



MOCOSA

MAGAZINE

Marcus Oldham College Old Students Association

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Hong Kong – just one of the international ports for Melbourne exporter, Richard Longbottom.



Principal's Perspective

Although Marcus Oldham is an independent tertiary institution which receives no government funding, the College is required to be audited by the Federal Government's Tertiary Education Quality Standards Agency (TEQSA). I am pleased to say our recent audit by TEQSA was a glowing review of the systems, processes, procedures and personnel at Marcus Oldham. Approval to operate for the maximum period of seven years before the next major audit is undertaken is testimony of the quality of the College.

In July this year the College was notified that its application to offer a Master of Agribusiness had been approved by TEQSA. This is a significant achievement for Marcus Oldham and a number of years of work in the making. This new postgraduate course further extends the College's capability and strategic direction into the higher education sector. For people who have an undergraduate qualification

not in agriculture, but who wish to work in that area, the Master degree is highly regarded. Similarly, for those people who have significant industry experience and realise they need to obtain advanced knowledge in business and strategy, the Master degree offers an attractive pathway. This qualification also has a place for Marcus graduates who wish to continue life-long learning and study from a distance.

Over the past eight months, the College has been writing and developing a Technology-Enhanced Learning and Teaching Plan with the specific focus on the continued integration of technology in teaching and learning across all courses. It is a plan which seeks to advance and optimize Marcus Oldham's strengths and its unique approaches to learning and teaching in the field and at the College. This approach comprises learning and teaching in a largely hands-on and an applied face-to-face educational setting with strong industry links and site visits, student-teacher proximity, small class sizes and boutique teaching, along with a personalized approach to supporting student learning.

With this Plan, Marcus Oldham seeks to explore the affordances of information and communications technology to address many of the future challenges it will face in relation to teaching and learning, and to position itself as a pioneer and leader in the use of current technologies combined with innovative pedagogy to higher education in agricultural and equine management in Australia.

Improving and maintaining the physical aspects of the College is important. I thank Student President, Tom Upton, Deputy Nick Baulch and the 2014 Executive Committee for their leadership in establishing a Capital Future Fund. Over the years, many student groups have left money to the College to further develop the campus, but this is the first time a formal process and fund has been established. It is planned that each year students will make a

contribution to capital works that directly benefit ongoing student life at Marcus Oldham. The amount to be contributed to the Fund each year by the student body is to be a minimum of \$10,000.

The corpus of the Fund is to be used for specific capital items agreed to by College Management and is to include gym equipment, student building refurbishment, landscaping of student activity areas, development of sporting facilities, purchase of plant and equipment and so forth. This contribution is in addition to the annual donation the students make to a charity of their choice.

The College Board, led by Chairman Bruce Wilson and Deputy Robert Riordan, were keen to support Queenslanders who over the years had supported Marcus Oldham.

Each year the College Board of Directors hold one of their meetings interstate so they can visit local farms and agricultural or equine businesses in the region. This year the Board held their May meeting at Longreach in Queensland. The program included a visit to the Longreach Pastoral College and associated enterprises and promotion of Marcus Oldham at the Longreach Show. A cocktail function attended by graduates, guests and friends was held at the Qantas Founders Outback Museum. During the evening the College launched a number of Drought Relief Study Awards. The College Board, led by Chairman Bruce Wilson and Deputy Robert Riordan, were keen to support Queenslanders who over the years had supported Marcus Oldham. Our community is very aware of the devastating drought which has gripped much of Queensland and the severe impact it has had on graziers and their families. We wish all our Queensland Alumni and their families the best and hope that this situation changes significantly in the coming months.

Dr Simon Livingstone
Principal

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From the President's Desk

Congratulations and thanks to all involved.

In fact, the landscaping around the campus puts the polish on Marcus Oldham College. It is the fine tuning that makes the College. It is this fine tuning that each Marcus graduate takes away and into their professional and personal lives. As I have said, your College has never looked better, so please take the time to visit – soon.

Talking of developments, the Recreational Hub works are in full swing, with final foundation works being carried out as I write. The project is currently on track to be ready for the start of the student group in 2015. Great support is being shown, even by the current group of students, (although many will have graduated prior to the building being completed). They have been very helpful providing input at the concept level and continue to show great enthusiasm as the project evolves – that's MARCUS SPIRIT!

On a personal note, it was great to catch up with my fellow 1994 graduates recently in Melbourne for our 20 year reunion. The weekend started off with dinner on the Friday night at a South Melbourne hotel offering cold beers, fine wine and delicious food. How we have

matured – or at least thought we had, until some of the guests showed off their ability, or lack thereof, to put their favorite dance manoeuvres into a little performance. My advice would be that, no matter what the waitress tells you – Mia Tia's are not mock tails!

Saturday night marked the official function held in the city at the Crown Casino complex. We had a private salon and terrace overlooking the Yarra River and beyond into the Melbourne CBD. Roaming wait-staff ensured we were all 'fed and watered' to full complement. Speeches were sweet, and thankfully, short. All were in fine spirits and fair to say no one had changed a great deal, with the exception of Hugh Roberts – who seems to be getting younger! The crowd was pleased to see that some old favorites are still able to be performed – thank you, Matthew. The night wandered on into the late (early) hours dancing to live 80's music and the odd game of Black Jack and Roulette. A great effort by all for a great weekend. Rumours are that a 25th is being planned. Destination... Perth???

Good luck with your projects.

James P Bufton FM 94
MOCOSA President

hope this edition of the MOCOSA Magazine finds you and your family fit and well.

If you are travelling to the Geelong area I would strongly encourage you to allocate time to visit the College to see the great developments taking place on the campus.

In my opinion, the College has never looked better! The entry, the car parks, the Geoff Neilson Building, the lecture rooms, the hostel, the Ivo Dean Centre (Dining Room) and the Principal's new residence all look magnificent. The grounds, after many hours of planning and careful implementation, are practical for our environment, water efficient and visually appealing.

Marcus Minds Taste of Marcus

A popular initiative, the 'Marcus Minds Weekend' attracts strong interest across Australia from people keen to study at Marcus Oldham but not quite sure what it's all about. Each year there is a rise in the number of participants and they speak highly of the experience.

This free weekend offers the opportunity to experience Marcus first-hand. Participants attend mini-lectures, learn from keynote speakers, interact with graduates and current students and visit a farm business. Accommodation is in the Student Residences on campus. Participants must be at least 18 years of age.

**In 2015 the proposed date for the
'Marcus Minds Weekend' is**

6pm Friday 19th to 1pm Sunday June 21st.

A schedule of events and details on how to reserve a spot will become available online at marcusminds.com.au.

However, spread the word and visit the Marcus website and Facebook to keep up to date with our activities.

www.marcusoldham.vic.edu.au



www.facebook.com/MarcusOldhamCollege



Richard Longbottom *Farm Business Management 1994*

Swept his way into a career in exporting



Richard relates, "Eventually, with my suit on and CV in hand, I had two interviews with the management of the Costa Group at Geelong – growers, packers, wholesalers and exporters of fruit and vegetables. I was optimistic I could offer them great things. Frank Costa thanked me for my time, gave me a broom and said if you are any good, we will see!"

That's where I started at the bottom, packing pallets for Coles, then loading trucks, upwards to quality assurance, produce buyer, and finally, after two and a half years, I was sent to their fruit export division. I travelled throughout Australia visiting growers, checking the quality and securing the fruit for export, as well as trading to a few customers in Asia, India and the UK."

With a plan in mind Richard moved in 2000 to managing the fruit exporting business 'Pacific Fruit Brokers' in Sydney. Ten months later he set up 'Walker Longbottom' in Melbourne with partner, Sam Walker.

Today 'Walker Longbottom' is approaching 14 years of business. They annually ship 600 containers of fresh fruits to 35 countries throughout Asia, Middle East, India, Canada, Russia, and more. Their main commodities are fresh grapes, mandarins, oranges, apples, stone fruit, and pears. Fruit is sourced from every state in Australia, New Zealand, USA and Canada and in the past, Argentina. "The phone rings all day every day, customers operate in every time zone every day of the week. The work is exciting, rewarding and we work with some very interesting characters."

The fruit industry is a roller coaster ride: rain, drought, no water allocations, currency fluctuations, stubbornly high AUD\$, high labour costs, wildly fluctuating prices, fruit arriving in poor condition and most importantly of all, getting paid. "To date the business has managed to work through this and still be here and in a good way."

Growing up on a sheep property near Naracoorte on the South Australia-Victorian border all Richard ever wanted to be was a farmer. As kids they spent every holiday picking and burning sticks. The farm was virgin bush so they cleared it, burnt it and planted it to pasture. Ironical, as today it is covered in trees and about to be logged for wood chips and the opportunity to pick up sticks and burn them is there again, an opportunity which Richard will happily turn down.

Leaving school at 16 to help on the farm and shear sheep, Richard retired from shearing five years later to work as a station hand at "Salt Creek" sheep stud owned by the Coy family and situated north of Mortlake in the Western District of Victoria. This was a major turning point in Richard's life. Working with a Marcus graduate doing his prac year, and knowing two other friends studying First Year Farm Business Management at Marcus, Richard liked what he heard and saw of these Marcus lads, and signed up to enter College in 1992.

During his student years Richard met some great people, listened, and was eager to learn and discover

new things. Within two weeks he discovered two very important things: 1) Farming is a business and the objective of running a business is to make a profit and if you make a profit you pay tax; 2) Farming is a high capital, low yielding, unthankful business and there are other easier ways to make a living.

...a 5 million bale stockpile and the industry was in a deep recession.

Richard was attracted to a career in exporting early in his studies at Marcus. In term holidays he worked for wool exporters and his prac year was spent with a wool broker in Melbourne. At this stage Richard was a professional wool classer with experience gained on fine wool studs and was destined for a job in the wool industry. However, there was one major problem - a 5 million bale stockpile and the industry was in a deep recession.

Melbourne was a good choice for Richard's prac year as he met Kate, whom he married after graduating. Returning to the home farm they decided after a year that their future was not on the family farm and made the best decision ever. "We packed up and came back to Melbourne where I applied for many jobs and got knocked back everywhere."

Richard believes he would not be where he is today without his time at Marcus. "It equipped me with skills, knowledge and belief. After this, you need time, experience, people skills, honesty, accountability, plus accessibility, determination, humility, and the harder you work the luckier you get. In Melbourne I am lucky to surround myself with successful interesting business friends from different industries. I get to talk to them about my issues and listen to them about theirs; sharing of knowledge and ideas, usually over a glass of Shiraz, is invaluable."

Richard thanks **Graeme Burnham FM 73** who came to Marcus and shared his wisdom. "The most important life decision you make is the girl you marry." Richard and Kate will celebrate their 20th wedding anniversary in January with two beautiful daughters, Matilda 14 and India 11; and Richard says that all three girls have plenty of attitudes and keep him honest! On their small farm on Victoria's most southern point, Cape Liptrap, they run cattle, sheep (for Richard to shear) and it's here the girls care for their horses.

Australia is one of the most expensive places in the world to do business.

In Richard's view the next 20 years will bring changes just as much as the last. He reads of the Asian food boom and the economic prosperity this will bring our farmers and feels

he should be the most optimistic person in the country. However South Africa, South America and Eastern Europe, with much cheaper labour than Australia, are learning fast and getting better at what they do.

Richard comments that Australia once had cheap water and cheap electricity and even this has been taken away. "We don't seem to have many competitive advantages to fill this middle-class hunger for our food. With out of control costs Australia is one of the most expensive places in the world to do business. In many cases farm expenses have gone up 400% in the past 15 years yet farm income is stagnant. How can a farmer sustain, never mind improve, and invest capital into his business? At the end of the day our customers will go to the cheapest point to get what they want.



"The Australia pendulum has swung too far. We need some major changes in attitude, from government and people, to create an incentive for business people to stay, invest, work and take risks. An enormous amount of work is required by our government in wages reform, market access, rail and port infrastructure, scrapping of middle-class welfare, taxation - and the fact we have three levels of government is ridiculous!

"When Colonel Light planned Adelaide in 1835 he pondered on what will make a great city in 100 years, 300 years, 1000 years - he had great vision. The rabble we have in government at the moment are thinking about how do I get a vote today, tomorrow, next week, next month. Sadly, there seems to be a lack of vision. These problems may take years to resolve and things may get worse before they get better."

Richard is confident agriculture has exciting opportunities. "But it will be a matter of finding what we can do well and competitively, and go for it. (By the way, I'm not always right.) Let's not even talk about the AUD\$!"

In reflection Richard says, "I have some fabulous life-long Marcus friends and I treasure my time there. Good friends, good food and good wine should help us survive the next 20 years. I'm sure they will be interesting."

richard@walkerlongbottom.com.au

If you aspire to be a motivated, business-minded industry leader who will excel both domestically and globally, select Marcus Oldham as your first-choice place of higher education.

Our undergraduate and postgraduate studies will provide you with first-hand industry knowledge, business management skills, global opportunities and market leading entrepreneurship to ensure you are professionally prepared and ready for business.

- | | |
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Agriculture | Agribusiness | Equine Management



Samantha (*Barter*) Pritchard

Disciplined Canadian eventer and businesswoman

Horse Business Management 2007



Sam said, "I think the thoroughbred is the absolute equine athlete. After finishing at the track I want to see more of them getting second careers as sport horses. The sensitive thoroughbred encourages people to improve their riding in order to get results. They will not tolerate sloppy riding, and require a rider who is willing to really listen to their horse, and improve their skill. The thoroughbred will give you their all when you get it right. Every day I try to improve my riding to give my horse the best ride possible."

Sam's mantra in her program for this year is 'Attention to Detail'. "No one can become great in the horse industry without great attention to detail and discipline. When competing, the judge, fellow competitors and even your coach may not know whether your horse was bedded down as deep as possible last night, if you were up early to hand walk, or if you double checked that everyone was safe and secure late in the night, but the results will be there. It is the regular routine of the small things that will make the biggest difference."

A competent horsewoman, Sam is currently campaigning her off track thoroughbred mare 'Ruby' and preparing to move her up to the Intermediate (2 Star) level of eventing. She is bringing on a great group of young horses in the hope of creating a string of horses that will allow her to campaign at the 4* level and rally for a spot on the Canadian Team.

Canadian eventers need to travel a lot to be able to get in a decent season. The weather limits Albertans to about three months a year of competition season (at least 8 months of the year they are under snow). So in the winter months, anyone who is serious about moving up in the competition needs to travel

Attracted to Australia to study the equine course at Marcus Oldham and graduating with a High Distinction and awards for Horse Health and Husbandry, Samantha returned to Canada and set about attaining her Equine Canada Coaching License. The next move for this adventurous lady was to leave Ontario and head west to Alberta to work as a coach and trainer at the farm of Olympic Eventer, Sandra Donnelly.

With her practical experience, theoretical knowledge and business management skills, Sam was well prepared to start her own business in 2010 and 'Elation Equine Services', a mobile horse training business, hit the market. If that wasn't enough for one year, she planned her wedding and married Matthew Pritchard.

Seizing an opportunity in July 2012 Sam leased her own facility 'East Acres Equestrian' and now manages a boarding operation of over 50 horses, with 25 regular

lesson clients and 14 horses in training.

I think the thoroughbred is the absolute equine athlete

Focusing mostly on re-training off track thoroughbreds as eventers and starting sport horses under saddle, the business currently has over 15 off track thoroughbreds taking part in the program. Sam is also developing a program to encourage equestrians to get back to the thoroughbreds.



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Peter Kaylock *Farm Management 1980*

Nuffield Scholar researched rice farming

The Rice Industry sponsors two Nuffield Scholarships annually and in 2013 Peter was accepted to participate in their program. Nuffield has given him the opportunity to travel the world twice in 16 weeks, meeting a diverse range of business people, politicians, policy makers and farmers. It has given him an insight into world trade and politics, as well as the opportunity to meet successful innovative farmers and business people.

It was a hectic rewarding experience.

Twenty-three newly selected Australian scholars travelled to Guelph, Canada to join with 60 other Nuffield Scholars from around the world. Tours around the Toronto area provided many interesting visits and experiences including viewing a frozen Niagara Falls. The contacts and friendships will be everlasting and after the conference, three new friends hired a car and toured the Great Lakes for 10 days. During the last 12 months Peter has visited many scholars in their homes or businesses and has had the pleasure of many visiting his home near Swan Hill, Victoria. They are all passionate about their chosen paths and always keen to see how others manage their patch.

Nuffield gave the scholars the chance to travel in three different world trips in groups of eight, to China, India and Brazil on an organised eight week tour.



The pace was hectic, starting with three days in Canberra meeting with politicians and policy makers and gaining a broad understanding of trade and policy. Later in the tour they had the opportunity to visit Capitol Hill in Washington DC, EU representatives in Brussels and Ireland and received a grounding in how the world operates. First stop after Canberra was a three day visit to the Philippines, followed by a great week in Louisiana, USA enjoying Deep South hospitality.

Most days saw the travellers with three to four visits to universities, co-operatives, businesses or farmers. From Louisiana they moved to Hong Kong, then twelve days in China which was the highlight of the tour. Continuing their journey they spent two days in Brussels, eight days in Holland, four days in France following the World

War One trail with own guide, and ended that tour with seven days in Ireland. Peter then spent a further three weeks travelling England, France and Italy individually before returning home.

Peter's interest and study topic is Direct Drill systems and Precision Farming in Rice. His family has farmed rice in the Western Murray Valley for 50 years. Rice has been a very successful part of their operation, but there has been continuing pressure and scrutiny on water use since the 1990s. Water allocations diminished drastically with the 2006 drought nearly bringing the rice industry to its knees from lack of production. To the industry's credit, it has bounced back with buoyant demand and returns, bringing profitability and a bright future.

The rice industry must now operate with lesser water availability, as a large amount of water has been sold from growers within the industry. The price of tradeable water has since doubled, reducing available water, and profitability. Growers are now looking for viable ways to gain water use efficiencies. This is the basis of Peter's Scholarship study.

Peter has direct drilled their Mallee country for 15 years and in 2005 began drilling rice. Under that system, they had identified significant water, chemical and machinery savings. They can now establish their rice crop, with minimal inputs before they are aware of water allocations.

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*Samantha (Barter) Pritchard
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south to California to compete at qualifying events. This past year Sam has been competing all over the west coast of North America from British Columbia to California.

Sam is grateful for her Marcus experience which supports her in her business and she well remembers the work experience with Richard McCubbin as she

learned all sorts of invaluable lessons in starting horses. Stud work at the Waikato Stud in New Zealand gave her more experience in foaling and breeding than any other one month opportunity could have.

Sam said, "One of the best learning experiences while at Marcus was to be around other very ambitious young professionals that elevated the entire experience. The long

lasting (and long distance) friendships that we created are second to none. The business aspect of the course has given me the base knowledge to run a boarding and training business that is creating a profit and is in demand with wait lists for training, lessons and board opportunities."

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Peter Kaylock
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A conventional aerial sown crop requires the majority of inputs upfront in comparison, allowing them to curtail their input costs and manage their water risk.

Australian rice farmers are the best in the world

Peter's personal study trip over five weeks took him back to Louisiana, Sacramento Valley, Uruguay, England and Italy, looking at rice systems, cover cropping and precision ag.

What he found left Peter a little perplexed. Surely somewhere in the world he would find a system giving clear direction to reduce water use and good crop establishment.

Australian rice farmers are without a doubt the best in the world. By world standards they grow rice in a dry climate, achieve the greatest water use efficiencies, produce the highest yields, and a quality product that is the envy of other rice producing countries. They use more technology and precision ag techniques, have a very effective variety breeding and research program, and enjoy the benefits of integrated grower facilities for storage and milling of paddy.

Water conservation and crop water use efficiencies in countries Peter visited are not often questioned. Water is not an issue in many of these countries, they have an abundance. In many cases, it is basically free and unallocated. Rice yields are often half the Australian average, although quality and milled wholegrain yields are often quite high in comparison.

Rice infrastructure and quality control is left to individuals, and they are paid for paddy on the same parameters as our industry, often resulting in a lesser payout for growers due to poor infrastructure.

Many countries grow rice, but because of their location, soils and available markets they cannot grow other crops economically. Their yields are often impacted from these problems. Uruguay successfully grows hybrid long grain rice with a soybean and grazing rotation. Their infrastructure, disease pressures

(Rice Blast) and climate limits other crops, but they have an abundance of water and some of the best soils Peter has ever seen. Louisiana growers in the south, struggle with soil types, too much rainfall, Red Rice and disease pressures making it difficult to grow other crops. French growers struggle with salt, Red Rice, disease and EU restrictions on chemical use. Italians struggle with urbanisation, EU regulations, sandy soils and Red Rice, but have an abundance of water.

...a factor that limits investment in their farms.

There was low uptake of new technology as many farmers overseas do not own their land. They are tenants - a factor that limits investment in their farms. Subsidies also result in many farmers being paid not to produce, or they are subsidised to carry out environmental practices, limiting productivity. Subsidies, particularly in America, are being wound back much to the relief of farmers as they do not agree or support them.

Even though Australian rice farmers are very efficient, they are still under pressure to become more efficient. Peter's Nuffield experience has indicated, after visiting cover cropping specialists around the world, that the answers may be within the organic levels of Australia's soils helping to conserve moisture and improve structure.

Precision Ag will need to be followed closely as there are huge improvements and developments in satellites, drones, real time in crop nutrition detection, and application technologies continually evolving.

Nuffield has been a great experience, and Peter encourages anyone with a passion for what they do, to apply. Nuffield is looking for applicants of all ages and backgrounds. Anyone with an inquiring mind and appetite for adventure will enjoy what Nuffield has to offer.

Peter thanks Nuffield and the Rice Industry for allowing him to participate in a once in a lifetime experience.

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The Weekly Times Coles 2014 Farmer of the Year Awards

The Weekly Times and Coles are searching for the best farmers from across Australia: those leading the way in their industry, who constantly strive to improve their business and are finding success in their efforts.

Each week The Weekly Times, weeklytimesnow.com.au and FARM magazine feature great stories of farmers excelling in their field, from industry stalwarts to new players starting their agricultural journey.

All farmers who appear in the paper, magazine or online are eligible to win one of six categories:

- Cropping Farmer of the Year
- Beef Farmer of the Year
- Sheep Farmer of the Year
- Dairy Farmer of the Year
- Horticulture Farmer of the Year
- FARM magazine Outstanding Farmer of the Year (for small, part-time and lifestyle farmers)

From the winners of these six categories one farmer will ultimately be crowned The Weekly Times 2014 Coles Farmer of the Year.

Each category winner will receive \$3000 in prizes, with the Farmer of the Year receiving \$10,000 cash.

Winners will be announced in February and profiled in our special Farmer of the Year magazine. So, if you know someone who deserves to be recognised as an outstanding farmer, let us know at weeklytimesnow.com.au

Matt Meehan *Farm Management 1991*

Take the long road



Some of Matt's Marcus Mates have often asked him what he was doing these days for it would appear he was always changing career direction. Yes, it is true he has done many different things in the past but has now found his feet doing something he really enjoys. However, without the education and experience of those prior years, he would not be doing what he's doing today. He is, as he says, "connecting the dots" of his past.

Matt was first exposed to Marcus Oldham when lecturer, Steve Morgan, attended Xavier College's careers night. He has been known to say that Marcus was an "expensive way to meet a bunch of really great people" for his Marcus

mates are his best mates. "I did pay most of my way through Marcus and eventually paid back the bank for my student loan!"

This might sound strange but after leaving school, Matt was choosing between DJ'ing at Melbourne Night Clubs or Jackarooing! He chose Jackarooing.

Matt is first to say that Marcus Oldham was integral in laying the foundations of where he now is, for a great deal of the Business Management that he was exposed to at College, he is now using almost every day in his business, 'Agbis Financial'.

Practical farm experience for Matt had him travelling Australia to Bollon Qld, Trangie NSW, Derrinallum Vic and Collingullie NSW.

His next direction was to study his Bachelor of Financial Administration at UNE, Armidale NSW. This set up employment opportunities including Chartered Accountants Cameron Kirk Rose (CKR) (Tax Accountant); Ernst & Young (agribusiness audits) CKR Agribusiness (to develop their agribusiness division); Agbis (providing on-farm consultancy and training throughout NSW) Rabobank (Rural Manager in Qld); Rabo Financial Advisers; AMP (Financial Planner).

Intertwined with employment Matt studied and completed: the Professional Year to become a Chartered Accountant; the Marcus Oldham Bachelor of Business (Agricultural Management) and Certified Financial Planner through the Financial Planning Association.

With all that experience and study it was time to "Take the risk and do it his way," and Matt became the owner and director of the financial advisory business 'Agbis Financial'.

Matt lives by a couple of mantras – be prepared to be 'grey' not 'black and white'; be open to considering the ideas and thoughts of others and, importantly, live in the present and enjoy yourself.

...an active interest in 'Value Investing'

He has an active interest in 'Value Investing' and like a lot of Value Investors, has been following Warren Buffett for some time. In fact, he first read about him nearly 20 years ago in Robert Hagstrom's book, "The Warren Buffett Way - Investment Strategies of the World's Greatest Investor". Since then Matt has attended Warren Buffett and Charlie Munger's Berkshire Hathaway AGM in Omaha Nebraska, U.S.A. Some 30,000 people attend the AGM!

So what is Value Investing? Value Investing involves the fairly simple concept of identifying what a company's stock is actually worth

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Matt Meehan
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(rather than its current price), and buying and selling when the two are significantly out of line. A stock that is trading at a price below its intrinsic value obviously presents an opportunity to purchase, while one that is over-priced should be considered for a possible sale.

Market sentiment can artificially inflate or depress that price, without affecting its actual value. Over time however, price should eventually come back into line with that valuation (assuming that the valuation is done correctly).

Matt often asks his farming clients, "When would you prefer to buy trade steers? When you can buy them for \$800 per head or when you can buy them for \$500 per head?" Of course, the Value Investor would buy at \$500 per head.

Matt's Father and Grandfather were GPs. Whilst he didn't follow in their footsteps, he could be considered a 'Financial GP'. It is his role to understand his clients' situation and work with them to deliver outcomes (both financial



and non-financial). Like a GP, he will call upon specialists such as tax accountants, lawyers and financiers to assist when required. In fact, he often says to clients that he operates his business very much like a farmer as he is prepared to pay contractors for specialist activities or advice.

'Agbis Financial' at Armidale NSW mainly conducts on-farm meetings responding to differing client needs such as succession planning, estate planning, retirement planning, aged care planning, portfolio construction using value-based approach,

business protection strategies using life insurance, negotiating with banks on behalf of clients, working with other specialist advisers (accountants, lawyers and financiers), establishment and administration of self-managed super funds, education funding, personal risk insurance strategies using life insurance, assisting with personal insurance claims such as income protection, TPD and trauma, financial counselling and drought support.

Matt enjoys travelling to clients' farms. A kind hearted fellow, he usually brings along a loaf of sour dough from Armidale's Goldfish Bowl Bakery. "My clients really enjoy the fresh bread!"

Whilst Matt is now living the dream as a Financial Adviser, DJMovin occasionally dabbles in a bit of DJ'ing at parties on the weekends!

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Marcus Oldham Rural Leadership Program



Respected across Australia, the Marcus Oldham Rural Leadership Program continues to attract strong participation representing numerous rural related industries. Coordinated by Fiona Chambers, Lecturer in Human Resource Management, and assisted by long-time presenters, Neil Inall and **Mike Stephens FM 66**, the 2014 Leadership Program was attended by several Marcus Oldham graduates: **Richard Triggs DipAgrib 96**, **Angus Schmidt FBM 09 & BBus 10**, **John Durham FBM 08**, and current Postgraduate students, Nell Mott and Richard Sutton. Third Year Agriculture

student and Student President Elect 2015, Charlie White from Guyra NSW, participated as did former Marketing Officer, Louisa Cunningham.

The Marcus Oldham Rural Leadership Program, supported by NAB Agribusiness, is an intensive five-day workshop conducted on the College campus at Geelong. The Program commenced in 1992 and is recognised as one of the longest running rural leadership programs in the nation. It is held annually commencing on the last Sunday of June. www.marcusoldham.vic.edu.au

Saving the endangered Cleveland Bays

The Cleveland Bay is a highly versatile breed revered around the world for hundreds of years. They were used for farm work, carthorses, hunting, warhorses, and as an outcross improver for other breeds. Today however, there are fewer than 500 purebreds remaining worldwide and the breed is critically endangered. In 2013 less than 30 were registered throughout the world, of which only one was from Australia.

The Cleveland Bay is a Bay horse with blue black hooves, clean non-feathered legs and although the breed standard is 16-16.2hh many are outside of this.

Paula Boaden's family in West Coolup, Western Australia has been breeding horses, primarily thoroughbreds and sport horses, for around 25 years. Paula and her partner are in business with her mother, Brenda, and work together as 'Ferndale Springs Cleveland Bay Stud'. They live and work on the same property, and as many people would know, this comes with great benefits.

During Paula's year at Marcus Oldham she attended many lectures that now make a lot more sense to her given the nature of their business. Among these are business structure and business and succession planning, not to mention all the breeding and nutrition lectures. These have proved to be of great benefit



now she has stepped up to take a management role within the Ferndale Springs business.

In 2006 Ferndale Springs Stud was looking at a replacement stallion as their thoroughbred stallion was now retired. The Stud had a 50% Cleveland Bay mare that threw a really good strong type of horse.

In 2007 Brenda Boaden travelled to Wales in the UK and purchased the Purebred Cleveland Bay stallion, Tregoyd Topper. Topper won the King George V Cup 2007 - the most prestigious Cleveland Bay stallion competition in the world.

Since 2008 Ferndale Springs has been on a mission to increase the purebred gene pool and raise awareness of the critical state of the breed.

So what are they doing? And how are they doing it?

Ferndale Springs are breeding high quality purebred Cleveland Bays with the most diverse genetic profiles available to the stud. They are using the SPARKS (small population analysis record keeping system) program, which is the same program zoos use for white tigers and other endangered animals. This program calculates mean kinships for every known purebred Cleveland Bay in the world population. This is a measure of how related an individual is to every other Cleveland Bay. It takes into account inbreeding coefficients, but also a variety of other measures of the genetic health of the population.

The program is updated annually and has a datasheet on every mare, globally. Ferndale Springs Stud undertakes research into the best-known match with the resources available. Given this, during the past three years Ferndale Springs has been concentrating on increasing the range of purebred semen as there is very little choice of stallions within Australia and the gene pool is so small.

In 2014 the Stud has two stallions and a choice of stored frozen semen from four different stallions. There are only 18 mares within the Southern Hemisphere, of which Ferndale Springs has five mature mares and one young filly.

The cost of purchasing new stock is incredibly expensive as most of the horses need to be imported. Due to the cost, Ferndale Springs is also involved in grading-up of partbred mares to purebred status. The grading register enables a quality suitable foundation mare to be crossed with a purebred stallion, the result being a 50% progeny, and after five generations the offspring can be included into the Cleveland Bay purebred register. As only females are included in this program and crossed only with a purebred male, grading-up takes 20 years or more from the first cross to purebred passport.

In order to preserve such a rare breed it takes a great deal of international and national support, initiative and co-operation. Paula's time at Marcus Oldham really shaped the

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Paula Boaden
continued from page 11

way the business markets the stud and deals with new clients.

Ferndale Springs works closely with Dr Ross Wallace, of Murray Veterinary Services for all their stud services such as AI, semen collection, semen storage, pregnancy testing, embryos and also future genetic decisions for best possible outcomes.

In 2014 Ferndale Springs will take six horses to the Perth Royal Show in October. Two are stallions and four are being ridden under saddle. They also have four purebred mares in foal to four different international stallions.

A busy year, the Stud also has their bi-annual Open Day on October 18. This Day is focused on educating the public on the breed, and raising awareness of the operations of the Stud that sets them apart.

paula.boaden1@hotmail.com

Marcus Student, Chris Bayles, in Australian Trials Team at Trial des Nations



World-class rider and Third Year Agriculture student, Chris Bayles from Cressy Tasmania, was selected to represent Australia in the four rider Australian Team at the 2014 World Trial Championships, the Trial des Nations, in Andorra Spain in September.

Trial des Nations is the most important motorcycle trials competition of national teams organised by the International Motorcycling Federation.

NEW to Postgraduate: Master of Agribusiness

From 2015 the College is proud to offer the Master of Agribusiness to our existing Postgraduate Program. With an emphasis on management and critical thinking, you will broaden your understanding of the Agribusiness sector and improve your analytical skills whilst gaining connections with industry via our academics and students.

- Master of Agribusiness (12 units)
- Graduate Diploma of Agribusiness (8 units)
- Graduate Certificate in Agribusiness (4 units)

The College's Postgraduate Program is delivered online with supporting unit material, tutorial support and discussion chat groups. Units are delivered over 12 weeks with approximately 10 hours per week study for each unit.

The key areas of the Program include:

- Contemporary Managerial Issues
- Financial Analysis
- Agribusiness Marketing
- Systems Analysis
- Global Economics
- Strategic Management
- Risk Management
- Human Resource Management
- Research Methods
- Entrepreneurship
- Developing Ventures
- Case Studies in Global Agriculture



For further information please contact
Dr Yasmin Chalmers on 03 5247 2904
or chalmers@marcusoldham.vic.edu.au

Field Days and Equine Events

Marcus continues to exhibit across Australia and we love it when graduates and families call at our marketing site to catch up with staff and representatives. For the remainder of 2014 we will be at:

October 7 - 9	Elmore Field Days	Vic
November 20 - 23	Equitana	Melbourne
November	International Three Day Event	Adelaide SA
The 2015 dates for the first months are:		
March 3 - 5	Wimmera Machinery Field Days	Horsham Vic
March 20 - 21	South East Field Days	Lucindale SA
March 25	Racing Business Expo	Royal Randwick, Sydney
March 26 - 29	Farm World	Warragul Vic
May 4 - 9	Beef Australia 2015	Rockhampton Qld
May 7 - 9	Agfest	Launceston Tas

Agriculture | Agribusiness | Equine Management | Postgraduate



Duncan Ashby *Churchill Fellow and Lecturer in Accounting*

Leasing lessons from the UK, Canada and the USA

Australian agriculture has an ageing farmer population and a high proportion of small unprofitable farms, at a time when calls are being made for increased productivity to take advantage of a forecast Asian food boom. Leasing can encourage younger farmers to enter the industry, provide increased economies of scale to existing farmers, and encourage the optimal use of precious land resources. However, leasing is not common in Australia (7% of total farm land) compared to up to 60% in some areas of the USA, Canada and UK.

On a recent trip to the USA, UK and Canada I looked at the benefits generated by farm enterprises utilising a range of alternatives to land ownership and how these flexible land tenure options can be encouraged here as a means to create a more efficient use of capital. This opportunity arose when I recently received a Churchill Fellowship to investigate whether Australian farm succession and productivity can be improved through the adoption of selected international leasing practices.

My trip took me from the rolling chalk downs of Salisbury, through the English Midlands and the dales of Yorkshire, to the Scottish borders. I then visited the icy solitude of the Canadian Prairie in winter, the frozen winter landscape of Minnesota before heading south to the fertile cotton growing Mississippi Delta. I looked at farm businesses as diverse as traditional English estates with grand stately homes, through to small urban land holdings producing community supported agriculture in American cities. And it was my pleasure to meet passionate and talented people working in agriculture who were willing to share their knowledge. These professionals



Churchill Fellow, Duncan Ashby, with His Excellency the Honourable Alex Chernov AC QC, Governor of Victoria.

ranged from estate managers, land-owning farmers, contractors, and tenant farmers through to land agents, farm managers, farm business advisers, rural journalists, and investment fund managers.

The best models were those that assisted older farmers to transition to retirement

My visits showed me how leasing and other land tenure options can deliver improved outcomes for the profitability of farms, the efficient use of capital and the resolution of tax issues for older farmers. Whilst I had been focused on using leasing for assisting young farmers, some of the initiatives I investigated demonstrated how solving the problems of older land-owning farmers was the key to the ageing farmer issues and to creating opportunities for young farmers. The best models were those that assisted older farmers to transition to retirement via joint ventures and leasing allowing them to gradually reduce their production risk whilst managing tax and workload issues and still generating income. The key for this transition was matching the land tenure agreement to the financial position and desired

workload of the land-owning farmer.

In all three countries visited the leasing option was working well for those landowners and farmers whose financial position matched the features of a leasing agreement. However, I also found many landowners who had strong bonds to their land but faced tax and succession issues that made them reluctant to lease. Those looking to find farmland reacted by looking to solve these problems through alternatives such as contract farming. These examples led me to broaden my leasing focus to review the range of agreements used. These included contract farming, share-farming, share-cropping, stubble to stubble contracting, lease hybrids and incentivised employment.

None of the options are completely new to Australia, but their limited application points to the lack of a widespread understanding of the suitability of the various models and their potential benefits. Many of the models could be more widely used in Australia for young

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Duncan Ashby
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farmers to get established, for existing farmers to expand, and for older farmers to transition out of farming. An agreement that moves through forms of land tenure in a progression that works for both parties could be developed for Australian conditions and production risks; and to solve employment and succession challenges. My analysis of the range of agreements led me to focus on the UK contract farming agreements as the model with the best formal structure and potential for two farm businesses to operate together with both driven by the incentive of a share of the profit.

Available funds were focused on the working capital and not on buying the land asset.

Innovation in the use of land-tenure agreements has also been driven by the price of land in the countries

I visited (averaging £8,500/acre in the UK). Young farmers looking to enter the farming sector in the countries visited focused on enterprises on leased or contract-farmed land that were intensive on smaller areas or produced a branded product. Available funds were focused on the working capital and not on buying the land asset. These businesses gave me a greater appreciation of the opportunities for farm business entrepreneurship and the business planning and financial management tools required. An online collaborative farm business planning solution I saw in Minnesota is one tool I intend to use and promote here.

With the high price of livestock and farm machinery in Australia, and with farm debt at record levels, plans that focus on building working capital and securing land through alternatives to owning should be an increasingly popular option. The industry goal of increased production will only be

achieved if those who participate are able to generate profits and to do so they will need to make an efficient use of capital. This efficiency must include solving the issues facing ageing farmers transitioning to retirement and encouraging land tenure options to flourish outside the traditional option of land purchase.

duncan@ashbyconsulting.com.au

Editor's Note: Duncan is the son of Rod Ashby, respected Lecturer in Farm Management at Marcus Oldham.

WINSTON CHURCHILL MEMORIAL TRUST

2015 Fellowship Applications
will open on
3 November 2014

Winston Churchill Memorial Trust

The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust was established in 1965 after the death of Sir Winston Churchill. The principal objective is to perpetuate and honour Sir Winston's memory by the awarding of Memorial Fellowships to be known as 'Churchill Fellowships'.

The Trust provides an opportunity for Australians to travel overseas to conduct research in their chosen field that is not readily available in Australia.

No prescribed qualifications are required in order to apply for a Churchill Fellowship. The subject of the proposed project is limitless provided a benefit to Australia is evident and a willingness to share the research findings with the Australian community is displayed.

www.churchilltrust.com.au

It's So Easy to Shop at the Marcus Oldham Online Store

We have a number of items ready to purchase ranging from apparel such as aprons and caps, through to tie-pins and our own book, 'Daring to Differ' - the Story of Marcus Oldham College.

All are available to order and please check back frequently for any new items that we might be adding. See more at: www.marcusoldham.vic.edu.au

Limited Edition

Standard Edition

BBQ Aprons

Caps

Lapel Pin

Tie



Referring Students to Marcus

As I travel around Australia and meet graduates I am often asked how can they assist the College.

Marcus Oldham is fortunate that many graduates provide philanthropic support to projects which include our Building Fund; Academic Programs; Scholarships or through our Bequest Program called The Oldham Society.

The fantastic recent show of support for Marcus was demonstrated in the giving for the construction of the new Student Social Room which is Stage 1 of the Recreational Hub. Every Year Group gave money towards this project which is currently under construction.

Another important way graduates can assist the College is through student referrals. We now have several thousand graduates all doing interesting things with many being leaders in their field.

The best advice we can give young people who wish to embark on a successful career in business is to obtain a solid practical base supported through education.

The uptake of tertiary education in the agricultural and equine industries remains low. This provides Marcus graduates with wonderful opportunities in the future.



Our graduates can play an important mentor role by identifying young men or women in their area who would benefit from obtaining a Marcus Oldham education. Who are the young up and coming leaders in your area who would benefit from education? They have the raw talent, but need to experience the learnings from the lecture room, international study tours and practical farm visits.

With plenty of scholarships, bursaries and the Federal

Government funded FEE-HELP, there are many ways to cover the education costs and to reap the benefits of a Marcus education.

The leaders of the future will need a quality tertiary education and Marcus Oldham can be the best investment young people make. Sometimes they just need encouragement to start the journey.

Dr Simon Livingstone
Principal

Marcus Oldham's Lighthouse Olive Oil Continues to Win Awards

Marcus Oldham's Lighthouse Olive Grove on the Prudence Myer Campus situated near Drysdale on the Bellarine Peninsula continues to produce high quality extra virgin olive oils. Such is their quality that awards were, once again, received at the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria 2014 Royal Melbourne Fine Food Awards: Gold in the Robust and Bronze in the Medium categories.

High production standards are maintained by processing the varieties of olives at the plant on the property. Strict quality control results in a tantalising array of Extra Virgin Olive Oils and Citrus Oils.

To help you choose your favourite oils, tastings of mild to robust styles are available from the Lighthouse Olive Mill Shop located beneath the 'Oyl' restaurant and gallery. Browse through the range of oils, local wines, and gift items and then relax by wandering through the Kalamata olive trees with a view across the water to historic Queenscliff. To top off your visit indulge in the excellent coffee and refreshments at 'Oyl'.



For online purchases:
www.lighthouseoliveoil.com.au

648 Andersons Road, Drysdale, Vic 3222.
Phone 5251 1100.
admin@lighthouseoliveoil.com.au

Reunions

1970

The 1970 Farm Management graduates had a brilliant weekend on 7 and 8 September 2013 when they met at Marcus to reminisce and tell tall tales. The festivities included a Dinner at the College, which received glowing reports, and lunch the following day at a winery on the Bellarine Peninsula.

With a good deal of capital development on the campus over the year, the Old Students always marvel at the look of their College, especially if they've not been back since graduation and such was the case with the 1970s group. Regretfully, not all 1970 graduates made the trip to Geelong and those who did really encourage their mates to attend these worthwhile occasions - there's a whisper there might be plans for another one!



Andrew Mein, Brighton Qld, Doug Gardner, Warrnambool Vic



John Mahoney, Dunsborough WA, Peter Campbell, Stawell Vic, Andrew Gubbins, Ararat Vic

1994

Known as "The Professionals" and celebrating 20 years since graduating, the Class of 1994 gathered in Melbourne on Saturday 23 August 2014. Festivities took place in the Groove Live Bar & Terrace at Crown Casino and the night was voted a great success.



Scott Weitemeyer, Simon Nott, Warrick Cooper, Kate Duffy, John LePlastrier, Howard Hansen, Richard Longbottom, James McLean, Ben Dunlop, Andrew Slatter, Dick Spittle, Jason Hagan, Sam Riggall, Scott Arthur, Ben Erwin, Rob Egerton-Warburton, Matt Doyle, David Pratt, Jim Fitzgerald, Ainsley Pexton, Hugh Roberts, Doug Johnston, James Bufton, Scott Harlock, Angus Metcalfe, Tim McGavin, Nic Cameron obscured.

Two World-class Equestrians to Conduct Clinics at Marcus Oldham

Emma Morel, Director of the Equine Management Program has announced the dates for two clinics to be held at Marcus Oldham.

The first, presented by Blyth Tait, New Zealand's Olympic and World Champion Equestrian is on 10 and 11 November 2014, and Lucinda Green MBE, Britain's Olympian and World Champion Horsewoman returns to Marcus on 16 and 17 February 2015.

Enquiries to morel@marcusoldham.vic.edu.au



The Centre for the Study of Rural Australia

Free EntruBIZ Membership Announcement of Particular Interest to Victorians

Have you been thinking about growing your business or starting up a new one? If so, then here's your chance to kick start your entrepreneurial journey.

Following on from Dr Tom Lyons successful regional visits to Shepparton and Bairnsdale in Victoria, the EntruBIZ team wants to extend the benefits of participating in the EntruBIZ program to as many aspiring entrepreneurs and innovative rural business people as possible. To maximise our impact we are offering FREE membership to the EntruBIZ program for suitable applicants in these regions.

Here is what you get for free:

- A no obligation meeting to discuss your business opportunity with a Rural Entrepreneurial Developer (RED), Johanne Toohey at Bairnsdale or Ailsa Page at Shepparton
- A comprehensive assessment of your entrepreneurial skills across four major management categories
- Written and verbal feedback on the results of the assessment
- An action planning session with your RED to help you prioritise the activities that will help you develop as a business leader
- Some follow up sessions to check in on your progress and a follow up assessment to gauge how your skills have developed over time
- Networking with other EntruBIZ participants for mutual support and problem solving.

Contact Johanne for Bairnsdale on 0418 992 002 or Ailsa for Shepparton on 0419 546 159 to book a no obligation free meeting to further explore this offer.

Entrepreneurial Dairy Workshop Series

The Centre for the Study of Rural Australia (CSRA) at Marcus Oldham College held three workshops in its series 'Growing in Dairy - The Balance Between Maximising Profit and Minimising Risk', in Traralgon, Camperdown and Shepparton. The workshops were facilitated by respected dairy industry consultants, John Mulvany and Phil Shannon, and attracted over 83 attendees, many of them local young dairy farmers, dairy farm employees or sharefarmers.

The workshops explored the physical and financial issues related to growing a successful dairy business and also included tips from the team at Marcus Oldham College's EntruBIZ program on how to develop entrepreneurial skills and how to adapt and capitalise on change. These workshops provided

Tune Into the CSRA Forum Series

The Centre for the Study of Rural Australia strives to be a leader in knowledge development and knowledge sharing by providing detailed information on specific issues that contributes to the development of a broader, general understanding about rural issues. Each year the CSRA brings together leading experts, both nationally and internationally, to provide innovative and contemporary information on issues and topics for rural Australia.

The forums that were held in May and July this year included 'Foreign Investment in Australian Agribusiness and Agriculture' and 'Global Food Issues and the Opportunities for Australian Agriculture' respectively. Further information on the presentations can be viewed at the following link: <http://www.marcusoldham.vic.edu.au/the-centre-for-the-study-of-rural-australia/forums-and-workshops#Forums>



Harold Sim CEO, Vic Stock Grain presenting to a packed audience at the Global Food Issues Forum

practical advice for dairy farmers and those wishing to capitalise on opportunities in the industry and how to monitor progress and performance to identify pathways of growth and more.



John Mulvany presenting in Traralgon Vic

The Centre for the Study of Rural Australia

Distinguished Guests Program

In May/June this year the EntruBIZ program was proud to host Dr Tom Lyons; researcher, practitioner, author and the Lawrence N. Field Chair in Entrepreneurship and Professor of Management at the Zicklin School of Business at Baruch College, City University of New York. During his four week visit Dr Lyons presented to students, staff and interested visitors relating his experience in entrepreneurship development and his outlook for Australian.

The workshops with Marcus Oldham students were well supported; each of the four student groups generated a good range of ideas on what characteristics entrepreneurs used. Dr Lyons also presented the concept of 'personal business modelling' to the students as a way of strategically identifying their attributes, networks and planning their career goals.

The tour of rural businesses in the G21 region, held in conjunction with the G21 Agribusiness Forum, was well attended (approximately 45 people) and the range of businesses visited and the topics covered were well received. The workshops, dinners and tours in both Bairnsdale and Shepparton went as planned, with the workshops and dinners generating a good range of learning opportunities for the audience. At the conclusion of his visit, Dr Lyons remarked very favourably on his time with Marcus Oldham students and staff and looks forward to future collaborative involvement.



*John Grace, CSRA Research Fellow,
Cory Kennedy, Kennedy Trailers, Dr Tom Lyons,
Steve Pascoe, EntruBIZ participant*

EntruBIZ Youth Entrepreneurial Schools Program

A pilot program for EntruBIZ in schools is underway in Mooroopna with Year 11 students at Mooroopna Secondary College. Three workshops have been delivered on Creating Opportunities; Making an Idea Work; and Gathering Support for Your Idea. Students are exposed to ways to generate ideas, entrepreneurial thinking and the importance of research, mentoring and a sound business model. Students develop a product, business or event concept in the eight week timeline and deliver a pitch for support at the end of the program to a panel of business owners and the EntruBIZ team.

So far the program has generated some interesting ideas and given the students an opportunity to think in a 'can do' way. As part of the program students have been connected with some local entrepreneurs and business owners providing inspiration and mentoring. An evaluation of the program will take place at the end of the pilot. Early signs are extremely positive.

The program will soon be launched at a Bairnsdale secondary school (Nagel College).



*John McKillop, Managing Director AgCAP Ltd,
Dr Yasmin Chalmers, Danny Thomas, Regional
Director CBRE Agribusiness, Philippa Purser,
Managing Director Cargill Australia, Peter Tuohey,
President Victorian Farmers Federation.*

Nuffield Australia

Nuffield Farming Scholarships are open to Australian citizens who are engaged in farming or fishing as an owner, manager or an active member of a business in primary industries.

The objective is to increase practical farming knowledge and management skills and techniques generally. These Scholarships give

Australian citizens the opportunity to study farming practices in New Zealand, Europe, Asia and the Americas and those countries best suited to the scholar. They will also promote a closer understanding between farmers in the countries visited.

There must be an intention to remain in Australian primary

production. Preferred age range is 28 to 40 years, although applicants outside this age bracket can be successful. Academic qualifications are not a prerequisite.

Further information:
Jim Geltch, CEO Nuffield Australia
03 5480 0755
enquiries@nuffield.com.au
www.nuffield.com.au

The Centre for the Study of Rural Australia



Dr Tom Lyons, New York researcher, author and specialist in entrepreneurship and community economic development was Guest Speaker at the Marcus Oldham Luncheon held at Morgans 401 Collins Street, Melbourne. Guests included Chris Earl, Bendigo Vic.



Ian Thomson, Fairfax Agricultural Media, Dr Simon Livingstone FM 87, John Carson FM 77, Ben Dunlop FM 94



Mac McArthur, Peter Fraser FM 72, David King, Former Lecturer



John Grace, CSRA Research Fellow, Ian McClelland OAM, College Councillor

Scholarships Still Open for 2015 Entry

Many scholarships are closed for 2015 entry, however the following are still open for receipt of applications:

Scholarship	Value	Closing Date
Australian Thoroughbred: Racing and Breeding	\$15,000	7/11/14
Australian Stud Book:	\$10,000	7/11/14
Australian Stud Book - Equine Husbandry	\$5,000	7/11/14
Virbac Animal Health Equine Management	\$7,500	21/11/14
APAL New Horizons Apple and Pear Industry	\$10,000	16/1/15

Scholarships are aimed at providing financial assistance towards the fees and have been made available through the generous support of sponsors, friends and families within the agricultural, agribusiness and equine industries.

The Marcus Oldham website offers all required information on how to apply for a scholarship and other details relating to the respective scholarships: www.marcusoldham.vic.edu.au or contact Colin Hacking, Scholarship Coordinator: scholarships@marcusoldham.vic.edu.au or 03 5247 2927

Scholarships

The agricultural and equine industries have long recognised the excellence of a Marcus Oldham education by supporting valuable scholarships. In awarding scholarships a number of factors are taken into consideration at the interview:

- **Commitment to their chosen industry**
- **Personal presentation**
- **Ability to communicate**
- **Academic performance**

Our 2014 Scholarship Recipients are enthusiastic about Marcus



William Ridge

Bourke NSW

Agriculture

*HV McKay Sunshine Foundation
Agriculture Scholarship*

Marcus Oldham has really been the best thing I have ever done. A tertiary qualification is essential to broaden horizons and gain knowledge, skills and confidence. Learning more about animal production, health and nutrition has really interested me. Marcus has allowed me to meet people from all over Australia. I like the social life, the mates you make and the networking.



Courteney Moffat

Esperance WA

Agribusiness

RC & EC (Cappur) Webb Trust Scholarship

Tertiary qualifications are important as it gives you a platform from which to build a future and a career, not just a job. My advice to anyone thinking of coming to Marcus is to think about where they might be in five years without a Marcus education and then think what opportunities Marcus can give them.



Lachlan Lynch

Cloncurry Qld

Agribusiness

*HV McKay Sunshine Foundation
Agribusiness Scholarship*

At Marcus Oldham you are not only exposed to the theory and skills needed to run a business but also exposed to many different agribusiness models and management styles which helps to better understand the industries.



Dom Rhoden

St Arnaud Vic

Equine Management

Australian Stud Book Scholarship

Come and see how it all works and just do it! The Equine Management Program is so good if you enjoy horse racing, as you get the chance to learn about your passion which makes it so much easier and enjoyable. I started a Civil Engineering degree but changed to follow a dream job in the racing industry.



Chris Bayles

Cressy Tas

Agriculture

*Agvance UNCGA Liverpool Plains
Scholarship*

If attending Marcus is what you are interested in doing, then come along. The Program will set you up well. The aspects I find beneficial are marketing, production, business and communication. Even if agriculture is not where you end up, the Program will still be very beneficial to you because of its very broad nature.



Dougal Kelly

Rugby NSW

Agribusiness

*Hazeldene Livestock Production
Scholarship*

There is more to running a farm than the day to day work and Marcus offers the knowledge in an easy to learn environment. The tax and accounting subjects are important for running a farm and Marcus teaches you in a way that is very easy to understand and use.



Patrick Armstrong

June NSW

Agriculture

Bill Ruse Memorial Scholarship

I believe the Agriculture Program has the most appropriate mix of business and production learning. One of the things I like about the life at Marcus Oldham is the connection I make with a wide variety of people from all over the country who share a similar passion for agriculture.



Ian Archer

Spring Ridge NSW

Agribusiness

Warakirri Agricultural Trusts Scholarship

I chose the Agribusiness Program because it exposes you to more aspects of the industry than just production. You get a greater understanding of the whole picture and the degree can potentially be useful in a number of industries. I would suggest to anyone thinking about coming to Marcus that if you are passionate about agriculture and keen to have a go, then you will thrive at Marcus.

**Tom Upton****Willaura Vic**

Agriculture

Royal Agricultural Society Victoria (RASV) Scholarship for Emerging Leaders in Agriculture

I chose the Agriculture Program because I have a passion for the agricultural industry and want to become a farm manager. I believe this Program will be best for me in terms of becoming a successful farm manager.

**Lesley Tomkinson****Scottsdale Tas**

Agriculture

RC & EC (Cappur) Webb Trust Scholarship

A tertiary qualification is important because there is a need for more highly educated farmers to run/manage properties in the future. A qualification is becoming more sought after by employers as it is a more complicated industry than in the past and we need to be able to keep up with technology and new trends.

**Mady Muirhead****Flinders Ranges SA**

Equine Management

Australian Stud Book Equine Husbandry Scholarship

If you are wanting to create a career in the horse industry, Marcus is the place to start. Plus it is a huge amount of fun! I enjoy the veterinary and business subjects as well as the practical components.

**Oliver Vidor****Bellerive Tas**

Agriculture

Ingleby Farm Management Scholarship

The aspect of the Agriculture Program I find most beneficial, is how it is delivered in a practical manner. You can see straight away how the theory can be applied in a real life situation. On-campus accommodation caters for about 125 students so it feels more like an extended friend group compared to rather distant relationships I have experienced on another university campus. For anyone passionate about agriculture and looking for a unique educational experience look no further than Marcus.

**Mark Griffin****Dunorlan Tas**

Agribusiness

MPH Agriculture Werribee Scholarship

I chose the Agribusiness Program because I recognised a weakness with my financial knowledge. The Program is very intensive and in 29 weeks I hope to gain a wealth of knowledge along with the Diploma. The Program also gives me the opportunity to travel to China. I recommend anyone thinking about attending Marcus to go to Open Day or the Marcus Minds Weekend. It played a significant role in making my decision to return to full time study.

**Ben Ogg****Winton Qld**

Agribusiness

Yiddinga Farm Management Scholarship

I chose the Agribusiness Program because I wanted the fundamentals of how to run a business and to gain experience in the agricultural sector.

**Josephine Webb****Urana NSW**

Agriculture

Dr Alastair Mackenzie Scholarship

I chose the Agriculture Program because I like the practical hands-on side of farming and because my passion is growing Australian produce such as wool, meat and grain.

**Joe Read****Canowindra NSW**

Agribusiness

RC & EC (Cappur) Webb Trust Scholarship

The way the Program is structured enables you to discuss things with everyone in the lecture room which helps me to better understand things. You are surrounded by people from very different backgrounds and you are able to make lifelong friendships with people I would normally not have met.

**Alia Nazri****Kuala Lumpur Malaysia**

Equine Management

International Equine Management Scholarship

I was born and raised in the city of Kuala Lumpur and I chose the Marcus Oldham Equine Management Program because nothing like this exists in Malaysia. I enjoy the riding, vet and nutrition lectures. I would absolutely recommend the Program especially for someone who would like to be recognised in the industry as you learn so much.

**Jackson Koster****Perth Tas**

Agribusiness

Massey Ferguson - AGCO Scholarship

I suggest that attending Marcus Oldham will be the best thing that many people do in their life. The people you meet and the contacts you make are endless. It will open doors into the industry that you never before thought about entering.

**Camilla Le Lievre****Sydney NSW**

Equine Management

Australian Equestrian Scholarship

The amount of practical work we do in the Equine Program has been great for me as I find I learn better in a practical environment. It is also great to interact with other people who share your passion and mix with people from all over Australia.

**Drew Irwin****Brisbane Qld**

Equine Management

Australian Thoroughbred Scholarship

I chose the Equine Program because I wanted to expand my knowledge in racing. I am a qualified electrician and made a career change so I could participate full time in the racing industry. The one - year Program is great and gives me an understanding in many other areas which will help my future business when dealing with people in specialised areas.

**Paris Zilm****Moree NSW**

Agribusiness

Helen MacPherson Smith Trust Women in Agriculture Scholarship

I found out about Marcus from my father who was managing a property and employing three Marcus students during their prac year. I really love the small class sizes which allows us to get a lot of one on one time with our lecturers. This helps us dive further into subjects for which we have a passion and be able to learn more. All the students are from different backgrounds and we are able to learn from each other as well as from our lecturers.

**James Higgins****Lake Bolac Vic**

Agriculture

Ingleby Farm Management Scholarship

I grew up on a farm near Lake Bolac in Victoria and prior to coming to Marcus I worked on a number of properties and agriculture based companies which encouraged me to get a career in agriculture. I intend to go on and complete my degree within the Agriculture Program.

**Bronte Gorringer****Timboon Vic**

Agriculture

Australian Farm Management Scholarship

I chose the Marcus Oldham Program from other university courses because of the close links Marcus has with industry experts. Marcus provides opportunities to expand your individual networks by having regular guest speakers and having a variety of day and International tours where you have access to leading businesses.

**Brad Taggart****Annuello Vic**

Agriculture

Greentree Farming Scholarship

Marcus offers a broad range of subjects from financial analysis to production management. It offers a different perspective on how you view agriculture and enhances job prospects for the future.

**Nic Archer****Cressy Tas**

Agriculture

Nick Petersen Memorial Scholarship

I chose the Agriculture Program at Marcus due to the closer contact with lecturing staff, smaller classes and it is more hands-on compared with many other courses. All the lecturers have an agricultural background so they understand the students a little better and when they present the information they can show the relevance to the industry.

**Caitlin Chester****Koonoomoo Vic**

Agribusiness

HV McKay Sunshine Foundation Agribusiness Scholarship

My advice to people thinking about coming to Marcus is that you will have nothing to lose. Coming to Marcus opens you to so many opportunities and places you have never considered, helping you grow as a person and changing your way of thinking.

**John Waterhouse****Molesworth Vic**

Agriculture

RC & EC (Cappur) Webb Trust Scholarship

Since I was very young my dream was to manage farm businesses and eventually own and operate my own. To do this I will need to complete the Bachelor of Business (Agriculture) degree. I aim to manage properties following the completion of the Program. The thing I like about Marcus the most is the people, both students and lecturers, from all over the country and all walks of life. Friendships you make will last a lifetime.

**Heather Cameron****Morven Qld**

Agribusiness

HV McKay Sunshine Foundation Agribusiness Scholarship

Marcus Oldham presents students with opportunities that are not available anywhere else. The Programs are up to date with the current challenges the industry faces which gives Marcus graduates a significant employment advantage at the end of the Program.

**Jane Wilcox****Glen Haven NSW**

Equine Management

Virbac Animal Health Equine Management Scholarship

A tertiary qualification is important as it expands job opportunities. Should you want to learn about a wide range of subjects, whether it be farming or equine, Marcus is a practical, fun environment for students of all ages.

Campus Columns

Mr Fergus Stewart McArthur AM

A highly-esteemed and long-time member of the Marcus Oldham community was acknowledged in the 2014 Queen's Birthday Honours as a Member of the Order of Australia.



Mr Stewart McArthur AM was honoured 'for significant service to the Parliament of Australia, to policy debate in economics, industrial relations and agriculture, and to the community of Victoria'.

Mr McArthur of Camperdown Victoria, makes a substantial contribution to Marcus Oldham, principally through his position on the College Council. He became a Member of Council in 1975 and was elected Chairman in 1976 being the second Chairman in the College's history and relinquishing the role in 1996. Mr McArthur continues to provide sound direction backed by his wide knowledge, astute mind and awareness of the history of Marcus Oldham.

Icy Dousing for a Good Cause

The global campaign to raise awareness and funds for Motor Neurone Disease encouraged students and staff to take part. Organised by Des Umlers, Teaching & Learning Manager, these hardy folks were sponsored and cheered by encouraging staff and students.

Motor Neurone Disease is the name given to a group of diseases in which the nerve cells (neurones) controlling the muscles that enable people to move, speak, breathe and swallow undergo degeneration and die. MND can affect a person's ability to walk, speak, swallow and breathe.

The Challenged: Andrew Baker, Director Agriculture and Agribusiness, Chris Bayles, Cressy Tas (3rd Year Agriculture), Anna Cotton, Swansea Tas (3rd Year Agriculture), Des Umlers, Teaching & Learning Manager.

The Ice Bucketters: Andrew Hindmarsh, Nangus NSW (1st Year Agribusiness), Nic Archer, Cressy Tas (1st Year Agriculture), Clare Grainger, New Norcia WA (1st Year Agribusiness), Joe Read, Spring Ridge NSW (1st Year Agribusiness).

The Challenged: Tony McMeel, Deputy Principal, Tamara Uebergang, Miles Qld (1st Year Agribusiness).

The Ice Bucketters: Susie Greig-Rouffignac, Foundation Officer and Clare Grainger, New Norcia WA (1st Year Agribusiness).

Matt Robertson Joined the Lecturing Staff



Matt Robertson was appointed Lecturer in Livestock Production and Management at the end of 2013 on the retirement of Sam Inglis. Matt is thirty-three years of age, holds a Bachelor of Agricultural Science (Honours) and a Graduate Diploma in Teaching from the Melbourne Graduate School of Education.

Prior to his appointment at Marcus, his employment history includes working as a Farm Consultant with Warrnambool Veterinary Clinic where he gave advice on animal nutrition and health as well as soil, pasture and fertiliser management. Matt also worked for a number of years as a Livestock Research Scientist with the Department of Primary Industries at Hamilton Victoria.



Andrew Baker, Chris Bayles, Anna Cotton, Des Umlers



Tony McMeel and Tamara Uebergang

Marathon Runners

This year a number of keen staff and students acquitted themselves well when participating in marathons. The 'Great Ocean Road' marathon in May attracted a fit group of runners flying the Marcus banner:



Oliver Vidor, Bellerive Tas (1st Year Agriculture), John Waterhouse, Alexandra Vic (1st Year Agriculture), Andrew Baker, Director of Agriculture and Agribusiness, Scott Vanderkley, Lecturer IT, Jessie Wythes, Drew Hendry, Charlie Wythes, Coleambally NSW (2nd Year Agribusiness) and Dan Griffin.



Mark Griffin, Dunorlan Tas (1st Year Agribusiness) and brother, Dan.



In July, on a cracking morning with cool, clear conditions that drew a crowd to Melbourne's CBD, 7,100 runners took to the road in the 'Run Melbourne' marathon. Among them was the Marcus team. Congratulations to Oliver Vidor, who ran the 21km half marathon in 1.25.36. Keeping well up in the pack and achieving their goal time, were Andrew Baker, Scott Vanderkley, Emily Porter, Hay NSW (1st Year Agribusiness) and Mark Griffin.

Not only were the staff and students challenging themselves at the 'Run Melbourne' marathon, Stewart McArthur AM, Member of the Marcus Oldham College Council and a keen runner also took part. A regular marathon participant, Stewart completed the 'Great Ocean Road' half marathon a few weeks earlier.

Students Contest National Merino Challenge

The Marcus Oldham students contesting the National Merino Challenge held in Melbourne this year were First Year Agriculture students: Oliver Vidor, Bellerive Tas, Harry Stonnill, Jerilderie NSW, Chad Baker, Jan Juc Vic, Keeden Mickleborough, Kensington Vic, Jess Brogden, Warrick Qld and Grace Evans, Camperdown Vic.

Congratulations to Oliver Vidor in securing Third Place in the overall classification.

The challenges involved visual assessment of ewes and rams on structural traits such as legs and backs as well as fleece assessments for character, style and fleece rot. Students used Australian Sheep Breeding Values (ASBVs) to align their visual assessment with genetic data to reinforce or backup their visual selection. Students also had to condition score sheep and calculate various ration requirements for ewes during pregnancy. The final task was the AWEX-ID and typing of fleeces.



International Study Tours

All undergraduate programs at Marcus Oldham include local, interstate and international study tours. The benefits from these tours are wide ranging on many levels.

China

Students studying Agriculture and Agribusiness visit China where they gain an understanding of international trade and marketing, processing of Australian products, exposure to the culture and business focus of Australia's major trading partner, and opportunities for entrepreneurial business ventures.



The 2014 Diploma of Agribusiness students on their recent study tour in China visited Chengdu where Jeff Turner, Chief Trade Commissioner, Austrade, escorted the group through a new supermarket displaying many Australian products. He also addressed them on the size of the market in Chengdu and opportunities for Australian food exports to China.



Third Year Agriculture students relaxed from studying to absorb cultural sights in the city of Qingdao in Shandong Province.

New Zealand

All Agriculture and Agribusiness students throughout their years visit New Zealand to observe farming operations and agribusiness practices.

The Equine Management students complete a 10 day study tour in New Zealand prior to undertaking a three week work experience requirement in New Zealand or Australia.



Second Year Agribusiness students are pictured in the beautiful South Island of New Zealand with the Southern Alps in the background.



Separately undertaking a study tour in New Zealand were the First Year Agriculture students who also couldn't resist the stunning backdrop featuring Aoraki (Mt Cook).

2014 Student Body Establishes Capital Future Fund

This year marks an exciting new step for the Marcus Oldham College Student Association and College community with construction of the Recreational Hub comprising a new Social Room and sporting facilities which are well under way. This has been possible through the generous donations from the College Alumni. The Student Body of 2014 has decided to form a Student Capital Future Fund so that future developments can be supported by the College students without such reliance for donations by former students.

The Fund will be kicked off with a donation from the 2014 students which will provide a new fridge and sound systems plus an additional \$7,000 to establish the Fund. The Fund will support capital developments for student facilities. There will be a goal set for the Student Body to donate \$10,000 each year to the Capital Fund. Students each year will have access to the Fund to make an investment in capital developments of their choice but will not cover operating expenses.

This year the Student Association has subsidised the annual Marcus Races, Formal Dinner speakers, social events in the social room, sporting trips, Marcus Ball tickets and student Graduation celebrations. It also provides Foxtel and amenities for students in the dorms. With the development of the Capital Fund, the Student Association will also provide funds for future capital developments that will benefit the whole College community on campus, not just each year level.

The money will be placed in a high interest earning account so that the funds will be readily available while earning interest. The funds will be jointly managed by the Student Association along with College Principal, Dr Simon Livingstone and Deputy Principal, Mr Tony McMeel.

We look forward to seeing the benefits this Capital Fund will bring to the College and students in the years to come.

Student Executive 2014



The 2014 Student Executive: Will Gibson, Perth WA, Cam Robertson, Finley NSW, Nick Baulch, Branxholme Vic, Hannah Anderson, Tooborac Vic, Tom Upton, Willaura Vic with Deputy Principal, Tony McMeel.



Foundation News

Hamilton Sheepvention 2014

Graduates and friends of all generations gathered at the Hamilton Club on the evening of Monday 4th August to attend the annual Hamilton Sheepvention Marcus Oldham Drinks. Principal, **Dr Simon Livingstone FM 87** and the Chairman of Foundation, **Mr Antony Baillieu FM 71** welcomed guests and spoke about the progress of the College to date. A fun evening was had by many.



Foundation Reception

The Marcus Oldham Foundation Reception was held on Thursday 14 August at the RACV Club Melbourne and was attended by 180 guests who congratulated the 24 Scholarship recipients as they received their medallions.

We were honoured to welcome Guest Speaker, Mr Barry Irvin AM, Executive Chairman of Bega Cheese, who spoke on the topic of "International Investment in Australia". Barry was most engaging and we again thank him for his time and sharing his expertise. Ingleby Farm Management Scholarship recipient, Oliver Vidor, spoke on behalf of all the Scholarship students and shared with us his story of how and why he came study at Marcus. Both audio and photos of the evening can be found on the Marcus Oldham website.

The evening was a great success and on behalf of the Foundation, thank you to all our supporters for their continued support.



Guest Speaker, Mr Barry Irvin AM



*Scholarship Recipients:
Jonathon Waterhouse, Bradley Taggart,
Jackson Koster, Nic Archer, Chris Bayles*



*Scholarship Recipients:
Eliza Hart, Courteney Moffat, Josephine Webb,
Heather Cameron, Camilla Le Lievre, Jane Wilcox*



*Drew Irwin,
Scholarship Recipient*



*Janet Craigie-McConnell, Marketing
Officer, Dr Yasmin Chalmers,
Director Postgraduate Studies and CSRA*



*Max Jelbart, College Councillor,
Mark Griffin, Scholarship Recipient*



Gordon Dickinson FM 79,
Foundation Executive



*Scholarship Recipients: Ian Archer, Joe Read, Ben Ogg,
Dougal Kelly, Patrick Armstrong*



Warwick Fisher FM 73,
Foundation Executive



*Scholarship Recipients: Mady Muirhead,
Alia Nazri, Eliza Hart*



Phil Davis FM 74, Richard Morgan,
BPC Holdings Pty Ltd



*Scholarship Recipients:
Dom Rhoden, Caitlin Chester, Paris Zilm*



*John Miles, **Andrew Facey FM 66**,
Foundation Executive*



*Liz and Steve Morgan, Suncorp, Former Lecturer,
John Waterhouse FM 84*



*Michael Edwards, ICT Officer, Colin Hacking,
Scholarship Coordinator*



*Richard and Penny Hawker, Stewart McArthur AM,
College Councillor, Alastair Carnegie, Former Lecturer*



*Campbell Jeffery, Lecturer Marketing,
Joe Read, Scholarship Recipient*



*Lecturer Ian Farran and Robyn, David Gibbs,
Foundation Executive*



Robert Burbury FM 78



Jim Geltch, Nuffield Australia



Dale Bruns DipAgri 11, Tom Upton,
Student President and Scholarship Recipient



*Ian Thompson, Fairfax Agricultural Media,
Kate Sharkey DipAgrib 96, John Miles*



*Sandy Clark, The William Buckland Foundation,
Anthea and Hugh Bromell FM 66*



*Oliver Vidor, Scholarship Recipient and
Stephen Creese, Ingleby Australia Holdings*



*Scholarship Recipients: Lachlan Lynch and William Ridge with
Rob McGavin Agrib 93*



Elle Ferguson HBM 13, Emma Morel, Director Equine Management, Callum Kinnear FBM2



Dominic and Bronte Gorrington, Scholarship Recipient



Mary Morton, Foundation Executive, Scott Monotti, Susie Greig-Rouffignac, Foundation Officer



Phil Chesser, Ingleby Australia Holdings, James Higgins, Scholarship Recipient



John Grace, Research Fellow, Lisa Ridge

Student Social Room

It is very exciting to see ground preparation and building under way for the new Student Social Room, and on target to be ready for action come February 2015.

Congratulations to the **1967 Year Group** who, by raising the most money, were the successful Year Group to win the 'Naming Rights to the Bar'. Word has gone around

that it will be named after their Student President '**Ian McMichael**'.

Again **Thank You** to all graduates and friends of the College who contributed to raising the funds. It is because of your combined donations that the Student Social Room will be built. Someone from every graduate year (1963 - 2013 inclusive) supported the campaign - that really is worth celebrating.



'Fit for the Future' Campaign for Student Recreational Hub Healthy body – healthy mind

The Student Recreational Hub will include a gym, tennis, basketball, beach volleyball courts and landscaped gardens. It is the College's vision that students will regularly use the Recreational Hub and in turn, promote play, engagement, friendships and fitness and instil that mindset to take into their life, work and community.

Marcus Oldham is working with the School of Psychology in the Faculty of Health at Deakin

University to develop an innovative model for resilience and wellbeing education. This program will better prepare our agricultural and equine graduates for the challenges they will face in their business and leadership roles.

The goal is \$350k – please find enclosed a donation form for your opportunity to give a tax deductible donation. Thank you in advance for your support.



About the Foundation

The College Foundation was launched in 1989 to further develop Marcus Oldham as Australia's independent centre of excellence in rural and equine business management education.

The Foundation Executive is made up of a diverse and dynamic group of business professionals, farmers and graduates of Marcus Oldham to propel the vital goals of the Foundation.

The aims of the Foundation are to develop and advance the

College within the agricultural and equine industries on a national and international basis and to encourage sponsorships for scholarships and bursaries.

Executive Committee Members:

Mr **Antony Baillieu FM 71**
(Chairman)

Mr **Bruce Wilson FM 71**
(Chairman of Council)

Mr Mike Carroll

Mr Michael Moore

Mr **Gordon Dickinson FM 79**

Mr **Andrew Facey FM 66**

Mr **Rob McGavin Agri 93**

Mrs Mary Morton

Ms **Kate O'Sullivan FM 89**

Mr John Miles

Mr David Gibbs

Mr **Warwick Fisher FM 73**

Mrs Sarah Thomson

College Representatives

Principal

Dr Simon Livingstone FM 87

Deputy Principal

Mr Tony McMeel

Foundation Officer

Ms Susie Greig-Rouffignac

Scholarship Coordinator

Mr Colin Hacking

Invitations From the College

All graduates please note that Marcus Oldham now regularly sends invitations via email. To make sure you don't miss out on any of our functions or forums, please inform the College of your most up to date contact details. You can either go online at www.marcusoldham.vic.edu.au/past-students/update-details or phone reception on +61 3 5243 3533.

***Please Note Opt Out:** If you choose to opt out of receiving some emails you will be opting out of receiving all emails and therefore will not receive invitations.



For all Foundation enquiries please contact:

Susie Greig-Rouffignac on 03 5247 2919
rouffignac@marcusoldham.vic.edu.au

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

Greentree Farming Scholarship

In 2009 the Greentree Farming Scholarship was established by successful grain grower, Mr Ron Greentree of Moree New South Wales. Offered annually, this valuable scholarship provided financial assistance of \$35,000 for a student studying the Bachelor of Business (Agriculture) or Bachelor of Business (Agribusiness) Program and planning a career in the grains industry.

The Greentree Farming Scholarship was available until its completion in 2013. Marcus Oldham expresses appreciation at being able to present this worthy scholarship to students and thanks Ron Greentree for his very generous support enabling young people to obtain a Marcus Oldham education which prepared them well for a career in the grains industry.

Marcus Assist

Scholarships, bursaries and deferred payment plans through our Marcus Assist initiative provides students with fee support during their study at Marcus Oldham.



Scholarship Program

The excellent range of scholarships offered across the undergraduate programs at Marcus Oldham are attracting a large number of applications for entry into the College in 2015.

We have been fortunate to have received a new \$10,000 scholarship through Herefords Australia. This scholarship, commencing in 2016 is directed to the Agriculture Program and aimed at students with a strong livestock and, principally, cattle focus.

Adding to our range to commence in 2015 is a \$12,000 scholarship sponsored by a graduate of Marcus Oldham College. The donor wishes to remain anonymous but clearly wants the scholarship to be directed to a financially disadvantaged student from a drought affected area. It is very pleasing that support for our drought affected communities is coming through the Scholarship Program.

Another two scholarships to be offered for the first time in 2015 are the Warrawidgee Agriculture Scholarship valued at \$15,000 and available to students in either the Agriculture and Agribusiness Programs, and the Warrawidgee Farm Management Scholarship valued at \$20,000 and available to students commencing the Agriculture Program. These scholarships have been very generously supported by Mr Peter Guthrie, a long-time supporter of Marcus Oldham College.

I also acknowledge all supporters of the Scholarship Program. There have been many organisations such as Ingleby Australia Holdings, Hazeldean, Australian Stud Book and many others who have been major contributors for many years. It was extremely pleasing to catch up with many of our sponsors at the recent Foundation Reception held in Melbourne and a fantastic opportunity for our scholarship holders to meet with their sponsors, many for the first time.

The Scholarship Program is an integral part of the Marcus Oldham education system. The financial support of our recipients is just one of the benefits, with other benefits including the opportunity to meet with some key industry people, with the possibility of assistance in their careers post Marcus Oldham. I would strongly encourage you to recommend any potential student to spend the time to research the Scholarship Program.

Colin Hacking
Scholarship Coordinator

APAL Scholarship On offer for 2015

The APAL New Horizons Scholarship is an apple and pear industry initiative designed to accelerate change in horticulture. The partnership between APAL and Marcus Oldham aims to build strong business management skills among young orchardists and business people from within the apple and pear industry.

The successful applicant, who will be passionate about the industry, will receive a \$10,000 scholarship towards the cost of undertaking the Marcus Oldham Diploma of Agribusiness.

Applications close Friday 16 January 2015 for commencement of study in February 2015. Students must also submit a Marcus Oldham Diploma of Agribusiness application form and satisfy the program entry criteria.

For further information contact the Marcus Oldham Scholarship Co-ordinator, Colin Hacking on 03 5247 2927 or scholarships@marcusoldham.vic.edu.au and www.marcusoldham.vic.edu.au

APAL Emerging Leaders Program

Marcus Oldham and APAL have developed the Emerging Leaders Program held at the College mid-year. The dates for 2015 are 5 – 10 July and during this time participants will develop leadership, communication, planning skills and networking opportunities with industry keynote speakers. The program is open to all members of the apple, pear, cherry and summer fruit industries. Applicants can come from any segment of the industry: growing, packing, marketing, advising, supplying inputs etc. There are no age limits. Contact Coordinator Fiona Chambers 03 5247 2965 or chambers@marcusoldham.vic.edu.au

Thank you Plasvacc Australia



Dean Irwin from Mermaid Beach Qld

Plasvacc Australia has continued to sponsor jackets for students studying the Diploma of Equine Management who proudly wear them and appreciate Plasvacc Australia's support. Plasvacc manufactures and distributes high quality blood plasma products used to supplement the immune response system in animals.



Editor's Memo

Challenge Yourself

One of the most personally rewarding experiences is to step up, put yourself to the test and be judged. Sitting quietly in your comfort zone may be safe and secure, but does it challenge you?

Numerous opportunities are on offer for personal gain with the ultimate aim of receiving an award, winning a title or becoming an ambassador. However, in this instance, I am referring to the many awards, scholarships or fellowships available to people, such as Nuffield Scholarships, Churchill Fellowships, awards within the many categories attached to the Farmer of the Year, Young Farmer ambassadorships, and primary producer or other industry awards, to name a few.

Many Marcus Oldham graduates are recipients of Nuffield Scholarships, Churchill Fellowships, Farmer of the Year Awards and a range of industry awards and I delight in presenting their stories in this magazine. I am inspired by their learnings and experiences. However, achievements within these scopes are not only for personal benefit. Each successful person acquires knowledge and skills which, naturally, are directed to the development of their business, but not confined to their business boundaries. Recipients of these awards share their findings with their local and wider communities and relevant industry or profession.

I can speak from experience. My life changed at the age of 21 when selected over 620 young ladies to be an ambassador for New Zealand with a strong focus on promoting the primary products of New Zealand. Travelling internationally as an ambassador for one's country is an honour, but such an honour is only achieved by stepping up to be judged.

I strongly encourage you to accept the opportunity to step up to represent your industry, your profession, your region, your state, your country. The preparation is enlightening, the benefits are immeasurable, the growth in confidence is remarkable, the experience unforgettable.

Janet Craigie-McConnell
Editor

The Network

Engagements



Hugh Button DipAgrib 11 and Amanda Seccombe, daughter of John and the late Pam Seccombe of Muttaborra Qld, celebrated their engagement at Crossmoor Station, Longreach Qld. Helping in the celebrations were **Will 'Dingo' Comiskey DipAgrib 11** and **Rupert Ballinger DipAgrib 12**.

Katherine Reed HBM 13 has shared the very good news of her recent engagement to Tim Dyke. Kat and Tim live in Tasmania and are planning a January wedding. In the meantime they are busy renovating, getting the farm up and running and fitting into all this, their work commitments. cowgirl_on_wheels@hotmail.com

Octavia Bartley HBM 10 has announced her engagement to Duncan Shaw from Penola SA. They are happily making plans for their marriage to take place in the autumn of 2016.



Will Fletcher FBM 10 and **Sarah Basset DipAgrib 07** became engaged on 11 January 2014 and celebrations were held in the garden at Sarah's parents' property, Jenvale at Roma Qld. Their Wedding Ceremony is on 11 October 2014. Sarah works in Armidale full time with the Commonwealth Bank as an Agribusiness Analyst. Will manages Auchen Dhu Pastoral Company, a partnership business with his uncle, David Fletcher. The business includes 'Tarwonga' and 'Auchen Dhu'. Will and Sarah will be living on Will's family property "Tarwonga" at Walcha NSW.

Sam Chaffey BBus(FM)10 became engaged to **Steffi Hurse HBM 08 & BBus(FM) 10**. Sam is from Attunga NSW and Steffi's family home is Carisbrook Vic.

Tom Gorman FBM 10 announced his engagement to Sally Robertson of Goolgowi NSW and is currently living in Forbes.

Marriages

Luke Comiskey DipAgrib 07 married Queenslander, Ailsa Bell of Barcaldine on 31 May 2014 at Toowoomba. Marcus guests included **DipAgrib 07** graduates: **Ben Watson, Will Hacon, Phil Avery, Michael Tomlinson** and **Angus and Emma King DipAgrib 11**. Luke and Ailsa live at Taringa Qld.



Roger Hirsch DipAgrib 06 and **Anna Stojek AssocDegAgrib 13** were married on 19 July 2014 at a ceremony held in the classic white chapel at the Schloss Gartrop in Hunxe Germany on one of the hottest summer days.

Forty Australians made the huge effort to attend the wedding including Marcus graduates: **Walker Seccombe FBM 08** Best Man, **Andrew Picone DipAgrib 07** Groomsman, **Jayde Chandler Walker DipAgrib 06** Bridesmaid, **Ben Chandler DipAgrib 06** MC, **Drew Rolfe BBus(AM) 06** and **James Smith FBM 06**.



Sam Christensen FBM 03 married Katrina Metherall at a ceremony held at St John's Church, Toorak, Melbourne on 22 August 2014. Katrina is the daughter of **Ian Metherall FM 77** and god-daughter of **Alan Green FM 77**.

Guests included a fine representation of Marcus graduates: **Chris Sharkey FM 95**, **Simon Pritchard DipAgrib 00**, **Nick Hicks**, **James Dyer**, **Michael Gooden**, **Andrew Robinson all FBM 03**, **Rohan Parkinson** and **Pete Dunstan both FBM 03 BBus(AM) 05**, **Geordie Simson DipAgrib 03**, **Nick Allen** and **Jamie Roebuck FBM 04**, **Anna McLay Hancock DipAgrib 05**, **Tim Dean FBM 05**, **Tom Christensen DipAgrib 06**, **Tom Blackford FBM 06**, **Edward Weatherly FBM 07**, **Andrew Landale** and **William Morrison both FBM 07 BBus(AM) 08**, **Nick Boyle FBM 07 BBus(FM) 09**, **Angus Ingram FBM 04 BBus(FM) 10** and **Alex Herd DipAgrib 11**.

Births

Michael Wallis FBM 95 and his wife, Robyn proudly announce the birth of their daughter, Mikayla Audrey born on 23 June 2014. The Wallis' live in Geelong where Michael is New Home Sales & Design Consultant with G.J. Gardner Homes. Michael.Wallis@gjgardner.com.au

Deaths

Andrew Gebhardt FM 65 The College received notification that Andrew passed away from an illness just after last Christmas. During his student days Andrew gained the respect of his peers who elected him as the 1965 Student President. At Graduation he excelled by graduating at Honours level. Andrew is survived by his wife, Jen.

Tony Oakley HBM 81 The College received notification that Tony lost his life after a long and courageous battle with cancer, on the 3 May 2014 in Tamworth NSW. He is survived by his wife, Sarah.

The Jack Henry Memorial Trust



Jack Henry Agri 93 was a well-known figure in the beef industry but lost his battle with cancer on the 25 of July 2013 age 46.

The Jack Henry Memorial Trust, established by a group of Jack's friends who made a promise to

Jack to look after his three beloved children, raises money to support Rachel, Louis and Thomas throughout their education.

Friends and colleagues wishing to contribute to the Trust may contact David Bolton dlbolton@bigpond.com. Details are on www.facebook.com/Jackhenrymemorialtrust.

Marcus All Over



Henry White FM 88 who is farming at Coolah NSW, brought his daughter, Georgia, to Marcus and delighted in retracing his student steps and reliving the memories. There was also a chance to catch up with Colin Hacking who was the Plant Production Lecturer in Henry's years.

Peter Serpell FM 78 has carved an interesting career which has included: raspberry grower producing up to 100 tonnes annually; managing a cattle stud; building designer; and installer of power meters. He and Rhonda live near Wodonga Vic. rhondaserpell@bigpond.com

Pippa Wessels Nash HBM 97 travelled after graduation and worked in equine related employment in England and Belgium for Jenny Lorienton-Clarke. She undertook further education at Massey University, Palmerston North, New Zealand where she completed a Bachelor of Science majoring in Animal Science. Married to Frans and a busy mother to Lucy 8 and twins, Liam and Finn 6, Pippa currently helps run the family building business. She combines that with protecting the borders of New Zealand by working in biosecurity as a Quarantine Inspector for the Ministry for Primary Industries in Auckland (TV program Border Security).

Rob Mulligan FBM 03 operates a beef and sheep business on 5200ac at Walcha NSW. You may have seen this well-educated Australian farmer on your TV screens telling Australia which parts of the animal are used in McDonald's beef patties! Rob grows Hereford and Angus cattle as well as crossed Hereford/Angus. He produces beef for the EU feedlot and EU grassfed markets, and supplies the local abattoirs. His sheep operation produces prime lambs for Woolworths Australia. Rob and his wife, Anna, sister of graduate, **Tom Gibson FM 09**, have two daughters, Olivia 3 and Sophie 1. malpasriver@bigpond.com

Matthew Black DipAgrib 02 lives at Inverell NSW with his wife Kate and daughters, Prudence 7 and Florence 3. Matthew is in the building trade. matthewblackconstuctions@gmail.com

Peter Roach FM 75 is a rock lobster fisherman and lives in South Australia near Millicent. psroach@intinode.on.net



James Paterson-Robinson HBM 99 is making a fine career as an international elite rider. Originally from the Geelong region and now based in The Netherlands, James represented Australia at the 2014 World Equestrian Games recently held at Normandy, France. In 2012 he rode for Australia at the London Olympics and also at the 2010 World Equestrian Games at Kentucky USA with Lanosso. With Boris, the eleven-year-old gelding, he may have a horse for Rio!



Mike Noble HBM 88 crossed the Tasman from his home in Christchurch and called at the College where he met Lecturer, Nick Roe. Mike is working at Nevele R Stud at Prebbleton, south of Christchurch, where **Jill Smolenski Fraser HBM 89**, also works.

John Sadler FM 68 undertook National Service (Singapore) 1970-72 and since then has kept busy with dairy and beef farming, flower growing under 2ha glass and bulb growing. He and Jan raised four children and have five grandchildren. They live at Wynyard Tas. jsadler@flowerdale.com.au

Clancy Burn FM 05 is nicely placing her life around living by a beach, starting a calf rearing business on 12 acres with excellent facilities near Casterton Vic, and managing Angus cows on leased land. She is keeping her journalistic interest going by writing rural articles for magazines and newspapers. There is photography in the picture too.

Richard Gay FM 99 lives at Westwood Tas with his wife, Chelsea whom he married in 2005, and sons, Harry born 27 June 2010 and Oscar who arrived on 18 January 2014. Richard chose Marcus friends to stand

with him at his wedding: **Charles Mills FBM 99** as Best Man, while **Tom Inglis FBM 99** and **Michael Bruton FBM 99 BBus (AM) 04** were in attendance.

After leaving Gunns Ltd in 2010, Richard managed the family farming enterprise, including their own farm. In 2013 the family moved farms and Richard and Chelsea are owner/manager of 400 acres of mixed farming: cattle sheep, poppies and cereals. As a business, Riverdale Pastoral offers round hay baling, ground preparation and forestry conversion work with a Versatile tractor and excavation work with a 20 ton Komatsu excavator. hatherley2@bigpond.com



Memories were refreshed when **1979 Farm Management** graduates, **Mark Eaves NSW**, **Graeme Coleman WA**, **Chris Bracecamp Vic** and **Andrew Paterson Tas** made a special effort in August to get together and called at the College to find it basking in sunshine.

Scott Nuthall Agri 99 and Caroline have three children, Digby, Jasper and Kit and live in Western Australia where Scott drives road trains in the Pilbara. Prior to heading west he worked the family farm at Young NSW then moved to managing a station at Condobolin NSW.

Wade Burridge HMB 05 has taken a new direction in that he has established his own racehorse syndication business - Premier Racing Partnerships based in Singapore.

www.premierracing-partnerships.com
wade@premierracing-partnerships.com

Fiona Johnston HBM 95 now works as Account Executive at Logan Livestock Insurance Agency and lives in Davidson NSW. However, she had been employed in the equine industry working on studs in Australia and New Zealand in yearling preparation. 2001 saw Fiona back in Sydney completing a Bachelor of Commerce majoring in Accounting, which has set her on a different career path, but the horses still feature, as she works for Studs at some yearling sales. feejay77@optusnet.com.au

*Editor's Apology: the April 2014 MOCOSA incorrectly named **Lisa Cavendish HBM 03** as Linda Cavendish and **Brett Stockings AssocDegAgrib 10** as Brett Hoskings.*

Remember you can keep up to date with happenings at Marcus through

www.marcusoldham.vic.edu.au

and



www.facebook.com/MarcusOldhamCollege

Strong Queensland Support for Marcus

Marcus Oldham was represented this year at the 100th Year celebration of the Barcaldine Sheep Show in Queensland.

Some 250 guests attended the Centenary Dinner at which former Queenslander, **Rob McGavin Agrib 93**, was honoured to be the After Dinner Speaker.

Continuing the interstate connection College Principal, **Simon Livingstone FM 87** and Tony McMeel, Deputy Principal, accompanied by representatives of the College Council travelled to Longreach to host a function at the Qantas Founders Outback Museum in May. In recognition of the effects of the devastating drought and in appreciation of the relationship between Queenslanders and Marcus Oldham, the College launched a number of Drought Relief Study Awards.



*John Mackinnon, Her Excellency Ms Penelope Wensley AC, the Governor of Queensland, Heather Livingstone, **Ben Chandler Agrib 06** President of the Barcaldine Show.*

This occasion was held on the eve of the Longreach Show which

Simon (a Queenslander) and Tony happily attended.

Barcaldine Function

Principal, **Simon Livingstone FM 87** attended the Westech Field Days 9 and 10 September and hosted a function which attracted a great Marcus turnout:

Scott Hall FM2 (Prac Year), Alex Walsh DipAgrib 00, Hugh Button DipAgrib 11, Anna Hirsch Stojek DipAgrib 13, Ben Chandler DipAgrib 06, Jayde Chandler Walker DipAgrib 06, David Counsell, former Vet Lecturer, Roger Hirsch DipAgrib 06, Jeff Hall FM 88, and Paul McGavin DipAgrib 98.



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Save the Date for the Rockhampton Function

Marcus Oldham is exhibiting at Australia Beef Expo 2015 at Rockhampton. A Drinks Function will be held on Thursday 7 May between 5.30 - 7.30pm. This is another good opportunity to meet up and fly the Marcus flag, so make a diary note and expect details in due course.

Need to contact someone?

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