



R. O. C. A. DIGEST

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF ROSEWORTHY OLD COLLEGIANS ASSOCIATION

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EDITORIAL MATERIAL TO:

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OUR CHANGING TIMES

You would probably laugh if your son came home from school and said "Dad, my Leaving certificate will be far better than yours because today we learned about the effects of re-entry on spacecraft".

If he started to rattle off a half dozen new equations you had never heard of, you would probably still not find this a justifiable reason that his education was "better" than yours.

You would no doubt be offended at the word "better". But you would agree that the new things your son is learning are just a part of keeping up with the times.

These days everyone is keeping up with the times. New things are there to be learnt, and if they are ignored we fall behind. Ten years ago mathematics were important but now they are even more important, and so we find a greater emphasis on this subject.

Let's face it, demands change. As demands change, education must change. It's just a fact of life.

Engineers have new metals to work with as a result of modern discovery, chemists have found new drugs, doctors have embarked on organ transplant surgery, and agricultural scientists have found a cure for foot rot. Our world is certainly moving.

So it is not so strange to see teachers now spending five years at universities instead of four. Nor is it strange to see economics students cramming in more lectures each week, or toothbrush salesmen holding a four day salesmanship convention this year instead of the old two day convention they had been used to for years.

It follows then that Roseworthy College should follow the trend. It is not a new trend. In fact it is not really a trend at all, but as I said, a fact of life. Ever since Adam was a boy the human race has accepted the need to keep pace.

I have not heard a newly graduated doctor tell his more experienced colleagues that his "new" degree in medicine is a far better one.

But I have heard newly graduated agricultural diplomates say they are not only "better" but "more intelligent".

In fact I have heard this type of comment from people still doing their course. Stop and think for a while and you might fire back with the answer that we are at least more mature.

I use the word "mature" because it sums up these statements as being those of raw young men yet to have a good look at life.

We expected such statements to come from the boy doing his Leaving. But we are appalled to hear them coming from people who will soon be working with us in this fast moving world of agriculture.

- TONY CLANCY.

From the MANAGER of "THE STUDENT"

While I have been managing The Student, a number of articles and statements have appeared which have upset some members of this organisation. In a few instances I feel the protests have come from the thin skinned among us, but in others, I agree, they have been justified. This year has been no exception. One does not have to thumb too far into the 1969 issue before a contentious statement or two appear with which a number, including myself do not agree. However I am a manager — not the editor.

The editor each year is a different individual, but one with enough initiative to take on the task of an annual publication and with enough confidence to write what he believes. It is not for me as Manager to dictate to him and his committee and impose my views, but to guide each group each year in the problems of expression, production and finance.

It is a student magazine for their self expression, embodying their views as inhabitants of this establishment over one three-year span.

They express ideas with youthful ego, confidence and over simplification, dismissing much that has gone before often with one sweeping statement based in many instances on very little knowledge. **Their three year era is the era!!!**

As an individual who has, I feel, been reasonably interested in this College and both its present and past students, I have read and heard many of these statements with which I don't agree. Many have come from the ill-informed, not necessarily the student body, but in some instances from people who should know better. However, they are views which I presume these people believe to be true and those which they are entitled to express.

The dissenter under our democratic system is also entitled to reply to something he feels is not correct and thus air a subject fully.

With this in mind I am writing to urge old students, who perhaps are muttering under their beards, to get their thoughts marshalled and express them. It is impossible to use the Student for this but a letter to the editor of this Digest will get it published and some interesting material should ensue.

WORKING MANAGER WANTED

Married, 30–45 years, Protestant, experienced with Corriedale sheep and Hereford cattle, in 26 inch rainfall Western District area, with improved pastures and increasing stocking rate. Good understanding of all stock work and management, pasture improvement, fodder conservation, some book-keeping, repair and maintenance of agricultural plant and buildings. Agricultural degree or Diploma advantageous, also experience in handling labour and accepting responsibility. 7,000 acres with 10–12 thousand breeding ewes and 400 breeding cows and replacements for both. Country quite hilly requiring use of horses and attention to fences and rabbits.

Three bedroomed, unfurnished house, slow combustion stove and hot water, SEC, sewerage. Salary \$4,200 plus basic wage increases. School bus passing gate to State and High schools.

All enquiries and applications to: Mr N. Armitage,
Wando Estate,
CASTERTON, Victoria, 3311.

OENOLOGY NEWSLETTER from Phil Tummel

Firstly congratulations to the students who have just graduated from the Oenology course. Congratulations are also due to Bob Baker, who is responsible for the graduates.

It is with regret I announce the death of Dave Rowe, Sandalford Wines, Western Australia. Dave spent 1947 at the College to receive a grounding in Oenology to enable him to develop the family winery. He did this with great success.

A few items of interest. Phil Waldeck and his attractive wife Marie were in Adelaide over the Christmas period.

S. Wynn and Co. has 8 R.D.O.'s men on their staff.

Recent graduate Bill Battams has set his wedding day for 14th March.
Phil Shaw, another recent graduate, married Dianna Spencer on Friday, 2nd January.
Recent paper ads make Viticultural experts as important as Winemakers, how ridiculous.
Dickson Morris has left Queltaler to migrate to the Hunter Valley.
Scotty Ireland has resigned from McWilliams to manage a new venture in the M.I.A.

On behalf of all Oenologists I wish a Happy and Prosperous New Year to all associated with R.A.C.

AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGISTS OF AUSTRALIA

INAUGURAL DINNER MEETING

FRIDAY

21st February, 1970

7.00 p.m.

at the

EARL OF ZETLAND HOTEL, FLINDERS STREET, ADELAIDE, 5000

GUEST SPEAKER: Dr A. R. Callaghan, Chairman, Australian Wheat Board.

DINNER FEE: \$5.00

R.S.V.P. 16th February

R. S. Norton, Agricultural College, Roseworthy, 5371.

EYRE PENINSULA BRANCH REUNION 1970

The date to remember for **THE** reunion of 1970 is Saturday, 14th March. So don't delay, make the necessary arrangements with your wife, employer, etc., **now** to ensure that you will be able to come.

This year we have been fortunate in persuading Mr Ken Leske, Senior Lecturer in Farm Management at Roseworthy College to be guest speaker. His address is entitled "Turning Economic Theory Into A Practical Reality" and is a subject that should be full of interest to all those attending, no matter what field of agriculture they are interested in.

As always the ladies will be well looked after with a dinner on the Saturday night and a barbecue for all the family will be held on the Sunday.

Anyone who requires any further information on accommodation, etc., should contact:

Des Habel,
C/- Department of Agriculture,
PORT LINCOLN, S. Aust. 5606.

AWARD OF MERIT NOMINATIONS

It is again time to start thinking about nominations for the 1970 Award of Merit. This award is to any member of the Association who has made a meritorious contribution in any field of Agricultural activity including Association affairs.

Nominations are due with the Honorary Secretary by the 31st May and must include the following:

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Name | Proposed by _____ |
| 2. Address | Seconded by _____ |
| 3. Age | Date _____ |
| 4. Period at R.A.C. | |
| 5. Supporting Data | |
| 6. Academic Qualifications | |

Previous recipients of this award are:-

1961 – Rowland Hill	1964 – W. J. Dawkins	1967 – Bob Herriot
1962 – David Riceman	1965 – Frank Pearson	1968 – Dennis Muirhead
1963 – Len Cook	1966 – Dr A. R. Callaghan	1969 – Jack Reddin

ANOTHER HONOUR TO FRANK PEARSON

Frank Pearson has been invited to attend a Wheat Seminar from April 29th to May 13th, 1970 at Ankara, Turkey and to deliver the following lectures:-

“Cereal Cultivation in Rainfed Areas” and “Need to Replace Wheat with Barley Cultivation in Marginal Lands”.

The seminar, which is being sponsored by F.A.O. and the Rockefeller Foundation jointly, will be attended by Plant Scientists from Near East Regions who have been trained in Mexico.

To be asked to present two lectures at such a seminar is indeed a great honour.

In about April of this year Frank will retire from his position with the South Australian Department of Agriculture and I feel sure that all R.O.C.A. members will join with me in wishing him a long and happy well earned retirement.

COMMITTEE ON ABORIGINAL EDUCATION

A short report on this subject!!

It would seem from R.O.C.A. members point of view that nothing is doing in the main branch at all in this area. However, I can report that a meeting was organised recently at College between Mr Millar, Director of Department of Aboriginal Affairs, the Principal, Mr Herriot as head of the Agricultural College, an officer of Mr Millar's Department, Mr Long, Mr Foot our present Housemaster and a past officer of the Aboriginal Affairs Department, Mr Whitelaw – Assistant Superintendent of Primary Schools, and myself.

The aim of this meeting was to set up a starting point for contact between the three Departments and to make some start on the aims of this committee “to foster an interest in Aboriginal youths in agricultural education”. The meeting was very successful.

It has been arranged that a conference of councillors from the various reserves should meet at Roseworthy for two or three days this January. They are to be told the role of Roseworthy and to see it first hand in addition to the normal business carried out at these meetings. It is expected that from them the idea will disseminate through to the younger generation. We then hope for organised day or two day tours of the College by groups of youths from all the reserves to show them agricultural teaching first hand. We then envisage that in the May, September and end of year holidays, selected youths; perhaps six or eight, may come to College for the holidays and join the work force of students who keep the place going at those times. These youths could have some special treatment “to foster

their interest" and on returning to the various reserves could be followed up with personal contact by a R.O.C.A. member in that area or a member of this committee.

By getting together the three Departments, viz. Aboriginal Affairs, Education and Agricultural College, it was felt a more permanent arrangement would eventuate than by working just with individuals. This seems a good starting point and although it has been twelve months in coming, through no fault of the R.O.C.A. committee, it should be a worthwhile endeavour.

Ray Norton

UPPER MURRAY DINNER 1969

from: Peter Lock

The Upper Murray branch of R.O.C.A. held its 18th Reunion Dinner at the Barmera Hotel on 1st October, 1969 under the chairmanship of Barmera Horticultural Advisor Tom Simes.

Fifteen members and visitors attended including R.O.C.A. Secretary, John Gursansky, and with 27 apologies this attendance was rather disappointing.

After the Loyal Toast, Secretary Roger Inglis of Loxton reported on forthcoming developments in vocational guidance for Aboriginal youths, which promise to provide opportunities for useful involvement by R.O.C.A. The usefulness of individual members visiting the Gerard Aboriginal Reserve at Winkie was discussed and Greg Botting – Berri Horticultural Advisor – described the improvements that has taken place in the fruit growing section of the Reserve.

Jack Stain of Renmark proposed the Toast to the Association and Kevin Pfeiffer – Loxton wine-maker – proposed the Toast to the College. In responding to these toasts John Gursansky spoke about the Agricultural Technologists of Australasia, R.O.C.A. activities in the fields of improving diplomate salaries and agricultural education. Quite a lengthy and interesting discussion followed involving the status of the diplomate, and the R.D.A.T. in relation to the R.D.A.

Manager of the Loxton Research Centre, Ian Bond, proposed the Toast to Kindred Associations and well known radio announcer from 5MU, John Lamb responded.

During the session for General Business Allan Emerson referred to ill-informed and adverse criticism of R.A.C. and diplomates that appeared in the press periodically. He suggested and the meeting agreed that R.O.C.A. members reply to such criticism and correct any mistakes and misrepresentations, to promote the image of the College and its diplomates.

As much good River wine was consumed during the evening, it was fitting that the last motion was "That a Family Day be held with free booze supplied by Kevin Pfeiffer". Of course this was carried unanimously. I sincerely hope there will not be 27 apologies that day.

The President for the coming 12 months is Bruce Hall from Loxton and our able Secretary Roger Inglis was re-elected. Next year's Dinner will be at Loxton and it is hoped that there will be an increased attendance with Blue Holden bringing a big car load from Waikerie.

Throughout the evening there was a lot of interest shown in current events and Association problems and it was not until 11.12 p.m. that the meeting closed.

RIVER NEWS from Peter Lock

John Jones, Assistant Manager of Loxton Research Centre was recently married to Pam Nelson.

BIRTHS – Mick and Colleen Harwood – a second son.

Peter and Ruth Lock – a second son.

Kevin and Shirley Pfeiffer – a second son.

Tom Simes, now Horticultural Adviser at Loxton Research, has just returned from a trip through the Western Australian Horticultural areas.

Greg Botting spent a week in the New South Wales Hunter Valley – called on Harry Tulloch and Dick Hilder.

Tony Morris – Manager of Wanbi Research Centre to transfer to Minnipa Research Centre as Manager in the near future.

Tom Davidson called in recently to see how the weeds are growing in the Mallee in such a good season!!

Bill Basket is now a private horticultural adviser in Loxton.

Don Winn – ex-Manager of Minnipa Research Centre is now with Adelaide and Wallaroo Fertilisers Co. stationed at Murray Bridge.

John Woodward and family from Merrygoen in New South Wales are having their biennial holidays at Kapunda during January. Excessive October and November rains did untold damage to the Woodward family's wheat crop, but lucerne and other summer pastures and crops have got away very well. Brother Richard R.D.A. with his wife and one child is with John on "Old Biamble" at Merrygoen.

PHILPY'S MEMOIRS by Ray Norton

The previous episode finished on Bert Nourse who came to College only shortly before Philpy did, arriving from Mount Remarkable. As is known, he was an exceptionally talented person who with the limited facilities at his disposal was able to manufacture a cultivator and a number of other pieces of equipment before arc-welding was thought of. When this equipment became available, he taught himself to use this and became as proficient with it as he was with anything else. Being Mr Fixit on the College made him feel indispensable, I guess, and he became very independent. As many past students knew if one went in the shop and he was to be seen continually hitching up his trousers, this meant he was agitated and tomorrow would be more opportune for a request for help. It was well known however that he loved a challenge, and an approach asking Bert "how would you do so and so" usually drew a favourable response. Speaking as an individual, I always found that he enjoyed a joke and providing one didn't interrupt him when he was busily engaged, he was always courteous and likeable.

In my First Year the then "sheepman" Snow Walker was trimming ram's hooves and sent a green horn first year to the workshop for a set of ram shoes. Bert said they didn't have any and enquired of Bill Daly who said he didn't have any either "only goat shoes, more for hill climbing".

It is interesting that Bert's grandson entered First Year last year.

The Strike!! Everyone has heard something about it and all know some facts, but few have an overall picture as Philpy has of it, so we may find out a little more in our next issue as this time space is limited.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Last copy of R.O.C.A. Digest has prompted me to write – I've been meaning to for a long time now.

I did not see many R.O.C.'s at the Orange National Field Days this year – usually, there is quite an influx at this time of the year. However, I met Trevor Joyce and wife Margaret at the Batchelors Ball a few weeks ago. Also Nick Hutchens (Yates Seeds – Griffith) and Peter Nichols (with a finance firm at Inverell) at the inaugural meeting of the New South Wales branch of Agricultural Technologists of Australasia held at Bathurst on 1st November. Very well attended meeting, with many men coming very long distances (3-400 miles). The meeting was an outstanding success and guest speaker was Dr C. Blake from Faculty of Agriculture, University of Sydney who spoke very capably on the Trend of Agricultural Education.

Concerning us though – new daughter on October 3rd – Kyla and we are off to teach at the Naruso Agricultural School, Suva, Fiji. Subjects look like being Entomology, Plant Pathology, Veterinary Science and General Science. School is boarding. 270 boys, and 1,700 acres of land. The course is for four years with the intake after 2nd year High School. Place is rather unique in that on completion of course the boys are given the use of eight acres of land each. The land is set well away from the school proper and there the boys live and put into practice the knowledge that they have been taught. They have use of this land for three years and as they manage to save between \$400 to \$1,000 when the average annual income of a Fijian is only \$200 I feel they have an excellent start to life. Tell you more in a month or two.

I think the information on Michael Greenfield in the last R.O.C.A. Digest was out of date because I was told at the Field Days by Bob Piesse (The Australian wide fencing contractor) that he was now managing a cotton property at Wee Waa.

IAN YOUNG

THE GRAPEVINE

Mr Jack Reddin, 1969 Award of Merit winner, has recently been appointed Chairman of the South Australian Potato Board. We congratulate him on this appointment to such a position.

I saw Tom Usher late last year. Tom had just returned to Adelaide after having spent 12 months touring Australia with Dick Habgood. Whilst on their trip they met Murray Brown in Esperance and worked for Ian Bidstrup in North Queensland.

Tony Clancy is off to Darwin in the near future to take up a position with the Department of Primary Industry. All the best Tony. We hope you will continue to support R.O.C.A. as you have in the past.

Tony Morris is apparently transferring from Officer-in-Charge of Wanbi, to the same position at Minnipa.

The following activity has been noticed in the matrimonial field:

ENGAGEMENTS: Bob Holloway to Christine Leopold; Jon Shipard to Marlene Thomas; Trevor March to Faye Brammy; Trevor Twigden to Julie Phelps; Ian Scarborough to Merralea Modra; Jim Cooper to Joan; Jim Townsend to Maureen Rosenthorp.

MARRIAGES: Tony Aitchison to Suzanne Engel; Ian Pickett to Sandra Jackson; Charles Gaitskell to Faye Pepall; John Jones to Pam Nelson; Peter (Lofty) Jones to Roslyn Tilbrook; John Womersley to Cheryl; Chris Mc Gowan.

BIRTHS: Daryl and Tricia Hicks — a son; Reg and Judy Radford — a son; Geoff and Merry Crome — a son; Ruth and Peter Lock — a son.

Ray Norton has passed on a letter that he received from Paul Hewton quite some time ago. Paul is Deputy Headmaster at Nuriootpa High School. He returned to the University to complete a B.Sc. degree with majors in Botany and Zoology, after having spent 12 years as an 'unrecognised diplomate'.

I saw Bill Watson at the beach over the Christmas period. Bill is doing his National Service Training and stationed in New South Wales. He seems quite happy in the services and is doing an officer training course. After he is discharged in 16 months time he plans to do a Rural Science course at Armidale.

Nick Newland joined the Lands Department in October last year and is working on vermin control. The work, which he is finding most interesting, will take him to all parts of the State.

I may be a little one-eyed as I look down the births column, but three of the members listed above graduated from R.A.C. in January, 1960. Any other groups prepared to take up the challenge and beat this for a three months period between issues of the Digest.

R.O.C.A. MEMBERS

K. A. PFEIFFER

Box 2, P.O. LOXTON. 5333

Occupation: Oenologist. Complete winemaking, including chemistry, blending and despatch at the local co-operative winery.

Family: Married with one son.

Community interests: Vice President Loxton Wine and Food Club. Committee member of Basketball Association. Member of two church committees.

R.O.C.A. MEMBERS (continued)

W. J. B. HEATH

Agricultural Training Institute, POPONDETTA, PAPUA.

Occupation: Agricultural Dev-Officer, T.P.N.G. Public Service. Administration, course preparation and lecturing in Agricultural/commercial subjects at the above institute.

Family: Married with two children.

Community interests: P & C, Apex, Rural Youth, Sport (squash, tennis, cricket).

DON NICHOLLS

BUMBUNGA. 5500

Occupation: Farmer — sheep, cattle and cereals.

Family: Wife and seven children.

Community interests: District Council, Rural Youth, Agricultural Bureau, Schools, Church.

GEORGE WOOLMER

1 Langdon Terrace, BARMERA. 5345

Occupation: Agricultural Science Teacher. Regular High School teaching from 1st year to Leaving.

Family: Wife and three children.

Community interests: Chairman, Barmera branch of the National Trust of S.A. Officer of local C.M.F. Infantry Coy. General nature conservation and historical work.

Outside community: Fellow of Natural Historical Society of S.A. Member of several native conservation organisations and of philatelic society.

D. C. STANLEY

Private Bag, P.O. Enterprise Road, NAIROBI. KENYA.

Occupation: Farmer — Dairy — 160 in milk. Friesian breeder, Charolais x for beef.

Family: Married.

Community interests: Agricultural Society of Kenya committee. Kenya National Farmers Union Dairy Committee. Boran Cattle Breeders Society. E.A. Friesland Society. Kenya Rifle Association.

Other old students in area: J. A. SANDS and SIMON FLETCHER.

S. G. WILLIAMS

49 Leabrook Drive, ROSTREVOR, 5073

Occupation: Agricultural Adviser with Department of Agriculture, S.A. Helping farmers solve problems and advising on new Agricultural Developments.

Family: Married with two sons.

Community interests: Church, Rotary, Lawn Tennis Club (past secretary).

Outside community: Life member Scotch College Old Collegians Association. Life Member Hutchins School Old Scholars Association, Tasmania.