



# ASSCT

Australian Society of Sugar Cane Technologists

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## Life Member

### Don SHANN



I joined the staff of the Sugar Research Institute in March 1952 as Assistant Engineer to the then Chief Engineer Dr W R Crawford.

I remained with the Institute until August 1970 and was Chief Applications Engineer when I resigned to take up the position of Assistant General Manager of the Fairymead Sugar Company.

Undoubtedly the most important item of research during my term with the Institute was the design, installation and operation of a 3 roll experimental mill which was operated at Pleystowe Mill from 1956 to 1963. The knowledge gained from the operation of this research facility was undoubtedly responsible to no small degree for the pre-eminent positions of Australian milling technology in the 1960-1990 period. Realizing that the history of the unit was in danger of being lost I wrote up the history and presented it to the Society's library some 10-15 years ago.

I left Fairymead in 1972 to take up the position of Manager of the Racecourse Co-operative Sugar Association, and had the privilege of leading an outstanding team which practically rebuilt the factory on a period of 15 years.

From 1984 onwards I had the responsibility of leading a study team which confirmed the practicality of merging the co-operative mills of the Mackay District. Following protracted discussions merger was achieved in 1988.

I served as a Board Member of Sugar Research Ltd from 1976 to 1989, and was Deputy Chair of the Board from 1982 to 1989. I retired from Racecourse in 1987 and spent some time as a consultant in the Industry.

### Awards and Honours

I was honoured by the then Queensland Society of Sugar Cane Technologists with the award of the Presidents Medal in 1964.

I was awarded Life Membership of the Mackay Institute of Sugar Mill Engineers in 1974.

I was privileged in 1979 to be the Inaugural President of the Australian Society of Sugar Cane Technologists in 1979 and was further honoured by Life Membership of the Society in 1988.