network of national and international partnerships.

A trajectory for the next level of excellence. In July, the School of Animal and Veterinary Science was accepted as an Affiliate Member of the American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC). This is a significant first step towards an eventual goal of achieving accreditation by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) and full membership of AAVMC. Expanding the veterinary accreditation credentials of the School beyond those held currently (Australasia and the United Kingdom) provides an impetus for continual improvement, it gives graduates more employment options and it makes the School and Campus a more competitive education provider for prospective students. It is likely to take 3-5 years to achieve full AVMA accreditation and AAVMC membership.

Expansion of the Roseworthy piggery and poultry units. A partnership between the University and SARDI has been pivotal to the operation of piggery and poultry research units on the Roseworthy campus. Each unit plays an important research role aimed at improving the intensive animal industries in SA and also contributes to teaching of animal science and veterinary science students. A Funding Deed executed recently between the Minister for Agriculture, Food and Fisheries and the University will allow substantial expansion of the scope and scale of research activities in both of these units. Construction and refurbishment work is expected to be completed in the medium term future.

Professor Wayne Hein
Head, School of Animal and Veterinary Science, Dean of Roseworthy

AG GRADS START ON LAWYER SALARIES

ASHLEY WALMSLEY 'The Land' 29 June 2015

TERTIARY agriculture students are entering jobs with starting salaries equivalent to lawyers. The University of Queensland Dean of Agriculture was one of the speakers at the 2015 National Horticulture Convention on the Gold Coast.

Professor Menzies began his address with some sobering statements about the lack of tertiary ag-throughput. In terms of other industries, agriculture is not attracting graduates.

"HOW WELL EDUCATED IS OUR WORKFORCE? The message isn't that great," he said. He said agriculture is barely on the radar for career-hungry university students. Among those, horticulture struggles to get even a passing consideration. With less than 800 graduates for more than 4000 jobs, Professor Menzies said it was not surprising that those who chose to enter ag were starting off on attractive salaries. "Salaries for ag graduates are gradually tracking up. Ag graduates now start on the same salary as lawyers," he said. He said Australia boasts some of the best agriculture university courses in the world, stating our ability to deliver an education remains extremely good. He said it largely came down to what young perceive agricultural work to be- long hours, dirty, using chemicals and affecting the environment. "We have an image problem. We need to remake our image, remake the image of our industries," Prof Menzies said. It was time to start embracing media attention, including social media, and portraying a positive, attractive industry, he said. He gave an example of the farmers and farming groups appearing on television complaining about issues. "They make the mistake of thinking they are speaking to the government when they are on camera when really they are talking to future students," he said.

ROSEWORTHY RESIDENTIAL COLLEGE

Students have returned for the commencement of semester two, full of anticipation for another exciting term at the Roseworthy Residential College. The college continues to go from strength to strength with strong demand from students wanting to experience the academic and social benefits of living on campus.

But as we know, at Roseworthy it is not "all work and no play". Achieving a balance of activities (social, sporting, spiritual) to compliment students' academic pursuits is really what college life is all about. Students engaging in leadership, administering committees and coordinating activities is such an important part of the growth and development of students "soft" skills.

On the social side, there were a number of events during the first semester to help build comradery amongst the student group. Activities for semester one included a "house crawl" through the Custance Centre where each house was decorated and themed in a particular manner, a pyjama party where everyone dressed in their best and warmest PJ's, the traditional Roseworthy bon fires, a "rumble in the jungle" wildlife themed charity event and many more. We have the annual campus Veterinary Ball coming up in August which will be held at the Hilton Hotel for the first time and typically attracts around 350 staff and students.

On the sporting front, our basketball and netball teams continue to compete and have fun in the Gawler mid-week competitions. Our annual "Roseworthy vs Village" soccer match was played with the result unfortunately going typically to plan as it has in previous years - an 8 to nil defeat! We are looking forward to our annual "Waite vs Roseworthy" football match occurring in October which continues to be a highlight of the year.

We now have student animal clubs covering species such as pigs, equine, cattle, companion animals and wildlife so there is plenty of learning activities for students to engage in. Both the pigs and our cattle team will be competing in the Adelaide show in September.

The Roseworthy Anzac day event on the 26th of April was one of the best days that I have experienced in my time here. It was so pleasing to see so many old scholars attend the ceremony and the lunch and to have some current students on hand to pay their respects to those that had gone before them was fantastic. I must say a big thank you and congratulations to all who were involved from ROCA and particularly Dick Turnbull who put in a huge amount of work to make the day a success.



DAVID PURDIE
MANAGER, STUDENT SERVICES & HEAD OF COLLEGE (ROSEWORTHY)



Photo: Prof Wayne Hein, David Purdie and members of the Pig Club.

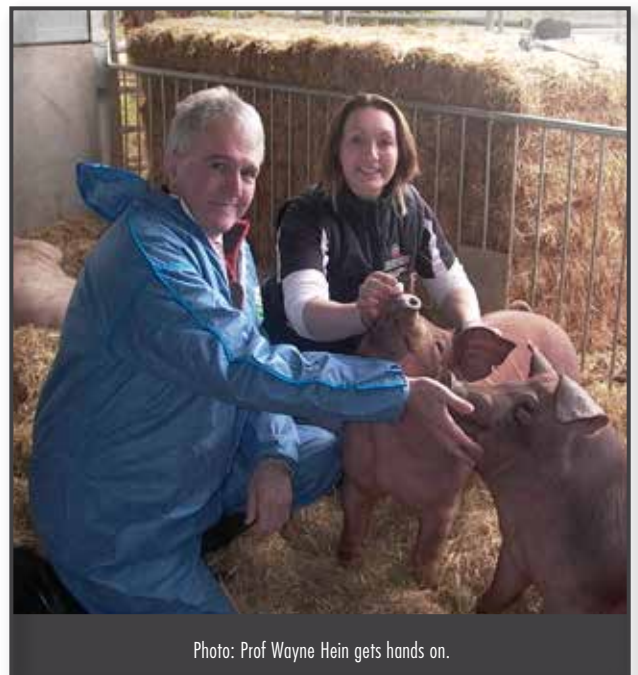


Photo: Prof Wayne Hein gets hands on.

ROCA COMMITTEE MEMBER PROFILE

A RECENT ADDITION TO THE ROCA COMMITTEE IS FIONA HILL, FROM CLARE.



Photo: ROCA Committee Member, Fiona Hill.

Fiona grew up on Yorke Peninsula, attending Maitland Area School in her formative years, and then choosing to study B. App Sc. (Ag.) at Roseworthy Campus. Inspiration for further study of Agriculture came from growing up on her family farm near Ardrossan, and also an enthusiastic Ag. teacher John Agnew in senior high school. Studying at Roseworthy was a simple decision for Fiona, following in her brother Simon's footsteps, and the allure of studying in a regional area rather than the city.

Fiona was a resident at Roseworthy from 1993-1995. In third year her major stream of study was in Dryland Cropping. Since graduating, Fiona spent three years as an Assistant Research Agronomist with IAMA on Yorke Peninsula and two years as a Sales Agronomist with IAMA based at Keith. Her current employer of fourteen years is Sumitomo Chemical Australia, based in Clare. Fiona manages the South-Australian region for the Sydney-based ag chemical company and travels to most corners of the state.

ROCA Committee President Mark Rodda was the reason she joined ROCA management. "I have known Mark since primary school on Yorke Peninsula, and have stayed in touch ever since. I saw him devoting a lot of hours to ROCA, on top of his day job, and thought I may be able to also contribute to the effort of encouraging bright young minds to a career in agriculture and agribusiness".

Fiona has stepped up to the challenge of co-ordinating the second instalment of ROCA's Plonky's Pick fundraising program. "Based in the Clare Valley, I live fairly close to O'Leary Walker Wines, so it makes sense to be the go-to person. This year, we will be organising a 'wine labelling day' - to save a few bucks along the way, so if anyone is keen to help, please get in touch. It's up to us to keep the spirit Roseworthy and our passion for agriculture alive and well".

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY

It gives me great pleasure to contribute to the ROCA Digest for the first time and in doing so provide an update on the latest news from the University. LEAH GRANTHAM, Acting Chief Engagement Officer

Given this is my first contribution I thought I would be appropriate to outline my connection to the Roseworthy campus. My great-grandfather, Albert Maynard (AM) Dawkins was one of the first students to attend the Roseworthy Agricultural College in the late 1880s. He was followed by my grandfather, Boyd Dawkins, my uncle, Ross Dawkins and my father, John Dawkins, and many members of my extended family who were all Roseworthy students and farmed on properties in the neighbouring Gawler River district. Even though I am based at the University's North Terrace Campus, it is always a delight for me to be able to spend the time that I do at Roseworthy because of the role the campus has played in my family's history.

There have been a number of exciting developments to report on, including the launch of the Training Centre for Innovative Wine Production at the Waite campus. Supported by the Australian Research Council and 12 partner organisations, the Centre aims to build knowledge and technologies that will help the wine industry face the challenges of climate warming, water limitations, changing consumer preferences and increasing production costs.

Of course so many of the latest developments in our agriculture, wine and animal and veterinary sciences research and teaching are underpinned by the significant support the University has received over many years through its collaborations and partnerships with government and industry and through the philanthropic support it has received.

As an example, in 2013 the University announced the largest expansion of university-based research into animal and crop health and production in Australian history. This expansion has been made possible through the investment of more than \$50 million from the University's endowment, and specifically from the investment of the gifts of two benefactors, JAT Mortlock and JS Davies, whose express wishes were to support these fields.

As a result of this investment, at the Roseworthy campus the University has established the JS Davies Animal Research Centre to build on our existing strengths in production, global food security, biosecurity and animal welfare. These positions have supplemented the existing JS Davies Chair in the area of epigenetics and genetics. In addition, the JS Davies Chair in Animal Health and the JS Davies Chair in Animal Production have been created to take leading roles in the new Centre.

The Mortlock bequest today funds the JAT Mortlock Chairs in Plant Stress, Crop Protection and Crop Improvement. Other distinguished staff have also been appointed in line with this bequest, including Professor Dabing Zhang, an internationally renowned academic from Shanghai Jiao Tong University in China. It has also funded a number of capital initiatives intended to stimulate a re-invigorated culture of cutting-edge research and to foster collaboration between partners on the Waite Campus. Initiatives include the formation of a Biometry Hub, the expansion of the FoodPLUS Centre in the Waite Main Building and establishment of a Waite Campus node of Adelaide Microscopy.

These two bequests are excellent examples of how philanthropic support can make a major contribution to the University's ability to develop research for the growth of the economy of our state and nation – and we are of course very grateful for the continued support we receive to enable us to do this.

FREE EYRE & ROCA LAUNCH RURAL SCHOLARSHIP

FREE Eyre and the Roseworthy Old Collegians Association (ROCA) recently launched the formation of a rural scholarship for an Eyre Peninsula student studying an agricultural related degree with the University of Adelaide.

The new scholarship will be awarded to an Eyre Peninsula student in 2016 who is studying an agricultural science or business related course and will be administered by the University of Adelaide. FREE Eyre, seven of its key business partners and sixty Eyre Peninsula farmers came together to launch the Scholarship and fundraising effort at FREE Eyre's Hutt Street office to coincide with the Clipsal 500 Race in March 2015. We are extremely grateful to Telstra Store Whyalla, Plum Grove, William Buck (Chartered Accountants and Advisors) Piper Alderman Lawyers, Michell Wool, Ag Guard Insurance Brokers and MaxiPlas (tanks and water storage solutions) who supported the event. "It is clear that these companies also appreciate the need to encourage and support the Eyre Peninsula's students in gain greater skills that can be applied to the future growth, productivity and prosperity of the region.

Proceeds from the Clipsal event, and pledges of support from individuals, companies and the EP's LEADA group have seen \$5,000 raised for this inaugural scholarship. Please don't hesitate to call FREE Eyre or the University of Adelaide's Paul Finn 0405 036 941 if you would like to be involved in this or other Scholarships.

Roseworthy Campus & Student Fund (RC&SF) Report

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS 2015

Scholarships established under RC&SF have been awarded to the following recipients:

- **Agribusiness Leaders Scholarship for Excellence: Caitlin Thompson, Clovelly Park**
- **Royal Agricultural and Horticultural Education Foundation of SA Roseworthy Scholarship: Claire Buhagiar, Murray Bridge**
- **Roseworthy Campus and Student Fund Scholarship – Amanda Blaxland, Hallett Cove**
- **Trevor Dillon Agronomy Scholarship: Alex Hill, Kadina**

In addition, two Cowan Scholarships were awarded to students studying agricultural related subjects.

- **Cowan Grant Trust Roseworthy Scholarship: Claire Russel, Ballarat East VIC**
- **Cowan Grant Trust Roseworthy Scholarship: Nora Henry, Riddles Creek VIC**

ON BEHALF OF ALL DONORS, I OFFER SINCERE CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS AND TRUST THAT THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT PROVIDED WILL HELP EACH TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS IN THEIR RESPECTIVE STUDY AREA.

TREVOR DILLON SCHOLARSHIP

Fortunately, there are sufficient funds available for this scholarship to continue for another year. However, unless sufficient donations are forthcoming over the next few months, this scholarship will not continue from here on. I encourage anyone interested in continuing to recognise the contribution made by the agronomic endeavours of Trevor Dillon, to contact the RC&SF.

The inaugural RC&SF Scholarship agreement with the University of Adelaide ceased as at the 30th June 2015. Whilst ongoing funds are available for these scholarship to continue, the new organization administering them will most likely be under a

different name; hopefully 'The University of Adelaide Agricultural Education Fund' founded and supported by ROCA. This Fund will manage scholarships for students studying at both Roseworthy and Waite Campuses.

After many years as a very active member of the RC&SF, Greg Campbell has recently retired from the Committee. Greg was instrumental in the establishment of the "Lot Feeders Scholarship" and a keen supporter of many of the Funds initiatives. On behalf of all Committee members, I thank Greg most sincerely for his years of service and most valuable contribution.

It is most pleasing to report that as well as the new FREE Eyre and ROCA "Plonky's Pick" Scholarships, there is a high probability of a new ROCA Award of Merit Winners Scholarship being created in 2016

Ray Taylor – Chair Roseworthy Campus and Student Fund

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Mark,

Re: Agricultural Technology

At a press conference with the then Vice Chancellor of the University of Adelaide, Prof. McWha, he extolled the virtues and brilliance of research work being undertaken at the University of Adelaide and the Waite Institute. I imagine he was including Roseworthy Campus under the University of Adelaide.

Then I asked Prof. McWha, "and where is the Technology for interpreting the results of that research to producers? Where is that Technological College in Roseworthy Agricultural College? What is the use of doing basic research if there are no people being trained to interpret these results and extend them to producers?"

Prof McWha then admitted that this was becoming a world wide problem with a lack of technologists. Surely research papers could be of more value than to collect dust in libraries and research officer's laboratories, or even just to be posted onto the Internet.

I present this dilemma to ROCA for consideration.

Yours sincerely,
Brian Jefferies A.M

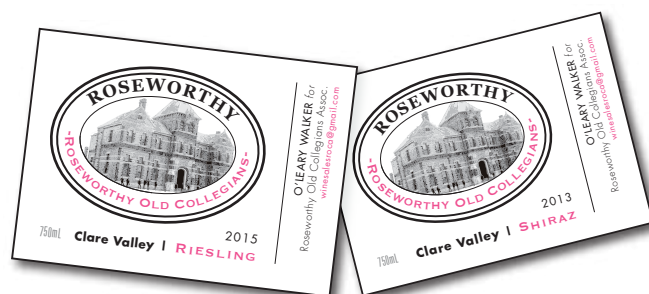
ROCA – PLONKY'S PICK SCHOLARSHIP

ROCA embarked upon its inaugural "Plonky's Pick" fundraising program in 2014/15. In partnership with the industry leading team at O'leary Walker, ROCA successfully marketed a significant quantity of ROCA "Plonky's Pick" branded 2010 Leasingham Shiraz and 2013 Watervale Riesling.

The ROCA committee extends its sincere thanks to all who supported and consequently enjoyed these outstanding wines. It is with great pride that we announce that the proceeds of this fundraising venture have allowed ROCA to invest in a brand new ROCA Scholarship for a first year student studying at Roseworthy Campus in 2016. The proceeds (approximately \$12,000) have also allowed ROCA to invest in a new flagpole at the front of the Roseworthy Chapel and a number of other upgrades around the Campus.

For those of you who receive a hard copy of the ROCA Digest, you will find enclosed an order form for the second "Plonky's Pick" program. Please support this program as you are purchasing incredibly good wine, at a stellar price and at the same time, raising funds that support new agricultural related undergraduates.

Please call ROCA Committee Member, Fiona Hill (0438 864 498) for further information and orders.



2015 ROCA REUNION DINNER

Friday 16th October 2015 – Glenelg Golf Club

ROCA invites all members, partners and friends to attend its 2015 Reunion Dinner. Celebrating the proud history of Roseworthy, this will be the 117th annual Reunion Dinner to be held by ROCA.

A feature of the evening will be the presentation of the 55th ROCA Award of Merit to a prominent Old Collegian who has made a meritorious contribution to agriculture. Old Collegians celebrating their Golden Jubilee Year (graduated 50 years ago) will be joined by fellow Roseworthy graduates of 40, 25 and 10 years ago to briefly outline their career pathways since leaving RAC.

Reunion Year Group Co-ordinators are:

- 50 Years (1965) – Richard Campbell (richelli.rc@gmail.com / 08 8272 9862
- 40 Years (1975) – Michael Flaherty (littlemick2@westnet.com.au / 0427 761 996
- 25 Years (1990) – Keith Hentschke (keith@hentleyfarm.com.au - 0403 287 042
- 10 Years (2005) – Jared Sampson (sambo-2@live.com.au / 0400 733 494

Old Collegians who started, joined or graduated with these groups are encouraged to contact their respective co-ordinators.

While the registration form for the 16th October ROCA Reunion Dinner are included in the hard copy of this ROCA Digest, this information can also be found via the link on the ROCA website.

ROCA RIVERLAND REUNION – RENMARK, 29 MAY 2015

This year's ROCA Riverland Dinner was held in May at Ruston's Function Centre in Renmark and attended by thirty four Alumni members and guests.



Photo: "ROCA members, Rob Smyth (RDA 1961), Ian Newland (RDA 1959) and John Steed (RDA 1951)"

Also in attendance were the former head of the SA Pastoral Board - John Chappel, donor of the Roseworthy Main Building's tower clock – Ian Newland, former Waikerie Council Chairman – Ian Oliver, University of Adelaide Alumni Council member – Dale Manson, ROCA President – Mark Rodda and former Chairman of the SA Advisory Board of Agriculture – Rob Smyth.

Our guest speaker was Richard Fewster (RDA 1965). Richard shared his personal story of how a horticulturalist's son from Renmark progressed from being a graduate of Roseworthy Agricultural College to become the Chairman the State's largest annual community event - The Royal Adelaide Show.

In earlier years, Richard Fewster established Australia's largest rural public relations and marketing communications company, before selling it to the international Omnicom Group's local arm, Clemenger.

This year, Richard Fewster celebrates his 50-Year Golden Jubilee of graduating from Adelaide University's Roseworthy Campus (at the time known as Roseworthy Agricultural College)."

ROCA SOUTH EAST DINNER REPORT

It was a "typical" cold, damp, South East winter night, but around 30 ROCA members and ex Roseworthy students came together for the 2015 dinner on Friday the 24th of July.

It was a "typical" cold, damp, South East winter night, but around 30 ROCA members and ex Roseworthy students came together for the 2015 dinner on Friday the 24th of July.

It was held at the "Patrick of Coonawarra" Cellar Door with caterer, Peter Day slow roasting the beef and chicken for over 6 hours before it was served with hot vegetables and lashings of gravy. Other than being a tremendous chef, Peter's sense of humour won him the now traditional Dick Turnbull "trophy" and bottle of wine for the best joke of the night, just beating a strong performance by Melton Mowbray.

Our guest speaker was 1973 RDA graduate, Paul Symonds, who gave a fascinating talk about his incredibly diverse career as a fisheries researcher, "green revolution" project manager in India, school teacher at Rostrevor College, School Principal in PNG, including coffee & copra plantation manager in PNG, manager of various aid & development projects in Africa, Technical Advisor for Serengeti region in Africa, followed by more consulting work at Korup National Park, Cameroon. Paul then undertook more leadership and consultancy roles, largely in Africa, developing strategies for food security, conservation, infrastructure development and general economic recovery. He is still employed in Sudan, North Africa as the EU's Senior

Technical Advisor to the Darfur Regional Authority. Paul also gave us some forthright advice on how Western countries could do a much better job of driving development in third world countries. It's all about slowly changing dysfunctional systems and practices, rather than just throwing humanitarian aid at people when things go wrong.

It was generally agreed to hold the next ROCA South East reunion in 2017, and Justine Drew suggested Struan House would be a good venue. The date may be a bit later than past years to avoid the annual "winter exodus" as frostbitten locals leave the region for warmer climes.



Photo: Alan & Claire Turnbull



Photo: Geoff & Ros Paltridge

ROSEWORTHY - ANZAC CENTENARY COMMEMORATIVE EVENT



Photo: Members of the Barossa Valley Light Horse regiment

The little chapel at Roseworthy Campus was over flowing with over 150 guests on Sunday 26th April. Inside the Professor Warren Bebbington, the Vice Chancellor of the University of Adelaide gave his welcoming address. With solemnity he remarked on the catastrophe of the Great War and of sacrifices made by the 514 university and 228 Roseworthy students and staff who enlisted. The service was conducted by a former Roseworthian Rev Bill Redden, and the organ was played by Ross Dawkins RDA 1968. This service was exactly what the old collegians intended when they raised the money from 1945 to 1955 to build a memorial chapel.

The service was followed by the playing of the last post and a wreath laying ceremony at the foot of a new flagpole erected by ROCA, just outside the chapel entrance in memory of all those from the college and the campus who serviced their country. Major Kendall Crocker, the only serving veterinarian in the Australia Army, then offered an overview of his role to oversee the training, health and wellbeing of the explosive detection dogs for the Australian Armed Forces.

ROCA had made contact with the family of John Tassie, whose parents paid for the construction of the Tassie Library, opened in 1920 to commemorate the death of their son near Villers-Bretonneux, on 25th April 2015. The University invited members of the family attend to inspect the newly restored Tassie Memorial Library, which now functions as a reading room for post graduate students. The son of John Tassie's much younger brother, also named John Tassie, gave a short biography on his uncle and presented the Vice Chancellor an historic book "The Points of a Horse". It was the prize his uncle was awarded in 1906 for coming second in final year.

During the 1920's and 1930's Roseworthy had a direct connection with the Barossa Valley Light Horse regiments, as many students were members of the Gawler based 18/23 Light Horse Regiment. Fittingly, three members of the Barossa Light Horse Association and their impeccable horses treated guests to a full demonstration of the combined soldier's and horses weaponry and stores.

The day was completed with a semi formal lunch in the dining room of Roseworthy Hall, with over 100 people attending, including the Vice Chancellor Professor Warren Bebbington, member of Light Tony Piccolo, Prof. Wayne Hein, Head of School RDA 1970, Prof Iain Reid retiring Dean of Roseworthy Campus, some prominent old collegian, John Dawkins AO, Phil Young AM, Brian Cordon OAM, ROCA president Mark Rodda and a good number of our Roseworthy ex National Servicemen. Our very experienced and accomplished bugler, Stuart Jones from the Tanunda Town Band said it was one of "the best organised Anzac events he has attended" in the over 30 years of Anzac services. High praise indeed. Dick Turnbull



Photo: Anzac wreath laying ceremony: Mark Rodda, ROCA President, Prof Warren Bebbington, VC University of Adelaide, Prof Wayne Hein, Dean of Roseworthy, Hon Tony Piccolo, Member for Light, Karen Redman, Mayor of Gawler

Planning the key to smooth succession



Photo: Ben Trengove

ONE OF THE MORE DIFFICULT ISSUES A FARMING FAMILY EVER HAS TO CONTEND WITH IS MANAGING THE TRANSITION OF THE BUSINESS TO THE NEXT GENERATION.

While it should be a time to celebrate the continuation and previous success of the family business, it can too often result in family disputes and the breakdown of relationships.

Unfortunately succession planning is often low on the priority list of farmers. Most acknowledge it is important but not urgent and so it often doesn't get addressed until some major life event, which is too late.

It is easy to understand why because most farmers will say they don't know when or how to start the succession planning process. It's not a process to be rushed and careful planning is required to ensure a smooth transition.

Succession planning takes time and can be very emotional for family members both in and outside the business, but avoiding it only leads to larger problems down the track.

Establishing a clear plan as early as possible assists in long-term decision making for the farming enterprise and lessens the risk of disputes or disappointment.

The plan needs to put timings or expectations around when and how you plan to retire and deal with issues such as who is most suited to running the farm when you retire, and what that means for other members of the family.

Getting all family members involved in the planning process creates a feeling of inclusion, responsibility and ownership, but can require outside assistance to ensure objectivity and control emotion.

One of the most common reasons for disputes arising is because siblings feel there has been inequality and misunderstanding in the process.

Careful consideration is required to ensure the allocation of assets is fair and equitable. If the farming operation is going to be shared, it's vital that families establish a decision-making hierarchy, well understood roles and responsibilities and there is clear and regular communication. This will address any differences in age, experience and mindset.

Another important consideration is ensuring that the succession plan makes financial sense, both for those exiting the business and those continuing.

Can you afford to hand over the farm? Can the farming operation support more than one family, and if not, how will you ensure fairness for multiple siblings?

The structure of the business and financial implications such as who owns assets and the impact of capital gains tax or transfer costs also needs close attention.

While it sounds as easy as stepping out of the business and another family member taking over, it needs careful planning and attention to ensure it is a success.

IF YOU REQUIRE ASSISTANCE WITH YOUR SUCCESSION PLANNING, CONTACT AGRIBUSINESS SPECIALIST BEN TRENGOVE AT WILLIAM BUCK CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS AND ADVISORS ON 08 8409 4333 OR EMAIL AT ben.trengove@williambuck.com

PASSING OF ROCA MEMBERS

IT IS WITH SINCERE REGRET THAT ROCA NOTES THE RECENT PASSING OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

- **Victor Thomas O'Grady (RDA 1949)**
- **Geoffrey Keith Robinson (RDA 1950)**
- **Jeanette Alison Schilg (GradDipAg 1992)**
- **George Peter Fisher (RDA 1956)**
- **David Picton Purser (RDA 1951)**

APOLOGY

ROCA unreservedly apologises to Peter O'Grady (RDA 1953) for including his name in the listing of obituaries published in the Autumn 2015 Digest.

Due to an administrative error, Peter O'Grady's name was inserted in lieu of his late brother, Victor Thomas O'Grady (RDA 1949).

We regret any embarrassment this error may have caused to either Peter O'Grady or the family of Victor O'Grady.

GENEALOGY PROJECT – PROF CUSTANCE

ATTACHED IS A PHOTOGRAPH OF PROF CUSTANCE HEADSTONE LAID IN ADELAIDE'S WEST TCE CEMETERY. IT WOULD BE MOST INTERESTING TO FIND OUT MORE OF HIS LIFE AFTER HE LEFT ROSEWORTHY. THUS, WE PRESENT ROCA MEMBERS AND FRIENDS WITH THE CHALLENGE OF INVESTIGATING AND REPORTING BACK TO ROCA DIGEST READERS OF THEIR FINDINGS.



Photo: John Daniel Custance Headstone

ROCA AND THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE'S ALUMNI COUNCIL

It may be a surprise to many ROCA members that the merger of Roseworthy Agricultural College (or Roseworthy College of Advanced Education as it was formally known at the time) and the University of Adelaide occurred nearly a quarter of a century ago.

For the 24 year period since 1991, Roseworthy Campus has grown to become a genuine 'Jewel in the Crown' amongst Adelaide University's group of four campuses. This has also been the case for ROCA, which has unquestionably retained its reputation as being the most active and stimulating Chapters within the University's Alumni organisation.

It was therefore fitting that past ROCA President, Dale Manson was elected 18 months ago to serve on the University of Adelaide's peak body representing graduates, the Alumni Council. Dale has also served as Convenor of the Distinguished Alumni Awards Selection Committee for the past two years.

According to Dale "the Alumni Council has a strong commitment to supporting a dynamic and relevant alumni program involving both ROCA and Roseworthy, with a particular view of mutual benefit to Alumni members and the University of Adelaide itself"

Through its current Roseworthy/Waite representation on the Alumni Council, ROCA encourages graduates from agriculture, natural resource management, oenology, veterinary science and animal science to continue an active interest in the institution that provided them with the basis for lifelong careers.

NEWS FROM THE ARCHIVES

BADGES AND POCKETS

We have been looking at the variety and variation of pocket monograms, buttons and badges that RAC and ROCA have used over the years. One of the early examples of the College monograms can be seen in the leadlight windows of the main building and the Tassie Library. Enamel badges (silver?) of the monogram were used as lapel badges, on tie clips, cigarette cases and other items. The Award of Merit medal, originally gold and later gold plated, also carries this badge.

ENAMEL LAPEL BADGE



AWARD OF MERIT MEDAL



HONORARY LIFE MEMBER BADGE

given to those who have been awarded ROCA life membership



The ROCA badge, which many members possess, has been around since the early 1920's. Below are a few examples

ROCA BADGE FROM 1960'S



CURRENT ROCA BADGES
(available for sale: Cut-out \$30 and plain \$10)



STUDENT MAGAZINES

We had a limited response to donations of old Student Magazines and so welcome any additional material that you are willing to pass on. Please make contact with David Spencer through the ROCA email address.



Photo: David Spencer

College Blazers have been more common since the 50's and still reside in many old collegians wardrobes. Unfortunately many blazers have "shrunk" a little since purchase and so do not see the light of day very often. If you have a very old blazer we would be grateful of a photo for the archives. Below is the last blazer style that disappeared in the 70's. Early blazers had silver buttons showing the college monogram with the later buttons made in brass. Students who received a Sport Blue had a jacket pocket monogram with a blue background.



Photo: Dick Flower (1961)

Wilf Bowen (1950) converted his RAC blazer into a ROCA blazer by removing the pink braid and the original monogram and using a ROCA monogram on the pocket.



If you have any other examples or information on College clothing or badges we would appreciate your input.



Photo: Wilf Bowen (1950)

ROSEWORTHY GALLIPOLI CONNECTION

Bill Watson (RDA 1969) never told me about his grandfather Lt Col Stanley Holmes Watson CBE, DSO, MC 3 MID and Siberian Order of the White Eagle, until I visited him in Canberra in 2010. We were at school, Roseworthy and walked into Keswick Barracks together to begin our two years of National Service. I have just returned from a ten day battle field tour of the Gallipoli Peninsula with Bill, walking over the ground where a hundred years ago Stan Watson became an Australian legend. The tour was hosted by the Royal Australian Engineers (RAE) who regard Bill's grandfather as one of the Corps "founding fathers". The tour was organised to commemorate the services of the "sappers" of the Australian Army during that campaign and in particular the work of Stan Watson.

For the full copy of this incredible historical journey and linkage to Roseworthy, please refer to the ROCA website (or email randcturnbull@bigpond.com)

Dick (RK) Turnbull (RDA 1969) July 2015



Photo of Watson Pier Anzac Cove Sept 1915, after the November storms. It was the only one of the five piers to remain substantially standing after these fierce storms.

60 YEARS FROM ROSEWORTHY REUNION



Photo: TOP L to R standing: Grant Mayfield, Ian Fry, Warren Drabsch, Michael Emms, Malcolm Wright, Grant Fletcher, Neil Hilpern

BOTTOM L to R sitting: John Richardson, Rod Woolford, Malcolm Dixon, Alex Johnston

A CELEBRATION OF 60 YEARS FROM ROSEWORTHY GRADUATION WAS HELD AT THE VICTORY HOTEL, SELICKS HILL SA ON 11TH MARCH, 2015. ELEVEN MEMBERS FROM 25 THAT GRADUATED IN 1955 WITH ROSEWORTHY DIPLOMA IN AGRICULTURE REMINISCED, ENJOYING A GREAT DAY WITH WIVES AND PARTNERS.

SUBMITTED BY ROD WOOLFORD

BLAST FROM THE PAST

1942 Student: Current Events

- Last year's entire Third Year (14), all of whom gained their Diplomas, enlisted for service (WW2)
- Last harvest was one of the biggest on record after 631.7mm of rainfall, 190.5mm above average.
- The College purchased a pea attachment for the Sunshine harvester to be used to harvest a 100 acres of peas for the Defence Department. Farm staff are hoping it can distinguish between Three Corner Jacks and Peas!
- Early in the year 2 old horses, Laid and Bob were shot and met an undignified end in the soup for the pigs.

Graham Treloar (1956 Grad)

The late Graham Treloar was united with his original Douglas motorbike that he used at Roseworthy College. He sold the bike for £300 pounds after graduation. Unfortunately he had to part with \$3000 to clinch its return over 50 years later!

Photo right: shows Graham standing next to his old wheels, with the former owner.



ROSEWORTHY OLD COLLEGIANS WINE SALES FUNDRAISER – 2015 RELEASE!

The "Roseworthy Old Collegians wine" is a limited-release selection of stunning South Australian wines produced for ROCA by our partners O'Leary Walker Wines, in the Clare Valley.

Last year's inaugural Roseworthy Old Collegians "Plonky's Pick" wine fundraiser was a roaring success, with proceeds going directly to a new ROCA Student Scholarship, to be awarded for the first time in 2016. During a recent visit to O'Leary Walker's stunning cellar door at Leasingham in the Clare Valley, ROCA president Mark Rodda and committee member Fiona Hill tasted the various wines on offer from the available vintages. Selections for the next batch of Roseworthy Old Collegians were made, ably guided by O'Leary Walker Winemaker Keeda Zilm.



Photo: ROCA president Mark Rodda & committee member Fiona Hill at O'Leary Walker's Wines.

We are thrilled to announce that this year's Roseworthy Old Collegians features a 2013 Shiraz, 2015 Riesling and for the first time a 2012 Sparkling Pinot Chardonnay, perfect for celebratory occasions.

2013 Clare Valley Shiraz – bright vibrant, forest fruits, subtle oak and powerful palate.

2015 Clare Valley Riesling – Classic Watervale-style, lime, citrus and florals.

2012 Sparkling NV Pinot Chardonnay – fresh, bottle fermented, aperitif style, Pinot Noir/Chardonnay blend (white)

Enclosed with this ROCA Digest is an order form, which can also be downloaded from the ROCA website.

Following feedback from last year's inaugural release, we now offer these quality wines in both half-dozen and full-dozen cartons.

Please encourage your family and friends to take advantage of this fabulous limited-release wine. It's a classic win-win.....you can be sure you are purchasing great-value, quality wines, whilst at the same time supporting ROCA in their endeavours to foster agricultural education in our great state. And what's more - it makes a great conversational piece at social occasions!



Mobile Application Development

SINCE SMART PHONES HAVE LANDED IN ALMOST EVERYONES POCKET, BUSINESSES AND ORGANISATIONS HAVE BEEN FACED WITH THE QUESTION OF WHETHER TO DEVELOP AN APPLICATION OR NOT.

There are lots of questions to answer when considering it. Are you value adding to your clients or your market by producing an application. Will it offer anything that a website couldn't.

**IS IT WORTH THE INVESTMENT?
CAN YOU MAKE A PROFIT FROM IT?
WILL IT VALUE ADD TO YOUR INDUSTRY?**

As apple says "There's an app for that" and in most cases its true but that doesn't mean its the right app or appropriate for your market.

Wallstudios recently developed a Mobile application for the Health Insurance industry. It's an app that allows members to take a photo of a recent extras service and submit them to their provider for a claim. Nice, simple and easy to use.

So often people think that applications need to be complicated or full of functionality and they forget about the big or in this case the small picture of making things simple and easy for there users. Value adding.

Wallstudios can look at the big picture for you and honestly give you advice on whether or not to look at developing a mobile application.

A lot of developers will simply build it for you regardless of whether it could be successful or not.

In the agriculture, natural resource management and animal production industries technology has become more of an necessity than a option these days.

In the livestock business applications can trace live-time traceability of their herds and they can also use it to record treatments and location movements of their animals.

The possibilities are endless. Its about having that idea that will help your industry to improve or streamline production.

So if you have been thinking about developing an application but haven't known what to do next then I invite you to give us a call and we can have a chat about your idea. And confidentially provide you with some insight as to the viability of it.

And ultimately help you to develop it and launch to your markets.

Matthew Wall -
Creative & Managing
Director Wallstudios



WALLSTUDIOS THE CREATIVE AGENCY

Matthew: **0438 516 115**

Michelle: **0422 309 255**



Proud sponsors of the Roseworthy Old Collegians Association

Wallstudios is "The Creative Agency"

We help our clients grow by providing a complete creative service.

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- Wine Label Design
- Brochure Design
- Advertising
- Stationary Design
- Signage & Banners

DIGITAL

- Website Design
- Website Development
- Mobile websites
- Mobile Applications
- CMS Websites
- E-Commerce

PHOTOGRAPHIC

- Architecture
- Corporate Portraits
- Product Photography
- Wine Photography

hello@wallstudios.com.au

wallstudios.com.au

Piper Alderman is delighted to become a sponsor of ROCA

Our firm has carved a niche as a leading law firm advising clients operating and investing in the agribusiness sector. Our origins go back over 160 years and we have acted for some of Australia's leading pastoral houses and pioneers of agriculture, small and large, from the establishment of commercial agriculture in the 1800s until the present day.

We have a strong commitment to the agribusiness sector. Among other activities, we are sponsors of the Agribusiness Association of Australia and have supported important rural and regional initiatives, including supporting the Peter Waite Centenary Scholarship for Excellence in Agriculture and advising pro bono on matters such as the establishment of the Nuffield International Farming Scholarships Program.

We act for clients inside the farm gate in primary production business of all kinds. We also have particular experience in advising clients adding value beyond the farm gate with consumer facing brands in food, fibre and beverage value chains, research and development and agricultural investment and finance.

See our website for agribusiness case studies on some of our clients at www.piperalderman.com.au



Our Agribusiness team is led by Simon Venus who is a Partner in our Corporate Division. He has significant experience acting on corporate and commercial transactions in the Australian agribusiness sector.

Simon is a Director of the Agribusiness Association of Australia Ltd and was a member of the South Australian Agribusiness Council, an advisory group hand-picked by the Minister for Agriculture to assist in identifying emerging domestic and international economic development of the agrifood and agribusiness sectors. He is also a member of the inaugural Agribusiness Advisory Board to the University of Adelaide's School of Business and a committee member for the Peter Waite Centenary Scholarship.

Simon is the key point of contact for our relationship with ROCA. Please feel free to contact him to discuss our service offering.



Simon Venus

Partner
t +61 8 8205 3437
svenus@piperalderman.com.au



Bianca Battistella

Senior Associate
t +61 8 8205 3406
bbattistella@piperalderman.com.au