

## ROCA AWARD OF MERIT 2017 – Brian Polkinghorne

The ROCA Award of Merit is bestowed upon a member of ROCA who has made a meritorious contribution in any field of agricultural activity, including association affairs. This award is regarded as the highest honour ROCA can bestow on one of its members.

In its history, no other graduate of Roseworthy has made a greater contribution establishing sustainable and practical agricultural training to the disadvantaged communities of the world than Brian Polkinghorne.

Since graduating with an RDA from in 1969, Brian Polkinghorne has selflessly served others, often at great sacrifice to himself and his family. He has devoted his life and agricultural skills to promoting sustainable Agricultural practices, not only locally but into some of the most disadvantaged areas of the world.

His work extends across the globe, where along with his wife Jill and young family, became an Agricultural missionary in Tanzania, East Africa. They went to serve for 3-4 years and ended up spending 26 of the next 46 years in Tanzania.

Not only has the influence of Brian been of enormous benefit to disadvantaged individuals internationally, it has also resulted in significant community work across the globe and within Australia.

Despite being quite modest about his enormous contribution to agricultural projects internationally, Brian Polkinghorne has been widely recognised by others, and I believe he has just published a book.

Brian's recent ventures to combine faith and sustainable agricultural practice as a real and lasting approach to enable third world tribal communities to become self-reliant for food, water and enabling people to find their ways out of poverty, reflects his ability as a leader and innovator. Brian is an extremely worthy recipient of the Roseworthy Old Collegians Association "Award of Merit" for 2017

