



R.O.C.A. digest

VOL. 16 No. 4

AUGUST 1982

Registered by Australia Post publication No. SBH0253

Editor:

Tim Prance

Editorial Committee:

Peter Lewis, Lindsay Wright, Dale Manson, Ian Rice

GRADUATION DAY, FRIDAY APRIL, 30th 1982

Prizes and awards

Graduate Diploma in Agriculture: Dux of course — Michael Roberts

Graduate Diploma in Natural Resources: Best graduate thesis — Jon Firman

Bachelor of Applied Science in Oenology: Dux of course — Michael Brajkovich

Diploma of Applied Science in Agriculture:

Dux of course — John Squires

Old students Cup and Prize — Michael Camac

Diploma of Applied Science in Natural Resources: Dux of course — Helen McKerrall

Associate Diploma in Agricultural Production: Dux of course — Ruth Miller

Associate Diploma in Farm Management: Dux of course — Mark Cleggett

Associate Diploma in Horse Husbandry and Management: Dux of course — Joarc Geelen

Associate Diploma in Wine Marketing: Dux of course — Huon Hooke

Roseworthy Old Collegians Graduate Award: John Liney

Old Scholars Trophy for best contribution to College sport: Tim Dolan

Sir Condor Lauke Trophy for the most outstanding sports person: Neil Pilgrim

Gramp Hardy Smith Prize for the best all round character and ability: Michael Brajkovich

Moving? Writing to the Editor? Paying your subscription?

Please forward **ALL** correspondence to:

R.O.C.A. C/- Roseworthy College, Roseworthy 5371

1982 Graduation Day

Although there were many familiar features of the 1982 Graduation Day, there was one unique difference from all other previous Graduation Days.

This year staff, students and members of the College Council, together with the occasional speaker, the Honourable David Tonkin, participated in a Graduation Day Procession at the beginning and at the end of the Graduation Ceremony. Staff, students and other participants in the procession wore academic dress.

This new development was largely at my behest, and was intended to stress two things:

(1) Roseworthy Agricultural College is now a fully fledged College of Advanced Education, and it should be seen in similar light as its sister Colleges of Advance Education, where graduation ceremonies involving academic dress and academic processions are held.

(2) I believe that Graduation Days are primarily for students who have successfully-completed their courses, as well as for parents and families who have encouraged and supported graduands through their studies.

Connected with this, there were some changes to the format of the Graduation Day ceremony. In particular, the Director's address outlining in detail the previous year's activities in the college was essentially eliminated. Reports I received from staff, students, members of Council and from the audience were unanimous that this new format was a good one. It was supported strongly by the SUC, which took a major role in arranging the provision of academic gowns to be hired by graduands.

There was another point behind my thinking for the 1982 Graduation Ceremony. In 1983 the college will be celebrating its centenary. I consider that many of the events of 1983, including the 1983 Graduation Ceremony, deserve an atmosphere of pomp and circumstance. I intend continuing the ceremonial academic dress procession and occasional address into 1983 and beyond.

A working party convened by the Academic Secretary and consisting of one representative of each of the three College Faculties and a representative of the SUC, is considered the design of academic dress to be worn by the graduands in subsequent ceremonies. This working party is also considering ceremonial gowns for members of Council. They will present their findings to the October 1982, College Council meeting.



BARRIE THISTLETHWAYTE
Director

COLLEGE NEWS

COLLEGE UPGRADING DEGREE COURSE IN AGRICULTURE?

The three year Diploma of Applied Science in Agriculture (i.e. the R.D.A.) is due for re-accreditation this year. The College and the Tertiary Education Authority have decided that this course will become a Degree in Applied Science in Agriculture.

The format of the new course is still being decided. It will probably continue to be a three year course in applied agriculture rather than a research oriented course. However, there is no doubt substantial changes will be made to the current courses.

A bridging course may be available to recent graduates who wish to update their qualifications.

The Oenology course was upgraded to a degree several years ago and the Natural Resources course could also be changed to a degree when it is due for re-accreditation.

THE END OF THE R.D.A. NOW IT'S THE B.APP.Sc. (Ag)

by Reg Hutchinson, Roseworthy College.

After nearly 100 years the inevitable creep towards academia has finally caught up with R.A.C. These reasons have been given for the change.

- The name of the qualification is important for status and promotion. Potential students were not enrolling because a Diploma was the only qualification available.
- Roseworthy will become a second rate institution if it does not award degrees.
- Two year Associate Diplomas are now well established for technical officers.
- Extension services now require a Degree level of training for their recruits.
- Other Agricultural Colleges and Institutions running courses of a practical, applied nature have degree courses.
- The change is largely in name only — to acknowledge the advanced level of technology already presented in the course.

Reduction in farm practice. Despite the last two reasons given above, the change from a Diploma to a degree is being used as an opportunity to reduce the amount of farming practice within the course.

Apparently, a reduction of 10% in formal contact time over the whole course is required before a Degree can be introduced. To achieve this, Farm Practice subjects will be cut by 25% to 30% to retain a strong academic component.

Farm work in the present Diploma has already been eroded over recent years and now only consists of two days per fortnight during the first and second years. Off College farming practice has been increased by 10 days but this will not even offset proposed reductions in vacation and weekend work on the College.

Surveys of both present students and recent graduates have shown strong support for increasing (rather than reducing) the farming practice component.

How much farm work do you think is necessary for students to reach an adequate level of understanding and appreciation of seasonal activities and basic farming skills?

This question and others may be answered at a Curriculum Development Workshop at the College — due to be held on the 6th and 7th August. The aim is to ensure that the "present and future needs of our students and employers" are met.

Let us hope they listen to the views expressed by students and employers.

This letter has been reprinted from the Roseworthy College Newsletter, June 1982

Dear Editor,

As you and readers may be aware, the Faculty of Agriculture has before it proposals for change with respect to the RDAG course. The changes involve the upgrading of the diploma course to the degree level. While this may seem to be a good move to attract more students to the college, the proposals put forward propose to reduce the time allocated to "Farm Practice" subjects. It is difficult to put a precise figure on this level of reduction, since little information has been made available to students. From what we can gather, it appears that **Farm Practice will be reduced by at least 20%**, however this **doesn't include** expected reductions in RDAG III Enterprises, tours and trips. On-College farm experience is proposed to be reduced from about 1050 hours down to 800 hours, representing almost a 25% reduction.

This is very **disappointing** to hear, since the College has been developing students' practical skills for some 99 years. The course description taken from the 1982 Calendar states;

"Farm Practice gives students a knowledge of the practices used in agricultural enterprises in Southern Australia, and PROVIDES AN OPPORTUNITY TO ACQUIRE AND DEVELOP SKILLS ASSOCIATED WITH maintaining each form of production".

Would such a proposed reduction in Farm Practice put the seal on 99 years of College History? How will employers react to the more "academic" graduate?

Thanking You,

JAY CUMMINS. Roseworthy College.

Editors Note: These proposed changes are most significant and will have far reaching implications, especially if farm practice is reduced to allow for more lectures or tutorials.

R.O.C.A. members who are concerned should contact the Director (Barrie Thistlewayte) or the Dean of the Agriculture Faculty (Ken Leske).

Members' opinions will be welcome in the Digest or at the A.G.M. and dinner in September.

STAFF REUNION By Ian Rice.

The reunion of College Staff held on 13th June was a most successful event with many attending. Three former Principals were present — Dr. McCulloch (now living in Queensland), Mr. Herriot and Dr. Williams.

There were many old faces — Bill and Keith Fairlie, Jack Daly, Tom Carter and not forgetting Philpy, Cliff Hooper, Rex Krause, Doug Mellor, David Suiter and many others.

Following lunch in the Dining Room most people spent the remainder of the afternoon reminiscing in the Community Club, visiting the Winery and wandering around the many new (and old) buildings:

Some ventured to the farm buildings where they found difficulty in orientating themselves.

Our thanks to Milton Spurling who organised the day—making it such a success.

NEWS FROM OLD SCHOLARS by Dale Manson.

Agriculture in the Mid North of the state is in good hands. The team servicing this area from the Department of Agriculture office at Jamestown includes 6 Roseworthy Graduates.

Gavin Young (RDA 1951) heads the team as Senior District Officer and Soils Adviser, **Dale Manson (RDAT 1976)** is the Livestock adviser, **Allan Hinks (RDA 1962)** is the Agronomist, **Jeff Stringer (RDA 1976)** the Animal Health Adviser, and **Don McCarthy (RGNR 1977)** and **Chris Auricht (RGNT 1981)** are Soils Technical Officers.

In addition, two former R.A.C. students, **Cathy O'Grady (McCarthy)** and **Gail Sinkinson (Stringer)** are married to Agriculture Department staff at Jamestown.

Mid North farmer, **Ruth Robinson (RDAT 1977)** has just retired as State President of Rural Youth. Ruth presently runs a large mixed farm at Mannanarie.

Phil Redden (RDAT 1970) of Terowie is a driving force behind the extremely successful Agricultural Bureau at Yongala. Phil served as President for a number of years, and is now in the Secretary's chair.

He runs a mixed sheep/cereal property, and fills in his spare time with his shed erection company. For the past 3 years, Phil has managed the sheep flock for the Yongala Wether Trial.

Sean Floyd (RADF 1981) is working on the pastoral property, Commonwealth Hill. He enjoys the solitude of the outback, and is currently doing the rounds pulling windmills.

Sean reports that the foxes are plentiful up North, and is making quite a lucrative sideline out of the skins.

It is pleasing to hear that **Greg Sheehy (RDA 1974)** is making good progress after a nasty car accident in Ireland. Greg has always been interested in horses, and studied them as a major in his RDAT Course.

After graduation, he worked at Lindsay Park as a groom, then travelled to Ireland to further his studies of horses.

After the accident, which left him in a coma, Greg was transported back to Australia where he is now making a steady recovery.

Currently, Greg is doing the Associate Diploma in Horse Husbandry Course at Roseworthy part time.

Bill Heath (RDA 1957) has now settled in Brisbane after 18 years in Agricultural extension and training in Papua New Guinea.

After completing a Masters degree in Business Administration at Queensland University, Bill is now Executive officer with the Bureau of Sugar Experimental Stations.

David Lewis (RDA 1972) is now with the Department of Agriculture at Clare after working overseas, then doing a course at the Bible College of South Australia. David and his wife are hoping to carry out missionary work in agriculture in Central Asia.

REVIEW OF THE FUNCTION OF R.O.C.A.

The response to the questionnaire in the last Digest (March/June 1982) was disappointing.

Can you please "retrieve" your copy and fill out the questionnaire NOW whilst you are thinking about it.

Most of the small number of members who replied wanted to see more time for fellowship.

As a result, the A.G.M. will be held earlier this year (at 5.30 p.m.) and a family day has been arranged at Roseworthy on Sunday 12th September.

Full details of these functions are printed in the Digest — please support them!

1982 A.G.M. AND REUNION

The A.G.M. and Reunion will be held at the TOWN HOUSE, HINDLEY STREET, ADELAIDE on FRIDAY 10th SEPTEMBER 1982.

The A.G.M. will start at 5.30 p.m. with the dinner following at 7.30 p.m.

The cost will be \$15 per person for a three course dinner and your first drink.

R.S.V.P. 3rd September to R.O.C.A. Secretary, C/- Roseworthy College, Roseworthy 5371 (or phone 085-63 2831).

SPOUSES' DINNER

There will be a Spouses' dinner at the TOWN HOUSE on Friday 10th September. Please let the Secretary know if you wish to attend.

On the Sunday following the Annual Dinner there will be a Reunion at the College. This will be a special day for all past students.

ROSEWORTHY PRECENTENARY REUNION

SUNDAY 12th SEPTEMBER 1982, starting at 10.30 a.m.

Programme:

For the children: Steam train rides, Hay rides and a horse display.

For the Adults: College tours (on foot or by bus), Historical Museum display, sheaf tossing and display of old photos.

The community Club will be open for a chat and a quiet drink.

Don't forget to see the carpet in the Corridor, the swimming pool, and our newest teaching facility, the Natural Resources Building.

The Winery will be open for tasting and sales.

LUNCH B.Y.O. or enjoy a BBQ for \$4.50/head including dessert, with College wines or fruit juice.

Lunch tickets will be on sale on the day but please return the slip below to help with catering arrangements.

R.S.V.P. 30th August. 1982 to Milton Spurling, Roseworthy College, Roseworthy S.A. 5371.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,

I was pleased to learn of proposals to celebrate the College Centenary.

I was present at the 50 years celebration. Dr. A.R. Callaghan, Principal at that time, organised the celebrations. We gathered on the Saturday morning, ate lunch at the College then had a look about the farm and College buildings. In the evening Dinner was held with some short speeches and a few choral items from the Night Larks Male quartet.

That night we slept at the College. On Sunday morning there was a church service conducted by the Rev. P.C.W. Eckersley (an old student), The Boys almost raised the ceiling with the volume whilst singing the hymns.

After a very happy time we departed that afternoon.

F.A. Wheaton. (1908-11)
Box 14 Redhill. 5521

Name for swimming pool

I most enthusiastically join Michael Butler in his plea that the new swimming pool be called "The Claude Hay Memorial Swimming Pool". Claude Hay was extremely keen on swimming and I believe I am right in recalling that the then Principal, Dr. A.R. Callaghan, described him as a perfect example of the typical agricultural college student. I would be pleased to subscribe to a fund if R.O.C.A. takes up Michael Butler's request.

Rex Butterfield,
Professor of Veterinary Anatomy
Sydney University

25 YEARS AGO GROUP

These students entered Roseworthy College in 1954 and graduated in March 1957.

If you were associated with this group through the Dairy or Oenology course you are most welcome to join them at the Reunion.

Ian Rice is co-ordinating arrangements for the 25 year group. Ian can be contacted at Roseworthy College (phone 085-24 8057 work or 085-65 4017 at home).

On Saturday Frank Chapman, Crane Avenue, Coramandel Valley 5051 (phone (08-270 2130) is arranging an informal get together for this group.

On Sunday there will be the "Back to College" family day at R.A.C.

1957 GRADUATES

F.R.H. Chapman. Coramandel Valley	B.G. Cree. Hamilton N.Z.
J.D. Cunningham	R.R. Daniels.
T.J. Dillon, Kadina	J.R. Donnellan., Katherine. N.T.
C.E. Fletcher. Grenfell N.S.W.	J.B. Forwood. Darwin
W.H.P. Frost. Somerset. Tas.	W.J.B. Heath. Kenmore. Qld.
C.M. Krause. Churnside Park. Vic.	J.J. Messenger. Glenelg
I.F. Macrow. Jambin Qld.	H.H. Meinck. Mt. Gambier
B.A.K. Miller, Pt. Augusta	J.D. Morgan, Chifley A.C.T.
H.I. Mortimer. One Tree Hill	C.T. Newland. Wembley Downs W.A.
J.P. Nicholls. Frenches Forest N.S.W.	K.M. Pedley. Trevallyn Tas.
I.R. Oliver. Waikerie	R.J. Puckridge. Northfield
P. Renk. Mt. Compass	I. Rice. Roseworthy
R.A. Riedel. Woolongong N.S.W.	M.A. Scott. Baulkham Hills N.S.W.
M.F.H. Sexton. Heathpool	D.C.N. Sexton. Balwyn Vic.
I.R.A. Short. Burnside	R.D. Teagle. Kalangadoo
R.J. Tuckwell. Strathpine Qld.	R.L. Tuckwell. Cambrai
L. Wallace. Kensington Gardens	

10 YEARS AGO GROUP

These students entered Roseworthy College in 1969 and graduated in March 1972.

The co-ordinator of this group is Alan Richardson, Box 79 Lucindale 5272 (phone 087-66 2167).

If you were associated with this group as an Oenology student you are most welcome to join them at the Reunion on Friday 10th September.

All 1972 graduates are welcome to attend whether or not they are R.O.C.A. members. Don't forget the "Back to College" family day on Sunday 12th September.

1972 GRADUATES

G.J. Bourne	J.E. Both
J.C. Brown	D.C. Brown
D.K. Chambers	G.K. Burrows
D.L. Cox	I.L. Coombs
K.E. Dutsche	S.J. Dohnt
K.K. Habner	I.E. Graue
A.G. McFarlane	J.N. Hannay
D.A.G. Paton	R.B. Nourse
P.J. Pymer	M.B. Revell
A.H. Richardson	D.H. Smith
R.N. Smith	N.R. Sprigg
C.A. Thomas	J.F. Turner
A.O. Uphill	R.J. Wilkinson
S.J. Wright	

Please fill out and return now.

1982 A.G.M. and REUNION

R.S.V.P. 3rd September to ROCA Secretary, C/—Roseworthy College, Roseworthy, 5371 (phone 085-63 2831).

I will / will not be attending the A.G.M. and reunion on Friday 10th September 1982.

I enclose cheque for \$.....being payment for..... persons at \$15 per person.

NAME

ADDRESS

My spouse/friend will/will not be attending the spouses' dinner on the 10th September.

NAME

ADDRESS

ROSEWORTHY PRECENTENARY REUNION

R.S.V.P. 30th August to Milton Spurling. C/—Roseworthy College, Roseworthy. 5371.

I will be attending the Roseworthy Precentenary Reunion on Sunday 12th September 1982.

Please cater for lunch for adults and children.

NAME

ADDRESS

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:.....

PLEASE TURN OVER PAGE FOR 1982/83 COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS.

NOMINATIONS FOR 1982/83 COMMITTEE

Nominations are required! Please fill in your nominations and return to ROCA Secretary C/—Roseworthy College, Roseworthy 5371 (phone 085-63 2831).

The constitution states that nominations may be received at the A.G.M. ONLY if there are not enough nominations received beforehand.

Please make sure your preference is nominated by returning this page **POST NOW**.

	1981/82 COMMITTEE	YOUR NOMINATION FOR 1982/83
Immediate Past President	— Andrew Michelmore	Bruce Wigney
President	— Bruce Wigney	
Vice President	— Brian Ashton	
Secretary	— Andrew Michelmore	
Treasurer	— Peter Fairbrother	
Auditor	— B.C. Philp	
Graduating Year	— Rosie Faerhman	
1-10 year group	— Michael Michelmore	
Ordinary Members	— Harry Stephen	
	— Bob Mitchell	
	— Ian Rice	
	— Dale Manson	
Eyre Peninsula Delegates	— Jack Richards	
	— Ken Hayman	
Digest Editor	— Tim Prance	
Digest Committee	— Peter Lewis	
	— Lindsay Wright	
	— Dale Manson	
	— Ian Rice	



ROSEWORTHY
AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

One hundred years of service to Agriculture and Education.