

The logo features a stylized 'M' inside a diamond shape, with the words 'MOCOSA' and 'MAGAZINE' to its right.

MOCOSA

MAGAZINE



A stunning 'Helispirit' experience
over the jewel of the Kimberley, Lake Argyle WA

October 2016

A publication of Marcus Oldham College Old Students Association
Volume 23 Issue 2

Principal's Perspective



Marcus Oldham was acknowledged in May this year for its excellence in face-to-face teaching. The College topped the national 2015 Student Experience Survey, significantly outscoring Australia's 40 universities for Overall Education Experience, Teaching Quality, Learner Engagement and Student Support, as ranked by the Federal Government's Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching.

Face-to-face delivery will always be a foundation of the College's undergraduate education programs. In fact, as more universities offer education programs via distance education and continue to reduce the number of face-to-face student contact hours, the more likely the Marcus Model of delivery will become even more popular to students in the future.

However, if the College is to have real influence in the sectors that it serves, it will need to steadily grow its on-campus student numbers which will lead to an increased presence of Marcus Oldham graduates in the workforce. This growth currently cannot occur due to infrastructure limitations centred around traditional classroom size.

In order to develop, the College needs to advance its communication capabilities, both nationally and internationally, as well as further enhance its teaching and learning model. To this end, the College is embarking on the construction of a Learning Centre.

The creation of innovative learning spaces as part of the Learning Centre will be a key component and

enabler to achieve this strategic goal. The spaces within the Centre will be designed to support active group and collaborative approaches to teaching and learning, integrated with seamless access to information and presentation technologies.

Educators have, until recently, tended to ignore the influence that space can have on learning, and learning spaces are rarely mentioned within education discourse. Educators are beginning to appreciate the ways that learning settings can support twenty-first century teaching. Contemporary research on education and learning environments shows that the style of space can dramatically influence the rate at which students learn, concentrate and work creatively. Academic studies have shown that lower-level tasks such as remembering and understanding are well supported in classrooms, but the higher-level tasks of analyzing, synthesizing, creating and evaluating require a range of settings¹.

The new generation learning environments proposed for the Learning Centre will provide a

superior setting for both lecturers and students, enabling a more interactive and collaborative learning experience which, research has established, provides a more effective pedagogical outcome for students. World class education providers are increasingly emphasizing the in-between spaces and developing student-only lounges supporting informal learning, while encouraging a rich campus experience.

The new Centre, with its mix of facilities and amenities and situated in the middle of the campus, is intended to form the academic heart of the College.

These authentic learning approaches are more consistent with the 'real-world' environments in which students will ultimately operate upon graduation. For our lecturers, the new classroom settings will support a wider range of teaching methodologies and allow an increased number of students to enrol in, and benefit from, the College's education programs.

The new Centre with its mix of facilities and amenities, and situated in the middle of the campus, is intended to form the academic heart of the College. With the quality and mix of its facilities, the new Centre will make a very firm statement about the College's commitment to academic excellence as well as providing a superior campus experience for students.

The new facility represents the heightened aspirations of the College and signifies, in the strongest possible way, its commitment to its future role as a leading educational institution. In essence, it presents the College, its staff and students with a rich array of possibilities for programs, activities and events well into the future. The architect has been appointed and has commenced work on this significant project.

Dr Simon Livingstone
Principal

¹ *Learning Spaces in Higher Education: Positive Outcomes by Design, Australian Learning and Teaching Council 2015, The University of Queensland.*

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From the President's Desk



It is a great privilege to hold the position of President of the Marcus Oldham College Old Students Association. It is certainly most inspirational seeing individuals in each year group form into the Marcus 'mould' - which graduating year groups have done since 1963.

On Graduation Day I have the great honour during the Ceremony, of reciting the Graduate Charge. The message to the young ladies and gentlemen graduating from Marcus and whom we proudly welcome to the MOCOSA family, is still as relevant now, as it has been for many years.

I thought it timely to note the Marcus Graduate Charge so you can reflect upon these words - and the Charge you were given.

Good luck with your projects.

James P Bufton FM 94
MOCOSA President

Graduate Charge

The high standards already achieved by the graduates of Marcus Oldham College are recognized both nationally and internationally.

The College, therefore, reaffirms its commitment to leadership and excellence in the fields of farm business management, horse business management and agribusiness.

Graduates (year), the Council, Staff and all graduates, charge you with the responsibility of conducting yourselves in a manner which is appropriate for a graduate of Marcus Oldham College.

You will demonstrate this by:

- *Your professional approach in your chosen profession*
- *Your leadership and involvement in your industry and your community*

Your stewardship to ensure the viability and sustainability of the resources you manage.

GRADUATES - THIS IS YOUR CHARGE

At Marcus Oldham, we believe that when it comes to your future, it's important to invest in a career not just a course. Our courses in Agriculture, Agribusiness and Equine Management provide students with first-hand industry knowledge, business management skills, global opportunities and market leading entrepreneurship.

VISIT US AT OUR OPEN DAY AND FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR COURSES AND HOW YOU CAN KICK-START YOUR CAREER.

Marcus Oldham OPEN DAY

Date: Sunday August 13, 2017

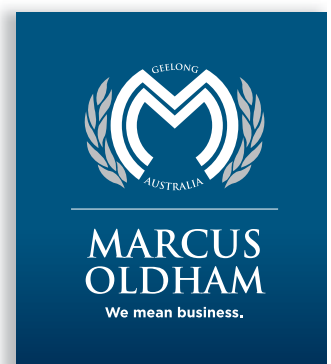
Time: 10am - 2.30pm

Address: 145 Pigdons Road, Waurin Ponds, Geelong, Victoria 3216
(same road as Deakin University)

For further information visit
www.marcusoldham.vic.edu.au/openday
or call 1800 623 500.



CAMPUS TOURS ARE ALSO WELCOME THROUGHOUT THE YEAR



Michael McConachy

Farm Business Management 1993

Ground to Air Businesses



In March of 1990, I began orientation week at Melbourne University in an attempt to get a qualification in agricultural science. After six to eight weeks of lecture rooms full of general science students and not one mention of agriculture, I began to seriously question my choice. I had always wanted to go to Marcus Oldham however, at that stage, the degree course was not available at Marcus and my parents were particularly keen for me to get a degree. Not long after, I bailed from Uni and started at Marcus in February 1991. This was possibly the best decision of my career!

On graduating I was, somewhat ironically, employed by Melbourne University to manage their research property in East Gippsland, Victoria. This was a great role however after three years I became a little disillusioned, once again, with the University and some of the decision making in regard to the magnificent property, Strathfieldsaye Estate, which had been bequeathed to the University. Whilst living in East Gippsland, I made two more decisions which have had a major bearing on my life. Firstly, I undertook my fixed wing pilot's

licence, and secondly, I married my wife Kate (on the condition I was allowed to finish my licence!) We moved to Wagga Wagga in New South Wales for my new role as an agricultural consultant. My real interest was in agricultural and agribusiness project management, and I preferred to be involved in projects rather than hourly consulting.

I was very lucky to be working with a great group of people, particularly the owner of the business and former Marcus student, **Richard Reid FM 81.**

Richard empowered me to take on a senior role with an international client that was shipping agricultural commodities around the world. I soon took on the role of General Manager of the Australian division and this gave me the fortunate opportunity to build an Australian importation business importing bulk commodities; in particular bulk fertilisers. Within 12 months of commencing the business, we were delivering bulk shipments to most of the states and key ports around Australia, and it provided a very steep learning curve into the world of shipping and the commodities market. After several years in this role, I became a little fatigued with constant travel, and also missed being involved at the coal face of agriculture. Kate and I decided to proceed with our long term goal of setting up our own agribusiness management company, which we named Agrivision International Pty Ltd (AVI).

continued on page 5

*Michael McConachy
continued from page 4*

The purpose of AVI was to find quality projects and investors, and bring the two together with AVI providing professional hands on management services. We undertook a range of projects and in 1999 we purchased a large scale dairy, Torrumbarry Estate, in northern Victoria. The property was in a run-down condition, and did not include any livestock, however had considerable infrastructure including a large feedlot and significant water licences. We redeveloped the property and business and resold in 2004. At this time, we decided to take a break with our two young children, Anna and Sam, and relocated back to East Gippsland where we spent any spare time, trading both options and cattle.

This break resulted in a "sliding door" moment for us as we became interested in property development, and partnered with Geoff and Jan Hamilton from Wagga Wagga to develop a new 300 site tourist park at Echuca, Victoria. We also developed a relationship with a private equity group in Sydney and started developing a portfolio of tourist parks located around the country. This was all going very well and we were just at the point of multiple

acquisitions, when the market was devastatingly hit by the GFC. It was at this time that we decided to pack up our family and possessions, and relocate to Kununurra in the Kimberley, Western Australia.

Freshwater East Kimberley Apartments, is a 4 ½ star resort.

In conjunction with the Hamiltons, we had already purchased an 18,000 square metre site in Kununurra where we had intended to develop a cabin park. After further review, we decided to use the high quality site for the development of a resort with the construction of 80 self-contained apartments. We undertook the soft development, found investors, sought finance, and embarked on the biggest project of our lives at that point. It was a multi-stage project which took five years of blood, sweat, and tears to complete. The completed project, Freshwater East Kimberley Apartments, is a 4 ½ star resort, and in 2014, won the gold medal for Deluxe Accommodation at the WA Tourism Awards, and then in 2015, was voted the 7th best hotel in Australia according to Trip Adviser. We continue to operate the management rights for the business today.

Having always had an interest in aviation, we saw the opportunity

in 2014 to purchase the two local helicopter charter operations in Kununurra in partnership with the Hamiltons. This was another unexpected turn in the road, however, we had been looking at opportunities in aviation since our first visit to the Kimberley in 2004. The business was known as Heliwork WA, and we renamed it HeliSpirit, at the end of the first year. We now operate a fleet of 20 helicopters from seven bases around the Kimberley and Northern Territory. Earlier this year, we were presented with the opportunity to take over the neighbouring fixed wing aviation operation. The fixed wing business had previously been linked with the helicopter operation, and it made sense to bring both operations back together.

Since the purchase of the fixed wing business, we are expanding the operation into the Pilbara and have started Regular Public Transport operations (RPT). Now with a total fleet of 30 aircraft, based in three separate states, and a staff of approximately 70, life is very different to what we had anticipated twenty-three years ago when I left Marcus Oldham. Notwithstanding, the skills that I gathered whilst at Marcus, especially the financing and business management aspects, have continued to hold me in good stead for any of the projects that we have been involved with since.

I will be forever grateful for the opportunity to attend Marcus and for the wonderful career and life experiences that I have had since. The Kimberley is a wonderful place to live and our kids are lucky to have grown up in this challenging, diverse, and rich environment.

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2018 Fellowship applications open 28th February 2017.

Jim Burrell

Farm Management 1976

Enabling Others Rather Than Just Changing Others

My life has taken some incredible changes since graduation through choosing different strands of study and a career that took me to such diverse countries as Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Israel, and Indonesia.

My early career journey included: managing an Angus stud "Ben Mhor" at Oberon in NSW; working at Hawkesbury Agricultural College as Manager of the Demonstration Farm in 1978 and where I met my beautiful wife, Denise, who was doing dairy research for the NSW Department of Agriculture; during the 80s, while working more and more in the community services field, decided to study a BA in Social Welfare part-time between 1987 and 1993.

To keep grounded in agriculture we purchased a small irrigation farm at Murrabit, north of Kerang in Victoria. Whilst there we purchased the first Friesian stallion in the eastern states, called Dagho Friso. This very successful decision provided us with 30+ years of pleasure and success in the show, harness and dressage rings as well as through his progeny. He sired several Australian champions in harness, and two dressage horses which made the Olympic long list, as well as hundreds of horses who were champions in the hearts of their owners. He was pivotal in the establishment of the current popularity of Friesian horses in Australia.

A beautiful small farm in the Western Districts of Victoria attracted us in the 1990s as Denise and I were working at nearby Glenormiston College. I was teaching agriculture and, specifically, the Dairy Apprenticeship and Trainee Programs out of a sub-campus at Cobden. However, the transition of Glenormiston to becoming a campus of Melbourne University brought changes in job roles as we headed into the new millennium.

More study beckoned and with a Graduate Diploma of Secondary Education I successfully applied for a teaching position at Cobden



Pakistan

Technical School teaching maths, science and my pet loves, agriculture and psychology.

I NEVER felt unsafe there, and found the reality so different to the media spin on Pakistan

Our son, Russell, commenced university in 2008 which opened an opportunity for Denise and me to face different challenges. We accepted Dairy Development training positions in Pakistan, initially on a two year contract, with Pakistan Dairy Development Company (PDDC) funded by the Pakistan Government.

We undertook different but similar roles: Denise developing teaching curriculum and delivering training and me doing practical skills training with internal PDDC staff and in small rural communities. I visited remote and isolated villages where I was the first white person to ever visit. The Pakistani people I worked with were fantastic people who appreciated our ongoing commitment to help them overcome their poverty by adopting better farming practices.

We were giving them a hand-up, not hand-outs. I NEVER felt unsafe there, and found the reality so different to the media spin on Pakistan, and the dangers therein. It was during this time I completed my Masters in International and Community Development.

With changes in the Government in Pakistan and priorities in funding, we resigned in July 2010. As our home and farm in Australia was leased until the end of the year we decided to travel. As we had visited a range of countries neighbouring Pakistan, we undertook extensive travels in SE Asia and South America.

After two years back in Victoria, we sold the farm and moved with Fonterra to Colombo in Sri Lanka to do dairy development on a two year contract working with small holder suppliers of fresh milk to Fonterra. This was intensive training support for a small group of farmers with 4 - 12 cows each. At the completion of the contract I finished up in Sri Lanka, and Denise transferred to a similar role in Indonesia, where we now live.

continued on page 7

Jim Burrell
continued from page 6

I am now consulting, mostly back in Pakistan for Nestle, and I worked in Israel last year on animal welfare training in an abattoir supplied with beef and lambs from Australia.

So, 40 years of great experiences but, regretfully, I have lost contact with most of my graduating year. Perhaps it's time for a reunion.

or there is not continuous power to run a pipe. In many villages they use hand pumps and carry water to the cows and the house. So the challenge is to target the most productive animal or two, and use them as an exemplar of how production will increase if we can increase water consumption.

Production from the best cow/buffalo may be only four litres. If, by increasing water we can increase

increase in farm incomes. As that happens I get "street credibility" and the farmer is more willing to follow other advice such as improving nutrition, calf rearing, fodder production etc.

Too often, projects take the short cut of promoting better genetics by artificial insemination or even embryonic transfer. Farmers clamour for this, but do not appreciate that without better nutrition, the high genetic merit animals will never reach their potential. It actually results in a loss to the farm system rather than increasing the bottom line.

*The educationalist,
Dr Benjamin Bloom,
described six levels of
learning*

I am strongly committed to dairy development coming from a hands on, practical approach. Too often, development outcomes are published in terms of the numbers of farmers trained - an 'input' approach. This 'bums on seats' accounting never recognises 'outputs' - the on farm adoption of the training, which has led to actual quantifiable production increases. It is easy to teach theory but if theory does not result in adoption, it is a waste.

The educationalist, Dr Benjamin Bloom, described six levels of learning. The most basic being 'remembering' and graduating to 'creating'. My aim is to at least achieve at the third level 'applying'. This is evidence the farmers have 'remembered' the theory,



Our close encounter in Sri Lanka

Sequel - Working in dairy development and recommendations for an expat life.

In our international roles in dairy development our work is all about knowledge transfer. It requires a high level of cultural and social understanding and focusing on issues which will give immediate cash-in-hand benefits to the farm family. Also, we need to understand the farm as part of a community and social construct. I always use a systems approach to change. If I change one part of their system how will it impact on other parts of the system? The farm and family systems are so very different in places like Pakistan and Sri Lanka. Religion and traditional beliefs are deeply interwoven and intermeshed with daily life and activities. I learnt quickly not to judge.

As an example, in Pakistan, on many farms the animals are habitually lacking water. While the answer is to supply them with water ad lib, the realities are that farmers cannot afford even a simple trough,

production to 5 litres, that is a 25% increase. If I can also work with the local middle man who buys the milk, and get him to increase the milk by even 2 - 5 rupee per litre, (because I make a commitment that the farmer will increase the quantity and quality of milk) we can start to get an exponential



Moving the load in Indonesia

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Jim Burrell
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'understood' the reasoning and started to 'apply' the knowledge to their farms. Sometimes we even make it to the next level 'analysing'. This is, then, a springboard to a cycle of continuous improvement.

Too often project design is short term, say two years. That is not even long enough to measure one genetic increase. Realistically cattle projects need to be five to ten years and a large component of that is focusing on capacity building. This means that you are training locals, and working yourself out of a job. The most successful projects I have witnessed is where there is a 'live in' component rather than ongoing in-country (FIFO) visits. In-country increases the project's credibility and, more importantly, it maintains the project's momentum and your interconnectivity with the farmers - the trust, the relationships.

The expat lifestyle can become somewhat addictive. High quality homes, and a number of staff including drivers, cooks, nannie, guards and gardeners. Often it gives you unique opportunities to travel and see areas of the world that are far less expensive than travelling from Australia. Contracts often cover many of the daily costs such as rent, fuel, electricity, etc which are so expensive in Australia. So there is an opportunity, with good management, to come home with a much better bank balance than if you had not gone overseas.

But it does come at a cost. You miss many family and friends' events. You come home full of new experiences only to gradually see friends' eyes glaze over as you tell stories with which they cannot identify. Your life has changed so much but, maybe, they have barely moved.

If you have school age children, that could be a complication. There

are great International Schools in most major cities. Children get impressive educational and integrational experiences, such as the International Baccalaureate (IB). Conversely, they can miss out on some of the experiences that are the essence of the Aussie spirit.

Would I do it all again? Without hesitation! Would I encourage you to do it? Absolutely - provided you and your family are at a stage where it suits all parties; (what will your spouse do in a new country, isolated and without contacts) and do you have an attitude where you wish to enable others, rather than just change others.

Agricultural Capacity Builders - AustralAsia

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Carrying milk to Collection Centre



Buffalo Dairy in Pakistan

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Georgia Hackett

Equine Management 2015

Caught the Horsey Bug in Oman

When I arrived at Marcus Oldham, little did I realize that the Diploma of Equine Management course would give me a direct path into the equine industry not only in Australia, but globally. It gave me an opportunity to invest in my passion for horses and channel that into 12 months of learning and experiencing many aspects of the very diverse equine industry.

I was introduced to horses by my cousins who grew up in every child's dream, with ponies, but it was not until my family relocated to Muscat, Oman, that my passion for horses really began. My mother was involved with the local riding school (Qurm Equestrian Centre) and I would join her to lend a hand. Even though I did not do a lot of actual riding, just being around the highly strung Arab horses was enough to give me the horsey bug! My journey with horses had started.

Returning home to Queensland, we found Wattle Creek Equestrian Centre. Over the next few years, I learned what working with a horse meant and proudly boasted the Hardest Worker Award, for many terms. I was then taken under the wing of Wendy Cramp, Head Coach, EA NCAS Level 1 Dressage, SSTA and Level F Dressage Judge. From 2011 to 2014, through much coaching, I developed an individual seat, balance, confidence and, most importantly, my passion for horses grew as did my desire to be part of the equine industry in some form.



Georgia with para-rider Joy and her horse, Welfire (Jerry)



Georgia Hackett and Natasha Althoff

With comments from my Art and English teacher to stop involving horses in all my school work (yes, I was that typical horse mad teenage girl!), I applied to Marcus Oldham during my last year of school after many recommendations from friends and family to stretch my knowledge and find a footing in the industry. This involved me travelling from Brisbane to Geelong for the Open Day in 2014.

It was with incredible excitement that I was accepted!

...we could glimpse the diverse Australian equine worlds that make up our equine industry.

The Equine Management course presented a very busy, interesting, knowledgeable and exciting 12 months. I was introduced to many facets of the equine industry. It provided me with an opportunity to experience and recognize which part of the industry I would like to pursue a career. Although everyone in my cohort had so many different directions in mind, everyone was just as enthusiastic as each other, which meant we could glimpse the diverse Australian equine worlds that make up our equine industry. We had racing students coming to see cross country and dressage and dressage riders going to the racetrack. There was something for everyone.

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Georgia Hackett
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Through the lectures, competitions, work placement and extra activities (including those 3am foal checks), I found a superb love for dressage, eventing, breeding, coaching and my equine photography. Nothing was missed.

Graduation and final competitions came along too quickly. I was awarded the Equestrian of the Year and all of a sudden it was time to enter the equine industry. As a Graduate of Marcus Oldham I was armed with the valuable experience, knowledge and confidence to go out and apply for positions in the equine industry.

I was offered the position as Stable Manager and Head Groom at the newly established Riding Success Institute located in Garfield, Victoria and home to Ebony Park Performance Friesians. This would give me the chance to work with dressage horses, whilst continuing my eventing, learn about breeding, establish my own coaching clientele and practice my photography. I couldn't ask for more.

Established by Grand Prix rider, Natasha Althoff, who is known for being the first rider to compete a Friesian at Grand Prix in Australasia, this stunning European designed facility is a home for dressage inspiration, education and advancement and is a hive of activity every day.

Natasha has the booming online dressage training sites 'Your Riding Success' and 'Dressage Mastery' and the 'Your Riding Success' facility that boasts 100 acres of prime Victorian land, an oversized indoor dressage arena, 24 stables, two tack room facilities and is the home base of so many dressage advancement businesses.

It is home to Ebony Park Performance Friesians - breeding stud; The Australian Institute of Dressage - horse and rider training; Australia's first Equi-Pilates qualified coach; a horse simulator, plus an assortment of coaches for beginners to FEI riders. This facility also provides a meeting ground for international coaches and clinics.

Due to ongoing construction, the facility is continually evolving with an onsite horse shop and seminar room all in the makings over the next few months. There is definitely never a quiet day (finally an excuse to having one too many saddlecloths).

Schedules have turned into my best friend with every horse or horse group having their own daily, weekly, monthly and yearly schedule.

My duties include working alongside Natasha to ensure that the horses, facilities, clients, staff, property and multiple businesses are managed day in and day out. Since my start in February 2016, I now manage the Riding Success Institute, Ebony Park Performance Friesians, Natasha's riding/competition horses and exercise/compete our gorgeous Para rider's horse.

With such a broad range of horses from stallions, fillies, colts, riding horses, competition horses, breeding stock and agistee horses, I quickly got into the habit of a clear set of records to keep track of farrier, vet, dentist, feed, worming and vaccinations for all 47 horses - so filing is one of my favourite jobs! Schedules have turned into



New addition to the family - 'Attitude of Ebony Park'

my best friend with every horse or horse group having their own daily, weekly, monthly and yearly schedule. It's amazing to think everything can be so organised in the horse world, despite horses sometimes having their own mind and foaling in the mare paddock two days before moving day to the foaling down shed ...it does keep you on track.

I was introduced to the world of Excel during my year at Marcus. I can definitely say it has helped me in the never-ending invoices to pay, file or hand out, as well as breeding related dates. Something I would not have felt confident with a year prior, but now it is just another part of my daily job.

With horses coming and going to competitions, lessons or clinics it is important that our team is trained to identify potential problems. Communication is a key skill. With team management being completely new to me I am, eight months in, successfully managing a team of four with the help of Natasha, some elaborate whiteboards and a few print outs.

Using knowledge gained from Marcus, I was able to mould myself to the tasks of keeping 100 acres of pasture healthy and keeping over 45 competition/breeding horses sound and fit, while learning the important keys to managing and improving the client to business relationship. A lot of people don't realize the amount of work that goes on behind the scenes to establish and maintain a successful equine business (I really like Excel and whiteboards now).

Completing a Diploma of Equine Management at Marcus Oldham has definitely given me a tremendous step into the equine industry in which I will continue to push myself to greater heights. I thank Marcus Oldham for their encouragement and assistance. It was a particularly special year for me and my horse, Pinter.

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Adam Coffey

Farm Business Management 2005

Nuffield Scholar Studying Intensification and Diversification Options for Extensive Beef Cattle Production Enterprises.

Writing this article has given me time to reflect on what has been an unbelievably busy time for our family. Since graduating from Marcus in 2005, my wife, Jacyntha, and I have travelled and worked extensively throughout Australia. What was initially a working/holiday trip for a change of scenery from years spent growing up in Tasmania, became a decade that has really set the foundations for our own business endeavors within the beef industry.



Adam, Jacyntha, Will and Sam

The last 10 years have been spent mainly in Australia's North from the Kimberley to Darwin – managing large corporate owned stations and their associated beef cattle herds. In 2011 we had an opportunity to develop our own business, which had been a long held goal. We entered into a profit share arrangement on a 'small' 560 square kilometre station west of

Katherine in the Northern Territory, with absentee owners. This was on the back of the government ban on live exports and a very challenging time in the northern beef industry. However, the downturn presented opportunity and we were able to set up a successful agistment and hay growing enterprise whilst starting to build our own cattle numbers.

After almost five years the property was sold. We would have liked to buy into the property but we were facing the challenges experienced by many first time entrants into land ownership, coupled with the difficulty of trying to make the big jump into northern land holdings and their associated scale. By this time we had grown our herd to over 1000 head so moved them onto a leased paddock on an adjacent property. Being without a home but tied to our cattle, we decided to buy a caravan and moved into Katherine as a 'temporary measure'. (We have only just moved out of the caravan after 18 months, and with two small boys, into a house. So there is a certain air of relief!)

During this time we travelled to Beef Week 2015 in Rockhampton due to a commitment I had as part of a Beef Australia mentoring program. There I met Jim Geltch,



On Capitol Hill during a congress meeting.

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Adam Coffey
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former CEO of Nuffield Australia, who encouraged me to apply for a Nuffield Scholarship. The initial round of interviews was in Darwin last year followed by the final selections in Melbourne. I was successful and was presented with my Scholarship at the National Nuffield Conference in September last year in Albury, New South Wales and funded by the Northern Territory Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries.

My initial Nuffield trip was a week in Ireland for the Contemporary Scholars Conference in March of this year. Close to 100 international scholars met for the first time - including 23 from Australia. The Conference provided me with an amazing insight into agriculture on an international scale. We also tacked on a couple of days in France on the way home, during which we toured WW1 battlefields and learnt about the sacrifice of Aussie diggers in some pretty emotional moments.

I drew a lot of parallels between many parts of India and northern Australia in an agronomic sense.

Fast forward to June when I embarked on my Global Focus Program (GFP) with eight other scholars: five Australians, two Irish, a Canadian and a Kiwi. We gathered in Singapore for a trip briefing and meetings and then flew straight to India which was the focus of our trip. We spent 12 days touring through Hyderabad, Ahmedabad and parts of the Punjab before finishing in Delhi. As most people seem to find when in India, the



The final night steak house dinner in Omaha, Nebraska.

assault on all of your senses was something else - good and bad! I drew a lot of parallels between many parts of India and northern Australia in an agronomic sense - similar climate and species of grass and plants. In so many ways, India has massive issues with use and abuse of its natural resources resulting from population pressure and yet, in other ways, I found good existing infrastructure from colonial days, such as a massive irrigation network in the Punjab.

From India we travelled to Qatar, Turkey, France, and finished the trip in the United States of America. Personal highlights included visiting Australian livestock export destinations in the Middle East, trying to digest the massive agriculture sector in Turkey and its challenging political environment, touring Gallipoli, the Rungis produce market in France, Washington DC and meeting with senators on Capitol Hill, and the warm welcome we received from families farming in Nebraska. Above all, it was the lifetime friends I made on our trip with people who share very different backgrounds

but have the common theme of agriculture to tie us together.

Back in Australia, and to cut a long story short, we ultimately made the decision to sell our herd in the North and have purchased a 2,500 hectare property south of Miriam Vale in Queensland. Realising our goal of owning and operating our own property has been hugely rewarding but also a little daunting, given the fact that we currently do not own any cattle in a record breaking market. For the time being however, we are focusing on developing the property and currently have a strategy in place to re-stock over time.

My Nuffield Scholarship story has really just begun and I have still to complete around eight weeks of individual travel which will take me to Canada, the USA and South America to study intensification and diversification options for extensive beef cattle production enterprises. I'll keep you posted!

ajcoffey@hotmail.com
Twitter: @AdamCoffeyNT

Nuffield Australia

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

The objective is to increase practical farming knowledge and management skills and techniques generally. These Scholarships give Australian citizens the opportunity to study farming practices in New Zealand, Europe, Asia and the Americas and those countries best suited to the scholar. They will also promote a closer understanding between farmers in the countries visited.

There must be an intention to remain in Australian primary production. Preferred age range is 28 to 40 years, although applicants outside this age bracket can be successful. Academic qualifications are not a prerequisite.

Further information:

Jodie Dean, CEO Nuffield Australia
02 9463 9229
enquiries@nuffield.com.au
www.nuffield.com.au

Applications for the 2018 Scholarships will open on 1st April 2017.

Adam Hill

Farm Business Management 1999

Andrew Hill

Agribusiness 2009

Bond of Brothers Build Australian Agribusiness Partners

Born and raised on a beef breeding and fattening property in Central Queensland, pursuing an agribusiness career was a clear and obvious choice for Adam and Andrew Hill. Since our graduation from Marcus Oldham we have both held managerial positions on corporate cattle stations through to Chief Executive Officer and Chief Operating Officer, in live export and grain handling respectively. Throughout our connections and experiences we could see a niche opportunity in partnering with like-minded corporates and individuals to solidify a strong business relationship built on trust and integrity.



L-R: Adam Hill, Stuart Hill, Andrew Hill, Alain Pillay.

Australian Agribusiness Partners (AAP) was established in 2015 along with our brother, Stuart, and business partner, Alain Pillay. From inception, the core value of the business has been to build partnerships and investment criteria directed into agriculture complimented by our unique local knowledge and presence. The Hill brothers have a strong bond which has allowed us to work off each other's strengths to engage and build a robust business that is now being recognised nationally and globally. With this in mind we have been able to add to our team, members with a like-minded vision, either through partnerships or Board appointments.

Communication channels are key to this growth, people are expanding their knowledge of food products and dietary preference via social media platforms and that is the connection helping to sustain this growth.

Within the last 18 months the business has grown from its founding members to a team of seven, with

representation based in China, Vietnam and Indonesia. The global focus that has progressed through our strong network continually evolves, given the high demand around food security and food safety. This demand has grown exponentially, even since our time at Marcus Oldham, mainly due to wealth creation globally as well as general awareness around available products and value adding opportunities. Communication channels are key to this growth; people are expanding their knowledge of food products and dietary preference via social media platforms and that is the connection helping to sustain this growth.

AAP has a diversified focus on agribusiness and is not limited to one sector of the industry. AAP has the capabilities to facilitate commodity supply, raise and structure capital investment, sell and acquire rural property and implement management strategies. We are a company that is keeping up with trends and are investing our time into new technologies and proven

continued on page 15

*Adam and Andrew Hill
continued from page 14*

ideas that improve productivity and cost savings across the agricultural supply chain. Ag Tech is a growing industry as investment capital increasingly realizes that growing demand on food commodities must be facilitated by efficiency in farming; we need more bang for our buck. We need to be competitive and we need to be smart.

Agriculture, in general, can be a comprehensive and unpredictable business to be in, but since the early days of settlement it has grown from strength to strength and will always contribute to the foundations of the Australian economy. The ever-growing global demand for our products has put AAP in a strong position with these growing markets and collectively, the future looks very bright. The challenges will always be around balancing demand with increased supply

and investment and the expectations that come with that. These expectations are, more often than not, a combination of quality, consistency, security and of course - price.

AAP has always adopted a 'hands on' approach in all of our business activities. The business is based in Brisbane, but most of our time is spent with our industry partners maintaining our collaborations and progressing new opportunities.

Marcus Oldham gave us a great kick start towards developing this approach to agriculture and we would be very excited to establish a stronger network within the Marcus Oldham community. Please feel free to contact us anytime if your interest aligns with ours.

Adam 0427 657 660
adam.hill@australianagpartners.com

Andrew 0409 223 491
andrew.hill@australianagpartners.com

Marcus Minds Weekend

From 6pm Friday 23rd to 1pm Sunday 25th June 2017.

The Marcus Minds Weekend attracts strong interest across Australia from people who are keen to study at Marcus Oldham but not quite sure what it's all about. The free Weekend offers the opportunity to experience Marcus first-hand, by attending mini-lectures, learning from keynote speakers, interacting with graduates and current students and visiting a farm business.

Accommodation is in the Student Residences on campus. Participants must be at least 18 years of age. More details will become available on www.marcusoldham.vic.edu.au.



New from the masters in agribusiness learning, a 'Master of Agribusiness'.

Johanna Hancock - 2013 Graduate
Solicitor, Fox and Thomas Business Lawyers

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MARCUS OLDHAM
We mean business.

Angela Ainsworth *Richardson*

Horse Business Management 1988

Master of Agribusiness 2015

An Advocate of Life-Long Learning

As the first graduate of the Master of Agribusiness offered by Marcus Oldham College, I feel a unique sense of achievement that I could navigate the complexities of a higher education degree in an environment that has always been supportive and welcoming.

I graduated with the Marcus Oldham Certificate in Horse Business Management and spent many years working in the Thoroughbred breeding industry, both nationally and internationally, before taking up a tertiary education position teaching equine and agricultural studies. Many of the graduates went onto senior management positions in the equine industry.

My original intention when starting the postgraduate degree was to further my career and assist me in moving to a senior management role as the Development Manager at a university faculty, which included assisting with programs for agriculture, aquaculture, equine studies and viticulture. However, despite this plan not coming to fruition, I was determined to complete my Graduate Diploma of Agribusiness as a personal goal.

...the research is conducted in co-operation with the agricultural industry, investigating ways to improve animal health and assist with advances in production management.

Having achieved that goal, I had no intention of continuing with further study. Nevertheless, after a break from study, I was looking to further my knowledge and after a considerable search, enrolled in a Master of Agriculture at the University of New England. However, the course was not providing me with the outcomes I was expecting and I was reconsidering my decision, when the Master of Agribusiness Program was mentioned in the MOCOSA

Magazine at the end of 2014. I contacted Dr Yasmin Chalmers with a plan to enrol. She was a little surprised, given that they had yet to advertise the Program but I was delighted that I could return to Marcus Oldham to continue my studies.

The Master's Program was a challenge on a number of levels. Firstly, it was another year of study in addition to everything else in my life. This was daunting yet exciting at the same time. I was also the only student enrolled and had to navigate the units in isolation despite the wonderful support of all the lecturers and staff at Marcus Oldham. However, I found the study very enjoyable, informative and I could relate it to my current position, even if I was not working in the agricultural industry.

In addition to casual employment in the equine industry, I work full time at La Trobe University in Melbourne in the Research Office assisting with compliance and risk management for research projects. A proportion of the research is conducted in co-operation with the agricultural industry, investigating ways to improve animal health and assist with advances in production management. This has allowed me to maintain my connection with the industry but from a unique perspective and I am working towards a more in-depth involvement in the agricultural industry in the future.

The skills and knowledge that I gained from completing the Master of Agribusiness degree at Marcus Oldham have been invaluable and I



have found them transferable to my former and current employment. The support offered by the staff and lecturers was exceptional. I thoroughly enjoyed the challenge of postgraduate studies and the inspiration it has given me to move forward and seek out new opportunities.

angelaainsworth@outlook.com

Marcus Oldham congratulates Stuart Tait BB(FM) 13 from Mandurama NSW

who has received a Nuffield Scholarship supported by Meat & Livestock Australia Ltd. He will investigate integrated beef and cropping systems, encompassing all facets of a farming operation combining beef cattle and broad-acre cropping; including dual-purpose grazing crops, soil and nutrient management, productivity optimisation and grazing management. **O8taits@gmail.com**

Reunions

20 Year Reunion for 1996 Farm Management, Agribusiness and Horse Course

In mid-July this year, 21 graduates and partners ventured to Darwin NT to renew acquaintances and celebrate 20 years in the real world. With representation from all three courses and all states of Australia, it was poised to be a weekend of good times and reminiscing.

The focus of the weekend was centred on the Darwin Racing Carnival with a luncheon at the races on the Saturday.

The weekend began with drinks and dinner at the Trailer Boat Club situated on the edge of Fanny Bay. With a backdrop of a spectacular setting sun, the graduates arrived and slowly began reacquainting themselves with each other. It wasn't long before it was just like old times - just minus some hair and plus some added kilos. A good night was had by most, and an even better night by some, ending in the early hours on Mitchell Street.

On the Saturday morning they awoke to another spectacular Darwin morning and donned their finest attire and made their way to Fanny Bay Racecourse. They were exceptionally well looked after by the Darwin Turf Club and everyone had a great day. The hastily organised 'punters club' was far from successful but lasted the entire race meeting. The day concluded with a seafood feast on the Darwin waterfront to another spectacular Territory sunset.

The Sunday was spent casually, with some exploring the tourist highlights of Darwin and others opting to reminisce a little more by the Darwin waterfront.

It's pretty safe to say that a fantastic weekend was had by all, with the group becoming very vocal and excited on many occasions when telling a yarn and perhaps embellishing the truth (just a little) on what did really happen back in 1996.

They enjoyed catching up with a group of people with whom they had spent two years living in close confines, and to be able to reignite the friendships that were formed over that time. They are all at a similar stage in their lives and in different industries - some involved in agriculture and others not.



*Michael Collins, Liz Barby,
Tony Overton*



Dale Urquhart



Wayne Pech, Clinton Hunt



Bruce Woods, Bill Pincott

1984 Farmers at the MCG

June this year, was chosen by the 1984 Farm Management graduates - aka The Lunch Cutters - as a fine time to gather at the Melbourne Cricket Ground to catch up on what had happened to everyone after 32 years, tell a few tales and share and relive fond memories. Graduates travelled from Queensland, New South Wales, South Australia and Victoria. Regretfully, there was a late scratching from Ian Barnetson from WA. However, the group managed to catch up with nearly all the others via a very long phone call after lunch. Highlighting the occasion, the wives who were able to, joined the group at dinner.



L-R: Mark Skilbeck (Skilly), Jeremy Upton (Uppy), John Waterhouse (Spouty), Angus Grant (Grunter), Bruce Agnew (Aggers), Leeson White (Whitey), David Canney (Saffo), John Douglas (Machine), John De Bomford (Bommer).

The Centre for the Study of Agribusiness

Innovative Agricultural Solutions

Australian agriculture has a strong tradition of being innovative and adaptive to new challenges. On 10 August 2016, the Centre for the Study of Agribusiness (CSA) held a successful forum on 'Innovative Technologies for Agricultural Systems' to an audience of students, staff and agribusiness enthusiasts.

The audience was treated to a variety of presentations that covered an overview of advances in precision agriculture and digital technologies that are emerging across Australian agribusiness. The session was opened by Professor David Lamb from the University of New England who leads a dynamic team of academic, research and technical staff working on Precision Agriculture (PA) sensors and applications across rain-fed and irrigated cropping, livestock and horticulture (including viticulture) enterprises at the University's Precision Agriculture Research Facility. He presented details on Australia's future for farming - SMART (Sustainable, Manageable, Accessible Rural Technologies) farming. David believes that high speed internet for all farmers, and having it accessible anywhere on their farms, will be a critical part of our farming future.

Andrew Whitlock from the Ag Services team at Precision Agriculture presented details on how precision agriculture and, in particular, how strategic

soil mapping can be used to unlock potential yield on crops. His presentation covered details on strategic soil sampling, designing variable rate applications, crop sensor mapping, yield map analysis/interpretation, farm drainage designs and soil pH mapping.

By contrast, Dr Sally Haynes from Agersens provided a very insightful presentation on the eShepherd which is a collar and an app that enables farmers to fence, move, or monitor their livestock using their smartphone - from anywhere, anytime. Sally's role with Agersens is to work with the research organisation CSIRO to ensure the new eShepherd collar meets the highest animal health and welfare standards and that they are consistent with regulatory and community expectations.

To conclude the forum we were entertained by Dr Will Bignell, a seventh generation farmer (wool, poppies, lamb, venison and specialty root vegetables) from Bothwell, Tasmania who, in his spare time, has a passion for drones. Will's unique mix of on the ground experience with precision farming systems, training as a molecular genetics scientist and his aviation background, has helped to build and optimise agricultural drones to provide cost effective and useable data collected by Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV's) through his company, DroneAg.

Are you interested in finding out more about Global Food Issues, Free Trade, Foreign Investment or even just what some of our graduates have been up to? This, and previous forums organised by the CSA, are available for viewing on our website

<http://www.marcusoldham.vic.edu.au/the-centre-for-the-study-of-rural-australia/forums-and-workshops>



Dr Sally Haynes, Dr Will Bignell, Prof David Lamb, Dr Yasmin Chalmers, Andrew Whitlock



Sam Sedgwick FBM1, Dan Boland Agrib1, Mac Cookson Agrib1, Sam Bunge FBM1, Jarah McConachy FBM1



Shannon McCormack Agrib1, Jack Littler Agrib1, Jake Taylor Agrib1, James Rollason Agrib1, Cam Lowe FBM1



Grace Ives Agrib1, Bec Kelly Agrib1, Nikki Gilder Agrib1, Hannah Martindale FBM1



*Boaz Meron Agrib1, Will Bowden FBM3,
Harry Stonnill FBM3*



*Sam Jackson FBM1, Will Fergusson FBM1,
Megan Webb FBM1, Alex Mulcahy FBM1*



*Oli Vidor FBM3, Sam Gunn Agrib1,
Alastair Bowman FBM3, Keeden Mickelburgh FBM3,
Chad Baker FBM3*



*Shingirai Nyabonda Agrib1, James Richardson Agrib1,
Cleo Gower (Lecturer in Accounting),
Jordan Almond EM*



*Bronte Gorringer FBM3,
Sophie Bingham Agrib1,
Kate Crozier FBM1,
Hannah Bird Agrib1,
Nikki Williamson FBM1,
Katherine Bain Agrib1*

Field Days and Equine Events

Graduates, family and friends of Marcus know how much we love to see you when you call at our marketing sites at field days and equine events. So if you are in the area at any of the places listed please visit us. The next MOCOSA Magazine will list the remainder of the 2017 dates.

November 3 - 6	Australian International 3DE	Adelaide
November 17-20	Equitana	Melbourne Showgrounds
2017		
March 7 - 9	Wimmera Machinery Field Days	Longerenong nr Horsham VIC
March 17 - 18	South East Field Days	Lucindale SA

Agriculture | Agribusiness | Equine Management

Our 2016 Scholarship Recipients are Enthusiastic About Marcus

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

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



Eliza Babazogli

Glossodia NSW

Equine Management

Virbac Animal Health Scholarship

I recommend a gap year working in the equine industry developing skills and knowledge before studying at Marcus Oldham. The Equine Program has a great split between practical and theory as well as vet, horse health, business and other units. I am benefitting from all aspects of the Program and enjoy the Veterinary Science unit as it is essential in equine management across both racing and performance sectors. However, I also enjoy the business systems units as they apply to my aspirations of entering a management position. The way the Program is structured is fantastic - it's easily managed and possible to juggle study, social activities and still ride, care for and compete my horse. For someone thinking of studying at Marcus, consider the diverse opportunities and wide range of skills with which Marcus can provide you. There is no equivalent in tertiary education.



Bronte Gorringer

Timboon VIC

Agriculture

Nareen Station Scholarship

Knowing about Marcus Oldham since I was young, I saw an advertisement for the Marcus Minds Weekend in the local newspaper and decided to attend the Weekend. This confirmed that Marcus was where I wanted to study. I chose the Agriculture Program as, comparing it to other universities, it has close links with industry experts. We can expand individual networks by listening to regular guest speakers and through a variety of day and international study tours providing access to forward moving businesses.



Oliver Vidor

Hobart TAS

Agriculture

Ingleby Farm Management Scholarship

After experiencing agricultural studies at other institutions and not being satisfied, I chose Marcus as there really is no other Agriculture related course in Australia that offers what Marcus Oldham does. It is applied learning that will, ultimately, provide the most benefit once out working in the industry. The fact that I can take what I learn from each and every unit and see a place for applying it in the real world and the subsequent benefits from doing so, is most beneficial.



Oli Le Lievre

Sydney NSW

Agribusiness

MPH Agriculture Werribee

I began studying agricultural economics, however realised that the generic tertiary style of education was not suited to me. I researched the structure of the courses at Marcus Oldham and they were highly appealing. The compulsory component of work placement was also highly appealing as was the opportunity to travel within Australia and internationally for business study tours. The Human Resources unit in First Year allowed me to experience, first-hand, HR in place when I undertook the practical year in Canada.

Having the ability to access individuals and information through study tours, scholarships or industry events is crucial to being employable upon graduation. Choosing Marcus as your university is the greatest investment you will make in your career.



Jack Courts

Wuuluman NSW

Agriculture

Lowes Petroleum Bursary (Agriculture)

After Year 12 I spent two years in the Northern Territory working in a stock camp on a cattle station. While there, I decided I needed to do tertiary study to work my way up the career ladder. I chose the Agriculture Program at Marcus Oldham as it appealed more to me with the practical year, during which I would gain more experience before I start to work in the agricultural industry full time. The Program is very well run and I can't speak highly enough about it. The financial outlay is well worth it, as you gain a great education and the chance to meet new people doing the same thing as you.



Sam Durnam

Wagga Wagga NSW

Agriculture

RC & E C (Cappur) Webb Trust Scholarship (Agriculture)

With an interest in deer, sheep and cropping, I changed my career path from telecommunications technician and rigger, to studying at Marcus Oldham. I enjoy the farm production and business units and look forward to attaining a degree. At Marcus I am meeting great people and discovering new ways of thinking. If you love agriculture and want to pursue a career in agriculture, then sign the paper and pack your bags!



Sam Sedgwick

**Lancashire England, Launceston TAS,
Ballarat VIC**

Agriculture

Ingleby Farm Management Scholarship

I heard about Marcus Oldham in Year 10, then came to an Open Day and this cemented my desire to attend. I chose a tertiary education because it makes me more versatile and adaptive, allowing me to access more roles and have more options. It also broadens horizons and makes the mind work. Employers are wanting people with a tertiary qualification. Marcus is a community and as there aren't hundreds of people living here, everyone knows everyone and are friends. It's great that the lecturers know our names and get around a bit of banter, allowing students to be more comfortable.



Ian Hume

Harden NSW

Agribusiness

Adam Giblin Bursary

I am from a cropping property but have also completed a high pressure plumbing trade. I thought the Agribusiness Program would give me more of the skills I would need in the business management of our farm business. I enjoy the financial forecasting and investment analysis. A tertiary qualification will provide more knowledge to run a successful business, thereby increasing the competitive advantage. For anyone thinking about studying at Marcus I say, go for it.



Kirra Bourke

Balnarring VIC

Equine Management

Australian Equestrian Scholarship

I think a tertiary qualification is especially important in the equine industry. When applying for a job this one-year tertiary qualification will put you well above other applicants. I really like the consistency of the Program - in class from 9-4 and then caring for your horse before and after, definitely prepares you for the equine industry. Work experience provides valuable industry contacts. The tours take us to top studs and stables in Australia and New Zealand to gain a firsthand look at what a successful horse business should look like. Living on campus is fantastic with 24-hour access to all learning facilities such as the library and computer room. I also love that my horse gets to stay on campus with me and we can utilise the fantastic facilities such as the indoor arena, daily.



Sophie Bingham

Skipton VIC

Agribusiness

Helen McPherson Smith Trust

I found out about Marcus Oldham through word of mouth and by undertaking the 'Defying the Drift' Youth Leadership Program held at Marcus Oldham in conjunction with Rotary. I believe a tertiary education is important when seeking employment or for running your own business. It's important to have a broad range of ideas and experiences. The Human Resource and Accounting/Finance aspects of the Agribusiness Program are relatable to any career or any place in the agriculture industry. No matter whether I work in banking, consultancy or as a farmer, I will use these skills constantly.



Josephine Webb

Urana NSW

Agriculture

JBS Australia Scholarship

There are many aspects about Marcus Oldham I love including: living and studying with people from all across Australia, the study tours to New Zealand, China and Australia, the full time nature of the Agriculture Program which strengthens time management skills and encourages people to forward plan; these are essential skills when becoming a farm owner/manager. Graduating from Marcus Oldham will provide me with a reputable qualification for developing my career.



Sam Jackson

Kojonup WA

Agriculture

Australian Farm Management Scholarship

Farming is what I love and I am interested in the production and financial management units. Also, the study tours are most beneficial. A tertiary qualification gives you strong knowledge, and a business degree provides options for different career paths if it is necessary to make a change. Also, the more pre-entry practical experience you have, the better off you will be.



Katherine Bain

Stockyard Hill VIC

Agribusiness

Yiddinga Farm Management

A tertiary qualification is important to understand topics on a deeper level, which can only be achieved through study, in order to have a better chance at a successful career path. At Marcus the smaller class sizes and open door policy of the lecturers really helps with enjoying and understanding the course.



John Waterhouse

Molesworth VIC

Agriculture

RC & EC (Cappur) Webb Trust Scholarship (Agriculture)

Most beneficial to me are the Budgeting, Financial Analysis, Taxation and Estate Planning units as these subjects will be very relevant in agricultural management roles. Marcus Oldham is a friendly, lively community with a well-structured education system but at the same time, there is time to have fun and make friends for life - it's an experience you won't regret.



Ellie Hayes

Roma QLD

Agribusiness

Lowes Petroleum Bursary (Agribusiness)

Four years before coming to Marcus Oldham I worked as a station hand on various properties. Although I believe practical experience is important, tertiary qualifications give you a head start. I chose the Agribusiness Program because I wanted to learn the financial practicalities of the agricultural industry. I find the theory reference to practical examples highly beneficial. Marcus Oldham is a great place to attend because the units are taught in a very practical way and are enjoyable and interesting to learn.

**Jake Taylor****Hamilton VIC**

Agribusiness

Hazeldean Livestock Production Scholarship

I like the way the Agribusiness Program is structured as it provides flexibility to graduate at exit points. Visiting vertically integrated businesses and seeing how they value add to their product is beneficial and I enjoy the Business Management studies. It is also good having full time contact hours, unlike other universities that don't have as many contact hours per week.

**Hannah Martindale****Tonimbuk VIC**

Agriculture

Warrawidgee (Farm Management) Scholarship

I have a beef cattle and an equestrian background and eight years of bookkeeping and office administration experience. I chose to study farm management as I have a keen interest in production agriculture. As it is a business degree, I am able to combine my previous work experience with my passion. I find the study tours are beneficial as we learn from real life experiences and relate theory learnt, to practice. I think my Marcus experience will open my eyes to endless possibilities available to me for a career within the vast agricultural industry. If you have an opportunity to attend the Marcus Minds Weekend in June, DO IT - it's a great chance to get a feel for the College and meet students you'll be studying with.

**Elle-Jay Hornery****Moranbah QLD**

Agribusiness

Sunshine Foundation (Agribusiness) Scholarship

Growing up on a cattle property I've always loved agriculture and enjoyed numbers and finance, so studying agribusiness was the ideal option for me. Marcus has always had a good reputation and I think the full time study structure, in conjunction with industry placement, plays a part in Marcus' success. Marcus is the best option if you are passionate about agriculture, either on farm or the corporate aspect. The high contact lecturing hours and lecturer support is beneficial. Similarly, the social aspect and being surrounded by like-minded people is perfect for networking and I can guarantee you will have a good time.

**Boaz Meron****Goondiwindi QLD**

Agribusiness

RC & EC (Cappur) Webb Trust Scholarship (Agriculture)

With a Navy electrical apprenticeship completed I returned to my family's irrigation and electrical business and the cattle farm. I believe we should never stop learning and as friends had attended Marcus Oldham I knew that I would benefit from a Marcus Oldham degree when I return to the family business. Marcus gives you the opportunity to connect with farms and business around Australia and Asia. If you are interested in learning more in agriculture this is a great place to be.

**James Cornish****Penola SA**

Agriculture

Nick Petersen Memorial Scholarship

Before coming to Marcus I worked on a cropping and cattle operation in Canada. I want to be a farm manager so it's important to gain business knowledge as well as studying the Crop and Animal Production units. For someone not sure about coming to Marcus, go to the Open Day or the Marcus Minds Weekend and you'll get a better idea.

**Sean Wright****Alton Downs QLD**

Agriculture

Herefords Australia

I'm studying for an agricultural tertiary qualification so that I have the business skills to be a successful businessman and I find the business and accounting subjects most beneficial. Two of the main issues currently facing agriculture are rural succession and not enough tertiary educated people coming back into agriculture.

**Lucy Morrissey****Outback QLD and Western Districts VIC**

Agribusiness

Bill Ruse Memorial

With experience in beef production on cattle stations and feedlots, also experience in hospitality, plus a Business degree from another institution, I came to Marcus to gain a tertiary qualification to expand my knowledge base in agriculture and show a commitment to industry learning. The course is intense and I enjoy the networking opportunities, practical placement and industry related study tours. Studying at Marcus will open many doors in the industry which may not have been accessible otherwise.

**Grace Ives****Hay NSW**

Agribusiness

Warrawidgee Agriculture Scholarship

I worked in the Northern Territory and tried uni in Sydney but it wasn't for me. So I enrolled at Marcus Oldham as I was keen to learn the financial skills required to run a business while also learning practical farm management skills. The course is well structured. It is intense but everything we learn is relevant and applied to the industry.

**Kari Moffat****Rochford VIC**

Agriculture

RASV Emerging Leaders Scholarship

Before coming to Marcus I worked for a live export company but knew that a tertiary qualification is necessary for moving into a management role later on. I am interested in logistics and animal health in quarantine. Marcus offers a good work/learning balance. I love how specific the course is and how it gives you a great range of agricultural industry knowledge. The units I enjoy include animal production, financial, computer skills and veterinary studies. I think it's beneficial having at least two years pre-entry experience.

**Sam Bunge****Coleraine VIC**

Agriculture

Dr Alastair Mackenzie Scholarship

The Marcus Oldham course is relevant to opening a good career path and success. The course has a good mix of units and the lecturers' accessibility, study tours, class size, employer opportunities and socialising, all make for a great experience. Marcus is definitely the best investment for your future in agriculture. You make great mates and plenty of connections in the industry.

**Lachlan Brown****Wagga Wagga NSW**

Agriculture

Agvance UNGA Scholarship

I worked on a high country sheep station in New Zealand prior to coming to Marcus Oldham. I'll be a farm manager and I chose a tertiary education to get a deeper insight into the business side of agriculture, as well as expanding my views on new technology and farming practices. I am enjoying soil development studies and also the financial units.

**Lilly Herzer****Drysdale VIC**

Equine Management

Plasvacc Equiplas

I am a keen equestrian and enjoy focussing on the competition scene. Studying at Marcus has presented many opportunities to enhance my riding skills and achieve success. I am gaining an in-depth understanding of managing my horse's health and wellbeing to ensure it is in top form for the competition circuit.

**Hamish Jannings****Kojonup WA**

Agriculture

Sunshine Foundation (Agriculture)

Cropping and livestock is my background and I also worked in the mining industry. I wanted a tertiary qualification and the Marcus course is extremely sound in structure. I like the study tours and the industry related style of teaching, the attitudes of the lecturers and the class sizes. I advise coming to the Marcus Minds Weekend in June or get in contact with someone who has been to Marcus.

**Ayla Baker****Wandong VIC**

Equine Management

Marcus Oldham Bursary

With a passion for horses, a dancing career, and purchasing my first horse at the age of 20, I embarked on preparing for a career in the equine industry by gaining experience at a racing stable then at an equestrian centre in Melbourne. A Marcus graduate told me about the Equine course which is one of the best, and a tertiary qualification is important as it provides confidence and deeper knowledge.

**Nicholas Tarca****Frances SA**

Agriculture

Warakirri Agricultural Trusts

My pre-Marcus experience included farmhand, livestock manager and electrical wholesaler, but I have a strong love for agriculture and finance. This course combines the two, giving me the skills I need for my career which, I hope, is in agricultural banking. Life at Marcus is extremely enjoyable and fulfilling, both academically and socially.

Marcus in the Spring Time



The Marcus Oldham Rural Leadership Program

The Marcus Oldham Rural Leadership Program commenced with a vision: *"The future of Australian agriculture will be guided by tomorrow's leaders. To ensure a healthy tomorrow, we need outstanding leaders for all areas of agriculture from leading farm managers, grower organisations, agri-politicians, co-operatives and industry organisations, to special interest groups."*

This year, the Marcus Oldham Rural Leadership Program celebrated the presentation of 25 Programs. This milestone was recognised at the 2016 NAB Agribusiness Industry Dinner in June, at which the guest speaker was Dr Simon Longstaff AO, Executive Director of The Ethics Centre.

Marcus Oldham and the Australian Beef Industry Foundation (ABIF), with support from Merial Australia,

annually present the Merial Howard Yelland Beef Industry Award. This award is in recognition of Howard W Yelland, a pioneer in the industry through his championing of objective selection and performance recording in the Australian Beef Industry. The Award seeks to recognise individuals who have given service to the Beef Industry above and beyond their normal role.

This year it was awarded posthumously to Alexander (Zander) McDonald who, in his short lifetime, demonstrated a significant contribution to the beef industry through his vision, passion and innovative leadership in taking a family cattle company to becoming a global supplier of quality branded food. As a leader and innovator, he was often on his own in championing change in a traditional industry, but he saw the benefits now being provided from his advocacy for improved genetics and improved supply chain management in the northern herds.



Marcus Oldham students and graduates participating in the Leadership Program are

Back Row L-R: Laura Wishart FBM2, **Mike Stephens FM 66**, **Lachie Sutherland DipFM 96**,
Ashlee Hammond (Postgraduate), **Rob Yelland FM 90**, **Sam Inglis FM 66**, **Simon Falkiner FM 88**,
Ian Johnston (Postgraduate), **Boo Harvey DipAgrib 96**.

Front Row L-R: Nic Archer FBM3, **Matt Hodge Agrib 95**, **Lachlan Polkinghorne FM 80**, **Dan Korff BBus(FM) 12**

What sets the Marcus Oldham Rural Leadership Program apart from others is that we draw participants nationally from a broad cross-section of rural business, industry and community sectors, to create the most challenging and inspiring context to enhance their learning.

Many of the Marcus Oldham Rural Leadership Program alumni are now prominent in the boardrooms of Australia's leading agricultural organisations and businesses. The Industry Dinner brings together Australia's current rural leaders with those who have the passion and commitment to be tomorrow's rural leaders.

The participants in the 2016 Program represented industries such as lamb, agribusiness, agronomy, banking, animal health, stone fruits, beef, forestry, consulting, dairy, grains, project management, vegetables, government and wool.

There are no maximum age or experience criteria however, it is preferable participants be at least 21 years of age. People from diverse ethnic backgrounds are strongly encouraged to nominate.



Founders of the Marcus Oldham Rural Leadership Program

L-R: Sam Inglis FM 66, Lachlan Polkinghorne FM 80, Neil Inall, John Miles (former Deputy Principal), Mike Stephens FM 66, Graham McConnell (Principal 78-94)



John Gunthorpe ABIF, Ivan Pyke Merial Australia, Marjorie Daley, Rob Yelland FM 90

The 2017 Marcus Oldham Rural Leadership Program will be conducted between 25 – 30 June.

Details will become available on the Marcus Oldham website.

Youth Leadership Program



'Defying the Drift' - an increasingly popular Youth Leadership Program held annually at Marcus Oldham.

It has long been recognised that young people leave rural and regional communities in the search for education, jobs and lifestyle. In 2008, Rotary District 9780 addressed this problem by initiating a targeted program called 'Defying the Drift'. In this Program, teenagers take part in activities that showcase the range of possibilities available in rural communities. Since its inception, the scope of the Program has expanded from a local to a state-wide opportunity for regional and rural youth.

Eight years on, 'Defying the Drift', financially supported by Marcus Oldham, continues to offer Years 10 and 11 students this excellent and valued Program.

In September, 29 Victorian students from regions including Mansfield, Werribee, Horsham, Geelong, Ballarat, Timboon and Longerenong attended the three-day residential Program which incorporated visits to leading agribusinesses and farms in the Colac region. Colac is an agricultural hub that boasts a very low (3%) unemployment rate, primarily due to its many multimillion dollar industries including dairy, timber, meat and flow-on businesses. Colac is a great case study area for students to observe how a regional centre can offer a large rural network and connections in which to live and work.

This year, students visited a dairy, land/agri supplier, a biodynamic vegetable grower, a dairy manufacturing business and a sheep genetics/cropping business. The tour finished with students learning how to use community mapping to demonstrate the linkages and opportunities that are available to them when residing and working in a regional community.

The final day involves time for reflection and communication. Students give a presentation on their thoughts on the industry visits, which leads to a panel session with current Marcus Oldham students discussing their passion and plans for their agricultural future. The course concludes with a valuable session on goal setting techniques.

Participants take their newly found skills and present them at their local Rotary Club meeting. They are encouraged to share their experiences and engage with possible future participants. They may also have the opportunity to be a mentor for the Program in the following years.

Students interested in participating in the Program can access information on <http://ruralsupport.org> or contact Rob Pelletier on email: rob@rjpelletier.com.au

Campus Columns

Staff Changes



Fiona Chambers

Fiona Chambers, Lecturer in Human Resource Management and Communications, resigned to accept new and exciting career challenges. On 30th September, Fiona completed almost seven years at Marcus Oldham. Her committed input and genial friendship over that time is much appreciated. In addition to her lecturing duties, Fiona was very adept in co-ordinating the annual Marcus Oldham Rural Leadership Program and developing the popular Rotary initiated and Marcus Oldham supported, Youth Leadership Program, 'Defying the Drift'.



David Cornish

David Cornish has been employed to take over the Lecturer position vacated by Fiona Chambers. David has lectured on a sessional basis at Marcus Oldham for almost six years. He holds degrees in agricultural economics and finance and has thirty years experience in roles such as Agricultural Economist, Agribusiness Marketing Manager and senior banking roles in regional New South Wales and Victoria for the National Australia Bank.

David's career path includes initial Chief Executive Officer

of Rabo Financial Advisors; five years as a Farm Consultant with Mike Stephens and Associates, focusing on agricultural investment opportunities for wholesale investment funds; Regional Manager at Landmark for Western Victoria, followed by the role of Strategy Manager for the organisation; since 2012, consulting to agricultural investment companies and supporting their farm investment strategy in Australia. In his spare time he is involved in a family farming operation based at Casterton in Western Victoria.

He commences full time at the College in January 2017.



Susie Greig-Rouffignac

Susie Greig-Rouffignac, who held the role of Foundation Officer for seven years, resigned in July. During this period she communicated frequently with the Alumni in advising them of campus developments and successfully inviting funding support. She enjoyed, and was excellent at co-ordinating fund and friend raising events in Victoria and interstate. The annual Marcus Oldham Golf Day grew under her management, and earlier this year celebrated its 10th year, while the inaugural Marcus Oldham Race Night in 2015 was a huge success. With her affable personality, Susie developed networks in the greater Marcus community and within the corporate world to benefit Marcus Oldham's development.



Alannah Halloran

Alannah Halloran has returned to Marcus Oldham as Foundation Manager. Alannah has a long-standing relationship with the College. Firstly, as Marketing Officer which grew to Marketing and Development Manager, and after a break to raise a family, returned part-time as Marketing Lecturer for the Equine Program. For the past four years she was Marketing Co-ordinator for four of the most successful independent Horseland retail stores in Australia.



Colin Hacking

Colin Hacking is well known to many graduates from his lecturing days. He was the popular Plant Lecturer from 1983 to 1995 and has graduate friends across the nation and overseas. In September 2011, Colin was drawn back to Marcus Oldham in the role of Scholarship Co-ordinator. He continued the growth of the valuable Marcus Oldham Scholarship Program and put his mark on it.

Colin announced his plans for retirement effective this month. Displaying an easy personality, an understanding of students, and with his connections in the industries for which Marcus Oldham prepares graduates, Colin has handed over a well-positioned and strong Scholarship Program.

Adelaide Reception

In September, the Marcus Oldham Council held its interstate meeting at the Adelaide Showgrounds. This was an opportune time to host a 6pm Reception for South Australian graduates and friends of the College, in the Showground's Goyder Mezzanine Room which overlooked the colourful and active trade and entertainment floor.

In the Management Team of the Royal Agricultural & Horticultural Society in South Australia, three Marcus Oldham graduates hold top roles, which surely must be unique amongst the many Agricultural Show committees in Australia.

Successfully steering the multi-million dollar organisation through growth and development are **John Rothwell FM 76** Chief Executive Officer, **John LePlastrier FM 94** Chief Operating Officer and **Charlie Downer FM 72** Trustee and former President.

In this pleasant informal environment, guests were addressed by John Rothwell, **Bruce Wilson FM 71** Council Chairman, and **Dr Simon Livingstone FM 87** Principal.



Anthea and John Kennett



FM 94 group L-R: David Oddie, Pam Oddie Holding, John LePlastrier, James Bufton, Scott Harlock



Philip Marshall FM 68 and Anne Marshall



Geoff Mosey FM 67 and Liz Mosey



John LePlastrier FM 94, John Rothwell FM 76, Charlie Downer FM 72



**Geoff Stuckey FM 76, David Crawford FM 74,
Janet Craigie-McConnell, Marketing Officer, David Crawford FM 68**



Colleen and Andrew Nicholls FM 69



**Shane Teakle FM 89
and Joanne Teakle**



**David Humble FM 87,
Matthew Seppelt FM 96**



**Erin Fitzgerald Richards HBM 04
and Luke Fitzgerald BB(AM) 05**

Inaugural Student Parent Charity Dinner

On Saturday 16 July, Marcus Oldham Farm Business Management and Agribusiness students, Jackie McGrath, Milly Mackinnon, Ellie Hays, with help from a Committee, organised the Inaugural Student Parent Charity Dinner. The event was held at Mt Duneed Winery near Geelong and a focus of the evening was the auction of donated items which raised over \$15,000 for the Aussie Farmers Foundation.

This occasion was a perfect opportunity for parents of students to meet each other and their off-spring's student friends. It was a very happy and successful evening in an interesting venue and was well supported by parents. Many had travelled extensively to take part in the Weekend's festivities which continued with Sunday Brunch on the College campus.



Agribusiness Student's Eye for Beef

Jessica Parker, Second Year Agribusiness student enjoyed success at the Royal Melbourne Agricultural Show in September this year when awarded Beef Cattle Junior Judging Champion for Victoria.

Jessica will now be entered in the National Final in 2017.





Back L-R: Nikki Gilder Agrib1, Shannon McCormack Agrib1, Simon Gabb Agrib1, Grace Ives Agrib1, Megan Webb FBM1, Sally Conway FBM1, Natalie Poole FBM3.

Front: L-R: Tegan Bathgate Agrib1, Jess Brogden FBM3, Jake Taylor Agrib1, Jack Littler Agrib1, Katherine Bain Agrib1, Gabrielle Wright Agrib3.

Marcus Oldham Team Competes

Thirteen Marcus Oldham students competed in the annual Inter-Collegiate Meat Judging (ICMJ) Competition at Wagga Wagga NSW in July.

The event spanned five days and aimed to attract passionate young university students into the meat industry. It incorporates a careers fair, workshops and a range of guest speakers to give participating students ample opportunity to form networks with a number of prominent companies within the sector.

Team Coach was Laura Wishart, Second Year Farm Business Management student. First Year Agribusiness student, Jack Littler, from Warwickshire UK, took the individual first place in the Beef Eating Quality Class. Tegan Bathgate, also First Year Agribusiness, received the Coach's award, giving her the opportunity to attend a week's training in Brisbane.

Marcus Graduates go to Rio de Janeiro

Marcus Oldham is proud of three Horse Business Management graduates who participated at the Rio Olympics:



Show Jumper,
James Paterson-Robinson
HBM 99
competed on 'Amarillo'.



Rachel Watts
HBM 05,
Elite Level
Groom to
Olympic Eventer,
Shane Rose.



Judy Croagh
HBM 82,
Cross Country
Jump Judge

Cross-Country 2016

In an endeavour to break a record, the runners set a sharp pace for the Cross Country this year. All credit to our staff reps for clocking very respectable times.

Male

Oli Vidor FBM3 19.32

Mac Cookson Agrib1 21.27
(son of **Warwick FM 1982**)



Oli Vidor



Mac Cookson



*Hannah
Martindale*



*Beki and
Sarah Richards*

Female

Hannah Martindale FBM1 26.03

Katherine Bain Agrib1 31.03

Horse

Beki and Sarah Richards EM 12.04

Staff

Scott Vanderkley 24.36

Matt Robertson 26.03



Katherine Bain



Matt Robertson



Scott Vanderkley

Editor's Memo



Australia's Prime Minister, The Hon Malcolm Turnbull MP, addressed the Australian Minerals Industry Parliamentary Dinner on 12th October in The Great Hall, Parliament House, Canberra. He commented that Australia's mining industry is exposed to the greatest risks and takes the greatest gambles. He noted that the mineral industry's greatest assets are the men and women working in the industry. No denying the mineral industry's importance - it represents two-thirds of Australia's export income. Mr Turnbull stated that it would not survive though, without innovation and the Industry has presented remarkable innovations at the forefront, for many years. He mused, "What will the next generation of mining innovators bring to the Industry? Only innovation will propel the next leap forward for the Australian mining industry."

Listening to his well-delivered speech I considered that the above opinions would be adaptable to Australia's agricultural industry. Australian farmers take great risks and great gambles - weather, markets and labour force. Australia's agricultural industry's greatest assets are the men and women working in the Industry. The stats show that approx 307,000 people are employed in agriculture. Take into account the employees in the input and output sectors, food manufacturing, processing, distribution and retail, and the number sits at about 1.6 million. Australian farmers are innovative - they see a need and they produce a solution.

One hundred and thirty-five thousand Australian farm businesses produce enough food to feed 80 million people; they provide 93% of the domestic food supply, with around two-thirds of total production exported. Agriculture's contribution to the GDP represents around 12%.

China's demand for Australia's mineral exports is strong and China is the largest market for our agricultural

goods. Our Agricultural and Agribusiness students on study tours to China are exposed to Australia's export, processing and marketing policies. Some Marcus Oldham graduates are attracted to China as a place of employment.

Aware that agriculture is a high risk industry, there is an increasing trend for tertiary study by young people preparing for agricultural careers. And of course, not all graduates will be producers. I speak to secondary school students around Australia and am gratified by the number of urban-based students enquiring about jobs in agriculture that will allow them to work in the 'Collins Streets' of our cities. There still is a shortage of degree qualified Agribusiness graduates and, therefore, the employment scene is attractive.

The Marcus Oldham suite of qualifications, although focussed on agriculture, agribusiness and equine, does not restrict a graduate from making a foray into a host of other industries to forge a rewarding career. The MOCOSA Magazine articles over the years demonstrate the entrepreneurship, innovation (a passion of Malcolm Turnbolls) and giddy successes that many of our exciting graduates achieve.

The MOCOSA Executive is blessed with great bounty when it comes to selecting a Graduate of Excellence. I am over-whelmed with the strength and variation of Alumni stories from which to choose for the Magazine - and the number of pages is increasing. Marcus Oldham's reputation is only as good as its graduates, not only within Australia, but around the world.

Our 2015 students who completed the survey instigated by the federally funded, Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching (QILT), resulted in Marcus Oldham being ranked Number One in Australia for Overall Education Experience, Teaching Quality, Learner Engagement and Student Support, and significantly outscoring all 40 universities across Australia.

With a ranking like this, it is easy to understand why so many Marcus Oldham graduates are leaders in the industries they choose for their career. With a ranking like this, Marcus Oldham graduates can feel proud of their Marcus Oldham qualification.

Janet Craigie-McConnell
Editor

Campus Columns
continued from page 29

Female Trail Blazers



Farm Business Management student, Laura Wishart from Boxwood Hill WA, was elected by her peers to the position of Student President in 2017. Laura is the first female student to be elected to this role.



First Year Agribusiness student, Katherine Bain from Stockyard Hill near Beaufort VIC, is the first female Marcus Oldham student to receive the 2016 Horizon Scholarship. (**Sam Bell AssocDegAgrib15** received the Scholarship in 2013).

Horizon Scholarships are sponsored by industry organisations in recognition of the potential of young people to grow and shape the future of Australian agriculture. The Scholarship supports undergraduate students pursuing agriculture-related degrees at university through the provision of a bursary of \$5000 per academic year. In addition, the Scholarship provides mentoring partnerships, professional development workshops, industry placements and opportunities to network and gain industry knowledge.

The Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation (RIRDC) manages the Scholarship Program on behalf of industry sponsors. Australian Wool Innovation (AWI) is sponsoring Katherine's Scholarship for the duration of her degree.

Foundation News

Foundation Reception

The ambience of The Australian Club in Melbourne was perfect for the annual Foundation Reception held in June. The occasion acknowledged the generous sponsors of the Marcus Oldham Scholarship Program and introduced our worthy Scholarship Awardees to our sponsors, supporters and old and new friends of the College. The benefits of a scholarship allows many achieving students to undertake and complete their studies without financial anxiety. Marcus Oldham, therefore, is greatly appreciative of the ongoing monetary support of the Program.

More than 210 guests were captivated by the address of Guest Speaker, Mr Christopher Corrigan, Chairman of Qube Holdings Ltd, Executive Chairman of Webster Ltd and Director, Kaplan Equity Investment. Mr Corrigan was a former Managing Director of the Patrick Corporation and is best known for the 1998 Australian waterfront dispute in which he attempted to sack the heavily unionised workforce and replace it with strikebreakers, eventually leading to reform and restructuring of dockyard labour practices.

Mr Oliver Le Lievre from Sydney, Agribusiness student and holder of the MPH Werribee Agriculture Scholarship, spoke on behalf of the scholarship recipients.



Sandy Dent, Sally Conway FBM1, Ted Dent



Alastair (Alby) Carnegie, former Lecturer



Chris Corrigan, Guest Speaker



*Boaz Meron Agrib1, **Max Holmes FM 63***



Kirra Bourke EM, Lachlan Brown FBM1, Jake Taylor Agrib1, Jack Courts FBM1



Eliza Babazogli EM, Lilly Herzer EM



*Sarah Thomson, Council Member,
Dr Simon Livingstone FM 87, Principal*



Richard Bligh and Will Banks, Rabobank



2016 Scholarship Recipients



Ian Hume Agrib2, John Waterhouse FBM3, Oliver Vidor FBM3, Sam Durnam FBM1



Martin Wettenhall FM 73



Peter Sommerville, Australian Wool Education Trust, Dr Philip Moors AC, Helen Macpherson Smith Trust



Susie Sutherland, Louise Gourlay OAM, Anthea Bromell



Mark Inglis FM 92 JBS Australia, James Freemantle, Andrew Cox



Elle-Jay Hornery Agrib2, Ellie Hayes Agrib2, Andrew Baker, Director Agriculture and Agribusiness



*Prof Trevor Day, Deakin University, Tony McMeel, Deputy Principal,
David Gibbs, Foundation Executive*



*Gail Anderson and Tony Bailey,
Racing Victoria*



Antony Baillieu FM 71, Foundation Chairman, **Rob McGavin Agrib 93**,
Council Member, Joyce McConnell, Sam McConnell JBS



*Carol and Cam Emerson,
College Councillor*



*Colin Hacking,
Scholarship Co-ordinator*



Scott McKay FM 79



*Adrian Goonan, Warakirri
Asset Management Trusts*



*Emma Morel, Director
Equine Management*

Remember you can keep up to date with happenings at Marcus through
www.marcusoldham.vic.edu.au and  www.facebook.com/MarcusOldhamCollege



Bruce Wilson FM 71
Council Chairman



*Grace Ives Agrib1, Bronte Gorringer FBM3, Jill Bingham,
Sophie Bingham Agrib1, Katherine Bain Agrib1*



*Mary Rowsthorn, Susie Greig-Rouffignac,
Foundation Officer*



John Waterhouse FM 84,
Sue Cormack



*Oli Le Lievre, representing
Scholarship Recipients*

Hamilton Drinks

The traditional Hamilton Sheepvention Drinks gathering took place at the Hamilton Club in August and was well attended by local and interstate graduates and friends of the College who had attended the popular Sheepvention field day.

Hosted by the Principal, **Dr Simon Livingstone FM 87**, guests enjoyed the camaraderie and learned that Marcus Oldham is strong in enrolments from students eager to study the Agriculture and Agribusiness Programs with an eye to making a dynamic career within the wider rural based industries.



Marcus Oldham Golf Day 2017

The annual Marcus Oldham Golf Day will be held once again at the picturesque Eynesbury Golf Course in early 2017.

What is now firmly fixed on the Foundation calendar as a social day not to be missed, the Golf Day is a wonderful opportunity to bring rivalry and camaraderie to the fore with golf rounds to suit teams and individuals on 9 and 18 hole rounds. Arguably one of

the best golfing experiences in Victoria set around the magnificent Eynesbury homestead, Marcus Oldham guests are promised a day filled with wonderful food, company and entertainment.

Plans are being finalised now and we look forward to bringing you more information shortly.

To register your interest, please contact Foundation Manager, Alannah Halloran.



For all Foundation enquiries please contact:
Alannah Halloran on 03 5247 2919
halloran@marcusoldham.vic.edu.au

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

Race Night 2016

The Foundation is delighted to announce that the second Marcus Oldham Race Night will be held at the Moonee Valley Racecourse on Friday 18 November 2016. Due to the overwhelming success of our inaugural event last year, it seemed only fitting that we should do it again!

This year, the event promises to be even bigger. Set in the beautiful Committee Room with just on 280 friends and supporters of the College, guests will be treated to a bird's eye view of twilight racing at its best, a sumptuous three-course dinner and entertainment, with a few surprises thrown in.

Limited places and sponsorship packages are available at time of print. For anyone interested in attending this wonderful event, please contact Alannah quickly on (03) 5247 2919 or halloran@marcusoldham.vic.edu.au.



MARCUS
OLDHAM
FOUNDATION



MARCUS OLDHAM RACE NIGHT

Friday 18 November 2016

*Marcus Oldham Foundation wish to
acknowledge the generous support of
our sponsors and supporters*



Scholarship Program



Great Signs for Marcus Oldham

We have just been through another very busy time interviewing for a number of scholarships. In total, across 10 scholarships, we had 145 applications, most of which were of very high quality. As an interviewer, I am constantly impressed with the way the young people conduct themselves at interview, and the depth of their industry experience. At the age of 22, many candidates have more industry experience than some 30 year-olds in the non-agricultural sector.

I am impressed with the quality of both female and male applicants from some of the more remote regions of Australia. To work up in the "top-end" on some of the very large and remote properties at the age of 19 years, is an impressive achievement.

Another highlight, is the amount of community engagement applicants have undertaken in a relatively short time. Whilst much of this is organised by the schools, which is very good in itself, quite a bit of the experience has been outside the school environment. This shows a lot of initiative by the young people and a desire to help others apart from themselves.

It would appear that the level of the applicants' secondary school academic achievements is rising. This shows, I believe, an increasing awareness of agriculture by young people and a recognition that agriculture and the equine industries offer fantastic opportunities. I believe this is a good time to be graduating from Marcus Oldham - the opportunities are extremely exciting and, hopefully, financially rewarding and intellectually satisfying.

After five years, I am retiring from Marcus Oldham as the Scholarship Co-ordinator. I have greatly appreciated the opportunity to be reunited with Marcus Oldham after a 16 year absence. Simon Livingstone and his staff have done a fabulous job in growing and improving Marcus Oldham over this period and the plans over the next few years are very exciting. I am very pleased to be handing over the baton to Janet Craigie-McConnell.

I warmly thank the sponsors who have contributed to the Scholarship Program over the period I have been the Co-ordinator. I have enjoyed your company and fantastic support and I truly believe that contributing to someone's education is a very worthy cause. I can assure you that the students greatly appreciate it.

My thanks to the very worthy scholarship recipients, many of whom have and will go on to do some great things in the industry. I have enjoyed your company and humour over this period. Good luck with your future endeavours.

So, in closing, I hope to see you at a later time.

Colin Hacking
Scholarship Co-ordinator

The Network

Engagements



Peter Kelly BBusAgric 14 and **Amber Ladyman DipHBM 11, BBusAgric 14** became engaged when visiting the romantic setting of Lake Louise in Canada. They are making arrangements for their April wedding day in 2017.

amber.ladyman@live.com.au
peter@lugano.net.au

Kynan Onions BBusAgric 14 and **Georgie Broome DipHBM 11** were engaged on New Year's Eve 2015 and are planning their September 2017 wedding. Kynan is working at Landmark Shepparton VIC in real estate and Georgie is nearly finished her Bachelor in Primary Education and starting a Certificate in Equine Myofunctional Therapy.

georgie.broome@gmail.com kynan.onions@gmail.com

Births



Scott and Mel Vanderkley's daughter, Lucy Grace Vanderkley, was born on 4th February 2016. Scott is ICT Manager and Lecturer and Mel is the daughter of Des Umbers, Director Teaching and Learning.

Henry AdvDipFBM 12 and **Rosie Moxham McClymont BBus(FM)13** were delighted to welcome Wilda Louise Moxham into their family on the 12th of September 2016. Henry and Rosie have made their home at Binnaway NSW.

Deaths

Roger Geddes FM 65 was diagnosed with an aggressive cancer in October 2015 and lost his life to the illness on 25th February 2016. Leading up to his illness, Roger was still very involved with the business. His wish to die at his home in Holbrook NSW and be able to appreciate the beautiful view over the surrounding countryside, was possible. Roger is survived by his wife, Margaret, sons, Michael and Tony, and daughter, Wendy.

Youlanda Winstanley 2016 Equine Management Student was sadly taken from the College community as a result of a car accident on 14 May 2016.

James (Jim) Street FM 73 died on the 26th June 2016 in his home town of Walcha NSW where he and his family operate a successful farming operation. Jim was a good student and a good farmer who will be missed as a friend, by many. He was well known in the industry. Jim and his wife, Caroline, started farming together near Ararat VIC almost immediately after College days.

Dougal Hill studied Farm Management in 2010. On 20th August 2016, aged 28, Dougal was killed in a vehicle accident near Cootamundra NSW.

Andrew Osborn FM 73 was tragically killed whilst goat mustering in the Western Division NSW on Saturday 27th August 2016. Andy will be remembered for his meticulous attention to detail. First Year FM 73 students will recall his perfectly prepared Plant Identification book. Andy's attention to detail translated into his farming practices and particularly, a tourist business venture at Yanakie which was recognised by a RACV Victorian Tourism Award. Over the years, Andy was an active member of Rotary, Scouts and the CFA. Golf had recently become his passion. He is survived by his wife, Bronwen, and sons, Tim and Rob.



Jason Ong DipEqMgt 12 and his wife, Li Wen, live in Singapore with delightful seven month old son, Jarrod. jas_ong88@hotmail.com



Katherine Reed DipEqMgt 13 and Tim Reed happily welcomed their son, William Alexander Reed who was born in June 2016. The stats are: weight 9lb 4oz, length 55cm.

Marcus All Over

Congratulations Mark Griffin



Mark Griffin DipAgrib 14 is the fifth generation of his family to farm on their property at Moltema TAS. He helps run the 690ha property near Elizabeth Town with his father, Peter, and two uncles, Michael and Gavan. His attention to detail and a passion for genetics helped him win the DairyTas Young Farmer Award. The farm runs a herd of about 750 milking cows and around 560 youngstock. Some major changes in the breeding direction of the herd have occurred. Once a pure Holstein herd, they now run crossbreds using a selection of Holstein, Jersey and Swedish Red genetics. Mark is passionate about the business and is keen to try and benchmark in the top percentile of the industry. mgriffin3140@hotmail.com



Will Comiskey DipAgrib 11 (Dingo) in August 2016 undertook the world's toughest and longest horse race and shared a first place finish with Heidi Telstad from Canada and Marcia Hefker-Miles from New Mexico. Will challenged himself in the epic 1000km Mongol Derby, to raise funds for the Royal Flying Doctor Service which, he says, has been there for western Queenslanders through thick and thin. His ride raised close to \$16,000.



The course of the endurance race recreates the horse messenger system developed by Ghengis Khan in 1224. Scheduled to take 14 days, the three winners completed the race in just 10. Of the 41 starters, 14 dropped out. With nothing but 5kg of supplies in a backpack and a GPS tracker to take them along a track based on Ghengis Khan's postal network, the self-guided trek across the Mongolian steppe country was tough, yet incredible fun.

Most of Mongolia is made up of broken ridges divided by rivers and creek flats. Horses were provided for the event riders and were changed every 40km. They were very tough and well suited to the incredible terrain.

Will is quite a horseman, and the Mongolian horses reminded him of the Timor ponies he learned to ride as a child growing up in Dingo, west of Rockhampton QLD.



Will shared yurts and meals with nomadic families who were more than happy to have him in there on the floor with the kids, or next to grandmother.

The riders, who could only ride between 7am and 8:30pm, went through heat and thirst at the beginning of the race and freezing, wet cold towards the end. Will dropped 5kg in weight during the 10 day race. There was pain – but he just shut that all out and focused mainly on the horse and then looking after himself.



The experience is one Will said he would always remember. He had a special thanks for the local herders who made their hardy horses available and he appreciated the one-of-a-kind hospitality they were shown in Mongolia.

comiskeyw@gmail.com

Luke Fitzgerald BBus(FM) 05 and **Erin Fitzgerald Richards HBM 04** attended the Reception in Adelaide in September. Luke is Manager of SA Sheep and Cattle Industry Funds – Primary Industries and Regions SA; Erin has the role of Head of Technology, Change and Improvement – Bendigo and Adelaide Bank. They live at Brookside Farm in the Bugle Ranges which is part of the central Adelaide Hills region. luke-fitzgerald@bigpond.com
erin_fitzgerald2@bigpond.com

Samantha Greenwood Oliver HBM 03 is now farming near Coleambally NSW. SamanthaOliver@hotmail.com

Molly Bertram EM 15 is undertaking further study to attain a Certificate IV in Veterinary Nursing through the Open College. molly@thebertrams.com.au

Russell Tye HBM 90 since graduating, has spent two years at Kildangan Stud in Ireland owned by Sheikh Mohammad; one year at Gainsborough Farm in Kentucky with Sheikh Mahktoum; returned to New Zealand and started his rural based engineering business specialising in cowsheds and horse trucks. Russell enjoys his 40 acres near Matamata in the North Island of New Zealand, on which he and his wife, Seonaid, and their three daughters, Lauren, Mirren and Grace, live. Still involved in the horse industry, Russell breeds and trains Australian Stock Horses for polocrosse. rtye@extra.co.nz



Muppie Kath FBM 01 and Cameron Dean FBM 99

Business owners, Cam and Muppi Dean at Gin Gin QLD, were thrilled to receive a Coles Nurture Fund grant. "Gin Gin and Dry" turn second grade fruit into premium grade snacks and the \$500,000 grant means they can start a proposed project earlier than they thought.

Pending council approval of plans for a state-of-the-art drying facility, they will be able to expand their business five years sooner than they planned. Currently employing eight local residents, the multi-million dollar preserving facility will create approximately nine local jobs during construction and around 20 full-time jobs once completed. In time, they'll be able to employ even more people, which is great for the region.

The new facility will allow Gin Gin and Dry to keep up with the huge demand for its dried mango, pineapple, banana, kiwifruit and semi-dried tomatoes. The expansion will triple its dried mango production and double its semi-dried tomato production. It will also mean they can experiment with drying new products, including melon, figs and paw paw.

The Wide Bay-Burnett region is a tropical fruit bowl so there is an abundance of produce readily available. Drying the fruit is a "win-win" solution for farmers faced with second grade fruit. The Deans source produce which growers can't sell because it is blemished or already ripe and unable to travel. This means local growers also get an additional income stream and get something out of it instead of dumping it.

Gin Gin and Dry runs an online business and supplies health food, organic and whole food retailers and distributors in Australia, as well as China and Japan, the latter being a big consumer of its semi-dried tomatoes. They currently don't supply to large supermarkets or chain stores.

c.m.dean@burnett.net.au
www.ginginanddry.net.au



Ben Bjarnesen DipAgrib 05

is currently working in Brisbane QLD as a Sergeant-Officer in charge of the Fortitude Valley Police Beat, a Security and Counter-Terrorism Officer and LGBTI Liaison Officer for Fortitude Valley. He is to be congratulated on being awarded the "Commissioners Certificate of Notable Action" and a Bravery Medal and Group Bravery Citation from



the Governor General, His Excellency General The Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Retd). On the 6th May 2016 Ben attended an Investiture Ceremony at Government House Queensland to receive the awards from His Excellency the Honourable Paul de Jersey AC, Governor of Queensland.

ben_bjarnesen@hotmail.com

Josie Keam Naylor HBM 93 her husband, Jeremy, and children, Deahna, Teisha, Hayley, Charlie and Max live at Denbarker WA. Since graduating, Josie was primary teaching, managed an art studio, then in 2014 started the 800 sow free range piggery "Emu Downs". emudownsfarm@gmail.com

Andrew Alexander DipAgrib 97 lives at Augathella QLD with his wife, Karla, and children, Will, Mac and Ned. He runs his own business - Augathella Rural Merchandise and Hardware. Andrew's career has seen him as owner/manager of a tyre business and in cattle station management including Carlton Hill at Kunanurra WA. alokarla3@gmail.com

Todd Ireland HBM 1989 is managing the dual heating and air conditioner family business. Todd and Samantha, with children, Jake, Darcy and Ebony live at South Warrandyte VIC. Todd coaches a large squad of runners and is still a keen runner himself. As far as the equine industry goes, he currently owns four racehorses.

Kate O'Sullivan FM 89

Two big ticks off my "Bucket List" in 2016!

As a thoroughbred racing enthusiast, horse owner and Committee Member of the Moonee Valley Racing Club, I had long wanted to see two specific international racing carnivals - this was the year the bucket list would be ticked!

In May, my husband, Tony, and I attended the 'Run for the Roses' at Churchill Downs, Louisville in Kentucky USA, then headed to the United Kingdom and attended the Royal Ascot Racing Carnival at the magnificent Ascot Racecourse.

Kentucky Derby

The first thing that surprises and delights when you arrive in Louisville is the fabulous southern hospitality. Over 170,000 people attend the Kentucky Derby and the party starts at 10.30am when Race 1 is run...and 14 races later at 7.30pm the day concludes. A day for stayers, not sprinters!!

Mint Juleps (the official drink), Budweiser beer and cigars can be found everywhere. A pastel 'seer-sucker' suit with a panama hat is the gentleman's uniform and ladies wear sky-high heels and hats that are far wider than most shoulders.

In the heart of Blue Grass Country, the Kentucky Derby is a Group 1 Stakes race for 3-year-old thoroughbred horses. The race distance is one and one-quarter miles long, and it is run on the dirt racetrack at Churchill Downs. Colts and geldings in the race carry 57kg.

Twenty horses compete in the Kentucky Derby, which is a larger field size than most horse races in the US where, on average, eight horses race against one another. The 20 horses racing in the Kentucky Derby must first travel along "The Road to the Kentucky Derby", which is a series of 35 races, taking place at tracks across the country and the world. Points are awarded to the top four horses that finish in each of the 35 races, and the horses with the most points earn a spot in the starting gate in the Kentucky Derby. The winning purse is \$US 2 million.

We visited two of the world's premium horse studs, Ashford Stud Coolmore and Jonabell Farm Darley. The highlight of the visit to Coolmore was the meet and greet with 2015 Triple Crown winner, American Pharoah.

The Kentucky Derby experience delivered a truly memorable event, with color, crowds, bourbon, Budweiser and incredible racing!





Royal Ascot

Ascot Racecourse is situated in beautiful wooded countryside adjoining 'Windsor Great Park' and is about a 50-minute drive or train journey from London. The racecourse underwent a £200 million redevelopment in 2006. In 2011 Ascot celebrated its 300th year and is widely regarded as one of the world's most famous racecourses.

Royal Ascot is a national institution and the centrepiece of the British social calendar. Each year, for the third week in June, tradition, pageantry, fashion and style combine at one of the most beautiful settings in the country.

The quality of the racing at Royal Ascot is outstanding, with nearly £4 million in prize money on offer and a total of 18 'Group' races over the five days.

Each day follows the same format, with The Royal Procession making its way from the Golden Gates, along the course and into the Parade Ring from 2.00pm. The first race of six each day is at 2.30pm and the last race is at 5.35pm. Race goers are then invited to conclude the festivities as the band plays and the crowd sings songs round the bandstand.

Top hats, tails, Pimms and cucumber sandwiches makes for a unique and memorable experience ...with a few Royals thrown in!

Photography Fiona Byrne.
osullivan.kate@gmail.com

Rob Davies FBM 01 is currently managing all farming enterprises for the family company, Dalara Pastoral Operations. Prior to that, Rob spent six years with Nippon Meat Packers Australia as a trader; five of those years were based in the USA looking after all chilled and frozen beef programs. Rob, Skye and their children, Poppy and Ollie live near, Blackville NSW.
robdavies@dalarapastoral.com.au



Peter Kelly BBusAgric 14 was an entrant in the 2016 Henty Machinery Field Days Agri-Innovations Henty Machine of the Year competition. The entries had to meet the criteria of having a practical farm application, be based on an original idea of the entrant and not be in full-scale production at the time of entry.

Peter presented the 'Kellybuilt Fencing Tray/Trailer', built by the family engineering business from their farm workshop at Rugby in the New South Wales Southern Tablelands. The unit can be slipped onto the ute - suitable for steep hilly country or a trailer for easier ground use. It is ready for large or small fencing jobs, and the fencer's mind is at rest knowing that all the gear is on board. There are many key features which can be viewed at www.kellybuilt.com.au. Peter took over the business in 2014 which was established by his father, William, and he produces lightweight stock crates, ute tipping trays, cattle loading ramps and dog kennels.
peter@kellybuilt.com.au



Winner of the Agri-Innovations Henty Machine of the Year competition were Charlie and Tana Webb, parents of current Marcus Oldham Third Year Agriculture student, Josephine Webb of Urana NSW, who has drawn on her Marcus Oldham studies and supported the marketing of the unit. Two years in the design period, 'Back Up Charlie' is a flexible sheep movement system. It consists of a forcing yard leading into a dual race for movement into sheep handlers, crutching plants, scanning machines and a lot of other applications requiring a constant flow of sheep.
info@backupcharlie.com.au
www.backupcharlie.com.au

Alistair Walker FM 90 after 21 years with Rural Finance has taken up a role in Bendigo and Adelaide Bank's Insurance Division as Manager Strategic Partnering and is based in Bendigo VIC.
awalkerbendigo@gmail.com

Doug Stewart FM 65 and his wife, Judy, moved to the beautiful seaside town of Warrnambool this year. Prior to this, Doug's career covered two years in National Service, property manager at Kingston SA 1970 - 1973, owner operator 1973 - 2011 at Kingston, and retired to a hobby farm at Port Elliot SA in 2011. Doug's son, Lachie, followed in his father's footsteps and graduated from Marcus in 1996.
dougherrita@hotmail.com



Dougall Millar Agrib 96 with wide experience in farming irrigation cotton, mungbeans and sorghum, has chosen the career path of Farmer Grazier Consultant. With his wife, Toni, and children, Georgie, Kelsie and Abbie, he lives at Malanda in Far North Queensland on a property 800 feet above sea-level.

Dougall won both the Central Highland Cotton Grower of the Year Award and Australian Cotton Grower Achiever Award in 1997. Over the last 20 years, he has won numerous cotton and grain yield and quality awards in Central Queensland. Dougall's expertise in agribusiness and finance means he is able to develop comprehensive financial packages for businesses, investors and the banking sector.

He is Director of Northern Australian Agricultural Solutions (NAAS) which is an independent, whole-of-farm advisory service with a unique understanding of the broad acre irrigation, cropping and cattle industries of Northern Australia. NAAS provides professional agribusiness advice to farmers, graziers, financial institutions and investors on all facets of primary production in Northern Australia.
dougall@northernaustralianag.com.au
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Roger Ibbott FM 69 lives at Sandy Bay TAS. Following his Marcus years, he worked for 18 months at the University of Tasmania with the Agricultural Science Faculty. He was then asked to take on a development role at Cascade Brewery which opened up to a malting management position. Cascade Brewery held him for 43 years - 38 as manager of the Cascade Maltings. The Maltings included selection and purchasing of the malting barley requirements, which brought him in contact with a number of Marcus graduates. Although it was always nice to catch up, sometimes seasonal conditions resulted in a disappointing outcome with the crop not able to be purchased due to quality requirements. Roger retired when the Malting plant at Cascade Brewery was closed in mid-2014.

However, since then, he has become more involved with Rotary, holding the positions of Secretary of the Rotary Club of Sandy Bay in 2015/16 and is currently President 2016/17.

Roger's attendance at Marcus was assisted by the Rotary Club of Yiewsley and West Drayton in London, following the disastrous bushfires in Southern Tasmania on 7th February 1967. He is now pleased to be able to repay some of that Rotary debt.

Roger always looks on his time at Marcus with appreciation as it provided an overall management grounding.
ibbott@bigpond.com

Owen Grieve FM 72 lives in Albany WA with his wife, Jennifer, and works as a research and media person with Dr Chris Back, Liberal Senator WA. He experienced 12 years as a rural broadcaster with ABC Rural from 1972-1984, then followed that with a hospitality business, rural supplies agency, a small farm at Pingelly in WA, but couldn't resist the pull of broadcasting, so from 1996-2014 he was back with ABC Rural.
ojgrieve@gmail.com
owen.grieve@aph.gov.au

Famous Stable of 2015 Melbourne Cup Winner

On the first Tuesday in November last year, Darren Weir Racing Stables near Ballarat VIC, and Michelle Payne's glorious ride, became legendary when Prince of Penzance achieved stardom status at Flemington Racecourse in Melbourne. **Jeremy Rogers HBM 98** and **Monique Roche EM 15** are part of the Darren Weir Team which is in full preparation for the exciting 2016 racing carnival - perhaps another Melbourne Cup Winner?

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

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

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

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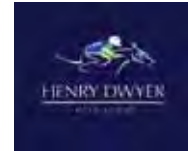
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