

Fact Sheet

Roseworthy Old Collegians Association Inc.

Roseworthy

ROCA AWARD OF MERIT 1961 – Rowland Hill OBE

Rowland Hill, OBE (RDA, 1912), a former chief executive officer of The Land Development Executive was honoured with an Award of Merit for his services to agriculture (The Land Development Executive was a government agency concerned with land settlement in South Australia).

The award was made by the Roseworthy Old Collegians' Association on the recommendation of a panel representing research and advisory organisations, farming, and commercial interests.

Announcing the award, the president of the Roseworthy Old Collegians' Association, Mr Roland Day, said that graduates of Roseworthy had been prominent in all branches of agriculture.

The association had decided to give special recognition to work of outstanding merit, which had a major bearing on primary industry.

Mr Day said it was fitting that Mr Hill should be the first to receive the award.

Rowland Hill graduated with an RDA in 1912 and worked briefly for the College, took up auctioneering at Clare and joined the Minnipa Experimental Farm staff before enlisting for war service in 1914. Returning to the Department of Agriculture in 1919, Rowland was a Field Officer then Inspector of Soldier Settlements, then Manager of the Minnipa Experimental Farm before being appointed as the first agricultural adviser in 1924.



Subsequently, as a member of the Land Board and Land Development Executive, he was responsible for planning much of the development of Upper Eyre Peninsula, the South East, and Kangaroo Island.

Mr Hill received the Coronation Medal in 1953 and was awarded the OBE in 1955. He was presented with the Roseworthy Award of Merit at the association's annual dinner during the 1961 Royal Adelaide Show.