

MOCOSA



Ian Farran: In His Element

Celebrating over 30 years of achievements

New Learning Centre

The heart of the College has
a new look

40 Years in Equine

Expanding a variety of careers
in the equine world

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dr Simon Livingstone

Early in my working life I spent eight years employed as a jackeroo and then overseer, mainly on large cattle properties in Queensland. One of the properties I worked on was Donors Hill Station, located an hour and a half south of the town of Normanton in the Gulf of Carpentaria.

On our way to Normanton for the weekend, we would drive past Wondoola Station, currently owned by the Australian Agricultural Company. We were looking for town, not thinking of the devastation that could result from flooding if the Saxby and Flinders Rivers broke their banks.

But the unbelievable happened in January this year.

In those horrific floods, Wondoola Station lost thousands of head of cattle. Media reports have stated that upwards of 300,000 cattle died across north west Queensland. One news report stated that hundreds of producers in a 20-million hectare band, an area twice the size of Tasmania, did not even have 48 hours to celebrate drought-breaking rains before the deluge turned deadly.

It will take years for the livestock industry and the communities in those areas to fully recover.

Tragedies are not new for that region. They had been bruised in 2011 by the live cattle export ban followed by many years of drought.

However, recover they will. As one news article stated, 'our people are resilient, pragmatic and hard-working'.

We know that agriculture is associated with a unique set of stressors that include reliance on unpredictable environmental conditions. Researchers Sartore, Kelly & Stain in their 2012 book explained that environmental distress or solastalgia, (the distress caused by negative change in the home landscape), particularly affects the domains of sense of wellbeing and sense of control.

So how do the rural producers affected by these floods now prepare for the future? How do they recover from this type of event? From an education perspective, how does Marcus Oldham prepare its students to cope if they experience these types of disasters in the future?

For the past four years, Marcus Oldham has significantly invested in the development and delivery of a Wellbeing and Resilience Program resulting in all

students and year groups at the College receiving lectures from a leading rural psychologist. All College curricula was reviewed with wellbeing and resilience content embedded throughout the human resource management units.

Through education, Marcus Oldham students are now being prepared to adequately, competently and confidently handle and manage strains and stresses during their career and life.

With the advent of the new Learning Centre opening in 2020, it is anticipated

that the facility's advanced technological and communications capabilities will allow the College to connect with alumni regarding education and training in wellbeing and resilience.

The endeavour is to systematically position the College as a leader in supporting the health of our students and alumni, by providing them with the skills and resilience techniques and strategies to be used beyond their time at Marcus Oldham.

Dr Simon Livingstone
Principal



FROM THE MOCOSA PRESIDENT

Peter Stephens

Here we are in 2019 and who would have thought that since the last edition in November, that Lake Eyre would be starting to fill. It seems that extreme weather events are becoming more common and the rain event in Queensland was about as extreme as it gets.

Terrible stock losses and infrastructure damage will take years of rebuilding and the Marcus community feels terribly for all those affected and particularly Marcus graduates. The vastness of this continent meant unfortunately, that large parts of Australia are still deeply in drought but some good rains in the south-east of the country in the last few weeks has been of great relief to many.

In the last MOCOSA you would have received your "call a Marcus Mate" magnets, so please make contact with as many as you can to see how they are getting along.

I have been fortunate to be able to attend several Marcus events since November, each unique and testament to the Marcus Way. Firstly, in December (on a balmy 40-degree day!) was the 2019 Graduation at Deakin University where the 2018 graduates became members of MOCOSA and celebrated their successes. Richard Longbottom, Farm Management Graduate of 1994 was awarded the 2018 Graduate of Excellence and gave a great acceptance speech highlighting his Marcus experience and how it shaped his success today as an international fruit exporter.

Secondly, I was kindly invited to attend a strategy planning day in January where senior staff and Council members presented on various topics related to the higher education sector, farm ownership patterns and advances in agricultural technology. I can assure MOCOSA members that the commitment to maintain Marcus' leadership and culture going forward is as strong as ever.

In late February was the 15th edition of the Marcus Foundation Fundraising Golf Day at Eynesbury Homestead and what a top day that was. Alumni, friends of the College and sponsors had a hit of golf, heard from some great speakers, enjoyed the sponsors meat and wine, and bid on a great selection of donated prizes. All the proceeds from this day



will go towards the completion of the new Learning Centre. Congratulations to Antony Baillieu and Alannah Halloran for a great result and well organised day. As a follow up to this day, the Marcus Oldham Foundation hosted their annual Cocktail Party in Melbourne a few weeks ago where a huge crowd got an update about the Learning Centre progress (both physically and from a fund raising perspective) and listened to Gillon McLachlan CEO of the AFL who was arguably upstaged by aspiring MOCOSA member and current Student President Margo Sullivan.

Finally, MOCOSA are expanding our social event reach with a cocktail party planned for the 18th September, the Wednesday night of the Henty Machinery Field Days. This night will attempt to replicate the success of the annual Sheepvention get together in Hamilton and the Agfest event in Launceston. It will be at the Albury Club and with so many graduates from the North East of Victoria and the Riverina, we would love to see as many of you as we can on the night and indeed in the Marcus tent at Henty. Wishing you all a great Winter — Cheers.

Peter Stephens
MOCOSA President



PEOPLE

Ian Farran: In His Element

To say Ian Farran is humble is an understatement. Marcus Oldham is in his blood, but he's not about to take any credit for his achievements over the last 30 years.

"Pass!" he insists when asked what his legacy might be. A country boy at heart, he's passionate about agricultural engineering – especially anything pig-related – a devoted rowing club member and self-confessed overhead projector addict.

"I had a reputation for the overhead projector, so that's probably something I'll be remembered for," Farran jokes.

It was in 1966 when Ian was on the rowing team at Geelong Grammar that he met Ivo Dean, Marcus Oldham's first Principal, who coached the team when he "remembered to turn up". Twenty years later, Ian joined Marcus Oldham as a part-time lecturer for one term, and came and went in that role five times over the next three decades.

"In January 1997 I got a phone call from the Acting Principal, and he said, 'I've got 128 students coming to the College. They'll be here in February and I don't have an engineering lecturer.'" And he's been there ever since.

"I was lucky to be a part-time lecturer and have some other business interests. It was probably a bit easier for me as a lecturer in that way to relate to the students," he said.

Ian is proud to have empowered students to immerse themselves in real farm environments. He saw value in theory, but he was more interested in getting out to farms to see things in the paddock.

"The challenge at Marcus Oldham was giving potential farm managers some insights into agricultural engineering and their decision-making. I wasn't trying to make them into engineers but basically giving them an understanding of what an engineer might do."



“I wanted to put agricultural engineering content into a farm management course with meaningful tools that many of the students have used since.” - Ian Farran

“By going out and seeing rural businesses and being able to talk about it amongst themselves, especially if it was cutting-edge stuff, seeing what's new and being exposed to things they haven't seen was great for them,” he said.

He officially retired at the end of 2018, at which time he spoke publicly of his pride in being able to continue Ivo Dean's principles for the College, and have a bit of fun along the way.

And whether he likes to admit it or not, his legacy lives on in the students who have gone on to forge careers and build successful businesses.

Take, for example, the day back in 1995 when a would-be beef farmer took an unexpected career turn on a field trip to an olive grove.

“We went over and looked at these gnarly old olive trees, and I was thinking ‘God, we're supposed to be here for an hour and nothing else is going on here.’ And then the guy said, ‘Come over here and I'll show you where we really make the money.’

“We went into this tin shed, where he was propagating all of the olive tree varieties. One of the students on the visit was Paul Riordan, who was set to go and be a beef producer, it was in his blood. A year or two later, his little idea about olives was germinating in his mind, and away he went. And then he joined up with Rob McGavin, who had been there (Marcus Oldham) in 1993.”

Paul is now the Managing Director of Boundary Bend Olives and Rob is CEO and Executive Chairman.

Marcus Oldham Marketing Lecturer, Campbell Jeffrey shared an office with “Faz”, as he was affectionately known, for many years. And while the two had different ideas about office etiquette, he was in awe of Faz's affinity with students and capacity to go over and above.

“Attention to tidiness would not be a strength of Ian's,” Campbell fondly remembers. “What was important was doing a lot of things and juggling a lot of balls at the one time.

“His subject matter was not dry; it was a lot of stuff about numbers, about understanding formulas, engineering and all those sorts of things.

“A number of students don't take to that but he would tirelessly get them to work through the problems so they would understand what they were needing to calculate.”

Campbell highlights a particular aspect of Ian's teaching which endears him to students.

“One of the things that everyone loves about Faz, the lecturer, is there's a fair bit of time spent on study tours, whether they be a short half day, one day tours, looking at sheds, or facilities or some farmer's special way of doing something,” Campbell said.

“But everyone jokes about Faz ringing up the day before, or on the bus on the way, ‘Is it okay if I bring 30 third year students to your farm, Jim?’. He had the capacity to pull it out of a hat, when required.”

“Faz had a respect for people in the broader agribusiness community. He had a capacity, a knowledge and a respect for linking aspects of the curriculum and therefore equally aspects of business management at different stages of the supply chain and across different functional areas. Faz wasn't just intensive animals and engineering, he was broader than that, much, much broader than that,” Campbell said in quiet admiration of his former colleague.

It's also his quirky sense of fun that Faz is so often remembered for. Class of 2012 graduate Stuart Tait, now a beef and crop farmer in Mandurama on the NSW Central Tablelands, says Faz had a very dry sense of humour.

“His subject was very difficult and we can only imagine what he was thinking whilst standing there swaying back and forth looking at our class. His lessons often involved a lot of complicated formulas and calculations and there was usually a ‘Faz factor’ which would complete the calculation; if we ended up with the wrong answer at the end we would blame it on the ‘Faz factor’,” he says.

The Faz factor was called into play when Stuart's third year tour group became bogged in flood waters.

“He used his engineering knowledge to chip in and design and build a sandbag wall at the Darlington Point Caravan Park in anticipation of the approaching floodwater,” Stuart recalls.

“He was a very popular lecturer. He was also well known for his pigs and his business venture Otway Pork. Our class really enjoyed visiting one of the pig farms and seeing Faz in his element showing off his pigs,” he said.

Stuart says Faz even liked to play the Otway Pork theme song in class on repeat!

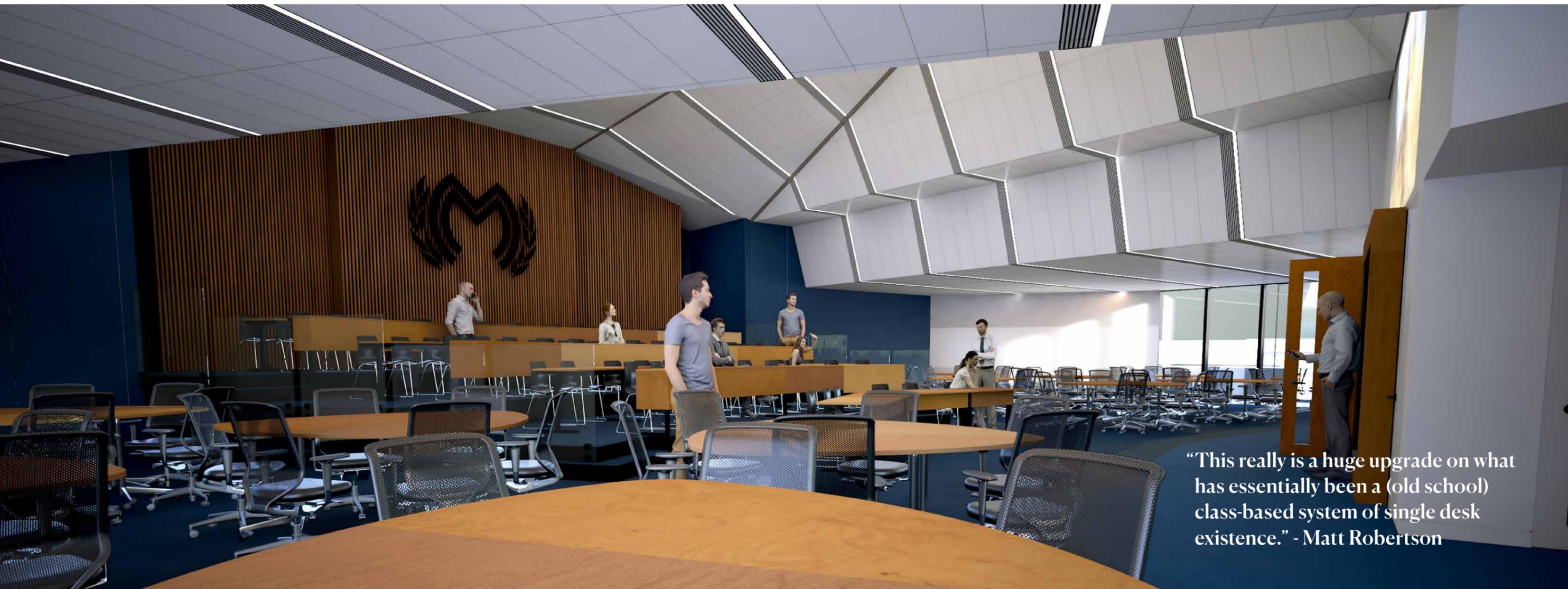
While he won't blow his own trumpet about his career as a lecturer, Faz is happy to talk about the pork industry.

“So I better brag a bit, I s'pose?” he says, and reels off a long list of boards, committees and councils that he's been involved with over the years while balancing part-time lecturing duties.

As well as retiring from education, he's also hanging up the boots at Otway Pork (the retail brand of Pastoral Pork Company), where he's been Managing Director three times.

Ian is incredibly proud of the business he's helped build with numerous shareholders from the Marcus Oldham community, and it's just one of the many ways his life outside Marcus has intertwined with his career within the College.

Ian is now looking forward to enjoying a quieter life with his wife Robyn by his side, but there's little doubt he'll find a way to continue the Marcus Oldham association for many years to come.



“This really is a huge upgrade on what has essentially been a (old school) class-based system of single desk existence.” - Matt Robertson

PLACES

New Learning Centre: the heart of the College.

Legendary horse trainer, the late Colin 'C.S.' Hayes had a simple mantra by which he conducted his life — “the future belongs to those who plan for it.”

Hayes' vision was to develop the famous and historic Lindsay, Park stud and stables — with its sprawling 38 — room 1840s' mansion, nestled in the hills of Angaston in South Australia's Barossa Valley — that became the catalyst for his incredible success.

Hayes died in 1999, which was 13 years before Hayes' son David made the gut-wrenching decision to sell Lindsay Park. The old place was no longer the state-of-the-art training complex that Colin had designed. New methods and technologies made it more showplace than workplace and less suitable for the new millennium.

When the hierarchy at Marcus Oldham College made the decision to build a new state-of-the-art Learning Centre at Waurin Ponds, in many ways they were following a philosophy similar to Hayes — planning for the future.

And like David Hayes, Marcus Oldham's principal Dr. Simon Livingstone and

its council members were required to make a hard decision in 2015 to sell the valuable 65-hectare Murradoc farm in Drysdale — valued at over \$3 million — that was so generously bequeathed to the College by Philip Myer in 2012, with the charter of helping more young people to seek a career in agriculture. Myer, the grandson of the iconic Sidney Myer, accepted the 2015 sale on the grounds that the proceeds would be used for education and the benefit of Marcus Oldham's students.

From that was born the biggest single investment ever made at the 57-year-old College at Waurin Ponds — in a \$10 million world-class Learning Centre, that will carry the Myer family name.

“We are seeing a real boom in agriculture and... looking at where students need to be to be nationally and globally competitive, it's around using and understanding new technologies,” Dr. Livingstone told the Geelong Advertiser.

Dr. Livingstone said Marcus Oldham has “looked to where the future is” in focusing the College's investment in the development of the Waurin Ponds campus. Colin Hayes would be nodding his approval for the foresight.

The purpose of the new learning space is for it to be, in modern terms, “sticky”. Just as internet specialists say websites need to be sticky — in that they encourage content and good design to keep the visitor longer than normal — so this new Learning Centre has been designed with the purpose of making it not only an enjoyable place for students and staff to gather, but also one they will be reluctant to leave.

The idea is for the students to develop a sense of community in the space — making it a place for them to build a strong connection with the College, the campus and fellow students, and to have a positive impact on their learning experience.

“It's the idea that learning happens as a social experience,” says Professor Peter Jamieson, Strategic Adviser on learning environments design at Melbourne University, who was commissioned to design the Learning Centre alongside Geelong firm 3ID Architects.

The idea of being able to create a learning and gathering space for students without the incumbencies of heritage listings, gave Prof. Jamieson the freedom to come up with something special for Marcus Oldham — a world-class, unique educational building that melds perfectly into its environment.

“When we give students an opportunity to relax, engage, express themselves, have some fun, we've seen some fantastic transformations at Melbourne and other universities,” he says.

Jamieson believes a university campus should be a unique place of learning. In the past, mostly due to the economies



Animal Production Lecturer, Matt Robertson, has been at Marcus Oldham since 2014 and has seen a lot of change recently. He, along with other staff members, have watched the building of the Learning Centre progress quickly with a degree of excitement about what lies ahead in 2020.

"This really is a huge upgrade on what has essentially been a (old school) class-based system of single desk existence," he said, referring to the new set-up which will have six students to a shared desk, shaped in a way that the students not only can interact but at the same time have their own dedicated space.

He said it takes commitment to be in a classroom for an intense six hours a day but this new Learning Centre has the expectation of offering students and staff a comfortable learning environment, at the same time achieving the same objectives of a traditional college.

Robertson said there is a degree of adaptation required by the staff and the students to the new environment, which will be built on community and student involvement.

He's particularly excited by the fact that students don't necessarily need to travel for hands on experience. "There is a dedicated amphitheatre off the new building that will allow us to perform procedures that normally would require travelling to a farm where students are straining to see what is going on." Robertson said.

Robertson said the new building is perfectly situated between the student residence and the current lecture rooms in what he perfectly describes as the new "heart" of the College.

Albert Einstein once said: "I never teach pupils. I only attempt to provide the conditions in which they can learn."

The Learning Centre is the perfect, modern example of that.

The high-tech 4G and 5G communication the Learning Centre offers, will allow for easy, direct communication with what is happening on a farm – even overseas – without having to leave Waurin Ponds.

of saving space, they have lost their way in fostering a sense of community.

"It is this sense of 'place' that must be reclaimed if the campus is to be more than a collection of classrooms, information technology centres, libraries, student refectory, offices and car parks," he says.

"The campus must be an environment that allows the individual student to make sense of the world and their place in it, and enable the formation of communities which are essential to individual and collective development."

For example, the simple idea of increasing the size of windows to remove the 'prison cell' feel of a learning space has enormous benefits for the student, and the campus staff.

Apart from the obvious 'green' advantages of adding natural light into the space, the increased transparency allows the student to absorb not only what is going on inside but also outside.

Some of the outstanding features of the new learning centre are:

- 1 The inclusion of the academic offices within the Learning Centre further increases the opportunity for students and lecturers to have one-on-one interaction and build strong and personal bonds.**
- 2 Three flexible learning spaces that facilitate modern teaching concepts, including large group learning and real-world working environments.**
- 3 A new heart to the College that allows students, staff and the wider College community to come together. A place to converse, celebrate and connect with what was and what will be.**
- 4 External teaching spaces that will provide students with invaluable practical insight and hands on experiences.**
- 5 The reading lounge has been designed to compliment the wellness and resilience program embedded in all of the academic courses.**
- 6 A state-of-the-art meeting room connecting global industry leaders.**
- 7 Innovative technological and communication systems providing students with seamless connection to the world. Virtual interaction, recording and editing facilities are some of the features that students will be able to benefit from.**





Course Redesign

As an adjunct to the opening of the brilliant new Learning Centre, Marcus Oldham has continued its forward focus to learning by announcing that in 2020 the College will restructure two courses — Agriculture and Agribusiness.

Here's a summary of the changes:

- 1 BBus (Agriculture) four years to three.
- 2 BBus (Agribusiness) three years to two.
- 3 The addition of an extra teaching period per year — two semesters to three trimesters running from February to December.

What stays the same:

- Volume of overall course work and assessment
- Course content and learning outcomes
- The reliance on sufficient and quality pre-entry experience as a key requirement of entry to the courses
- Immersive delivery model with requisite pastoral care and tuition support
- Practical work integrated into learning that builds on any pre-entry experience
- Reflective practice of course content
- Study tours, practical placement and case study learning.

Marcus Oldham's staff has welcomed the new modelling and has had substantial input in the redesign of both courses. The most significant change is the reduction in duration of both courses by a year, without altering the content or outcomes of the courses.

The proposed new accelerated approach to undergraduate studies at Marcus Oldham will benefit students commencing at the College from 2020.

For more information visit the Marcus Oldham website: marcusoldham.vic.edu.au

PEOPLE

40 Years in Equine: The business of loving horses.

The love of a horse is a bug that keeps biting and it can be an expensive passion that can't be undertaken half-heartedly. You only have to visit the local pony club on a weekend to witness the joy and dedication of participants of all ages as they actively engage in their own world of the horse.

Sometimes the infection from those bitten — probably smitten — by the horse bug lingers to the point where an equine career beckons. That's where Marcus Oldham College comes into the equation.

The Australian equine industry is a bit of a sleeper in that its true worth is rarely on the agenda when the media business gurus, such as Alan Kohler and Robert Gottlieb, discuss the state of the everyday Australian economy. But the horse business is big business and the careers available in the equine industry are varied.

For example, the thoroughbred industry — racing, breeding and agistment — employs around 65,000 people and is worth about \$5 billion a year to the Australian economy, claims research group AgriFutures Australia.

Add to that another \$1.14 billion of value, according to a 2016 Equestrian Australia report, from equine pursuits outside of racing, which includes equestrian sports such as dressage, eventing, jumping, endurance, showing and the ubiquitous pony club.

The worldwide spin-off industries that flow from equine pursuits include feed and nutrition, event management, merchandising, clothing and a vast array of equine therapies and it is growing.

Emma Morel, Marcus Oldham's Director of Equine Management, believes people are surprised at the sheer size of the horse industry. "It's not just mucking out stables. It is a multi-layered industry and a huge employer in Australia," she says.

Marcus Oldham College's internationally renowned Diploma of Equine Management, from its origins in 1979, is specifically geared to steer people who desire a career in the equine industry on a path to achieve their goals.

It's an intense 12 month course that teaches, informs, and eventually guides the students into an expanding variety of careers in the equine world.

Some students start the course with a clear understanding of what they want to do at the other end. Others use the course to show them what is available—although quite a few of those who start single-minded on a career, can finish up in a career that is completely different. That's the beauty of this course.

"One of the biggest things Marcus Oldham offers through the course is contacts," Morel says. "Not just alumni contacts, but the fact the industry knows who we are. Sometimes it is who you know that will help you get a start."

The Diploma of Equine Management provides the understanding of how to run successful equine businesses. Some graduates have successfully started their own businesses and others have risen to senior positions within established operations, including those with international influence.

In this article we meet four alumni from four decades who have completed the Equine Management course and forged successful and interesting careers. They look back on their time at the College fondly and with great appreciation for the tools that it provided them in the pursuit of their dreams.

Abbie O'Brien

DRESSAGE RIDER AND SADDLER,
GRADUATE 2012.

Abbie O'Brien on a horse is a complete contrast to Abbie O'Brien off a horse.

On the horse, she's still and quiet, commanding a 500kg beast with the slightest twitch of her arms and legs in the demanding equestrian discipline of dressage.

Off the horse, Abbie is a little dynamo — ambitious, keen and eager; and brave and infectious. Oh, and she can talk under water!

At 25 she is one of the bright young stars on the Australian dressage circuit and was introduced to an equestrian life through pony club in her home in Penguin — yes, there are penguins there and about 4000 humans — near Burnie on Tasmania's northern coast.

"Mum (Tammy) always had horses and I nagged her for a pony and she finally relented when I was eight," she says.

Not that her ambitions were made easy by her mother, who wasn't all that keen on Abbie's infatuation with the equestrian world.

"Mum bought some feral horses for me. I think she was hoping I'd be dissuaded from continuing on," Abbie laughs.

After a couple of work experience sojourns on the mainland, including with leading dressage exponents Heath and Rozzie Ryan at Heatherbrae in New South Wales, where she was introduced to her first dressage horse, Rajah's Rave, Abbie — and Rajah — moved to Geelong in 2012 to study for her Diploma of Horse Business Management.



Marcus Oldham was an eye-opening experience for the youngster from Penguin. "Just getting to know the other side of the horse industry, particularly the racing industry, was incredible," she says.

"However, meeting people and making contacts was just as important. I had two jobs before I'd even left Marcus Oldham. One was in the racing industry with Rosemont Stud and the other one was in the equestrian industry — both placements that I did during my year at the College."

She finished her year as Dux, and through contacts she made at Marcus Oldham accepted a job at the Revelwood Warmblood Stud in Somersby, New South Wales.

Abbie then moved to Victoria and relocated to Boneo Park Equestrian Centre on the Mornington Peninsula.

Abbie was offered her own 'agistment' at Boneo Park, in a cottage, for six weeks while she sorted out other accommodation. Like the stray dog that never left, she's still in the cottage six years later. "I like being there and they like having me there," she says.

For income, Abbie started working at Bunnings and waitressing at a golf club until she saw an advertisement placed by Wagners Saddlery in Somerville, looking for a person interested in becoming a saddler.

"It would have been a lot harder at my age to just step up into that management role without having that experience at Marcus. Nothing was that much of a challenge to me at Wagners."

Thousands of stitches later, the girl from Penguin is now head saddler at Wagners and manages the overall business.

Abbie said that her year at Marcus Oldham College gave her not only the introduction to people who could advance her equestrian career, but also the business skills that help her manage a successful enterprise.

"It's the little things I learnt at Marcus Oldham that I now use in my everyday activities at Wagners, such as MYOB and lots of little things like that. I had seen it all before at College, so it wasn't daunting for me," Abbie says.

"At Marcus Oldham you can get out of it as much as you want or as little as you want. You get out of it what you put in."

Jessica Blackwell

EQUINE HORSE THERAPY,
GRADUATE 2005.

To fully appreciate the achievements of Jessica Blackwell, a graduate of the Marcus Oldham College Horse Business Management course in 2005, I'd need a lot more than the 500 or so words allocated to this biography.

West Australian Jessica, 37, is no small-time achiever. Apart from running a successful equine therapy business, Equestricare, Jessica has been a pioneer in horse therapy in Australia.

She has been honoured with many awards for Equestricare, but most significantly Telstra's Innovative Business Woman of the Year in 2010 and was runner-up Young Business Woman of the Year. And, of course, she has the distinction of being Marcus Oldham College's first female Graduate of Excellence.

Good at school with a penchant for science, Jessica also had a love of horses and has been a competitive rider since 1995. Science and horses usually mix in the veterinary sphere, but she had enough of science study after completing a Bachelor of Science at Murdoch University.

"Despite doing science for three years, I had decided I really wanted to do work with horses in a business sense, so Marcus Oldham offered the right course," Jessica said.

"I think Marcus Oldham was very good at giving me an overview of the entire industry. So I went in thinking I wanted to do one thing and came out thinking I wanted to do another."

Jessica said she thought that a course in stud management was for her, but quickly realised it was the opposite. The taste she got of working in the breeding industry was sour enough to put aside thoughts of such a career.

"At Marcus Oldham they do a special interest study project and I did mine

on the use of natural therapies with horses. I really enjoyed it because it also had a science aspect with muscles et cetera and it really appealed to me to the point that I wanted to pursue it further."

On returning to Western Australia, Jessica did some more study and practical work, before starting as a full-time equine therapy practitioner. She is now a leading expert in the field with international recognition.

Jessica has multiple qualifications in the equine therapy field, such as sports massage, bodywork, myofascial release, red light therapy, tissue mobilisation, taping and reiki, and has also done extensive study in biomechanics, anatomy and exercise physiology.

She has also undertaken extensive study in equine muscular and neurological disorders and exercise physiology and has been fortunate to train under some of the world's best.

"There is no doubt that Marcus Oldham gave me the skills to set up my own business, and I've done my MBA since then."

"Equine therapy has come a long way since I started," she recalls.

Her burgeoning business Equestricare offers a wide array of equine therapies and is also a leader in teaching the practice with a number of certificates on offer for horse-mad students, including a Photonic Therapy Certificate, Horse Massage Certificate and Tissue Mobilisation Certificate.

Despite the fact her business has grown immensely, Jessica keeps her hand in — or hands on — as much as she can. "It's the type of activity that you need to keep working on," she said.

"When I left Marcus, therapy for horses was rare. Now it's pretty well accepted and common place in most areas of equine physical activity, and the equipment that has been developed has changed a lot."



Ewan Kellett

INTERNATIONAL EQUESTRIAN
CROSS-COUNTRY
COURSE DESIGNER,
GRADUATE 1996.



When Ewan Kellett graduated from Marcus Oldham College in 1996, he admits he had no real idea of the direction his Equine Management course would take him.

However, he admits that the skills Marcus Oldham had taught him and the experience he had gained in that intense 12-month equine course was enough to have him prepared for anything that might come across his bow.

One of those was Geoff Sinclair, whose business, Horseland, was a sponsor of the equine course. Geoff took Ewan under his wing and opened up avenues for him to eventually become one of Australia's leading equestrian cross-country course designers—at 32 he was the youngest FEI-level course designer in the world.

Ewan, now 44, says that “doors open” for Marcus Oldham graduates, and he's forever thankful he took the opportunity to do the Equine Management course after finishing his time at Geelong College.

Ewan was born and raised in Echuca by his sheep and cattle farming parents Joe and Andrea. Of course, riding ponies and pony club became an integral part of his early life.

The family moved to Geelong when Ewan was nine. It was in 1982 that he experienced his first three-day event, and a passion was sealed that remains today.

After completing his year at Marcus Oldham, Ewan, unsure of what he wanted to do in the horse industry, spent two and a half years in various jobs from prepping thoroughbred yearlings to grooming hunters and stud work. He could easily have worked his way into farm management, but the restless Ewan remained uncertain about his future.

During this time, Ewan, a more than accomplished rider, was competing in eventing at a CCI 2* level, and it was Sinclair who introduced him to the opportunities of course design.

“I always had an interest in course design, and through Geoff I was able to help out with the designers at the Melbourne 3-day event at Werribee Park in 1998... and I was hooked.”

Ewan's first opportunity to design his own course came in mid-1999 when a position came up to produce a

“The most important thing for me about my year at Marcus Oldham is the contacts that I made, and the people that I met.”

high-class cross-country course at Spray Farm, near Portarlington, on the Bellarine Peninsula. “They were looking for a junior course designer. It was supposed to be a three-week position, but it lasted four and a half months,” Ewan says.

He found out not only did he really enjoy course design, but thanks to some excellent feedback from the participants, that he also was quite good at it. A career was sown and he hasn't looked back.

Ewan has built some magnificent courses and also a sizeable reputation. He's worked on courses in all states of Australia and also overseas in Hong Kong (Beijing Olympics test event), Korea (foreign builder for the Asian Games), Japan, New Zealand and the United Kingdom.

He believes his experience as an eventer has helped him master the intricacies of good course design that treads the fine line between testing and safe for both horse and rider.

He recently visited Marcus Oldham and was excited to see that it had changed a lot since he was last there, especially with the building of the new Learning Centre that will be operational next year.

Cliff Brown

HORSE TRAINER, SINGAPORE.
GRADUATE 1988.

Cliff Brown hated school. The boy from Narbethong spent most of his time at Brighton Grammar staring out the classroom window dreaming about not being there. Most of those thoughts were about horses, racehorses.

Cliff had an ambition to be a horse trainer, which was injected into his DNA by his father, Don, who had a passion for thoroughbred breeding and invested heavily in quality European mares that were housed on the family 400-hectare cattle and horse farm in Narbethong, near Marysville in Victoria's north east, about 90kms from Melbourne.

Cliff eventually scurried out of Brighton Grammar and straight into the stables of trainer Rob McGuinness at Caulfield, where a different type of learning was soaked up by the eager young horseman.

“I came across an advertisement about Marcus Oldham College which included a call for prospective students for the equine business management course. It was one year, and I thought that it was something that I'd like to do, so I applied.”

Cliff said that in contrast to his time at Brighton Grammar, he has fond memories of his year at Marcus Oldham. “I loved it,” he says.

For a kid that hated school, Marcus Oldham was an enriching experience. “It was intense (no time for daydreaming) and broad, but I enjoyed every minute of it, and learned a lot about the business side that I can say helped me when I set-up as a trainer,” Cliff says.

“Many of the people I met during those days are still close friends today, we keep in touch. In fact, it's the people, the contacts, I met during the course at Marcus Oldham that was the best part of my time.”



Photo courtesy of Singapore Turf Club.

In fact, it wasn't long after he graduated from Marcus Oldham College in 1988 that Cliff, aged only 21, took out a trainer's licence and set-up with a small team of his father's home-breds at Narbethong.

By the end of the 1990s, thanks to the clever buying of his pedigree-obsessed father and some astute matings, and a fair dose of luck, Cliff was one of the brightest training prospects in Victoria. His first big success came in 1996 when he won the Group 1 South Australian Derby with Cheviot.

1997 was a massive year for Cliff. He won his second South Australian Derby with Markham, who later that year finished a game third behind two champions, Might And Power and Doriemus, in the Melbourne Cup at Flemington. Cliff also won his most important Group 1 race when Tarnpir Lane, another home-bred, won the Group 1 Rosehill Guineas in Sydney and followed that by winning the Group 2 Memsie Stakes at Caulfield.

He trained his third South Australian Derby winner when Blue Murder won in 2000. By then he was training out of his old boss, Rob McGuinness' stables at Caulfield.

In 2007, Cliff accepted a position as a trainer at Kranji in Singapore, where he's now established as one of the leading trainers.

Cliff runs a small operation in Singapore, but his impact is immense. In the past three years the stable has won a staggering nine Group 1 races—in 2016 he won five races at the highest level, which is a training record at Kranji racecourse.

“I'll never win the trainers' premiership in Singapore. I just don't start enough horses, but I've consistently been the leading money-winning trainer, which is what counts,” he says.

Does he have any advice for someone interested in doing the Marcus Oldham Equine Management course? “Oh yes. Don't worry if you didn't set the world on fire at school, if you have a love of horses and want to learn, there is no better place.”

Herb & Lucy MacKenzie: The Guyra gaggle.

They share a surname, but they're not married (yet). They also now share a life together that started during school days and blossomed at Marcus Oldham.



With farming in their blood, it's no surprise that Herb and Lucy MacKenzie ended up making their living off the land. But they probably never expected to end up at the helm of a unique and growing goose farming business borne out of necessity during drought. If you ask them to share their secret to success, the advice is simple:

"Think outside the box — these are such exciting times in the food industry and people are caring more and more about food culture and how and where their food comes from. Get on the wagon — it is a great ride!"

And it's been a ride to get U Goose to where it is today — the largest and only completely integrated commercial goose meat operation in Australia.

"The drought of 2014 nearly brought us to our knees. Even though it was one of the hardest times in our young professional lives, looking back, it was a good thing because it forced us to look harder at our business, our business model, how we were doing things and if there was something else that would be more beneficial for our business," Herb recalls. The investigation into their own operations was forensic, as they searched for the golden egg that would help secure their future, and a seed of an idea about breeding geese began to grow.

"It was then that everyone officially thought Herb and I had lost the plot," Lucy explains. "Yes we were laughed at by many people, family included. But this only made Herb and I more determined to try and succeed. I suppose this is another area where we are both so well suited and such a great team, and stubborn at times. When someone says to either one of us that we cannot do something we will nearly do anything in our power to do it!"

So it begs the question, why geese? Lucy says it's more a case of "why not?"

"We wanted something different from anyone else that we had complete control of from conception to the customer and to the plate. We established a unique goose incubation facility here on site and then in 2015 established an Aussie first in our very own goose processing facility also here on farm — which also allows us to process when we want to process and when the animals are ready. It also has a commercial kitchen in the facility where every part of the goose is value added so nothing is wasted. We truly love our geese! No one else in Australia does what we do, on the scale we do it and has the products we have," Lucy says.

Lucy and Herb both completed Farm Business Management at Marcus Oldham in 2003. Life had different things in store for them over the next few years, with Herb travelling overseas and Lucy returning home to Victoria to run her family's South Gippsland properties. In 2006, Lucy seized an opportunity to work at Breedplan in Armidale to upskill her breeding credentials with the plan to return to the family business. But when her relationship with Herb was rekindled, plans changed again and she moved permanently to New England.



From left to right: Maggie, Molly and George MacKenzie.



A fourth generation cattle and sheep farmer, Herb's family property 'Seaforth' – the home of Seaforth Angus, an Angus Bull stud and sale, sits on the outskirts of Guyra, in a small town called Llangothlin in New England.

It's now also the home of U Goose with over 2500 breeding geese, their very own cross-breeding operation and 96 different products on the books from free range goose to muscovy duck and the only Australian-made goose charcuterie range.

In 2018, the MacKenzie's were awarded for excellence in both innovation and small business at the Armidale Regional Business Awards, and their U Goose products are regularly on the menus of Matt Moran at ARIA, Shannon Bennett at Vue De Monde and many other top restaurants.

They are proud to say that each and every product is processed, made, cooked, packaged, and dispatched at U Goose.

"We run our geese just like our cattle and sheep operations. They are all free range, with each gaggle having large irrigation dams to swim and play in daily – we allow each and every goose to be able to be a goose as nature intended.

"They are grazing animals and are at their best when they are able to do this, so this is what we let them do 24/7 365 days a year," Herb says.

"There was no commercial knowledge or support for this industry here in Australia and for the past four to five years we have had to do all of the trials, research, and copped all of the failures, financial burdens etc – which we accept as this is our business – but we feel as though we are very close to the secret recipe. We are so very excited for what the next five years is going to bring to our gaggles of geese here and the future employment opportunities this will then bring to locals," he says.

It's been a tough road to get here, and Lucy says their time at Marcus Oldham was crucial to making them the people and the business owners they are today.

"There is no way in the world that Herb and I would have ever considered going into a venture such as this geese operation if it were not for the experiences and study that we had done at Marcus, this I can say without any doubt, and we often say this."

"Marcus makes you think about things differently and think and analyse outside the box. In the real farming sector this is what we are all challenged with every day. Going into this we were laughed at, joked at etc but this never stopped Herb and I as we could, and can still see the big picture of where we need to go and how we need to get there. Marcus gives students the skills to be able to make these starting steps to be able to think like this, and for this we are both very grateful." she says.

Richard Longbottom: A Fruitful Life.

What does it take to be the Marcus Oldham Graduate Of Excellence? Just ask Richard Longbottom, former farm management student and now an industry leader at the helm of a booming fruit exporting business, and the 2018 Graduate Of Excellence.



Richard Longbottom pictured with wife, Kate.

In January 2001 he started Walker Longbottom with business partner Sam Walker just five years after entering the industry.

Success was swift and, 18 years on, the company now ships fresh fruit to 35 countries throughout Asia, Middle East, India, Canada and Russia.

Marcus Oldham Foundation Manager Alannah Halloran said it's important to continue to recognise former students for their exceptional achievements after they've left the College, and Richard Longbottom is a shining example.

"Richard embodies the Marcus spirit with his incredible work ethic, determination to succeed, and commitment to his industry. We are proud to add his name to the Graduate of Excellence honour roll."

"When our students depart Marcus Oldham it's not the end. As each class graduates, for many students it's the beginning of a lifelong association with our College. We're extremely proud of what our graduates go on to achieve, and by recognising these achievements we share an important story with both current and future students," she said.

Richard's association with Marcus continues to this day, and his passion for the College has never been stronger.

Since the award's inception in 1997, graduates have been eligible to be nominated four years after departing Marcus Oldham, with the award designed to recognise those who've excelled in their field.

Along with business success, the award also recognises leadership, innovation, and presence within community and industry, qualities that Richard possesses in spades. He was incredibly proud to receive the award at last year's graduation ceremony.

"It is a wonderful honour to receive this award," he said.

Richard attended Marcus Oldham College between 1992 and 1994 and typical of a Marcus graduate, he worked for many years gaining valuable industry experience which has served him well later in life.

He grew up on a sheep property in Naracoorte, South Australia, and at 16 he left school, worked on the family farm and went shearing for five years. He ended up on a merino stud in Western Victoria and it was there he met a Marcus mid-year student and his life changed direction. When he started at Marcus in 1992 it was exporting that had piqued his interest. His practical year saw him working for a wool broker in Melbourne where he met his now wife, Kate.

Richard graduated in 1994, and two years later joined the Costa Group (fruit and vegetable supplier) where he set out to build a career from the ground up.

"After Marcus I started working for a large family-run fruit business, Costas, and went from packing orders, loading trucks, checking quality to buying fruit, exporting fruit then running a fruit exporting business in Sydney," he said.

"This would not have happened without Marcus Oldham."

"I am currently involved with the Marcus Oldham Foundation (as an Executive member) helping to raise money for the new learning centre and make others aware of the great work Marcus is doing for agriculture in Australia."

"The advice I would give any young person is: work hard, save your money, learn as much as you can, ask many questions from people doing things well, be curious, never give up, invest wisely. Start your own business."



Meet the Student Executive



From left to right: Lily Bingham, 2nd Year Agribusiness Rep, Hamish Bennett, Vice President, Margo Sullivan, President.

The 2019 year is in full swing on campus and it's already been an action packed first semester. We caught up with our Student Executive to learn a bit more about what makes them tick and their studies at Marcus Oldham.

Where are you from?

Margo Sullivan, President: Mataranka NT. A small town approximately 100km south of Katherine. I grew up on a small (for the NT) beef cattle property producing feeder cattle for live export to Indonesia.

Hamish Bennett, Vice President: I am from Lawloit, just outside of Nhill in the West Wimmera.

Lily Bingham, 2nd Year Agribusiness Rep: I grew up on a cropping and sheep enterprise just out of Skipton, Victoria.

Why did you come to Marcus Oldham?

Margo: I wanted to improve my business knowledge to better prepare me for when I eventually return home. Marcus has an amazing reputation in agriculture and agribusiness and I saw a lot of value in that.

Hamish: I came to Marcus to expand my knowledge of managing businesses and what drives productivity and profitability. Hoping to take this back to our family farm and add to the business, I asked a friend of mine, who's a Marcus Old Collegiate, if he'd be where he is today, (in respect to his business) if he hadn't come to Marcus? He said he didn't think he would be so I decided that it must be worth the investment.

Lily: I wasn't exactly sure where I wanted to go with my career, and Marcus offered broad employment opportunities associated with its courses. Marcus has an amazing reputation in the industry, and hopefully this helps me find employment after I graduate. Marcus also looked like such good fun and being situated close to home meant that I could still be involved in my local community.

What do you like most about your studies at Marcus Oldham?

Margo: I enjoy the practicality of what we have been learning. We have spent a year out on industry placement and now what we are learning is really tying everything together. We not only learn about best practice in the field but also best practice in a business.

Hamish: What I enjoy most about the studies would have to be the awesome lecturers we have here. They're all really knowledgeable and good at sharing that knowledge with us. We're never left wondering why we're learning the content, it's all very relatable.

Lily: The course structure is really practical — nearly everything I learn I can see myself applying after I graduate. My favourite subjects are marketing and economics. One of the best aspects about Marcus is being surrounded by like-minded people who also teach you just as much as you learn in the classroom.

What are you passionate about?

Margo: I have always had a passion for livestock and know that I would like to be involved in that side of the agricultural industry. I enjoyed my prac year working with inexperienced persons and teaching them new skills. It was satisfying work seeing how much someone can develop and learn over the time they spent on the property.

Hamish: I'm passionate about broadacre cropping and finding the best way to maximise yield from the sometimes limited moisture that we're given. Also finding the perfect enterprise mix between crops and livestock to minimise risk and maximise profit.

Lily: I am passionate about just about every aspect of the cereal grain industry. I was brought up around harvest contracting and love harvest time so spend my summers doing that. I am also really interested in grain buying, selling and marketing. I love travelling and seeing other parts of the world so the China tour last year was one of my favourite experiences at Marcus. It was eye opening.

What exciting things does 2019 hold for the Marcus Oldham student body?

Margo: We have a great new cohort of first year students and I am really looking forward to our social events this year. Our cocktail party is nearly upon us and our annual race meeting is coming up. The new ag engineering lecturer John Moloney has been fantastic this year (he had big shoes to fill taking over from Faz) and I am looking forward to hearing from the new precision ag lecturer Jessica Roberts later in the year.

Hamish: 2019 is an exciting year for the student body. We have great events planned for the students such as the Marcus Races and the Parent Student Charity Dinner which is always a great hit. The 2019 cohort has bonded together really well and are shaping up to be a great bunch of people! There are two new lecturers and lastly it is great to see the Learning Centre development.

Lily: I'd have to say the overseas tours to China and New Zealand are going to be a highlight. The Parent Student Charity Dinner will also hopefully be wonderful and funds raised from this event go towards the charity 'Drought Angels'. Overall the group of students this year seem so diverse and friendly, so getting to know everyone will be one of the best aspects for the student body in the coming year.

Forbes Boydell: The Future Is In Good Hands.

As the inaugural Greenham Agricultural Scholarship winner, Forbes Boydell will mark his place in Marcus Oldham history.

The 22 year-old from Attunga in NSW is a third year Bachelor of Business (Agriculture) student, and the proud recipient of a \$20,000 scholarship to help complete his studies.

“Being awarded this honour has been a huge privilege for me and has meant the stress of the current climate situation has been eased a little bit for me and my family. I hope to use this opportunity to unlock my full potential as a future member of the beef industry,” he said.

Before starting at Marcus Oldham in 2017, Forbes was working at home on his family’s beef, cattle and trade lamb property, and contracting himself out for either stock work or machinery operation around the local New England area.

“The best thing for me about studying at Marcus Oldham is how it opens your mind and how you think so you are more business targeted rather than just focussed on agriculture production. It is also a very inviting and fun community to be part of and due to the diverse student base I’m making friends from all over Australia,” Forbes said.

It was a Marcus graduate and now Greenham employee, Nikki Gilder, who first encouraged Forbes to apply for the scholarship.

Students dedicated to pursuing a career across the value chain within the beef or dairy industry were invited to apply, and were asked to address one question: how do you believe the Australian beef or dairy industry will be challenged over the next 15 years and what motivates you to be involved?

Forbes elected to explore the issue of social media and how social license is impacting the beef industry.

“With the ease of being able to gain information or misinformation at the click of a button, it is something that the entire agriculture industry is going to be battling with due to our industry being volatile to public opinion.”

“There is a lot of controversy surrounding this social licence to operate and whether producers should really be giving up best practice to please people who are uneducated in these matters.

The best way to gain a positive social license, rather than conforming to the ideals of the general public would be to educate them as to why we do what we do and prove that we are already running our properties in a sustainable and viable manner,” Forbes wrote in his scholarship paper.

His love for the industry and insight into the subject matter clearly struck a chord with the judges, and in March 2019 he was announced as the inaugural winner of the Greenham Agricultural Scholarship, part of Australian beef trader and retailer Greenham’s investment in the local community and the future of its industry.

Forbes is very clear on where his future lies after Marcus Oldham. He is passionate about being a future leader in the Australian beef industry, and helping to pioneer new techniques and technologies to sustain and ultimately grow the industry.

Now more than two years into his time at Marcus Oldham he is a strong advocate for the experience.

“I hope to learn the ins and outs of business management and gain a better understanding of both the beef industry which I am involved in and a greater understanding of other agricultural production models.

I hope to return home and help dad turn our property into a viable and sustainable business with an emphasis on holistic grazing and land management targeting erosion. I also hope to be a producer that helps with research and development of new management techniques that will help other producers in the future,” he concluded.



“This is important to me because I see it being a major factor in both the way we operate as producers and the force society can put on us and the way we operate in the future.”

Graduation 2018

* Denotes High Distinction
◊ Denotes Distinction

Diploma of Equine Management

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|-----|
| Kate Amanda AUSTIN ◊ | Pullenvale | QLD |
| Sophie Rose BARBER | Glenorchy | VIC |
| Natalie Ann BARTON | Burruga | NSW |
| Cassandra EVANS | Happy Valley | SA |
| Georgia Anne EVERINGHAM ◊ | Armidale | NSW |
| Zoe Anna GREENSLADE | Timboon West | VIC |
| Bree-Anna Ellen HARCOURT | Richmond | TAS |
| Chelsy HARDY ◊ | Sandringham | VIC |
| Clare Ellen HENSLEY | Clermont | QLD |
| Maggie JOHNSTON | Winchelsea | VIC |
| Danielle LAURIE ◊ | Research | VIC |
| Isabelle Rose MACKEY ◊ | Toorak | VIC |
| Naomi Amber MAVRIKIS | Ballarat | VIC |
| Hannah MIKA * | East Bendigo | VIC |
| Katrina Anne O'DRISCOLL ◊ | Point Cook | VIC |
| Madeleine Claire O'MEARA ◊ | Mosman | NSW |
| Caitlin REID | Longford | TAS |
| Alyssa Kate RODGERS ◊ | Milang | SA |
| Lucy Nicole SANDERS | Dingley Village | VIC |
| Olimpia Beyata SANTAMARIA * | Wheeler's Hill | VIC |
| Courtney SUMMONS | Oaklands | NSW |
| Taige WEIR | Navarre | VIC |
| Caitlin WESTWICK | Ballarat | VIC |

Diploma of Agribusiness

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|-------------------------------|-----------------|-----|
| Lily Emma BINGHAM * | Mingay | VIC |
| Logan Helen BROWN | Kangaroo Ground | VIC |
| Joseph William BURGESS | Spring Ridge | NSW |
| Michael CLOSE ◊ | Culla | VIC |
| Callum Christopher CRONIN | Avenel | VIC |
| James Oliver CUSACK | Alfredton | VIC |
| Maxwell Ian Cameron DAVIS ◊ | Holbrook | NSW |
| Kate Marie DRURY * | Meandarra | QLD |
| William Jack Loughnan DRURY ◊ | Meandarra | QLD |
| Charles James Cyril EDWARDS | Wellington | NSW |
| William David FENTON | Branxholme | VIC |
| Shelby Skye GARNETT | Gnowangerup | WA |
| Fraser HOUSE * | Gnowangerup | WA |
| Jock Baillieu MACSMITH | Orange | NSW |
| Alexander Craig MATTSCHHOSS | Gumeracha | SA |
| Jack Michael MCCOSKER ◊ | Meandarra | QLD |
| Benjamin Ross MCCULLUM ◊ | Stockyard Hill | VIC |
| Georgia Anne MCGRATH | Tocumwal | NSW |
| Oscar Donald MCLEAN ◊ | Toowoomba | QLD |
| Fenella MILLING ◊ | Leadville | NSW |

Diploma of Agribusiness cont.

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|------------------------------|------------|-----|
| Lucy Helen MOORE * | Byaduk | VIC |
| Jack Samuel NELSON | Pine Lodge | VIC |
| Jack Francis O'NEILL | Narrabri | NSW |
| Kaitlyn Alice POWNE ◊ | Wondai | QLD |
| Madison Jane RIDGWAY | Carngham | VIC |
| Sophie Jayne STEPHENS ◊ | Hay | NSW |
| Liberty Jane WALKER | Dalby | QLD |
| Zachary Joe WEBSTER ◊ | Cowra | NSW |
| Thomas WETHERALL | Coonawarra | SA |
| Lachlan James Peter ZANKER * | Caltowie | SA |

In Absentia

| | | |
|-------------------------|---------------|-----|
| Sarah HOTTER | Alice Springs | NT |
| Brandon LEETHAM | Griffith | NSW |
| Jane Roslyn PINKERTON ◊ | Scone | NSW |
| Alexander TOUMAZOS | Prospect | SA |

Associate Degree of Agribusiness

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|----------------------------------|----------------|-----|
| Jack William BARTELS ◊ | Mountain River | TAS |
| William Alexander BOYD ◊ | Highton | VIC |
| Kyle William BULL | Boree Creek | NSW |
| Jessie Alison CHANDLER * | Brookfield | QLD |
| James Leslie CORNISH | Penola | SA |
| Nathan Howard Michael DENNY | Deniliquin | NSW |
| Isabelle Ann FENTON ◊ | Mount Samson | QLD |
| Michael Seamus GILTRAP | Jindera | NSW |
| Lachlan Anthony Robert GREGORY ◊ | Gladesville | NSW |
| Dayna Jane GREY * | Sheffield | TAS |
| Matthew Peter HIVES ◊ | Leongatha | VIC |
| Hamish MCGUINNESS | Boorowa | NSW |
| Michael MCMANUS ◊ | Mudgee | NSW |
| James Hamilton RIDGE ◊ | Bourke | NSW |
| Jenny Therese SCHWAGER | Narrabri | NSW |
| Claudia Scarlett TURNBULL | Hernani | NSW |
| Adelaide VIVERS | Armidale | NSW |
| William Joseph WALLIS | Jugiong | NSW |

In Absentia

| | | |
|------------------------------|--------------|-----|
| Thomas Sawyer ALLSOPP | Woollahra | NSW |
| Teeah BUNGEY ◊ | Borden | WA |
| Isabelle Fiona CAMERON | Ross | TAS |
| Benjamin Charles DALEY ◊ | Carindale | QLD |
| Henri Charles DEANS | Tanunda | SA |
| Thomas Hilton HICKMAN | Woodstock | NSW |
| Molly Holcombe MACKAY | Coonamble | NSW |
| William Edward David RICARDO | Collarenebri | NSW |

Associate Degree of Farm Business Management

| | | |
|--|--------------|-----|
| Lachlan Murdoch BROWN | Beaumaris | VIC |
| Samuel Robert BUNGE ◊ | Coleraine | VIC |
| Samuel William Peter BUNTIN ◊ | Oaklands | NSW |
| Thomas CLARK | Boggabilla | NSW |
| Sally Cullam CONWAY * | Taroom | QLD |
| Jack David COURTS | Wellington | NSW |
| Kate Louise CROZIER | Barwon Heads | VIC |
| Joel Nicholas CURR | Trundle | NSW |
| Lachlan James DAY | Malinong | SA |
| Henry Thomas DIGHT | Toowoomba | QLD |
| Sam DURMAN | San Isidore | NSW |
| Lucinda Nickola FENTON | Vasey | VIC |
| William FERGUSSON ◊ | Triabunna | TAS |
| Fergus Robert INGLIS | Yarragundry | NSW |
| Sam Frederick JACKSON ◊ | Kojonup | WA |
| Hamish David JANNINGS | Kojonup | WA |
| Tyler Sydney LEWIS ◊ | Ascot | QLD |
| Cameron LOWE | Wasleys | SA |
| Hannah Margaret Alison MARTINDALE * Tonimbuk | | VIC |
| James Thomas MCCLURE | Tilpa | NSW |
| Jarah MCCONACHY ◊ | Castlemaine | VIC |
| Peter Thomas MCGRATH | The Rock | NSW |
| Dougal MORRISON ◊ | Oatlands | TAS |
| Alexandra Mary MULCAHY ◊ | Kyvalley | VIC |
| Andie Elloise MURPHY | Botany | NSW |
| Holly Caitlin O'REGAN ◊ | Macmasters | NSW |
| Sarah Dianne RICHARDS | Barrabool | VIC |
| Jeremy Donald ROBERTSON | Jerilderie | NSW |
| Samuel Mark SEDGWICK ◊ | Lismore | VIC |
| Megan Elizabeth WEBB * | Bridgewater | VIC |
| Sean Albert Preston WRIGHT | Banana | QLD |
| Curtis Jack WYNHOVEN ◊ | Wurdiboluc | VIC |

Bachelor of Business (Agribusiness)

| | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------|-----|
| Katherine Lucinda BAIN | Stockyard Hill | VIC |
| Tegan Louise BATHGATE | Clarence Town | NSW |
| Sophie Georgia BINGHAM | Mingay | VIC |
| MacKinlay Oliver COOKSON | Borambola | NSW |
| Henri Charles DEANS | Tanunda | SA |
| Nicola Ann GILDER | Merriwa | NSW |
| Elle-Jay Montana HORNER | Rosebery | QLD |
| Ryan Richard KONZAG | Mallala | SA |
| Doone MITCHELL | Bollon | QLD |
| Alice Mary MORT | Toowoomba | QLD |
| Brendan Paul MURRAY | Binyay | NSW |
| Shingirai NYABONDA | Leopold | VIC |
| Jessica Louise PARKER | Russells Bridge | VIC |
| James Scott RICHMOND | Torquay | VIC |
| Alex Jordan ROBERTS | Emerald | QLD |
| Andrew Thomas Huntly SLOAN | Curlewis | VIC |

In Absentia

| | | |
|-------------------------|-------------|-----|
| Caitlyn DONALDSON | Bogantungan | QLD |
| Ian Joel HUME | Galgong | NSW |
| Grace Elizabeth IVES | Hay | NSW |
| Rebecca Leigh KELLY | Mingenew | WA |
| Jack David LITTLER | Hay | NSW |
| Gordon James MCNEIL | Quirindi | NSW |
| Michael Robert WILLIAMS | Noorat | VIC |

Bachelor of Business (Agriculture)

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-----|
| Archibald Douglas BELL | Scone | NSW |
| Jamie Douglas DESHON | Dirranbandi | QLD |
| Louis Van Niekerk GOOSEN | Officer | VIC |
| Thomas Michael GRANT | Deniliquin | NSW |
| James Stewart KIRKPATRICK | Beaufort | VIC |
| Luke Pieter Colburn MAYNE | Bonshaw | NSW |
| Matthew Francis MULCAHY | Streatham | VIC |
| Genevieve Alexandra NORTON | Leongatha | VIC |
| William Maxwell SANDFORD | Deniliquin | NSW |
| Johnathon Robert WATERHOUSE | Caveat | VIC |

In Absentia

| | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|-----|
| James Maitland Gray ANDERSON | Biniguy | NSW |
| Amelia Georgine CAMERON | Ross | TAS |
| Emily Kate CROWE | Codrington | VIC |
| Natalie Louise Virginia LYONS | Wellington | NSW |
| Laura Kathleen WISHART | Boxwood Hill | WA |

Graduate Certificate of Agribusiness

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|-----------------------|-----------|----|
| Sarah Frances VOUMARD | Jamestown | SA |
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In Absentia

| | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------|-----|
| James Marcus CANT | Norwood | SA |
| Fiona Rae GODFREY | Barrabool | VIC |
| Mitchell Domonic HARRIS | Yass | NSW |
| Sophia Valeria Margaret HOFFENBERG | Orange | NSW |
| Cody VAN HEERWAARDEN | Walcha | NSW |

Graduate Diploma of Agribusiness

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|----------------------------|---------|-----|
| Victoria Elizabeth MULCAHY | Tongala | VIC |
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In Absentia

| | | |
|-----------------------|------------|-----|
| Glenn ALDRIDGE | Baranduda | VIC |
| Brett William FINDLAY | Geelong | VIC |
| Ashlee Jayde HAMMOND | Flemington | VIC |
| Lachlan John SUTTON | Wentworth | NSW |

Master of Agribusiness

| | | |
|----------------------|---------|-----|
| Grant Donald MELROSE | Warwick | QLD |
|----------------------|---------|-----|

In Absentia

| | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|-----|
| Georgina Winfield Carleton EDWARDS | South Yarra | VIC |
| Shaun Christopher MCKINNON | Brisbane | QLD |



Clockwise from top left:

Hannah Martindale, Incitec Pivot Limited Award for Farm Business Planning and the Marcus Oldham and Pockley Award to the Dux of the Associate Degree of Farm Business Management, with Andrew Baker, Director of Agribusiness and Agriculture.

Zoe Greenslade, Marcus Oldham College Old Students Association Award for Practical Skills, with Emma Morel, Director of Equine Management.

Isabelle Fenton, G21 Agribusiness Forum Award for Strategic Planning, with Andrew Baker, Director of Agribusiness and Agriculture.

Fraser House, Marcus Oldham Chairman's Award to the Dux of the Diploma of Agribusiness, with Andrew Baker, Director of Agribusiness and Agriculture.

Olimpia Santamaria, Henry Dwyer Racing Award for Equine Business Management, with Emma Morel, Director of Equine Management.

Jack McCosker, Marcus Oldham Principal's Award for Effort and Achievement, with Andrew Baker, Director of Agribusiness and Agriculture.

Dayna Grey, Marcus Oldham College Old Students Association Award for Business Planning and the Mr Robert Beggs AM and Mrs Margaret Beggs Award to the Dux of the Associate Degree of Agribusiness, with Andrew Baker, Director of Agribusiness and Agriculture.

Clockwise from right:

Grant Melrose, Hassad Australia Award to the Dux of the Master of Agribusiness, with Dr Heather Davis, Director of Postgraduate Studies.

Jessie Chandler, Marcus Oldham Principal's Award for Effort and Achievement, with Andrew Baker, Director of Agribusiness and Agriculture.

Megan Webb, Ivo Dean Memorial Award for Agricultural Production and Technology, with Andrew Baker, Director of Agribusiness and Agriculture.

Kaitlyn Powne, Graham McConnell Award for Business Planning, with Andrew Baker, Director of Agribusiness and Agriculture.

Jack Courts, Geelong Colac Regional Mixed Commodity Branch of the VFF Award to Student President and the Marcus Oldham Principal's Award for Effort and Achievement, with Andrew Baker, Director of Agribusiness and Agriculture.

Hannah Mika, Ballarat Veterinary Practice Award for Horse Husbandry and Horse Health and the Mustad Saddleworld Award to the Dux of the Diploma of Equine Management, with Emma Morel, Director of Equine Management.



Independence ensures security

Since its inception, the College Foundation, through the support of its members, has raised more than \$13 million to support the learning program at Marcus Oldham. More than 1000 students have benefited from the scholarship and bursary program which has supported those in financial need as well as those with a particular career vision.

Through our fundraising efforts, the College has considerably, albeit conservatively, expanded on the teaching and residential facilities in order to create the most effective spaces for young people to learn. In this time, almost 3,000 students from around the country have been educated at Marcus Oldham and benefitted by these improvements.

The progression of the College is without doubt reliant on the generosity of our community. Graduates, families, friends, professional networks and philanthropic agencies, who have a particular interest in agriculture, the equine industry, education and young people are the backbone to the success of this institution. An investment in Marcus Oldham ensures that the very best people are being prepared to capably manage and lead Australia's agricultural industry.

Yet given the enormity, diversity and opportunity that our industry provides, it is troubling to hear that another two agricultural colleges have since closed their doors. It poses the question, is it our independence that has saved us?

Without doubt, the College is moving into a time of change; a time of evolution and a time of advancement. As the business world progresses at a rapid rate, we must ensure that our programs and our graduates are equipped with the right information to meet with demand. Construction on the new Learning Centre has commenced and is planned to be completed in time for the commencement of the 2020 year. The Learning Centre will be the benchmark for how Marcus Oldham is defined going forward; new ways of teaching, the very latest technologies and communication capabilities that we have not been able to provide our students with before.

Through donation, pledge and gift, the College has now secured \$6.7 million



College Chairman, Bruce Wilson FM '71, Foundation Chairman, Antony Baillieu FM '71, Principal, Dr Simon Livingstone FM '87, Gillon McLachlan pictured with the 2019 scholarship recipients, at this year's Foundation Cocktail Party.

of the \$10 million price tag for this build. A further \$3.3 million is required. Now more than ever, we are reliant on our community to get behind us and ensure that this building is completed and delivers on its promises and the College continues to be able to perform in the independent manner that it was established to be.

Through a range of activities, the Foundation continues to reach out to as many community members as possible to ensure that they are included in this journey. The College will never become too big that it loses its identity or rapport with its supporters.

The recent golf day at the picturesque Eynesbury Golf Course and Homestead is a reflection of this. Now in its 13th year, the event was at full capacity and raised just on \$40,000 for the Learning Centre. Golfers were treated

to a range of luxuries on course, whilst masterclass participants were educated in landscape design by one of Australia's most acclaimed designers, Ian Barker.

Renowned art collector and past parent, Don Holt of Delmore Gallery, provided luncheon guests with an insight into Aboriginal art, before putting forth a very special piece for auction. Guests were then treated to a humbling address by the 2019 Student President, Margo Sullivan, who spoke of her time growing up in the outback, her schooling years and life after finding Marcus. A new animation of the Learning Centre, including time-lapse footage, was then shared with guests before celebrity auctioneer Phil de Fegely rounded out the day.

Special mention and welcome must go to new College scholarship sponsor

Greenham & Sons, for the provision of their magnificent premium branded Bass Strait Beef which was served at the luncheon, in addition to a very generous take home meat hamper that was provided to all guests.

Other major sponsors included Cobram Estate (Rob McGavin AA '93), Eynesbury Nursery (Tim Durham FM '77 graduate & past parent), Eynesbury Homestead, Colliers International (Agribusiness) and long term supporters, Nine Agricultural Media. Thank you to a range of other sponsors who played and supported our hole sponsorships on the day.

It is an exciting time for Marcus Oldham and the future students that pass through our doors.

Recently, the Foundation held its annual cocktail party in Melbourne at the magnificent Metropolis on Southbank. Melbourne city lights provided a phenomenal backdrop for the evening with more than 300 guests in attendance. Special guest speaker, was none other than AFL CEO and friend of the College, Gillon McLachlan. For those who are not aware, Gillon was raised on a large sheep station in Mt Pleasant in South Australia and is one of Australia's most talented polo players, a sport he continues to compete in, despite the demands of his role with the AFL. Gillon provided guests with a rare insight into the daily challenges he manages within the AFL and shared management advice that could easily be adopted across other industries.

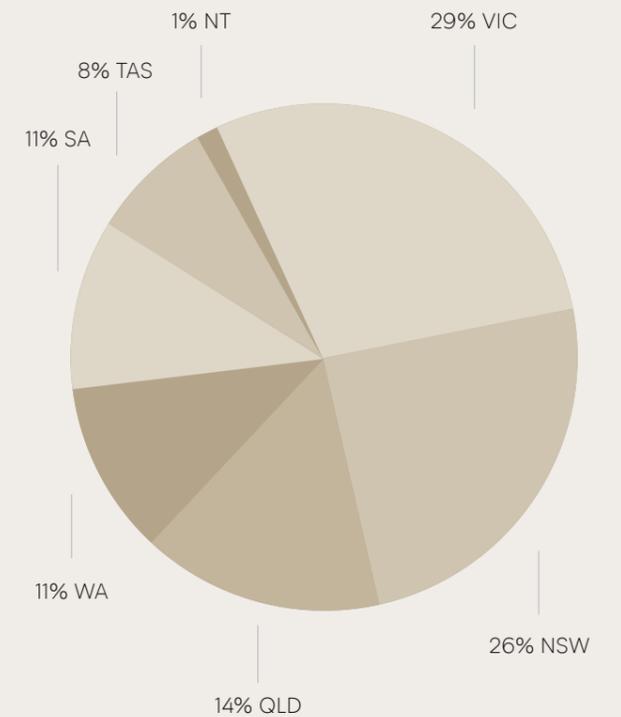
Special thanks to third year Agriculture students, Kaleb Gerschwitz from Maitland in South Australia who did a wonderful job of acting as Master of Ceremonies on the night and Student President, Margo Sullivan for once again sharing her Marcus Oldham story. Both students were also humble recipients of scholarships. I cannot emphasise enough how important our scholarship program is for the many students who may not have otherwise been able to attend the College and would like to acknowledge the Bill Ruse family who have supported our scholarship program over the past 10 years.

On a final note, I would like to welcome Agribusiness graduate, Jess Chandler from Brookfield in Queensland to the fold. Jess will be working with the Foundation as Scholarship and Communications Officer and will be the central contact for our Alumni communications going forward. Jess can be contacted on chandler@marcusoldham.vic.edu.au or (03) 5247 2927.

Should you be passing through Geelong at any stage, an open invitation exists to call in and see first hand the exciting developments going on around the College.

Alannah Halloran
Foundation Manager

National footprint of where our student (graduate) community comes from:



Fast Facts

Foundation Established: 1989

Foundation Chairman: Antony Baillieu

Total Foundation Donors: 1091

Total Foundation Members: 535 (Given over \$1000)

Total \$'s raised: \$13,000,000 (including scholarships)

Total Graduate Contribution: \$1,297,586

Annual Scholarships: Approximately 35

Smallest Donation: \$10

Largest Donation: \$3,200,000

The Learning Centre Project: \$10 million price tag

Secured Funds: \$6.7 million

Target Funds: \$3.3 million

- Marcus Oldham was the first institution in Australia to embed a Health and Wellbeing component into all curriculum.
- Future programs of interest: Developing and expanding our residential facilities and expanding our reach with offsite programs supporting business, including preparing for drought and mental health.

Reunions Arranged

50 Year Reunion FM 1970

Date: Saturday 28 September 2019

Where: To be held at Marcus Oldham College in the form of a luncheon.

Further details: Harvey Liebmann
0405 102 172 or harveythelover@gmail.com

50 Year Reunion FM 1969

Dates: Saturday 5 — Sunday 6
October 2019

Where: Lunch and a tour of Marcus Oldham College with the Principal, Simon Livingstone on Saturday, followed by a dinner to be held at the RACV Resort Torquay. Lunch on Sunday at the Torquay Surf Club.

Further details: Ken Baldry
0429 432 526 or ken@baldryandsons.com

Tim Clarke
0418 570 243 or pranjip_park@hotmail.com

Geoff French
03 5261 6609 or frenchygeoff17@gmail.com

John Tulloch
0417 528 011 or john@mendip.com.au

30 Year Reunion FM 1989

Dates: Saturday 17 — Sunday 18
August 2019

Where: To be held on the New South Wales coast — venue still yet to be decided, but somewhere with a cold beer, easy to get to and easy on the pocket.

Further details: Iain McGregor
0429 313 308 or yerilla@bigpond.com

33 Year Reunion FM 1984 – 1986

Dates: Friday 13 — Sunday 15
September 2019

Where: To be held at the Brisbane Royal Pines Resort, Surfers Paradise Queensland.

Further details: Brett Boyes, 0408 115 515 or yurugaboy@gmail.com



Field Day Calendar

June 2019

Melbourne International 3 Day Event,
Werribee VIC
6 — 10 June 2019

July 2019

The Australian Sheep and Wool Show,
Bendigo VIC
19 — 21 July 2019

August 2019

Sheepvention,
Hamilton VIC
*Alumni Drinks held at Hamilton Club
4 — 6 August 2019

AgQuip Field Days,
Gunnedah NSW
20 — 22 August 2019

Dowerin Field Days,
Dowerin WA
28 — 29 August 2019

September 2019

Henty Machinery Field Days,
Henty NSW
*Alumni Drinks held at Albury Club
17 — 19 September 2019

Yorke Peninsula Field Days,
Paskeville SA
24 — 26 September 2019

November 2019

Australian International 3 Day Event
Adelaide, SA
14 — 17 November 2019

Reunions Been

54 Year Reunion FM 1965

Thanks to the concerted efforts of Graham (Harry) Hooper, nine 1965 graduates attended a lunch at the Edgewater in Geelong. They were Phil Bade, Doug Reading, Geoff Tabener, Andrew (Gus) Gardener, Tim (Scobie) Robinson, Harry Hooper, Pete Speirs, Andrew Campbell and Doug Stewart. There was a late scratching when Foster Crooke had to withdraw when the bush fires closed roads he would have been travelling. Several partners also attended, no doubt to make sure their men were not led astray.



Andrew Campbell decided it was time to visit the College, not having been back since graduating from the College in 1965. Those of us who went out to the College after the lunch were impressed with the development taking place, and the outline given by Simon Livingstone as to what is happening to keep the College at the forefront of agricultural education.

An inspection of the carob trees planted in 2015 as a memorial to Andrew Gebhardt, the Senior Student of 1965, took place.



30 Year Reunion HBM 1989

On Saturday, 18 May 2019, students from the 1989 Horse Business Management cohort gathered at Flemington racecourse for their 30-year reunion.

Students travelled from New Zealand, Western Australia, Sydney and Victoria and were joined by former Horse Business Management Course Director John Stewart, administrator John Miles and farrier instructor Miles Hodge.

The afternoon kicked off at the races, continued at a nearby restaurant, and the stayers kicked on at Crown until the early hours, a big effort considering that some of the New Zealand contingent were flying out early the next morning.

All had a great time with many great memories replayed during the day and discussions around what we have been doing since graduating from Marcus Oldham. For some, it was the first time they had seen each other since college and the feeling of

camaraderie which developed over the year together at Marcus was still very strong.

In the days after the reunion, many old photos of some of the years events were dug out and shared around, evoking lots more great memories. Talk on the night was that we must get together and do it all again. Thanks

to all of those who made a big effort to get there and to those who weren't able to make it this time, we will be doing it again in five years.

A Facebook group was created to invite graduates along and to share the photos of the year and the reunion.

Adrian Crowther
HBM 1989



For anyone planning a reunion, please contact alumni@marcusoldham.edu.au
or call Jess Chandler on 03 5247 2927

The Network

BIRTHS

Charlie Wythes BBusAgrib '15 and **Leah Wythes (nee Morrison) BBusAgrib '13** are pleased to announce the safe arrival of their first daughter and little sister to Darby, Rowena Una Blake Wythes, born at Calvary Hospital, Wagga Wagga on 22 November 2018 weighing 5lbs 12oz.



Katherine Reed HBM '13 and her husband **Tim Reed** were excited to bring home a little brother for William, Harrison 'Harry' Trevor Reed, born on 9 February 2019 weighing 8lb4oz.



Dru Hughes BBusAgri '11 and her partner **Chris Wendelborn** welcomed **Herbert Wendelborn** on 7 November 2018 in Mackay, weighing 8lb8oz.



Roger Hirsch Agrib '06 and **Anna Hirsch Stojek Agrib '13** are thrilled to announce the safe arrival of **William Martin Fergus Hirsch** on 18 February 2019, weighing 6lbs 11oz and measuring 47cm.

Lawrence Simpson BBusAgric '16 and his wife **Stephanie** celebrated the birth of their second son, **Hugh Jeremy Simpson**, on 15 March 2019. Older brother **Harry** was very excited to have a little brother.

James Wood HBM '07 and wife **Jessica** welcomed their first child, **William Francis Boyne Wood** into the world on 8 February 2019. All doing well.



Olivia Martin (nee Conway) BBusAgric '14 and her husband **Tom Martin** welcomed their first child, **Kate Jane Martin**, on the 12 November 2018.

ENGAGEMENTS

Ben Morrison FBM '10 and **Kirsty Hawkins Agrib '11** are engaged and to be married in April 2020. Kirsty and Ben first met when Ben undertook practical placement at Kirsty's family farm "Circle H Farms" in 2009 but didn't get together until the end of 2016. Kirsty and Ben are both currently living on Ben's property at Nile, Tasmania.

Patrick Taylor FBM '14 and **Mady Muirhead EM '14** announced their engagement on 23 November 2018 on Patrick's family farm "Greenhill" in Tasmania. Marriage plans are set for April 2020.

Ed Bradley HBM '11 and **Bea Litchfield** announced their engagement on 25 November 2018 and wedding plans are coming together for the long weekend in January 2020. Ed and Bea reside on the Litchfield family property at Cooma, New South Wales, with both Ed and Bea working for the Litchfield family business, Hazeldean Litchfield.

Alexander Madden BBusAgric '12 is engaged to **Annie Horton** who comes from Goondiwindi, Queensland. Both Alec and Annie live in Moree New South Wales on Alex's property and have chosen the long weekend in October for their wedding day. **Katie Turner Agrib '11** also played a hand in the special day, flying the engagement ring from Brisbane to Moree the afternoon of the engagement!

Claire Bibby FBM '04 and **David Goodin** announced their engagement in front of family on Claire's Birthday, December 18 2018. Claire is the Apprenticeship Coordinator at Longerenong College.

Carl Rodger BBusAgric '12 announced his engagement to **Sophie Sutherland** on 6 November 2018. Currently based in Geelong, they have chosen to get married on Sophie's family property "Tooma Station" at Tooma, New South Wales.

Austin McLennan Agrib '13 and **Charlotte Sutherland** are engaged and to be married in March 2020. Austin and Charlotte first met whilst Austin was studying at Marcus Oldham and the two currently reside on Austin's family property in Goulburn, New South Wales. Austin manages the family farm, whilst Charlotte works within her parent's business Upper Murray Seeds as the Southern NSW Area Manager.

MARRIAGES



Jess Skilbeck BBusAgric '10 married **James Kanaley** on 3 November 2018 at James' family property "Hazeldene" near Junee, New South Wales.



Tim McDonald FBM '13 married **Fiona Macleod** on 1 September 2018 at the Barwon Heads Golf Course. Fiona originally hails from Jingellic, New South Wales and has now settled at St George in Queensland on Tim's property.



Alec Pengilley FBM '13 and **Eleanor Turnbull** were married on 13 September 2018 at Eleanor's parents' property, 'St Claystones' at Splitters Creek near Albury.



Ian Archer BBusAgric '17 and **Alex Webster BBusAgric '14** were married on the 15 March 2019 at Mooloolaba on the Sunshine Coast, Queensland.



Peter Stephens FM '83 married **Emma Claire Fisher** on Friday 22 March at Fisherman's Pier Geelong and celebrated with friends on Saturday 23 at Sawyers Arms (Clats) Newtown.



Jess-Lee Herman EM '17 married **Zach Mihocek** after eight years together and a two-year engagement. The wedding was held on 16 March 2019 at Willie Smith Apple Shed in the Huon Valley, Tasmania.

Rebecca Gribble HBM '06 married **Henry Dwyer HBM '07** after a 12 year friendship which evolved into a romantic relationship and engagement in late 2017. The wedding was held on the 30 of November, 2018 at Sault Daylesford. Rebecca and Henry have a daughter, Violet, and are expecting the family to expand in October 2019.

Andrew Graham BBusAgric '12 married **Kylie Gardner** on 9 November 2018 at St Patrick's Church, Adjungbilly with reception to follow at Andrew's property RedHill.

Ed Ross Agrib '13 married **Allana Joy McIntyre** on 2 March 2019 at Glenmore, Mt Tyson, Queensland.



Hugh Landale BBusFM '12 and **Airlie Trescowthick** were married on Airlie's family farm at Holbrook, New South Wales on 6 October 2019. The couple live on Hugh's family property, 'Dahwilly', north of Deniliquin in New South Wales. Hugh manages the mixed farming operation and Airlie runs the online platform Farm Table.

Marcus All Over



Augathella Rural win AIRR Queensland Member of the Year Award 2019

In February, **Andrew Alexander Agrib '97** and wife Karla, were named the 2019 AIRR Queensland Members of the Year. Andrew and Karla own and run Augathella Rural, a rural merchandise/hardware store in Augathella, Queensland. Augathella Rural was just one of many businesses nominated for the award, with Augathella rising to the top due to its "determined and strong group of people who have managed to diversify



Stuart Tait BBusFM '13, 2017 Nuffield Scholar, recently finalised his research on cost-effective management for filling seasonal feed gaps in pasture systems. Realising the impact supplementary feeding in southern beef systems has

Luke Wilkinson HBM '02 joins Yulong

After many years with elite training operation, Mick Price Racing, **Luke Wilkinson HBM '02** took a progressive step into the exciting new role of Bloodstock Manager with international racing and breeding juggernaut, Yulong Investments.

Yulong have been an active influence on the Australian bloodstock industry, investing in world class properties in Victoria.

Yulong COO Sam Fairgray was pleased to have secured Luke for the role, stating to Racing.com 'He has a good brain for thoroughbreds, is highly regarded and respected amongst his colleagues and having been with Mick Price for nine years, it's a great testament to his loyalty and professionalism.

He will be a valuable asset to Yulong.' Luke kicked off his role at the Inglis Melbourne Premier Yearling Sales, where he was involved with the purchase of 10 yearlings, a total spend of \$1,815,000. Yulong own three properties in Victoria, one in Koo Wee Rup and two in Nagambie, providing ideal options to breed, grow, race and spell thoroughbreds.

Luke continues to be supportive of the College Equine Management program, mentoring graduates and providing practical placement opportunities where available. We wish Luke the best in his new role and look forward to seeing him thrive at Yulong Investments.

and grow their business across multiple rural product categories such as crop production and fencing. The fact that we have endured some of the worst conditions on record, shows how special this achievement is for Augathella Rural", says AIRR Managing Director, Peter Law.

Every year at the AIRR Member Conference, AIRR announce their award-winning members. The awards are based on a number of considerations; growth, embracing of the AIRR culture and loyalty.



2017 Nuffield Scholar and 2013 Marcus Oldham Graduate Stuart Tait finishes research report

on profitability, Stuart began seeking solutions. During his scholarship, Stuart explored different farming systems and solutions from various regions across the world, including New Zealand, Europe, North and South America. In the context of Southern Australia's climate and rainfall, Stuart evaluated possible solutions for effectively managing feed throughout the whole year. In his report, released in February this year, Stuart identifies several innovations applicable to Southern Australia's seasons and makes several well considered recommendations

for cost-effective forage-based beef production year-round.

Furthermore, the report outlines possible forage growth sequences for year-long pasture-based production, for example complementing spring and summer productive pastures, such as cocksfoot, lucerne and chicory, with dual purpose winter wheat to provide year [round] forage.

Stuart has made a great contribution to industry through his scholarship, presenting simple and tangible cost-effective feed management strategies.



2015 Equine Management Graduate Lewis Newtown wins the 2019 Marcus Oldham Aachen Challenge

The Marcus Oldham Aachen Challenge made its first appearance at its new home, the P.S.I Dressage and Jumping with the Stars, at the Werribee National Equestrian Centre, Victoria. This year, 12 talented young rider combinations entered for the challenge.

The final day saw the last three finalists of Tayla Desmet and Bluefields Furstantanz, Micky Bray and Flowervale Florenz and **Lewis Newton EM '15** and DS Burlington Bertie present an exciting finale where they had to ride the first test on their own horse and then again on their competitors' horse.

The winner of the 2019 Marcus Oldham Aachen Challenge was Marcus Oldham graduate Lewis Newton. His horse, Moira Kelly's DS Burlington Bertie was also named the best mount, having the highest aggregate score of all three rides in the final round.

Lewis receives a trip overseas to the world famous CHIO Aachen 2019, complete with airfares, accommodation and a season pass courtesy of Marcus Oldham's generous sponsorship.



Andrew Kelly recognised as young achiever

Congratulations to **Andrew Kelly Agrib '13** who has been recognised as a rising star of the livestock export industry, winning the Australian Livestock Exporters' Council's Young Achiever of the Year Award. Andrew was named as the winner of the award at an industry Gala Dinner in Adelaide on 1 November 2018.

"Andrew's patience and thoroughness is something that is greatly valued,

acknowledged and admired within Landmark International and he is very deserving of this industry recognition," said Landmark International General Manager Andy Ingle.

Andrew has been working at Landmark International since his second year Agribusiness placement in August 2013 and is currently the Operations Manager.



**New staff member:
Dr Jessica Roberts,
Lecturer in Precision
Agriculture**

Prior to joining Marcus Oldham College in July last year as the Precision Agriculture Lecturer, Jess was lecturing and undertaking research at Central Queensland University. Having grown up in the Northern Territory and north-west slopes of New South Wales, Jess comes from a long line of graziers with connections to the College. She is passionate about agricultural education and brings to the College nine years of experience in precision livestock management, having completed a PhD in the field.



**New staff member:
Dr Heather Davis,
Director Postgraduate
Studies**

Heather returned to Marcus Oldham in July 2018 to manage and support postgraduate studies at the College. Heather brings a wealth of experience from her previous role at the University of Melbourne (2012-2018) where she led and managed postgraduate online studies. Prior to that she was a Research Manager at Deakin University. Heather completed a PhD in 2012 exploring leadership for the knowledge era. In the early 1990's Heather spent three happy and productive years at Marcus as Librarian and is delighted to be back.



**New staff member:
Katrina Wood,
Associate Lecturer in
Equine Management**

Katrina joined the team at Marcus Oldham in January 2018 as an Associate Lecturer in Equine Management. Katrina has a strong connection with the College, having first graduated from Marcus Oldham with a Diploma of Equine Management in 2006. Since then, Katrina has forged a career in the thoroughbred racing and breeding industry in Australia and New Zealand, working in roles ranging from stable hand to stud administration. Katrina has a wealth of experience to share with the student cohort and continues her involvement in the racing industry breeding thoroughbreds. Katrina also completed a Bachelor of Business (Agribusiness) at Marcus Oldham in 2015.



**Wes Lefroy named one of 50
WA Rising Stars**

Earlier this year The West Australian newspaper shone a light on 50 bright, talented and inspiring young people over 50 days. These names were not necessarily well known but were ear marked by the The West Australian newspaper, in association with Northern Star Resources, to be people of influence in the decades to come i.e. politicians, Nobel Prize winners or celebrities.

As part of the 50-day series, current postgraduate student, Wes Lefroy, who is studying his Master of Agribusiness with Marcus Oldham was nominated as one of the 50 WA Rising Stars.

Wes calls Moora home, a rural town 170 kilometres north of Perth. He is currently based in Sydney though and works as an Agricultural Analyst within the global RaboResearch team.

His passion for agriculture stems from his childhood roots growing up on a mixed cropping farm. Currently, Wes' role is cross-sectoral, primarily focussed on ag land and AgTech, in addition to fertiliser, grains and oilseeds.

Wes told The West Australian newspaper he intends to stay in agribusiness for the time being and eventually hopes to work in WA in the long-term.

'I'm not one to map out specific long-term goals,' he said. 'It's more a case of focusing on short-term development and identifying opportunities as they arise.'

'One of the things I've found valuable is to consistently seek new experiences to test and grow my skills. It has been very different, for example, moving from Perth to work in Sydney.'

'I would also love to spend time working overseas at some stage, but eventually see myself coming back and working in agriculture in WA. There's definitely no timeline.'



Left to right: Principal Simon Livingstone, Ian Farran and College Chairman Bruce Wilson.

**Honorary Degree
awarded to Ian Farran
at the 2018 Marcus
Oldham Graduation**

**IAN FARRAN, BACHELOR OF
BUSINESS (AGRICULTURE)**

Marcus Oldham College has a rich 57-year history and its success as an educational institution is attributed to many things — the quality of the students, education ethos, unique learning environment and passionate staff. The continued success of the College relies on the significant contribution of these individual staff who provide time and valuable input into the organisation.

Ian Farran has been a major contributor to Marcus Oldham and was acknowledged

for his efforts at the 2018 Marcus Oldham Graduation. The College awarded an honorary degree at last year's ceremony to Ian.

Successful organisations are built on culture. For Marcus Oldham, Ian has been a key influencer of positive culture over a sustained period of close to 25 years. Ian has lectured in Agricultural Engineering and provided the agriculture students with a wonderful insight into how theory can be applied to practice. With qualifications in agriculture, engineering, agribusiness and computing, Ian has been well placed to impart significant knowledge to our students.

Ian has had an extensive career working as an industry consultant. He has been instrumental in the establishment of Pastoral Pork, Western Plains Pork and Otway Pork Processing.

Ian is highly regarded by both staff and students, always encouraging students to do their best and keen to see them represent the College at the highest level.

About the Award

Honorary degrees are awarded to individuals who have made, and continue to make, a significant positive contribution to an institution's success. An honorary degree is one of higher education's most significant accolades.

It is the policy of Marcus Oldham to award honorary degrees, on a selective basis, to distinguished individuals who merit special recognition for genuine achievement and distinction in a field or activity in line with the mission of the College.

Cocktail Party



Top Left: College Council members, Cam Emerson, Bruce Wilson (Chairman) FM '71 and Kate O'Sullivan FM '89 with Elizabeth Riordan. **Top Right:** Foundation Chairman, Antony Baillieu FM '71. **Second Top Right:** Scholarship sponsor, Rachel Gill from Mutooro Pastoral Company with scholarship recipient, Harold Oates. **Second Row Left:** Foundation Executive member and Elders Chairman, Mike Carroll with wife Sallie and College Council member, John McKillop, Director Hasaad Australia. **Second Row Right:** Master of Ceremonies, Kaleb Gerschwitz, pictured with guest speaker, Gillon McLachlan, Student President Margo Sullivan and College Principal, Dr Simon Livingstone FM '87. **Third Row:** College Sponsors, Stephen Creese of Ingleby Farms and Trevor Flemming of Greenham & Sons with Foundation Executive member, Peter O'Loughlin. **Bottom:** Former Council member Ian McMichael pictured with wife Tam and Bill Ruse family members, Jill Laurie and Tom Ruse.

Golf Day



Top Row: Golf Day participants. **Second Row Left:** Anne Snell, Marina Oman, Sybil Baillieu and Gill Myers heading out to their first hole. Marina and Nelly were overall runner ups. **Second Row Middle:** John Coutts, Michael Ronaldson, Michael Jackson and Geoff Fiske. **Second Row Right:** Charlie Baillieu, Foundation Chairman Antony Baillieu FM '71, Golf Pro David Tapping and Craig 'Ned' Kelly. Ant and David finished 3rd overall. **Third Row Left:** Major sponsors Greenham & Sons' Darren Maloney, Dean Mottram and Michael Urban pictured with their 2019 Scholarship Recipient and team member Forbes Boydell who is currently in his 3rd year of Agriculture. **Third Row Middle:** Overall winners — Cameron Gull and Paul Burke from Team Gull. **Third Row Right:** Hole sponsors Melaluka Trading - Fil Alvarez de Toledo FM '93, Joel Watson, Michael Fitzgerald and Simon Pritchard AA '00. **Bottom Left:** Major Sponsors Colliers International — team members: Sam Douglas, Jock Grimshaw, Henry Mackinnon and Duncan McCulloch. **Bottom Right:** Hole sponsor Earth & Water Technologies — Carlie Ryan, Tim Clingham, John Lewis and past parent, Rowly Paterson.

Retirement Party

JANET CRAIGIE-MCCONNELL & IAN FARRAN

Earlier this year we celebrated the end of an era as Ian Farran and Janet Craigie-McConnell retired from Marcus Oldham College. It was such a special evening with old and new friends of the College, recognising the dedication, hard work and contribution Ian and Janet have made to Marcus Oldham. Combined, Ian and Janet have been involved with Marcus Oldham for over 50 years! We wish Ian and Janet all the best with their future endeavours, you will both be missed.



Top: Ian Farran and Dave Goodfellow. **Second Row Left:** Alan Blackburn and Alby Carnegie. **Second Row Middle:** Janet Craigie-McConnell and Kate Sharkey AA '96. **Second Row Right:** John Moloney, Scott Vanderkley, Matt Robertson and Jess Roberts. **Third Row Left:** Lyn Cameron, Jo Jones, and Di Hand. **Third Row Middle:** Ashley McGough, Jennifer Jones and Sophie Rodger. **Third Row Right:** Sam Inglis FM '66 and Keith Abbott. **Fourth Row Left:** Alannah Halloran, Pam Oakes and Cathy Bent. **Fourth Row Middle:** Principal Dr Simon Livingstone FM '87 and Janet Craigie-McConnell. **Fourth Row Right:** Janet Craigie McConnell and Emma Morel.

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