



ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

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Head of College Report



Jamie Moore

I thought that the country had used up all of its 'unprecedented times' towards the end of last year with drought and fires, but alas, it continues. Whilst what is happening with coronavirus and our current way of life is unnerving, there is no doubt that what we do, as a community, has never been more important. We know through much research and through our own experience that the greatest source of stress is uncertainty. So, for all of us, this is what we can be certain of now:

The Robb brand and culture is as strong as ever. Whilst the doors remain closed our community is well and truly open for business. Our students have returned to destinations across every State and Territory but remain connected to the college and engaged in their learning. The University acted quickly, and with certainty, which has avoided any chance of this becoming a hotspot and, hence, giving the colleges every opportunity to return at the earliest possible time.

I must commend our students for their acceptance, support and action through this challenging time. One thing is for certain, and that is, Robb students are adaptive, resourceful and resilient. Each have had their own hurdles to overcome but have done so through persistence and innovation. Added to that our student leadership team have been outstanding in being the conduit that have kept the students and the College connected. They have continued to show their high level of care and support for the student body, we have continued to meet, virtually, and they have striven to meet the needs of the students through remaining accessible.

Unfortunately this has all come about in our 60th year and has squashed any real chance of celebrating in a fashion that is worthy of such a milestone. After much deliberation it has been decided that, in preference to an uncertain future for mass gatherings, we will plan to have a celebration of all it is to be a Robber, in 2021. I encourage you to continue your support of the college, and promote our wider community, through engagement in our social Media Pages (Facebook and Instagram), Foundation and Alumni website as well as our newly formed LinkedIn page. If it is providing a start for one of our graduates, contributing to the wonderful new Scholarship Pathway, joining with the Foundation in developing a Shared Scholarship Pathway or just spreading the word, your continued involvement is not only appreciated but imperative.

Cheers

Jamie Moore *Head of Robb College*



Robb College Foundation Report

Geoff Perry

Hello Robb Alumni... and **Happy 60th Anniversary**... I trust this finds you well and isolating with some time to read this.

Reporting on the results of our Scholarship Appeal and launch of first scholarship pathway.

I am delighted to say that last year we raised over 46% of our 3-year target receiving donations and pledges of over \$279,000.

The book value of our scholarship funds in trust is now at over \$600,000 completing the first stage of our appeal. This enabled us to launch our first scholarship pathway this year, doubling the value and number of registered scholarships. Our congratulations to the scholarship holders (mentioned in this newsletter) and many thanks to the 33 applicants from Robb. It was a very difficult decision for the Scholarship Committee.

The full financial report from our AGM held on 7th April can be found on our website. Please go to www.robbcollege.com/latest-news for details

A big thank you to the 60 Robb Alumni and SCR members who contributed to achieve this result. We now must try to maintain some momentum during this difficult time to raise the 2nd leg to reach \$1- million in funds.

Launch of Wal & Pam Whalley Senior Fellows Scholarship. For over 50 years Wal and Pam have been big contributors to Robb and its students. Wal has and is still serving on nearly every Committee and Board for Robb including the SCR, Alumni and Foundation Boards. He is still conducting regular tutorials for Rural Science and Ag students as he has for 1000's of past Alumni. They have also, both, been regular donors to Robb's other scholarships. I was delighted we were able to commence this award in tribute to their tremendous support and loyalty given to Robbers for over half a century.

You can see an article Wal wrote on the 50th anniversary called "**Fellowship, Fun and Frustrations at UNE**" which gives some interesting history of the College and his involvement. Please go to www.robbcollege.com/history-heritage-people and scroll down.

Can we raise the balance needed?

Our young, new scholars are terrific examples of the calibre of our students. They will go on to be our leaders in their industries. They face big challenges and need to be armed with the best know-how, science and ability to apply to improve our farms, professions and enterprises for a sustainable future.

These talented young people should not be handicapped by financial need to gain the best education. We need to accelerate their skills and uptake into careers to find pragmatic solutions that add value.

I am asking more Alumni to please help us raise the next "leg" of our appeal which is \$400,000 in the next 2 years to commence our 2nd pathway. I know this is difficult in the financial downturn we are now in but every small amount really helps. I am hopeful that those who made pledges can meet them which equal \$100,000 of this total. These funds will assist students in perpetuity plus they are helping to build a stronger foundation that is also helping to secure the future of the College.

Please make a donation by going to our website at www.robbcollege.com/donate

Thank you

Geoff Perry

Chairman, Robb College Foundation Association

Robb College Scholarship recipients



The Sinclair-Wilson Scholarship awarded to Will Archer

This scholarship recognises the late Mr J D Sinclair–Wilson’s leadership of the College as Head of College from 1968 to 1980 and his outstanding contributions to the cultural and academic life of the College. The Scholarship is awarded at the Academic Dinner to a College resident who is entering their first year of undergraduate studies at UNE, who has a strong academic record and can demonstrate a history of strong contribution to leadership in sporting, cultural or community activities. Value is \$3,000 towards first year College fees.

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The Robb College Foundation Leadership Scholarship recipient - Brigette Berkery

Attending Robb has been the best decision I have made so far; I have met so many great people who have such similar interests and a huge love for life. The extra-curricular offered at Robb has been a monumental part of Robb life for me, cementing friendships, offering leadership opportunities and enabling a holistic lifestyle.

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Darren Ellis Fund scholarship recipient - Joshua Jones

The best thing about Robb College is the people you meet and the bonds you form. Robb is a friendly place that welcomes people from all walks of life and is a place that fosters lifelong friendships. Robb pushes you to achieve your best academically and encourages you to get involved at every opportunity that presents itself. The extra-circular activities you involve yourself in is where you will form the closest friendships and get the best out of life at Robb. It's also a great platform to get your foot in the door post-university with so many valuable contacts from various industries committed to help you as much as they can.

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The Robb College Wal and Pam Whalley Scholarship 2020 recipient – Kate Cleaver

I am in my third and final year of studying a Bachelor of Business, majoring in Marketing and Management, residing at Robb College. I am the third member of my family to join the Robb community. I, like them could not be more grateful of my time being at Robb College. I have met lifelong friends, participated in all sports that are offered and thoroughly enjoy organising events for the college. Robb truly provides an atmosphere where everyone is included and valued.

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Robb College Alumni Association President

Jack Grant

Hello Robbers,

I hope you are all staying safe during these uncertain times. So whilst the College is currently closed, there is plenty still happening on the social media pages that are run by the current students. Please make sure you are following Robb College on Facebook and Instagram to stay up to date with all the latest news. Lastly, I urge you to visit the Alumni website and [update your details](#). This will ensure you remain informed on upcoming events being organised by the Alumni Association.

Kind regards,

Jack Grant *President of Robb College Alumni Association*

Robb Alumni in the news



We met at UNE

Duo Prue (Wink) Fleming and Will Scholes met at UNE during Orientation Week in 2015 and their college friendship grew into a creative partnership. The musicians now perform as Nate Scholes and took out the people's choice busking award at the 2019 Tamworth Country Music Festival.

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Marianne and Geoff Judson's Zoom wedding!

Jennie and Bob met at UNE in 1965 and married in Armidale early the following year. During 53 years of marriage, the couple has worked as educators around the world. Now they are bringing their accumulated experience and sensitivity to the recovery of the island, which is home to some 18 UNE graduates.

Robb College and UNE Alumni were instrumental in getting us together.

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Robb alumni Catherine Marriott wins a 2019 UNE Distinguished Alumni Award

With a passion for rural communities, Catherine says "It's my absolute passion to leave this planet a better place, to confront unjustness in the world, and to empower others to achieve things they didn't know they could, for the betterment of others."

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A financial lifeline and a friendship

Ex Robb College student Miriam Hicks received a financial lifeline as well as a friendship when she was awarded the Mary Spence Memorial Scholarship in 2010.

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Fanny Lumsden

Ex Robb College student and musician Fanny Lumsden says "My most hated thing is people saying, 'It's just not done that way'. I'm passionately against that."

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Rural Resilience Program

Former Robb College student James Cleaver explains what the Rural Women's Network *Rural "Resilience" Program* is and how it helps people and communities in regional areas.

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Matthew Irwin

Matthew Irwin says "I benefitted greatly from my education at UNE (receiving a Bachelor of Agricultural Economics), as well as the friendships I formed living in Robb college from 1982-85."

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Robbers give back

Robb College is celebrating its 60th anniversary in 2020 (although anniversary events have been postponed until 2021 due to COVID-19) and you can help support the scholarship appeal. Donations to the Robb College Leaders Scholarship Appeal are fully tax-deductible and can be made online through the UNE Office of Advancement, Communications and Events.

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Royals visit Robb 50 years ago

Fifty years ago the Queen, Philip and Anne visited Robb College where students from all over the campus packed every vantage point to see the regal visitors.

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2020 University of New England Alumni Awards

Nominate an Outstanding UNE Graduate



Our alumni are amazing people who do amazing things at work and in their communities. If you know any UNE Alumni who you think should be recognized for their achievements then now is the time to nominate them for a UNE Alumni Award.

[Enter now! Nomination forms available online](#)

Student Leadership Team

Some of Robb's Student Leadership team have taken time out while away from College due to COVID-19, to tell us a little bit about themselves.

- George Chudleigh
- Emelia Inwood
- Amelia Ewart
- Alex Alker
- Annabel Sheehan
- Charlotte Hogg
- Cooper Vinci
- Greta Stonier
- Harry O'Malley
- Zane Salmon
- George Jackson
- Josh Jones
- Lachlan Sellers



SEE THEIR Q & A's HERE

Robb College Sticker Competition

We recently decided to run a Robb College competition to see which of our students could design the best car bumper sticker. Have a look at the winning entry below:

Begin a journey, Build a future,

Become a Robber!

#rollonrobbcollege



Check our social media pages soon to find out where you can purchase your Robb College stickers!

State of Origin jersey auction!

The UNE Office of Advancement, Communications and Events has very kindly donated a signed State of Origin jersey from last year's competition to Robb College. We'd like to thank UNE for their contribution and have decided to auction the jersey, with all funds raised being put towards our Scholarship Fund which assists current Robb College students.

To this end, I would like to invite all alumni and everyone from our extended Robb College family, to email your bids to me at mmoore8@une.edu.au. Please make this your best and final offer! The auction will commence at 9am on Tuesday 26 May and close at 5pm on Sunday 31 May 2020. The winning bidder will be notified by email and announced through our social media pages on Monday 1 June. Please include your:

- Full name
- Email address
- Bid amount

Please join me in this effort to raise much needed funds to assist our current Robb students! Your contribution is greatly appreciated!



Robb historic photos

Robb has had a fascinating and colourful history since its inception in 1960. We have some wonderful photos and video that have been taken over the past 60 years and we would like to make a request for any historic photos or video from alumni that you might have. It would be great to receive any of this material and we may be able to include some in future e-newsletters. Please send any old photos or video you may have to my email address at mmoore8@une.edu.au

Many thanks, Jamie

Update your details

If you have a friend or colleague who attended Robb College and didn't receive this e-newsletter please forward it on to them and ask them to **update their details online**.

Moved house recently? Changed jobs? Please update your details.

NOTE: If you have completed this form in the past 5-10 days, we'll be processing your update shortly, so no need to complete the form again.

You are receiving this email because you are a UNE graduate, friend or donor who attended Robb College. If you think we have made a mistake, or you no longer wish to receive any email communication from our office, please use the 'Unsubscribe' link below. If you'd like to simply unsubscribe from this e-Newsletter specifically, email advance@une.edu.au or phone 02 6773 2870.

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