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## Autumn 2009

### Our President's View

ROCA and the Roseworthy Campus are in a good place! Both are experiencing an extremely exciting period. While history was made last year with the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Campus, a new pathway is about to open up for a grand new future.

Last year's 125 Anniversary Celebration was marked by a wonderful ecumenical church service in St Peter's Cathedral, a spectacular formal Commemoration Ceremony in the University's Bonython Hall, presentation of Roseworthy 125 Humanitarian Awards to five very special Old Collegians, a sumptuous Roseworthy 125 Banquet & ROCA Reunion in the Adelaide Oval Marquee, glorious Open Day for members of the public at Roseworthy Campus, Staff Reunion and Natural Resources Graduate Cocktail Reception.

All this boosted the collegiate feelings held by many for Roseworthy, in addition to profiling the enormous worth of continuing the unique Roseworthy style of education amongst the greater University community and other stakeholders.

However there is change in the wind and with it come mixed emotions. Due to the general dearth of students seeking tertiary education in agriculture, the University of Adelaide is looking to rationalise its two current agricultural degrees into a single Agriculture Degree qualification, to be based at Waite Campus. This will effectively result in broad based agricultural training being removed from Roseworthy.

On the other side of the equation, two degrees, the Bachelor of Science (Animal Science) and the new Veterinary Science Degree will be based on Roseworthy Campus. Both of these degrees will provide Roseworthy with a critical mass of students and multi-million dollar building works, enabling retention of the Campus as a viable teaching and research site.

To be pragmatic, it needs to be stated that the current climate in agriculture does not provide sufficient support for the retention of a broad based agricultural qualification at Roseworthy. ROCA is now in a position to capitalise on a genuine opportunity to embrace the new breed of students and graduates that will populate Roseworthy. Along with its rich history, ROCA also possesses a member profile encompassing significant expertise in high level areas of agriculture, natural resource management and oenology. In the future, ROCA will serve a role of utilising this expertise to ensure the new Roseworthy based courses include sufficient practical perspectives





## **2009 Trevor Dillon Scholarship Awarded**

Standing out amongst a very strong field of applicants, Brooke Crowell from Ardrossan on South Australia's Yorke Peninsula has been awarded the 2009 "Trevor Dillon Roseworthy Study Scholarship".

Enrolled in the first year of the Bachelor of Agriculture course at Roseworthy Campus, Brooke's aim is to live on Campus for the entire period of her three-year degree.

The Trevor Dillon Scholarship will cover all her accommodation expenses during the first year of study. This is the third occasion the Scholarship has been awarded.

Brooke completed her high school studies at Ardrossan in 2007 and spent the following twelve months employed by the Kadina Memorial High School as a sport and agriculture trainee, working alongside Agricultural Studies teacher, Kiara Mudge. The personal inspiration provided by her role at the school convinced Brooke to undertake the Roseworthy based agriculture degree as the pathway to a career as an Agricultural Studies teacher in a country school.

The "Trevor Dillon Roseworthy Study Scholarship" was established by the Roseworthy Old Collegians Association a number of years ago in recognition of the contribution made to agriculture in this state by the late Trevor Dillon over a period of five decades. It was underpinned by financial contributions from many of Trevor Dillon's peers including farmers, Old Collegians, agri-business proprietors and consultants.

Ironically, much of Trevor Dillon's career was spent based at Kadina on Yorke Peninsula. His family will be pleased to recognise that a scholarship in Trevor's memory was assisting a Yorke Peninsula farmer's daughter to realise her dreams at Roseworthy.



ROCA President, Dale Manson presenting Brooke Crowell with the "2009 Trevor Dillon Roseworthy Study Scholarship" at a conferral ceremony held in Adelaide University's Bonython Hall.





The main reading at St Peter's Cathedral was provided by the Governor of South Australia, Rear Admiral Kevin Scarce AC CSC RANR.

## Commemoration at Bonython Hall 18<sup>th</sup> October

Over 100 Roseworthy graduates attended and were presented with a Commemoration Certificate by the Vice Chancellor of the University of Adelaide, Professor James McWha.

Special recognition was given to two groups:

- **ROCA Humanitarian Awards** were presented to five graduates of Roseworthy Agricultural College 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 skills to embark on careers in agriculture, oenology, animal science and natural resources management. Amongst the ranks of past graduates are 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,” Locky 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**, who has worked with the Christian Blind Mission to help 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.



Vice Chancellor of the University of Adelaide, Professor James McWha and the President of ROCA, Locky McLaren with ROCA Humanitarian Award winners, David Lewis, Reverend Brian Polkinghorne, Anthony Petch, Paul Symonds, and Richard Turnbull

- **ROCA Award of Merit recipients** received a Commemoration Certificate and a Citation describing the achievements recognized in their awards. Since 1961 forty six awards have been made. At the Bonython Hall ceremony, 20 awardees were present while 20 others were represented by family members. Only one awardee has not had connections traced – Lew Cook from 1963. If anyone knows of a connection, please contact our President.

## **ROCA 110th Annual Dinner 18<sup>th</sup> October, at the Adelaide Oval**

A highlight for the big crowd was Philip Young (**RDA 1939**) receiving the ROCA Award of Merit for 2008. Philip graduated from Roseworthy Agricultural College in 1939 as the gold medallist and multiple award and scholarship winner. His subsequent studies at the University of Adelaide were interrupted by four and a half years of army service, mainly in the Middle East and included the first and second battles of El Alamein. He completed his Agricultural Science degree with meritorious results in 1946 and gained employment as a Field Supervisor for agricultural land development for War Service Settlement in the SA Government.

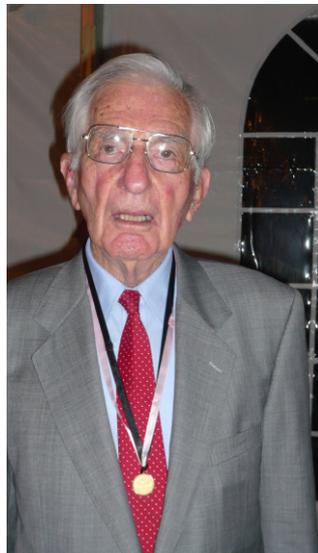
In 1951 he was allocated a soldier settler's holding. He made a significant contribution to ROCA during the 1950s as Chairman of the South-East Branch, had a major role in re-establishing the Kybybolite Agricultural Bureau and was a member of

the South Australian Advisory Board of Agriculture. Following the award of a Nuffield Farming Scholarship to the UK in 1959 he became increasingly involved in agricultural consulting.

In 1965 he formed a partnership with the late Newton Tiver, which led to the formation of the Australian Agricultural Consulting and Management Company (AACM). AACM was one of the first Australian and international agricultural consulting companies and became highly successful. It expanded its local work to direct the development of large tracts of land in southern Australia and higher rainfall cattle country in northern and North-Eastern Australia, including projects with Aboriginal communities. AACM offices were established in Adelaide, Perth, Darwin, Mackay, Brisbane and Tamworth. International projects followed for the World Bank and other international agencies and, by the mid-1980s, the company employed up to 60 consultants on agricultural projects in more than 20 developing countries.

In parallel with this commercial business success, he contributed significantly to agricultural organisations in Australia. He has been a member of the Agricultural Courses Advisory Committee for Roseworthy Agricultural College, on the Advisory Council of the CSIRO and the Committee for Cooperation between the CSIRO and Australian Universities, Chairman of the University of Adelaide's Agricultural Science Alumni Committee, State Chairman of the Australian Nuffield Farming Scholars' Association and a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Agricultural Science and Technology.

In 1986 he was appointed a General Member of the Order of Australia for services to agricultural development in Australia and developing countries.



Philip Young AM  
ROCA Award of Merit Winner for 2008

The University of Adelaide Archives presented records and memorabilia with a focus on student life. Two Archives staff members were available throughout the evening to talk with guests and accept donations of items into the Roseworthy collection







## **A Call for Nominations - the ROCA Award of Merit**

*Nominations are now being accepted for the 2009 ROCA Award of Merit.*

The Award of Merit is bestowed upon a member of the Roseworthy Old Collegians Association Inc (ROCA) who has made a meritorious contribution in any field of agricultural activity including Association affairs.

Since 1961, forty eight notable Old Collegians have been honoured by the Association for meritorious and outstanding service to agriculture, the College, ROCA and the community. The Honour Board detailing past recipients is in the foyer of the Main Building adjacent to the Dining Room at the Roseworthy Campus.

The Award of Merit is regarded as the highest honour ROCA can bestow on one of its members.

The quality of past recipients is illustrated by the following list:

1961 Roland Hill	1977 Des Habel	1993 Bob Baker
1962 David Riceman	1978 Henry Day	1994 Brian Hannaford
1963 Len Cook	1979 Mark Hutton	1995 Grant Mayfield
1964 W J Dawkins	1980 Cliff Hooper	1996 Bob Knappstein
1965 Frank Pearson	1981 Andrew Michelmore	1997 Jim Pocock
1966 Sir Allan Callaghan	1982 Milton Spurling	1998 Ian Young
1967 Bob Herriot	1983 Ralph Hewitt Jones	1999 Don Moyle
1968 Denis Muirhead	1984 David Suter	2000 Grant Paech
1969 Jack Reddin	1985 Hon Dr Bruce Eastick	2001 Brian Jefferies
1970 Ron Badman	1986 John Obst	2002 Dr Graham Mitchell
1971 Prof Rex Butterfield	1987 Robin Steed	2003 Philip Laffer
1972 Rex Krause	1988 Reg French	2004 John Vickery
1973 Rex Kuchel	1989 Ray Norton	2005 Ronald Mertin AM
1974 Lex Walker	1990 Tony Summers	2006 Brian Rex Wilson
1975 Ken Pike	1991 Scott Dolling	2007 Kenneth Wilfred (Wilf) Bowen
1976 Len Laffer	1992 Rex Anderson	2008 Philip John Young AM

