Alumni News



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UNIVERSITY VISA CARD LAUNCHED AT SPRING DINNER

It was a matter of "two birds with one stone" when the Alumni Association in conjunction with the University used the Spring Dinner as a launching pad for the Lincoln University Visa Card.

President Gerard Scott welcomed alumni, partners, friends of Lincoln and guests who included alumnus and ACT candidate Rodney Hide who was guest speaker.

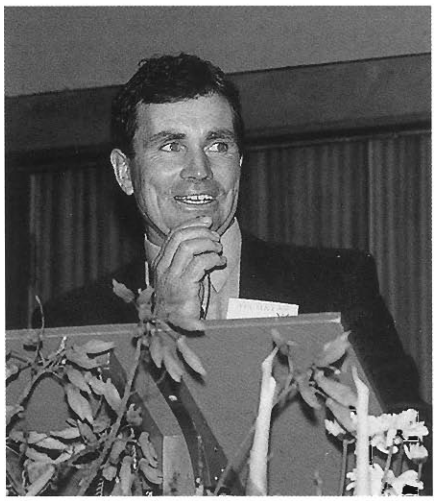
Acting Vice-Chancellor Professor Roger Field acknowledged the presence of the Shand family who had willingly co-operated in promoting the card to alumni. He said the Shand family provided a positive example of the importance of Alumni and that linked well with his view of the critical opportunity that the Alumni Association can play in supporting the University.

"Currently, the University needs to secure a stronger base in the face of reduced government funding. We need to utilise alumni to assist in policy alignment that is informed, in particular new members of Parliament, including Rodney Hide, who is here tonight. We also need alumni to secure high quality employment for our graduates and to assist in a wide range of other areas," he said.

"The University is fortunate in having a well established Alumni Association and a strong band of informal connections between graduates and diplomats and the University. I have been impressed by the support for the Alumni Association shown by international groups, particularly in Malaysia and Singapore where I have recently attended functions".

"The overseas experience, particularly in North America, indicates that as financial and political issues become more complex and impinge on the viability of universities, the positive support of Alumni is increasingly pivotal. There are two current initiatives where members of the Alumni Association can provide major support:

1. The launch and uptake of the Lincoln University Visa card. I am delighted at the support from Westpac Trust and wish to thank Michelle Kennedy from Westpac



Alumni Association president, Gerard Scott welcoming alumni to the Spring Dinner.

Trust, Sir James Stewart and Brian Robertson for their work in establishing the Lincoln University Visa card opportunity. Funds from the Visa card initiative will be used to establish an Alumni Scholarship Fund which will help meet the needs of able and needy students.

2. The Fund for Excellence Annual Appeal is about to be launched. This appeal will ask Alumni to donate in support of technological development in teaching and research that will provide a critical edge for the University in the future," Professor Field concluded.

The card sponsor Emeritus Professor Sir James Stewart said that for many present Lincoln was and continues to be "a major part of our lives."

"For me it was the centre of my life for 40 years", he said, "but for the Shand family a lot longer".

Lincoln faced a long succession of changes over its 120 year history, and it has always coped with these changes, he said. As for other universities and not just in New Zealand Lincoln has had to cope with the challenges of rapid growth, due to university status and the general explosion of tertiary student numbers, and with changes in the political philosophy of funding.

To meet this Lincoln has been more successful than many finding alternative revenue sources from commercial ventures, international consulting and foreign students. In the new political environment there may be further changes in student funding. "But in New Zealand's economic environment we can never expect the massive level of support for our students that large corporations and foundations provide elsewhere. And the reality is that state funding is never going to be unlimited."

"Our concern has to be this. Will fees be an increasing impediment to study entry? Will they be a real impediment to very able students proceeding to postgraduate study? It is important that new and innovative ways are found to ensure that such impediments are minimised in their impact. It seems to me that the Westpac Trust Visa Card is a relatively painless way for alumni of Lincoln to make a contribution to this objective, and to reflect their gratitude for what Lincoln has done for them. I commend this to you and I thank Westpac Trust for its role in nourishing higher education in general in this way and at Lincoln in particular," he said.



Mr Arthur Shand at the launch of the Lincoln University Visa Card.

FRONT COVER: *Nicola, Caroline, Arthur and Ed Shand, all Lincoln Alumni, played a major role in promoting the Lincoln University Visa Card. They are holding a photo of Yeo T Shand, a student in 1897-98.*

LINCOLN VISA CARD BOOSTS SCHOLARSHIP FUND



Former lecturer in Valuation, Tom Marks, with senior lecturer in the Department of Accounting, Finance and Property Studies, Derek Newman.

After less than a year's operation over $11,000 now resides in the Alumni Scholarship Fund. "Thanks to those who adopted the Lincoln University Visa Card", said President, Gerard Scott."Using the Lincoln University Visa Card is a painless way of supporting current students," he said. "What many don't appreciate is that you don't have to change your bank to receive a Lincoln University Visa Card. I strongly urge all our members to apply for a card," he said.

How Students Benefit

The Alumni Scholarship Fund receives $12.50 for every card issued and percentage of the turnover on each card.

To date cards have been used to pay for air travel, cosmetics, clothing, petrol, university fees, Ticketek bookings etc. "Used in these ways the Card will really boost the Scholarship Fund", said Mr Scott.



Emeritus Professor Sir James Stewart accepting a framed print of Ivey Hall from Michele Kennedy who co-ordinated the Visa-card promotion process through Westpac Trust.

SOUTHLAND BRANCH CELEBRATES 50TH REUNION DINNER

Timed to coincide with the Southland A & P Show, the 50th anniversary dinner was celebrated in grand style at the Southland Polytechnic on 10 December 1996.

Organised by Elizabeth Cruickshank and her committee the function attracted 70 alumni and partners among them four of the "pioneers" who attended the inaugural meeting on 1 March 1946 - Ossie Fallow, Gordon Speirs, Arthur Trotter and Stuart McKercher.

Among the guest were the Netherlands Ambassador Theodores Van Thessen, his wife Annelies, Professor and Mrs Gary Jolliffe from the USA, members of the Southland Livestrands group and Professor Cliff Irvine.

The toast to the University was proposed by Stuart McKercher. Replying, Brian Robertson thanked the gathering for honouring the toast and stressed that traditionally Southlanders had been strong supporters of the University.

He read excerpts from the minutes of the inaugural meeting which follow:

1946

"The convening of the meeting was initiated by the Secretary and Vice-President of the Association, both of whom were present for the occasion. Notices were sent out to as many old students as could be reached by mail, and the local arrangements in the hands of K. Gray , K.E. MacKinnon, W.F Dick and other willing co-operators, went off in perfect style.



Pioneers who attended the inaugural meeting: Ossie Fallow, Gordon Speirs, Arthur Trotter and Stuart McKercher.

After the dinner the meeting regrouped informally, and during the remainder of the evening toasts and replies were interspersed with reminiscences and general conversation. Musical items also were contributed.

At the outset a motion was placed before the meeting "That this assembly of Lincoln College Old Students agree to the formation of a Southland Branch of the Old Students' Association." This was proposed by K.E. MacKinnon, seconded by K. Gray, and carried unanimously. The election of officers then proceeded, and the following committee was decided upon: -

President:	K.E. MacKinnon
Vice-President:	D.A. McGibbon
Secretary-Treasurer:	K.Gray
Committee:	F.M.Henderson, O.S.Fallow, W.F. Dick

With these formalities concluded, the following toast list was honoured: -

"The College Old Students' Association."

Proposed by F.M. Henderson, replied to by P.G. Stevens.

"Lincoln College"

Proposed by W.L. Harbord, replied to by R.H. Bevin.

"Old Students in the Forces."

Proposed by D. Anderson and replied to by M.H. Rogers and C.N. Moffatt.

During the evening it was resolved that greetings from the newly formed branch be sent to the Past Director, Mr R.E. Alexander, and to the present Director, Professor E.R. Hudson.



Netherland's ambassador Theodores van Thessen and his wife Annelies were guests at the Southland reunion.

At 10.30 pm the meeting closed, owing to "a new Invercargill custom," but it carried on in small groups for a considerable time outside.

A permanent, or semi-permanent, record of the meeting was arranged by F.M. Henderson, who obtained the signatures of all present on a bottle of Port, which he has placed in safe keeping until the 21st anniversary of the inaugural meeting, when it is to be opened and used for the "College" toast. This move is a typically farsighted Southland manifestation of faith in the future, and it is to be hoped that there may be many of those whose names are on the bottle present on the occasion of the Southland Branch 21st Birthday. If the enthusiasm displayed on March lst is any indication it should be a really first class occasion."

1967

Twenty one years later 80 old students gathered at the Elmwood Gardens and of the original pioneers 17 attended.

A report in the College Magazine stated:

"Frank Henderson (1922) had kept a bottle of wine in his cellar from the original meeting and this sufficed to provide a sip all round as a special honour to the occasion. Looking ahead it was arranged that three bottles be set aside as a vintage drink for some future occasion. C.N. Moffat (40-41) presided, with G.M. Niederer (44-45) as toast-master. The guests were: M.H. Rogers (30-31) president of the Old Students' Association; T.D.J. Holderness (38-39) chairman of the College Council; A. Henderson (32-33) vice-chairman, College Council; M.B. Cooke (25-27) secretary, Old Students' Association; A. Galt chairman, Federated Farmers, Southland; and D.A. MacGibbon (11-13) one of the originals honoured as oldest member present. The toasts honoured were to the Originals, the College, the Old Students' Association, and after these formalities developed round a sumptuous sit-down dinner, the latter part of the evening provided fraternisation of a high order."

In 1996 there was no trace of the Vintage set aside twenty nine years earlier. The suggestion was made that it could be in Queensland!

Emeritus Professor Cliff Irvine regaled his audience with an illustrated address peppered with humour and scientific insight into the ageing process.

CENTRAL OTAGO

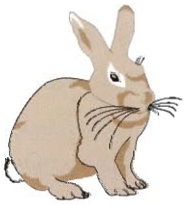
About 50 alumni and partners gathered at Shanahan's Bar, Queenstown, for an informal evening organised by Cleone and Peter Blomfield and Doug Masterton in late September 1996.

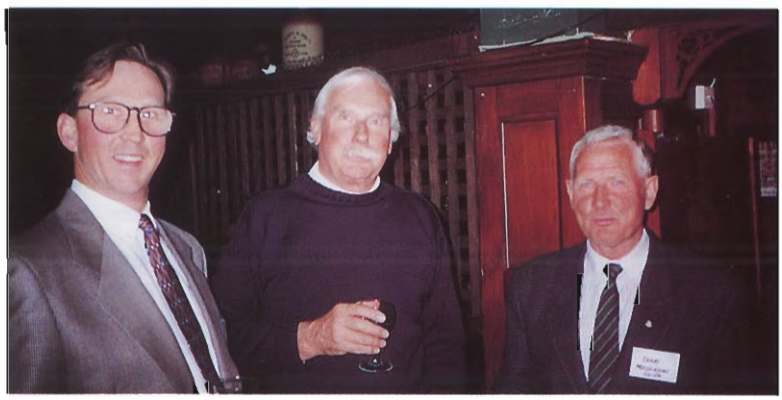
National candidate for Otago, Gavan Herlihy (M.Ag.Sc.) and his wife, Gerarda were guests of honour. Mr Herlihy spoke of the long distances he had to travel on the hustings in the new and large Otago electorate. Mr Herlihy joins other Lincoln alumni in the House of Representatives, Don McKinnon (VFM 1961), Roger Maxwell (Cert Wool 1959), Rodney Hide (M.Sc, Resource Management 1982-84) and David Carter (B.Ag.Sc. 1970-73).

Richard Burdon and his committee organised another successful function on the evening of Show Day, March 8, in Wanaka. Central Otago turned on one of its magic autumnal evenings which allowed an outside BBQ to continue well into the late hours.

Former Patron of LUAA Bruce Ross (now Director-General of Agriculture) attended the function along with a widely representative sample of alumni. President Gerard Scott replied to the toast.

John Fitzharris continues as Secretary.





David Fea pictured with Peter Blomfield and Doug Masterton, who with Peter's wife Cleone were organisers of the alumni get-together at Queenstown.

SOUTH CANTERBURY

Branch president Tom Lambie, secretary Ken Ellis and committee organised another successful reunion at "The Poplars", Pleasant Point on 27 June 1997.Guest speaker, local veterinarian, Adrian Campbell spoke about recent experiences in Bolivia.

President Gerard Scott replied to the toast.

A contingent of executive committee members and Lincoln staff attended also.

Local poet laurete and alumnus Erik Hall produced, directed, choreographed and delivered his own **curriculum vitae** in verse which was very well received



Michelle Ward & Marion Lambie at the South Canterbury Reunion

MID CANTERBURY

Staunch Alumni Association supporter, Dixon Reeves (1945/47) was presented with an alumni tie at the mid Canterbury Branch reunion on 1 August 1997.

Brigadoon was again the venue for a great night out, where conviviality and good humour dominated at all times.

Peter Davidson, president, welcomed a large crowd and executive committee members after the Ashburton Alumni symbol of office - a large ostrich egg - was ceremoniously piped into the dining room.

Errol Costello replied to the toast to Lincoln.

Gerald Murphy presided over the election of officers who included again the dedicated secretary, Roy Evans.

The annual sheriff session was again popular as were the musical items rendered by the "alumni band" billed as having come direct from a sell-out concert at Ealing.

CANTERBURY

Executive committee member and junior vice-president, Glen Johnson with Fraser McKenzie, Matthew Fraser and Tom Marks, organised a very successful "night at the trots" at the Addington Raceway on 16 May 1997.

A very good crowd turned up, on a fine night and enjoyed good food, good conversation and (for some) good dividends.

AGM

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of LUAA held at Lincoln University on April 12 1997 at 6pm.

Present: One hundred and twenty alumni and partners were present, including several from overseas.

Welcome: The president, Mr Gerard Scott welcomed everyone especially Vice-Chancellor Dr Franklin Wood and alumni returning for class reunions. He said the number present must have been the largest for quite a few years.

Apologies: Apologies were received from 50 alumni including former Presidents Ray Newton, Peter Cosgriff and Neil Taylor, Hon life members Cuthbert Tebb, Lady Ruth Burns and Professor Jack McLean; Emeritus Professors Sir James Stewart and Bernard Howard; Arthur Shand, Bill Owen, and Chancellor Malcolm Cameron.



The Mid Canterbury alumni band. From left: Ross Polson, Phil Everest, Jeremy Savage and Roy Evans.

Minutes: The minutes of the AGM held on 20 April 1996 were taken as read and confirmed as a true and correct record.

President's Report: In his report the president said the past year had been a very busy and fulfilling one for the Association.

"The Southland Branch celebrated 50 years of activity with a well-attended dinner at which the guest speaker was the 1996 Bledisloe Medalist Emeritus Professor Cliff Irvine. Four of the Branch foundation members, Ossie Fellow, Arthur Trotter, Gordon Speirs and Stuart McKercher, attended.

"Executive members or staff attended reunions in Dunedin, Queenstown, Ashburton, Timaru, Hamilton, Kuala Lumpur and Perth.

"In association with the University the Association launched the Lincoln University Visa Card at the Spring Dinner in October. To date the uptake of the card has been up to expectations and the income derived will fund scholarships for able and needy students. I would like to record my thanks to Westpac Trust for their role in this co-operative venture.



Immediate Past-President of the Association, Elizabeth Cruickshank with Sally Forbes and Marion Wood.

"As is becoming the norm we again are hosting nearly 200 alumni and partners who are returning to the campus for class reunions.

"This is a very important function of the alumni office and one which is appreciated by those returning to Lincoln. The older we get the more appreciative we become of our time at Lincoln and the benefits of a tertiary education at this campus.

"The Association had another successful year financially. The Lincoln University Alumni Association scholarship was awarded this year to Judith Fussell.

"During the year several alumni died including Honorary Life Member Jim Holderness (members stood as a mark of respect).

"An innovation this year was a meeting of the executive committee and Messrs. Milne and Cameron, Court of Convocation members on Council. We plan to make this an annual event.

"The first award of the Ian Blair Memorial Prize went to Ben Reddiex, a Masters student.

"Discussing the functions of the Association Mr Scott said that two of the objects of the Association were:

- to keep alive friendships made at the University.
- to provide a link between alumni and the University.

These were currently being fulfilled by Branch gatherings, class reunions and social functions at Lincoln. These were largely supported by male alumni in the middle years plus.

"The fact is that there have been as many graduates in the last ten years as in the previous 100. The University needs to retain the support of **all** alumni and so does the Association" he said.

Recruitment to membership of the Association was much easier in earlier days when classes were small, when most students lived on campus and when students got to know lecturers on a one-to-one basis. All that has changed and in this impersonal environment students understandably do not have the same empathy with the institution many formerly knew as their alma mater. So what do we do about that?"

"This is the challenge currently being addressed by the Executive and the University.

Some Branches, notably mid-Canterbury, Christchurch and Auckland have taken steps to arrange functions appealing to the younger graduates and have active committees which make personal contact with local alumni. By next year's AGM we need to be in a position to make some decisions.

"I must thank Brian both on your behalf, and mine personally. His dedication and enthusiasm for his role is amazing. With the current structure it would be extremely difficult to run the organisation without him. He has indicated he would like to decrease his workload and this is an issue the committee is about to work through with the University.

"Thank you to all those of you who have supported the Association in various ways during the year and especially for the wonderful attendance at the AGM".

Mr Scott moved the adoption of his report which was seconded with acclamation.

Financial Report: Treasurer, Dr Derek Newman presenting the financial report noted that members' funds stood at $238,330. A successful year had resulted in another sound profit.

The meeting **resolved** to adopt the Financial Statement circulated at the meeting.

Election of Officers: The following officers were elected:

Patron: Dr Franklin Wood

President: Mr Gerard Scott

Senior Vice-President: Dr Derek Newman

Junior Vice-President: Mr Glen Johnson

Three vacancies were filled by the following nominations:

Miss Rebecca McIntosh

Mr Geoff Holgate

Mr Errol Costello

Golf Cup: The President presented the Scott Cup to Mr Ray Hampton.

Thanks: The meeting **resolved** to thank Emeritus Professor Bruce Ross for his support of the Association over many years as executive committee member and Patron.

The meeting closed at 6.40pm.



Doris Ryde pictured with her husband Bruce and former lecturer Ralph Frizzell.

WAIKATO

Sharon Orr and her committee decided on a change of date and venue and held the Branch reunion in Hamilton at the Quality Hotel on 30 July 1997. Regrettably attendance was down in spite of a large number of invitations being posted.

At the formal part of the meeting an intensive discussion took place about the alternatives open to the committee. A resolution from the floor that the next meeting be a semi-formal low cost one at the Cambridge Racecourse, was carried without dissent.

David Smyth continues to do the secretary's job in a most proficient manner.

The toast to Lincoln University was proposed by Peter Elliott (1962-63) whose father Ivor Elliott founded the Branch with Cuthbert Tebb 44 years ago. Brian Robertson replied.

The guest speaker was Hilary Weber a Director of the N.Z. Dairy Group.



Professor John Walker enjoyed meeting alumni Noel Peryman and Ralph Ballinger, students in 1937.

AUCKLAND

Steve McIsaac and committee have organised several functions during the year. These have been well attended.

November 1997 - Auckland Dinner

The next Branch reunion will be held on 7 November this year.

HAWKES BAY

Local committee, Stuart Gilmour, Gerry Elder and John Hudson attracted another good crowd to the Hawkes Bay Branch reunion on 17 June 1997.

The guest speaker was chief weather forecaster Dr Augie Auer, who spoke about the effects of weather on human health.



At the Hawkes Bay Dinner were: (left to right) Alistair Spence, Sam Robinson, Chris Dooney, Ponty Von Dadelszen, Steve Wyn-Harris and Peter Mackie.

Misses Grace Blair and Marjorie Garrett enjoyed the annual dinner with the class of 1937.



Bledisloe Medal Citation 1997

Emeritus Professor T.W. Walker

Mr Chancellor

This year the Bledisloe medal is awarded to Emeritus Professor Thomas William Walker, better known as Prof. John Walker.

The Bledisloe medal, presented at Lincoln in 1930 by the then Governor-General, Viscount Bledisloe, is awarded to a Lincoln alumnus, or current or former members of staff who in the opinion of Council has made an outstanding contribution in their chosen field, advanced New Zealand's interests and/or brought credit to Lincoln University.

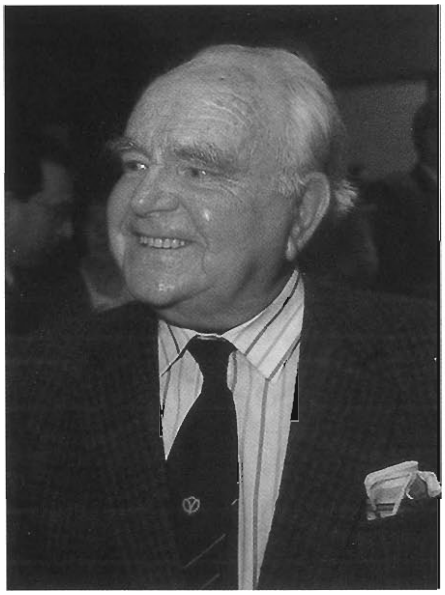
John Walker was born in Leicestershire and educated at Loughborough Grammar School where he was awarded a Royal Scholarship in Chemistry being placed first in an open examination for the whole country.

His university studies began at the Royal College of Science, London, where he completed a Bachelor's degree in Science with first class honours followed by a PhD awarded for his study of the influence of soil type on the growth of plants. He was awarded a D.Sc. by London University in 1960.

A Salter's Research Fellowship enabled him to pursue post-doctoral research for two years at Rothamsted Experimental Station. Upon the outbreak of war, Dr Walker was engaged in the food production programme examining soil-less plant production and the fertilising value of various products including phosphate rocks, flue dusts and industrial and town wastes.

His first University appointment was to Manchester University as lecturer and adviser in agricultural chemistry, which brought him face to face with farmers' agricultural problems.

Many years later he mused that what agriculture he learned was gleaned the hard way by keeping his mouth shut and ears and eyes open, which led him to hold the view that soil scientists need training in the biological sciences as well as in chemistry, physics, and maths.



At Manchester University, not only did he lecture students, advise farmers and improve laboratory methods of routine soil analysis, but also undertook research which included the composition of hay, silage and dried grass, and the chemistry of steam sterilisation of glasshouse soils.

In 1946 he joined the newly-formed National Agricultural Advisory Service as Provincial Advisory Soil Chemist working in the West Midland province of NAAS, where he addressed problems of soil and plant nutrition covering a range of agricultural and horticultural crops.

In 1950, Canterbury Agricultural College, Lincoln, invited applications for the Chair in Soil Science.

A referee described one candidate as having the enthusiasm of a true scientist with a first class inquiring mind and ability to carry out research work. He was of course referring to John Walker, the successful applicant, who left England for New Zealand on the Dominion Monarch in January 1952 with his wife and three daughters.

Thus began a distinguished 27 year long career in soil science in New Zealand interrupted only by a brief two year, aberrant stint, as Professor at Newcastle-on-Tyne.

He launched into the responsibility of his new post with vigour and enthusiasm - an enthusiasm which his students found infectious. His research focussed on the nitrogen economy of legume-based pastures, an interest which had its origins in the United Kingdom. Whilst there John Walker became impressed by the amount of nitrogen fixed by clovers and was startled at the ease with which clovers could be suppressed by fertiliser nitrogen.

Upon arrival in New Zealand his interest in the subject was stimulated by the work of Sears in the North Island and Lobb in the South.

To say that from that time John Walker became a strong proponent of biological nitrogen fixation, would be something of an understatement. Much of his research, and that of his staff and students, was concerned with the correction of nutrient deficiencies (such as sulphur, molybdenum and phosphorus) limiting the growth of legumes and as a consequence, nitrogen build up in soils.

The attempt to explain the pattern of clover responses to these nutrients, interested John Walker, and his colleague Arthur Adams, in the genesis and classification of soils.

The influence of soil forming factors (organisms, relief, climate, time and parent materials) on the level of organic matter and forms of soil phosphorus absorbed much time and effort. The study of chronosequences involved soils with similar parent rocks, relief and climate but of differing age.

The significance of pioneer nitrogen-fixing plants which colonise newly-formed soils, focussed attention on the pivotal role of phosphorus in developing ecosystems, this being the limiting major nutrient for biological nitrogen fixation.

John Walker's role in early extension activities with well known Lincoln personalities such as Hollard, Coop, McLean, Iversen, Calder and Flay who embarked on lecture tours during the vacations, allowed him to learn about other disciplines, meet farmers and propound his own philosophies with what can only be described as missionary zeal.

Over the years he has stood on many platforms, at shows, in woolsheds, in radio studios, in conference halls, in small town community halls and, in recent years, in front of television cameras.

Over that time he has espoused the role of biological nitrogen fixation through legumes, questioned the use of high rates of nitrogen fertilisers on pastures, countered the claims of some liquid fertiliser manufacturers and those who blindly dogmatise organic systems and companion planting, and has always sought to put scientific proof to the fore in the true traditions of a university professor. He can be relied upon to state his case with candour and kindness and in easily understood terms.

Following the oil crises of the early 1970's John Walker examined the energy costs and yields of New Zealand agriculture, and concluded that clover-based pastures were some twenty times more efficient in terms of non-renewable resources such as fossil fuel than pastures reliant on fertiliser nitrogen.

Professor Walker was a foundation member of the New Zealand Institute of Agricultural Science, its President, and a Fellow, President of the New Zealand Grassland Association and President and Inaugural Fellow of the New Zealand Society of Soil Science. Under the auspices of the British Council he was visiting Professor to the United Kingdom, Germany and France in 1964 and four years later was awarded a Fullbright Fellowship to Oregon State University.

He was also a Guardian of Lake Wanaka for almost twenty years and a member of the Clutha Catchment Commission.

He is a communicator, ***par excellence;*** his infectious enthusiasm and extensive knowledge not only attracted students to his door but has made him hot television property in retirement. He was an inspiration to his students, particularly those at graduate level. A fellow scientist has written of him:

"No other individual has had so profound an influence on our understanding of processes in the soil, especially at the pasture-crop interface, throughout the history of New Zealand. And because of the pioneering nature of his work, no other person is ever likely to emulate these achievements. There was no ivory tower for this scientist. Professor Walker held strong opinions about many important issues, and gave of them freely. His is a broad canvas. Unlike many scientists, he does not hide behind limitation of the data available to him. I admire Prof. Walker's willingness and ability to bridge between the imperfect information available to any of us in science, and he challenged decisions that daily face farmers and growers. Mostly he was right, while gentlemanly common sense guided him through those few instances when his views were challenged."

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Mr Chancellor, he's still at it!!

In making this award to Professor Walker, the University is honouring someone whose work has ranged widely over teaching, research and extension. Through his influence on decades of students, New Zealand society has benefited greatly.

This University is proud to add the name of Thomas William Walker to the distinguished list of Bledisloe medallists.



A section of the 300 strong audience which gathered in the Union Lounge to hear Professor John Walker's Bledisloe Address.

BLEDISLOE ADDRESS 1997
EMERITUS PROFESSOR T W WALKER

I feel very honoured indeed to have been awarded the Bledisloe Medal. I do not know if there have been many Poms awarded it. I haven't been through the list but I don't feel like a Pom any longer of course. I side for the All Blacks when they play the Lions and I am proud when the Australians get licked by everybody - apart from the South Africans. I am very qualified now to be a dinkum 100% Kiwi.

Some people have asked me about my tie. This is my old school tie and on it you can see 1495 to 1995. Two years ago I was at home celebrating the 500th anniversary of my old school! I was very proud to be there because of one man, a Chemistry Master, who has had a bigger influence on my life than anybody - except for my wife. Freddy Gray, as we called him, was a magnificent teacher. Everybody who sat School Certificate at our school passed; if they didn't they daren't come back.

There were six of us in our final year doing chemistry with Freddy Gray. All of the six did PhD's in chemistry. Two of them ended up Fellows of the Royal Society - and you can't get a higher honour than that; two finished up as Professors; and another one ended up as Head of the Soil Science Department at Rothamsted Experimental Station. Primarily because of one Chemistry Master - an excellent master - I want tonight to praise good teachers - in schools or universities - they have a vital role to play.

I want to spend some time talking about Biological Nitrogen Fixation. I was a convert to BNF before I came to New Zealand. Just after the war in Britain - when we were desperately short of food - nitrogen fertiliser was used to stimulate crop and grass production. I was plugging the heavy use of nitrogen fertiliser on our grasslands. Experiments were showing tremendous increases in yield so I was pressing dairy farmers and other grassland farmers to use nitrogen fertiliser.

The Dutch were extremely efficient at this and I went around the country saying we should be following the example of the Dutch.

Someone said to me: "Why don't you come and look at some of the pastures we have in Hereford." So I did.

I saw Hereford cattle in pastures rich in clover - no nitrogen added. These were fat, sleek animals doing wonderfully well. It made me think. So we put down some experiments using nitrogen fertiliser on various pastures and they showed quite clearly that if the pasture was fairly rich in clover we actually suppressed the yields by using nitrogen - we suppressed the clover and increased the grass and the overall effect on yields of protein was that we got a depression.

At that time Bruce Levy was in England giving talks about New Zealand pastures. I went to hear him. I happened to ask him if there were jobs going in New Zealand and he said there were. Within a few months Lincoln College, as it was then, advertised for somebody to teach Soil Science - I applied and got the job. One of the aims in my coming here was to maintain my interest in biological nitrogen fixation.

Arthur Adams will remember as well as I the very first trials we put down on the College farm - nitrogen trials on a pasture over the road. We were looking at the effects of nitrogen on clover growth and if we could overcome it by more repeated cutting. At the same time Russell Lobb was doing experiments with molybdenum and sulphur on clover. I want to pay a great tribute to Russell - he has not been appreciated as much as he should have been. Russell showed us (myself and some students - Jim White was one, Charlie Harris another and Arthur Adams) - we went down to see some of Russell's experiments where he was showing responses of clover to molybdenum and sulphur.

We put down sulphur, phosphate, and molybdenum trials and got very strong responses. We did a couple of trials on Euan Murchison's farm (Euan is here tonight) which showed quite clearly that on the phosphate rich limestone in the Weka Pass all we needed to do to stimulate clover was to apply sulphur. There were many instances with young soils that were so naturally rich in phosphate we didn't need to apply anything but sulphur and then there were other older soils where the phosphate had been leached or immobilised and where we needed both phosphate and sulphur.

On some other soils which were "acid" we needed molybdenum as well. We found that some of the soils were very deficient in rhizobia and we needed to inoculate the clover seed.

When we tried to explain the pattern of these responses I became interested in the New Zealand classification of soils - Soil Genesis - and how the soils were classified here; both the soil forming processes and the soil- forming factors. I remember going over to the Franz Joseph Glacier. Some 25,000 years ago or thereabouts the snout of the Glacier was at Okarito, near the Coast. The Glacier has been retreating off and on for 25,000 years. It has been mainly retreating although it's advancing at the moment.

Over the years the waters of the glacier deposited material and soils began to form. We were able to find soils that were 25,000 years old, 12,000 years old, 5,000, 1,000 and others younger than that. We were able to follow the changes in vegetation and the changes in soil properties...ecosystem development.

That was fascinating and what made my heart leap was to find that the first organisms to colonise the fresh material dropped by the melt waters were blue/green algae fixing nitrogen and getting all the other nutrients from the rock material. Then there were "lichens" - a mixture of fungi and blue/green algae. So lichens are able to fix nitrogen adding organic matter. Above all, one of our few native legumes *Carmichaelia grandiflora* was colonising the area very rapidly (particularly the drier areas) and adding organic matter to the soil as their leaves and roots decomposed. In addition tutu, a nodulated non-legume, can

fix nitrogen from the air just as readily as any other fixer and flourished in the wetter sites.

So we have these nitrogen fixers, colonising the dead, lifeless material, adding organic matter and nitrogen to the soil system. And as soon as that happens soil microbes come in and live on this organic matter. They digest it to get energy from it and multiply. They excrete ammonia just as we excrete urea.

Urea, as you know, is a simple organic compound, $CO(NH_2)_2$. But in the presence of water and an ubiquitous enzyme called urease which is everywhere in the soil - it converts urea to ammonium carbonate. So there is very little difference between a microbe and you! They excrete ammonia - you excrete urea and this very quickly converts to ammonia. And we get this nitrogen for free. Other bacteria get energy from converting ammonia to nitrate and non-N- fixers now have a scource of nitrogen.Thus the ecological niche for N fixers is during the early stages of soil formation and when we apply any fertiliser but N ,we are really correcting nutrient deficiencies in order to rejuvenate our soils...putting back the ecological clock.

It surprised me to discover that it was the Scots who developed the British Empire and not the English. Shortly after arriving in New Zealand I had to officiate at Lincoln's Graduation Ceremony. Some 80% of the names were Scottish. The Scots would much rather have something for nothing from the air than pay for it out of a bag,hence the New Zealand dependence on BNF.

I remember going up to Hawera to oppose the establishment of the urea plant. We lost the case of course. I thought that if we had a urea plant our grassland farmers would be stimulated, spurred and urged to use more and more nitrogen fertilisers; and that has happened.

Then of course came the energy crisis in the 1970's. The energy costs of making nitrogen fertiliser and using a lot of fossil fuel is very high. If you looked at our energy costs in New Zealand it was extremely efficient while we depended on biological nitrogen fixation rather then nitrogen fertiliser. We were producing our food at a much lower energy cost than anybody else. I think this was soon forgotten. People are still using fossil fuel. Simon Upton puts in a voice now and again to see what we are doing about all this carbon dioxide we're giving off but no-one else seems to think very much about it. Things are still going along nicely.

Then we discovered the environment and realised that we were beginning to affect it. Here is another reason we should be starting to think about biological nitrogen fixation because the more nitrogen fertiliser we use, not only are we expending a lot on fossil fuel, we are also increasing the nitrate pollution of our groundwater.

I have been delighted to note that in the last few years fertiliser companies have become very conscious of the effects of using excessive amounts of nitrogen. And so the fertiliser companies gave me almost *carte blanche* to convince our dairy farmers particularly that they should still be relying on white clover. Fancy being paid to extol the gospel of biological nitrogen fixation! Last spring,for example, I attended five field days in Taranaki, trying to convince Taranaki farmers that they should be depending more on clover and then they wouldn't get quite so much hypo-magnesaemia.

A Fishy Story

I have so many happy memories. Many alumni will remember Hec Orchiston. Hec was the most eccentric kiwi I have every known. There are not a lot of eccentrics in New Zealand compared with England - but Hec was one. I always remember how I used to fish with him. One of my reasons for coming to New Zealand was to learn how to fish. We fished at the lovely Lake Ellesmere and the old L2. Some of us from here (Ian Blair, Jack Calder, Ron Blackmore, Ham Bennet and myself) used to fish the old L2 regularly, as did Hec. I remember being out late one freezing night with Hec in October when the trout season begins, wondering why my line wasn't coming up. It was because ice was freezing the water in the rings. Another time my line happened to get caught behind me. I pulled and it wouldn't shift at all so I put my rod down and traced the line back to where the hook had caught - it had hooked in my lip. We fished with these big lures with a long feather attached, and one of these was stuck in my lip like half a RAF moustache. Hec and I tried to pull it out but it was caught in beyond the barb and it wouldn't shift at all. I said I daren't go home like this. It was about one o'clock in the morning and Hec suggested we call on old Dr Johnson. Some of you will remember Dr Johnson. A lovely fellow, deaf, charged not a penny, just lived on what the State paid him for his medical activities. Here we were at 1.30 a.m. knocking on his door. A light came on and he came shuffling to the door in a dressing gown. He just stood back on his heels and rocked with laughter. But he cut out the lure in no time and my wife didn't even know what had happened.

Extension

One of the most exciting things for me in coming here was to get out in the holidays with some of my colleagues and talk to farmers all over the South Island, and some North island farmers as well.

This is one way of getting to know the agriculture and getting the feel of things - which was a wonderful experience. You also get to know something about sheep husbandry and farm management by listening to these experts.

I vividly remember one night at Gore. Usually about four of us went on these expeditions. Two of us would speak at one public hall in the afternoon and then we would swap places and speak in another hall at night. In between we would have tea with a local farmer. I was talking that particular day with the Animal Husbandry Officer from Dunedin. We had done our speech in the afternoon and we were having tea with a farmer somewhere near Gore. We'd just finished tea when the farmer looked at me and said "You are sitting on rays". I asked "What do you mean?". He said "You are sitting on rays - there are minerals down in the soil under you and these are giving off rays and if you sit there long enough you will get some disease associated with those rays". I said "How do you know?". He fetched down a bobbin on a piece of string and he walked over to where I was sitting and the bobbin started to rotate. And then he said "I had some pigs and they suffered from tuberculosis. I went to them with the bobbin which rotated and so I shifted the sty and now I can have pigs and they don't have any TB. I can find out if you have any diseases too".

He then said "Lie down on the floor". So I lay down and he fetched out a box of twigs.

(Continued on page 28)

CLASS REUNIONS

1937

Sixty years ago Lincoln College was "home" to 12 degree and 36 diploma students.

This year nine of those returned for a reunion and a further six were unable to attend. Two of the original twelve degree students, Russell Lobb (Ashburton) and Ralph Ballinger (Blenheim) attended along with Diploma students David Deans (Darfield), Noel Peryman (Carterton), Ian Douglas (Christchurch), Ken Hamilton (Tasmania), James Kinder (Blenheim), Wilson MacKenzie (Kaikoura) and Bert Wagner (Christchurch).

There were 13 lecturing staff (including the Director, Professor Eric Hudson), 9 farm staff, a librarian (Dudley Muff), a secretary and matron (Miss Lilburne).

A new appointment that year was that of Dr M M Burns, lecturer in Soils and Manures.

Reflecting on his student days at Lincoln, Ralph Ballinger has written: "The years at Lincoln College were some of the best years of my life... with the small number of students we had more or less personal tuition in most subjects and there was a very close feeling between lecturers and students. This bond spilled over to the sports fields for tennis, cricket and rugby" and built up some fine relationships that have been important all my life".

(From *By Land and Sea* by Ralph Ballinger)



Outside Ivey Hall a group of 1937 students are entertained by a character dubbed "John the Baptist".



Visiting the "Hall of Fame" in Hudson Hall where they found the photograph of their 1937 1st XV team were the only surviving players, David Deans, Noel Peryman, Bert Wagner, James Kinder and Ralph Ballinger.



Sixty years on .... Bert Wagner, David Deans, Ken Hamilton (back), Noel Peryman, Wilson MacKenzie, Ralph Ballinger, James Kinder and Ian Douglas pose for a group photo. Absent: Russell Lobb.

1946 - 1948

Combining with the 1946 Intensive Course and 1948 first year Diploma, a large 1947 group comprising Degree, Diploma in Agriculture and VFM gathered at Lincoln in April this year.

Des McSweeney (1947 Diploma) and David Waghorn (1948 Diploma) mustered in 23 from around the globe who attended all the Lincoln functions before departing for Akaroa where reunion festivities continued until the Monday. The group met last in 1991.

Jim Stone used all his powers to cajole, coerce and persuade his Degree I colleagues to return to Lincoln for another reunion - and he did quite well attracting ten alumni and seven wives to a convivial weekend.

Rod Prickett's photo album made 1947 live again.

Sickness and other other commitments prevented many of the 46/47 Intensive/ VFM classes from attending their reunion.

Ralph Frizzell travelled from Orewa and the rest from around Canterbury.



1947 DIPLOMA I

Back left to right; *Gerry Ulrich, Lin Davies, Tony Barker, Des McSweeney, Syd Bryant, Simon Matthews, Herb Familton.*

Front left to right; *Penny Ulrich, Graham McCarlie, Lorraine McCarlie, Ruth Matthews, Jenny Bryant, Marie McSweeney, Ross McCarlie, Val Familton.*



1947 DEGREE

Back left to right; *Geoff Mead, Dale Walker, Laurie Thomson, Murray Darling, John Scott, Nelson Cullen, Jim Stone, Ken Chapman.*

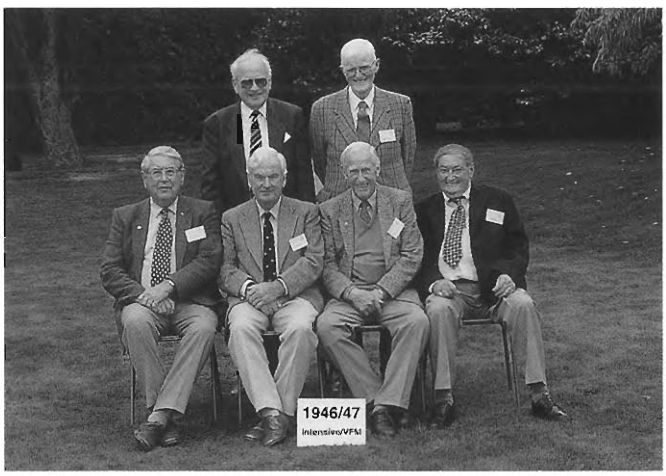
Front left to right; *Ted Ayson, Heather Walker, Shirley Thomson, Verna Darling, Margaret Scott, Barbara Cullen, Patricia Stone, Anne Chapman, Rod Prickett.*



1948 DIPLOMA I

Back left to right; *Jim Mitchell, Russ Fitzgerald, David Waghorn, Eoin Johnson, Roger Preston, Ray Menzies.*

Front left to right; *Jeff Kofoed, Blair Neiderer, Graeme Malden, Tony Hutchings, Dick Matthews, Bill Corbett, Ross Stuart, Hugh Latimer.*



1946/47 INTENSIVE/VFM

Back left to right; *Ralph Frizzell, Angus McKay.*

Front left to right; *Frank Jackson, Les Bennetts, Dixon Reaves, William Baxter.*

1957 DIP II

Eighteen of the 43 who enrolled in the second academic session in 1957 attended the class reunion in April at Lincoln University and they came from the far North, Australia and as far away at the UK where Michael Pirkis is the sole class representative.

The group resolved to hold another reunion in the near future.



Back row left to right; *Simon Beaven, Robert Wilson, Peter Warren, Norman Hobbs, Alan Taggart, Julian Thorpe, Bill Brook.*

Front left to right; *Duncan MacFarlane, Donald Boyd, Gordon Butcher, John Shuttleworth, Bruce Taylor, George Clark, Alistair Ferguson, Allister Black.*

*(**Absent:** Bevan Hurst, Peter Meares, Michael Pirkis)*



Standing left to right; *Jim White, Wade Briscoe, Grahaeme Mars, Dave Nicoll, David Webster, Stewart Skeet, Gary McKay, Tony Millson, Aird Wells, Jack Smales, Don Todd, Ian Mollison, Brian Neilson, Rod Plank.*

Front left to right; *Nelson Russ, Allen Johnson, Murray McIver, Stuart Morice, Dave Bulman.*

1960 VFM

This class enjoyed yet another reunion, this time at Akaroa from 1 - 4 March 1996, and the formal dinner was attended by 18 of 22 surviving graduates. In all 37 attended including special guests, Professor Jim White and his wife Barbara.

Apart from socialising, activities included an Akaroa Harbour cruise on the Canterbury Cat; a memorable visit to the Hinewai Conservation Reserve with an address from botanist Hugh Wilson; a visit to the Maori Museum at Okains Bay; and finally a tour of Lincoln University and lunch in the refectory.

At the formal dinner the toast list gave everyone the opportunity to speak, and the main toast to Lincoln was proposed in grand style by Wade Briscoe, and responded to by Jim White.

The next reunion was set down for the year 2000.

The group was shocked to learn only eight days after the reunion, that co-organiser Grahaeme Mars, lost his life in a mountaineering accident.

1962/3 DIPLOMA AND INTENSIVE REUNION

The idea of a reunion of our 62/3 diploma class sprang from a telephone conversation with Nigel Simpson when he was in New Zealand about a year ago. The suggestion was floated past Paul Buist, Frank Ferraby and Howard Morley who all thought, what a great idea. In June 1996 the suggestion was made to Brian Robertson - who we all know is the man to organise these things; thanks Brian. The chosen day 11 April 1997, arrived and started for me at about 5.30am, to be sure of getting to Hamilton airport by 6.30 am. While pacing about waiting for departure I met Peter Elliott, for the first time in about 30 years. A sense of deja-vu. It was in Tuam Street, Christchurch, in early March 1962 that I first met Peter; he, like me, was looking for Days Motors depot, to catch the bus to the adventure of attending Lincoln College.

On 11 April 1997, 35 years after that day in March 1962 a good proportion of the team regathered, including those from the intensive course and the 1964 VFM class. A total of 32 people plus wives and sweethearts turned up to cries of "you haven't changed a bit", and gathered in the Kauri room at Lincoln. It was soon proved that stamina is a lasting trait, with comments about the slowness of post midnight bar service.

Nearly all were staying in the Lincoln hostels so gathered for breakfast in the refectory and soon after along with other groups attending reunions were shown about the Lincoln campus. The highlight for most was being shown through the library and all would agree that while Lincoln has expanded hugely since the early 1960s it has retained a spacious rural environment. Of note to us was that the "short course" building, the home of first year diploma students for so many years has survived and is now providing office accommodation. Having had motorbikes ridden up one stairway along the top corridor and down the other stairway really did not do any lasting damage it seems.

After lunch on the Saturday all groups holding reunions assembled on the refectory lawn for photographs. After much mirth a reasonable standard of photography was achieved.



Back row; *Willis Hannan, Laurie Rennie, Frank Shand, John Jackman, Meredith Lowe, Stewart Anderson.*

Middle row; *Frank Ferraby, Paul Buist, Ken Whitehead, Tim Riley, Tony Fraser, Graham Lill, Howard Morley, Derek Barton, Chris LeCren, Jim Gardiner, Ray Hampton.*

Front row; *Alister Bland, Jeremy Burdon, Peter Elliott, Harry Murdoch, David Smyth, Bales Elliot, Jim Carter, John Leitch, John Westgarth, Robin Gregg, Chris Sheppard, Bob Edwards.*

Absent; *John Hicks, Rob Warden, Gerry Smith*

After the photos our group gathered in one of the instantly recognisable Hudson Hall common rooms - 'but they have carpeted the floors' for a reunion meeting. Apologies from Roger Crossman, John Ebert, Mike Harty, Julian Holderness, John McLachan, Maynell Findlater, Geoff Wilson and Tom Seaton (all diploma group) and Frank Davidson, Neil Franks, John Hartnell, Colin Kelly, David Maling, John McCurdy, John Piebenga, Arthur Ranken and Andrew Scott (intensive courses) were received. A roll call was held when everyone briefly traced the last 35 years. This was followed by a resolution that we would all gather again in Melbourne in the autumn of the year 2002. Harry Murdoch was appointed by decree to organise the Australia end and David Smyth, also by decree, was appointed to organise the New Zealand end.

After all this formal stuff most journeyed to the Taitapu pub - just to check that it was still there. That establishment was also instantly recognisable along with the road between Lincoln and Taitapu. One could, with reflection, picture an upturned 1938 v8 at a certain corner.

On Saturday evening we along with all others attending reunions and the Alumni AGM gathered for pre dinner drinks in the Kauri room. We were addressed by this years Bledisloe Medallist Professor John Walker. He spoke with great panache and warmth about his time at Lincoln and regaled us with undiminished enthusiasm on his favourite subject, biological nitrogen fixation. It is always a privilege to enjoy such eloquence.

The remainder of the Saturday evening, which extended to the small hours of Sunday, was spent at the Alumni dinner in the refectory where about 290 people enjoyed the good provisions of the Lincoln catering staff. There has definitely been some considerable movement upmarket since 1962/3.

By Sunday the pace was beginning to show a little. The breakfast attendance was however good and after packing up and moving out of the comfortable hostels the more hardy of those gathered at the Dux Delux at the Arts Centre in Christchurch and chatting and catching up continued along with good quantities of coffee until about 4.00pm when the last few headed for home.

It was an excellent weekend and repetition should be compulsory.

David Smyth

1967 DIP I

Errol Costello helped mightily to co-ordinate the reunion of his class - one of the largest Diploma classes ever with 198 students. It is interesting to note that in 1962 there were 53 students in Diploma I (94% were resident on campus). Five years later 198 enrolled of whom 64% were resident.

Thirty years on we managed to trace 144 and of those over 30 returned for a class reunion. There were several apologies.

Many in the class went on to do Dip VFM and that group had previously held reunions. Plans are afoot for a reunion in 2007. Be there!



Back row left to right; Taff Anstey, Roy Chapman, Ian Coulter, Digger McCullough, Peter McDonnell.

Middle row left to right; Dave Andrew, Graeme Quilter, Grant Meaclem, Murray Giera, Gerry Ford, Russell Hecker, Tony Walsh, Will Barclay, Mike Schaper, Richard Forbes, Chris Neilson.

Front row left to right; Dave Patillo, Michael Gould, Ant Dale, Alan Stewart, Ross Clark, Denis Milne, Peter Scaife, Rodger Slater, Ed Shand, Alan Sewell, Errol Costello, Mark Thompson.

LINCOLN STUDENT OFF TO WORLD PLOUGHING CHAMPS

Lincoln University Diploma student Nicola Smith was placed second in this year's Mobil Silver Plough finals at Tapanui; the first woman to do so.

Nicola will represent New Zealand at the World Ploughing Championships in Germany next year along with Bobby Mehrtens from Timaru who won the competition.

Nicola is carrying on a family tradition - her father Bruce has also ploughed for New Zealand at the world champs.

Flabbergasted with her win, Nicola says she knew she was ploughing well, but not that well. She came fifth in the stubble ploughing and picked up the bronze medal for the grass ploughing. "It was enough to pull her up," said proud father Bruce.

Nicola came third last at the Mobil Silver Plough last year and says all she was aiming for was to move up a place. "When they read out my name as runner-up I thought it was a mistake," she said. Her friends from the Waihora Young Farmers' Club were on hand to witness the historic occasion. The club will be running the Mobil Silver Plough at Lincoln next year.

Nicola has been ploughing for about five years and was under the tutelage of another outstanding New Zealand ploughman, Gordon Carter, who has represented the country twice at the world championships.

Nicola, who recently bought a gorse cutting business, says she'll have to get it cranked up - to save for next year's trip.



Nicola Smith (photo:Otago Daily Times)

Dancing in Mongolia

Dr Marta Treskonova, an ecologist, has undertaken consultancies for Lincoln International in both Inner Mongolia, an autonomous region of China, and the country of Mongolia, formerly known as Outer Mongolia. In 1995 she evaluated rangeland monitoring processes in Mongolia, leading to the establishment of criteria for sustainable management of grasslands. In late 1996 she began assessment of the impact of the AusAID funded Inner Mongolia Grasslands Conservation Project, a role in which she will continue for the next five years.



Dr Marta Treskonova

I knew that there were differences between Outer and Inner Mongolia, but I only understood these differences after I worked in both places. Outer Mongolia, the original Mongol territory, comprises an area about six times larger than New Zealand and is inhabited by 2.5 million people and about 25 million domestic animals. It became the first communist country after Russia in 1921, and remained communist until 1992. Many Mongolians were educated in Russia or in Eastern European countries. In Outer Mongolia, we found skilled scientists, brilliant maps, books on plants, animal and other physical sciences, and a perfectly set up Geographic Information System.

Outer Mongolians do not consider themselves to be Asians; rather, they feel more of an affinity with Europe through their association with the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe during most of this century. They certainly do not eat typical Asian food, which features rice and vegetables. Instead, meat, milk and flour, made into dumplings, are the main food items. Nearly half of the population live in cities; most of the rest still live a nomadic lifestyle on the vast grassland areas. Mongolians themselves are a very passionate, rugged people with a wry sense of humour.

In Inner Mongolia, a northern autonomous region of China, Mongolians are an ethnic minority, forming 16% of the total population of almost 23 million. They share an area four times larger than New Zealand with about 67 million domestic animals. They have Mongolian schools, government offices, and strong feelings for their cultural heritage. Most writing is in both Chinese and Mongolian, which is written in vertical lines. Once you are there, you can quickly distinguish between the wide-faced, stocky and outspoken Mongolians and the more slender and quiet Chinese.

Mongolians in China abandoned the nomadic life-style long ago, while retaining pastoralism and leaving most agricultural activities to the Chinese. They keep some of the Mongolian traditions even more alive than in Outer Mongolia. Visitors are treated to a ceremony in which a bowl of strong alcohol is presented, along with a white silk scarf, all accompanied by an amazing high-pitched singing. It is also an old tradition to dip your ring finger into the drink to see that there is no poison to change the colour of your ring and that you are among friends. The ceremony is usually a part of dinner parties, with an abundance of Chinese rather than Mongolian food.

Despite cultural differences due to Russian and Chinese influences, there are great similarities between Outer and Inner Mongolia in landscape, vegetation and climate. Both places include vast areas of grasslands, the natural steppes as wide as the sea. During the communist era, these natural resources were considered endless and were exploited heavily. With the collapse of the command economy in 1989 in Inner Mongolia and in 1992 in Outer Mongolia, all the animals were privatised, while land remained in common. At that stage, the traditional grazing systems were forgotten and the systems enforced through collectivisation were abandoned. As a result, the more accessible areas have become seriously depleted, and the areas previously kept for winter pastures and for hay making are grazed out during summer.

Traditionally, the most important management aim was to increase animal production. During the last decades animal production has stagnated, despite considerable foreign investment and the efforts of local people. Various statistics and analyses have suggested that the main cause for this stagnation is the inability of depleted land to support any large animal population. During the 1995 Lincoln International mission to Outer Mongolia, this discrepancy between the availability of resources and the ambitions for using them was made clear. Outer Mongolians put a lot of effort into creating land policies, planning a new tenure system and learning about sustainable management.

As scientists, we have used our experience from ecological research and the implementation of the Resource Management Act in New Zealand. From the scientific point of view, however, benefits also accrue to New Zealand. The processes of degradation, desiccation and desertification of grasslands in Central Asia are very obvious and provide an opportunity to recognise the principles and rules of these processes also taking place in New Zealand. In Inner Mongolia, the tendencies to change present land use are more spontaneous. The Chinese part of the population is increasingly involved in growing crops on land previously used for grazing. Under present laws such activities are illegal and are viewed by the Mongolian minority with dislike. In a project funded by Australia (A$8 million), the most sustainable solutions for land management are being sought. Among a number of Australian experts, two New Zealanders are also involved in this five-year project: Richard Holloway in the role of agricultural economist, and myself as rangeland ecologist.

I had a few weeks of feverish field work in late 1996 to determine the potential of grassland resources, before the short Inner

Mongolian summer came to an end. The project has been through the first phase of preparing the implementation document and persuading the Chinese government to invest their share of 8 million yuan (NZ$800,000) to support the project. This involved numerous meetings, presentations and seminars, followed by banquets and dancing parties, which provided new opportunities to improve communication.

I always knew that the Chinese could cook and enjoyed eating, but I had no idea of the love of both Chinese and Mongolians for dancing. I would never have thought that the years of ballroom dancing training would have come in handy in my consultancy career. On many evenings we sat in conference with government officials and scientists, with our interpreters busily translating back and forth. After a meal, the foxtrots and quicksteps struck up. Communications continued even without interpreters. This is just another example of how important it is that international consultants are overall and versatile people, who are able to cope with every situation!

Marta Treskonova

Alumnus wins recognition at Chelsea Flower Show



Ross (centre background) with his award - winning display at Chelsea.

Ross Allan (Dip.Ag. 1984-85) has won international recognition for creative talents. At the Chelsea Flower Show, London, in 1995 Ross took the prestigious Merit Award for Excellence for a stand designed for Crowthers of Syon House a firm specialising in displaying, buying and selling huge marble garden ornaments.

His involvement with Crowthers began in 1990 following a period with Barnes of South-west London. Since then he had been contracted to undertake various landscaping projects for Syon House.

Ross is an old boy of Dunsandel Primary School and Waitaki Boys' High School (1976-80), where he specialised in graphic design towards the end of his schooling. It was around this time his talents were recognised and a promotional pamphlet designed by himself and another pupil was used in Oamaru.

Rather than opting for commercial art, Ross followed outdoor pursuits, studying at Lincoln, and graduating with a Diploma of Agriculture before travelling overseas.

Ross has been a permanent London resident since his marriage to actress Emma Davies (daughter of actor Geoffrey Davies of TV comedy "Doctor in the House" fame).

He is the son of Dunsandel peony specialists, John and Julie Allan and brother of Lincoln Alumna Sally (Dip.Hort and Dip Field Tech 1985-86).

AWARD FOR LINCOLN ALUMNUS

Rod Patterson of Longslip Station near Omarama has won the CRT Significant Achievement Award.

On Longslip he has put his MAgSc degree to practical use: the 15,000 hectare property has been used as a large scale research site, almost from the time he returned from Lincoln in the late 1970s. It had been the family property and traditionally farmed.

Within five years, stock units on the station had soared from 6000 to 18,000. Land was topdressed, oversown and direct drilled, and 300km of permanent fencing was erected, increasing the seven blocks to 70. An extensive network of roads was also developed.

In the mid-1980s he set out to breed merino sheep with footrot resistance, starting with a selected flock of 1000 ewes, and progeny testing rams to identify superior sires.

In the early 1990s, he began a journey that is still in progress - the identification of legumes suited to the South Island high country environment. This self-funded project has taken him to America and to the central Caucasus mountains in Georgia, now an independent state of Russia.

In 1995, he initiated a joint study with the Georgian Department of Botany to investigate the legume forage species in the Caucasus. These Caucasian clovers were thriving in soils and climates similar to the South Island high country.

They were also thriving in plant communities that had a comparative abundance of hieracium species. However, the hieracium was dominated by the Caucasian clovers.

On Longslip he has established more than 30 trials of different Caucasian clover ecotypes. About 400ha have been sown out with the clover and another 500ha oversown. While there was still more research work and selection needed, he said the initial results were very encouraging.

"My fascination with Caucasian clovers began when I was at Lincoln, more than two decades ago. The effort I've put into bringing them to Longslip is part of a much



Rod Patterson pictured with Kevin O'Connor, emeritus Professor of Range Management.

(Photo: Otago Daily Times)

larger mission. If we get it right this legume could revive the high country."

Rodney Patterson was awarded the CRT Significant Achievement Award for 1997, at a recent meeting of the Otago section of the NZ Institute of Agricultural Science.

Brought up in the Upper Waitaki, Rod Patterson (42) went from secondary school to Lincoln where he gained a BAgSc and then began his studies for a masters degree. His masters was based on oversowing and top-dressing in the high country. His mentors were Terry Ludecke, Kevin O'Connor, Jim White and Phil Tonkin.

In 1977, his father became ill and the Lincoln studies were suspended. (The MAgSc was eventually completed in 1993). It was when the Government wanted farmers to lift production and incentives were readily available. Longslip was ideally placed to lift production and the Rural Bank gave every encouragement to an enthusiastic 22-year-old with a background in agricultural science.

Rod Patterson said it was the chance of which every young farmer dreamt. All stops were pulled out and within five years stock units had trebled from 6000 to 18000.

Over the past 18 years 6000ha have been top-dressed and oversown, 900ha disc drilled and 500ha cultivated. Sheep numbers lifted from 7000 producing 21,000kg of wool to 17,000 sheep producing 75,000kg of merino wool. Lambing percentages have lifted from about 50% to 95%, and cattle numbers had been increased from 100 to 500.

By the mid-1980s the development phase was replaced by the survival phase and Longslip struggled with interest rates at times as high as 30%. In the high country, runholders were finding the traditional pastures were starting to run out, hieracium was taking hold and rabbits taking over.

For a period the good returns from merino wool allowed runholders to work on these problems. When merino returns slumped vast tracts of land were at risk. Longslip could not escape and, with such large areas developed, was close to the edge.

Rod Patterson said the rabbit problem was under control but it cost more than $50,000 a year. The emphasis had been on secondary work such as dogging, night shooting and some helicopter work. RCD would be a big help. Longslip had an employee dedicated to rabbit control. Rabbit control was in effect a 70c a kg tax on every kilogram of wool produced on Longslip, he said.

He had retained a fascination with Caucasian clover and in the early 1990s visited trial plots of the clovers set out in the 1970s by Terry Ludecke and Alan Nordmeyer. The results were impressive, the Caucasian clovers had spread out from the original plots and were holding their own against other species, including hieracium, with no fertiliser.

Information about the trial plots was vague, the seed had come from Australia and was all that was available at the time. There was no information on the environment it had come from and at that time scientists did not have the funding to undertake any research on the clover.

His own research showed the Australian seed had been gathered from the Russian province of Georgia in the early 1930s. In the early 1990s, Russia was heading towards a civil war and no-one was prepared to put up the money and do more research on the clover in Georgia.

Five years ago, Rod Patterson made an application to Russia for permission to study the plant communities in the Caucasus mountains of Georgia. Two years ago he got a reply: he would be welcome as part of a joint venture.

In the Bol'shoy Kavkaz mountains of Georgia he found a diverse range of pasture plants in resilient low-input pastures. These pastures were growing at altitudes of 3000m. The mountain tops on Longslip were about 1900m, with most of the developed country in the 650m to 1200m range.

With the introduction of rusts to control hieracium, there was a need for a plant that was competitive, persistent, fertiliser-efficient, acid and aluminium tolerant, he said.

Several legumes brought back from the Bol'shoy Kavkaz mountains were being evaluated. As well as the Caucasian clovers there were zigzag and sulphur clovers and a creeping lucerne.

(Courtesy, Otago Daily Times)

The President and Executive of Lincoln University Alumni Association

extend an invitation to alumni and partners to the

1997 ALUMNI SPRING DINNER

on Saturday 11 October 1997
in the Kauri Room
at 7.30pm

Guest Speaker:
Mr Kel Sanderson
Lincoln Alumnus and BERL Economist

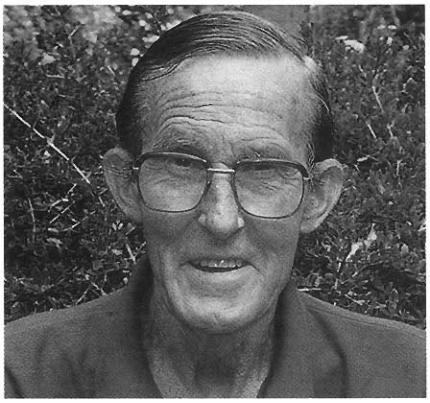
Pre-dinner drinks in the Union Lounge at 7.00pm.

Tickets $35 (*includes table wine and beverages*)

RSVP by 7 October 1997 to Alumni Office, Box 15, Lincoln University.

OBITUARIES

Derek Austin (1946-47) ***died in Hastings on 10 July 1997.***



After completing the Diploma in Agriculture course Mr Austin joined the Department of Agriculture as a Sheep and Wool Instructor in Auckland. Responsible for developing flock selection using measurable parameters he was involved also with the early tests of scoured wool. Later he developed production line testing of greasy wool samples. He designed and built much of the equipment himself.

In the early 1970s he was the first New Zealand technical representative to the International Wool Textile Organisation. He had a leading role in drafting and gaining acceptance for the early international test methods and sampling regulations.

In recognition of his very significant contribution to the wool industry, Mr Austin was made an Honorary Life Member of the Massey Wool Association.

He retired in Havelock North.

Ivor Batchelor (1930-1931) ***died at Timaru on 1 August 1996. He was 85.***



Born in Waimate Ivor was the youngest of 12 children. Whilst still a youngster he moved with his family to Southland and attended Riverton High School. He was in his second year of study at Lincoln when one of his brothers died necessitating his leaving Lincoln to help on the home farm.

He enlisted in the second NZEF and served in Africa and Greece. On his return he took up carpentry and was a builder for over 20 years. He retired on a few acres at Fairview and was a regular attender with his wife Ruth at South Canterbury Branch reunions.

Bruce Cleary (1935-1936) ***died in Auckland early in January 1997. He was 80.***



Mr Cleary, whose family roots in Lyttelton extended back to before the arrival of the First Four Ships, received his early education at Elmwood Primary and Christchurch Boys' High schools. He later studied farm management at Rangiora before completing a two-year Diploma of Agriculture course at Lincoln College.

In 1938, Mr Cleary travelled to England to accept a short-term service commission in the Royal Air Force where he graduated as a bomber pilot. He was posted to 47 Squadron in North Africa in 1939 and was later involved in the allied forces operations and training with bomber command in England.

He returned to New Zealand in 1946 with his English wife and a son, Anthony, now a magistrate in Birmingham, and furthered his academic qualifications at Christchurch Teachers' College and the University of Canterbury where he gained a diploma and advanced diploma in education and teaching, and a MA in psychology.

After remarriage, Mr Cleary moved to Ruatoria with his wife, Joyanna, and their four young sons to take up a position as head of the mathematics department at Ngata Memorial College. Two years later he was appointed lecturer in principles and practices of teaching at Ardmore Teachers' College.

After his retirement, Mr Cleary embarked on what he considered was the most satisfying period of this career, that of a clinical psychologist in private practice. Seven years ago, he suffered serious head injuries in a road accident. He visited Lincoln regularly and attended a class reunion in 1995.

Bill Gatenby (1961-63) ***died suddenly on 25 August 1997. He was 57.***



Bill was educated at the Geelong Church of England Grammar School and worked on the family farm at Cressy Tasmania before coming to Lincoln. He completed the Intensive course and the Wool Certificate before doing the VFM Diploma in 1963. He graduated in 1964.

Mr Gatenby (with his brother John also a Lincoln alumnus) was a member of the Australian Rules team which beat Massey 44-33 in 1961.

Returning to Australia Mr Gatenby qualified in urban valuation and in addition to farming cattle established the firm of Gatenby Reed, Real Estate Agents, Valuers and Rural Consultants. He was State President of the Liberal Party and Vice-president at Federal level.

Jim Holderness (1938-39) ***Honorary Life Member died at Akaroa on September 3, 1996. He was 79.***



Mr Holderness had a very long association with Lincoln first as a student in 1938 when he served on the Student Executive Committee, played in the 1st XV (coached by Ian Blair) and excelled at athletics. He interrupted his studies to join the armed services. He was a very active member of the Old Students' Association being president in 1957-8 and committee member for many years. His service to the Association was recognised with an Honorary Life Membership.

He became a member of Council for 31 years, and served as Chairman for seven years from 1960. At the time of his retirement from Council the Chairman, Mr Sid Hurst paid tribute to an outstanding record of dedicated service to the College.

Jim was educated at Christ's College from 1931 to 1935 where he was prefect and captain of the First XV, rowing captain, and athletics and heavy-weight boxing champion.

He was a founding board member of Medbury School from 1955 to 1959, then later served on the St Margaret's School Board from 1960 to 1970.

A farmer at Gebbies Valley, Mr Holderness won a Nuffield farming scholarship to Britain and Europe in 1954 and was appointed to the Lyttelton Harbour Board in the mid-1970s.

His first wife, Joan, died in March, 1977, and he married Lois Armstrong in 1980. The same year he retired to Akaroa where he became involved in the restoration and relocation of the Akaroa lighthouse.

Murray King (1943-1944) ***died in March. He was 71.***



A well-known soil conservator in the Wairarapa and a staunch Lincoln alumnus, Murray was a foundation member of the Wairarapa Farm Forestry Association. As its first secretary, from 1956 to 1959, he worked very hard to encourage farmers, and others, to join the ranks and plant trees. As chief soil conservator of the Wairarapa Catchment Board he was well placed to foster interest in planting for soil conservtion, shelter and shade. Although he wasn't a *Pinus radiata* fan, he acknowledged that a well-tended farm woodlot of radiata pine was profitable for posts and timber, and had a soil conservation value as well.

He was a leading light at the first NZ Farm Forestry Conference in Masterton in 1967, and in 1987 he was conference secretary and helped organise the 300 odd delegates in Masterton. One of the field days of that conference was held at Murray's farm, "Laghmor", in Mauriceville, and members were able to see and admire his well-planned planting programme using a wide variety of species successfully.

At the 1988 conference in Dunedin he received the North Island Farm Forester of the Year award. He was a strong supporter of the Alumni Association and attended his class's 50th Jubilee reunion in 1993.

John Lilburn ***died on August 13 1995. He was 69.***



Educated at Pukeroa Primary School, St George's Prepartory School and Wanganui Collegiate, Mr Lilburn went on to gain his Diploma in Agriculture from Lincoln College and then farmed Drysdale Station, which had been broken in by his grandfather, Robert Lilburn.

In 1956 he married Jean Holloway in England and the couple returned to Drysdale Station.

His love of the land saw Mr Lilburn purchase Ferndale Station in 1974 and run it in combination with Drysdale Station - a total of 12,000 acres.

Interested in community affairs from an early age, Mr Lilburn while still a single man took on the chairmanship of the Pukeroa School.

He also served on Hunterville's St Andrew's Presbyterian Church Board of Managers; was a former chairman of the Hunterville branch of the National Party; a former president of the Otairi Pukeroa Sports Club and a life member of the Otairi Pukeroa Collie Club.

In 1968 Mr Lilburn became a member of the then Rangitikei County Council, representing the Otairi Riding for 12 years.

Mr Lilburn often spoke warmly of his years at Lincoln.

William Albert (Bert) Lunn (1943-44) ***died at his home in Alexandra on December 21, 1996. He was 70.***

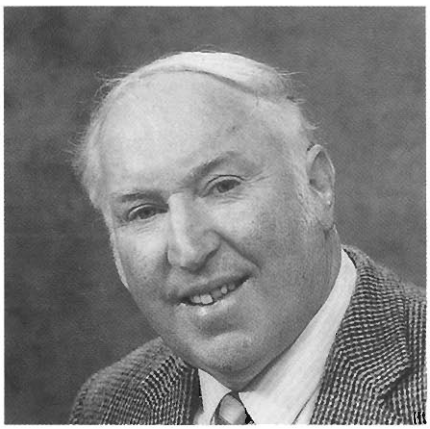


A keen supporter of Lincoln Mr Lunn achieved fame on the rugby field achieving All Black status in 1949. He played for the Pirates Rugby Club in Dunedin, represented Otago during that team's golden era and played in the loose in the All Black scrum against Australia in two Bledisloe Cup matches.

After completing diploma studies at Lincoln Mr Lunn joined the Department of

Agriculture in 1946, serving as a farm advisory officer in Alexandra, Ranfurly and Dunedin. He retired in 1986. He attended the reunion of the 1943 class in 1993.

Charles Moffat (1940-41) ***died in Southland on October 20, 1996. He was 74.***

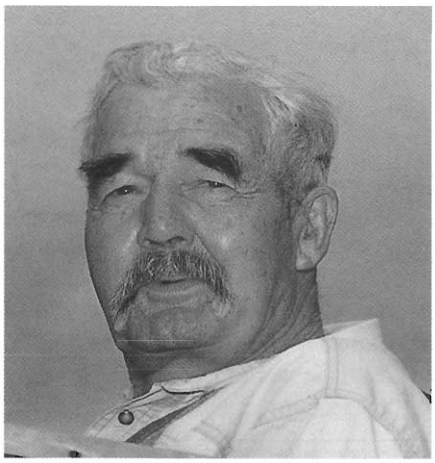


A staunch stalwart at Lincoln and regular attender at reunions, Charles was gold medallist in 1941. Whilst a student he played in the 1st XV and excelled at athletics.

During the war he served in the Army, Air Force and finished as a pilot in the Fleet Air Arm with the rank of Sub/Lieutenant.

In 1946 he farmed 152 hectares of browntop and rabbits developing it into an excellent unit he named "Hidden Springs". The shelter and amenity plantings he did remain a testament to his vision and energy. He lived at Eastern Bush which he called "The Beautiful Land". His two sons, Lincoln and Geoff and grandson Warwick are Lincoln alumni.

James H (Jim) McCaw D.F.C. (1939-40) ***died on December 16, 1996 at Clyde. He was 76.***



Described by a classmate as "a real good sort, easy-going and a bit of a dare-devil," Mr McCaw, who reached the rank of flight-lieutenant and won the Distinguished Flying Cross, was credited with having downed 20 of the gyro-controlled bombs the Germans launched against southern England in 1944.

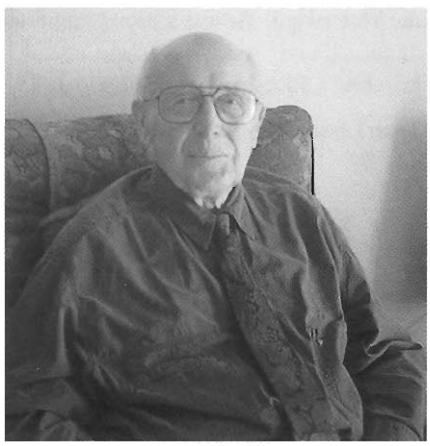
He accounted for three V1s in a single sortie while serving with 486 Squadron, one of two New Zealand fighter-bomber units which flew Typhoons and Tempests against the pilotless, jet-engined missiles.

Mr McCaw earned a place in the squadron's history for an attack on a V1 in an aircraft fitted with a special camera. The air force wanted to find out just what happened when cannon fire exploded the bomb in mid-air. Mr McCaw was so intent on his mission that he got too close to the missile and was unable to take evasive action when it blew up. He had to fly through the blast, which stripped the paint from his Typhoon's wings and produced an unmatched photographic record.

Later in the war, Mr McCaw was a test pilot for Napier Ltd, an aircraft enginemaker.

After the war he took up farming in the Hakataramea Valley, where he was one of the first to develop bulk grain handling. He was an ardent soil conservator and served for many years on the Waitaki Catchment Commission. While a member of the Waimate District Council he helped establish the Hakataramea Water Scheme. He retired in Wanaka in 1984.

Ken McKinnon (1921-22) ***died in Taupo on June 22 1987. He was 96.***



Ken McKinnon began his degree studies at Otago University and entered Lincoln College in 1921. He was contemporary of former Director Eric Hudson. He was a member of the first fifteen under the captaincy of Roy Calder.

In 1924 he was appointed Instructor in Agriculture with the Auckland Education Board and was stationed in the Bay of Plenty.

In 1927 he was transferred to Hamilton with a district extending from Huntly, Thames and Waihi to Taumarunui and Rotorua. There were eleven District High Schools in the area and over fifty primary schools so there was not timetabled science teaching and the work was limited to an advisory capacity.

Ken's next move was to Wellington in 1928 where he was appointed Lecturer in Science and Nature Study at the Wellington Teachers' Training College. As an economy measure, Wellington and Dunedin Colleges were closed at the end of 1932. The word "redundancy" was not thought of and staff found alternative positions for themselves.

Ken found a position as Head of Seddon Primary School but in September of 1934 returned to technical education as Head of Rural Science at Southland Technical High School.

While in Southland he was one of a small group which established the Southland Branch of the Old Students Association being its first President. He remained in Southland for twelve years.

In 1946 he was appointed to succeed Dr L J Wild as Headmaster of Feilding Agricultural High School. He served fourteen years as Headmaster and then retired to Taupo at the beginning of 1961.

During and after his retirement Ken took an active part in community affairs. While in Feilding he had his year as President of the Feilding Rotary Club and continued Rotary membership in Taupo.

Continued on page 30

CHIPS OFF BLOCKS

FIRST DAY STUDENTS - THE DEANS AND WOOD CONNECTION - FOUR GENERATIONS OF SHANDS, ISLAND HILLS

In his "Life and work at Canterbury Agricultural College" Ian Blair wrote that "a great deal of what is related in this history of the early years at Lincoln comes from the papers, and the sharp memory of Charles Wood", the second student to enrol when Lincoln's School of Agriculture opened on July 19, 1880. He arrived 15 minutes after H.A. (Harry) Knight who was later to chair the Board of Governors at Lincoln and become a significant benefactor and successful farmer at Racecourse Hill.

Together they were part of a group of 11, dubbed by Wood "the eleven apostles" who were resident at Lincoln in 1880. Another two lived off campus.

This year, 117 years later two of their grandsons, both alumni, attended the Annual Alumni Dinner at Lincoln University.

David Deans of Malvern, descendant of John and Jane Deans who arrived in Canterbury in 1853, was a diploma student in 1936-37 and one of the 13 students in the first Valuation and Farm Management Diploma class in 1938.

Harry Knight whose daughter Norah married Alexander Deans in 1915 farmed Racecourse Hill where in some years he grew as much as 1600 acres of wheat. He pioneered the use of the solid straw Tuscan variety. He bred Southdown and English Leicester sheep and was a very successful racehorse breeder.

He was a company director, Chairman of Malvern County for 25 years and member of the Canterbury Agricultural College Board of Governors for over 30 years and Chairman for eleven. He generously donated a large sum to enable the Old Students' Association to erect Memorial Hall.

In 1930 Mr Knight was the first recipient of the Bledisloe Medal. He died in October 1935.

Charles Wood was the third son of William Derisley Wood who arrived in Canterbury on the Randolph in 1850. He established the first flour mill in Christchurch. After completing three years of study at Lincoln, Charles took over the management of the Swyncombe run, Kaikoura. About five years later he bought part of the run he called Lynton Downs.

While he was in the district Mr Wood was chairman of the Kaikoura County Council, captain of the Kaikoura Mounted Rifles and chairman of directors of the Kaikoura Dairy Company.

In 1907 he sold Lynton Downs and went with his wife (formerly Miss Lucy Flower, of Kaikoura) and family, to England, where he remained for three years for the children's education.

On his return to New Zealand Mr Wood bought a house in Leinster Road and, in partnership with Mr Basil Seth-Smith (a Lincoln student in 1892) bought the Cheddar Valley run at Waiau. He ultimately took over full ownership of the run and sold it in 1953.

During World War I he was a leading figure in the Citizens' Defence Corps in Christchurch and also in its later role as a body voluntarily assisting in the rehabilitation of demobilised servicemen.

His son, D.T. Wood, was a student at Lincoln in 1909-11. One of his daughters married Donald Sinclair-Murchison whose son Euan did the Intensive Course in 1953. Of Euan's five sons, four are graduates of Lincoln - Richard (1978-81), Stephen (1983-86) Hugh (1982-87) and Edward (1990-93).

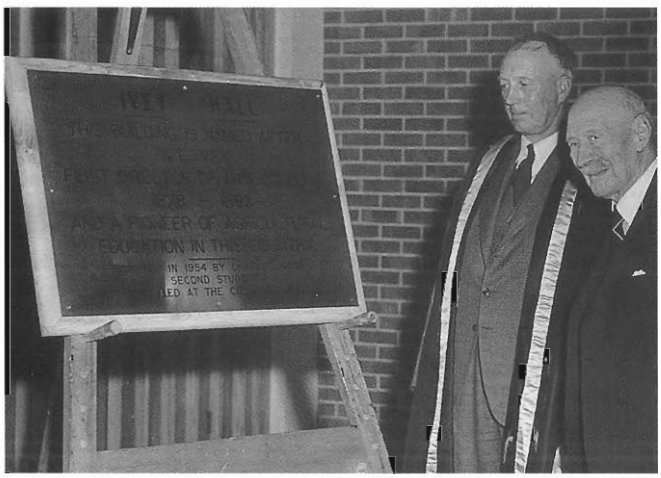
Euan farms at Weka Pass, North Canterbury.



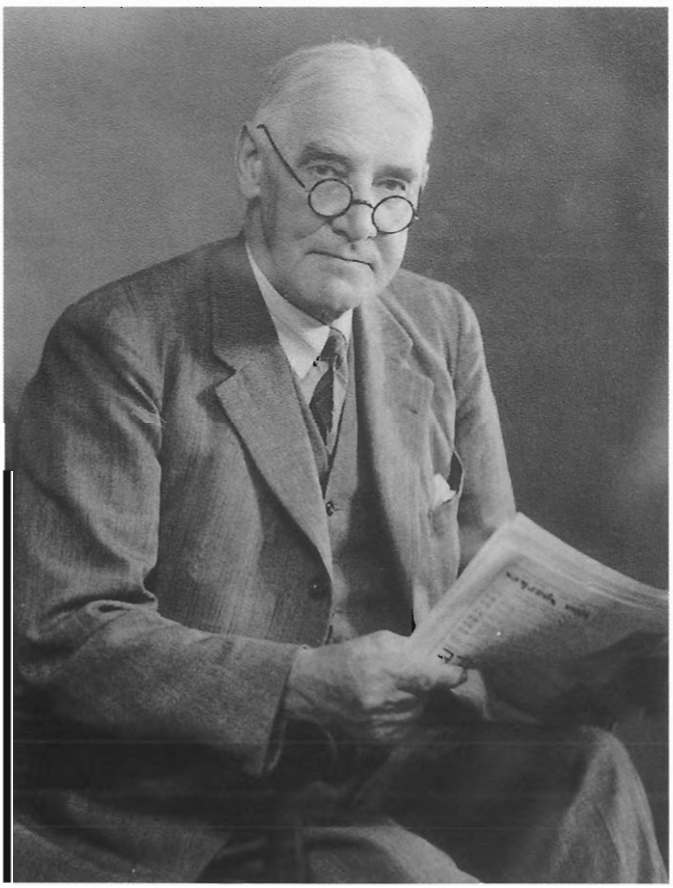
David Deans grandson of Harry Knight chatting with Euan Murchison grandson of Charles Wood at the Annual Alumni Dinner 1997.

Charles Woods interest in the College continued throughout his long life. He was among those who contributed generously to the Old Students' fund that made possible the erection of the Memorial Hall in 1924. He gave full support to the Old Students' Association and took pleasure in attending the annual reunion. On Diploma Day at the end of 1954 he presented to the College a plaque commemorating the decision of the Board of Governors to name the original building Ivey Hall in honour of W.E. Ivey, the first director, 1878-92.

Both Harry Knight and Charles Wood wrote about the early days at Lincoln and in so doing have left us a valuable historical record ("Lincoln College in 1881" by H.A. Knight - CAC Magazine 1918 and "The Early Days at Lincoln College" by Charles Wood CAC Magazine 1937 and Lincoln College Magazine 1987).



Charles Wood (right) and Chairman W.H. Gillespie, with the bronze plaque presented to Lincoln in 1954.



Yeo T Shand

THE SHAND CONNECTION

A century ago, **Yeo Trissillian Shand** began his studies at Canterbury Agriculture College; a century later his granddaughters Nicola and Caroline Shand completed their studies at Lincoln University (see cover) and in between ..... but let's start at the beginning.

Y.T. Shand's grandfather, John was a settler on the first four ships. Mr Shand, who was an old boy of Cathedral Grammar School and Christchurch Boys' High School, gained a Certificate in Agriculture at Lincoln after his two year course in 1897-98.

Mr Shand farmed for nearly 20 years in North Otago, and after he retired he bought "Island Hills" station in North Canterbury. He wrote a pamphlet, "Crime Against the Land", which was published by the Forest and Bird Society, and always took an interest in the broad issues of land conservation.

He was a veteran of the Boer War, and the youngest of his sons, Edwyn, was killed at El Alamein in the last war.

When he was a student at the College he did a great deal to bring about organisation within the student community and it can be said that he was instrumental in developing the nucleus of a students' association. Mr Shand was also associated with the decision to choose gold and blue as the College colours. Throughout all his later years he retained a most active interest in affairs at the College.

Y.T. Shand was that grand old man type, who had lived wisely and well, whose fund of experience was given kindly to younger men.

A.C.T. (Arthur) Shand, 93, was a student at Lincoln in 1922-24.

He bought a grazing run in North Otago but in 1928 his father persuaded him to sell up and go to the Amuri to manage Island Hills.

Rabbits were in plague proportions; in one poisoning 42,000 were picked up at Glen Wye.

Island Hills was very isolated in those days so Arthur's three children were taught through the Correspondence School. Arthur recalls employing Charles Upham as a musterer noting he was very kind to his dogs. "When we arrived at a camp he would build a shelter from tussocks to ensure his dogs were dry and warm".

Arthur's son, Ed (1967-68) now farms Island Hills where Arthur lives in retirement.

Ed and Jan's two daughters Caroline and Nicola were students at Lincoln in recent years.

Y.T. Shand's brother (G.E.T.) was a student in 1906-7 while his son was Tom Shand (1945) a cabinet minister in the National Government (1947-69). A grandson, Andy was a student in 1958-9-61.

Y.T. Shand's son (JAT) was also a Lincoln alumnus (1945) as was his son Phil (1970-71).

Lincoln University Alumni Association (Inc.)
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Published by Lincoln University Alumni Association (Inc) September 1997

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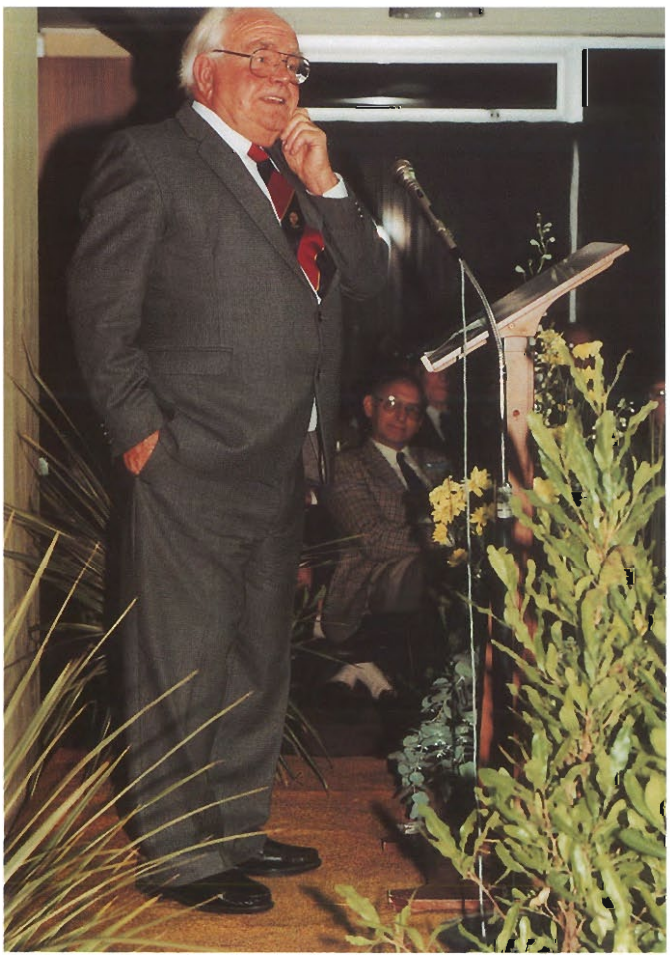
(Continued from page 12)

These twigs were all labelled with the names of all the diseases you could think of; TB, cancer, even sexual diseases. The farmer said these twigs had come from trees that had had these particular diseases - that should have told me something shouldn't it? I got down on the floor and the farmer went over me with a bobbin tied to all the twigs in turn and the bobbin didn't shift.

I was most relieved when the bobbin didn't go around. The farmer then told me to get on my belly. So I did and he went over me with the bobbin and he finally got the bobbin to move around. He said "You have psoriasis". Well, I didn't even know what psoriasis was. But interestingly enough I have developed mild psoriasis since then.

Then it was the Animal Husbandry Officer's turn. He got down on his back and when he finally got over onto his belly I can clearly remember seeing the bobbin rotating furiously over his behind. The farmer said "You have piles". The fellow said "My God you're right!" I suppose you'd be lucky if you had worked for the Department of Agriculture for 25 years and you didn't have piles.

In 1964 I was invited to speak in British, German and French universities about herbage production in New Zealand.Here was my chance to extol the virtues of BNF and so I gave them the New Zealand story. Now Jack McLean had carried out an experiment comparing the performance of ewes and lambs on pure swards of white clover and pure swards of ryegrass getting fertiliser-N.



"So I put my rod down and traced the line back..."



"and the bobbin started to rotate..."

Lambs on white clover weighed much heavier than those on grass and presumably because of plant hormones the teats of ram lambs on white clover were much bigger than the teats of ewe lambs on ryegrass.

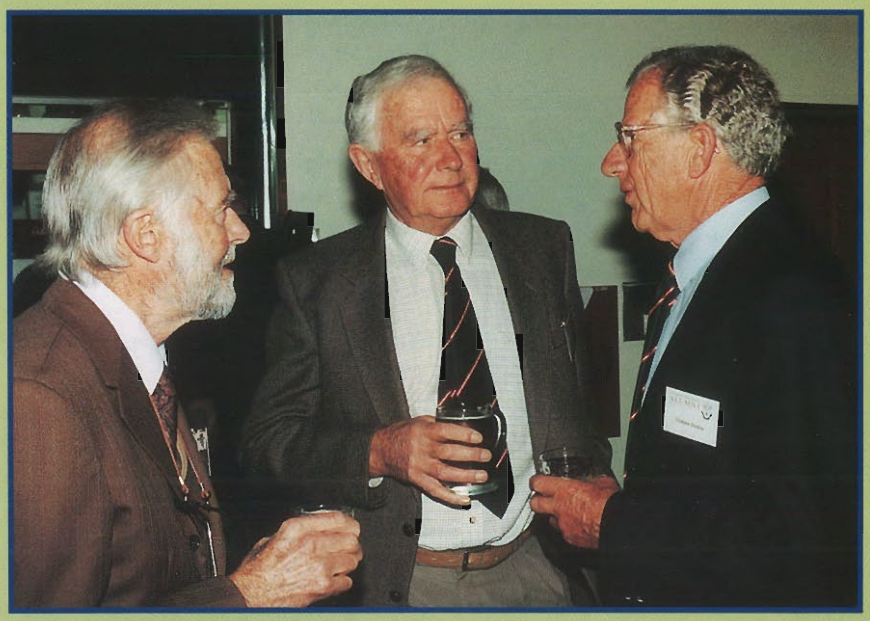
I was able to show striking contrasts of lamb carcases and rows of big fat ram teats alongside small shrivelled - up ewe teats. The Germans understood my English better than my German, but in France I had to speak in French. Having been brought up a good Methodist I had to ask the French word for teat and I was told it was " le pils" (or something like that). What I didn't know was the French had one word for a human teat and another for an animal teat and Iwas given the human one!

When I showed the slide of teats there was an uproar from the audience and I have since had nightmares of Frenchmen rushing out to get white clover to stuff into their wives or sweethearts!

Needless to say the Europeans went on their merry way with heavy use of fertiliser N on grasslands. Now ,when damage to the environment is forcing restrictions on the use of N in Europe, our own dairy farmers are in danger of aping their European ways.

Thank you for this Medal. I feel there are a lot of my old colleagues and some old students who are much worthier of it but I thank you very much indeed. I like to think medals should be for Departments or groups of people but I suppose somebody has to accept it on their behalf. Thank you.

Candid Camera



Rod Prickett and John Scott chatting with Graham Dunbar at the Annual Reunion Dinner.



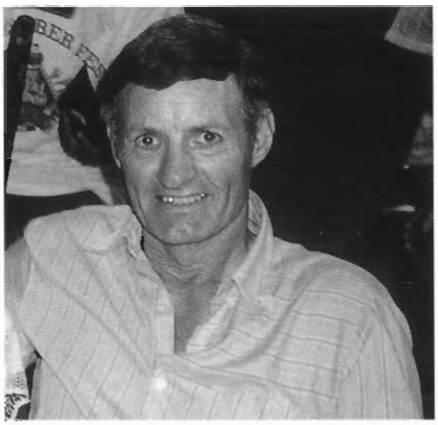
Immediate Past-President, Elizabeth Cruickshank thanking Professor John Walker after his Bledisloe Address.



Pro Vice-Chancellor, Professor Roger Field welcoming guests to the Spring Dinner and launch of the Lincoln University Visa Card.

(Continued from page 24)

Jim Patterson (1959-60) ***died suddenly in Bali on 3 July 1997. He was 59.***



Jim attended Southland Polytechnic before doing pre-Diploma practical work on farms at Edendale and Hokonui. After completing the Diploma in Agriculture he returned to the family farm at Dipton where he became a prominent Romney stud breeder. He played leading roles in the YFC movement and later in the Lions club.

In 1991 he was awarded the Melvin Jones Fellowship, the highest award in Lions International.

Whilst a student at Lincon Jim developed skills as a barber which later served him well as a 300-a-day shearer.

Jim was an active member of the Anglican Church, and keen debater.

In 1983 he was made a JP. He moved to Queenstown in 1992 where he and his wife, Wendy, established a soft furnishings business.

Robert (Bob) Reynolds (1955-56, 1964) ***died on November 5, 1996. He was 61.***



Born in Blenheim, Mr Reynolds was educated at Rongotai College and did the Diploma course at Lincoln in 1955-56.

He returned in 1964 and completed the Diploma in Valuation and Farm Management. He worked for the Nelson Farm Improvement Club from 1965-69 and later was registered as a valuer and farm management consultant.

Mr Reynolds was treasurer of the Nelson A & P Association for many years and a member of the Romney Breeders' Council. Three of his four children are Lincoln alumni.

Graham Allan (1954) ***died on 14 February 1997.***



After working on farms for a few years Mr Allan obtained his commercial flying licence and was employed on deer recovery work in South Westland. He progressed to helicopters and joined Tim Wallis's deer recovery operation before diversifying into tourist flying and helisking out of Queenstown. In 1982 he moved to Northern Southland and started his own business servicing high country runs. He was an outstanding pilot who understood the fundamentals of stockmanship.

MEMBER DISCOUNT

Alumni Association members and families are entitled to a 50% discount from **Ansett New Zealand** for travel to all alumni functions- branch and class reunions as well as to Graduation.

These specially off peak discounted airfares can only be accessed via University World Travel at Lincoln University on 03 325 3053 or Fax 03 325 3052 upon identifying yourself as an Alumni Association member. UWT will be informed about forthcoming Alumni functions thus ensuring only *bona fide* members can access the 50% fare.

RICHINA PACIFIC

The *Richina Pacific Group* of Companies is proud to be associated with *Lincoln University* in research related to its leather and venison businesses:

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FELLOWSHIP WINNER



Nick Hurst

Nicholas Hurst (Dip. F.M.) currently studying for a B.Com (Ag) degree is one of the first two recipients of a Grassland Memorial Trust Levy Student Fellowship. The Fellowships which commemorate the work of grassland scientist Sir E Bruce Levy, are awarded to students entering the first year of agricultural degree courses at either Lincoln University or Massey University, and are restricted to families of paid-up New Zealand Grassland Association members.

Nick is from Waimate. His grandfather Bill Hurst was the first farmer president of the New Zealand Grassland Association.

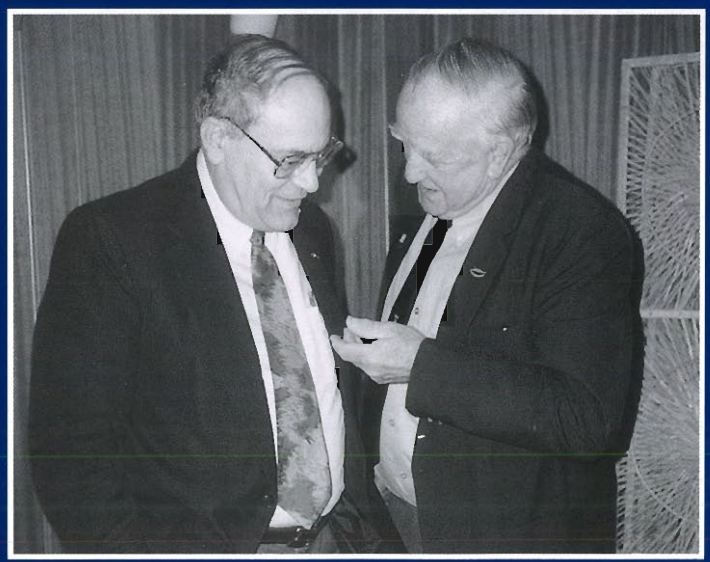
Candid Camera



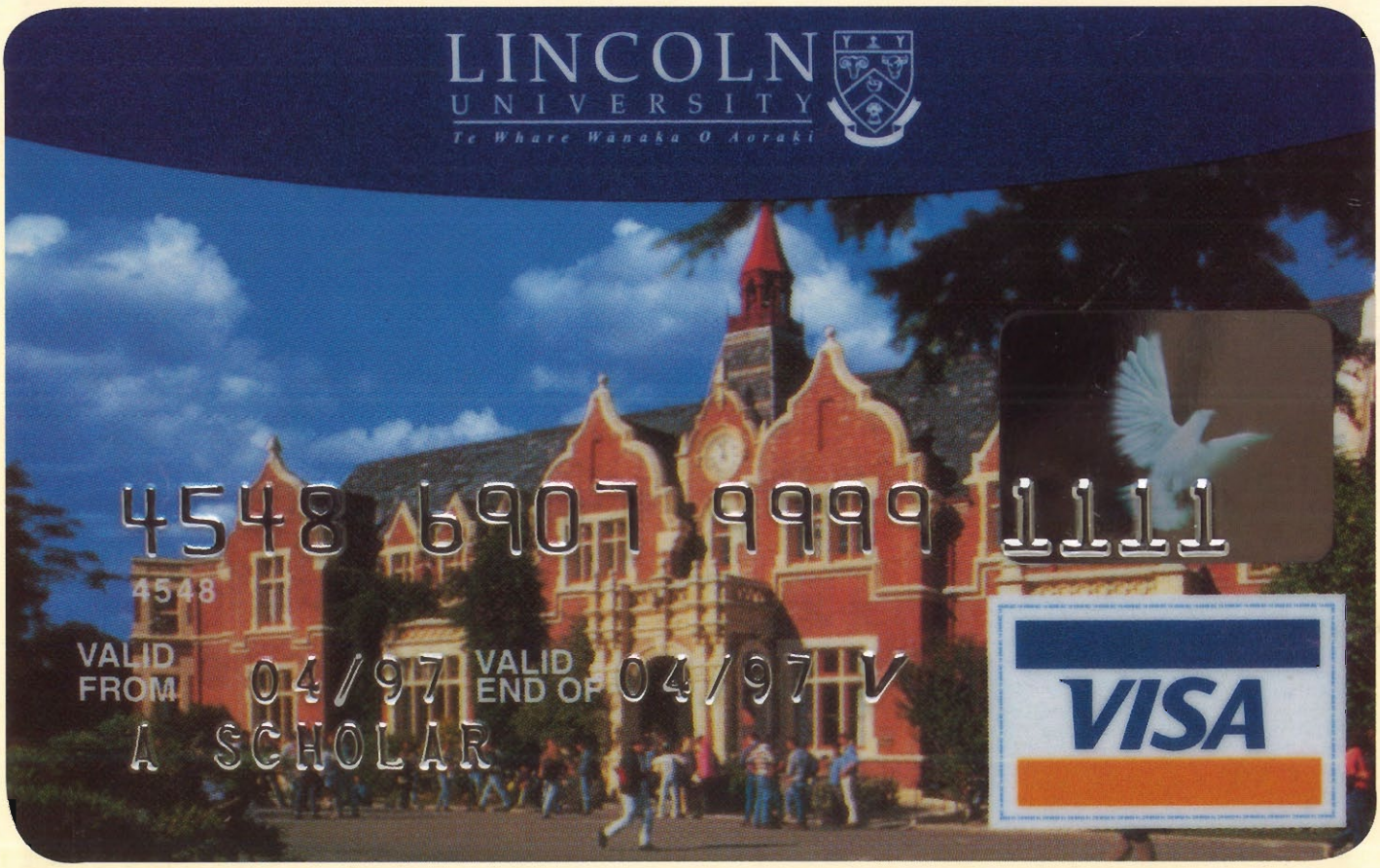
Alan Stewart and Graeme Quilter, students together in 1967, at the Annual Reunion Dinner.



Jenny and Glen Johnson at the Spring Dinner.



Hawkes Bay alumnus, Bill Crawford, deep in conversation with chief weather forcaster, Dr Augie Auer.



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The views expressed are not necessarily those of the Association. Contributions are welcome and should be sent to the Editor, Alumni Office, PO Box 15, Lincoln University, New Zealand.