A newsletter from Marcus Oldham College Old Students Association Volume 19 • Issue 1 • January 2012



Jubilee Celebrations 15 - 16 September 2012



The Principal's Perspective

y the time this edition of MOCOSA goes to print and is distributed, the 2011 graduation will be over and another group of graduates will have entered the workforce. A real strength of the College is the large number of alumni who go on to be successful ambassadors in their chosen field of endeavour. The success of Marcus Oldham as an institution is the result, in part, of the efforts and high profile of our achieving alumni.

During the year the College made submissions to both the Victorian State and the Federal Inquiries into agricultural education and workforce planning. These Inquiries will endeavour to identify the reasons why agricultural enrolments are declining nationally and why more young people are not pursuing careers in agriculture.

Time will tell what governments will do regarding these issues and I do not wish to predict what recommendations they will make. But what I do know is that Marcus Oldham identifies entrepreneurial skills as being among the crucial determinants of success in both the agricultural and equine sectors, as these skills are expressed through innovation, investment and the willingness to take calculated risk.

Through the Centre for the Study of Rural Australia at Marcus Oldham College, we have argued that the development of Australia's agricultural and equine industries is driven by the skills and knowledge of its people.

Recognising that in Australia we need to do a lot more with entrepreneurial skills, I undertook a study tour of the USA this year, where the word entrepreneurship is much more accepted and used, and the skills more highly valued. I visited establishments which study and foster rural development through entrepreneurialism at the University of Missouri, University of Vermont and the Kauffman Foundation in Kansas City.

...to learn what I could about rural entrepreneurialism

I visited North Carolina to study the Center for Rural Entrepreneurship and Baruch College at the City University of New York. I was keen to investigate how these Centres develop,

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promote and implement sound economic strategies to improve the quality of life of people in their areas. Time was spent with local councils seeing how communities develop their capacity to create a prosperous and sustainable future through co-ordination, collaboration and effective use of public and private resources.

My objective in visiting these establishments was to learn what I could about rural entrepreneurialism, what it is and what makes for success, and to bring that knowledge back to Marcus Oldham College for further development among our students. Australia has a proud record of agricultural and equine achievement through entrepreneurialism, even if we don't call it that.

Whilst in the United States, I reflected on the work of a leading educator and researcher, Professor Ron Ritchhart, who holds strong views regarding people's learning patterns.

'When all is said and done, when the last test is taken, what will stay with the learner from his or her education? Memories, certainly. Treasured experiences, positive relationships, meaningful interactions - Yes. But what about the knowledge and skills lecturers have worked so hard to impart? Surprisingly we don't have much evidence to show that these have a very long shelf life. So what sticks?'

He contends that what stays with us from our education are patterns: patterns of behaviour, patterns of thinking, patterns of interaction. These patterns make up our character, specifically our intellectual character. Through our patterns of behaviour, thinking and interaction, we show what we are made of - as thinkers and learners.

Marcus Oldham influences and shapes patterns in our students. This is the kind of long-term vision we need for education: to be shapers of students' intellectual character.

If you know of young men and women who would benefit from a Marcus Oldham education, remind them of the support available through the College's extensive scholarship program. It is worth remembering that Australian students are able to receive FEE-HELP which is similar to HECS. Also, the College effectively manages, services and administers in excess of 20 scholarships, plus a number of industry based scholarships are available to students.

Finally, the staff and I wish the Marcus Oldham community the very best for the New Year and we look forward to catching up with you at the 50 Year celebrations at the College in September 2012.

Dr Simon Livingstone

Principal



President's Report

Tell... It has been decided! The official title of our book marking the 50 year history is – Daring To Differ - 50 Years of Marcus Oldham College.

It gives me great pleasure to inform you that **Mike Stephens FM 66** has completed the writing of the fifty year history of our College! A small handful of us have had the privilege of reading a pre-press copy of the manuscript and our thoughts are unanimous – Mike, has done a sensational job. Currently, we are in book lay-out stage, with photos and drawings being slotted into the manuscript by the team. (Special thanks to Sam and Janet for this and also to Chris Belli with the initial photo 'drafting' process.) The next stage is printing and publication and we gratefully thank our friends at Rural Press for the generous assistance in this process.

So, fellow graduates, do yourself a favour and keep your eyes peeled for an early order form coming your way.

Once again Graduation Day was a highlight in the College year and another great group of young professionals were ready to unleash themselves into their careers. I wish them well and thank them for joining the Past Students Association. Speaking of past students, the 2011 Graduate of Excellence Award recipient was **Sam Archer FM 88**. Congratulations to Sam on the award.

You will see in this issue of our magazine that Janet has asked for an expression of interest for establishing a Marcus Graduate Business Directory. It is clear from formal and informal graduate surveys that Marcus graduates have found themselves in numerous career paths and industries - many not directly associated with the equine or rural field. Most recently I know of a graduate being able to 'tap' into the Marcus network to source a particular building product for a specific project. I think there is a great opportunity to get behind this one.

Finally, I trust that many of you have set aside the weekend of the 15 and 16 of September for our 50 Year celebrations. Make sure that your graduating group is well represented by nominating your Year Group's 'captain' and rally your team. The College can assist with this. The occasion will mark a great milestone for Marcus and it would be fantastic to see as many graduates as possible at the College that weekend.

Thanks again to the MOCOSA committee for their input over the past 12 months and also to the College staff for their assistance whenever it is requested – especially Janet and Sam who always have the answers when I have the questions!

All the very best for the future and good luck with your projects.

James Bufton FM 94

MOCOSA President jamesbufton@bigpond.com 'Staughton Vale', Balliang VIC 3340 Mobile: 0418 524 863 Tel: 03 5284 1344

Sam Archer Farm Management 1988 Graduate of Excellence 2011

am Archer was awarded an Australian Nuffield Farming Scholarship in 2008 and travelled throughout the Americas, Europe and India researching private sector funded environmental stewardship schemes broadly based around carbon, water and biodiversity.

He runs a mixed farming system with his wife, Sabrina, based on livestock, cereal production and native pastures at Gundagai. Their farm has been a research site for the CSIRO's Sustainable Ecosystems program and the Australian National University's Centre for Resource and Environmental Studies. In 2002 it was selected as a pilot site for the Australian Government's national environmental stewardship program.

Sam is a non-executive Director of the Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation and the NSW Farmers' Association, a member of the Australian Farm Institute's Research Advisory Committee and the National Farmers' Federation Economics Committee, Trade Committee and Sustainability Committee. He is the former Chair of Murrumbidgee Landcare.

During the nineties he worked with aboriginal resource agencies delivering socio-economic programs to remote communities in Western Australia and, in between farming, has been engaged as a corporate trouble shooter within the logistics, utilities and environmental sectors. He holds a Bachelor of Commerce and a Bachelor of Arts in Commerce and Anthropology from Deakin University and the Australian National University respectively.

He graduated Dux from Marcus Oldham in 1988 and was Student President in the same year.



Rob Lennon Farm Business Management 1987 Organic Farming was the Traditional Agriculture



s a young bloke at Marcus in 1985, I had no idea where I was headed, and with only a limited background in agriculture and no family farm to house my hopes for the future, the College had become my new life. One night early in term one, two mates sat in their ute after returning from the Grovedale, and exchanged over a beer their mutual fears - being that this seemingly daunting institution may well get the better of them. One of them is now the Principal of arguably the most recognised farm management college in the world, and this is what the other bloke got up to:

I purchased 'Gundooee' in May 1998 which, after managing farms in the Moree and Dunedoo districts for ten years, was a dream come true. I wanted a farm tucked away from the eyes of conventional agriculture, and this 2,000 acre property with its fertile basalt soils girt by native Australian bush was just what I was looking for. 'Gundooee' is on the central west slopes of NSW.

My interest in both organics and Wagyu initially presented two distinctive marketing opportunities to me, but I soon realised this perceived 'flexibility in marketing' unfortunately forced me to choose between alliances, as neither camp was at all interested in the other. I embarked on a plan to test the market for organic Wagyu beef, so I found myself in Sydney with T-bone steaks wrapped in newspaper, knocking hopefully on the doors of progressive butcher shops.

These were interesting times. Both the Wagyu and Organic industries were essentially going through their fledgling growth periods in Australia, and I was smack in the middle of it. I was, however, acutely aware of my unconventionality in both camps, and without any deep-seated alliance to any breed or philosophy,

I was unimpeded to pursue my path in any direction. This freedom I did not understand or appreciate as I sat in the lecture rooms in Geelong fifteen years earlier, looking longingly at those "lucky bastards" who had a family property to aspire to.



The breeding part of our business, 160 head of first cross Wagyu/ Angus cows, is located near Roma on a farm owned by a fellow 1987 Marcus graduate, **Patrick Hanley**, with his wife Jane and kids. The cows are purchased as heifers (which is more economic than breeding our own replacements), and are joined back over a full-blood Wagyu to produce an F2, which arrives at Gundooee as a weaner for growing and fattening. The growth rate objective is 0.5 kg per head per day over the life of the animal, but this has been hard to achieve during some of the seasons over the past decade.

Our pastures here are deep-rooted native perennials, which are not noted for a large window of opportunity when it comes to palatable grazing of high-energy grass. Fortunately, they are well suited to this country, and offer reliable growth and ground-cover all year round, and are also the food-source and home for our all-important soil microbes. We pasture crop in years which allow

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Rabecca McKenzie Horse Business Management 2000 Dreamt of Being a Painter or a Singer or...



hen I was young I had a long list of possible career options: painter, singer, doctor, Olympic athlete, veterinarian...I'm pretty lucky that one of my childhood dreams came true and it's definitely not accidental. I would never be doing this if I hadn't studied at Marcus Oldham.

I grew up on the back of a pony; one of my earliest memories is being carted off across the paddock bouncing on the back of the saddle pad (too young for a proper saddle) on my wee Shetland, Omego. Like many horsey girls this did nothing to deter my infatuation with horses. I'm lucky to say I'm now an Equine Veterinarian and earning a living from the four legged creatures.

I first learned about Marcus Oldham's Diploma of Horse Business Management while I was on my big Overseas Experience. I had left New Zealand at 21 planning to progress my career in Film in London. When I arrived in London the market was saturated with possible prospects and I quickly had to earn a living, so I applied for job as a Camp Counsellor in America. As luck would have it I landed a job in a 60 horse barn where I was teaching kids from 5 - 17 years to ride, and given my competition riding experience I was also allowed to compete in the hunter jumper circuit.

After this I went back to the UK and worked in a livery yard where I gained my British Horse Society Assistant Instructor's Certificate after which I travelled back to the US to spend another summer teaching and competing. My mum, who was annoyed with me for "getting back into horses", faxed the application for the New Zealand Bloodstock Thoroughbred Scholarship to Marcus Oldham College and suggested I apply and come back home.

I spent my first summer back in New Zealand preparing a draft of about 20 yearlings for the New Zealand Bloodstock yearling sales, for my parents' farm, Shelby Park, before travelling to Australia on scholarship to Marcus Oldham.

...it was lectures at Marcus in Equine Reproduction that lead me to further my studies...

Growing up on a stud farm with competition horses and later with Thoroughbreds, provided a quick learning curve for many aspects of life including just that, life and death, caring for young animals, education and training and of course, reproduction. I remember vividly (and embarrassingly) the moment my mum gave me a book entitled, "Where Do I Come From", just so I would understand why the big horsey was jumping on the smaller horsey. The advancement of equine reproduction science has come a long way since that moment and it was primarily lectures at Marcus with Angus McKinnon, a world leader in Equine Reproduction that lead me to further my studies from a Diploma of Horse Business Management to a Bachelor in Veterinary Science.

When I initially came back from Marcus Oldham I started a job with Matamata Veterinary Services as an Equine Technician. The knowledge that I had gained from the Diploma provided a solid base for the nursing duties that were required, and the work lead me to the decision that I really wanted to pursue Veterinary Science as a career. The technician role that I undertook meant that I worked with vet, Dr Dave Hanlon, who is an American Board Certified Specialist in Equine Reproduction. The fantastic lectures that were provided at Marcus Oldham meant that I had excellent knowledge to facilitate my duties in that role.

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for it, which offers a high-quality winter forage to supplement the native species that can struggle at this time, but also acts as a tool to kick-start the energy cycle of stagnating pastures. The native timber serves as a 'natural buffer', as well as a habitat for a myriad of native (and introduced) fauna.

...and wanted to produce an 'Australian style' Wagyu, as we don't eat our beef in the way it is traditionally eaten in Japan.

Today, we remain the only organic Wagyu producer in Australia, and produce about 150 head of prime cattle for leading butchers and restaurants across the eastern seaboard of Australia. We chose not to export as this contravenes our self-imposed 'food miles' policy. Our small business strength lies in the human resource. I seek owners and managers who understand the production objectives, which in turn have become the business ethos: taste, health, environment and ethics.

I am proudly Australian and wanted to produce an 'Australian style' Wagyu, as we don't eat our beef in the way it is traditionally eaten in Japan. For me, slapping a steak on the barbie (despite the colloquial nausea this image conjures) is a much-loved tradition in Australia just as Shabu Shabu is in Japan, so we need a piece of beef with medium marbling and great flavour and texture. The lower melting-point fat enhances flavour as well as offering a range of health advantages including higher omega 3 fatty acids and mono-unsaturated fatty acids. As a breed, I have found Wagyu cattle to be intelligent (for a cow at least), very low maintenance and with few production problems.

The organic industry is increasingly being scrutinised by 'traditional agriculture', but interestingly, organic farming was the traditional

agriculture, if we look back far enough. I have been challenged and intrigued by the journey through my attempts to overcome production problems by seeking passive and less interventional techniques, and found the answer by focussing on the positive goal. Biological, bio-dynamic and organic production systems all create an environment for healthy soil micro-flora, and this will remain a key production parameter at Gundooee.

I enjoy the marketing aspect of the business, although most farmers believe the best way to see the city is through the rearview mirror. I meet with distinguished chefs who really know their food, and they appreciate aspects like locality, nose-to-tail, and also environmental and social issues. Their customers are the ones that drive this, and I derive immense pleasure from seeing the product through from 'conception to consumption'. The table and counter staff are the interface between what we do on the farm and the consumer, so I keep a focus on ensuring they have the knowledge to inspire and satisfy the 'inquiring consumer'.

If asked 'what is the greatest benefit of a Marcus education', I would say it is learning the ability to identify the important questions I need to be asking – finding the answers for me is a secondary issue. Most things I have learnt didn't become apparent until some years after leaving, and the more I learn the more I realise how much more there is to learn. I feel privileged to have had this time at Marcus, and it has been a fantastic journey of discovery since embarking from the graduation ceremony back in 1987, but it is this discovery and unknown which makes life fun for me.

I now have three children, and although still only high-school age, they embrace our fortunate life on the land, and for me this is my greatest reward. Perhaps it may not be unexpected to see the name of Lennon again appearing at some point in the future, on the student lists at Marcus Oldham College.

rob@gundooeeorganics.com.au

Rabecca McKenzie continued from page 5

I then went to Massey University in Palmerston North, NZ and gained a Double Degree in Veterinary Science and Applied Science, the latter being very similar to Agricultural Science. The Diploma training encompassed all areas of equine management and this really helped while I was training again at University in both degrees. While at Massey I was awarded several scholarships including the Dubai Equine Hospital Externship. This entailed me travelling to Dubai for one month to work in their 'state of the art' hospital, at the end of which, I attended the Dubai World Cup. This was a truly amazing experience and for me ranks up there with the Melbourne Cup and the English Grand National.

When I graduated I was offered the position of Equine Intern at Matamata Veterinary Services. The clinic had grown substantially while I was at University by building a purpose built equine medicine and surgical facility. The clinic has digital radiography, digital ultrasound, endoscopy, scintigraphy and surgical facilities. Everything you associate with a human hospital you find in our hospital. After my internship I became an Associate Veterinarian at the Practice and I currently look after several stud farms and some very high profile horses including the fabulous mare, Seachange, that I watched gallop the track at the Dubai World Cup.

In my day to day work I intermittently meet students from Marcus doing work experience at stud farms and remember when that was me. I thoroughly enjoyed the quality education and experience that the College offered and I certainly wouldn't be sitting here with a busy equine hospital working behind me, my Degrees and Diploma proudly displayed beside me, if I hadn't been to Marcus.

If you are a HBM student and wish to see the Equine Veterinary Practice feel free to contact me. **rabecca@matavet.co.nz**



Campus Columns

Our 50th Jubilee Celebrations

Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th September 2012

Marcus Oldham College will mark the journey from the initial building in 1961 and the first intake of 14 farm management students in 1962 to the extensive development of buildings and the additional delivery of agribusiness and equine programs fifty years on.

Make sure these dates are set in your diary and prepare to join fellow graduates and friends at the Party on the Saturday evening. Plan to be at the launch of the newly written history of the College. Titled 'Daring to Differ - 50 Years of Marcus Oldham College' the author, **Mike Stephens FM 66**, has penned an extremely well written and easy to read account of this unique College. Such a book will be 'required reading' so be on watch to place your order.

Some Year Groups are already planning a reunion to take place at the 50th celebrations so contact your mates and organise a reunion of your Year Group. The College can help you with contact details.

Our many successful graduates are the measure of the worth of Marcus Oldham so come to Geelong and proudly celebrate the growth and standing of your College.

Once upon a time on a windy hill ...



... and look at us now!!!

A recent building program and complementary landscaping has completely changed the look of the campus. This modern capital development acknowledges the steady growth of Marcus Oldham throughout the past five decades and heralds the next 50 years.

The James Darling Resources Centre (Library), opened in 1981, has doubled in size and also contains a purpose built Archival area, while all the administration of Marcus Oldham is now conducted in the new Administration Building which also offers two meeting rooms. The former Reception area and the offices of the Principal and Business Development Officer have been completely gutted to become the staff room and bathrooms.





































Colin Hacking

Colin Hacking joined the Marcus Oldham lecturing team as Plant Production lecturer from 1983 to 1995 and also held the position of Acting Principal in 1994.

After leaving Marcus, Colin worked for approximately two years as a District Manager for The Department of Agriculture overseeing the operations

at both Colac and Geelong. During this time, Colin was very impressed by the efforts of a local group of farmers, industry people and departmental representatives to establish a farmer driven research and extension organisation.

The main driver for the organisation, which later became known as Southern Farming Systems (SFS), was to develop more productive and profitable farming systems for the high rainfall, long growing season zones of southern Australia. Colin was asked to take on the CEO role for SFS which he held for approximately ten years. During the time SFS grew to be a large and effective organisation with over 1100 members across southern Australia. Branches were established in South Australia, Tasmania and three locations in Victoria.

Approximately four years ago Colin retired from full time work and consulted on a part-time basis to various agricultural organisations including Southern Quality Produce, Grainsearch and Agritech.

Colin now heads up the Scholarship Program for Marcus Oldham College and works two days per week, normally Tuesday and Thursday. He still maintains his interest in Agricultural Research through his involvement with Agritech Pty Ltd, who conduct breeding and agronomy trials throughout northern and southern Australia.

Colin is keen to develop the Scholarship Program as he believes that it is vital to maintain the industry and private support for the College. These scholarships often mean that students can attend the College, who may never be able to due to financial constraints.

Farewell Chris Belli

In the Spring it was with regret that we farewelled Librarian, Chris Belli, who was embarking on a management role at the Gordon TAFE in Geelong. During the expansion and refurbishment of the Library, Chris was instrumental in ensuring the latest technology and equipment was installed to best serve our students in their studies.

Marg Frewin

Marg Frewin has been appointed to the position of Librarian. Marg holds a Bachelor of Social Sciences (Librarianship) and a Graduate Diploma of Management.

For the past four years she has been employed as Knowledge Management Officer with the Australian Dental Association in Melbourne and prior to that, eight years as Information Resources Co-ordinator with the Victorian Auditor General's Office. Marg has also worked in single run libraries.

Fiona Chambers Lecturer in Marketing and Business Communication



Fiona Chambers, Managing Director of Rare Breeds Trust of Australia, was honoured as the recipient of the 2011 Delicious Food Heritage Award. The Produce Awards were announced at a spectacular gala event held in July at the Sydney Opera House.

"I can't think of anyone who has done more for rare breeds in Australia," said Alla Wolf-Tasker of winner Fiona Chambers, who farms Wessex Saddleback pigs, along with Shropshire sheep and Silver Grey Dorking poultry at Bullarto in Victoria's Daylesford-Macedon region. Fiona's dedication extends well beyond her own farm gate, as she shares her knowledge with producers around the country.

Fiona and husband Nicholas were delighted to be medallists in the 'From the Paddock' Produce Award category. "With more than 1,000 nominations we are overwhelmed to have had our Wessex Saddleback Chorizo selected to be amongst the best produce in the country," said Nicholas Chambers. "It acknowledges the merit of keeping heritage breeds alive, something we have worked tirelessly to achieve over the past 16 years."

"We hope that this award will encourage others to keep and register rare breeds and join with us to conserve the diversity of our food," said Fiona Chambers. "It's a good thing to do. It's about flavour and food security."

Scholarship Program

In his new role as Scholarship Coordinator, Colin Hacking believes a number of observations are crystallized as being true for the Program.

The first is that there is fantastic industry and private support for what Marcus Oldham is trying to accomplish by way of preparing young people for a role within the agricultural sector, whether it be horse, agribusiness, general farming or management. Donor organisations recognise the qualities of the Marcus graduate and are keen to support this type of person through their studies. The thing that seems to set Marcus graduates apart from many others is their general training and ability to understand the 'system', rather than some graduates who are trained in more specific areas.

There are currently in excess of 20 scholarships on offer to Marcus Oldham College students. The scholarships apply to specific courses, however some cover multiple courses. Generally these scholarships cover a component of the first year fees whilst others cover more than one year of study.

Colin is keen to get more people applying for scholarships. Having interviewed a few of the students the main reason they don't apply is many feel that, "There are other people out there who are more capable than me". This reaction is quite understandable, given the normally conservative nature of students entering Marcus. Generally, many scholarships are awarded more on personal qualities and not totally on academic merit.

Next year, scholarship applicants will be interviewed over a three day period between the 26th and 28th September 2012. The scholarships will be promoted on the Marcus website www.marcusoldham.vic.edu.au. As applicants may apply for more than one scholarship, by holding the interviews over this compressed period rather than spreading them throughout the year, means applicants only have to come to the College for interview once, rather than multiple times. This saves time and cost for the students and gets around the problem of not being able to get away due to harvest commencing later in the year.

The College encourages you to suggest to anyone you think could benefit from a Marcus Oldham College education to apply for a scholarship. It is important they visit the website for updated information on new scholarships.

Contact Colin Hacking 03 5247 2927 or scholarships@marcusoldham.vic.edu.au

Social Room Progress Report

We are working on a proposal to revamp and possibly re-locate the Student Social Room.

This will call for a fundraising campaign seeking support from College Old Students.



All graduates who have participated in any social activity at the College in the past 49 years...



Your sins will catch up with you!

Written on behalf of Sam Inglis, MOCOSA and Marcus Oldham Standards Committee.

Enquiries: Susie Rouffignac 03 5247 2919.

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Postgraduate Program

New Units in External Study Program

The College Postgraduate Program continues to go from strength to strength. Student enrolments grow and the range of units offered by the College will expand considerably in 2012.

The College was particularly proud to have the first group of postgraduate students graduate with their Graduate Certificates in Agribusiness at the recent 2011 Graduation Ceremony. This was a proud moment in the College's almost fifty year history of education in farm business management, agribusiness and equine business management.

Responding to popular demand the College is offering two new elective units in 2012. These are Rural Valuation and Risk Management. Details of these and other units on offer can be obtained from the Postgraduate portal on the College's website.

The highly successful weekend workshop conducted in 2011 for students studying the Contemporary Managerial Issues unit will be run again in 2012 but will be expanded to allow participation by a broader audience. A complete range of expert speakers on topics as diverse as water policy, animal welfare, trade and global food demand as well as climate change and carbon tax policy will be engaged to provoke the audience into the vigorous debate that occurred at the 2011 workshop. Details of the 2012 workshop will be posted shortly on the College website.

If you are interested in finding out more about the Postgraduate Program or the Contemporary Issues workshop you can contact the Director of Postgraduate Studies, Dr Dennis O'Brien, on 03 5247 2904 or by email obrien@marcusoldham.vic.edu.au. Alternatively, have a look at the College website www.marcusoldham.vic.edu.au.



PrincipleFocus Scholarship Recipients

The PrincipleFocus Scholarship has been a great boost to the students undertaking postgraduate studies at the College. PrincipleFocus provides a number of scholarships each year to assist students with their course fees. The recipients so far have come from a diverse range of backgrounds with equally diverse aspirations for what they want to achieve from their courses. However, they all have one thing in common, a strong link to the land and a desire to contribute back to their family businesses and communities.

Alistair Sutton from South Yarra in Victoria hails from a beef farm on King Island. Alistair is a property valuer in Melbourne. He embarked on the Graduate Diploma to improve his knowledge of agribusiness generally but of rural valuation in particular. Alistair is enrolled in the Rural Valuation unit in trimester two this year. At some stage he intends returning to the family property with a wealth of experience and knowledge from his work in Melbourne and his course at the College.

Belinda Turner is a tax accountant and consultant from Glenn Innes in New South Wales. She has a keen interest in the family's farming operation. On top of all that she has recently embarked on a new challenge as a financial controller for a grain trading company. Belinda's eventual goal is to use the knowledge she has gained from her postgraduate studies to build their family business to a level that it can support more than one family and to join the business in a full time capacity tooled with her expertise in accounting as well as the understanding of the broad issues facing Australian agribusiness and a new set of management tools.

Julie Weir is a third generation farmer from Birchip in Victoria. Julie's motivation for doing the course was to better understand the drivers of their business, how to measure them and to gain a greater knowledge of the broader environment within which they operate.

Annabelle Coppin is the manager of their family property, Yarrie Station in the East Pilbara of Western Australia. Annabelle was a Nuffield scholar in 2008 and has had a long involvement in Australian agriculture. She was appointed by the West Australian Minister for Agriculture, Food and Fisheries to the Producer Round Table Group of the WA Beef Committee. More recently she was a spokesperson on the issues facing Northern cattle producers as a consequence of the federal government's ban on live cattle exports to Indonesia.



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Gavin Jamieson Farm Management 1963 It's a Bee of a Job

foundation student in 1962 I graduated from Marcus Oldham in 1963. As well as my original College plant collection, I have memories of building fences, planting shelter belts and even hosing down Ian Blair with the reproductive system of a bull.

I worked for two multinational agricultural chemical companies until 1972, field testing products for the control of weeds, worms and bugs. I also introduced to Australia's fire and forestry services the now commonly used fire retardant Phoschek, which was developed for aerial application.

My powers of observation and the ability to identify weeds, trees, shrubs and pasture plants had developed well since Oldham days. In 1973 these skills led me to establishing a part time enterprise with up to 120 million animals, converting my instinct for killing these same animals to nurturing them and appreciating their value.

I realised after graduating that I would never accumulate enough capital to own a rural enterprise. Thirty years earlier my grandfather identified two profitable ventures: growing violets; and keeping bees. On consideration, I concluded that both had real disadvantages: they were labour intensive and could be very painful.

Beekeeping offered me a comfortable gross annual return for a comparatively small capital outlay. To engage in productive agriculture my 'paddock' would be public land, forest or parks and adjacent farms rather than land with my name on the title.

In 1973 I also secured a unique role with the then Shire of Ballarat as the first full time Environment Officer in Australian local government. My work covered environmental projects with a range of government agencies, undertaking similar roles to Landcare prior to its birth.

I was trained by the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA), Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU) and Australian Conservation Foundation (ACF) in environmental auditing and how to liaise effectively with government agencies and land developers. I used my agriculture skills to influence the appropriate use of land that was contaminated by many years of mining activity. Industrial land and farm land contamination is still a very sensitive issue for local government authorities.

With the assistance of like minded people, I prompted the formation of the Victorian Gorse Task Force in the mid 1990's. Initially operating at a local level, this developed to a regional, then a state, and eventually a national task force. Our aim was to ensure inclusion of gorse on Australia's top 100 weeds list. We significantly influenced the allocation and use of government resources for a gorse control program.

Across Victoria's Central Highlands, gorse (or furze) has the longest flowering period of any widely spread plant. Work with the Task Force could have caused me a conflict of interest. Gorse pollen contains extremely high value protein, which can extend the worker bee's life from one to six weeks, developing hives of healthy 'geriatric' bees which continue to be highly productive.

I came to terms with this potential loss of production, never thinking that the Task Force's work would reduce gorse distribution to the extent that it has. Another of the group's recommendations, the New Zealand spider mite, has been successful as a biological control for about 10 years.



Honey bee alights on gorse displaying a spider mite web.

Managed honey bees are of European origin, as are most plants that apiarists 'farm'. 62% of food plant production benefits from or requires honey bee pollination. For example, in August 2011, Victoria's commercial almond trees required 145,000 bee hives, each containing approximately 40,000 bees, for pollination. Without this service, there would have been no viable crop.

At present there are insufficient bees in Victoria to pollinate all commercial almond trees. In recent years thousands of hives have been transported in B-doubles, from SE Queensland and the gold field regions of Western Australia.

Beekeeping sites may be sourced in state forests or parks, but equally as many are on farmland. I can identify some 60 to 80 species of gum tree species that are valuable to beekeeping. I can watch a bee travel across (or into) my windscreen at 100 kph and, if the glass is honey-smeared, I check to see where the bees are foraging.

A weed is only 'a plant out of place'. My 'paddock calendar' of flowerings can include Patterson's Curse at Tallangatta, as well as canola crops at Streatham, or stands of Yellow Gum at Muckleford and Mountain Ash in Powell Town.

Effective border barriers to exotic pests and diseases are just as important to the honey bee industry as other plant and animal producers.

Beekeeping is now my full time occupation. Bees are animals; they get hungry and thirsty, they contract diseases and require the same animal husbandry skills that every other livestock farmer needs.

continued on page 25

Graduation 2011

DIPLOMA OF HORSE BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

PASS

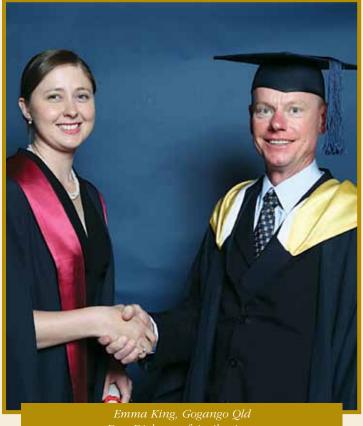
17100			
Sarah Ann	ANDERSON	Bargara	QLD
Heather Lorraine	KELLY	Pira	VIC
Pg Anak Haji			
Ahmad Rapae	PG ANAK HAN	AFIAH BI	RUNEI
Eddie Wei Fu	WONG	SINGA	APORE
CREDIT			
Edward James	BRADLEY	Burradoo	NSW
Georgie McLeay	BROOME	Yarramalong	NSW
Jemma Louise	CLARK	Portsea	VIC
Eamonn Pearse	CLEARY	Co Meath	Ireland
William Bowman	FORRESTER	Kalgoorlie	WA
Yolanda Henrieke	HEINEMAN	Wilnis	The
Netherlands			
Teah Frances	HILL	Collie	WA
Stephanie Elouise	HOPKINSON	Goondiwindi	QLD
Amber Louise	LADYMAN	Katanning	WA
Ashleigh Maree	MITCHELL	Sunbury	VIC
Alyscia Elizabeth	REID	Moe	VIC
DISTINCTION			
Nicole Rae	BOCHOW	Yandina	QLD
Amy Gordon	CLUNES	Brisbane	QLD
William Munro	LEE-WARNER	Aberdeen	NSW
HIGH DISTINCTION			
Laura Josephine	DUNCAN	Flemington	VIC
Samuel Jonathan	McMILLAN	South Hobart	TAS
Caitlin Amber Lorna	MURPHY	Greensborougl	h VIC



DIPLOMA OF AGRIBUSINESS

PASS

Timothy James	COLEMAN	Yass	NSW
George Lucian	THOMPSON	Sunny Corner	NSW
CREDIT			
Simon George	ALLEN	Hexham	VIC
Nicholas Michael	BOSHAMMER	Chinchilla	QLD
Hamish Rollo	BRETT	Moree	NSW
Hugh Vivian	BUTTON	Longreach	QLD
Alexander Frederick Rock	HERD	Newtown	VIC
Harley William	MACE	Yetman	NSW
Fergus Andrew	McINTOSH	Glen Innes	NSW
Leah Jayne	MORRISON	Hay	NSW
Sam Nicholas	MUNSIE	Warialda	NSW
Andrew Jefferson	NEWELL	Goondiwindi	QLD
William Toby	ROBINSON	Purnim	VIC
Benjamin Cameron	SKERMAN	Toowoomba	QLD
Emma Louise	SUTHERLAND	Tooma	NSW
William Garfield	TRELOAR	Cooladdi	QLD
DISTINCTION			
Charles Andrew	CAMERON	Lethbridge	VIC
William Joseph	COMISKEY	Dingo	QLD
Thomas James	CUSH	Moree	NSW
Jessica Sarah	GREEN	Bannockburn	VIC
Angus Huey	KING	Gogango	QLD
Nicholas Alexander	MILLIKEN	Нау	NSW
Katherine Frances	TURNER	Quilpie	QLD
HIGH DISTINCTION			
Dale Anthony	BRUNS	Albury	NSW
Emma Leonie	KING	Gogango	QLD



Dux Diploma of Agribusiness Andrew Baker, Director Agribusiness

Graduation 2011

Damian Kelly, Lock SA

Damian Kelly, Lock SA Dux Advanced Diploma of Farm Business Management Sam Inglis, Director Farm Business Management

ASSOCIATE DEGREE IN AGRIBUSINESS

CREDIT

Benjamin Richard	GRICE	Kolora	VIC
Hugh William	HAMILTON	Condamine	QLD
Toby Scott	HAMMOND	Oberon	NSW
Kirsty Janet	HAWKINS	Frances	SA
Alexander Dunnett			
Robertson	Madden	Moree	Nsw
Alexander George	ROBINSON	Purnim	VIC
Andrew Robert John	SINNAMON	Baryulgil	NSW
DISTINCTION			
Mattie Janeane	CROUCH	Grovedale	VIC
Andrew David	GRAHAM	Coolac	NSW
Mitchell Dominic	HARRIS	Hay	NSW
Zachary Andrew	KENMAN	Gympie	QLD
Daniel John	LANE	Naracoorte	SA
Carl David	RODGER	Maleny	QLD
Derek Cooper	SANDS	Dairy Plains	TAS
Georgina Elizabeth	THOMSON	Winchelsea	VIC
William Max Clark	VERCO	Naracoorte	SA
HIGH DISTINCTION			
Carmen Louise	AHERN	Aramac	QLD

BACHELOR OF BUSINESS (Agribusiness)

	CARDWELL	Mitta Mitta	VIC
	CLARK	Goondiwindi	QLD
	HENRY	Mt Garnet	QLD
	HUGHES	Clermont	QLD
William	HUNT	Table Top	NSW
	KEIGHTLEY	Condah	VIC
	MATCHETT	Garah	NSW
	O'KEEFE	Bannockburn	VIC
	OUGH	Edenhope	VIC
	SHANNON	Cudal	NSW
	THALLON	Cambooya	QLD
	Tuanui	Chatham Islands	NZ
	William	CLARK HENRY HUGHES William HUNT KEIGHTLEY MATCHETT O'KEEFE OUGH SHANNON THALLON	CLARK Goondiwindi HENRY Mt Garnet HUGHES Clermont William HUNT Table Top KEIGHTLEY Condah MATCHETT Garah O'KEEFE Bannockburn OUGH Edenhope SHANNON Cudal THALLON Cambooya

FOWLER

Bothwell

TAS

ADVANCED DIPLOMA OF FARM BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

PASS

Russell John Redwood

Hugh Anderson	MARTIN	Barham	NSW
John David	PORTER	Boorooban	NSW
Jessica Tess	SULLIVAN	Ferntree Gully	VIC
CREDIT			
Andrew James	ARTHUR	Moulamein	NSW
Joel Anthony Raymond	BANKS	Mt Mercer	VIC
Sam Michael	CLOTHIER	Lucindale	SA
Adam James	DYE	Moulamein	NSW
Benjamin John Raleigh	EGAN	Warren	NSW
James Gordon Chute	ELLIS	Harrow	VIC
Hugh Furnell	GOODING	Giffard	VIC
Edward James	GUTHRIE	Donald	VIC
John Geoffrey	HANDBURY	Geelong	VIC
Darcy John	KILMARTIN	Shepparton	VIC
Hugh David	LANDALE	Deniliquin	NSW
William David John	MERCER	Derrinallum	VIC
Sander Franciscus Maria	NIJSKENS	Taroon	VIC
Nicholas Rowland Guinn	PATERSON	Willaura	VIC
Robert Linden	PRICE	Crystal Brook	SA
David Andrew	REEVE	Baynton	VIC

Graduation 2011

Advanced Diploma Of Farm Business Management continued

DISTINCTION

Harry James	CARTER	Quirindi	NSW
Aidan Thomas	DELLAR	Mildura	VIC
Jack Arthur	DUNMILL	Goondiwindi	QLD
Damian Robert	KELLY	Lock	SA
Sean Alexander	McDOUGALL	Maroona	VIC
Glenden Charles	WATTS	Charlton	VIC

BACHELOR OF BUSINESS (Farm Management)

	(.aagoo	
Nicholas Ian	ALLWRIGHT	Ouse	TAS
Hugh Kelly Grant	BANKS	Dirranbandi	QLD
Thomas Craig	BRAUN	Mt Gambier	SA
Samuel John	CHAFFEY	Attunga	NSW
Keith Bowman James	COWAN	Tailem Bend	SA
Nicholas Stephen John	DI GIORGIO	Lucindale	SA
Matthew Brian	DONOVAN	Quilpie	QLD

James Graeme	GLASGOW	Woolsthorpe	VIC
Matthew Nigel	GLENNEN	Terang	VIC
Sam Knight	GORDON	Lennox Head	NSW
Steffi Joy	HURSE	Carisbrook	VIC
Michelle Erin	KENDLE	St George	QLD
Chad Douglas	KENNETT	Kadina	SA
Philippa Dawes	LOVE	Naracoorte	SA
Thomas Henry	LUCAS	Norwood	SA
Joshua Mark	PRICE	Willlaura	VIC
William Michael	ROBERTSON	Finley	NSW
Jessica Alice Bell	ROGERS	Murrurundi	NSW
William Matthew	RONALD	Spring Ridge	NSW
Matthew Ross	RUSKIN ROWE	Dubbo	NSW

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN AGRIBUSINESS

James	BURTON	Greenwich	NSW
Benjamin John	HOOPER	Beaconsfield	TAS
Michael Damian	O'SHEA	Aspendale	VIC

International Stud Management Awards (UK)

The College presents an award at the end of their year of study, to two high-achieving students who successfully completed the Marcus Oldham College Diploma of Horse Business Management Program.

- · display excellence and all round ability, both practically and academically especially in the equine reproduction/stud management module of the course
- show characteristics of consistent hard work and attention to detail throughout the year at Marcus Oldham College
- exhibit the most potential of success within the global thoroughbred breeding industry
- be well-presented, socially adept, with good communication skills

Sam McMillan

Marcus Oldham/Ladwades International Stud **Management Award (UK)**



Thoroughbred fanatic, McMillan 26 from Hobart Tas, received the Marcus Oldham College/Lanwades International Stud Management Award (UK) entitling him to spend 12 months at the historic Lanwades Stud at Newmarket, Cambridgeshire in England and also at their sister stud, Staffordstown Stud at County Meath, Ireland.

Sam will travel to England in January 2012. He will gain experience in all departments including the broodmares, foals,

covering barn, yearling preparation and enjoy such highlights as Goffs and Tattersalls yearling sales.

Thoroughbred racehorses have been bred in Newmarket and surrounding villages for over 300 years and Lanwades nowadays encompasses nearly 1000 acres of prime grassland in Newmarket and Ireland. Students of bloodstock management and veterinary medicine from all over the world have trained at Lanwades and former trainees are now managing some of the top stud farms in Australia, New Zealand, USA, France, Germany, Japan and Poland.

Teah Hill

Marcus Oldham/Juddmonte Farms Stud **Management Award (UK)**



Born into a family that has extensive equine interests both in racing and breeding and sporthorses, Teah Hill 19 from Collie in Western Australia received the inaugural Marcus Oldham/Juddmonte Farms Stud Management Award (UK). Teah will travel to England in 2012 to spend six months at Juddmonte Farms' Barnstead Manor Stud near Newmarket Cambridgeshire, the headquarters of British Racing.

Juddmonte incorporates six properties in the UK and Ireland and three in the

USA. One of the leading breeders in the world Barnstead Manor Stud at Cheveley, Newmarket comprises 373 acres of land and is home to a host of exciting stallions. The Stud operates on the successful 'walking-in' system for visiting mares.

Teah is also skilled as an equestrian eventer, yet can direct her skills and horse management knowledge equally to the Thoroughbred industry. She appreciates this excellent opportunity to further her knowledge of the international Thoroughbred industry.

Simon Gilfillan Farm Management 1996 Kitchen Farmer



aving graduated from Marcus in 1996 I re-entered the world, like any other graduate, excited about the many career pathways available to me.

First things first; having put myself through Marcus I needed to get my finances back into order and spent twelve months in the WA goldfields as an exploration driller/offsider. These twelve months in WA not only allowed me to get my finances in shape but also allowed me to consider my next step within agriculture.

I was fortunate enough to secure an Assistant Manager position on one of Warakirri Dirt Management's NSW properties and used this opportunity to further my interest in broad acre cereal, oilseed and pasture production. From this production based role I progressed my career into more client and business management roles through grain merchant and marketing positions with GrainCorp on the Liverpool Plains NSW and AWB in WA to eventually becoming the State BDM for the AWB risk management product set in WA.

This experience, as well as my Marcus education, provided me with invaluable production, business management and people management skills that I now wanted to progress for myself. At this point in my career I felt I was missing the tangibility of building and providing something with material/hands on value.

...would have food production across Melbourne return to World War II levels.

The release of a number of sustainable food production reports including the Australian Conservation Foundation's Paddock to Plate report signalled a backyard gardening revolution that by 2015 would have urban food production across Melbourne return to World War II levels. This identified an opportunity for me to

help urban households grow their own fruit and vegetables and the Kitchen Farmer business was established in March 2008 to fill this niche.

It was apparent that the majority of soils in the Melbourne metropolitan area were either too poor for food production or required a significant amount of time and organic input to revitalise the soil to productive levels. This problem was solved through the use of raised-bed planter boxes that could hold new soil medium through the no-dig method. The no-dig method of gardening involves layers of lucerne, manure, straw and compost to provide the perfect growing medium with the water holding capacity for vegetable production. Through natural composting over time the lucerne and straw layers break down, making nitrogen and organic carbons available to the vegetables and herbs within the raised-bed. This natural composting not only provides a great soil medium for vegetables but also provides the Kitchen Farmer business with the opportunity to top-up the soil on a seasonal basis due to its decomposition.



The raised-beds can be built from a number of timbers, dependant on the look and cost, with the majority of beds being customised to suit each customer's specific need and available space. The planter boxes can be built on balconies, patios, over brick work/concrete or directly on the ground. Kitchen Farmer provides clients with a two year companion planting and plant rotation program in line with the seasons and specific to what the client wants to produce from the garden. This program returns nutrients to the soil through legume rotation, avoids pests through companion planting and disease through plant rotation to avoid the unwanted build up of pathogens in the soil.

Kitchen Farmer also provides irrigation and water harvesting solutions, planting and maintenance programs and has more recently moved into holistic edible landscape design. The edible landscapes include edible, native and companion plants to provide attractive, pest-free, gardens that are abundant in fruit, vegetables, herbs and biological activity. These landscapes not only look great but provide heaps of vegetables, fruit and herbs at your back/front door.

Kitchen Farmer services households, schools, restaurants and wineries throughout Victoria and over the past three years has built its brand in providing highly productive gardens for even the novice gardener.

The no-dig gardens require little maintenance; provide easy access for the mobility impaired, great interest for children, great relaxation for adults and a great supply of fresh organic fruit, vegetables and herbs for the home.

simon@kitchenfarmer.com.au www.kitchenfarmer.com.au

Foundation News

Foundation Cocktail Reception

More than 180 guests attended this year's Foundation Cocktail Reception held at the RACV Melbourne, on Tuesday 19 July at 6.00pm. The evening is held to give thanks to the many sponsors and supporters of the College and acknowledge our scholarship students.



Dale Bruns DipAgri 11 who spoke on behalf of the Scholarship Recipients

We welcomed The Hon Ted Baillieu MLA as our guest speaker who spoke most positively about the importance of the education we deliver at Marcus and of his family connections in agriculture. He told of the coincidence of taking part in some of the College's building master plans when architect project manager some 30 years ago.

Dale Bruns, DipAgri 11 and the Yiddinga Farm Management Scholarship winner, spoke on behalf of the scholarship winners and his journey towards becoming a Marcus student. The audio transcripts and recordings of both speakers are on the Marcus Oldham website.

The evening was a huge success and the College recognises the incredible ongoing support from our graduates and friends of the College.



Dr Simon Livingstone FM 87 Principal, The Hon Ted Baillieu MLA, Bruce Wilson FM 71 Council Chairman, Antony Baillieu FM 71 Foundation Chairman



Pip Love BB(FM) 11, Sam McMillan HBM 11, Eddie Wong HBM 11



Alana Pittard FBM1, Heather Kelly HBM 11



Olivia Conway FBM1, Jillian Witherow, FBM1



Andrew Fisher FBM1, Robert Binks FBM1, Scott Vanderkley



Ben Grice Ass.Deg.Agri 11, Johnny Chester FBM1, Andrew Kelly FBM1



Wendy Peel HBM, Emma Morel



Charles Houston FBM1, **Sam Inglis FM 66**



Sam Munsie DipAgri 11, Andrew Baker



Jessica Green DipAgri 11, Andrew Baker



Ed Bradley HBM 11, Emma Morel



Helen and Michael Gannon



Kynan Onions FBM1, **Glenden Watts FBM 3**, The Hon Ted Baillieu MLA, Sandy Cameron FBM1, Alec Pengilley FBM1



Carmen Abern Ass.Deg.Agri 11, Mattie Crouch Ass.Deg.Agri 11, Derek Sands Ass.Deg.Agri 11



David and Mary Morton, Annie Abbott, Jim Cochran



Alby and Loraine Carnegie, Sue and Martin Wettenball FM 73



Leanne Montague, **Andrew Facey FM 66**



Rob McGavin Agri 93, Angie and Sam Baillieu



Andrew Broad, Susie Rouffignac



Ruth de Fegely, Judy and Rowly Paterson, Sean McDougall FBM 11, Student President, Richard de Fegely

Hamilton Sheepvention Function

More than 120 graduates representing each decade (1960s to 2011) and many friends of the College attended this year's Marcus Oldham function held at the Hamilton Club on Monday 1 August.

The Foundation Chairman, Antony Baillieu FM 71 and Principal, Dr Simon Livingstone FM 87 spoke about the progress of the College, our students, our sponsors and the academic and infrastructure development of the College. This occasion has become a fixture in the Sheepvention calendar and we look forward to catching up with graduates and friends in our Jubilee Year, 2012.

Rockhampton Beef Week A date for your diary

Marcus Oldham is exhibiting at Beef Week Rockhampton from 7 – 12 May 2012. Our site is number 25 in the Robert Schwarten Pavilion.

The College is hosting a drinks occasion on Thursday 10 May at the International Corporate Lounge 5.30 - 7.30pm.

We hope to welcome many of our northern based graduates and friends of the College to our evening.

Annual Fundraising Golf Day 24 February 2012 Tee Off the College Jubilee Celebrations

Marcus Oldham College welcomes your participation in our Annual Fundraising Golf Day to be held at Eynesbury Golf Course. For keen golfers we have a 9 and 18 hole Ambrose competition with a twist, with on-course entertainment and great prizes to be won.

For non-golfers the entertainment will include a mini-movie festival by Warrambeen Film Festival creator, Geordie Taylor, and a Champagne Morning Tea in the Eynesbury Homestead. All participants will enjoy a magnificent three course lunch, drinks, entertainment with MC Hamish McLachlan and AFL celebrities, and auction in the marquee surrounded by the beautiful Eynesbury gardens.

Funds raised on the day will go towards the upgrade and extension of The James Darling Resources Centre (Library) and part proceeds to Cottage by the Sea, Queenscliff.

Please find registration forms on our website with directions to the Eynesbury Golf Course and times for the day.

We look forward to your company on Friday 24 February 2012.

















The James Darling Resources Centre (Library) Upgrade and Extension

On Thursday 1 December over 120 students, their families, staff and friends of the College attended the opening of the extension and upgrade of The James Darling Resources Centre. Professor Sue Kilpatrick, Research Professor Alfred Deakin Research Institute, Deakin University and Marcus Oldham College Council member, officially unveiled the plaque.

Since re-opening the library doors the College is delighted with the positive feedback from students and staff. By doubling the size of the study area, two break-out study rooms, carrels, PC stations, reading areas, larger collections room and an archives room, the College is providing the required space to accommodate the greater number of students studying the extended programs on offer.

The College gratefully thanks the numerous sponsors so far. Corporate, graduates and friends of the College have shown great generosity towards this building fund. This support enables the continual maintenance and growth of the College buildings and grounds.

The goal to fund this extension and upgrade is \$200,000. We are currently on target with monies raised to date at \$157,000.

> To donate please go on-line to www.marcusoldham.vic.edu.au/donate or contact

Susie 03 5247 2919 or email rouffignac@marcusoldham.vic.edu.au



Richard Annois AM Former Council Member, Prof Sue Kilpatrick, Guest Speaker, Bruce Wilson FM 71 Council Chairman, Dr Simon Livingstone FM 87 Principal, Antony Baillieu FM 71 Foundation Chairman.



Joan Mackenzie (Donor) with grandsons Will Mercer FBM 11 and Charlie Cameron DipAgri 11



Dr Simon Livingstone FM 87, John and Sue Baillie (Donors), Graeme Burnham FM 73.



Ian Farran, and Kenneth Mackenzie (Donor).



Stewart McArthur, Janet Craigie-McConnell, Scott McKay FM 79 (HV Mackay Charitable Trust Donor)



Fiona Chambers, Judy Wilson, Sybil Baillieu, Sarah Thompson

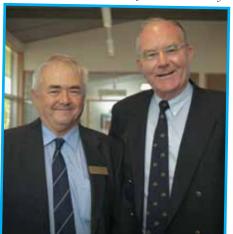




Will Comiskey DipAgri 11, Barton Lindley, Pip Comiskey, Leonie Lindley



Denis Banks, Carl Reeve



Colin Hacking, John Miles



Nick Boshammer DipAgri 11, Tony McMeel



Andrew Baker, Deanne Whelan, Dennis O'Brien, Cathy Bent



Amanda Seccombe, Penny Button



Hugh Gooding FBM 11, Will Treloar DipAgri 11





Sam Munsie DipAgri 11, Jamie and Belinda Munsie



Shiree Reeve, Denis and Glenda Watts



Sam Clothier FBM 11, Nicole Rhode, Karen, Graeme, Hannah and Olie Clothier



Robert Price FBM 11, Sean McDougall FBM 11



Ben Egan FBM 11, Michael and Sue Egan



Will Lee-Warner HBM 11, George Thompson DipAgri 11



Christine and Stephen Meek



For all Foundation enquiries including the Annual Golf Day, The Oldham Society (Bequest Program) and donations to Building Funds, please contact Susie Rouffignac on 03 5247 2919 or email rouffignac@marcusoldham.vic.edu.au

To make a secure on-line donation please visit: www.marcusoldham.vic.edu.au/donate

Ovarian Cancer Research Benefits from Marcus Rugby

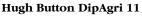
aturday 30th of July 2011 was the day of the second Marcus Oldham College charity rugby match and sportsman dinner in aid of Ovarian Cancer Australia. Following the success of the 2009 event, a group of students decided to hold it in conjunction with the Geelong Rams Rugby Club once again. Special guests, Farmers Matt and Tom from Channel Seven's 'The Amazing Race', entertained the intrigued crowd.

A Ladies Day marquee with free gift packs and bubbly for the ladies, an auction of various signed rugby jerseys prior to the kickoff to the main game, saw a large crowd come out in 'Great Spirit' to brave the cold and wet conditions. A well drilled, highly skilled Marcus outfit could not continue the previous week's tour success, going down 21-17 to a very determined and proud Geelong side. Strong play by Captain Sam Munsie DipAgri 11, up front and decisive backline running by Paddy "Cipiriani" Glasser FBM1 set dynamic winger Tim McDonald FBM1 up for three classic tries - yet it wasn't enough. The match was played in 'Great Spirit' putting on an entertaining game for the crowd in aid of this great cause.

That evening The Ivo Dean Centre was the venue to host players, friends and passionate supporters of "the game they play in heaven" and this great cause. The evening also featured two Rabo Direct Melbourne Rebels players: Guest Speakers, Club Captain Tim Davidson and James Hilgendorf who gave everybody a tremendous insight into the lives and happenings of the professional rugby world. Helen Malley was a wonderful representative from Ovarian Cancer Australia, and spoke about the symptoms and consequences of this dark disease. The night culminated with another auction featuring fish from the Chatham Islands NZ, Red Wine, signed Super Rugby jerseys and a signed Geelong Cats jersey.

A great day was had by all and I can proudly say over \$10,000 was raised and donated to Ovarian Cancer Australia. I would like to say a large Thank You to the players and anybody that contributed on the day, especially Gordon McNeil Ass.Deg.Agri 10, Andrew Hill DipAgri 09, Olivia Conway FBM 1 and Angus and Emma King DipAgri 11.

It is hoped this great day will continue every second year - so good luck to the organisers of 2013.





Gordon McNeil Ass.Deg.Agri 10, Tom Hunt BB(Agri)11



James Hilgendorf, Tim Davidson



Del Tuanui, BB(Agri)11 presented a tasty treat of fish from the Chatham Islands NZ.



The Centre for the Study of Rural Australia

Forum

The Centre for the Study of Rural Australia is the focus and interface for the College's community engagement commitment and is playing a key role in addressing the many issues that impact on agriculture and rural communities. Given its national focus, the Centre brings together leading experts from around the world and around Australia to provide international 'best practice' approaches to addressing rural challenges.

In October students and guests participated in a Forum, 'Managing From the Verandah - Using the Latest Technologies in Information and Communication for Agriculture (ICT)'.

ICT developments are revolutionising change in agriculture and enabling technical and management options that were impossible only a few years ago. These developments include the use of GPS, auto-steer systems and variable rate technology for precision agriculture. The use of wireless sensor networks provide farmers with real-time measurements of parameters such as soil moisture, crop health and animal movement, enabling better irrigation practices, enhanced management of livestock and monitoring of many aspects on the modern-day farm. ICT is also predominant in knowledge-sharing, weather forecasting, risk management and the provision of extension advice.

The speakers at the Forum, which was held at the College, were Dr Tim Wark, Principal Research Scientist, CSIRO Brisbane, Quenten Knight from Precision Agronomics Australia, Esperance WA, David Brownhill of Merrilong Pastoral Company, Spring Ridge NSW, Mark Gardner Vanguard Business Services, Dubbo NSW, J Matthew Pryor CEO Observant, Melbourne, Dr Khusro Saleem, Melbourne, who leads the Water Information Networks project at the National ICT Australia, and Tom McCue, Canberra, Grains Research and Development Corporation.



Quenten Knight, Prof Tim Reeves, Dr Tim Wark, Dr Khusro Saleem, David Brownhill, Matthew Pryor, **Dr Simon Livingstone FM 87**



Rod Ashby, Tim Croagh FM 82



Ian Farran, **Jack Dunmill FBM 11, Aidan Dellar FBM 11, Sam Clothier FBM 11, Damien Kelly FBM 11, Russell Fowler FBM 11**



Daniel Lane Ass.Deg.Agri 11, Des Umbers, Andrew Baker, William Verco Ass.Deg.Agri 11, Derek Sands Ass.Deg.Agri 11



James Hillcott FBM1, Toby Campbell



Charlie Houston FBM1, Tim McDonald FBM1, Angus Campbell FBM1, Ben Skerman DipAgri 11, Sam Coulton FBM1, Alec Pengilley FBM1.



Andrew Graham Ass.Deg.Agri 11, Toby Hammond DipAgri 11



Sander Nijskens FBM 11, Angus Martin FBM 11, Darcy Kilmartin FBM 11, Joel Banks FBM 11



David Bufton BB(AM) 03, Graeme Smith



Glenden Watts FBM 11, Hugh Gooding FBM 11, Fergus McIntosh DipAgri 11, Harry Carter FBM 11

Gavin Jamieson continued from page 12

I am involved with the Victorian Farmers Federation Beekeepers branch and the Victorian Apiarists Association. Combined with an extensive knowledge and understanding of legislation governing land management, occasionally I am called to mediate or provide representation for beekeepers, advising councils and government on their responsibilities to our industry.

Effective border barriers to exotic pests and diseases are just as important to the honey bee industry as other plant and animal producers. Australian Quarantine and Inspection Services (AQIS) do a good job but our borders have bio-security breaches all the time.

Since May 2007 over 510 colonies of the pest Asian bees have been detected and destroyed in the Cairns area in Queensland. This bee is the perfect host for the dreaded blood sucking Varroa mite. Australia is the only country that doesn't have Varroa mite. Asian bees swarm constantly, sting everything, vigorously mate with our Queens - producing sterile offspring, and are very ineffective in crop pollination. In a good season the Asian bee might produce only 10% of a crop produced by our European honey bee.

Australia has ten species of colonizing native bees that gather honey and store it. There are some 1500 species of bees (not honey bees) in Australia.

I occasionally meet Marcus ex collegians in my travels. It is interesting to hear about what other foundation students have done in the intervening years and to share stories with the many former students who followed in our footsteps.

I find it difficult to summarise my experiences of the last 48 years, but my diversity of interests stems in part from the Marcus Oldham philosophy: you couldn't know it all, but you had to know the source of what you were challenged with.

jamieson.gavin@gmail.com

The Centre for the Study of Rural Australia Luncheon

October also was the month Professor Randy Westgren was guest speaker at a Luncheon held at Morgans 401 Collins St, Melbourne. Professor Westgren is professor of Agricultural and Applied Economics at the University of Missouri in the United States. He teaches entrepreneurship at the University and is involved in research and outreach activities relating to intra-firm and inter-firm strategic management in the agrifood sector. His address covered 'The particularities of agri-food entrepreneurship in the US; new trends, opportunities and networks."

Transcripts and recordings of speakers' presentations from these and previous functions are available on www.marcusoldham.vic.edu.au.



Rob Burbury FM1 76, Max Jelbart



Prof Tim Reeves, Richard Anderson, Prof Randy Westgren, Dr Simon Livingstone FM 87, Bruce Wilson FM 71



Prof Westgren with students Andrew Fisher FBM1, Emma Sutherland DipAgri 11, Will Archer FBM1, Will Comiskey DipAgri 11, Fergus McIntosh DipAgri 11,



Tony McMeel, Cam Emerson





Duncan Ashby, Lee Mitchell, Richard Coverdale



Phoebe Moore, Louise Gourlay OAM, Michael Morrison

Advanced Diploma of Farm Business Management 3 years

Bachelor of Business (Farm Management) additional 6 months on campus (off campus option)

The new generation of managers of agricultural businesses will need advanced financial management and marketing skills and be able to access and use information.

Competent managers will adopt current technology and be able to manage both people and risk. Managers require highly developed resource management skills to ensure the business they manage is based on systems that are environmentally and economically sustainable in the long term.

Bruce Wilson and Antony Baillieu

Courtesy The Geelong Advertiser

RUCE WILSON, 62, met ANTONY BAILLIEU, also 62, when they started boarding at Geelong Grammar School nearly 50 years ago. The year they met was the year Marcus Oldham Agricultural College opened in Geelong. Today Wilson is Chairman of the College Council and Baillieu, Chairman of the College Foundation.



BRUCE: Ant was in a different house at school. He was a good sprinter and always very competitive. I don't remember him in the higher academic areas, but he was always into football. His nickname was "Nugget", he was pretty solid, very strong. Always one of the boys, he had a lot of friends who extended the boundaries of the school. He is street smart and people smart; other people were capable of making the mistakes for him.

In 1969, I started Farm Management at Marcus and Ant was in that lot. We spent much closer time together when we lived on campus. Ant was still one who had a lot of acquaintances and not too many enemies. He's always been good with people. Marcus was exciting with a whole lot of people with varying levels of agricultural experience. At that time we did 8 months there, 8 months out then 8 months back there. The 8 months we were out, we both worked at Penola, not at the same farm, but we saw quite a bit of each other then and had a bit of fun.

I would never lock horns with him, he's a boxer. When we were at college he used to train with "Kid Young" (Leo White), a well known boxer. He was preparing to go on TV Ringside but I think the kybosh was put on that by the family.

Things were pretty tough when we left Marcus and the Principal said "very few of you will remain in agriculture, you'll be doing all sorts of other things", but Ant, as did I, had a great passion for agriculture. He became the Chairman of the Foundation just prior to me joining the council in 1999. This will be the fourth year I've been the Chairman of the Council, and we've been able to pull off a few projects that have been very beneficial to the college.

I think it's one of those relationships where there is a level of trust, you don't have to say much you say you'll do something and it gets done. When the tram needs pushing back on the track it doesn't take much, a couple of words and there's that understanding.

One of Ant's great attributes is he's excellent at disseminating information from people. He'll talk to people, get involved in their lives, which leads to his operational ability. You'd never know what Ant does in his life, which is plenty. Ant has always been interested in the young and giving them opportunities and that's where his work is with Marcus, giving kids the opportunity to blossom when they might otherwise not have that opportunity.

He's got a very easy manner. He's got that competitive edge, he can be tough, but it doesn't show until it needs to. He gets an understanding of people, he keeps his criticism to himself and he either continues on and does things with people or he chooses not to, without denigrating them.

Marcus is a very small institution, with 130 people in residence at any given time, students come from Australia wide and we have quite a high profile outside Geelong. We've been able to maintain and improve that together. He's very passionate about Marcus, don't ask me how we would replace him. I think I might go first so that can be someone else's job.

The institution will be 50 years old next year and a lot of our early students are maturing and, hopefully, we can prevail on some of them to be more generous towards the college, to repay some of the debt for what they've been able to achieve because of their

If only I could give Ant a clock with an alarm, he's a very busy person but he does have a time problem. You could attribute it to the fact he spends too long talking to people, he gets engaged and then can't leave. Last year for his work for the college, we bestowed an honorary degree on him and this operation was done under a fair amount of secrecy at the graduation. He thought he was doing a presentation to one of our long serving staff who was leaving. The look of horror when I showed him the programme about two minutes before, with him starring, was

great. He was bloody furious he'd been caught out. He doesn't like attention. The one thing he probably hasn't accumulated in his life is degrees, so he deserved it.

If I rang him up and said, I think we need to raise this money for these reasons, he would always respond. We used to be the kids on the block and now we're the senior citizens! It's a wonderful association.

ANTONY: He was a good boy. If you asked the same question of him about me, I don't know if he could truthfully give you the same answer. He was a good knock around school boy, who wasn't a teacher's pet, but he didn't get up to what some other people got up to.

His nickname is PIG! This is the nickname he had at school, "Pig" Wilson. He's not much different now from how he was then. He used to wear his pants low and his shirt out. He had that swagger he has today. He just had a nice "piggy" feel to him. He copes with that. That wasn't a bad name in comparison to some of them!

We started to band together in the first year at Marcus then we ended up jackarooing in South Australia. When we came back we built on the back of that. We grew closer together in our second year and we had similar thoughts on agriculture.

When you get on with someone, you don't need to see them all the time and often when you see them some years later you can quite easily pick up where you left off and to a degree that's what's happened. I became Chairman of the Foundation and I was very supportive in his quest to be the Chairman of Council, because I knew the background of the man and I thought he was a very good fit. When you know you can rely on people and can be very frank with one another, that's a good friendship to have. I think we've both done that for each other.

If I locked horns with Bruce I would feel as though I'm in the wrong. He's not an aggressive man at all, it's not the way he does business. He's a compliant sort of person and he's a very likeable bloke. His peers like him and he's got that sort of warmth and softness that endear people. He has a lovely nature.

He's recognised as a very good farmer, leading in his field. I can think of no better person to come on board in an agricultural sense than Bruce. I have a lot of respect for him. He's an excellent operator. At a very early age he was called pig and now he's one of the biggest pig producers around and made a success of it. I'm not as late as I used to be. Actually, I'm shocking! There used to be a saying if you're coming down to lectures and you're behind Baillieu, you know you're late.

His contribution to Marcus has been large. He's brought plenty of sanity behind the scenes. I think the business side of Marcus will be improved as a result of his presence as Chairman. It's proving that way now. He has very good common sense, good people judgement.

We both have a period of time there. We don't need to stay there for life. I think the Council has a lot more people coming along that he can hand over to and his job is more demanding than mine. It's a bigger role. I would see him staying on for another four or five years at Marcus. You can never raise enough money for Marcus, there's always something, but I think if we can get through these big building programmes and achieve them, that'd be great.

I came back after a long period of time and I feel very strongly about the place. You look back on 2 or 3 things in your life that have heavily influenced you and I think it changed me. I did muck around a bit at school and I needed a serious component to focus me. Marcus Oldham gives a lot of people a focus in life, it did that for me; that's why I feel very proud to be back and trying to help.

Bruce and I grew up together. We both have this passion for Marcus and we do work well together. We know each other.

Real World Seminar

raditionally on the day before Graduation the College presents the 'Real World Seminar'. The objective of this Seminar is to expose both graduating students and parents to some of the 'real world' issues surrounding the return of a family member to the farm or similar businesses.

Proven to be of real value, as Succession Planning is a major topic and can be a concern for families, the audience received valuable advice from David Haymes, CEO of Haymes Paints, Rod Payne, Harwood Andrews Lawyers, and **Mike Stephens FM 66** Consultant with MS&A, on how to best manage family situations.

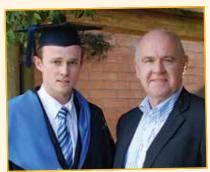
It's encouraging to see 'going to Marcus' become a family tradition. Attending the Seminar were:



Jobn Fowler FM 70 and Russell FBM 11, Bothwell TAS



Peter Landale FM 72 and **Hugh FBM 11**, Deniliquin NSW



On Graduation Day: **Geoff Lucas FM 81** and **Tom BB(FM) 11**, Adelaide SA



The Network

BIRTHS



MarkBB(AM) 09 and Katrina Swift Watson BB(AM) 03 welcomed Margaret (Peggy) Madeleine into their family on 4th July 2011. parkesplains@gmail.com



Lachlan Seears FBM 01 and his wife Rebecca were delighted with the birth of their little boy, Hugh Robert on 15 March 2011.

DEATH

Douglas Treasure FM 64 died 2nd January 2012 after a long illness. Doug lived near Stratford Vic and is survived by his wife Mary and five adult children. *Source: M Stepbens*

MARCUS ALL OVER

John Waterhouse FM 84 has, for the past 25 years, been managing cattle, merinos, a vineyard and Japanese tourists at the same property and through two changes in ownership. In the beautiful region of Alexandra, Vic where he now lives, John is currently reviewing life after the death of his wife, Kaye in 2010. Their 18 yr old son Johnathon is away jackarooing and clocking up some prac experience. jdwspouty@bigpond.com

John Eastoe FM 78, his wife Sally and children Lucy, Sam and Rosie live at Gol Gol NSW. Before starting his own business OH & S Solutions Australia Pty Ltd, of which he is Managing Director, John worked in farm management, was Contract Manager for Linfox Group, and General Manager at Mildura Agricultural Contractors. john@eastoes.com

Kirsty Cameron HBM 10 has, since graduation worked within the gas industry before discovering the perfect occupation in the cattle and horse industry. Kirsty is second in charge on an Angus cattle stud near Wandoan Qld. giddy128@hotmail.com

Oliver Wythes FBM 00 from 2001 – 2003 was stud overseer at a merino stud near Walcha NSW prior to returning home with Kassie and their children Victoria, Marcus and Fraser, to manage the farm at Canowindra NSW. okwythes@bigpond.com

At the Henty Field Days NSW several graduates called at the Marcus tent – among them were **Scott McKay FM 79** who lives near Seymour Vic with his wife Julia and children, Edwina, Olivia and Alexander. scottmckay@habbieshowe.com.au

Mark Maughan HBM 81 lives in North Melbourne with his partner Wuff Keeble, daughter Kizia and son Jack. make@pobox.com

Michael Chambers HBM 82 is married to Belinda and they have two sons and one daughter. Michael is a winemaker - Lake Moodemere Vineyards (moodemerewines.com.au) and a sheep and cropping famer near Rutherglen Vic. He's actively involved in the Murray Valley Hunt Club and holds the position of Number 1 Whipper. michael@moodemerewines.com.au

Julian White FM 97 managed the family farm, worked for AWB and then started his fertiliser business in 2006, 'Fertile Farm' www. fertilefarm.com.au. Julian, Alison and children Kyana and Saffron live at Worongary Qld. julian.white@yahoo.com.au

Gill Beaurepaire HBM 79 is owner/manager of Whinbury Hill Equestrian Centre, is E.A. Instructor, H.R.C.A.V. Level Assessor and a life coach. Gill worked in the Thoroughbred industry, and as a wool handler, then purchased a property at Kyneton Vic before relocating to the Equestrian Centre where she offers agistment and riding camps. Gill met her new partner, Garry, and they are marrying in 2012. whinburyhill@bigpond.com

Andrew Dowling FM 72 was farming until July 2011 and now runs, with his wife Carolyn, a Bed and Breakfast business at Robe SA. ajcjdowling@bigpond.com

Toby Lamond DipAgri 09 is Assistant Manager at Newcastle Waters in the NT. tobylamond@live.com.au

Michael Fitz-Henry HBM 82 runs F-H Polo (fhpolo.com) based in Queensland. The business leases horses to polo players, provides professionals, manages players, manages polo tournaments and sells horses. With his wife Robin, his son Bingham and daughter Phillipa, they run approximately 40 horses and have a close association with the Scone Club in the Hunter Valley NSW. Playing polo all over Australia, the whole family is involved and Robin's two eldest boys, Peter and William Handbury have reached a two goal handicap. Phillipa and Bingham have played polo for Australia, in Ladies and Colts. f-hpolo@bigpond.com

Jenna Puxley HBM 07 worked on a Standardbred stud for 2½ years, managing broodmares and foals. She is now the owner/operator of Affordable Tack & Horse Wear Saddlery in Tatura, Vic and lives in Kyabram. sweety-pea30@hotmail.com

Amanda Langley HBM 2009

The 2010/11 Standardbred show season was a first for Amanda and Gussie Blacker (Annabell) aka Bella - and what a season it was.

Bella is a 10yr old mare that Amanda has had for five years. Their relationship started when Bella's previous owners were at a loss as how to look after her. At this stage Amanda had one Standardbred at home that belonged to her Father, so when they received the phone call that there was a Standardbred mare for sale but she wasn't in the best condition, they set off to have a look. Totally smitten, Amanda could not possibly leave without buying her.

Once home and settled they had to address a few issues before getting to the fun stuff. The vet gave her the once-over, as did the dentist. The farrier visited with a new set of shoes as it had been some time since her last pedicure! Amanda started Bella on a new diet and she soon blossomed.

continued over



In 2009 Amanda made the life changing decision to attend Marcus Oldham to study the Horse Business Management course and, with Bella, moved to Geelong where they set about furthering their education.



Late in 2010 Amanda decided to take Bella to the show ring and registered with the Standardbred Pleasure & Performance Horse Association of Victoria (SPPHAV). Their first outing was the Kilmore Agricultural Show on the Saturday and with Amanda bouncing between the show jumping arena on another horse and the show ring with Bella, it wasn't without its difficulties - let's just say it was a learning curve. However, Bella took home a 1st ribbon for Best Presented and 1st for the Led Mare class, and the Champion Mare sash.

With Saturday fresh in her mind Amanda and Bella attended the Bendigo All Breeds Show on the Sunday. Bendigo was a success with Bella winning a 1st ribbon for Best Presented Female, 1st in her Led Female class, Champion Led Female and Supreme Champion Led Standardbred. Since then Bella has won Champion Mare at every show she has been to, including Melbourne Summer Royal Horse Show. She was State Champion Led Mare at 2010 SPPHAV state finals and won the SPPHAV High Point Led Mare Award for the 2010/11 showing season.



Editor's Memo

Do you want a 'Graduate Business Directory' in MOCOSA magazine?

Many graduates own businesses that offer services and I am asking the question, "Do you want a business directory enabling you to connect with a graduate who is offering something you need?"

This free service is another angle on the Marcus Network. Information would be categorised and will include your name, course and graduation year, the name of your business, location, minimal words about the service you offer, plus email, phone and website.



Please indicate your interest in this directory being developed by emailing jcm@marcusoldham.vic.edu.au or talking to me on 03 5247 2926. If there is sufficient interest an email will be sent seeking details for inclusion in the directory.

Janet Craigie-McConnell

Field Days and Equine Events in 2012

call in for a chat

February 15 - 17	Sungold, Warrnambool	VIC
March 6 - 8	Wimmera, Horsham	VIC
March 22 - 25	Dressage & Jumping, Werribee	VIC
March 22 - 25	Farm World, Warragul	VIC
March 16 - 17	South East, Lucindale	SA
May 3 - 5	Agfest, Launceston	TAS
May 7 - 12	Beef Week, Rockhampton	QLD
June 8 - 10	Muttaburra Sheep Show	QLD
June 8 - 11	Melbourne International 3DE	VIC
August 6 - 7	Sheepvention, Hamilton	VIC
August7 -9	Eyre Peninsula, Cleve	SA
August 21 -23	Ag-Quip, Gunnedah	NSW
August 29 - 30	Dowerin	WA
September 5 - 6	Newdegate	WA
September 18 - 20	Henty	NSW
October 2 - 4	Elmore	VIC
November 15 - 18	Equitana, Melbourne	SA
November 22 - 25	Adelaide International 3DE	VIC

Diploma of Horse Business Management The intensive year provides students with the business management skills, equine science and practical skills/horse husbandry knowledge essential for a successful career in the horse industry. Subjects include horse business practice, communication and marketing, breeding, youngstock handling, stable and property management, nutrition, equine health, driving and applied riding practices, and own special interest study contract. Choose either Equestrian Training or Racing and Breeding.

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