

R. O. C. A. DIGEST



OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF

THE ROSEWORTHY OLD COLLEGIANS ASSOCIATION INC.

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A.G.M. REUNION DINNER

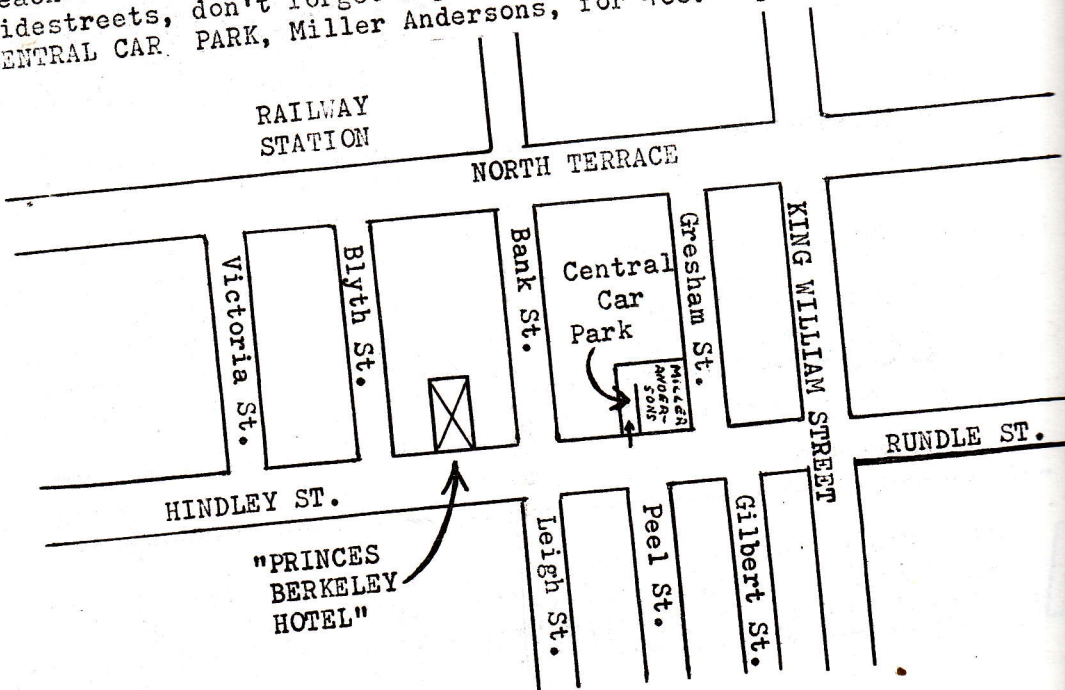
The A.G.M. and Reunion Dinner this year is being held at a new Venue:- The Berkeley Hotel, 58 Hindley Street, Adelaide and also on a different night. Friday, 5th September was selected by the Reunion Sub-committee as being a night at the end of the school holidays that members would attempt to attend as an alternative to the beginning of the Holidays. The committee were also hopeful that many younger members would attend the Friday night, as in previous years, the reunion had competition with other functions.

The A.G.M. will be commencing at 5.45 p.m. with the Reunion Dinner at 7.30 p.m.

The Hotel Management have asked me to stress the point that all bookings must be made well before the night as their catering service will not accomodate late bookings. The R.S.V.P. is Friday, 29th August, 1975.

Please fill in coupons centre page and return to R.C.C.A. Treasurer.

The venue has been chosen with location in relation to transport services in mind. Location is central, within easy reach of bus or train. If you miss a park in one of the sidestreets, don't forget ample parking is available in the CENTRAL CAR PARK, Miller Andersons, for 40c. 6 p.m. - Midnight.



A.G.M. DISCUSSION

One of the items of Agenda to be discussed at the A.G.M. is the investment of R.O.C.A. funds in A.T.A. Debentures.

Our Life Membership Reserve Fund currently stands at \$10,355. is well and truly covered by \$12,300 worth of Commonwealth Govt Bonds, most earning in the order of 9.2% interest. A further 11% debenture issue, redeemable after 5 years. This is a land bricks and mortar investment on A.T.A.'s motel complex in Bath and offers total security.

Mr. Ray Taylor will be at our A.G.M. and will outline further

REUNION

All 10 and 25 year ago members (as listed in the June issue of R.O.C.A. Digest) have been contacted.

Please return the required information to the co-ordinators.

TEN YEAR AGO

Richard Campbell,
C/- The Chronicle,
121 King William Street,
ADELAIDE. 5000

Phone 51-0421

A.H. 339-2533

TWENTY FIVE YEAR AGO

Brian Jefferies,
44 Ferguson Avenue,
MYRTLE BANK. 5064

Phone 228-2297

A.H. 79-7856

BRIEF CONFERENCE SUMMARY

ROSEWORTHY AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE WED. 16 JULY TO FRIDAY 18 JULY 1975.

The Conference was very informative and drew on the knowledge and experience of many authoritative people in their particular field.

Market statements show that the outlook for beef and for wool is not promising in the near future, but more optimistic for other products. Wool and beef are "income responsive products" and the demand for them depends on levels of income. The importing countries Japan, United States and Europe are still suffering industrial depressions and until they recover, prices will remain low.

The overwhelming issue governing today's economy is the current level of inflation. Inflation poses an enormous immediate problem for beef and wool producers, with costs of inputs still rising.

At the Conference Dinner Thursday evening, the Minister of Agriculture, Mr. B. Chatterton, M.L.C. pointed out that in the last 2½ years farm wages have increased by more than 200%, while total costs rose by 70%, and machinery costs by only 40%. The increased labour costs are provoking changes. Farmers are hiring less labour, using bigger machines, less fertiliser and whenever possible cutting down on the use of credit.

Professor Gruen, Aust. National University, warned that pressure to increase the reserve price of wool was unwise. If the reserve price was pushed too high, the scheme would ultimately break down. Professor Gruen also pointed to the need to bridge

the gap in understanding and in attitudes between rural and urban people with a need for more effective communication.

Recent Government policy statements that profits and funds for investment are now recognised as necessary for the maintenance of private business enterprises, gives substantial basis for selective forms of aid to rural industries.

Mr. Sangster, Tepeco Station, Cockburn, informed us that The Inland Pastoral and Cereal Areas still rely on the resilience of the family form of farming. Survival with inflation rests largely on a capacity to maintain good technology and efficient marketing, whether this is based on mechanisation or other forms of substitution of capital for labour.

Mr. Stephens, Inman Valley, explained the great difficulty in technological and economic terms of chopping and changing between sheep and beef cattle.

Mr. Seppelt, revealed the threat of an imbalance looming, as additional plantings by wineries increase the areas of production by wineries to 23% of the State total (11% 5 years ago), putting the plantings by individual grape growers at increased risk.

Mr. Landgren, General Manager, Australian Wine Board, gave the Wine Industry's case with respect to taxation of stocks and the difficulties this has brought upon them.

Mr. Honan, Director, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Canberra predicted that aggregate farm income is expected to hold at 1973-74 levels, with more problems facing the wool and beef industries than is generally the case for grains.

Mr. Messenger, Chairman S.A. Rural Reconstruction Board, outlined the refinancing of farmers' debts, with a successful conversion to longer terms of repayment.

Mr. Johnston, from R. Anderson & Associates, explained that Rural Reconstruction was only a part of the total complex of measures needed for adequate changes in rural structure, not forgetting that input mix and the production pattern must also be adjusted.

Dr. Williams, Roseworthy's Director, reviewed the Conference, making it clear that it is important to appreciate that Outlook Statements have an inbuilt conservatism. If one considers the risks of being wrong it is easier to be proved wrong by the turn of events if your original forecast was a pessimistic one. No one worries too much if an outlook statement for low prices or low incomes is proved wrong. But outlook statements forecasting prosperity haunt their originators for years to come.

Tear Off & Return Coupon Now

FILL IN THIS DINNER REPLY COUPON AND RETURN WITH NOMINATIONS
FOR THE COMMITTEE ON THE REVERSE SIDE.

Mr. Reg Hutchinson,
R.O.C.A. Treasurer,
Agricultural College,
ROSEWORTHY. 5371

R.S.V.P. BY FRIDAY 29th AUGUST.

I will/will not be attending the reunion dinner on Friday, 5 September

I enclose cheque for \$_____ to cover costs of _____ persons at
\$ 6.50 per person.

Name _____

(Preferred First Name _____)

Address _____

COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

Return Coupon Now

Nominations are required for the 1975/76 Committee.
Please give this some thought and return with your dinner
coupon which is on the reverse side.

1974/75

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

(No Nomination last year)

One Member who left college more than one year and less than 10 years

Doug Clifford (1970-73)

Four Ordinary Members

Ross Dawkins (1965-67)

Harry Stephens (1945-48)

Richard Stewart (1967-70)

David Suter (1940-43)

1975/76 Nominations

no nomination required

Request For Information

Dear Sir,

I am at present undertaking to write a short history of horses at College, and am wondering if any Old Collegians could inform me of anything they can remember about the College horses while they were students. I am particularly interested in hearing about the numbers of Clydesdales and light horses at College in past years, and of any student activities with horses either at shows or just organized pleasure activities.

In 1973 we formed the Roseworthy Light Horse Club and now have quite a large membership of students, staff and their families. All my research through College records and old magazines has revealed no mention of organized student horse sports like our last two gymkhanas ever occurring and I am hoping that some Old Collegian could fill me in on this point.

The College is presently increasing its horse numbers and has just received \$32,000 from the Commonwealth Government for the R.E.D. Scheme to repair and rebuild the existing stables, and requests for money to build a completely new stable/horse training complex will be made later on. All this climaxes to a point where horses are taking a greater part in the Animal Husbandry course at Roseworthy.

This whole move was first promoted by the loan of over \$17,000 worth of quarter horses from Willomurra Quarter Horse Stud for use in stock work at College, and following this came the donation of a quarter horse gelding. Later this year the College is expecting the first drop of quarter horse foals sired by the top quarter horse stallion in Australia, Jet Master. These will be the first foals born on College for at least fifteen years.

As a closing remark, I would like you to think about all those years of breeding and the massive genetic pool that has been lost forever by the failure of people to maintain the Clydesdale as a breed, and so all this is gone for good - a pitiful waste.

Yours faithfully,

Dale Manson.

Dale Manson.

(Hon. Sec. Roseworthy Light Horse Club.)

COLLEGE ROUNDUP

REG HUTCHINSON

STUDENTS

Student numbers at 237 are a record high this year. There are 76 in First Year, 50 in Second Year, (including Robin Sweeting who missed his Second Year in 1971) 42 in Third Year (including Bernie Swaby who missed his Third Year in 1965) 16 doing R.D.A.T. including Jim Cawthorne (R.D.A. 1966) 19 in the final Oenology year, 18 in the new First Year Oenology and 18 in the new Wine Production and Marketing Course.

ACCOMODATION

This has severely taxed the accomodation at College, with 194 in College rooms (including the Staff offices formerly occupied by Ken Leske etc.) 15 are occupying ex-staff houses (Probert's, Bungey's and Burrell's) and 31 are required to live off College.

STAFF

More and more staff, with the increased numbers, are also living off College, and there has been a general exodus to Wasleys, with nearly 20 College staff now residing there.

Mr. Tom Mann, Research Officer, A.P. Laboratory has been kept busy, collating the data which has accumulated from the experimental merino selection programme, in progress since 1965. Well known geneticists Helen Newton Turner, Scott Dolling and Bill Pattie visited the College recently to appraise this research and the A.P. Laboratory is awaiting their report on the future of the programme.

Ken Leske spent the latter part of his vacation in New Zealand, travelling from Auckland to Christchurch, stopping at Massey University and Lincoln University College of Agriculture. His main objective was to look at their form of Agricultural Education, particularly in relation to the new Diploma in Farming course proposed for R.A.C. next year. He also investigated the whole question of the use of farming land at these Universities for teaching and other purposes. The rest of his time was spent sight-seeing, particularly the New Zealand Wine Industry, taking the opportunity to have discussions with Marketing Board personnel in Wellington.

Basil Sheahan, Senior Lecturer in Extension will be going to New Zealand for the Australasian Extension Conference in October.

LIBRARY

Following the opening of the new Library, the books from the Tassie Library were fumigated (to kill the silverfish, not the bookworms) and transferred. This has created an enormous task for the new Senior Librarian, Miss Margaret Emery. The Tassie Library is now vacant and is to be converted into a Staff Lounge and Conference Room.

DONATION

Mr. A.G. Stephens, who recently visited the College, has given \$2,500 in memory of his brother Cyril Foster Stephens. C.F. Stephens was Gold Medallist at R.A.C. in 1916 and was subsequently killed in action in World War I. The new Library will be enhanced by this gift.

SPORT

Football is well under way and at this stage it seems unlikely that the "A's" will make the four. The "B's" however are in second position and if they remain so, will play the second Semi-final on the College Oval on August 30th.

The Hockey girls have followed last years premiership well and again remain undefeated at this stage, with some scores as high as 6 - 0.

...and SPORTS DAY

Sports Day, held in October last year, resulted in R.D.O. student Tony Devitt breaking the Shot-put record, previously held by M.J. Seppelt since 1962.

This years Sports Day was held in April and some of the metric track records were broken. With the introduction of metric measurements to Sports Day in 1972, new records had to be established for the track events (distances being run having changed). This means that the record holders of track events in imperial measurement, as at 1971 will now hold those records indefinitely. They are:-

EVENT	TIME	NAME	YEAR
100 yards	10.2 secs.	B.C. Reed	1899
		S.C. Vohr	1911
		J.T. Murray	1913
		L.G. Claxton	1949
220 yards	23 secs.	M.J. Dunn	1927
440 yards	52.4 secs.	D.P. Purser	1949
		J.G. Lawton	1964
		A. McCawley	1969

880 yards	2 min. 1.1 secs.	A. McCawley	1969
MILE	4 min. 42.2 secs.	B.C. Jeffries	1949
3 Mile Road Race	16 min. 48.5 secs.	A. McCawley	1969
1 Mile Walk	8 min. 54 secs.	G. Eckersley	1967
120 Yards Hurdle	15.3 secs.	C.E. Pellew	1920

The distances achieved for the field events were readily converted to metric, but many of the record holders have remained unchanged for a long time, and as at 1975 stand as:-

Broad Jump	6.48 m.	L.G. Claxton	1949
Hop, Step & Jump	13.11 m.	L.G. Claxton	1949
High Jump	1.79 m.	S.T. Gee	1962
Shot Putt	13.05 m.	A. Devitt	1974
Discuss	35.41 m.	M.J. Seppelt	1961
Sheaf Toss	14.02 m.	M.J. Seppelt	1963
Javelin	53.57 m.	S.T. Gee	1962
Pole Vault	3.00 m.	B. Redman	1973

THE SEASON

The new administration of the outside sections appears to be working well. We have seen a 30% increase in cropping area to earn more income, and this, associated with the curtailment of haymaking last year, once the average annual requirement had been met, has made this season's feed shortage even more critical. It has provided an excellent opportunity to demonstrate drought management. Stock numbers have had to be reduced, and attempts made to purchase fodder at extremely high prices. The foresight of a practically oriented manager in 1968 in conserving several pits of silage, when surplus fodder was available, has alleviated the current situation somewhat. Most of the silage from these pits has been utilised this year. Similarly in 1973, hay was available over and above the normal requirement, and over 6,000 extra bales were made and stored in the paddock. This too has now been used.

Paddock feed has still not had the chance to get away and reseeding of some pastures is now being contemplated by the Agronomy Section. It has been suggested that a high sowing rate of cereal with an application of nitrogen fertiliser will overcome the problem. It is also considered that some crops will have to be cut for hay to meet this year's requirement.

SNIPPETS

Peter Bowey (R.D.A.T. 1970) is now with the A.B.C. in Victoria after being abroad twice.

Brenton Baker (R.D.A. 1966) who completed his Graduate Diploma in Extension at Hawkesbury last year, called in at the College and saw some of the latest developments. Brenton has returned to his previous position with the Department of Agriculture as District Horticultural Adviser for the Adelaide Plains.

ALCOHOL ON COLLEGE

Following a period of approved drinking at special functions, the students have now approached the College Administration to lift alcohol restrictions. This will be considered at the next meeting of the governing Council where reports of the situations at other residential and agricultural colleges in Victoria, N.S.W. and Queensland will be considered.

DEFINITION OF A FARMER

The only person who pays for everything at retail prices, sells his produce at discounted wholesale prices, and cops the freight which ever way it's going.

Can You Help ?

HONOUR ROLL

The Diploma Boards for 1951 to 1974 are now being prepared for erection in the dining room. To be worthwhile, complete names are required.

The only one we are unable to establish after an exhaustive search through all the College Records is Leith D...?... WALLACE (1958). Anyone knowing his full name please advise R.O.C.A. Treasurer, C/- R.A.C.

Diary Entry ;

WOOLARAMA

The Australian Society of Animal Production is holding a Field Day - Symposium on "New Crutching and Shearing Methods",

WHEN: Friday, 15th August, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

WHERE: Roseworthy Agricultural College.

Further Details from; Dr. Jim Gallagher at the College,
Roseworthy 248057

OPEN DAY & FARMERS DAY

The College Open Day for Visitors is on Saturday, 18th October, 1975.

If you have not seen the College in the last 12 years I suggest you come along, even if you have, then still come and see the recent changes, bring the family and as many friends as you would like to bring.

The Students organize the Open Day with demonstrations and displays in the Laboratories and on the Farm. Tractor and Trailer transport is available around the College.

A barbecue lunch and tea are available for Visitors.

Following tea, "Amateur Hour" is performed, featuring very high class acts performed by all Students who didn't quite make it onto "Young Talent Time".

The "Open Day Ball" will be held at the Octagon Theatre in Elizabeth, in the evening.

FARMERS DAY is to be held on Friday, 17th October. If you wish, attend both days.