



# R. O. C. A. DIGEST

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF ROSEWORTHY OLD COLLEGIANS ASSOCIATION

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**EDITORIAL MATERIAL TO:**

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**MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE:**

Richard Stewart  
John Jones  
Gavin Eckersley  
Reg Hutchinson

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## Editorial

It's been a while since you have heard from R.O.C.A., and this can be explained by the fair share of problems that the Digest has had. Discounting any past difficulties, the Digest is now 'back on the book-stand' and making headway. A new Management Committee is now at the helm of the Digest, and headed by Editor Richard Stewart and Committee-men John Jones, Gavin Eckersley and Reg Hutchinson, you'll be hearing plenty in the future.

At a recent management committee meeting a programme was laid out, whereby the needs of R.O.C.A. members can best be satisfied, and as a result members will be receiving a minimum of four Digests a year. In fact, after programming space for official association business, and providing space to adequately report the dynamic changes occurring at Roseworthy, it seems inevitable that more or bigger Digests will be needed.

The Digest Committee is well aware that the Digest is the only link that the Association Members have with Fellow Members, the College and the Old Collegians Committee, and we are keeping our fingers on the pulse to see that all events are brought to the attention of members.

In similar vein, the Digest is the only way that students at the College learn anything about the Association. Both the R.O.C.A. executive and the Digest committee recognise the problem of interesting, attracting and retaining new members, and we are intent on ensuring a strong future for the Association by encouraging recently graduated students and all eligible people to join.

The way to encourage membership is to have an active executive and committee—and this we have. The next is to have a full, regular and informative Digest going to all members and students at the College—and this is what we have in mind if you read on.

# Message from Gavin Eckersley

The 1973-74 Committee has set definite objectives for its year of office. These objectives are regarded by your Committee as being of utmost importance to the Association in increasing the effectiveness of R.O.C.A. as an organisation, and fulfilling what we believe to be its major responsibilities.

The objectives are:

- \* To ensure that during the re-structuring and re-direction of the College as a learning institution, the needs of agriculture are being married to the envisaged courses.
- \* To promote a greater interest in R.O.C.A. amongst the Student body; thereby encouraging graduating students to actively participate in the Association through their membership.
- \* To revitalise the Digest and ensure that once again it becomes the necessary communication link for members.

I ask you as members of R.O.C.A. to be conscious of these objectives and to gauge the success of our endeavours in these areas by what you see, hear and read, and by the President's report to be presented at the next A.G.M.

G. C. ECKERSLEY

President Roseworthy Old Collegians Association

## College News

The most momentous news from the College is the appointment of Dr D. B. Williams who took up the position of Principal/Director early in February. Dr Williams began his professional career at Roseworthy in the 40s, as lecturer in Farm Management, and he is well remembered by many Old Collegians. Since then he has had broad experience in agriculture, extension and administration throughout Australia.

A successful year is reported from the farm, where barley yields averaged 40 bush/ac (2.5 tonnes/ha), which was quite reasonable considering the heavy wind losses. Wheat averaged 17 bush/ac (1.2 tonnes/ha) and Oats 33 bush/ac (1.5 tonnes/ha). Both these crops were somewhat affected by rust, but overall production was quite pleasing with 27,000 bush of barley, 7,400 bush of wheat, 6,400 bush of oats, 450 bush of peas and 33,000 bales of hay.

Recent staff changes include:

- \* Peter England—Lecturer in Farm Management who replaces David Harvey who left early last year.
- \* Phyl Hentschke replaces Frank Hardy as lecturer in Veterinary Science.
- \* Bill Darmody—Instructor in Dairy and Beef Cattle replacing Peter Bowey who has gone overseas.
- \* T. Crossen—Lecturer Horticulture.
- \* Barry Sumner (R.D.A. 1959) after a short term as Senior Instructor Farm, took up Senior Instructor of Sheep and Horses following the retirement of Cliff Hooper.
- \* Reg Hutchinson—Farm Manager.
- \* Jim Loller left in December after spending 7 years on the farm and with Plant Breeder.
- \* Ron Pope retired in January, ending 16 years of service to the Horticulture Section.

Tom Mitchell—a '31 Diplomate, called in during November. Tom followed his R.D.A. with a B.Sc., and is now working with I.C.I. and still reckons that Roseworthy blokes are a good lot to employ.

One of the 1974 first years is John Bartholamaeus. John's father graduated from R.A.C. in 1945. Both of his grandfathers, Robert Bartholamaeus and Leslie Jarman graduated from the College in 1914—in fact Leslie Jarman was born on the College (his father being Farm Manager at the time). Can anyone better this family tradition of attendance at Roseworthy?

## E.P. REUNION

During the weekend of February 23rd, I was fortunate to attend the annual reunion of the E.P. Branch, which proved to be a magnificent success for the Committee, and a great enjoyment for all participants.

Denis Muirhead, R.D.A., Director of Meat and Livestock Liaison Services, who was to be guest speaker at the Dinner, and I arrived together early on Saturday morning. The ever hospitable, nothing too much trouble Des Habel was there to meet us and chauffeured us to our accommodation. Although Denis hadn't been to Lincoln for many years he still retained the names of many local farmers, whose properties he pointed out while we were being driven in from the airport.

Later that morning Association members and their wives assembled at one of the local hotels for an informal gathering and welcome. Notable guests included John Gore, Andy Michelmore, Tim Leske and many others, together with a large number of local branch members. During the afternoon Denis and myself were 'led astray' at the local races by racing enthusiast and successful owner Des Habel, and the infamous Pat Marrie, who continued all afternoon to claim that he 'hadn't been to a race meeting since '32 in the West'.

Denis and I had moderate success, but the locals 'couldn't do a thing right'. However we also discovered that it appeared to be traditional for the successful to lead the party to the bar after each collect—a somewhat dubious honour with Pat Marrie and his persistent 'half-Scotch and water' in the party.

The afternoon was followed by a reasonably well attended AGM (approximately 30 members attended), at which the following items were handled by the meeting:

- \* Minutes of 1973 AGM
- \* Treasurer's Report
- \* Election of Officers. Pat Marrie re-elected President, and Des Habel re-elected Secretary.
- \* Father—Son Annual Dinner
- \* Term of office of State R.O.C.A. President
- \* Award of Merit Nomination
- \* Other matters.

A more comprehensive report of the proceedings will be published in the May Digest by courtesy of Des Habel. The day culminated in a most enjoyable dinner attended by 45 members and guests.



*Andy Michelmore and Pat Marrie sample  
'College Rough Red'*



*Ken Holden attending to the cooking*

The dinner highlight was undoubtedly Denis Muirhead's speech. For those few who are unaware of Denis's background I include the details of his career, as published by the Branch for the dinner:

### DENIS BUTLER MUIRHEAD

R.D.A., Second Class Honors 1935

(Awarded Franklin Waddy Prize for all-round development in all phases of College activities)

1968 'Award of Merit' Winner

#### CAREER:

1935—2 years on pastoral and stud properties in S.A.

1938—Transferred from R.A.C. staff to S.A. Department of Agriculture as Livestock Field Officer.

1940—Enlisted in A.I.F. and served 4½ years with active services in Syrian and El Alamein campaigns.

1946—Appointed Sheep Husbandry Adviser, S.A. Department of Agriculture—main work with fat lamb production.

1951—Promoted to Senior Adviser in Animal Production, becoming involved in the expansion of the S.A. beef industry.

1958—Appointed to research staff of C.S.I.R.O., Regional Pastoral Laboratory, Armidale, N.S.W.

1959—Seconded to Aust. Meat Board as first North American Representative.

1960—Appointed London Representative and subsequently European Representative of the Aust. Meat Board.

1968—Became Director of Meat and Livestock Liaison Services—the position he retains to the present with headquarters in Sydney.

During the 1950s Mr Muirhead was recognised throughout Australia as a Royal Show and Competitions sheep and cattle judge of both the live animal and the carcass.

His work has taken him to N.Z., U.S.A., Canada, Argentina, British West Indies, Middle East, Northern Africa and the length and breadth of Europe.

Among organisations connected with during his many years in association with the meat industry were the Technical Sub-committee of Fat Lamb and Beef Cattle Production, Australian Institute of Agricultural Science, Australian Society of Animal Production (Chairman 1957), Institute of Meat U.K., Worshipful Company of Butchers City of London, the London Meat Traders' and Drovers' Benevolent Assn (Chairman 1964).

During his address the speaker highlighted the Australian beef Industry's dependence on export markets, with some 68% (equivalent to 1,600 tonnes per week) of our beef finding its way into the export trade. He emphasised that for efficient beef production, production problems must be overcome. Such points as drenching, heifer calving percentages and the importance of pregnancy testing were mentioned. The beef industry had also suffered setbacks during the last year he said, with two U.S.A. devaluations of the dollar, as well as two Australian devaluations, together with the energy crisis and its effect on shipping.

Whilst the dinner was in progress many wives met for their dinner. I was informed that seventeen attended—a record for the ladies, who felt that attendance was indicative of the thoroughly enjoyable times had by all at their gatherings.

The traditional 'Family Day' barbecue at Billy Light Point was particularly well supported, despite the obvious sluggishness of many members early in the day. However, the weather was perfect, the sea warm and the beer cold—and the cooking reasonable considering Ken Holden. Morrie Barry handled the tongs. Incidentally, a feat to behold is the way Ken opens bottles with his eye—ask him to show you when you are next in Lincoln.

Before closing I would like to personally thank the many enthusiastic branch members who make this weekend the wonderful annual event it is, and for the hospitality extended during my stay. The life and vitality of the branch at this time has to be experienced to be believed. Congratulations Eyre Peninsula Branch and long may your branch prosper.

G. C. Eckersley.



*Denis Muirhead – wanted to repeat his successful speech but couldn't gain much of an audience*



*Des Habel and Mrs Ian Newland*

# WANTED

## Dungey Rags Dead or Alive

Many of the graduates of R.A.C. keep in touch with fellow members of their year through their own publications known as Dungey Rags. These rags are also useful to the digest editor. Will all Dungey Rag editors put this digest's editor (address on front page) on their mailing list please.

# R.O.C.A. HAPPENINGS

The A.G.M. of the Association was held at the Adelaide Greyhound Raceway on September 1, 1973, with forty members present. The committee recommended that the following persons become associate members of the Association: Mr R. Carter, who has worked on the College farm for the past seven years during which time he has given most generous support to the College football club, Mr F. B. Hardy, Veterinarian and lecturer in Animal Science, and Mr C. Weeks who was biochemist. Other business discussed included incorporation of the Association, and a motion to proceed with this was carried by the meeting.

The 1973-74 Committee comprises the following office bearers:

President	Gavin Eckersley (1965-68)	
Vice-President	John Jones (1965-68)	
Immediate Past President	Geoff Norman (1949-51)	
Secretary	Ian Rice (1954-57)	
Treasurer	Reg Hutchinson (1965-67, 1972)	
Honorary Auditor	B. C. Philp	
One member of graduating year	Doug Clifford (1970-1973)	
One member who left College more than one and less than 10 years ago:	Kym Dutschke (1969-71)	
Four ordinary members:	David Suter (1940-43)	Harry Stephens (1945-48)
	Max Merckenschlager (1964-66)	David Spencer (1968-71)

Delegates: Riverland	W. Hack (1960-63)	- Proxy Ross Wishart (1945-48)
Eyre Peninsula		- Proxy Andy Michemore (1937-40)
South-East	?	

**DINNER.** A well attended Reunion Dinner followed the A.G.M., and President Geoff Norman presented the Award of Merit to Mr R. H. Kuchel. Both the 25 year and 10 year groups were well represented at the Dinner, and provided light entertainment and many 'home truths' about their years at College, ensuing experiences and occupations.

Invited guests at the dinner included Mr R. I. Herriot, recently retired Principal, and Mr Allan Footer, College Administrative Officer, who replied to the toast to the College, and gave the gathering an idea of what changing to an autonomous College of Advanced Education will involve.

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS.** Since the A.G.M. two committee meetings have been held, and the following points are some of the more important ones discussed:

- \* An annual sports award is to be made to the student of the College who has made the most outstanding contribution to sport during the year. This year the award was made to Richard Flockhart.
- \* The College administration is providing a suitable file for the display of diploma holders' names.
- \* The committee has presented the College with a framed photograph of Mr Herriot.

I. M. Rice, Secretary.

The young son of a member who is now a veterinarian doing research work on cattle infertility was asked by his school teacher what his father's occupation was.

To the amusement of the rest of the class junior replied 'My father's a dung puncher'!

*Roseworthy Old Collegians Association*



**Award of Merit**

*For*

*Meritorious Service in the Field of Agriculture*

By John A. Jones, Vice-President

This annual award is bestowed by the Association upon an Old Collegian (financial member) who has gained meritorious achievements in his field of agricultural work, including service to the Old Collegians Association.

For a person to be eligible for the award, he must be nominated and selected by a panel comprising five members. Members of the 1973 panel were the Director of Agriculture, Mr Marshall R. Irving, (representing Public Service), Prof. C. M. Donald, Head of the Agronomy Branch of the Waite Institute (rep. Agricultural Research), Mr Williams, General Manager of Southern Farmers (rep. Industry), Mr A. S. Rodda (rep. Practical Farming), and the President of R.O.C.A., Mr G. Norman.

All members are urged to think of, and send in nominations to the Secretary of R.O.C.A. (Ian Rice), and at the same time it would be desirable to nominate not only a worthy old Collegian, but also to nominate some one (or a group of people), if not yourself, to collect suitable information regarding the nominee. A suitable format would start with name, age and address, followed by the periods during which he attended the College (and other institutions); his academic qualifications, suitable information regarding his field of work, references from associates, newspaper articles, etc., and a list of published works if applicable. From this information the panel makes its selection, and it is clear to see how vital the information is, and how it must be presented in a logical format which covers all aspects of the nominee.

It is obvious that to obtain information which is to be helpful to the panel it is necessary to approach and elicit information from the nominee in order to submit a comprehensive report.

All nominations have to be in the hands of the R.O.C.A. Secretary by 31st May each year (this being standard annual practice). The selection panel presides over the nominations, usually during late June, and the presentation of the certificate and gold medallion is made at the Reunion Dinner on the first Saturday of the Royal Show Week (this year Saturday 31st August, 1974).

The form below will give you a starting point for your nomination. Please fill it in, tear it off, and send to Ian Rice, Secretary of R.O.C.A., Agricultural College, Roseworthy 5371.

We..... wish to nominate..... For the 1974 Award of Merit.

The nomination will be compiled by ....., and will be received by the  
Secretary of R.O.C.A. by 31st May, 1974. \*Signed (1) .....

\*Signed (2) .....  
\*Two financial members of R.O.C.A.

Roseworthy College became an autonomous College of Advanced Education under legislation proclaimed in the Executive Council on Thursday, March 14, 1974.

The new legislation provides the College with a self-governing administration in which staff and students participate.

Until March 14 the College was administered as a Government department under the Minister of Agriculture (Mr T. M. Casey).

Members of the new administration are the new director of the College Dr D. B. Williams (ex officio), Mr C. E. Haines, Education Department, Mr M. R. Irving, Director of Agriculture, Prof. G. F. Jarrett, Adelaide University, Dr R. N. Porter, S.A. Institute of Technology, Mr W. F. Nankivill, M.P., Mr B. A. Chatterton, MLC, Mr R. A. Honner, Yorke Peninsula farmer, Mr C. R. Gramp, Orlando wineries, Mr R. J. Taylor, Agricultural Technologist, Mr H. A. Reimers, and Mr G. T. Hollamby elected by the College academic staff, Mr T. T. Wilson and Mr T. R. Cartledge elected by the students, and Mr A. T. Footer, elected by the College ancillary staff.

## R.O.C.A. MEMBERS

ABEL, Max R.	10 Scott St., Dulwich 5065	1923-24	Retired woolclasser and instructor
ADDISON, Brian W.	Cape Jaffa via Kingston 5275	1951-54	Farmer
AFFORD, Howard D.	'Concordia', Manoora 5414	1937-37	Farmer
AGNEW, Norman W.	Box 22, Curramulka 5580	1948-51	Farmer
ALCOCK, Alick E.	188 Wattle Ave., Malvern 5061	1933-36	
ALCOCK, Charles R.	8 Rega Ave., Hope Valley 5090	1939-42	Weeds Officer, Dept of Agric.
ALDRIDGE, James W.	156 Esplanade, Brighton 5048	1904-07	Retired (pheasant breeder)
ANDERSON, Ian	67 Rudall St., Whyalla 5600	1964-67	5th Year Vet. Sci., Qld Uni.
ANDERSON, Rex A.	Pitlochry Stn, PMB Kingston S.E.	1949-52	Station Manager
ANGOVE, Peter C.	C/- Box 1671 GPO Adelaide 5001	1931-34	Chief Extension Officer D. of A.
ANGOVE, Thomas W.	Box 12, Renmark 5341	1936-40	Angoves Distillery, director
APPLEBY, William F.	Roadside delivery Saddleworth 5413	1929-32	
ARNOLD, Edwin A.		1931-34	Farming
ARNOLD, John M.	C/- British United Dairies, Toora Vic.	1939, 1948	R.D.A.
ARMYTAGE, Norman C.	Wando Estate, Casterton 3311	1945-48	Farming
ASHENDEN, William	Sheoak Log Rd, Roseworthy 5371	1943-46	Farming
BABIDGE, Mark H.	16 Vingara Dr., Dernancourt 5075	1965-69	Oenologist at Romalo Wines
BADMAN, Ronald	'South Waverley', PMB 91 Naracoorte	1929-31	Grazier and seed producer
BAGOT, George E.	3486 Main Beach Pde, Main Beach 4215	1914-16	
BAILEY, Laurence	'South Wyedown', Lucindale 5272	1934	Farmer
BAKER, Brenton T.	39 Waitara Rd, Banksia Park 5091	1963-66	Hort. Adviser, Dept of Agric.
BAKER, Robert J.	Agricultural College, Roseworthy	1940-43	Oenologist, Senior Lect. R.A.C.
BALDWIN, Grant B.	3 Churcher St., Thorngate 5082	1953-56	Senior Research Off., Dept of Agric.
BARRAUD, Murray A.	Lipson 5607	1922-23	Retired
BARRETT, Anthony	'Yera' Edgeroi, T.P.O. Nth West 2419	1956-59, 1960-61	
BARRITT, Robert	Glen Turret, Moculta 5353	1939-40	Farmer
BARRY, Brian J.	Co-op. Distillery Ltd, Berri 5343	1945-49	
BARRY, James B.	Clarevale, Clare 5453	1945-47	Oenologist
BARRY, Kevin J.	11 Caroline Ave., Belair 5052	1950-53	
BARTHOLOMEAUS, Arthur	Box 54, Clare 5453	1942-45	Farming
BARTHOLOMEAUS, Robert	Box 54, Clare 5453	1944-47	Farming
BARTHOLOMEW, Thomas	C/- Co-op Dairy Co., Cobden 3266	1955-57	Production Manager
BARTLAM, John W.	Peterborough 3270	1956-59	
BASCOMB, John	Mt Wedge, West Coast 5670	1935-35	Farmer
BASEDOW, John O.	Box 32, Tanunda 5352	1942, 1946-48	
BASS, Anthony W.	2 Second St., Loxton 5333	1967-69	Tech. Off., Loxton Res. Centre