

Roseworthy Old Collegians award recipients

Dominic Meaney received the Old Students' Cup prize presented by ROCA for second highest aggregate, Bachelor of Agriculture, within the University's School of Agriculture, Food and Wine. The presentation was made at an Awards Function Dinner on June 7.

At the following night's Award Presentation Ceremony for the disciplines of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology and Natural Resource Management within the University's School of Earth and Environmental Sciences, Steven J Krieger was presented with the Roseworthy Old Collegians' Medal for 2006 for overall performance in studies toward the Bachelor of Natural Resource Management. This presentation was made by the Professor of Natural Resource Sciences Wayne Meyer and ROCA President Locky McLaren.



Dominic with ROCA Secretary Darren Koopman (left) and Treasurer David Cooper.

Eyre Peninsula ROCA reunion

ROCA Eyre Peninsula Branch – under its new President Mark Stanley – has already tentatively set a date for its next reunion in 2008. It is proposed for February 9 at the new Port Lincoln Hotel.

Roseworthy Campus Director Phil Hynd will be the guest speaker and the Branch is keen to make the occasion an official Roseworthy 125-year celebration.



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TO ALL ROCA MEMBERS

Your ROCA Committee brings you this Spring newsletter.

President's message

In the Autumn Newsletter I talked about the opportunities and risks associated with the strategic choices the University of Adelaide has when plotting the future of its Roseworthy Campus. Inherent in that discussion is a question about how the University chooses to engage with its stakeholders – particularly ROCA.

So it is with great interest that we have received a copy of the University of Adelaide's new Alumni Relations Strategic Plan for 2007-2011. This follows a review of alumni arrangements in 2006. The Alumni Association was subsequently dissolved and an Alumni Relations Program has now been established that is more integrated into the University. The Program is overseen by the Vice-Chancellor and President. There are a lot of potential positives in these developments and ROCA is determined to work collaboratively with the University to extract as much value as possible from the strategies.

Friends of the late Trevor Dillon will be delighted to know that the 'Trevor Dillon Agronomic Roseworthy Study Scholarship' was given great profile by Rural Media South Australia at its most recent meeting. The funding will provide inaugural recipient Brendan Wallis with full residential support during his first year at Roseworthy and we hope he is the first of many recipients.

The AGM and dinner is on Friday, October 12! I know the year groups are busy organising themselves and the selection Committee is focussed on assessing five nominations for the ROCA Award of Merit. I hope to see you there.

Locky McLaren

PRESIDENT

AGM and Annual Dinner

An invitation to the Annual General Meeting and Dinner at the Glenelg Golf Club on Friday, October 12, is included with this Newsletter. Costs this year remain the same at \$40 per person for members and partners and \$45 for non-members and partners.

Reunion group convenors are:

- 50 year (1957) Ian Rice (08) 8564 0357
- 40 year (1967) Tony Clancy 0439 332 271 tony@gwrdc.com.au
- 25 year (1982) John Squires (08) 8842 1103 or 0418 119 439 or jssquires@ruraldirections.com
- 10 year (1997) Mardi Miles (08) 8586 6633 or 0408 845 216 or rblap@riverland.net.au

As in past years, the 2007 Award of Merit will be presented at the dinner.

Inaugural Dillon Scholarship winner

Brendan Wallis, a fourth-generation farmer from Lochiel in the State's Mid-North, is the inaugural recipient of the 'Trevor Dillon Agronomic Roseworthy Study Scholarship'. The Scholarship will provide 18-year-old Brendan, who is undertaking his first year of study in the Bachelor of Agriculture degree at Roseworthy Campus, with full residential support.

The Scholarship was presented to Brendan by the Co-patron Chairman of the Roseworthy Campus and Student Fund, The Hon Dr Bruce Eastick AM, and ROCA President Locky McLaren at a luncheon convened recently by Rural Media South Australia.

The Scholarship is in memory of Trevor Dillon who, through his work as an agronomist with the SA Department of Agriculture, and in his retirement period as a part-time consultant, focussed on encouraging future and up-and-coming grass-roots farmers, young agronomists and students looking to embark on a long career path within agriculture. Over a period of five decades he was one of the State's most respected and high-profile advocates for excellence in farming practice.

According to ROCA President, Locky McLaren, the State's rural sector, following Trevor Dillon's death last year, was overwhelming in its support for the creation of a scholarship that would assist young people become leaders in practical agriculture.

"This is particularly relevant as an honour to Trevor Dillon as it was the financial assistance provided by Legacy following the death of his father in the Second World War's El Alamein campaign that permitted Trevor to study agriculture at Roseworthy during the 1950s," Locky said.

Brendan Wallis will be an invited guest at this year's Annual Dinner in October.

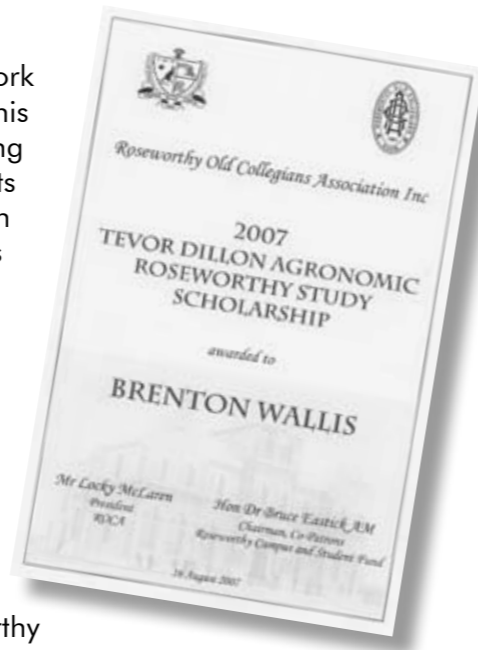
Simon Maddocks is elected to University Council

Your Committee offers its congratulations to Professor Simon Maddocks on his successful candidacy for a casual vacancy on the Adelaide University Council. You will be aware that the Committee saw Simon Maddocks as a very worthy candidate and strongly encouraged your vote in his favour to ensure that, in view of the demise of graduates meeting industry-based requirements, the University Council was well-informed about Roseworthy Campus and the needs of agricultural education and research.

Simon was a Director of the Roseworthy Campus in the early 1990s. He is a Life Member and staunch supporter of ROCA. On the Council he joins Dr John Radcliffe – another well-known figure in Australian agriculture and resource management. ROCA is very pleased that our interests have strong representation in Council and the Committee has already brought some matters to their attention.



Brendan with Bruce Eastick and Locky McLaren – Picture courtesy 'Stock Journal'



Roseworthy Campus and Student Fund

Co-patrons of the Fund have met on a regular basis during the past year and are making efforts to capitalise on the Fund's successful launch in July last year. Three new Co-patrons – Jack Messenger, John Rothwell and Tony Sharley – have been appointed by ROCA and they bring new ideas and enthusiasm to the group.

Under the Chairmanship of Bruce Eastick the Board now comprises Phil Laffer, Don Moyle, Ray Taylor, Phil Hynd, Jack Messenger, John Rothwell and Tony Sharley.

Strenuous efforts are being made via leaflets and personal letters seeking contributions to the Fund. All Old Collegians are urged to support this very worthwhile initiative that will benefit students and perpetuate Roseworthy's name and tradition.

At the end of July the status of the two Funds was:

- Dillon Fund \$40,618
- Campus and Student Fund \$30,422

Roseworthy 125-year celebration planning

Two event dates are looming large for next year's planned Roseworthy Campus of Adelaide University's 125-year celebration. They are the Adelaide event on Saturday October 18, 2008, and the Roseworthy event on Sunday November 2, 2008. Some interesting and exciting events are planned to celebrate this auspicious occasion.

The Campus has been known by a number of names over the years – ranging from Roseworthy Agricultural College to Roseworthy CAE. Irrespective of the name, the true 'Roseworthy' spirit has always been there.

The Adelaide event activities will include a celebration evening dinner at a venue to be confirmed, a commemorative ecumenical service at St Peters Cathedral and a graduation ceremony re-enactment at Bonython Hall. The University Vice Chancellor, Professor James McWha, has authorised the formal conferral of Commemoration Parchments to previous graduates of Roseworthy Agricultural College as part of the Bonython Hall ceremony. In addition a number of RAC 125 Humanitarian Awards will be presented to graduates selected as making an exemplary contribution to humanity in any field.

Three main committees have been established in connection with the events. There is an Oversight Committee chaired by the University of Adelaide's Director, Development and Alumni, Robyn Brown; and Adelaide Event Committee chaired by ROCA Vice-President Dale Manson and a Roseworthy Event Committee chaired by the Director of the Roseworthy Campus, Phil Hynd. ROCA Secretary Darren Koopman sits on all three Committees.

Sub-committees have also been established to represent key interest groups – Natural Resources, Staff Reunion and Oenology.

More details of all Roseworthy 125 events will be provided to ROCA members as arrangements are confirmed. In the meantime please block out Saturday October 18, 2008, and Sunday November 2, 2008, in your diaries.

'Plonkies' celebrate

During the Triennial Wine Industry Technical Conference in Adelaide in July-August, 309 'Plonkies' from around the world gathered for a celebration in the Hickinbotham Hall at the National Wine Centre on July 30.

It was a celebratory night of reminiscing for past students and staff of oenology, wine marketing and viticulture – significantly contributed to by many of the estimated 1100 graduates from these courses at Roseworthy.

The event was initiated by ROCA members Tony Royal and Dr Richard Smart. Profits from the evening are supporting CanTeen. ROCA, the University's Development and Alumni Office and staff at the Waite Campus are now pursuing the formation of a permanent wine industry/tertiary education network.

The ROCA Committee congratulates the SA graduates for their achievements in the development and expansion of the modern wine industry in Australia, New Zealand and globally and wish them continued success in the challenges ahead.