



## HUMANITARIAN AWARDS 2008

ROCA Humanitarian Awards were presented to five recipients as part of the 125th Celebrations held at the Bonython Hall on Saturday 18 October 2008. All graduates of Roseworthy Agricultural College, they were presented with parchments by the Vice Chancellor of the University of Adelaide, Professor James McWha, and the President of ROCA, Locky McLaren.

Locky McLaren said that the recipients were "unsung heroes of South Australian agriculture" applying their Roseworthy education in humanitarian ways in some of the world's poorest countries.

"Since its inception in 1883, Roseworthy equipped many thousands of people with the necessary skills to embark on careers in agriculture, oenology, animal science and natural resources management.

"Amongst the ranks of past graduates are a number of people who have applied the skills acquired in South Australia for the benefit of humanity. These people are self sacrificing, acting in a modest and selfless way to pass on the benefit of their knowledge to disadvantaged communities in the poorest areas of the world," Mr McLaren said.

The recipients were:

- The Reverend Brian Polkinghorne from Yorke Peninsula, who has spent the past 25 years working on agricultural, environmental and educational projects in Tanzania;
- Mr David Lewis, whose work with the Christian Blind Mission in helping disadvantaged people in a range of countries including Sierra Leone, Niger and Indonesia;
- Mr Paul Symonds, who has devoted 30 years to delivering humanitarian projects in Sudan, Ghana, East Africa, Papua New Guinea, Uganda and India;
- Mr Richard Turnbull, who has spent the past 30 years working on health projects in Ethiopia, Thailand, Indonesia, Kenya, Sumatra, Ache, East Timor and the Solomon Islands;
- Mr Anthony Petch, who has been involved in humanitarian and innovative malarial project work in East Timor.



Image left to right: David Lewis, Dean Polkinghorne on behalf of The Reverend Brian Polkinghorne, Vice Chancellor and President Professor James McWha, Anthony Petch, Locky McLaren (ROCA President), Paul Symonds and Richard Turnbull. Photo by John Hemings.