



R.O.C.A. digest

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Editor:

Tim Prance

Editorial Committee:

Peter Lewis, Lindsay Wright, Dale Manson, Ian Rice



*1981 Award of Merit
Andrew Michelmore*

Moving? Writing to the Editor? Paying your subscription?

Please forward **ALL** correspondence to:
R.O.C.A. C/- Roseworthy College, Roseworthy 5371

Andrew Michelmore

Winner of the 1981 R.O.C.A. Award of Merit

During the 1950's and 1960's Andrew played a vital role in the transformation of agricultural production on Eyre Peninsula through the use of medics whilst he was based at Minnipa with the Department of Agriculture.

In latter years Andrew has been District Agronomist at Nurioorpa where his most significant work has been on annual ryegrass toxicity. He has become recognized as a national authority on this increasingly important problem.

Andrew has been particularly interested in insect damage to crops and pastures where his achievements have included:

- Recognition of web worm damage and promoting control on Eyre Peninsula.
- Identifying pink cut worm as a major cause of lucerne failure on sand in the upper South East, and demonstrating control.
- Work on *Etiella* control in lucerne seed crops in the South East.
- Identifying damage from stem nematode in oat and pea crops in the Lower North.

An author of several bulletins and fact sheets Andrew is currently secretary and immediate past president of R.O.C.A. He assisted with the production of the Digest for ten years and has actively promoted R.O.C.A and the College.

In 1980 Andrew was appointed to the Roseworthy College Council.

1981 A.G.M. and Dinner

On 11th September members gathered at the Town House, Hindley Street, for a most enjoyable evening of eating, drinking and reminiscing.

After dinner the acting Director of the College Mr. Milton Spurling reported on events at R.A.C. over the past year. Milton reminded old students that the College would be celebrating its centenary in 1983. A book entitled "Roseworthy Agricultural College — a century of service" is planned to be published as part of the centenary celebrations.

Milton also mentioned achievements of past graduates and staff. His comments on some early College principals were very informative and will be reported in future editions of the Digest.

Milton concluded by stating that Roseworthy now had three faculties — Agriculture, Oenology and Natural Resources. In 1981 there were 412 students (including 120 girls) and 55 teaching staff (including 5 women). 206 students were in the Agriculture faculty, 128 in Oenology and 78 in the faculty of Natural Resources.

Notes from the minutes of the A.G.M.....

- ROCA committee empowered to invest all capital which becomes available in the next twelve months in Commonwealth guaranteed investments.
- ROCA to arrange a suitable photograph of the retiring Director, Dr. Don Williams, to hang in the College dining room.
- ROCA committee to conduct a self analysis of ROCA and the ROCA Digest and report this in the Digest no later than June 1982.

1981/1982 Committee Members

	Work	Home
President: Bruce Wigney, Riverton		(088 473)-109
Vice President: Brian Ashton, Turretfield	085 25 8017	085 25 8072
Secretary: Andrew Michelmore, Nuriootpa	085 62 1899	085 63 2831
Treasurer: Peter Fairbrother, Adelaide	08 227 3141	08 337 9137
Auditor: B. C. Philp		
Committee:		
Graduating year: Rosie Faerhman, R.A.C. (students)		085 24 8065
1 to 10 year: Michael Michelmore, Tanunda		085 63 2831
Ordinary: Harry Stephen, Murray Bridge	085 32 2266	085 32 2935
Bob Mitchell, Adelaide		08 271 8777
Ian Rice, R.A.C.	085 24 8057	085 65 4017
Dale Manson, Jamestown	086 64 1408	086 64 1252
Eyre Peninsula: Ken Mayman, Adelaide		08 332 7019
Jack Richards, Adelaide	08 227 2845	08 271 7354
Digest Editor: Tim Prance, Victor Harbor	085 52 3064	085 52 3160
Editorial Committee: Peter Lewis, Adelaide	08 211 8855	085 72 3888
Lindsay Wright, Adelaide	08 44 0344	08 269 2230
Dale Manson, Jamestown	086 64 1408	086 64 1252
Ian Rice, RAC	085 24 8057	085 65 4017

News from the College

Show Successes.....

Gawler Show — the dairy team (both Friesian and Jersey) won the title of the most successful exhibitor at the show

Royal Adelaide Show — the Jerseys carried off two first and two third prizes whilst the Friesians won three first prizes.

The cattle have not been alone. College wines have also won a few prizes

Melbourne wine show — Bronze medal for the 1981 Chardonnay

Adelaide wine show — Silver medals for the 1981 Chardonnay and 1981 Rhine Riesling. Bronze medal awarded to the 1979 Shiraz.

Perth wine shows — Silver medals awarded to the 1981 Chardonnay and 1981 French Colombard. Bronze medals to the 1979 Shiraz, 1981 Rhine Riesling and the dry Sherry.

Sport.....

The women's Hockey team made the Grand Final of the Barossa Valley Hockey Association. 1982 Footy coaches are Lyndon Prior (formerly with Two Wells) for the A grade and Jeff Anderson for the B grade.

Visitors.....

Libyan Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Bashir Joudah) visited the College on 27th August to inspect medic pastures, cereal breeding plots and South Australian machinery.

Dr. Kenneth Kaunde, President of Zambia, inspected the College on 27th September to familiarize himself with dryland farming techniques and educational facilities.

Between 12th and 17th October a group of twenty three young men and women from Canada, Denmark, Sweden, Switzerland, Germany, Holland and Great Britain were in residence for an orientation seminar before being placed on farms in South Australia.

These people were part of the International Agricultural Student Exchange scheme and it is the first time R.A.C. has been chosen for this seminar — Marcus Oldham College having been used in the past. They enjoyed themselves so much it will not be the last time R.A.C. is used as a venue for the I.A.S.E. orientation seminars.

Open Day.....

The 1981 open day in October was as successful as in past years. Once again great ingenuity was shown by College students in publicising the event — this year a hand milking competition between the four Adelaide television weather reporters was held at Regency Park Community College.

Training courses.....

During October twenty farmers from the Southern Mallee spent a week at R.A.C. as part of a farmer training course.

College Wines Available

Prize winning, College wines are available from these wines shops in Adelaide as well as direct from R.A.C. Cellars.

Southern Cross Cellars 21 James Place, Adelaide Phone 08 51 2271

Prestige Cellars 16 Norwood Parade, Norwood

Dulwich Cellars 33 Stuart Road, Dulwich Phone 08 332 2480

Fullarton Cellars 376 Fullarton Road, Fullarton Phone 08 79 5151

Mitcham Cellars 68 Price Avenue, Clapham Phone 08 276 5044

Belair Cellars 9 Russell Street, Belair Phone 08 278 5222

Vintage Cellars 391A Brighton Road, Hove Phone 08 296 3921

Findon Liquor Emporium 374 Grange Road, Kidman Park Phone 08 356 2144

A Special “Old Scholars dozen” is available from R.A.C. Cellars for \$39.95. The dozen consists of 2 bottles each of the 1981 Eden Valley Rhine Riesling, 1981 French Colombard and 1977 Cabernet Shiraz plus one bottle each of 1979 late picked Rhine Riesling, Cabernet Pinot Shiraz, Eden Valley Shiraz, Dry (Fino) Sherry, 1979 Vintage Port and Old Liqueur Tawny Port.

If you wish to buy the “Old Scholars dozen” please fill out the order form and send or phone to:

R.A.C CELLARS, ROSEWORTHY 5371 Phone: (085) 24 8057

Please Supply.....cartons of the Old Scholars Dozen at \$39.95 each

Name.....

Address.....

I enclose payment of \$.....

I will collect the wine from the College

or PLEASE FREIGHT the wine to my home address

(Free delivery in the Adelaide Metropolitan area)

Do you require a complete price list of R.A.C. wines Yes/No

News from Old Scholars

The Editor would appreciate notes, letters or phone calls from any old scholars who have changed jobs, moved interstate or overseas or have distinguished themselves in any way.

Even if you do not fit into any of these categories please still write and tell us about yourself.

So far I have heard of two ex. R.A.C. footy club players doing well playing in the north west of N.S.W. Richard Leske was the Associations best and fairest player for 1981 with Richard Secker as runner up. Also playing aussie rules in that area is John Crosby

There are quite a number of old scholars who have worked or are working in the Middle East and North Africa. Glyn Webber, Tony Proud, Greg Symes, Ken Holden, Trevor Dillon, Brian Ashton and Bert Ninnes come to mind. Are there any more?

Here is a letter received from Mr. Geo. Bagot, 22 Narrowneck Court, Surfers Paradise, 4217.

Dear Sir,

A couple of years ago I gave you some information on running a camel business from Oodnadatta.

The drought and closure of banks put my father off Dalhousie Springs station around 1880 so he invested in camels. Unfortunately he died in July 1895 — only a few months after I was born on 24/4/1895. My mother carried on the business with Frank Marsh, whom father had taken into partnership six months before his death.

We lived at Oodnadatta til late April 1909 when I joined my brother at St. Peter's College, mother buying a home at St. Peters. We both left St. Peters College late in 1913 — my brother went to Adelaide University whilst I sat for (and won) a Roseworthy Agricultural College scholarship. I then decided to get my Diploma in two years, which I did.

I joined the H. V. McKay machinery company for a short time before I enlisted in the reinforcements of the Field Artillery.

At the end of 1919 I decided to go farming so I settled on a Soldier Settler's block at Monteith and got it in good working order before I had to return to Oodnadatta to wind up my mother's camel business. However after returning to Monteith, with milk at only 7½ pence per gallon I decided a freehold property in a better rainfall district would be preferable.

I sold the Monteith property in 1929 and bought a farm at Echunga. This new farm was mostly timber and with the Depression dropping in on us we were only able to keep eight cows and a few sheep.

Milk was only worth 4 pence per gallon, so we separated and made butter for which received one shilling per pound for 80 pounds per week.

We battled on and in 1939 I thought I was going to get out of debt as I was gathering my first clover crop. But no! the bushfires came along taking everything and leaving me 3000 pounds behind.

After working hard for the next few years I got in front by producing very heavy dry land crops of pasture, turnips and potatoes — one potato crop producing 14 tons per acre.

During the war we had to work in with some of the established farmers, especially one of the Braendler families, and as we helped them, Edgar Braendler and his team helped us.

I have always been glad that I won that scholarship and proud of my Diploma too.

We have spent 15 years touring Australia and the world — at least 60 countries — mostly by car and caravan. My wife was 81 last August and I am 86.

I am enclosing \$20 to help with the digest, as it is a pleasure to read it, despite being so far away.

Best Wishes
Geo. E. Bagot

Letter to the Editor

Dear Sir,

I wish to add my support to the letter from Bruce Eastick in the August 1981 Digest. I too deplore the omission of the identifying "R" from the abbreviations of Qualifications being awarded at the College.

There is an immediate depreciation of a qualification from a prestigious institution when it anonomously joins the ever increasing volume of fancy qualifications being sponsored by the agricultural educators throughout Australia.

I would like to see Roseworthy clearly identify its graduates.

Rex Butterfield
Professor of Veterinary Anatomy
University of Sydney

R.O.C.A. Eyre Peninsula Branch Annual Reunion

Date: Saturday 27th February and Sunday 28th February 1982

The last weekend in February is Port Lincoln weekend for Old Students on Eyre Peninsula (and for those that don't live here). Wally Goulter, Philip and Andrew Michelmore have been regulars for many years. Alf Humble has flown over for the past couple of years.

Don't Delay Book now for your weekend at Port Lincoln. There is fun for the whole family.

Activities start with an informal get together at 11.00 a.m. Saturday morning. The afternoon is available for personal tours, or Des Habel will see that you have a chance to back a winner at the local races.

The A.G.M. and dinner on Saturday night (the ladies will not be left to go hungry — they will have a separate dinner if the ROCA dinner is not mixed)

Sunday is Family Day on the beach at Billy Light Point, with drinks, food, swimming and boating for all.

See you, your spouse and family at Port Lincoln on the 17th/28th February 1982.

Bookings to Ken Holden

Department of Agriculture
Pt. Lincoln
Phone: 086 82 3022
A/H 086 82 1870

R.O.C.A. Address List

Committee members have spent many hours trying to correct and update the mailing list.

Thanks to Bruce Wigney it is now on his word processor, but not all the gremlins have been eliminated.

If your address is incorrect, or you received two Digests or you know someone who did not receive their Digest please contact R.O.C.A., C/- Roseworthy College 5371.

Please let us know if you change your address.

Managing the Farm business

A short course for farmers

Agricultural Technologists of Australia is combining with the Australian Farm Management Foundation to sponsor this five day live in Seminar at Goolwa from the 15th to 19th March 1982. It will consist of lectures and a 1½ to 2 day case study.

Registrations will be limited to 25 so that each participant can receive personal and full attention.

Cost is \$380 (360 for A.T.A. members) which includes accomodation, all meals and papers.

Topics will cover: — Planning and objective setting

— Budgeting

— Decision making

— Finance

— Communications and human relations

— Taxation

— Business ownership structure

If you are interested in obtaining further details please complete the form below and post to Tim Prance
A.T.A. Secretary, P.O. Box 4, Victor Harbor 5211

Managing the Farm Business

15/19 March 1982

Please forward me additional information

Name:

Address

Award of Merit nominations

Nominations for the R.O.C.A. 1982 Award of Merit are required. Please fill out the enclosed form and post to R.O.C.A. Secretary, Roseworthy College, Roseworthy, S.A. 5371

Name of Nominee.....

Address of Nominee.....

Age of Nominee.....

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

Supporting data should be provided on employment, career and occupation since leaving R.A.C., papers published, honours bestowed and academic qualifications as well as any other organizations and committees' the nominee has served on.

The application should be signed by the person making the proposal and seconded by another person.

A Great Reunion

They started rolling in at 10 a.m. on that fine Saturday in September. Some of them from as far away as W.A., N.S.W., and Victoria. However a darkish guy surprised us all by "dropping" in from Papua New Guinea.

The occasion was a reunion of all people at College between 1968 and 1970. The event was organized by the year which graduated in 1971. The idea was to have a major function for the 10th reunion but to get away from the "year" basis everyone we knew at College was invited. (All except those who had vanished into thin air). This included staffes, Ag. Students, Plonkies and those who started with us but didn't graduate. It followed the Friday night of the R.O.C.A. A.G.M. to give that function a boost.

The show started with a BBQ lunch on the lawn near the main building at R.A.C.. This was followed by a tour of the College led by Graham Brookman. This was really interesting and people were even heard to say "well this at least has not changed". Brooky did a great job explaining new facets of the College such as the Natural Resources and Horse Husbandry courses and accommodation in "apartments" on College. I, for one, was convinced that the place is continuing to keep up with the times as a leader in agricultral education.

The main event for the weekend was a formal dinner in the College dining room. Times really have changed with a good three course meal and College wine served at the tables. With wives 170 people were at the dinner and as people entered the room the noise of everyone greeting old mates and lecturers was amazing.

Our Principal, Mr. Bob Hariot, spoke to us and really brought back memories! However instead of impressing on us the three hurdles, he spoke of how R.A.C. is progressing and that the attitude of "it is not like the good old days" was nonsense. His speech was certainly appreciated.

Our year has remained a very close group since leaving College, mainly due to a magazine we produce each year. Ray Norton present a copy of this year's mag. to all staffies present. If you made a fool of yourself at College, Ray remembered it. He brought the house down with his reminising.

After dinner we moved into the new Community Centre, the festivities continued and the College Song and other "noises" were heard into the early hours.

On Sunday a few stayers managed to make it for breakfast. A tour of the winery was given by Bob Baker and then, you guessed it, a little wine tasting. If you would like a few R.A.C. wines to add to your cellar I would recommend them. Lunch on Sunday wound up the weekend and people parted their ways till next time

The College did a great job of catering for all the events. Thanks to everyone involved, but especially Graham Brookman and all the "House" staff.

See you at the next reunion
Brian Ashton

(and thanks to you B.A. for your efforts — Editor)

In the future the R.O.C.A. committee hopes to help people organizing reunions by being able to supply computer print outs of addresses of R.O.C.A. members for relevant years spent at R.A.C.