

## Big turn out for 2008 EP ROCA Dinner

The Eyre Peninsula Branch of ROCA recently held their 2008 Annual Dinner at the new Port Lincoln Hotel.

Fifty old collegians and their partners attended, and were treated to a night of good food, an engaging guest speaker, with plenty of opportunities for catching up with friends for a chat and a few drinks.

Professor Phil Hynd, Campus Director of the Roseworthy Campus of the University of Adelaide, provided a thought provoking and entertaining after dinner presentation. Phil managed to cover off on topics of climate change, trends in agriculture, agricultural education, and then summarised it all in the context of Roseworthy and its future role in agricultural education.

President Mark Stanley gave an introductory speech, welcoming all present, and gave an overview of where EP ROCA has progressed over the past year and beyond.

Technology has been embraced by EP ROCA through making use of e-mail to make contact with members across the region. This involved substantial effort by committee members in obtaining e-mail addresses and then adding them to the data base that Brian "Smoky" Ashton has managed for the last 20+ years.

Contact with our parent body, ROCA, is always greatly appreciated. Having Locky McLaren and his partner at the dinner was greatly appreciated.

The tradition post dinner brunch was held at Brian and Cathy Ashton's home on the Sunday morning. Around twenty attended, and appreciated the opportunity to further catch-up and enjoy a hearty breakfast.

EP ROCA has spread its wings over the last 6 years by taking the annual dinner out of Port Lincoln to the rest of the region. Under the Presidentship of Barry Laws we have had annual dinners first in Wudinna, then Cleve and last year in Streaky Bay. The 2009 Dinner is planned for Minnipa, and should prove to be another great event for all who decide to make the effort to attend.

