



R.O.C.A. digest

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Editor:

Tim Prance

Editorial Committee:

Peter Lewis, Lindsay Wright, Dale Manson, Ian Rice



*1982 Award of Merit
Milton Spurling*

Moving? Writing to the Editor? Paying your subscription?

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

Milton Spurling

Winner of the 1982 R.O.C.A. Award of Merit

Milton was born at Renmark where he received both his Primary and Secondary education. He graduated from Adelaide University in 1946 with B. Ag. Sc and was awarded his M.Sc in 1953 by the same University. In 1978 he completed a Grad. Dip. Ed. Tech. from Salisbury College of Advanced Education.

Milton's involvement with Roseworthy College spans many years in different stages; firstly whilst a student at Adelaide University, then as College Horticulturalist in the 1950's. In 1972 Milton returned to the College as Senior Lecturer in Plant Science. He is now deputy Director, having been Acting Director for six months last year.

Soon after graduating Milton joined R.O.C.A. as a life member. He has been a dedicated and tireless worker for the college, its students and graduates. As Chairman of the Centenary Celebrations he has developed a series of reunions and centenary activities.

When not employed by the College, Milton held several positions in the Horticultural Branch of the South Australian Department of Agriculture. He is still widely respected in the horticultural areas of that state, particularly for his work on citrus growing. He has an enviable record of professional awards and activities, both in Australia and overseas.

Milton's activities do not end with his professional career. He is involved in many community organizations, especially the Scout Movement where he has been an adult leader for twenty one years and District Commissioner for seven years. He was awarded the Scouting Medal of Merit in 1979.

Congratulations Milton on a well deserved honour.

1982 A.G.M. and Dinner.

This years dinner, held on 10th September, was a huge success. In fact so successful we found problems fitting everyone in at our venue — the Town House in Hindley Street. Needless to say we all enjoyed the eating, drinking and reminiscing.

Your committee is investigating alternative venues for the 1983 A.G.M. and Dinner to accommodate the large numbers of old scholars wishing to attend. Next year the numbers attending will be further increased as the dinner will be mixed.

Yes, at our last committee meeting we decided to allow spouses to come to the 1983 dinner if they wish. This dinner will be held on Friday 9th September.

On a more serious note. Last year membership income was not high enough to cover our annual costs, resulting in a loss of \$390. We gained only twelve new members so everyone is urged to sign up at least one new member this year. Please use the application form in this digest.

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 organisations and committees' the nominee has served on.

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

1982/1983 Committee Members

		Work	Home
President:	Ian Rice, R.A.C.	085 24 8057	085 65 4017
Immediate Past President:	Bruce Wigney, Riverton	088 47 2009	088 47 2009
Vice President:	Harry Stephen, Murray Bridge	085 32 2266	085 32 2935
Secretary:	Andrew Michelmores, Nuriootpa	085 62 1899	085 63 2831
Treasurer:	Peter Fairbrother, Adelaide	08 227 3141	08 337 9137
Auditor:	B.C. Philp		
Committee:			
1 to 10 Years Ordinary:	Jeff Tidswell, Adelaide	08 223 1676	08 294 4340
	Bardy McFarlane, Wellington	085 72 7230	085 72 7230
	Peter Lewis, Tailem Bend	08 211 8855	085 72 3888
	Bob Mitchell, Nuriootpa	085 62 2022	
	Dale Manson, Jamestown	086 64 1408	086 64 1252
Eyre Peninsula:	Ken Hayman, 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:	Dale Manson, Jamestown	086 64 1408	086 64 1252
	Ian Rice, R.A.C.	085 24 8057	085 65 4017
	Peter Lewis, Tailem Bend	08 211 8855	085 72 3888
	Lindsay Wright, Horsham		
Ex. Officio:	Barrie Thistlethwayte, R.A.C.	085 24 8057	085 24 8013

ROSEWORTHY OLD COLLEGIANS ASSOCIATION INC.

Income and Expenditure for year ended 30/6/82

Income:	Subscriptions	20	
	Interest	1923	
	Others	11	1954
	Balance (Loss).....	390	2344
Expenditure:	Postage, phone, stationary.....	202	
	Travel.....	171	
	Digest account.....	1351	
	Reunion account.....	141	
	Prizes	318	
	Donations to E.P. Branch.....	100	
	Other	61	2344

Balance Sheet as at 30/6/82

Assets:	Bank Balance.....	1516	
	Bonds.....	14200	
	A. National Railways Loan.....	4500	20216
Liabilities:	General Working fund.....		
	Balance 1/7/81.....	6908	
	Loss	390	6518

Life membership reserve fund

Balance 1/7/81.....	13235		
Subscriptions 1981/82.....	150	13385	
Swimming pool Appeal fund.....	311		
Advance subscriptions.....	2		20216

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT — Ian Rice.

I am honoured to have been elected President of R.O.C.A. in the Centenary Year of the College. This year R.O.C.A. will support the College in the promotion of this historic event. Your committee will also keep you informed of the progress with the proposed Degree in Applied Science in Agriculture.

Educational institutions need the support of their students even after they have graduated. Old students are able to promote the College to prospective Students as well as lobby funding bodies such as governments and businesses. They can also inform the College of the strength and weaknesses of the various courses. I ask you as an Old Student to encourage other old students to join R.O.C.A. and to widely advertise the Centenary functions being arranged for next year.

The programme of events to June 1983 is included with the Digest. There is a weekend of activities specially organised for Old students on April 9th and 10th. R.O.C.A. supports this and urges all Old scholars to attend this reunion as well as other Centenary events. There will be two reunions in 1983—the A.G.M. and Dinner as usual in September as well as the April Student Centenary Reunion.

Degree Courses in Agriculture. The Director, Dr. Barrie Thistlethwayte, attended our last committee meeting and answered many questions on the upgrading of the Diploma in Agriculture course. This course is being converted to a degree to ensure employment and promotion in the Public Service for Roseworthy graduates. Opinions from employers in the private sector are apparently not available and will be sought by R.O.C.A.

The new course planning is still in its infancy. Guidelines suggest this course will be applied with an "appreciable" amount of practical work. Nevertheless your committee is keen to hear the views of more old students, particularly recent graduates. We wish to maintain an interest to ensure employment prospects for Roseworthy graduates are not jeopardized through improper changes to the course content.

R.O.C.A. is concerned that students currently undertaking the Diploma in Applied Science, as well as recent graduates, will be disadvantaged if this course is converted to a Degree. Your committee will ask the College to provide a "bridging" course for any Diploma holders who wish to upgrade their Diploma to a Degree. This facility was provided when the Oenology course was changed to a Degree.

I am Manager of the Extensive Farm at the College, and hope that any old student visiting the College can find time to call in at the Farm office.

COLLEGE NEWS—FROM BARRIE THISTYLETHWAYTE.

The drought. Weather records have been kept at the College since 1883. The normal growing period extends through the months of May to early October. The average rainfall for the four months May to August inclusive is 204mm. This year only 98mm has been recorded, making it the third driest year on record for that period, the driest year having been 1959 when only 74mm were recorded.

A programme of de-stocking is taking place—all wether sheep, cull ewes and prime lambs have either been sold or are being sold. The only sheep that will be kept during the drought will be the breeding ewes (approximately 600) with a replacement flock of about 200 ewe lambs.

The College has stocks of about 150 tonnes wheat and over 200 tonnes barley, which are more than adequate for the needs of the pigs and poultry for the remainder of 1982. Hay stocks are at a lower level and difficulty will be experienced in providing sufficient hay for stock generally. Some hay has been purchased, but it is now becoming very scarce and expensive.

Young stock beef cattle and sheep will be put on drought rations later in the year, with the budget having been drawn up for drought feeding of all stock as from early November 1982 until June 1983.

Show Successes. On August 28, ten dairy cows were very successfully entered in the Gawler Show. The Jerseys obtained six first prizes and the Friesians one. We also received prizes for the Champion Jersey cow and the Reserve Champion Dairy cow for all breeds.

A team of Jersey cows was entered in the Royal Adelaide Show, with the following results:—2 firsts, 2 seconds, 2 thirds, 2 fourths and a cow in the Jersey pen of 5 which won the all breeds competition. Students take the main role in preparing the stock for shows such as these.

The Winery. Students in the Wine Marketing course are opening Roseworthy College Cellars on weekends between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. They have developed a marketing plan to increase public awareness of the weekend opening and to encourage visits by various clubs and societies to use barbecue facilities in association with cellar door sales.

The 1982 Colombard and 1982 Late-Picked Frontignan, first released a couple of months ago, have proved very popular. Cellar door stocks have been depleted rapidly but new releases, also bearing the new-look 1982 labels, will be made progressively during the next few months.

There is a wide range of wines available. Old scholars are welcome to drop in for free tasting and cellar door sales. A list of some of the wines available (together with their prices) is printed for your information.

CELLAR DOOR PRICE LIST

Table Wines — White	Price per bottle	Price per dozen
Sauvignon Blanc 1982.....	\$6.35	\$72.60
French Colombard 1982.....	3.30	37.80
Late-Picked White Frontignan 1982.....	3.30	37.80
Dry White—Flagon.....	2.50	
Table Wines — Red		
Summer Red 1125 ml.....	1.70	18.20
Cabernet Sauvignon 1981.....	4.45	51.00
Claret — Flagon.....	2.50	
Double Pruned Cab./Shiraz 1979.....	3.30	37.80
Cabernet/Shiraz 1977.....	4.10	46.80
Pinot Noir.....	5.10	58.20
Eden Valley Shiraz 1979.....	4.45	51.00
Fortified Wines		
Dry Sherry (Fino).....	4.90	55.80
Sweet Sherry — Flagon.....	3.40	
Vintage Port 1976.....	2.75	31.20
Vintage Port 1979.....	4.90	55.80
Vintage Port 1980.....	5.80	66.00
Old Raisin Liqueur Frontignac.....	6.35	72.60
Spirits		
Old Liqueur Brandy.....	16.00	
Tasting Packs		
RAC Red Wine Tasting Pack.....	17.20	
RAC White Wine Tasting Pack.....	17.20	

INTERSTATE AND LOCAL DISTRIBUTORS

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

PRESTIGE CELLARS

16 The Parade, Norwood, S.A.

VICTORIA

DORADO WINE COMPANY

72 Albert Street, Preston, Vic.

NEW SOUTH WALES

THE INDEPENDENT LIQUOR GROUP CO-OP LTD.

P.O. Box 601, Blacktown, N.S.W.

TASMANIA

NORTHERN—I.W. STEPHENS & SON

77 Elizabeth StrEet, Launceston, Tas.

SOUTHERN—ABERFELDY CELLARS

116 Campbell Street, Hobart, Tas.

News from old Scholars from Dale Manson and Barrie Thistlethwayte

Professor Rex Butterfield, Head of the Department of Veterinary Anatomy in the University of Sydney, has been awarded the Special 1982 Golden Jubilee Year Urrbrae Award. This special award recognises the 50th anniversary of the establishment of Urrbrae Agricultural High School. Professor Butterfield was a student of Roseworthy Agricultural College from April 1938 to December 1940. Whilst at Roseworthy he was Dux of First, Second and Third Years being awarded the Bronze, Silver and Gold medals respectively as Dux. In his Third Year he was awarded—

- the Gold Medal, the Royal Agricultural and Horticultural prize for the highest aggregate in all Diploma subjects;
- the Old Students' Cup for the highest aggregate in Agriculture and Animal Husbandry; and subject prizes in outside Work, Practical Examinations, Dairying, Viticulture, Agriculture, Vine and Fruit Tree pruning and the Student Handbook.

In addition, he was awarded the Gramp Hardy Smith memorial Prize for “the student showing the best all round character and ability taking into account qualities of scholarship, manliness, leadership and sportsmanship”.

F.C. Wheaton (RDA 1911) of Redhill is one of the oldest graduates, and still maintains an active interest in R.A.C. happenings.

Mr. Wheaton and I had a good talk about the role of the horse at the College, when I called in to see him some time ago.

Tom Sismey (RDA 1972) is a successful stud Red Poll cattle breeder at Booleroo Centre. He is very keen on carcass competitions, and I recently ran into him at the Jamestown Beef Carcass Competition.

Geoff Pfeiler was at R.A.C. from 1964-66, but had to pull out of the course through ill health. After having both kidneys removed, and battling insurmountable odds, he is now an industrial chemist with Adelaide and Wallaroo fertilizers. We could all learn a tremendous lesson in determination and fortitude from Geoff.

Howard Mortimer (RDA 1957) is one of South Australia's top Equine Veterinary Surgeons. Mort's practice covers many of the top thoroughbred studs, and he has built a new surgery at his One Tree Hill property.

Geoff Page (RDAT 1976) graduated from RAC and went on to gain his Masters Degree in Agricultural Economics at the University of New England. He is a lecturer in Rural Valuation at the S.A. Institute of Technology. Geoff married former RAC student, Jan Sedunary, and now lives at Mount Barker.

John Dawkins (RDA 1967) is the Federal Member for Freemantle. His name has been in the news quite a bit lately.

Dr. A.J. Millington, Wheat Breeder at the College from 1947-1949, made a return visit to the College from Perth where he now lives. He was accompanied by his brother and sister-in-law.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

Dear Sir,

I would like to see Old Scholars of the 1923 era organize a reunion.

I met Geoff Eaton recently and he mentioned Bo Scott and Roger Panser who are still on deck. Memories were brought back after reading about the staff dinner. Mr. Walter Colebath was our Principal, Les Orchard was Farm Manager, with Mr. Pitchard as Secretary and House master. Jack Williams was in charge of the wine cellars.

Hartley Bauer
1923-1925

Old scholars interested in a sixty year reunion please contact Hartley at 4 Piccadilly Circus, Colonel Light Gardens. Adelaide (Phone: 08 277 3046).

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 \$25
ORDINARY MEMBERSHIP \$ 3

SIGNATURE:.....

Roseworthy Agricultural College is about to publish three books as part of the celebrations of the College's Centenary in 1983. Each book in its own way is a tribute to some of the people and events which have contributed to the growth and development both of the College and of Australia over the last 100 years.

1. THE HOUSE ON THE HILL, written by Mrs. V.W. Herriot, wife of Mr. R.I. (Bob) Herriot, Principle of the College 1961-1973, is a series of short stories about the lives of the families who successively lived in the present Director's residence from the 1860's. the book is illustrated with photographs and line drawings, and has been edited by College Historian Jeff Daniels. It will be available in June 1982.
2. THE PERSONAL LETTERBOOKS OF PROFESSOR A.J. PERKINS make up a 400 page plus volume containing the letters written by Perkins, South Australia's first Government Viticulturist and a major architect of the S.A. phyloxera quarantine regulations. The letters span the years from 1890, when he was employed to develop mixed farming and vineyard properties in Tunisia, to 1901, by which time he had been advising the vigneron of South Australia for nine years. There are letters to Thomas Hardy, Sidney Smith and other wine pioneers. Perkins also taught men such as Leo Buring, and members of the Seppelt family, amongst others. Altogether this is a fascinating insight into the professional activities of one of Australia's most influential viticulturists. Perkins the man also emerges through some of the personal letters which have been retained in the volume.

Two editions are being produced: a standard, numbered edition, and a de luxe, English leather-bound edition with 24 ct gold titling, also numbered. The book will be available in September 1982. It is also edited and translated by Jeff Daniels.

3. ROSEWORTHY AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE—A CENTENARY OF SERVICE, expected to be released in May 1983, will contain a series of chapters written by experts in their fields on the major developments and contributions made by the College over the last 100 years.

