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## **HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP SIR JOHN G. CRAWFORD**



Sir John Crawford is at the pinnacle of achievement among illustrious members of the Australian Agricultural Economics Society. He helped form the Society at the inaugural meeting of February 1957 and, in 1958, followed Keith Campbell to become the second President of the Society. The vigour and usefulness of his career is attested by academic, national and international honours. His contribution to national and world affairs has been immense. In 1981 he was declared 'Australian of the Year'.

Sir John is now Chancellor of the Australian National University where he was Vice-Chancellor for more than five years. He is a Knight Bachelor, a Commander of the Order of the British Empire, and a Companion of the Order of Australia. He has been awarded honorary degrees by seven universities and has received awards from ANZAAS and the Australian Institute of Agricultural Science, as well as being a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Social Sciences and a Foreign Honorary Member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He holds the Order of the Sacred Treasure, 1st Class, from Japan.

Sir John graduated with first class honours from Sydney University where he received his Masters Degree and the University Medal. He lectured in Rural Economics at the University of Sydney. A partial listing of the posts he has held since gives some measure of his achievements and his strong links with the economics of agriculture.

Economic Adviser, Rural Bank of N.S.W., 1935-43;  
Adviser, Department of War Organisation of Industry, 1942-43;  
Director of Research, Commonwealth Ministry of Post-War Reconstruction, 1943-45;  
Director, Commonwealth Bureau of Agricultural Economics, 1945-50;  
Commonwealth Wool Adviser, 1949-55;  
Secretary, Department of Commerce and Agriculture, 1950-56;  
Secretary, Department of Trade, 1956-60;

Director and Professor of Economics, Research School of Pacific Studies, ANU, 1960-67;  
First Chairman, Australian Wool Industry Conference, 1962-64;  
Foundation President, Australian-American Association, Canberra, 1960-62;  
Vice-Chairman, Commonwealth Committee of Economic Enquiry, 1963-65;  
Senior Consultant to IBRD, 1964-81;  
Chairman, Papua-New Guinea Development Bank, 1972-74;  
Chancellor, University of Papua-New Guinea, 1972-75;  
Chairman, Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) for International Agricultural Research, 1971-76 (TAC was the principal adviser to the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) which was responsible for the expansion of the international agricultural research system);  
Special Commissioner, Australian Industries Assistance Commission, 1974-77;  
Chairman, Australian Development Assistance Advisory Board, 1975-;  
Adviser to the Australian Development Assistance Bureau since its inception.

The Crawford story does not stop even after this impressive but incomplete list. Among many reports/committees that he was involved with were the Vernon Committee, the proposals to establish the Australian Wool Commission (now Corporation), the Industries Assistance Commission, and the Australia-Japan Foundation, and he was a member of the committee which authored the *The Principles of Rural Policy in Australia* (Green Paper). In June 1982 the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research was established. The centre, aimed at identification and solution of agricultural problems, was suitably headed by Sir John as President of its Policy Advisory Council and Chairman of the Board of Management.

A complete account of achievements would occupy much more than an issue of the *Journal*. Suffice it is to say that he has contributed to the well-being of Australia through his writings in books, reports and learned journals, and through his administrative talents and sense of economics. It was appropriate that the ministerial press release in 1973, announcing the formation of a group, including Sir John, to report on Rural Policy, should refer to 'his unmatched qualities and background'.

His major publications include the following books:

Clarke, C. and Crawford, J. G. (1938), *The National Income of Australia*, Angus and Robertson, Sydney.

Crawford, J. G. et al., (1954), *Wartime Agriculture in Australia and New Zealand 1939-50*, Food Research Institute, Stanford.

Crawford, J. G. (1968), *Australian Trade Policy 1942-1966*, ANU Press, Canberra.

It is with pleasure that the Society awards to Sir John Crawford Honorary Life Membership.