

MOCOSA

ISSUE 49 | JUNE 2022

Marcus Oldham Diamond Anniversary

Celebratory edition.



ANNIVERSARY

The perfect pivot

Gigi Tuanui — perfecting
the art of adaptation

What a difference a dog makes

Dave Graham — saving lives
through the magic of dogs

Oldham Goldies

Our pioneering
students



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We acknowledge we are educating on the traditional land of the Wadawurrung people and honour and pay our respects to their Elders past, present and future.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Andrew Baker

It is certainly great to see a return to more normal times in 2022 and the Marcus Oldham learning model re-established. The immersive and interactive engagement between the lecturing staff and students is back.



It is fantastic to see the students this year embrace all the learning and social opportunities that Marcus Oldham has to offer. Study tours, intercollegiate meat judging, social evenings, and the re-emergence of the intra-college rowing regatta are all signs of a thriving community.

Our new Learning Centre has been put to good use with students hearing presentations from David Goodfellow, Managing Director of CBRE Agribusiness, on what is driving land values, and Dr Luke Bennett. Dr Bennett was in Australia for the Grand Prix and manages the performance programs for the FIA Formula 1 World Championships. Luke motivated us all when he spoke of building and maintaining peak performance. I thank **Tim McGavin AdCertAA'94, DipAA'99**, for introducing Luke to the College.

Even though I have been at the College for 16 years, moving into a new role always has its challenges. It was extremely sad to lose **Rachel Watts DipHBM'05, Associate Lecturer in Equine Management**, in March. Rachel joined the lecturing staff in January this year and was a perfect fit. Staff and students are all the better for knowing this equally high achieving, humble colleague and mentor.

On a positive note, I must thank Elizabeth Gubbins who joined Marcus Oldham at the beginning of this year as Deputy Principal, Development and Culture, and Tony McMeel – Deputy Principal, Finance and Commercial for all their support in my transition to Principal. Elizabeth has shown true commitment to the College, providing student support and in her role connecting with our alumni and the broader Marcus

community. Tony has put countless hours into the development of our new accommodation wing and the on-going reporting and development of the College.

The 60th Celebration was an amazing success. The Marcus mantra of pursuing a keen sense of fun and making friendships to last a lifetime was clearly demonstrated over the weekend.

As we continue to strive for excellence in teaching and learning, the on-campus students are looking forward to the return of international study tours this trimester, with groups going to either New Zealand or the USA in August.

Andrew Baker,
Principal

FROM THE MOCOSA PRESIDENT

Peter Stephens

The Graduation Ceremony for 2020/21 on Friday 6th May was a great day celebrating the amazing efforts of our Graduates during two COVID ravaged years.



The speech by Mr. Alan Myers AC QC highlighted the history of the College, the contribution of the trilogy of Marcus Oldham, Sir James Darling and Ivo Dean, and the success of the College due to the philanthropy of others, and the calibre of the Graduates.

Unfortunately, this year we were missing the speech of the Graduate of Excellence, a prestigious award granted each year by MOCOSA. Receiving the award in 2019 was an absolute highlight for **Simon Staughton DipFM'68**, but equally for the graduating group who heard a great story of success which he attributed in a large part to his experiences at Marcus Oldham.

We constantly read about Marcus Graduates achieving great things, so MOCOSA is very keen to ensure that for the Graduation Ceremony of 2022 and beyond, a Marcus Graduate of Excellence can again address the cohort of Graduands. Therefore, we encourage you to nominate a Marcus graduate you know who has excelled in their chosen profession; it can even be yourself! Please see the initial criteria and the process later in this issue of MOCOSA.

On other matters, the College celebrated 60 years on the 21st and 22nd May, fittingly in the new Douglas Boyd Learning Centre, highlighting to past students how far Marcus has come in that time. In addition, the new accommodation

wing is now full of students and the College Council are well down the track in looking at expanding accommodation even further.

Agriculture is booming and there is no better time for young people to invest in the best agricultural/agribusiness/equine training in the country. To that end, planning is underway for College staff and Council to get out into the bush and showcase what Marcus has to offer. MOCOSA members in these districts are the key to making this a success — so look out for more information as these plans progress.

In the meantime, I hope the rain stops where you are inundated, and either comes or continues where things are a bit drier.

Wishing everyone a great winter.

Cheers,

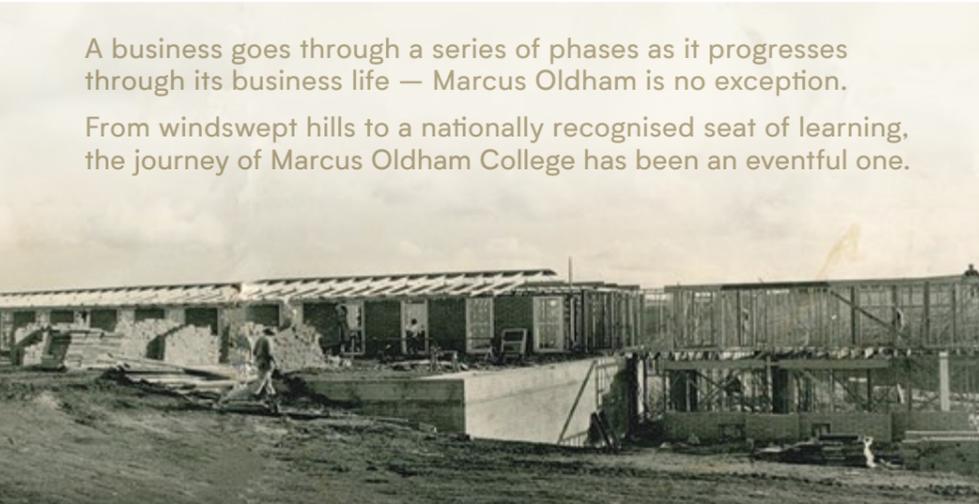
Peter Stephens DipFM'83
MOCOSA President

Meaning business for 60 years

By Sam Inglis
DipFM'66Hon BB(Ag)'18,
MOCOSA Secretary

A business goes through a series of phases as it progresses through its business life — Marcus Oldham is no exception.

From windswept hills to a nationally recognised seat of learning, the journey of Marcus Oldham College has been an eventful one.



1962 – 1978

I.A Dean (Ivo) — the Founding Principal

- MOFAC opens with inaugural course of 14 students in 1962
- First emphasis on role of farmer short courses in 1963 with development of the "Grey book" series of farmer short courses conducted by Jack Makeham and Oldham staff
- First OCOSA meeting (forerunner of MOCOSA) held in April 1964 — Philip Bade the first Chair
- Static student numbers in Farm Management (FM) course causes a rethink of strategy — Farm Management Resource Centre developed by Brian Clarke with focus on self-paced units for distance education — taking courses to the rural industry. Alan Blackburn continued the program
- Rod Ashby and Alan Blackburn appointed to staff — Farm Business Management becomes the focus with a strong case study approach to learning
- The FM course reaches out with student enrolments from all states
- First overseas study tour for students (to New Zealand) conducted by John Anderson

Trustees action in High Court overturns the terms of the original Oldham Bequest and allows female students to study the FM course.

- First female graduate in FM course was Kirsten Larsen.
- Pete Doyle (Doyley) joins the team and retires in 2003 after 34 years as the keeper of secrets and the master of damaged bedroom door repairs. Recognised by MOCOSA as an Honorary Old Scholar for his services to the alumni and student body during his tenure
- Ivo's ducks, sheep and hay bales form an integral part of hostel living — particularly at weekends
- Wool shed and lambing shed became the centre of student social activity — the wool shed floor never recovered from this social activity to the day it was demolished
- Remembered for wheelbarrow races, cross country and other torturous events between staff and students
- How do you get a Morris Mini Minor onto the billiard table in the Games room? — ask the 1965 year group
- Ivo's legacy — introduction of a holistic philosophy to farm management (which is still the core of the Marcus Oldham education program) ensured the practical year was an integral part of the learning program; pre-entry practical experience vs academic credentials ensured that Marcus maintained its independent educational status; and a massive tree planting program
- Ivo was awarded an OAM in 2006 for his services to agricultural education and the rural community
- **College poised to move from implementation and survival, to growth phase**

1978 – 1994

Graham Robert McConnell (Rowdy)

- Alby Carnegie as Course Director is instrumental in the development, introduction and conduct of the Horse Management Course (HMC) in 1979, with 21 students in first intake
- James Darling Resources Centre opened in 1981 — David Reid coordinates the first major fundraising program for the College
- Sam Inglis joins the team as Animal Production lecturer and Horse Course Director
- Bill Bowker runs the first computer classes for students on campus — "they'll never take off in farming"
- McCann stables and round yard built as first facilities for the HMC
- John Stewart appointed Director of HMC with a clear focus to develop the course to provide pathways to industry for graduating students
- Advanced Certificate of Agribusiness (Farm Secretary Course) — forerunner of the current Agribusiness Program introduced with Bec Reynolds as Course Director — 10 students in first intake — a significant GRMcC initiative
- Rod Ashby and Alan Blackburn consolidate the FM program with an emphasis on case studies and an integrated holistic approach to Farm Business Management. Emphasis on the management of farming businesses sees the development of the Marcus model for Business Management — "the bouncing balls approach" — your role as a manager is to keep them in the air

- College Foundation formed as the major fundraising arm of the College with Robert Beggs and Antony Baillieu as recent chairmen of the Executive Committee
- Short course emphasis promoted to banking sector with Bankers Courses conducted for major banks — focus on concepts of farm business management for rural lenders.
- Course numbers start to grow — McKinnon and Law Smith accommodation wings constructed - "Club Med" becomes the temporary "dream home" for some students during building and renovations
- Marcus Oldham Rural Leadership Program developed by Lachlan Polkinghorne, Mike Stephens and John Miles conducted in July 1992. MORLP is still the longest running rural leadership program in rural Australia
- First dedicated student social room (the log cabin) built with support from John Lambert and Pete Doyle, in an attempt to move social activities from the hostel
- Student activities included picnic races, the infamous car trials, Cup Eve balls and the Marcus B & S ball program which raised in excess of \$40,000 for RFDS and local CFA group. Plus, Marcus started to clean up in the Intercol sports against the big guys
- Rowdy's legacy — an increase in student numbers; Marcus seen as a place for legitimate study in farm business management despite increased competition from other organisations eg. Glenormiston and Orange; improved student and College facilities; plus a staff with industry and educational experience.
- **College now in growth phase**

Growth Stages of a Business



1995 – 1996

Neville Chandler

- Leadership and management style causes unrest with staff and alumni
- Col Hacking resigns from role as Deputy Principal
- Further significant staff resignations force Council to call for resignation after 2 years
- **Out of adversity comes opportunity**

1997 – 1998

Reshaping the Education program

- John Miles appointed interim CEO
- “Dad’s Army” to the rescue to ensure the continuity of the education program
- A new direction — development and accreditation of Bachelor of Farm Management degree by Assoc. Prof. Rob Napier (Orange Ag College), Sam Inglis and Gary Pettigrove
- Final year FM students, led by Scott Jenkins, Rob Raines and Tina Wright, co-fund and coordinate an overseas study tour to Argentina

1998 – 2002

Greg Brinsmead

- Greg steadies the ship, bringing an educational framework to the Farm Management and Horse course with Marcus Oldham now a part of the Higher Education regime
- First external audit by AUSA undertaken on the new course — a new and telling experience for an organisation which has only self-audited in the past
- Consolidated the FBM degree program with the first graduates (10 in number) in 2001
- Reinforced the team learning environment by managing class sizes to ensure student contact
- Reintroduced MOFAC Consultants to encourage staff to develop and maintain links with rural industry
- Corporate Training Program introduced as a key part of maintaining rural industry and rural business linkages — training programs now taken to clients across Australia

• First student study tour to Asia with FM and Agribusiness students visiting Indonesia

2003 – 2021

Simon Livingstone (Ringer)

- College continues the growth phase
- “Build it and they will come” — and they have!
- Development of the Agribusiness Courses — Certificate, Diploma and Bachelor’s degree
- On campus student numbers continue to grow — Buckland wing of 3 new classrooms built to accommodate extra student intake

• Michael Moore moves for the establishment of the Centre for the Study of Rural Australia (later to become Centre for Study of Agribusiness) as a think tank for rural communities and the agricultural sector. Innovative and topical seminar sessions a key feature of the Centre

- Construction of new dining room and function centre to commemorate the vision of founding Principal, Ivo Dean
- New stable complex to replace the McCann stables — Scobie and Claire McKinnon stable complex
- Introduction of the Post Graduate study program in Agribusiness, with Certificate and Diploma courses — 10 students in initial courses — currently 30 students enrolled
- Bequest to the College of Murradoc farm on Bellarine Peninsula by Phillip Myer — property later sold, and funds used to develop and build the Douglas Boyd Learning Centre
- Construction of new Administration Centre dedicated to Geoff Neilson — foundation lecturer and Council Secretary
- Principal vacates “death row” for a new residence built on campus
- “Log cabin” social room is replaced by new social room and recreation hub built adjacent to hostel — finally social activities reduced in the hostel
- Car trials scrapped after student “nuddy” run cause horse drawn caravan to bolt
- Student overseas study tours broadened to now include China and Malaysia, in addition to New Zealand

• COVID restrictions limit face to face delivery of the academic program but online learning capacity through the Douglas Boyd Learning Centre ensures that student numbers and academic capacity are maintained

- Sale of part of Paddock 14 for the construction of Epworth Hospital provides ongoing financial stability for the College
- Student- Parent dinners become a feature of student social calendar and a major fundraiser for charity
- Student numbers outgrow on-campus accommodation capacity — new 30 room accommodation block completed in May 2022, with students moving in at the start of Trimester 2
- Andrew Baker redesigns the academic program to provide for accelerated learning capacity in the degree programs — FM 3 years vs 4 years (practical year retained) , Agribusiness 2 years vs 3 years
- Simon Livingstone retires at the end of 2021 after 19 years at the helm — leaving the College in a robust growth position

2022 – Present

Andrew Baker

- Andrew Baker commences as the 6th College Principal
- Student numbers currently 227 with 161 on campus

FM 1: 41	Agri 1: 36	EM (HMC): 19
FM 2: 37	Agri 2: 34	Post Grad: 29
FM 3: 31		

• The challenge is to continue to grow the business

Over the 60 years of the College’s history we have had 5 Chairmen of College Council , 6 College Principals and 81 Academic staff.

With acknowledgment to Mike Stephens — author of “Daring to Differ” — the history of the first 50 years of Marcus Oldham.



60th celebratory weekend

Three hundred people — Marcus students, past students, current and past staff and many supporters, enjoyed a fun evening in the Douglas Boyd Learning Centre on Saturday May 21st to celebrate the Diamond Anniversary of the College.

Chairman of Council Rob McGavin AdCertAA'93, Graduate of Excellence'00 and Past Chairman of Council Bruce Wilson DipFM'71, Graduate of Excellence'98 revealed the portrait of **Past Principal Dr Simon Livingstone AssocDipFM'87** and declared the space Livingstone Hall. **Antony Baillieu DipFM'71, Chairman of Foundation** highlighted the wonderful advances philanthropy has enabled for the College.

Hugh Bromell DipFM'66 made the toast to the College. Principal Andrew Baker and Current Student President Hugh Browning spoke about College life now. Mother and daughter **Suzie Fagan CertHM'83** and **Cara Fagan BB(Agri)'20** shared their experiences at MOC across two generations and cut the celebratory cake together.

A brunch was held on Sunday 22nd May and the 200 guests enjoyed tours of the College while sharing a tall tale or two.

The College would like to thank DiGiorgio Family Wines for their generosity in providing their fabulous 2018 Coonawarra Cabernet Sauvignon sporting a special commemorative 60th label to celebrate this milestone.



Andrew Baker — Principal



The 60th anniversary cake



Bruce Wilson DipFM'71, past Chairman of Council, Dr Simon Livingstone DipFM'87, past Principal



Rob McGavin AdCertAA'93, Graduate of Excellence'00, Chairman of Council, Erin Fitzgerald DipHBM'04, College Council, Peter Stephens DipFM'83, President of MOCOSA, College Council



Antony Baillieu DipFM'71 Chairman of Foundation



Suzie Fagan CertHM'83 and daughter Cara Fagan BB(Agri)'20

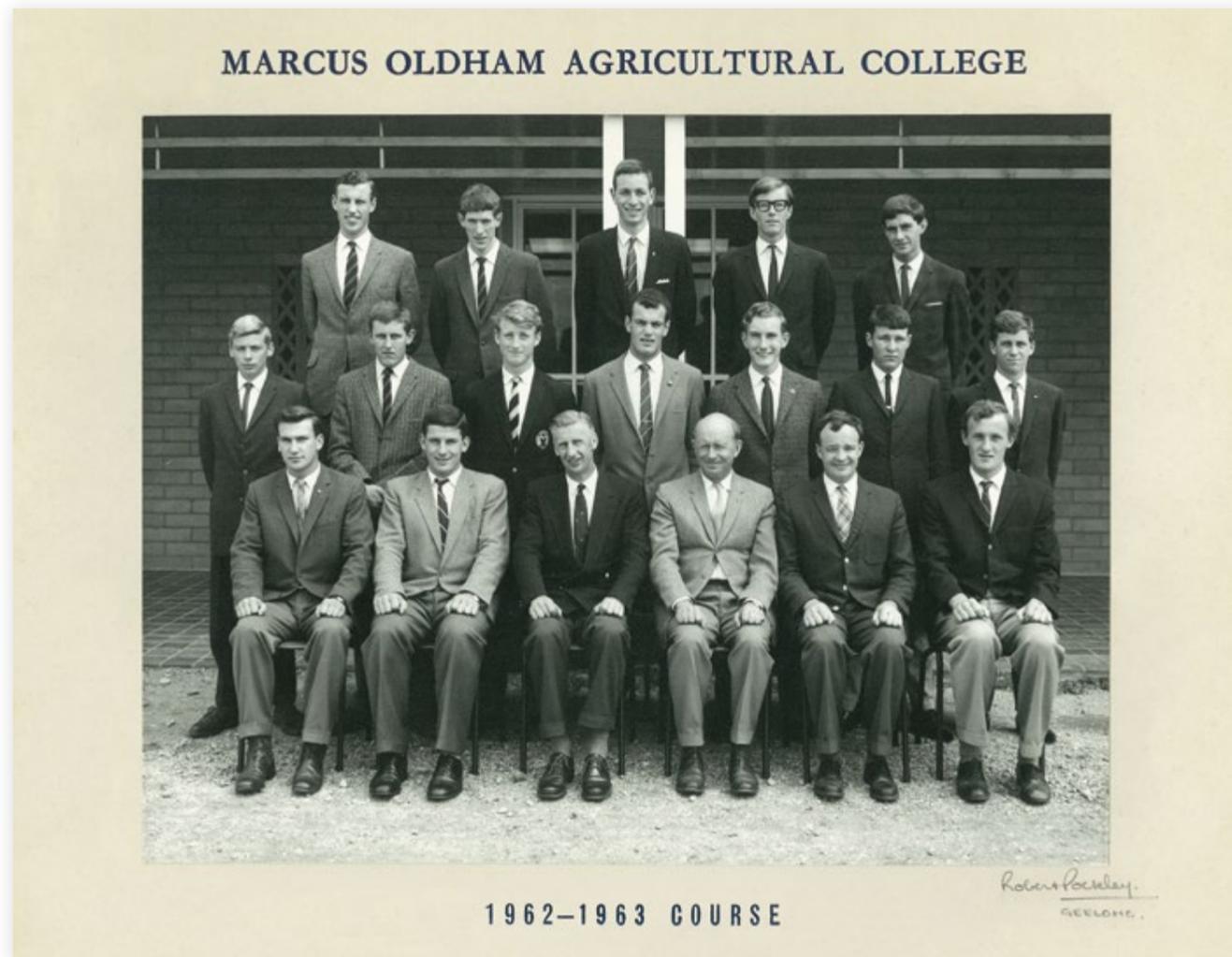


DipFM'66 cohort —
Sam Inglis HonBB(Ag)'18,
Chris McClelland,
Mike Stephens Graduate of Excellence'97,
Barry Johnson,
Gerald Wilson,
Andrew Facey,
Tony Carty,
Greg Holmes



Oldham Goldies

Graduates from the inaugural Marcus Oldham course (1962–63) share their memories of Marcus and the impact that completing the groundbreaking course has had on their lives.



Back row: John Selle, Gavin Jamieson, Les Sprague, Alastair Hamilton (dec), Graeme Blackburn (dec)
Middle row: Roger Olsen, Ian Hookings, Richard "Shorty" Pearse, Guy Mort, Bill McIntyre (dec), Alf Healing, Barry Mills
Front row: Max Holmes, Jim Richardson – Lecturer, Ivo Dean – Principal (dec), Garth Massey-Greene – Farm Manager (dec), Ted Campion – Lecturer (dec), Bill Reading

Gavin Jamieson

DipFM'63

How old were you when you came to Marcus?

19 years old, I was the seventh student to enrol.

How did you hear about Marcus?

I was jackarooping at



Warncoort and the owner of the property, Noel Dennis, received an invitation to come to the official opening, roughly six months before we students arrived. He came home and told me I should consider my future after I finished working for him, then I told my parents about it, and it all worked out.

What were you hoping to achieve by coming to Marcus?

Naively, somehow if a miracle occurred, I hoped that I could buy a farm, but I didn't have any financial hope of doing that. You either have to con someone, rob a bank or win Tattsлото.

What was Ivo Dean like?

My parents came from Birregurra to meet that funny bloke. We met at Geelong Grammar. My first impressions were pretty positive, but they didn't always stay that way. He was very good at what he did. He wasn't always as practical as he should have been, head in the clouds, a bit of a dreamer at times. You're allowed to do that, there's no law against it, but it doesn't always make for appropriate responses for some people.

What were the other students like?

I had been to Geelong College with Ian Hookings, Bill McIntyre and John Selle, but didn't really know them well and there were other students who had come from Geelong Grammar so there was a lot of friendly rubbishing of one another in that era. I'm sure people have grown out of it now.

What was the course like?

Before Marcus Oldham I was extremely ignorant of things agricultural. In an academic sense, I learned how to regard what was economical in agriculture rather than what was fashionable. I developed the art of judging animals in the show ring at Oldham. I surprised myself when I won an Australian and New Zealand-wide competition of how to judge the best Jersey cow from photographs through a dairy magazine. I also learned to think about how to make a quid out of livestock from the lecturers.

What mischief did you get up to?

Ian Blair was one of the animal husbandry lecturers, he took us to Herd's abattoir north of Geelong and it was one of the only times Ivo came with us. Someone with a less mature outlook acquired the whole of a bull's reproductive system, put it in a plastic bag and brought it back to College on the Friday afternoon, stored it in a fridge. Then on the Sunday evening washed it out and hooked it up to the laboratory taps, and when Ian Blair walked into the lecture room Monday we washed him down with it. He got us back at a later time. He was a very good practical lecturer and he tolerated us. He didn't like it, who would? The atmosphere of that casual relationship between staff and students was unique. He used it as an example of how, in animal husbandry, you had to learn the whole thing about the reproductive organs, he turned it into a positive. Not every teacher has the ability to turn a situation from being unreasonable to being a positive.

What made the students bond?

Tours were a great way to get to know one another. We stayed over north of Mt Gambier where there are sink holes and where the geology is such that in one or two days a swamp will go from two foot of water to completely dried out. We stayed in the shearers' quarters at the property we were touring and in the middle of the night Guy Mort trundled off to one of the ablution blocks and, all of a sudden, the whole 14 students heard this blood-curdling wail from this dunny because the seat had gone down the sinkhole and he was left hanging by his fingernails to the side walls of the timber dunny box. It could have been extremely serious; he could have knocked his head on the way down and drowned and I don't think there would have been too many volunteers to pull him out. It was in good redgum country too, it's not like he couldn't have found a tree to go behind.

What difference did coming to Marcus make to your life?

I learned to think outside the square, that each district is different, that local knowledge is not to be disregarded. Every term break I would work for someone different, broadening my experiences so I could catch up to the other guys who had come from an inherited farm situation. I finished my Marcus course, not breaking any academic records. Bill Reading was Dux. He always took longer to answer questions and it taught me that fast isn't always perfect, although sometimes in agriculture and business you need to make decisions quickly. Decisions like getting Guy out of the dunny box require speed.

I worked with Monsanto in agriculture chemicals — herbicides largely, that's what started me in the evil habit of killing things. I introduced aerial dumping of phosphate dyed red to the Forest Services of Australia. I went from a research and development person to a seller of chemicals in Horsham, then Nufarm approached me. I spent time in Mildura with them, where they introduced trickle irrigation. Then we moved to Ballarat where I worked for the A & P Society then became involved with environmental matters and left the chemical industry behind. I worked with the Shire of Ballarat on a revegetation project which led to a whole lot more. Then I was introduced to bees through my neighbour. I went from a hobbyist to a commercial beekeeper.

Over the time, I have run into people Australia-wide interested in my experiences at Marcus and the philosophy behind it, and I have been happy to put in a good word for the College.

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Leslie Sprague

DipFM'63

How old were you when you came to Marcus?

I was 18 and a half. By the second year, 1963, the marketing people had done their work well and the word of the agricultural college's pursuit of excellence had spread, and it's gone from there to great things today. I'm absolutely amazed.

How did you first hear about Marcus?

My father had a property just a few miles from the College between Barwon Heads and Torquay, running sheep and cattle. I'd come back from Sydney, where I was planning to go to university, but things changed, and he enrolled me in here. I thought, "That's probably a good option," flexibility is something you need to carry with you as a young man.

What were your impressions as you arrived that first day?

Very spacious, very exposed, sitting on a hill. There was nothing down the hill except the Colac Road, Waurn Ponds, tracks leading off to Torquay and into Geelong. There were all gravel roads, it was very windy and there was a brand-new series of buildings on the hill. They comprised



various quarters for Ivo and the teaching area and the accommodation with the dining room. All of it was brand new and all smelt of alpine ash.

What was the course like?

We had a feeling of excitement at being part of something that was just starting up. We were young, so we had optimism for the future, and we looked at opportunities that might lie ahead and how they would be helped along by this College. It was offering an extraordinary curriculum, which was different from the other options we had — Longrenong, Roseworthy, Dookie or, as my brother found at Lincoln in New Zealand, focussed on more conventional farming practise. This was something else again. The College quickly became a leader, and I believe Marcus graduates are seen as a reflection of that today.

What were the lecturers like?

The distinguishing feature of this College, that gave it the up-front running, was that the emphasis was on management. It's all very well to buy a farm, or inherit a farm, and I dare say a lot of students were going to go back and work on Mum and Dad's farm, but if you're going to go out and borrow money, you'll get caught up in the finance industry so you need to know how to handle finance and adjust and balance risk and organise your cash flow.

For that we had Geoff Neilson, he used to come up here in his suit and tie to lecture us on accounting and double-entry bookkeeping, so we became hotshots at managing.

What were the other students like?

Quite a few of us came from private schools or from a farm that the father wanted his son to go on. We went through some very strong bonding experiences. There is an energy in group agreed endeavours, you have a shared vision. We were very energetic and very keen. We had to go and plant boobialla trees for windbreaks. Gavin Jamieson started the little canteen off the games room. Living at Marcus, as most did, sharing all those moments, from day's end to day's beginning, bonds you. You worked out your characters and personalities and formed closer friendships with some, but with 14 just about every one of us was friends.

What mischief did you get up to?

Some of the hijinks we cannot disclose, they are lost in the mists of time. There was no bus in those days for the College, so whenever we went somewhere, we would go in our own car. Bill Reading, you always wanted to go with him because he had a Mercedes. I had a Volkswagen, Graeme Blackburn had a Humbug, Max Holmes had a ute, and we used to pile into these cars and go to South Australia or up to the country in New South Wales, led often by Jim Richardson. That threw us into some pretty remote places — like Bombala where we had to sleep in some windswept, snow driven, shearer's quarters. All of that was interspersed with talking to farmers and that was a really good programme because the itineraries were carefully thought out and they all had mission statements, so we knew exactly what we were going to be studying when we went there. When we were up near Renmark, we decided we would call into the Southern Hemisphere's largest winery. It was a huge commercial winery, still is. The Berri Co-operative Winery and Distillery Ltd. It just so happened on this warm afternoon as our tour ended, they were moving, via a tube,

a lot of wine from one vat to another, and most of the tour had gone, so some of us decided we would cup our hands under the Riesling or whatever it was; very raw at the time and we were cactus for the rest of the day.

How did the original logo come about?

Ivo must have said we needed a logo and all 14 of us were faced with the task. I threw a few ideas around with Richard "Shorty" Pearse, and Gavin Jamieson remembers that we came up with a design and that's the one that was accepted. Then Marcus Oldham Farm Agricultural College was too much to write so we just put MOFAC up the top and we put Geelong down the bottom of the O. We were about success, so we put in some Greek/Roman symbol of success, the laurel leaves that the victors wore, and it could be wheat sheaves if you like. So that was the original iteration in 1963.



If you could tell a student about to start at Marcus anything, what would it be?

We need to be flexible, rise to challenges and engage with a wide range of ideas. Don't be the farmer who is on the back of the bell curve, be somewhere on the top shoulder. The most important thing we have in this world is soil and from that everything comes. Good healthy soil has water, air, all those things we need. If you're going to be a farmer, you will have to borrow money, banks don't care if they have to sell you up, so you need to be on top of these things so you can be sure you can run a business that has integrity, sustainability, done with morality, and makes you proud to be a farmer as a person and as a business person.

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Max Holmes

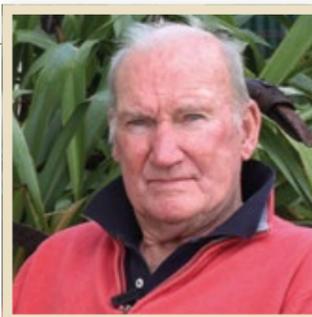
DipFM'63

How old were you when you came to Marcus?

I was 18 years old. It was my first foray into agricultural education. Ivo Dean said to me at Geelong Grammar, "Holmes, what are you going to do when you've left school?" I said, "My father has kindly booked me into Lincoln in New Zealand," and he said, "I have a far better idea for you, we are starting a new college in Geelong." So that's where it all began."

What was Ivo Dean like?

He was fantastic. He was a real one-off gentleman. It's hard to explain how he developed the thing that he did, it was quite amazing that he got everyone together and made it all happen, it's quite incredible really, a wonderful fellow, deserved all the accolades he received.



Do you think it was a leap of faith to have started Marcus Oldham?

It would have been at the time, yes. Ivo Dean was my Agricultural Science teacher at Geelong Grammar, originally. I am very happy I had those years at the College. It's been quite an incredible journey.

Do you remember arriving that first day?

I arrived in a ute in a cloud of dust and Ivo told me instantly that I had to behave myself, but he turned around and with the other fellows, voted me in straight away as head student, which I did for two years, which was rather nice, so I couldn't have been all that bad.

What did the role of Student President involve?

Trying not to be too naughty, doing all the right things. It was a guidance thing, someone had to lead the group. That's something I will always treasure, and my name is on a board at the College.

Where did you come from?

I came from Woolsthorpe which is a little township, about 30 kilometres north of Port Fairy. We had a sheep and cattle property which my grandfather purchased in 1932. I was the third generation.

What were your first impressions of Marcus Oldham?

It was quite daunting, quite frightening to be one of 14 students who arrived at a brand-new education facility. We actually built a lot of the infrastructure that was there. We were invited to do some building and all farm management stuff as well.

What was there when you pulled up in your ute?

It was a complete boarding school so to speak. We had a separate dining room, we had a bed-sitter which was quite private.

What do you remember of the lecturing staff?

They were very good, very pleasant people. It was almost a one-on-one educational system, which was fantastic. They were all about educating us in the future of agriculture.

Do you have any lecturers who come to mind?

Ian Blair comes to mind; he was a friend of mine for a long time after College, and still is. We had all the right people teaching us, we had a great education, it was marvellous.

What was the course like?

It was very educational for me as a country boy. I knew the basics of farming but what Marcus Oldham taught me was to question everything I did, which was a fantastic way of approaching everything. It was Ivo's idea and was a great way to be taught.

What made the students bond?

It was the fact we were all in the same boat, we came from different aspects of farming, all from farming families. We travelled in utes to parties together, it was wonderful.

What mischief did you get up to?

Not a lot, we were pretty gentle people. In general, they were a very good bunch.

How did they feed you in those first couple of years?

Very well, we had a dining room which is still functional today. We were very well catered for.

When you stood where Marcus is and was then, what could you see around you?

It was wide open, which is so different from today. We planted a lot of trees, a lot of plantations were put in, we did a lot of fencing. There was nothing there, just buildings. There were pretty ordinary dirt roads.

What difference did coming to Marcus make in your life?

It made me a better person. It made me appreciate agriculture a lot more. I was very successful in farming.

What involvement have you had with Marcus Oldham since graduating?

We had a lot of tours on our farm at Woolsthorpe from the College. Ivo Dean came out after I left College to see our farm because they thought we were doing the right things. I had involvement for many years, I still go to the cocktail parties. I was heavily involved with the Foundation and various parts of the College. I went back to do short courses.

What do you think of Marcus now?

It's different, it's huge, it's very clever what they have done with fundraising which is fantastic. It's progressed, as we expected it would. There's still a strong demand for the College. It's an extraordinary operation.

How do you see agriculture and the role Marcus Oldham plays in it?

Extraordinary, it really is. Even in our day when we went out to work on farms, we found farmers were looking for Marcus Oldham students because they knew the educational value of what they'd been taught. It's fantastic.

If you could tell a student about to start at Marcus anything, what would it be?

I'd tell them, "Don't hold back. Go for it." Because it's a wonderful institution, it really is.

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Barry Mills

DipFM'63

How old were you when you came to Marcus?

I was just 17, there was one younger than me, Roger Olsen — he was the smartest bloke there.

What were your first impressions?

It was the first time I'd left home and that was an experience alone but when we turned up at Marcus there was a building up the top of a bald hill. It looked lonely sitting up the top. It was the windiest place I've ever been. I think there was one day the wind didn't blow in the whole time I was there. The original showers were typical of those days. There were



six in a row, no partition walls and I can tell you those showers were freezing, you didn't stay long in that big, open room. It was just as cold as being outside. We went down to Ivo's house at the end of the building, and we all met up and it was a great experience. There were guys from all over the place, which was good, from different areas of farming too.

Where did you come from?

I was from Gol Gol and did an agricultural course at Mildura Technical School, which I finished in 1961. My parents and I were looking for something else for me to do and I didn't want to go to Dookie as I was more interested in being in management. I'm pretty certain they heard about it from reading the Weekly Times, there was a write-up there about Marcus Oldham, but it was a fair bit of money for the course.

What were you hoping to get out of your time at Marcus Oldham?

I had done a lot of horticultural work because we had developed a vineyard and citrus property, but I was interested in animals and pasture and cereal crops and livestock. I didn't want to be just a farmer, I wanted to be better than that, I wanted to learn how to run a place, so that's where the management part came in. Even though the course would have changed a lot now, it was good, it was interesting. Maybe I didn't put enough into it while I was there, but a lot of it made sense later on. It's just implanted in your brain, "Oh yes, I remember that".

What do you remember of the lecturing staff?

We were very close to the lecturers. There were four or five of them, and Ivo of course, and they were very friendly and always available. It was very early days that first year and they were still feeling their way when I was there, but they still had a really good course, and I can't complain.

What was the course like?

We had good farm tours and that was a great experience because you spoke to different farmers, and they were very good about giving their time and information- some of which was quite personal. They were really open. It showed the favour in which the College was held. We did some local tours then a big one up through South Australia. We came back through Mildura and stayed in my family's farmhouse.

What about the other students?

I definitely made friendships out of it, unfortunately as time goes by you don't see them often enough. I've caught up with Max Holmes at times, gone fishing around Port Fairy with him. There was a good bunch of guys, I don't think there was ever a blue. Everyone respected each other.

What mischief did you get up to?

I was too young the first year but the second year I had a car, and we would go down the beach to go swimming, I played football for the Geelong Amateurs for a while. I had family and friends in Melbourne so I would go there regularly.

How did they feed you in those first couple of years?

The food was good- homemade meals and plenty of it.

What difference did coming to Marcus make in your life?

I came home after Marcus and we had a machinery business and I worked there for a while. Then, in 1964,

we bought a mixed farm with irrigated pastures, and we had vines, cattle, sheep and every crop you can imagine, so I worked in the family business during the busy time delivering machinery. Then we sold the business and I worked for every dealer in town. It was difficult working a property and running a business. Now we have sold both and live on the Murray River.

It [Marcus] helped me a lot in life, even in the machinery business, I could see both sides. It led to lots of awards and trips overseas because I understood the customers' needs. We would break sales records Australia-wide, especially in the horticulture area.

What do you think of Marcus now?

Nowadays, you have to have a couple of years' experience before you go to Marcus, which I believe is a darned good idea because I was a bit green.

If you could tell a student about to start at Marcus anything, what would it be?

Farming is about keeping your eyes open. It's a business, not a way of life anymore. This is where Marcus Oldham kicks in. I read the magazines and what a lot of them have done is not what they were doing before. The world's your oyster, so get out there and have a look.

Marcus made a big impression on my life, it was great. I always mention it to people, "I went to Marcus Oldham". It has stayed with me. I'd do it again. I went back a couple of years ago and just drove through, but I'd like to visit again. I won't be shy next time.

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Roger Olsen

DipFM'63

How old were you when you came to Marcus?

I was 16 when I started, I was the youngest. I had grown up on a farm, but I didn't have the required 12 months' experience, so they were obviously fairly anxious to get people at that stage.

We knew about Dookie, that was the place everyone was going to at that time. I think my parents heard about Marcus over the radio, possibly on the Country Hour. They went to an information day before it all started, and I remember they came back with a pamphlet on the place, and I thought it sounded pretty good.

Do you remember arriving that first day?

It was a big deal for me as I didn't know anyone else going. This was the first time I had been away from home, so this was the big, exciting world for me. The fellas all looked after me a bit, they probably thought I needed looking after. I know the eldest person there at the time was 25, so there was a bit of an age difference between us. Obviously, being younger than everyone else, they talked about things I didn't know about, but I didn't feel left out at all.



Oldham Goldies at 50th Richard Pearse, Roger Olsen, Barry Mills, Max Holmes, Bill Reading

Where did you come from?

I'd just finished form 5 at Warragul High School.

What was there when you arrived?

There was only really one wing of single rooms. Now there is a complete quadrangle but then there was only one side. The accommodation to me was fantastic, I'd never had a room on my own and everything was new. The idea of going in and meeting in the big room was all new and exciting. I know we spent the first few weeks sowing lawns.

What were you hoping to achieve by coming to Marcus?

I was wanting a bit more education as I intended to go back on the farm. My parents were of that mind too, my mother was the one who pushed for this. I was the youngest of three boys and the other two had come home on the farm and I think my father assumed I would do the same thing - leave school and go home. I was the only one to have an education after school.

What was the course like?

When I was at Marcus the first few weeks were spent sowing lawns and having lectures. They weren't full days going to lectures in the first few months, we were busy doing other things as well. We went on tours each year, away for about a week. They were fun and it was interesting seeing people who were doing what we were told could be done, they matched what we were learning.

What mischief did you get up to?

We didn't do a lot of socialising during the week, then most went home over the weekend. I didn't have my licence in the first year, so I was there alone a lot on the weekend. I had a sister in Melbourne, and I'd hitchhike to see her on the weekend, which I wouldn't be game to do now.

It might sound a bit silly but one thing I do remember, and it was quite a regular thing, was three or four of us would get out the windows into the quadrangle and crack whips. It wasn't illegal but it was a bit naughty. We did make a bit of noise, but it must have been acceptable to the powers that be. I learned to crack a whip at Marcus. The two others I remember were Guy Mort and Richard Pearse

- they were the two cowboys of the era, they liked to dress up in high-heeled boots.

What difference did coming to Marcus make in your life?

If nothing else, it was a great thing because I got away from home for the first time and stood on my own. It was more than that but I'm sure people would say that was a good thing for me. We were running beef cattle at home and the course was good, I got a lot of information out of the place, whether I was allowed to use it when I got home is another story.

I had different ideas and I would have assumed they were better ideas. There was never any book work done at home and when I came home, I started to do book work. But with regard to the more exotic new things that were happening in the area it was a bit harder to get started on that mostly because of my father.

I was home for about five years then my father went broke, so I didn't have a long-term go at trying to do things. I was probably different from a lot of people who went to Marcus in the way I ended up. I was lucky enough that with help from members of the extended family I was able to buy the home place. We had around half a dozen farms at that stage. I borrowed every penny to get it. I've spent the rest of my life basically battling to get ahead on it. I've spent most of my life working off the farm, basically the farm has been a weekend job.

My Marcus education made a difference. Marcus assisted me by freshening my ideas, it opened my eyes to new ways of finding out what is going on and knowing where to look for information. I think one of the greatest advantages to me was that it opened my eyes to book work and how that could help you.

What involvement have you had with Marcus Oldham since graduating?

I went back to the 50th and a couple of times before that too. I didn't recognise much when I visited ten years ago and it would be more unrecognisable now. I might get lost if I visit.

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Corrina Eccles The land on which we educate

While we celebrate our 60th anniversary of educating on the Marcus Oldham College site, it is an opportunity to consider what was on this land well before Ivo Dean turned his vision into a reality.

There is no specific name known for this site but, 'Waur'n' means homes or place of homes, thus referencing Waur'n Ponds as a long-standing popular venue, cared for by Wadawurrung People. The site's elevation provided an extensive view.

The vegetation was open, grassy woodland except along the watercourse on the northern boundary of the College's land.

"All Wadawurrung Country is of significance, and particularly the Waur'n Ponds Creek corridor, as it contained a richness of culture and food, so it was favoured as a venue for gatherings, stories, harvesting and ceremony."

There were a lot of places nearby which included quarries, artefact construction sites and food venues.

Our creation story and songlines are all connected. Country is a living entity. We can close our eyes and hear our language from our Country being spoken by our birds and all things around us. We can open our eyes and see our stories and connection, we can walk barefoot and feel our Mother Earth. We can traditionally burn Country for it to heal and renourish. Our cultural structures cared for our Country for thousands of years. We as Wadawurrung People will continue to advocate, care and walk together for our future generations and all people living and visiting our Country, 'Wadawurrung Country'.

Source: Eccles, C. (2021), quoted in City of Greater Geelong (2021), Arts and Culture Strategy, p. 3. Geelong, Vic: City of Greater Geelong.

Left: Proud Wadawurrung Woman Corrina Eccles. The Wadawurrung People of the Kulin Nation are the traditional owners of the land on which the College stands.



Manna Gum

Illustrations: George Stolfo, courtesy of Hyland House



INDIGENOUS PLANTS OF THE GEELONG REGION

The area consists of moderately fertile loam soils on limestone. It is gently sloping to flat with some escarpments and gullies and poor to moderate drainage. The average rainfall is 55 - 60cm.

GEELONG, GROVEDALE & WAURN PONDS LIMESTONE PLAINS & HILLS

This area was characterised by a woodland community dominated by Drooping Sheoke, Yellow Gum and Swamp Gum, with a shrubby and grassy understorey. Understorey species included a variety of wattle species, Silver Banksia and scattered Boobialla.

Kangaroo Grass would have been commonly found growing among Eucalypt (Yellow Gum and Swamp Gum) and Sheoke species through much of the drier areas. Tussock Grass grew among the other Eucalypt species (River Red Gum and Manna Gum) on low lying wetter areas and along watercourses.

MARCUS OLDHAM INDIGENOUS SCHOLARSHIPS provide \$25,000 each for two students studying either the Diploma of Equine Management, Bachelor of Business (Agriculture) or Bachelor of Business (Agribusiness).

For further information please visit the Marcus Oldham website or contact the Scholarships Officer, Neen McKenzie. scholarships@marcusoldham.vic.edu.au
Closing Date: 5/8/22 Interviews: Week beginning 12/9/22

Gigi Tuanui

The perfect pivot

The word “pivoting” has taken on a whole new meaning for many of us through the COVID years, but for **Gigi Tuanui (Cardwell) BB(Agri)'11, C.A.S.Hawker Scholarship recipient '10** and husband **Delwyn Tuanui BB(Agri)'11**, this descriptor for adapting and making the most of change has always been a part of their language.

Having grown up near Mitta Mitta in the Victorian high country breeding Angus beef cattle, and both Quarter Horses and Australian Stock Horses, Gigi is now living with Del at his family home, Chatham Island, NZ in the south Pacific Ocean, 800 kilometres east of Christchurch.

The island is not just home to Gigi, Del and their three children but also the birthplace of Chatham Island Food Co., a business capitalising on the island’s clean, fresh and highly-prized produce.

Del started Chatham Island Food Co. in 2010, while still a student at Marcus.

“He borrowed our mate, **Michael (Mellon) Graham's AssocDA'10** ute and every Friday morning would head off to the airport at three o'clock to pick up fresh Blue Cod, flown from the Chatham Islands, and hand deliver it to some of Melbourne's top 'hatted' restaurants. The chefs were blown away with the quality and texture of the fish and the business grew from there.”

Having met at Marcus, once they graduated Gigi and Del moved to Melbourne, spending the next three years growing the marketing and distribution side of Chatham Island Food Co.. They soon reached a point where demand outgrew supply and, recognising the need to secure supply and become vertically integrated to grow their business, they purchased a seafood processing factory in Owenga, Chatham Island in 2014. This is the point Gigi says the real work began.

“I was six months pregnant with our first child. We had no idea what we had got ourselves into — I'm not sure, if we truly knew, whether we would have even attempted it. The first day we had 300kg of fish land and we thought, 'This is ok, we can handle this.' The next night we had four tonne land, and at 2am - still up to our arms filleting fish - I broke down crying to Delwyn wondering what the hell we had just taken on.”



Above: Gigi Tuanui (Cardwell) and husband Delwyn Tuanui revel in the lifestyle their remote Chatham Islands (NZ) home affords their family.

Pivoting to a new country and taking on a business was a test for Gigi.

"The first two years on the Chathams were the most challenging. Not only had I left my family and friends and support network, but I had moved to an incredibly remote island with my new husband, soon there was a baby in the mix, and a fish factory to run with staff and marketing issues to deal with. There were many tears, both of sadness and joy, but somehow, we overcame the many challenges and have built a successful business, and an amazing family and team around us who are supportive of what we do to no end. I still miss my family back in Australia every day, but that is part of the life that I, and many who move away from their families, have chosen. I am blessed with a beautiful family of my own now, and the internet helps us stay connected with my parents, family, and friends."

"During COVID lockdown, our traditional wholesale channel pretty much shut down overnight. From this dark hour, our home delivery sales channel was born – something we previously viewed as too difficult given our remote location but was ultimately the goal – to get our world class seafood into the home of everyday Kiwis ... and one day we hope, Aussies."

Chatham Island Food Co. continues to grow, focussing on working with the best local fishermen, many from families who have fished the islands for generations, to produce seafood of outstanding quality while adhering to sustainable fishing practices.

"The company is primarily focused on making export quality Kaimoana [Maori for food gathered from the sea] directly available across New Zealand. During COVID lockdown, our traditional



wholesale channel pretty much shut down overnight. From this dark hour, our home delivery sales channel was born – something we previously viewed as too difficult given our remote location but was ultimately the goal – to get our world class seafood into the home of everyday Kiwis...and one day, we hope, Aussies."

For the past 10 years Gigi has thrown her heart and soul into Chatham Island Food Co. and raising children. Now the children are a bit more independent, and the business is a little less demanding, she has pivoted to another pursuit.

"I am finding more time to focus on my passion – working with young horses and encouraging the island kids to start riding. A good friend of mine, world-class horseman, Bert Elstob, visited the Island this year and ran a horsemanship and Colt Starting Clinic, which was fully booked out. Since then, a whole new wave of enthusiasm has emerged. We've created an Island Pony Club and a Chatham Island Horse Sports group, with lots of keen interest and adventures planned."

Gigi thanks Marcus for many great additions to her life but one in particular deserves a special mention.



Gigi and Del's children — Billy (7), Rocco (6) & Mia (3)

"I met my future husband, Delwyn Tuanui there – that was a very big highlight! Marcus was such an amazing experience, I loved learning and the social side. I met some amazing people and made lifelong mates from all walks of life. My life is much richer for the connections I made through Marcus. The tour to China, my placement in Hong Kong focussing on viticulture, and the humbling experience of being awarded the C.A.S. Hawker Scholarship have stayed with me. Not to forget the accounting, marketing and business skills that enable me to think strategically."

It seems Gigi has made the perfect pivots.

"The Chatham Islands are a unique place, full of resilient and beautiful humans, removed from the materialistic norms of civilization. Being a farm girl at heart, I love the remoteness and isolation that comes with life on the Chathams."

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chathamislandfood.com



"Marcus was such an amazing experience, I loved learning and the social side. I met some amazing people and made lifelong mates from all walks of life. My life is much richer for the connections I made through Marcus."



What a difference a dog makes

When **Dave Graham DipAgri'03** says, "I live my life at full throttle," it's hard to argue.

From "coming out as gay" on reality television show, *Big Brother*, to leaping out of aeroplanes without a functioning parachute, this Marcus graduate has broken through barriers in every way. But perhaps his greatest driving force is his determination to make a difference in young people's lives through dogs.

Dave came to Marcus from 120,000 acres of cattle and cropping country north of Goondiwindi, keen to gain business acumen and technical understanding.

"Marcus absolutely worked for me. It set me up for an incredible life. My can-do attitude was fostered there. It gave me a huge number of connections and the ability to think outside my own fences. The life lessons my lecturers, Deanne Whelan and Des Umbers, taught me. I share with these young people every day. Marcus is all about empowering young people in agriculture to do better and that's what I'm doing with dog handling at RuffTRACK, giving young people the self-belief that their tomorrow is going to be better than today."

In 2006, Dave, aka "Farmer Dave" started his journey to try to change the perceptions of Australians.

"I was very much a second-class citizen back then, we had hundreds of laws in Australia that disenfranchised me from my community and my family because I was gay. The culture at the time was, 'Why don't you do us all a favour and kill yourself.' I went on *Big Brother* with 2-3 million viewers to create conversations for people to get comfortable with the subject that people are gay, we can accept it, and just move on with our lives. I wanted them to ask themselves, 'Do I like this person more because he's gay or do I like this person less because he's gay?' 'Do I even hate this person because he's gay?' And if that's the conversation you are having then you could confront what kind of prejudice draws you to that conclusion. Since then, I've seen the entire nation change and I think my time on *Big Brother* was a catalyst. I had about 13,000 letters from people all over Australia and across the world, telling me how it impacted their lives and made them feel less alone, or made them accept their children or their partners who had found the courage to have the conversation. It was really profound."

Dave's very public reveal took a heavy toll.

"The nation saw me have a mental breakdown on *Big Brother*. They provided me with a lot of counselling and care in there and allowed me to confront my demons of self-hatred and self-doubt. They were supportive of my family. I was terribly afraid my family would ostracise me or hate it, but it was the opposite. Many people came out of the woodwork and said, 'I have a gay son or daughter, or my uncle's gay'. My family was

kind of overwhelmed with, 'Bloody hell, have all these gay people been hiding in plain sight?' Because back then, we had to."

The ripple effect of Dave's bravery continues.

"It took me a while to realise that what I had done, was the right thing. It makes me so happy that fewer Australians will have to live with prejudices. I have absolutely no regrets. During the plebiscite into marriage equality, I was flooded with support, there were tens of thousands of messages on social media reminding me that what I did on TV had a profound effect on their choice to vote for marriage equality. It was awesome, as most of these people were straight. That's what I like, empowering people to change their thoughts. Every time I change someone's mind, my heart fills with joy."

"I went on *Big Brother* with 2-3 million viewers to create conversations for people to get comfortable with the subject that people are gay, we can accept it, and just move on with our lives."

Dave went back to farming but family tensions arose, and he realised the situation at home was untenable.

"Sometimes those generational issues are the biggest things you face on the land, it's not drought, or flood or government action, it can be the generational problems."

He decided to pursue something he was confident in and capable of, training search and rescue dogs, but further challenges lay ahead.

"When I was doing some parachute training, so I knew what to do before I trained dogs to jump out of an aeroplane, I had a parachute fail and ended up breaking most of my body but, fortunately, not my spine. I suffered badly from depression



during my immobility — having to rely on others to get to the toilet and to eat— so my parents sent me one of the farm dogs, a kelpie. With dog training you use positive reinforcement, positive punishment but because my hands, arms and legs were all broken and my ankles were destroyed, I could only use clicker training. I was able to train my dog to answer the door, get the TV remote, my toothbrush and toothpaste, and when I started to be a bit more mobile, I trained her to push a little shopping cart. She became a full-service dog. When I did get back on my feet, because I'm the type of person that I am, I ran a marathon just to prove I could run again. Then I had no excuses not to get back into life."

Three years ago, with throttle wide open and dog training skills on board, Dave headed to the Hawkesbury region to start RuffTRACK, a programme designed to turn around the lives of disengaged youths through education, work and, most importantly, dogs.

"In the first month I realised I'm not just going to be the dog trainer, I'm going to be the head teacher, counsellor, bus driver, umpire, Jack-of-all-trades. I have three aims: first one is to keep kids alive, and that's very hard at times, second, to keep kids out of prison, the last one is to skill them up for a secure life. The 12—18-year olds come from case management, schools, or disillusioned care givers who just don't know what else to do."

The programme works, with 90% of the graduates either working with RuffTRACKS or in full time employment or education, a phenomenal result considering they all come to the programme totally disengaged from the community and school and in contact with the police multiple times a week.

"I have three aims: first one is to keep kids alive, and that's very hard at times, second, to keep kids out of prison, the last one is to skill them up for a secure life."



"The common thread is that the kids feel alone, hated, like they don't have a place. What turns that around is the magic of dogs. Having your best mate by your side in your swag at night. Simple dog training, where you reward behaviour you like, and ignore behaviour you don't. Through dogs, we are teaching them a new way of thinking, of non-violence, kindness, compassion, that many of them haven't known growing up. Society has kind of thrown the book at them or turned their back on them and I just go up to them and say, 'I'm here for you.' And when you say that to a kid who's never heard it before, they tend to listen. Then you can get all the other educational stuff into their heads because they are ready to listen and learn."

Dave counts himself a lucky man.

"I see my job as being an incredible privilege, loaded with responsibility because I have young lives in my hands. I had



"I've lived life at full throttle, and it seems so strange that the knowledge I have from right across my life, starting with Marcus, has found a place where it can be put to good use, getting the lives of young people on track."

the excellent good fortune to be born into the family I was. Some people don't have that good fortune at birth, and we need to provide a nest for our young people to grow into the best versions of themselves."

The rewards are substantial and personal, reflected in the positive transformation of participants.

"'Damian' came from a hard background, there was inter-generational unemployment, a lot of drugs, violence and criminal activity. That young man was going down the same path and he took to RuffTRACK like a duck to water. We took him from an 'eshay' to an Aussie, he wears his Akubra with absolute pride every day. He has a full-time job, a Cert III in Rural Operations and is leading a group of his peers in metal fabrication. He has completely turned his life around in just a few months. He epitomises what we are all about; empowering young people to become the authors of their own story, and he's writing a really good one."

It's all about giving back.

"Since joining us, 'Damian's' been right around Australia. To build their confidence, the young people do live dog handling performances at the Royal Agricultural shows in Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne. We help with bushfire recovery. After the Black Summer bush fires, we were building fences, cattle yards,

rebuilding the lives of those affected by bushfires. After the recent floods, I was out there with my orange army of young people, sandbagging, evacuating, cleaning up after the devastation. At the beginning of the pandemic in Western Sydney, we were assisting with feeding those who couldn't get to the shops, and mowing lawns of elderly people who couldn't leave their houses."

As RuffTRACK operates through community support and donations, without government funding, Dave is back on Big Brother to raise funds to buy a farm so the young people who come into his care have a safe place to live and learn.

"I've lived life at full throttle, and it seems so strange that the knowledge I have from right across my life, starting with Marcus, has found a place where it can be put to good use, getting the lives of young people on track."

www.rufftrack.com

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Dave is always looking for opportunities to give his ready, willing, and able young people experience. If any past students have work opportunities for the RuffTRACK team, please get in touch.

History repeating itself – in a good way

Three generations of the Robertson family have benefitted from studying at Marcus.

Guy Robertson Senior attended short courses in the early 1970s which spurred **David Robertson DipFM'79** to pursue a Marcus education, then it was an easy decision for **Guy Robertson AdDipFBM'07** to do so too.

"While many things have changed at Marcus between the generations, the fundamentals and the theory have not. The world and agriculture have changed and certainly communication and technology have improved enormously," said Guy [Jnr].

"Most of my year returned to farming, and the network of friends was limited. Whereas Guy's year was very diverse in their employment, spread across the service industry and they keep in contact. They are aware of what is going on throughout the agriculture industry. I think Marcus has adapted well to this ever-changing environment," said David.

After graduating, Guy worked for an American pension fund, buying farms. It was a good experience analysing businesses and working with farmers, trying to work out the gross margins and if the farm business was viable.

Now Guy is balancing overseeing a farm of his own near Hamilton and his job as a livestock and real estate agent for Thomas, De Garis and Clarkson, covering Western Victoria and parts of the Riverina and SA. His education still stands him in good stead.

"The best thing I get out of this job is not just selling their livestock, it's being part of their business," said Guy.

David has ridden the highs and lows of farming at "Austral Park", Coleraine.

"When I came out of Marcus there was little money about, the early '80s were as miserable as you could get. We focussed on pasture production, labour efficiency and getting production costs as low as possible. Whether it was a kilogram of wool or a kilogram of meat, we put all our attention into getting the production costs below the sale price. No different to what the iron ore industry is doing today," said David.



After years of community service including as Chairman of the EverGraze project in Hamilton, Director of RIST, Host of the Life Time Wool project and developer of the Life Time Ewe Management programme, David has now taken on the role of Deputy Mayor for the Southern Grampians Shire Council. The transition from full time farming to living in Hamilton has been assisted by a well-considered succession plan for Guy and his two farming brothers.

"A good independent chairperson is the key for successful succession planning, someone who can deal with the individual personalities. At the first meeting two years ago, our planner said, 'Boys, the most important thing is that in 10 years' time, on the 25th of December you'll be sitting around this table happily enjoying your family.' And that hit home," said David.

Guy has seen both sides of generational change through his agricultural career.

"Family business planning is always a hard one, with the clashing of ideas, personalities and generations- one having to let go and the other wanting to have a go. We were in the fortunate position when I came home that a property came up that we were able to purchase. There is still communication on management but the day to day running of each farm is left to the individual. The biggest thing is to trust each other to do the job well," Guy said.

Robertson family Christmases will be around a different table in the future but due to David and the family's planning, the spirit will stay the same.

"I'm ready to move on and live in Hamilton and the three boys will be around us, so if they want some cheap labour or even some advice they can always ring up."

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Holistic: When the whole is more than the sum of its parts

Michael Gooden AdvDipFBM'03 had a unique moment at his Marcus graduation ceremony.

"I was the recipient of the Headmaster's Award. I distinctly remember Livo's mother coming up to me and congratulating me for receiving it, as she was proud that her son had received the same award while a student and had now had the pleasure of being able to award it in his first year as headmaster. I don't think that will happen again!"

Michael is regularly reminded of his time at Marcus in his role as Senior Adviser and trainee teacher with Resource Consulting Services.

"Anybody in RMBO3 (AdvDipFBM'03) would know that I loved asking questions! Now that I am in a facilitation role with some of my off-farm work, I love it when I get someone

like me in the group. It helps to get to the bottom of issues when you can have open and frank conversations. We don't need to have all the answers, or knowledge, we just need to be able to make contact with the people who do. Marcus taught me that, it also taught me to have an enquiring mind and ask questions."

Michael learned a great deal during his placement year at "Murroa", Hamilton under Simon Gubbins' guidance. Having grown up in the Riverina he had never seen so many livestock run so intensely. At a deeper level, after Simon's suicide in 2003, Michael was drawn to a more holistic approach to farm management.

"This really impacted me and changed the course of my life. More so in respecting the need to focus on the whole person, whole business and do what is enjoyable, not just focus on being profitable in gross margin terms."

Since Marcus, Michael has been running his own livestock operation near Wagga Wagga, then in 2011 was one of the founding members of a group called 8 families.

"This group includes two other MOC graduates - **Sam Pincott RMB'02** and **Peter Lawson RMB'95**. This is a farm management group and we have been meeting about every six weeks since the start. The major thing we all had in common is Holistic Management training with Bruce Ward. We have had births, deaths, marriages, divorce, grandchildren and, even talked about land management!"

In 2016, Michael and wife, Heloise, established a small Angus seedstock enterprise called Old Man Creek Grass Fed Bulls. This has been their main enterprise since then, although they still trade some livestock when they have excess grass.

Michael is still contributing and learning as he goes.

"In 2018 I took on a role as a Regional Agricultural Landcare Facilitator (RALF) with Riverina Local Land Services. This was interesting as it allowed me to work with local land managers to improve and promote an adaptation to climate change and sustainable land management practices. This role then led to my current position with RCS."

Michael's plan for the future is clear.

"We will contribute to the major solutions that can address global warming via our capacity to store soil carbon and own and operate a finite resource and great investment - agricultural land. We are so fortunate to be in this position."

mjgooden@oldmancreek.com.au

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL,
DEVELOPMENT AND CULTURE

Elizabeth Gubbins

It's been six months since I hit the ground running. With the inevitable wave of the Omicron COVID-19 variant, many of our students were affected. Thankfully, their recovery was greatly assisted by the tireless work of our catering and accommodation staff who went above and beyond. Then, as the weather started turning, influenza became the next hurdle. We finally now have 161 healthy students full of the usual energy of young adults.

Our student leadership group are doing a magnificent job and the feedback from students of a positive and supportive culture amongst the whole cohort is very affirming. There is a strong focus on respect and safety. These values, espoused by our first Principal, Ivo Dean, and described as the Marcus Oldham Philosophy, made up part of what were the original four core rules: don't bring discredit to the College, don't vandalise the College, don't vandalise trees and, be considerate of other fellow students.

Sporting activities have returned on Wednesdays, including the Marcus Oldham Head of the River, on the Barwon. Three races were held: Mixed Novice 4s saw Agriculture students narrowly defeat Agribusiness. Open Coxed 4's where the Marcus Staff beat the students, and in the Mixed 8's the Agribusiness students took the win over Agriculture. Another dedicated group of students headed north for the Nick Tooth Memorial Rugby Tens Charity Match in Orange, NSW. There is a great sense of commitment to community: Hugh Dawson AGI ran the Geelong Half Marathon in support of Sober in the Country, Lachlan Gardner FM3 had the honour of playing the Last Post at five different ANZAC Day services, including the dawn service at Bannockburn. It was fabulous to see so many of our students turning up to the marathon and getting up before dawn on ANZAC day in support.

To have a respectful environment where it's ok to be different, and show understanding of others who may be, is part of the continuous improvement of the College culture. Our students leave Marcus highly equipped and ready with the theory and skills learnt in and out of their lecture rooms which, in turn, they will take back to their rural communities and into the workforce. We have a zero tolerance policy of illegal drugs; it is well known that we have ongoing random drug testing. The College has acquired the services of Dr Tessa Opie, founder and director of *inyourskin*, an organisation which provides relationships and sexuality education. Staff (Professional development), student leadership and the entire student cohort have participated in face-to-face workshops that are sex-positive, evidence-based and harm reduction focused.

We have committed to preparing the ground for our RAP (Reconciliation Action Plan) with a working group including Taryn Marks who has extensive experience in leadership, strategy, and policy in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander advocacy. During National Reconciliation Week (early June), Wadawurrung woman, Corrina Eccles, performed a Welcome to Country in the Douglas Boyd Centre.



Foundation has been equally busy. We enjoyed a very successful Annual Golf Day at Eynesbury Golf Course and Homestead. Our guest speaker Gerry Grayson (one of the world's most decorated SAS pilots) gave a fascinating insight to his career and his skill sets brought about by digital and drone technology. The Foundation Cocktail Party will be held late June at the Metropolis- a beautiful function centre overlooking the Yarra River. Our guest speaker is John McKillop from Brisbane who is the current CEO of Hancock Agriculture and S.Kidman & Co. John is also the Independent Chair of the Red Meat Advisory Council and Black Box Co..

As an independent College, Marcus relies on the generosity of both individuals and corporations. Our programs here would not do as well without their support. We are currently in discussion with a number of interested donors and would like to thank the following for their pledged support:

- Handbury Foundation and ACE Radio Broadcasters Pty Ltd for their contribution to the College's building program
- Melbourne Racing Club who will be supporting facilities development
- Channel Foundation for their scholarship support across the three main undergraduate programs
- CBRE who have joined the College with some significant support toward the Agriculture and Agribusiness tour programs.

We would also like to thank others who have made pledges and continue to support the College through their on-going giving, and for those who have made bequests through their wills to support the College from their estates.

A big thankyou also, for our sponsors who continue to support our student scholarships and bursaries. The positive impact these have on our scholarship students is heart-warming.

The success of this year so far is a direct result of the positive collaboration of our team. I have been personally supported by Andrew Baker, Tony McMeel, Rob McGavin and Ant Baillieu, and I thank everyone for doing their part in helping make this wonderful College unique and great.

Elizabeth Gubbins
Deputy Principal, Development and Culture
gubbins@marcusoldham.vic.edu.au

Foundation Golf Day

The annual Golf Day enjoyed a much welcomed return to the Marcus calendar in 2022. It was a great day out, with all participants embracing the opportunity to reconnect and enjoy a day of fun.



Anne Maslin, Ginny Woodhouse, Marina Oman, Sybil Baillieu



Greenham Ag group, Craig Mottram, Tom Maguire - General Manager, Lachlan Gardner - Scholarship recipient 2022, Dean Mottram.



John Carson DipFM77, Andrew Baker- Principal



Maxine Campbell and Judy Wilson



The Marcus Golf Day group pic.



Winks Gubbins - Deputy Principal and Sue Morrison



CBRE - James Auty, Simon Altschwager, Matt Childs, Angus Shaw



Matt Meehan DipFM'91, BBAM'05, James Tehan AssocDipFM'87, Gavin Sutherland DipFM'91, Fil Alvarez De Toledo Dip FM'93

SAVE THE DATE
Reunion

2002 Agriculture and Agribusiness 20 Year Reunion.

Where: Sydney When: 6th & 7th August 2022.

For more details contact Sam Pincott — info@holbrookpaddockeggs.com.au

The Network

ENGAGEMENTS

Tim & Kate

Tim Drury DipAgri'20 and Kate Pini.

Since finishing Marcus in 2020, Tim has been working in his family business in the feedlotting and farming sectors.

Kate is currently a bank manager for Suncorp in St George QLD.

They are looking forward to starting a life together on the property and hoping to be married early next year.



MARRIAGES

Rudelle & William

Rudelle Anderson AssocDFBM'19 and William McArthur.

Rudelle and William were married at Perricoota Station NSW on 25th February, 2022.

Marcus Graduates who were present included **Georgia Buchholz BB(Ag)'20, Margo Sullivan AssocDFBM'19, Jarita Hopwood BB(Ag)'20, Darcey Sheil BB(Ag)'20, Henry Moyle BB(Ag)'20, Hamish Bennett AssocDFBM'19, Tom Pitchford BB(Ag)'20** and **Jeremy Lush BB(Ag)'21**.



Oli & Hannah

Oli Vidor AssocDFBM'16 BB(Ag)'17 and **Hannah Martindale AssocDFBM '17 BB(Ag)'18**.

Oli and Hannah were married on Saturday 12th March, 2022 at Mt Elephant Station with many Marcus past students in attendance.

Oli and Hannah's family timeline:

- 2016 — Met at Marcus Oldham
- 2018 — Engaged
- 2020 — Married (COVID style)
- 2021 — Had Violet Merryll Vidor on 10th August, 2021 at Camperdown Hospital
- 2022 — Celebrated their marriage at Mt Elephant Station with their nearest and dearest



Marcus Alumni in attendance at the wedding of Oli Vidor and Hannah Martindale in March 2022.

BIRTHS



James Askin Morrison

Born at Launceston Hospital on 7th of December 2021.

Son of **Kirsty Hawkins AssocDA'11** and **Ben Morrison AdDipFBM'10**.

Brother to Bruce Askin Morrison.



William Lachlan Paterson

Born in Deniliquin on 14th of February 2022.

Son of **James Paterson DipAgri'12** and **Fiona Paterson**.



Violet Merryll Vidor

Born at Camperdown Hospital on 10th of August 2021.

Daughter of **Oli Vidor AssocDFBM'16 BB(Ag)'17** and **Hannah Vidor (Martindale) AssocDFBM '17 BB(Ag)'18**

DEATHS

VALE



Rachel Watts

Associate Lecturer, Equine.
DipHBM'05

6/10/1986 — 20/3/2022
(35 years of age)

The Marcus Oldham community was deeply saddened by Rachel's death, the result of a tragic road accident.

Rachel's gentle nature, knowledge and understanding of horses, and genuine engagement with all staff and students at Marcus Oldham College will be sorely missed.

Having grown up with horses at her family farm at Kyneton, Rachel found the Equine

Management course a good choice and, after graduating, worked for course Director, Nick Roe. Rachel used her skills to gain work in the UK as Travelling Groom and Yard Manager for Chris Burton, but much of her working life was spent with Shane Rose at Bimbadeen Park as Head Groom. In recognition of her dedication and attention to detail Rachel received the 2017 Equestrian Australia Groom of the Year award. Her role with Olympiad, Shane Rose, brought great success with a bronze medal in Team Eventing at the Rio Olympic Games followed by a silver medal for the Australian Equestrian Team in Tokyo. At the time Rachel said, "This one is the best one yet."

After joining the lecturing staff in January this year, Rachel has had a lasting impact on her students, and colleagues, all of whom are grateful to have known her.

VALE



Jennifer Jones

Former Staff Member

11/10/1944 — 10/3/2022
(77 years of age)

Jennifer, affectionately known as Jen or JJ, joined the Marcus staff in May 1982 and retired in December 2012, serving and supporting the College for more than 30 years.

Jen was originally employed as Secretary for the Equine program (then known as the Horse Management Course), where she worked for Course Directors John Stewart, Paul Goodwin and later, Diana Foster. From 2000, Jen supported Deputy Principal, John Miles and the lecturers, making all the bookings for tours - local, interstate and overseas. She also presented during the Leadership Program having been a member of Toastmasters. Jen became PA to Principal, Dr Simon Livingstone until her retirement.

Jen loved to travel and had visited around 45 countries. She also enjoyed going to MSO concerts and movies.

She is survived by her partner of 20 years, Kerrin Black, son — Adam, daughters — Hayley & Tiffany, and their partners and several grandchildren.

A beautiful person with a heart of gold. Stern, funny, loving and always interested in people, Jen will be sadly missed.

VALE



John Waterhouse

AssocDipFM'84

7/3/1962 — 5/4/2022
(61 years of age)

On 21st April a contingent of the cohort of the 1984 graduating year group gathered at the Yea Town Hall to say a heartfelt farewell to their friend John Waterhouse, aka Spouty.

After graduating from Marcus, John spent 35 years in a variety of professional farm management roles in the Yea district, starting in 1986. He initially ran "Nar Darak" consisting of 1000 hectares of grazing country (mostly in need of pasture repair), a fine wool merino flock, and a beef cattle herd, and while operating this venture he established a nine-hectare cool climate vineyard and completed an Associate Diploma of Applied Science (Viticulture) at Charles Sturt University.

John was an all-rounder and was extensively involved with the local community having been an active CFA member in Molesworth for the past 35 years, along with Landcare, the Grasslands Society and the VFF.

Over recent years, John managed a commercial Hereford herd, along with his own herd of Angus at Caveat, Victoria.

A month before he passed, John and his partner Lynda Brayton were thrilled to see his son **Johnathon Waterhouse BB(Ag)'18** marry **Prue Phillips BB(Agri)'14** at Rutherglen.

John's reach was both near and far, he will be missed by many but never forgotten.

VALE

Dr Peter Smith

Education consultant

(74 years of age)

Peter was tragically killed on November 22nd, 2021, while riding his bike on Barwon Heads Road at Breakwater.

Many staff and students recall Peter's assistance with education initiatives at Marcus over the past 10 or so years. He was PhD supervisor to Dr Simon Livingstone and later an education consultant for the College. Peter worked well with people, adding considerably to the College and its success with his professional approach, bringing real life experiences into classroom teaching.

His friendship, quiet demeanour and sense of humour will be long remembered.

Frank Hargrave AO

Foundation friend

3/1/1940 — 19/12/2021 (81 years of age)

Philanthropist, founder of Skilled Engineering, keen horseman and sheep and cattle farmer at "Larkfield", Yea, Victoria. Frank was a larger-than-life, genuinely delightful gentleman, who was a natural storyteller with a wonderful sense of humour. As a philanthropist who made his wealth through sheer hard work, Frank was an inspiration. He leaves wife Ruth, who loved life on the farm and with Frank enjoyed trail riding and community involvement.

Frank's legacy to Marcus Oldham is the provision of the amazing digital screen in the Livingstone Hall of the Douglas Boyd Centre.

Baillieu Myer AC

Foundation friend

11/1/1926 — 23/1/2022 (96 years of age)

Philanthropist and businessman, Baillieu, with his brother Ken, changed the face of retail setting up a "mini shopping centre" at Chadstone, Victoria and bringing Myer to Sydney after the acquisition of Grace Brothers. Baillieu was involved in Myer Emporium's acquisition of the Lindsay retail chain in Geelong that was subsequently rebadged Target.

His philanthropy included roles as an emeritus trustee of the National Gallery of Victoria, a patron of Asialink and the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal, President of the Howard Florey Institute, and an executive member of the CSIRO. He was also instrumental in the work of the Myer Foundation, a charitable trust set up in the family's name that has distributed more than \$300 million since its inception in 1959.

Baillieu is recognised as a great contributor to Marcus Oldham College - as the man behind the Yulgilbar Foundation and the sponsor of our Yulgilbar Room in the Douglas Boyd Learning Centre.

2022 Scholarship Recipients



Front row: **Jack Moor** (Warialda, NSW) RC and EC Webb Trust (Agriculture), **William Sylvester** (Nundle, NSW) Warrawidgee (Farm Management), **Martin Smith** (Keith, SA) rma network, **James Dawson** (Glengarry, VIC) The Calvert-Jones Foundation, **Hugh Browning** (Narromine, NSW) Ingleby Farm Management, **Megan Kennett** (Harden, NSW) Ingleby Farm Management, **Annabelle Hamilton** (Narromine, NSW) Yiddinga Farm Management, **Diana Wheaton** (Broughton, VIC) Freemasons Foundation.

Middle row: **Alexander Edgar** (Boddington, WA) Australian Farm Management, **Mitchell Lollback** (Forest Springs, QLD) RC and EC Webb Trust (Agribusiness), **Hugh Dawson** (Elliott, NT) C.A.S.Hawker, **Will Wright** (Banana, QLD) Warrawidgee (Agriculture), **Luke Johnson** (Nerrim South, VIC) Rabobank Tertiary Pathways, **Tanner Morris** (Karatta, SA) Kerin Ag, **Katherine Faithfull** (Calulu, VIC) Hazeldean Livestock Production, **Lucy Reed** (Mansfield, VIC) Adam Giblin Memorial, **Bonnie Weir** (Navarre, VIC) Thoroughbred Industry Careers (Godolphin), **Harriet Taylor** (Wellington, NSW) Dr Alastair Mackenzie, **Caitlin Ward** (Coomera, QLD) Australian Equestrian, **Bella Joseland** (Ilsisford, QLD) RC and EC Webb Trust (Agribusiness), **Emma Muldoon** (Palmerston, NT) Australian Thoroughbred, **Judith Jaeckle** (Thurgau, Switzerland) International Sport Horse Breeding.

Back row: **William Seyffer** (Cambewarra, NSW) Te Mania Angus, **John Ashleigh** (Trangie, NSW) Upper Namoi Cotton Growers' Association, **Matthew Dykes** (Applecross, WA) Warakirri Agricultural Trusts, **Archie Howard** (Wagga Wagga, NSW) Excel Farms, **Oscar Klose** (Lucindale, SA) Lawson Grains, **Samuel Crouch-Loveday** (Laang, VIC) Dairy Australia, **Jack Webster** (Cuballing, WA) RC and EC Webb Trust (Agriculture), **Samuel Palmer** (Quirindi, NSW) Warrawidgee (Agriculture), **Henry Anderson** (Carnegie, VIC) Mutooroo Pastoral Company, **Hugh Valpied** (Ballarat, VIC) Warawidgee (Farm Management), **Jack Jordan-Hill** (Winchelsea, VIC) RC and EC Webb Trust (Agribusiness), **Elliot Jaeschke** (Mundulla, SA) The Calvert-Jones Foundation, **Lachlan McLennan** (Yarrawonga, VIC) Lawson Grains, **Reagan Jones** (Simpson, VIC) Dairy Australia, **Lachlan Gardner** (Paterson, NSW) Greenham Ag, **Samuel Marshall** (Mulwala, NSW) Dalara Foundation and Dalara Pastoral.

Absent: **Abbey Arbuckle** (Moolerr, VIC) Emerging Equestrian Performance

C.A.S. Hawker Scholarship

The 10th C.A.S. Hawker Marcus Oldham College recipient is Hugh Dawson in first year of his Bachelor of Business (Agribusiness). A special morning presentation on Friday 13th May in the Beggs Boardroom brought together the Hawker and Dawson families.

The C.A.S. Hawker Scholarship commemorates the achievements of one of Australia's most respected pastoral pioneers who served in the First World War and went on to become a distinguished scholar and leading figure in the Federal Parliament, prior to his tragic and untimely death in the Kyeema aircraft accident in 1938.



Ian Doyle OAM MC of the ceremony, Sarah Dawson Mother of Hugh Dawson, Peter Dawson, Father of Hugh



Hon David Hawker AO, Hugh Dawson, Principal Andrew Baker.

Meet the Student Executive



Back row: Sam Crozier FM3, Lachie Brumpton FM3, Hugh Browning FM3 (President), Ben Mulligan AG2, John Ashleigh FM3 (Vice President)
Front row: Sophie Loane FM3, Zali Thomas AG2, Frazer Duff FM3

Out & About on Tour

Marcus students on tour in 2022.



EM at Ballarat Vet



EM at Widari Stables



AG1 at DiGiorgio Family Wines, Coonawarra. Wine Maker Brian Tonkin speaking



AG1 students with James Mann Assoc Dip FM '87 Graduate of Excellence '06 Donovans Dairy, Wye, SA



AG2 at Jayfields Nursery



AG2 students at Goulburn River Trout Farm



FM3 at Hells Gate - James Paterson Dip Agri '12



FM3 at Kagome Australia, tomatoes North of Echuca



FM1 at Sawers Farms, Boort



FM1 at Cheeky Grog Co, Bunbartha - fruit orchard and cidery

Council news

Robert Riordan

Congratulations to recently retired Deputy Chairman (2011-2021) and member (2003-2011) of the Marcus Oldham Council, Robert Riordan.

Rob has been acknowledged for his services to the community with the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM). Ably supported by his wife, Liz, and children **Jim Riordan Graduate of Excellence'17, DipFM'93**, Mark Riordan, **Paul Riordan DipFM'95** and **Louse Delaney AdCertAA'94**.

As well as his dedication to educational institutions, including as inaugural board member of his alma mater, Monivae College (1989-1990), Rob has given many years to a wide range of community groups, as board member (1975-1993) and Chairman (1983-1989) of the Colac and District Water and Sewerage Authority (now Otway Water Authority), Director Barwon Water (1993-2000), inaugural Chairman Victorian Groundwater Council (1997-2000), member (1990-2013) and President 1999, of Geelong Football Club Coterie 'The Pivots', Board member, National Association of Shell Distributors (1990-1999) and board member of Boundary Bend Olives (now ASX listed Cobram Estate Olives which was co-founded by son, Paul), committee member of Geelong Business Club (1992-2010), Chairman St Mary's Parish Colac Finance and Building Committee (1980-1990), member of St Mary's Geelong Parish Finance Committee (2000-2010), Board of Directors of his son Jim's company Riordan Grains, (1970-present) and Managing Director Riordan Petroleum (2000-present).



Robert Riordan OAM with Louise Delaney (Riordan) AdCertAA'94 and Jim Riordan DipFM'93, Graduate of Excellence'17

Rowing 2022

A 26-year-old tradition was brought back to life when the Marcus Oldham Head of River was held on the Barwon River on Wednesday 27th April 2022.

Thank you, Scott Vanderkley, Lecturer ICT and ICT Manager and Duncan Ashby, Lecturer in Accounting and Finance, for conducting CPR on this grand tradition. Long may it live.



Novice mixed 4, Agribusiness. Harry Thompson (Cox), Sam Agar, Charles Uren, Nat Turner, Lucas Atkin



Winners — Coxed 8, Agribusiness Tom O'Brien (Cox), Henry Maconochie, Tom Field, Gerry Lefebvre, Hugh Dawson, Hamish Sylvester, Cam McKenzie, Zali Thomas, Jane McGuire



Winners — Open Coxed 4s, Andrew Etherton, Duncan Ashby, Scott Vanderkley, Matt Robertson, Jess Roberts (Cox)



Winners — Mixed Novice 4s FM, Tom Simmons, Elliot Jaeschke, Harriet Taylor, Lachlan Barrett, Diana Wheaton (Cox)

Staff news



Cleo Gower

Cleo Gower Master of Agribusiness'21 and Course Dux, GradDipEd, GCertAgri'17, BFP FCA, BA(Hons)

is the new Director of Agriculture and Agribusiness. Cleo and family moved to Geelong from London in 2009 where she had worked as a Chartered Accountant, specialising in family businesses, for 16 years. Cleo joined Marcus in 2014 as Lecturer in Accounting and Business Management. She loves her role working closely with the students and finds watching them develop and grow very satisfying. Cleo has refined her understanding of the Australian ag industry and production systems since being at Marcus, learning alongside the students on study tours and farm visits.



Katrina Wood

Katrina Wood GCertLrng and Teach(HrEd)'20, BB(Agri)'15, DipHBM'06

is the new Director of Equine Management. Her roles since graduating from the equine course in 2006 include Administration and Marketing at Kentucky Equine Research, Stud Administration at Blue Gum Farm and Westbury Stud, and Administration and Owner Relations roles at racing stables in Geelong and Ballarat. In 2018 Katrina joined Marcus as Associate Lecturer in Equine Management, working with and learning from Director Emma Morel, who had been her lecturer in 2006. Katrina has had a very challenging beginning to her new role, but a lovely group of students are helping her to adjust.



Emma Morel

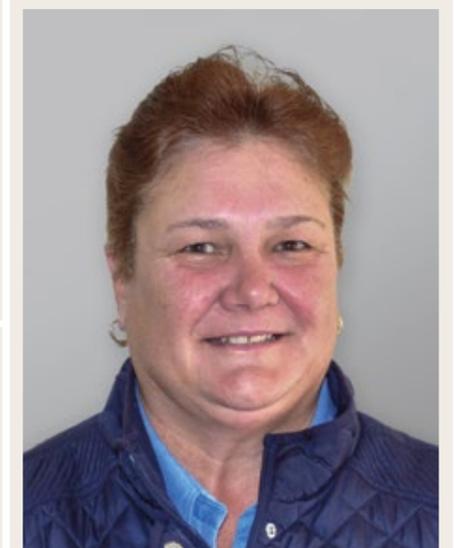
Emma Morel has resigned as Director of Equine Management after 15 years of service. Emma was first employed as Lecturer and then promoted to the position of Director a few years later. We thank Emma for her time at the College and the good work she has done managing all things equine. We wish her and Toby all the best on their next adventure.

Alannah Halloran

Alannah Halloran has resigned from her role as Foundation Manager. Alannah has been a long-standing, senior member of the College, leading our efforts in building the Marcus Oldham Foundation. The College wishes Alannah all the best with her future endeavours.

Claudia Nasuti

Claudia Nasuti, Administration Officer, resigned in November after four years of great support work for the College. We thank Claudia and wish her all the best for the future.



Alison Campbell

We welcome Alison Campbell to the Catering and Accommodation team.

Graduation 2020 and 2021

2020 Graduate Award Winners



The Laguna Bay Pastoral Company Award to the Dux of the Master of Agribusiness — Glenn Aldridge



The Chase Consulting Award for the Best Graduate Certificate of Agribusiness Business Case Study — David Humble



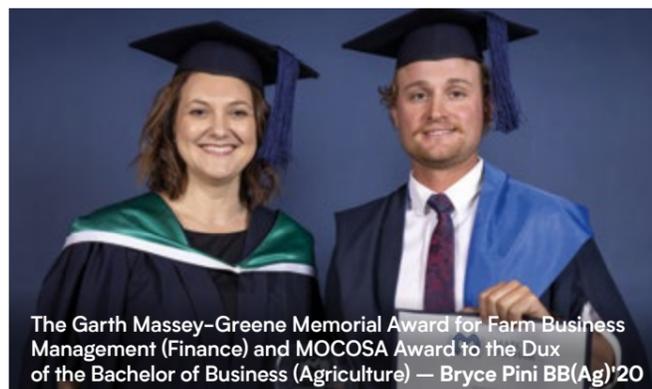
The Bruce Kentish Memorial Award for General Service to the College Community — Angus Scott BB(Ag)'20



The Ivo Dean Memorial Award for Agricultural Production and Technology — Hannah Gilbertson BB(Ag)'20



The Pro Advice Award for Farm Business Planning and Marcus Oldham Principal's Award for Effort and Achievement — Harrison Kemp BB(Ag)'20



The Garth Massey-Greene Memorial Award for Farm Business Management (Finance) and MOCOSA Award to the Dux of the Bachelor of Business (Agriculture) — Bryce Pini BB(Ag)'20



The Beggs Family Award to the Dux of the Bachelor Of Business (Agribusiness) — Isaac Reilly BB(Agri)'20



The G21 Agribusiness Forum Award for Marketing and Economics — Olimpia Santamaria BB(Agri)'20

A combined graduation event for 2020 and 2021 Marcus students was held on Friday 6th May 2022 at Costa Hall, Deakin University, Geelong Waterfront Campus.



The Graham McConnell Award for Strategic Planning — Laura Greenfield BB(Agri)'20



The Marcus Oldham College Award for Human Resources Management — Kate Cannington BB(Agri)'20



Marcus Oldham Principal's Award for Effort and Achievement — Tameka Brooks BB(Agri)'20



West Carr and Harvey Accountants Award for Accounting and Taxation — Elizabeth Kelly BB(Agri)'20



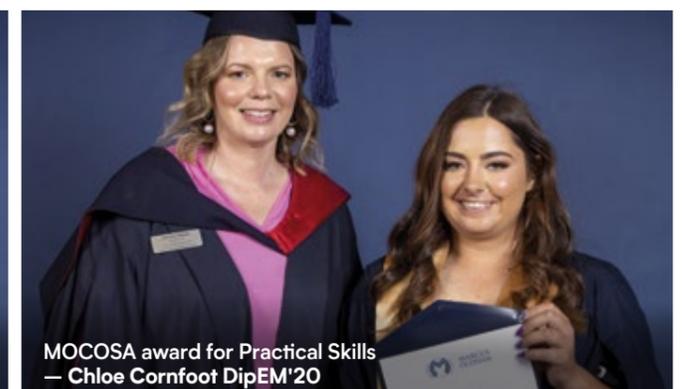
Marcus Oldham Principal's Award for Effort and Achievement — Luke O'Brien DipEM'20



EQ Saddleworld Award to the Dux of the Diploma of Equine Management and Ballarat Veterinary Practice Award for Horse Husbandry and Horse Health — Lisa Grund DipEM'20



Henry Dwyer Racing Award for Equine Business Management — Phoebe Godden DipEM'20



MOCOSA award for Practical Skills — Chloe Cornfoot DipEM'20

Graduation 2020 and 2021

2021 Graduate Award Winners



Laguna Bay Pastoral Company Award to the Dux of the Master of Agribusiness — Cleo Gower



The Bruce Kentish Memorial Award for General Service to the College Community — William Fagan BB(Ag)'21



The G21 Agribusiness Forum Award for Marketing and Economics — Jacques Lefebvre BB(Agri)'21



The Graham McConnell Award for Strategic Planning — Samuel Jess BB(Agri)'21



The MOCOSA Award to the Dux of the Bachelor of Business (Agriculture) — Lachlan Davis Dux BB(Ag)'21



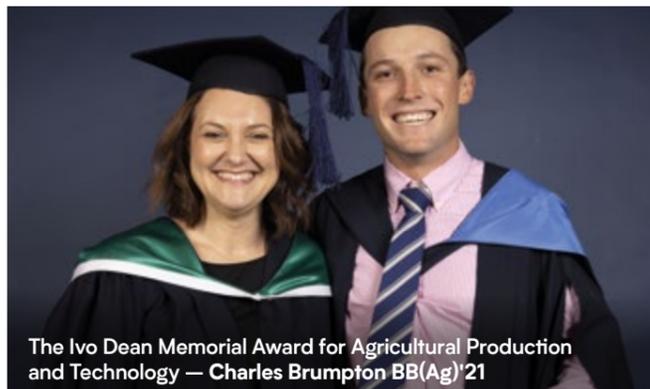
The Garth Massey-Greene Memorial Award for Farm Business Management (Finance) — Charlie Grellman BB(Ag)'21



The Marcus Oldham College Award for Human Resource Management — Jessica Ziesemer BB(Agri)'21



The West Carr and Harvey Accountants Award for Accounting and Taxation and Marcus Oldham Principal's Award for Effort and Achievement — Adam Mann BB(Agri)'21



The Ivo Dean Memorial Award for Agricultural Production and Technology — Charles Brumpton BB(Ag)'21



The Marcus Oldham Principal's Award for Effort and Achievement — Charlie Upton BB(Ag)'21



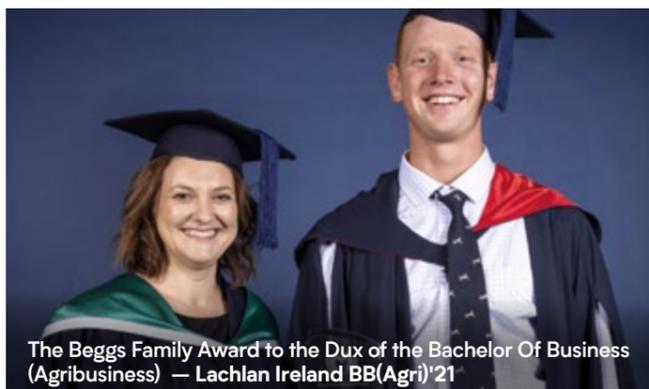
Marcus Oldham Principal's Award for Effort and Achievement — Teddi Barker DipEM'21



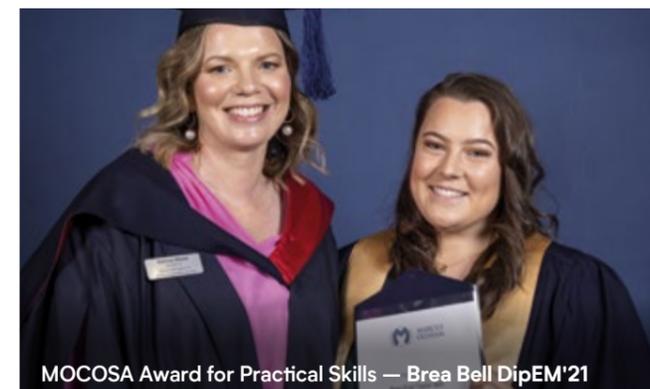
EQ Saddleworld Award to the Dux of the Diploma of Equine Management and Henry Dwyer Racing Award for Equine Business Management — Naomi Horn DipEM'21



The Pro Advice Award for Farm Business Planning — Charlie Wrigley BB(Ag)'21



The Beggs Family Award to the Dux of the Bachelor Of Business (Agribusiness) — Lachlan Ireland BB(Agri)'21



MOCOSA Award for Practical Skills — Brea Bell DipEM'21

ABSENT

AGRIBUSINESS

- Chase Consulting Award for the Best Graduate Certificate of Agribusiness Business Case Study — Harry Hosegood

EQUINE

- Ballarat Veterinary Practice Award for Horse Husbandry and Horse Health — Emerson Fuss

Marcus All Over – Through the Decades

1970s...

Rodney (Fred) Bell

Rodney (Fred) Bell DipFM'72

has much to reflect on since leaving Marcus. With brother John he has owned multiple cattle grazing properties in Queensland for 45 years, practised law specialising in rural property for 35 years and been a public, and private company director for more than 25 years.

"Marcus was a wonderful influence on my varied career. It was there I had the good fortune of having lectures from a local accountant, Geoff Neilson for a subject titled Agricultural Law. That was the 'light bulb moment' which led me to go to Law School and pursue my career as a solicitor with McCullough Robertson in Brisbane. I am very grateful to Geoff and Marcus for their contribution. The business skills learned at Marcus assisted me enormously in every business I have been involved with, particularly in my legal career. Lawyers are mostly trained in the Law without any input from business subjects."

Through his endeavours, Rodney has gained many pearls of wisdom he wishes he had known when graduating from Marcus and Law School.

"Listening- most young people are very good at speaking about their products/ services and promoting different features in a positive way. Why wouldn't they, as others are unlikely to do it for them in such a constructive way? It is vital that young people understand and articulate what is beneficial about their business interests. That said, I have learned over the years the value of listening to others who are also informed about some other product or service. I have learned so much from older and more experienced operators but not from my verbal observations. I think it a fact that many of us are not great listeners and would benefit from active listening, including to others



outside the industry. It is not about adopting old ways but more about a better idea."

Rodney considers strategic thinking and skills in negotiation vital to success in business.

"It's important to distinguish between strategic thinking and operational thinking, it is the former, higher-level planning that requires commitment rather than descending to the actual doing. In my work as a public company director, I have endeavoured to think strategically about the major issues. I have always been comfortable with seeking input from others who I thought could assist, rather than feeling the need to solve each issue personally. When it comes to negotiation, the following strategies come to mind: patience, having a real understanding about what you wish to bargain about, understanding the position of the competing party, and 'nerves of steel' usually assist."

Rodney strongly believes the more you contribute to your role, the more opportunities and luck will come your way.

"Always look to do more than what is expected and to add value to any proposal. Whether you are involving your youngest recruit, a 'Royal' representative, or reporting to a board meeting, prepare for the meeting, so that you show you genuinely care. You will find that the loyalty /trust will be returned numerous times over."

Despite graduating 50 years ago, Rodney has been a lifelong learner.

"I am a big supporter of sharing knowledge with others, this promotes the continuous learning process, including via industry events, through market and other reports and publications. Staying involved with courses, seminars and industry bodies can be rewarding."

Surrounding yourself with 'good people' and an understanding of the importance of leadership are high on his list of ingredients for success.

"You are more likely to prosper with people who possess different skills. I have always attempted to have people around me who are more skilled in some respects than me. I have learnt from them and prospered from their inputs. My skill was making sure they continued their input in some way. I look for people with passion and commitment and of course, leadership skills. A great leader such as Queen Elizabeth II is decisive, consistent, committed and leads by example."

Rodney recommends "the road less travelled."

"We all will come to a 'fork in the road' on several occasions in our life and you can take the 'worn' track or the less travelled. I see Marcus Oldham in the latter category when the founders proposed the establishment of the College. My conclusion is to never be afraid to take a different way when reaching a crossroad."

rodneybell4005@gmail.com

Through the Decades

1980s...

Judy Croagh

Judy Croagh (Lusk) CertHM'82, Graduate of Excellence'12 is the CEO of Western Plains Pork but, despite the demands of this busy role, she is never far from her long-time passion — horses.

Having grown up in Wonga Park, Victoria Judy chose to study at Marcus because she liked the sound of the course and was keen to see where her passion for riding would take her. After graduating and marrying **Tim Croagh DipFM'82, Graduate of Excellence'12**, they worked on sheep, cattle and cropping properties in Victoria and Tasmania before starting Western Plains Pork in 1997.

"Most of the people involved with Western Plains Pork have something to do with Marcus Oldham, either as ex-students or lecturers. I was extremely fortunate to become involved with the sales and marketing side of the business. My role has been to introduce pork to restaurants and chefs who wanted to use pork but had found a lack of quality in the products on offer. I have met the most amazing people this way and eaten in incredible restaurants."

Judy is now more involved with the business side and works alongside Tim to run the company. The business continues to grow, focussing on developing their free-range pork, and progressing towards becoming carbon neutral. Meanwhile, Judy willingly volunteers a great deal of her time and energy to her passion, horses.

"Horses are still a huge part of my life. I am the Event Director of the Marcus Oldham Ballarat International Horse Trials which run in May every year. I am involved with the Melbourne International 3 Day Event as one of the Cross Country Coordinators. For both Ballarat and Melbourne, I have the good fortune to work with **Ewan Kellett DipHBM'96** who is now an

International Course Designer. Melbourne International 3 Day Event is run by the Victorian Eventing committee of which I am a member, where I look after the officials, focussing on risk and safety within the sport and working with organising committees. I really enjoyed the role of cross-country jump judge at the Rio Olympics in 2016 as a volunteer, and being a part of the test event at Tokyo with the plan to go and jump judge again in Japan — but COVID put a stop to that."

Judy's broad range of interests and experience gives credence to her tip for Marcus' students.

"Explore all opportunities that are presented and never limit yourself. Don't get stuck in one area as you never know where something might take you."

Along with great friends and memories she has from her time at Marcus, there is something more.

"Both Tim and I have had the opportunity to meet and work with people who have had a connection to Marcus, when we meet there is always common ground and a smile of understanding."

judy@westernplainspork.com



Through the Decades

1990s...

Catriona Murphy

Catriona Murphy (Mackay) DipHBM'99 has a saying that you are only as good as the people who surround you. While Catriona comes from a family of gifted horse people, including husband Royston Murphy, her own knowledge, skill set, and positive attitude has set her up for success.

Growing up with thoroughbred polo ponies in the beautiful town of Dungog in the Lower Hunter Valley, NSW, Catriona decided studying at Marcus would enable her to take the next step towards a future in the thoroughbred industry.



“Marcus had a wonderful reputation, which continues today, of enabling you to be across all aspects of the thoroughbred industry, as well as honing all horse husbandry management skills. Completing the course was an exceptional opportunity for me to meet new people, giving me the skills and knowledge that have prepared me for where I am today. It was a great way to start my education in our industry. The contacts I made there and the exposure to information has set me up for life.”

Catriona created great memories at Marcus through the social aspects – fun runs, campus camaraderie and the stud tours- including a trip to New Zealand, then returned home for a while before heading off to the famous Widden Stud where she stayed for four years.

“I worked in the foaling unit and with yearlings, which gave me a great practical kick-start to my career. It's where I began to gain confidence in my abilities in the stud game. I completed the Equine Veterinary Nursing Certificate III course in Scone and received a scholarship from Scone Equine Hospital to go to Hagyard-Davidson-McGee in Kentucky for a year. After that, it was back to Widden for another season and then it was time to come home to Sledmere Stud to manage the farm for my family.”

With Catriona's great Aunt, Ann Raymond looking to slow down, a wonderful opportunity was created for Catriona to step up and manage clients and sales preparation, but there

was one more essential component she needed to complete all aspects of the thoroughbred game — pedigree and matings.

“I was lucky enough to be employed in the nominations role at Darley, Seymour and stayed there for three and a half years. This was one of my career highlights and the opportunities and exposure to the industry were second to none. Darley is one of the most prestigious racing and breeding operations in the world, which allowed me to develop contacts, improve my breeding analysis, pedigree evaluations, matings and successful crosses. I use the knowledge I gained there, each and every day. Having now completed all elements it was back to Sledmere which Royston and I have now developed into one of the leading studs in the industry. It's a beautiful farm with much history and breeding success, so to continue our family tradition is something very special. I want to keep doing what I am doing, as it's my life and I love every minute of it.”

treen@sledmerestud.com.au

Through the Decades

2000s...

Sam Pincott

Twenty years ago, **Sam Pincott BBAM'03, Student President '02**, became the first Marcus Oldham College student to receive the C.A.S.Hawker scholarship. At the time it was thought that had the man bearing its name been alive, he and the recipient of the scholarship would have had a lot to talk about, as they both had 'a primary interest in common – the long-term development, viability and well-being of regional and rural Australia.'

“It was a huge honour to receive the C.A.S. Hawker scholarship — a very generous scholarship which took a lot of financial pressure off my years post Marcus. Political studies students had been the previous recipients, so I was very proud to open the agricultural door and continue the agriculture interests that C.A.S. Hawker had himself.”

Sam came to Marcus from near Wagga Wagga, following in his brother, **Bill Pincott's DipFM'96**, footsteps. The Pincott's also had a connection with Marcus through the employment of numerous placement students while Sam was growing up on the Murrumbidgee River.

“The business aspect of the course was very appealing — I didn't have a clear plan of where I wanted to go but I knew it was somewhere in agriculture and that business principles would always hold me in good stead. I made a great group of mates and I use the business learnings and ability to research new ideas and concepts most days.”

After graduating, Sam joined Agrivision International, owned by Kate and **Michael McConachy DipFM'93**, then managed a cattle property near Camperdown, and in 2006 the opportunity arose to lease wife Prue's family farm near Yea. Sadly,



Sam Pincott with wife Prue and four daughters, Amelia 15, Annabel 14, Abby 12, and Arabella 8.

the property was burnt out in the Black Saturday fires and sold 12 months later.

“Prior to the fires we had purchased a property near Holbrook which we ran in conjunction with Yea. Cattle had been the primary focus but after the sale of Yea, we introduced free range chooks with the intention of improving our soil health and reducing fertiliser input costs to grow more grass for the cattle in a lower cost of production model.”

In 2010, Holbrook Paddock Eggs began with 50 hens in an old caravan being moved around the property. Now in 2022, free range egg production managed under a portable system is Sam and Prue's core business. Eggs are

marketed directly to retail outlets with 80% sold in Sydney and 20% to local towns. An agistment enterprise is run in conjunction with the hens. Add four children to the mix and it's a busy life off and on the farm, with no plans to sit back just yet.

“In 2020 I joined the Farm Owners Academy team as a farm business accountability coach. Hopefully, towards the end of 2022 we will have a new egg packing facility into which we are going to incorporate a retail and tourism enterprise. The new space will showcase our production system and what goes on at the farm.”

info@holbrookpaddockeggs.com.au

Through the Decades

2010s...

Andrew Lay

Andrew Lay AssocDA'15 is a 2021 Victorian State Government Upskill and Invest Young Farmers' Scholarship recipient. The scholarship provides young farmers with up to \$5,000 towards training or study, and up to a further \$5,000 to invest on-farm or in professional development.

Andrew was very excited to receive the scholarship and is looking forward to putting the financial assistance towards furthering his education with a course and some business consultation through Resource Consulting Services.

"Since completing the Assoc Dip at Marcus, unfortunately, education and courses have been low on my priority list while I've been getting my farming business up and running. The scholarship allows me to make it happen."

Running 70, predominately Angus, breeders on his farm at Seaview in the Strzelecki ranges, south of Warragul, Andrew has the coast and Melbourne only an hour away and enjoys views across Westernport Bay and as far as the southern coast of Wilsons Promontory.

Andrew originally chose to study at Marcus to gain exposure to the business side of farming.

"I was always keen on farming and at the time was jumping at any opportunity I could get to have hands-on experience, but I didn't get the exposure to the business side of running a farm. So, I did my research and found Marcus Oldham would best suit my needs. After leaving Marcus I had a sound knowledge of how to plan and budget for a profitable farming business, which has certainly fast-tracked my plan of running my own farm at a much younger age than I ever dreamt of. It has given me great understanding of all aspects of the business, whether I am dealing with



"After leaving Marcus I had a sound knowledge of how to plan and budget for a profitable farming business, which has certainly fast-tracked my plan of running my own farm at a much younger age than I ever dreamt of."

banks, accountants, or agents. The tools and knowledge you gain out of those degrees are so valuable and applicable when you step out into the real world."

Andrew has great memories of his Marcus days, both socially and through the tours around Australia and overseas, where he was exposed to a range of progressive businesses.

"It was fantastic how open and honest each host was at every visit, which was

very valuable and gave you great insight and ideas. The lecturers were all so knowledgeable, with great industry experience and their passion about each subject was contagious, which really helped my learning and studying. The networking that happens on and off campus is amazing, the fact you get to meet people from all over Australia with different backgrounds, involved in a range of sectors is very handy also."

andrew.lay@live.com

Through the Decades

2020s...

Dayna Grey

Having only just turned 18 years of age, **Dayna Grey BB(Agri)'20** may have been the "pup" of her year when she arrived at Marcus, but nothing was going to get in the way of this go-getter.

While at College, Dayna found a gap in the pregnancy scanning market and used her last assignment for CJ (Campbell Jeffery, Marketing Lecturer) to make a marketing/business plan to start her scanning company, Next Gen Ag Services, in South Australia.

"I received approval on my vehicle loan to start my business because I presented to them a plan they thought was done by a professional, and I said, 'No, I did this as part of my studies at Marcus.' They took one look at the 20-page report and the financials I did for it and said, 'We don't need to look at it, you know your shit.' They gave me the loan in a flash. Having the skills to walk straight into a financial lender and present budgets, profit and losses based on an average or below-average year, and make it work, gave them the confidence to approve a loan for me, which was the difference between beginning my business or not."

Growing up near Sheffield in Tasmania on a beef cattle operation as a fifth-generation farmer, her family had also been involved in owning and running beef processing facilities in the state. Gaining a spot at Marcus was a dream come true for Dayna.

"When I arrived at Marcus, I didn't realise I was going to be the youngest on campus, but just as important as the academic skills I gained, I learned social skills- how to connect with older people, as most of my peers were 23-25-year olds. I learned to be able to sit down and make small talk with people a fair age above me. Now you can't shut me up, I'm a bit of a chatterbox."



Dayna received the Big Brother Youth Movement scholarship which gave her the opportunity to travel to Europe for six weeks in June of her second year at Marcus and work in Thomas Foods International's European office. Once Dayna finished studying, she moved to Adelaide with the organisation.

"After meeting my partner, Charles Rowett, who runs the White Suffolk stud, 'North Ulandi,' I found we were not able to book a pregnancy scan for the stud, so became aware of a gap in the scanning industry. After some research, I bought a machine and crate and did some basic training. At first, I would work my full-time job during the week with T.F.I. then shoot off around South Australia on the weekends with my vehicle and trailer and do the odd couple of jobs scanning. Now I run NextGen Ag Services full time. Livestock Pregnancy Scanning is my focus, but I aim to build the business to offer a full livestock ultrasound suite. There's a market here for Eye Muscle Area scanning for cattle and sheep. I have my A.I. certificate so I can do that too. The opportunities are endless."

Running her own business has given Dayna flexibility.

"I guess you wouldn't do it if you weren't self-motivated, but I was looking at doing something different, more flexible, and I always wanted to work for myself and run a business, so when this popped up, working in animal health and nutrition, it became a passion."

Dayna has taken every opportunity on offer.

"Marcus was brilliant, I wouldn't have been confident enough to take this step without it. I owe a lot to the support of the lecturers and my parents encouraging me through it. It opened my eyes up to ag. It's so practical, you have your tours, you meet all different types of people, the networking is great, and I think that's how I've got to where I am today, it's not what you know, it's who you know in ag. It's one degree of separation, not six. Deanne Whelan, Andrew Baker, Dave Cornish- he was one of my favourite lecturers- have all been advisers for me. I use my ag degree every day. I'm not one to sit in the stands or be a sheep and follow people around, I have the ambition and drive to get things going, if the opportunity arises, I'm there to jump on it, I never say no."

dayna@nextgenagservices.com.au

MOCOSA

Notification of Changes to Constitution

The original Constitution for MOCOSA was ratified at the first meeting of the Association held on 9 March 1964 with Philip Bade as Chairman. In 2001 the Executive Committee of MOCOSA reviewed the Constitution and made further amendments.

Twenty years later in 2021, the Executive Committee of MOCOSA moved to review the existing Constitution to ensure that it was more relevant to community expectations & current governance models. This review was conducted with advice and support from outside the Executive with the following changes recommended and adopted at an Executive Committee meeting on 20th October 2021 with Peter Stephens as Chairman.

1.0 — Term of Office

- 1.1 A committee member may hold office for a period of 3 years.
- 1.2 The retiring member may renominate and be re-elected for a further term of 3 years, up to a maximum of 9 years before the member will be replaced on the Committee.

2.0 — Use of Technology

- (1) A member of the Executive not physically present at a general meeting may be permitted to participate in the meeting using any form of technology (e.g., Zoom, Skype, phone link) that allows that member, and the members present at the meeting to communicate with each other clearly and simultaneously.

3.0 — Appointment of Ordinary Members to the MOCOSA Executive Committee

- 1) Alumni representation on the Executive Committee will be through the appointment of up to 10 Ordinary members. Representation will seek to appoint alumni from each College course, and aim for gender balance and regional and geographic spread.

4.0 — Who is eligible to be an Executive Committee member?

A member of the Association is eligible to be elected or appointed as a member of the Executive Committee, if the member—

- (a) is a current financial member of the Association; and
- (b) is entitled to vote at a general meeting

5.0 — Nomination and appointment of members of the MOCOSA Executive

(This is the major change to the Constitution adopted by the Executive Committee)

5.1 — Nomination and Selection Committee

To fill a vacancy on the MOCOSA Executive, the Executive Committee will appoint a Nomination and Selection Committee to oversee the selection of replacement candidates and make recommendations of candidates for election to the Executive Committee

5.2 — Role and function of the Selection Committee

- 1) The Selection Committee of three members will be drawn from members of the current Executive Committee and will convene to call for nominations and make a recommendation of appointment to fill a vacancy on the Executive Committee.
- 2) The Selection Committee will call for nominations from members of the Association (Alumni) to fill the vacancy by advertising the position through the College and MOCOSA media channels.
- 3) An eligible member of the Association may —
 - (a) nominate himself or herself; or
 - (b) with the member's consent, be nominated by another member.

All nominations must be supported in writing by 2 current members of the Association

- 4) On receipt of nominations within the determined time frame, the Selection Committee will review the nominations received and make a recommendation to the Association members (Alumni) who will then vote on the nominations.
- 5) At the conclusion of the voting period, the Selection Committee will inform the Executive Committee of the outcome of the poll, noting the successful candidate.
- 6) The Executive Committee will meet to ratify the appointment and inform the successful candidate of their appointment.
- 7) Should the Selection Committee be unable to make a recommendation to the Executive Committee, the Executive reserve the right to independently make an appointment to fill the vacancy.

S.W. Inglis
Hon Secretary, MOCOSA
25 March 2022

2022 MOCOSA

Graduate of Excellence

Nominations are invited for the Graduate of Excellence Award for 2022.

You can nominate anyone who is a past graduate of Marcus Oldham, or yourself.

Past recipients include **Howard Hansen (DipFM'94)** in 2005, **Geoff Lucas (DipFM'81)** in 2007 and current Chairman of Marcus Oldham and **Rob McGavin (AdCertAA'93)** in 2000.

Award requirements include:

- Applications must be no more than 1500 words in length.
- Students who graduated from the College more than 4 years ago (1963–2017) are eligible to apply.
- All information provided must be presented clearly and accurately.
- Nominees may be contacted by the rural media
- Award recipients are invited to make a speech at the College Graduation Ceremony in December.
- The winning entrant may be required to submit a short article for MOCOSA.
- Identification of the person nominating and contact details to be included.
- Unsuccessful applicants may apply in any following year.

The main areas that will be considered by the MOCOSA executive are:

1. Leadership.

Have they/you been prepared to get out in front?
How have they/you demonstrated their/your leadership capacity in your community, industry or business?

2. Innovation.

Have they/you developed new and innovative ways of doing things?
How have these assisted your/their industry or community?

3. Community/Industry Presence.

How are they/you involved in the community or industry?
Are they/you involved above and beyond the norm?

4. Success.

Is the business they/you have, or work in, successful?
What impact did they/you have?

Any other supporting information will also be considered.

Closing date for applications is 5pm Friday 14th October 2022

Applications to be submitted to:

Neen McKenzie
Marcus Oldham College
Private Bag 116
Mail Centre GEELONG VIC 3220
mckenzie@marcusoldham.vic.edu.au



MOCOSA
MARCUS OLDHAM COLLEGE
OLD STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

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