

# OLD AGGIES

Sydney, Armidale/Tamworth, Wagga Wagga luncheons, Historic photos, and more

## Diary Dates

**Alstonville luncheon** - Monday  
21 September 2015,  
Alstonville Bowling Club  
11:30 - contact Geoff Jacobs  
0412 107 727 or  
[gajacobs@bigpond.com.au](mailto:gajacobs@bigpond.com.au)

**Orange luncheon** -  
Wednesday 14 October 2015,  
1870 Restaurant 11:30 -  
contact Peter Witschi (02)  
6369 0011 or  
[jfpwitschi@colourcity.com.au](mailto:jfpwitschi@colourcity.com.au)

**Gosford luncheon** - Thursday  
5 November 2015, Central  
Coast Leagues Club 11:30 for  
12:30 - contact John Stone  
(02) 4362 1834 or  
[jgandjastone8@gmail.com](mailto:jgandjastone8@gmail.com)

**Sydney luncheon** - Tuesday 8  
December 2015, City of  
Sydney RSL Club 11:30 -  
contact Col Short (02) 9876  
1018 or  
[cbshort@bigpond.com](mailto:cbshort@bigpond.com)

**Wagga Wagga luncheon** -  
Thursday 12 May 2016 -  
contact James Hamilton 0447  
225 875 or  
[jnch1950\\_1@bigpond.com](mailto:jnch1950_1@bigpond.com)

**Laurieton luncheon** - Monday  
22 February 2016 Laurieton  
United Services' Club -  
contact Alan Lee (02) 6553  
7630 or 3 Gannet Crescent,  
Old Bar 2430

**Armidale/Tamworth luncheon**  
- March 2016 - Bendemeer  
Hotel - more details to come -  
contact Barbara Vanselow

## From the President's desk ...

As foreshadowed at the 2014 Annual General Meeting, it has now been agreed that there will be only one Sydney luncheon each year ... the next to be held on Tuesday 8 December 2015 at the City of Sydney RSL Club.

Regional meetings have greatly strengthened Old Aggies ... thanks to the local organisers for successful luncheons throughout the year at Laurieton, Armidale/Tamworth, Wagga Wagga, Orange, Alstonville and Gosford. It was agreed at the AGM that each regional organiser receive \$100 to assist with expenses in organising the luncheons and other associated costs.

At the AGM, the President extended a special thanks to Treasurer Col Short, for his untiring efforts in dealing with all matters in respect of membership fees. The Hon. Auditor provided a very favourable financial report. The newsletter is now published twice a year, June/July and October/November and the expertise of editor Col Begg is greatly appreciated.

## Office Bearers for the current year:

Patron Ken Hutton  
President Frank Doughty  
Secretary Graham Linnegar  
Treasurer Col Short  
Hon. Auditor Lawrie Lucas-Smith

My special thanks to the executive for their support and encouragement during the year. It has again been my pleasure to have been your President and I look forward to your continued support in 2015 and beyond. Old Aggies has not wound down ... just reorganised Sydney luncheons and publication of our newsletter.

- Frank Doughty

## Successful Sydney luncheon

Great Christmas cheer was enjoyed by 36 Old Aggies at the Sydney luncheon held at the City of Sydney RSL Club last December, with visitors from Sydney, Gosford, Dubbo, Port Stephens and Orange. Spotted among guests was a former Member of Parliament and a former Director-

Official photographer for the event was John Bowler who travelled from Orange, and to whom we owe a debt of thanks for recording the images of many of the attendees.



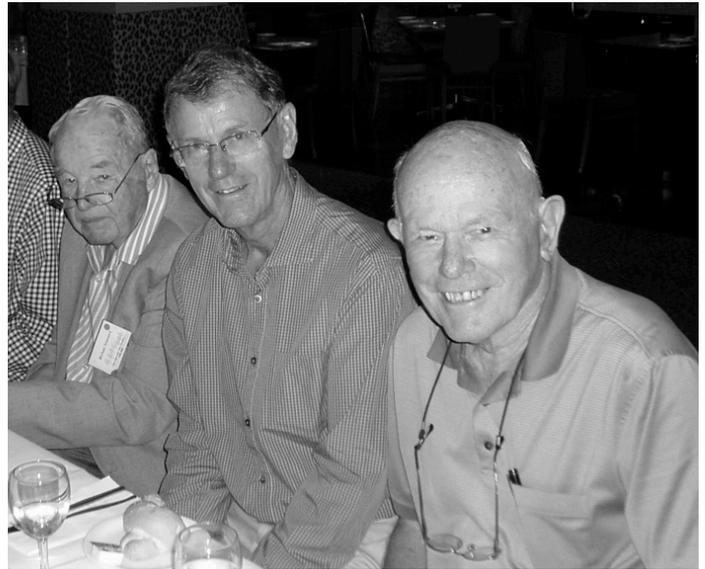
*Bob Martin, Peter Witschi.*



*Helen McNamara, Heather Griffith, Bronwyn Dorahy, Carmel Romano.*



*Maris Rae, Ross Higginson, Lorraine Plues, Peter Holst.*



*Mike Stannard, Ian Links, Eric Darley.*



*Barry Wallbank, Bruce White, Barry Buffier, John Walz.*



*Peter Holst, Dick Laffan, Graham Swain.*

## Another classic from the archives



Just to prove that we haven't aged a bit in the last 39 years, here's a classic record of a social/work get together in 1976 at Ben Ament's farewell. LtoR: Russ Godden, Tamworth; Noel Vane, Maitland; Brian Clinton, Dubbo; Ernie Tindale, Leeton; Ben Ament Chief of Division of Extension Services; Harry Harrison, Orange; Bob Shelley, Goulburn; Ben Hall, Lismore. Absent Joe Madsen, Wagga.

### Orange Citizen of the Year

At a well attended community celebration event, Orange Old Aggie Shirley Sugden was named Australia Day Citizen of the Year. Shirley has been involved for many years supporting community groups such as the Orange and District Historical Society, the City of Orange Eisteddfod Society, The Orange Regional Conservatorium of Music, Meals on Wheels and Holy Trinity Church Parish Office. Shirley worked for many years with Ben Ament in the Orange district office before she and husband Fred (Regional Publicity Officer at the time) were seconded to London to work for the NSW Government. Well done and well deserved Shirley!

### New member David Godden

Welcome to new member David Godden of Tamworth (son of former RDE Russ Godden). David was a Departmental trainee in agricultural economics at the UNE from 1969 to 1972 and worked in the Division of Marketing and Economics from 1973 to 1990, initially at Wollongbar, then later at Head Office, including three years postgraduate study in London. David joined the Department of Agricultural Economics at the University of Sydney as a Senior Lecturer in the early 1990s and retired from the NSW Environment Department in 2011.

### The Marsden Rural History Centre

The Marsden Rural History Centre Inc., was established in March 2000 by a group of enthusiastic historians in the Central West of NSW with the following aims:

- \* To explore the early history (settlement and origins) of Orange and district and rural NSW in particular, and Australia in general.
- \* To research and publish accounts of the settlement and origins of Orange and districts and NSW.
- \* To preserve as much as possible of the traditional lifestyle and farming practices and to assist owners with advice and support to preserve and record former farming infrastructure and practices.
- \* To document living personalities in pastoral history in the Central West of NSW in particular but Australia in general.
- \* To encourage and support researchers and authors to publish original rural history research.

Further information can be obtained from the Centre's website <http://www.marsdenruralhistory.org>

### And welcome Cliff West

Long-time employee Cliff West, Costing System Admin Officer from Yanco, has joined Old Aggies. Cliff joined the Department in 1978 and saw plenty of action at Condobolin, Wagga, Trangie and Yanco during his long career. Welcome Cliff.

## Armidale/Tamworth luncheon at Bendemeer

In previous years, Old Aggies in the north western parts of the State have enjoyed luncheons at both Armidale and at Tamworth, however this year it was decided to meet half way ... at the Bendemeer Hotel, at the top of the Moonbi Range.

Around 20 Old Aggies, partners and guests were present to enjoy a great venue and excellent food. So good, in fact, that next year's function will probably be held at the same hotel.

Nice to see Russ Godden former Regional Director of Extension (Tamworth and Gunnedah) in attendance. Not



*Barbara Vanselow, Lois Ryan, Annette Cross, Anne Kneipp, John Kneipp, Alan Jackson.*



*John Holland, Graham Crocker, Mick Duncan, Jeff Esdaile, Brett Niess.*



*Russ Godden, David Godden, John Ayres, Roy Everett.*



*Russ Godden, Pat Gulliford, Bob Gulliford.*



*Margaret Duncan, Mick Duncan.*

**They might be oldies but they're "goldies"**

\* Amazing how people seem to read the Bible a whole lot more as they get older ... then it dawned on me ... they're swotting for their finals!

\* The easiest way to find something lost around the house is to buy a brand new replacement.

\* Eventually everyone reaches a point where they stop lying about their age and start boasting about it!

## Riverina/Murray luncheon



*Deirdre Lemerle*



*Steve Sutherland*

The annual luncheon was held at the function room of the Thomas Blamey Tavern Lake Albert on 14 May 2015. The luncheon was attended by 29 retirees (former 1 RDA, 1 OIC, 2 Station Managers, and 4 Directors) and spouses and there were 34 apologies (a number of members holidaying either in Australia or overseas).

We welcome all participants and especially travellers George Stevens and Beryl Garner from Yanco/Leeton, Dr Keith Helyar, Dr Cedric May and Steve and Rosemary Sweet from Canberra, Mark Childe from central coast and Ted Scarlett from Albury.

Mark Childe who was based in the Wagga advisory office as media officer in the 1970's until retirement, provided an interesting update since he retired.

We also welcomed new retiree Professor Deirdre Lemerle who was the Director of the E H Graham centre (alliance between DPI and CSU Wagga Wagga). Deirdre commenced at the WWAI in March 1980 and she was the inaugural Director of the E H Graham centre from 2005. Deirdre gave an update on her retirement plans and details about the E H Graham Centre.

Deirdre also mentioned that the GRDC has proposed to relocate its head office from Canberra to Wagga Wagga (a big plus for primary producers in the Riverina).

We also welcomed Eric Armstrong who is intending to retire in July. Eric gave an update on happenings and changes at WWAI. Sarah Ellis was appointed in January as Eric's replacement allowing for a handover period.

The President's annual report was taken as read. Names of the Aggies Association Executive were read out. The Executive decided to give \$100 to each regional coordinator to be used in relation to Aggies luncheons (thank you).

Deb Slinger Director of the Wagga Wagga Agricultural Institute has provided a briefing on administration of the Local Lands Service which is included in this newsletter. Thank you Deb.

Local Land Services were formed on 1 January 2014. There are 11 regions within NSW. LLS focus areas are Biosecurity, Agricultural Production, Emergency Management, and Natural Resource Management. One hundred and forty LLS staff have been trained in emergency management but the aim is to train 80% (640) of staff in emergency management. Currently the Biosecurity campaign is on wild dogs.

Neville Wooden displayed some drawings depicting the history of the Wagga Wagga Agricultural Institute. Neville advised that he is compiling a written/pictorial history on plant and equipment used at the Institute. Details will be



*Mike Dyer, Mark Childe, Ted Scarlett, Phil and Julie Morrison, Gina Hamilton, Frances and David Croft, Marsha Reilly.*



*Ted Scarlett, Brian Dear, Steve Sweet.*

It was advised that 10 staff (Peter Shepherd, Carmel Adamcewicz (nee Kelly), Veronica Woodbury, David Leah, Danny Connolly, John Finlayson, Tom Thompson, Rachel White, Christine Harley, and Peter Lockley) have left the WWAI.

It was advised that four staff (Cliff West, Mary Anne Lattimore, Geoff Beecher, and Wayne Norden) have left the Yanco Agricultural Institute.

New staff members appointed at WWAI include Warren Barlett (Canola Agronomy), Greg McMahon (Variety Specific Agronomy), Russell Pumpa (Variety Specific Agronomy), Sarah Ellis (Pulses), Audrey Leo (Canola Pathology), Danielle Malcolm (Germplasm Improvement Programme), Bradley Baxter (National Crown Rot Project), Sharn Hand (Canola Agronomy), Dr Rajneet Uppal (Building Research Capacity), Brett McVittie, Laura Pallas, Darren Fahey (Viticulture), Peter Havrlant (Dairy Supervisor), Michael Hopwood (Weeds Crop), Ollie Owen (South Lupins), Merrin Spackman (Cereal Pathology), Melaine Renkin (Cereal Pathology), Ehsan Tavakkoli (Soil Nutritional Chemistry).

Reference was made to three Daily Advertiser articles. The first article titled "Rural Leader steps down" refers to Deirdre's retirement. The second article titled "Oil testers

where the Oil Chemistry Laboratory at WWAI won an international contract for testing of olive oil. The third article titled "Incredible career celebrated" reported on Terrey Kiss' retirement and the photo features both Terrey and Sharon.

Steve Sutherland gave an update on his impending move to Adelaide. We thanked Steve for his input into various Aggies functions especially the morning coffee sessions which occur at 10am at the Pavilion Motel on the first Thursday of each month.

Marsha Reilly gave an update on the disbandment of the library at WWAI.

A couple of members mentioned that the word "Old" should be removed from any correspondence or headings relating to the Aggies Association.

Participants enjoyed a two course meal with refreshments. There were a number of yarns, fellowship, reminiscing, relationship building, exchange of contact details, and smiling faces.

**James Hamilton Riverina/Murray Coordinator**

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## WWAI "charging ahead" reports Deb Slinger

Over the past 12 months the Agriculture NSW component of the greater NSW DPI has remained very stable in both budget and staffing. In cropping, GRDC has continued to fund excellent research projects going through for a five year period which is an improvement for both the research outcomes and the technical staff as far as security of employment goes.

I have had the opportunity to negotiate with Grains Research Development Corporation (GRDC) for a Southern Capacity Building project to employ six young research scientists over the 14/15 and 15/16 years. These positions are in place for three years under GRDC and DPI funding but after the three years become permanent ongoing researchers. This is a very positive program as it allows Agriculture NSW to determine the areas where we need to increase capacity. To date I have filled two positions one with the Canola Molecular Marker program Dr Rajneet Uppal a graduate from Reading UK and Dr Felicity Harris local Junee lady onto the cereal physiology requirements for frost and climate; crucial areas of research at WWAI.

There are four more positions to fill including Cropping Weed Research Scientist, Crop

Nutrition Research Scientist, Irrigated Crop Physiologist for Yanco (I manage the Yanco cropping group as well as Wagga Wagga) and a Farming Systems Research Scientist.

The six positions will increase our scientific capacity in these areas. Each will have GRDC projects that then employ at least one Technical Support person for each...another six people. So growth in that area will occur as well. The total staff numbers at WWAI are now up to 142 ... back to the 2010 level!

Recently we had the new Primary Industries Minister for NSW visit Yanco. Niall Blair is an ex Leeton resident so he has a good understanding of the region and a horticulture training background. The Minister will visit WWAI in the next few months.

In preparation for the new Minister I was looking at the budgets from external funds and thought I should note to your members the following: WWAI external investment consists predominantly GRDC, some Rural Industries Research Development Committee (RIRDC), a small amount from Meat and Livestock Association (MLA) and totals around \$45M over a three year period and of course is matched by State Government funds.

Yanco has had an increase in irrigated cropping projects and cotton, as you probably all know has increased sowing from 5,000 ha in 2010 to 50,000ha in 2014 with the building of three new Gins in the region.

This brings the Yanco Institute external funds to around \$25.8M which is a great growth of investment for the region.

Livestock and pasture researchers are dealing with two funding bodies that have only a small amount of investment to R&D, most of the levy is going into the manufacturer product end.

Fortunately the GRDC Southern Panel has seen the need for pastures into the cropping/farming systems and has had a few substantial project investments available that have been accessed by Dr Guangdi Li and others. This is timely and appropriate with the current protein issues in wheat.

So we are looking forward to a good year with early sowing completed and follow up rains being very timely.

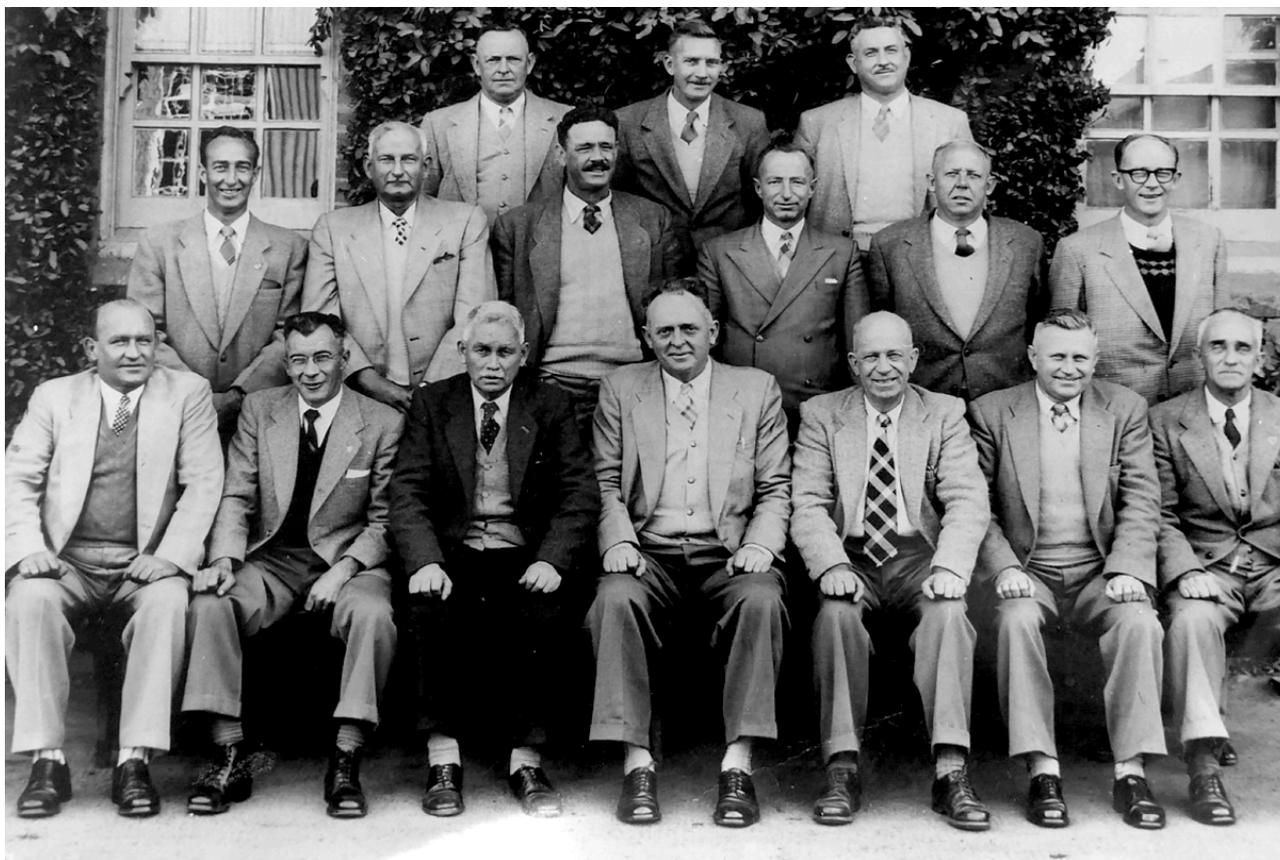
We now need to make sure that every milestone is met and our outputs are distributed to our two major groups - agribusiness/consultants and growers. Local Land Services has had some interaction with Agriculture NSW but there will be more this year once their strategic plan is completed and we can all clearly see what is required by both parties.

Research outputs have been packaged into a Southern Region Trials booklet - our first edition and snapshots of research outputs onto Twitter ... a new technology that does get out quickly and provides us with very useful feedback from growers and agribusiness.

All booklets and outputs are now available on-line which does seem to increase our presence over a far greater area than in the past with just hard copies. But don't worry we still prepare around a thousand printed copies each time for those who prefer the paper document.

*Regards Deb Slinger*

## Name the Old Aggies from the last newsletter



Thank you to all who ventured an educated guess on the identity of the rogues gallery featured in the last issue of the Old Aggies Newsletter. Frank Doughty, Fred Benecke, George Slennett and Bob Gulliford all contributed. Popular suggestions claim that the photo was taken outside "E Block" at HAC during the Research Managers' Conference in the early 1960s. Positive IDs suggest Top row (l to r) unknown, unknown, Eric Powell. Middle row John Ballard, Fred Oldham, Mac MacKenzie, Tony Woodward, Jack Loveridge, Bill Hudson. Front row Jack Arthur, Jack Atkinson, Kit Kitamura, Ted Pearson, Doug Duncan (not Joe Madsen), Jack Flynn, Fred Mengerson.

## Barry Buffier awarded Member in the Order of Australia (AM)

Former NSW Agriculture/Department of Primary Industries Director-General Barry Buffier has been awarded an AM in the 2015 Queen's Birthday Honours List "... for significant service to public administration through senior roles in the environment protection, primary industry and state development sectors."

Sincere congratulations to Barry and also to Jenny and family for their support of Barry's tireless work in the agricultural industries of the State.

Barry is well known to most Old Aggies, from his early days at Tamworth and various roles in Head Office, in Westpac Banking Corporation and also in trade and investment, regional development, natural resources and environment protection. Some of Barry's senior appointments include:

- \* Chief Executive Officer/Chairman, Environment Protection Authority.
- \* Deputy Director-General, Trade and Investment.
- \* Director-General, Department of State and Regional Development.
- \* Commissioner, Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research.
- \* Director-General, Department of Primary Industries.
- \* Director, Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation.
- \* General Manager, NSW Regional Banking and National Agribusiness Manager, Westpac Banking Corporation.
- \* Non-Executive Director, Ricegrowers' Co-operative Ltd.
- \* Board Member, State Contracts Control Board.
- \* Board Member, Industry Capability Network.
- \* Member, Premier's Council on International Education.
- \* Member, New South Wales Innovation Council.
- \* Member, Small Business Development Corporation.
- \* Member, Poultry Meat Industry Committee.
- \* Board Member, Tourism New South Wales.
- \* Board Member, Landcare Australia.
- \* Commissioner, Murray Darling Basin Commission.



## Who's proofreading the headlines these days???

While almost every Old Aggie can remember "eagle-eyed D-G" Dr Kevin Sheridan AO as perhaps the best proofreader anywhere/anytime (closely followed by Kay Pierce and Carmel Romano in the Executive Support team), today's print editors appear to pay scant attention to grammar, spelling, sentence structure as these recent examples demonstrate ...

**Something went wrong in jet crash, expert says**  
**Police begin campaign to run down jaywalkers**  
**Panda mating fails; Veterinarian takes over**  
**Juvenile court to try shooting defendant**  
**War dims hope of peace**

**If strike isn't settled quickly, it may last a while**  
**Red tape holds up new bridges**  
**Kids make nutritious snacks**  
**Local high school dropouts cut in half**  
**Typhoon rips through cemetery; hundreds dead!**

## Old Aggies' Luncheons of the Future?

A group of former work colleagues, all aged 40, discussed where they should meet for lunch. Finally it was agreed that they would meet at Wetherspoons in Uxbridge because the waitresses were attractive and wore mini skirts.

Ten years later at age 50, they again got together and discussed where they should meet for lunch. And again, it was agreed they should meet at Wetherspoons in Uxbridge as the waitresses were attractive, the food and service was good and the beer was excellent.

Ten years later at age 60, they again got together and discussed where they should meet for lunch. And finally it was agreed that they should meet at Wetherspoons in Uxbridge because there was plenty of parking, they could dine in peace and quiet with no loud music and it was good value for money.

Ten years later at age 70, they again got together and discussed where they should meet for lunch. Finally it was agreed that they should meet at Wetherspoons in Uxbridge because the restaurant was wheelchair and walking frame friendly and there was a disabled toilet.

Ten years later at age 80, they again got together and discussed where they should meet for lunch. Finally it was agreed that they would meet at Wetherspoons in Uxbridge because they'd never been there before.

# Farewell to some lovely Old Aggies

## Frank Crofts

Frank Clement Crofts passed away in late November 2014. He was a distinguished Agricultural Scientist who made a major contribution to the post World War 11 development of agriculture in Australia. As evidence of the importance of his contribution his obituary appeared in the Sydney Morning Herald and The Land and in a comprehensive eulogy at his funeral prepared by his daughter Heather McMaster, who was District Agronomist Wagga Wagga 1983-84 but who now works at Sydney University.

Frank Crofts was born in Blayney on 27 February 1925 and attended Blayney Primary School followed by Kinross-Wolaroi College in Orange. He served in the RAAF from 1942 to 1945. As a returned serviceman he was awarded a Commonwealth Reconstruction Training Scholarship (CRTS) to study agriculture at Sydney University commencing in 1947, graduating with a BScAgr degree with first class honours in 1951. He was awarded the Pawlett Scholarship on graduation.

Frank's career commenced as a member of the combined University of Sydney / NSW Department of Agriculture Pasture Research team based on the Wollongbar Experiment Farm on the far north coast of NSW under the initial leadership of Harold Jenkins. The team developed the concept and practice of sod-seeding where legume seeds were sown into uncultivated sods, mainly paspalum.

In 1954 Frank was appointed Lecturer in Agronomy in the Faculty of Agriculture of Sydney University. He was a worthy successor to E.J. Breakwell who had resigned in 1952. It is significant that Frank was appointed in August 1954 and delivered the full year of the fourth year Agronomy course in one final term.

In 1960 Frank Crofts was a Rockefeller Fellow at Oregon State University, USA. Here he graduated with a Master of Science with Honours for his work on nitrogen growth patterns on grass species.

On returning to Sydney University he was promoted to Associate Professor in 1966. In 1969 he was Director of the University's Livingstone Farm at Moree. Later he took up the position of Director of the University's 10

Sydney University honoured him with the degree of Doctor of Science in Agriculture (honoris causa) in 1998 and a Faculty of Agriculture and Environment Alumni Award for professional achievement.

I had the privilege of being Frank's first honours student in 1955 at Sydney Uni. We researched the effect of grazing on the seed set of sod sown subterranean clover in the Wollongbar area. Frank's excellent supervision was largely responsible for my being awarded first class honours when I graduated from Sydney and for my being appointed to the Wollongbar Research Team in 1956.

Frank Crofts was an inspiring and dedicated teacher and was greatly respected for his combination of scientific and practical knowledge. He was a leader in advocating conservation tillage, sod-seeding, direct drilling and no till farming. *Graham Swain*

## Robert (Rob, Bob, Chark) Colman

Robert Leonard Colman passed away on 1 August 2104 aged 80 years. His entire career was spent in the NSW Department of Agriculture. Following graduation with a Bachelor of Agricultural Science from Sydney University in 1956 he was firstly appointed to the Chemistry Branch.

In 1958 he was appointed as a Research Agronomist to the combined University of Sydney / Department of Agriculture Pasture Research team at Wollongbar Experiment Farm where he served on the staff for 19 years. He undertook studies on nitrogen fertilisation of pastures.

In 1981 he was appointed Director of Research at the Agricultural Research Centre in Orange where he served for 10 years until early retirement in 1991. During his career he studied for a Masters degree in Agricultural Science in 1964. In 1967 he studied for his PhD at UNE under the supervision of Professor Alec Lazenby, Head, Department of Agronomy in the Faculty of Rural Science, graduating in 1972. His thesis dealt with factors affecting the responses of nitrogen in tropical and temperate pastures. He then returned to Wollongbar for a further nine

Bob presented a paper on behalf of the Wollongbar team at the International Grassland Conference in Sao Paulo, Brazil. He also attended agricultural conferences in Bangladesh and China.

The Colman and Swain families were close friends for many years, starting at Wollongbar.

Robert was a distinguished agricultural scientist and it was an honour and a pleasure to work with him professionally. He was a typical Aggie and enjoyed life. *Graham Swain*

### **Grafton (Snow) Smith (1927-2014)**

Old Aggies and especially those associated with the dairy industry, will have fond memories of Grafton Smith who passed away in June 2014.

Grafton, while born in Manly, lived his youth on the family farm in Dungog. He completed his secondary education at Farrer Agricultural High School and tertiary studies at University of Sydney. This was followed by attainment of his PhD in California.

He was initially appointed to the former Milk Board's research laboratory at the University of Sydney and then as the first research officer at the Department of Agriculture's newly established dairy research centre at Hawkesbury Agricultural College. This was followed by his appointment as Deputy Chief and subsequently Chief of the Division of Dairying in 1972.

While specifically trained in dairy technology, Grafton played a major role in the development of herd improvement practices for the NSW dairy industry. His rapport with both processors and dairy farmers was of significant benefit in obtaining these achievements.

Following creation of the Division of Animal Production in 1980 he was Deputy Chief until his retirement in 1987. In this role he had special responsibility for regulatory services and the former Pasture Protection Boards.

During retirement Grafton remained active on the golf course, playing bridge and was a diligent worker on his Dungog farm. Grafton was predeceased by his wife Braemer and survived by four daughters, their families and many friends. *Memories provided by Dave*

### **Charles Humphris**

Many Old Aggies from the former BCRI Rydalmere will fondly remember Charles Humphris who worked with Col Short in the Chemistry Branch. Ailsa Thompson advises that sadly, Charles passed away last October.

### **Elaine Kirkwood**

Elaine Kirkwood passed away peacefully on 2 January 2015, aged 88. Elaine commenced working in the accounts branch of the Department of Agriculture in 1942 and continued there until her retirement in August 1986. Elaine had a remarkable memory and an active and enquiring mind which she retained until the end of her life. The following is an excerpt from her eulogy by her niece Adele: "Elaine lived in the city her whole life, never further than 8km from the CDB. She worked for the Department of Agriculture her entire working life and had a great love of the Department, the people and the diverse rural areas that they were involved with". *Irene Hicks*

### **John Gellatley**

John Gellatley, born in 1928, was an entomologist who spent his early days dealing with fruit and vegetable pests in the Gosford District and Narara Research Station (near Gosford). In 1968 he transferred to Entomology Section at BCRI Rydalmere, where he worked until he retired. John was co-author of the very popular text *Insect Pests of Fruit and Vegetables in NSW*. He was well known in the horticultural industries - and the citrus industry in particular - for his extensive work with fruit fly. *John Stone*

### **Jim Jessup**

Very brief news of Jim Jessup's passing was sadly received early this year. Jim's funeral was held at Chatswood in February.

### **Bill Baker**

Bill Baker died on 26 October last year after suffering from Parkinsons Disease for quite a few years. Three of the old 49ers attended his funeral - Barry Smart, Murray Hadrill and Dave Bryant. Unfortunately Fred Beneke was unable to attend but he had always kept in touch and was concerned for Bill's welfare. From recollection, I think Bill was the first President of the Wagga Old Boys. *Rita*



