

# THE ROBBER

Robb College Alumni Newsletter



## Head of College Report

With the memories of COVID fading into the distance, Robb College is back to hosting our extensive range of academic, social and formal events. With the support of the Robb Foundation, our leaders were back in early February for two days of focused leadership training and personal development with Dr Peter McClenaghan. This was followed up with UNE leadership training including two days of team building at Coffs Harbour.

[Read more >](#)



## Robb Alumni



Andrew McConville

Significant flooding and now a major fish kill ... it has certainly been a challenging initiation for chief executive of the Murray-Darling Basin Authority (MDBA), former Robb resident Andrew McConville.



Lucy Collingridge

In this episode of the Regional 250 podcast, first generation agriculturalist with a passion for giving opportunities to the next generation, Lucy Collingridge, talks about Armidale, NSW.



Rob McLean AM

The “paralysing uncertainty” of COVID-19 has been the driving force for a new book co-authored by UNE alumnus Rob McLean, AM, that explores new ways of thinking – and succeeding

[Read more >](#)

[Listen to podcast](#)

– in these craziest of times.

[Read more >](#)



Ralph Whalley

Adjunct Associate Professor R.D.B Whalley has been appointed as an Emeritus Professor for his service and sustained contribution to UNE over 33 years.

[Read more >](#)

University of New England  
**2023 Alumni Awards**

Nominate an  
Outstanding UNE Graduate

**une**  
University of  
New England  
Alumni

A black banner with white and green text. The text reads "University of New England 2023 Alumni Awards". Below this, it says "Nominate an Outstanding UNE Graduate". On the right side, there is the UNE logo (the letters "une" in green) and the text "University of New England Alumni".

## 2023 Alumni Awards Nominations

**NOW OPEN**

[Find out more >](#)

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## Robb Staff



### Long-serving and much loved

For 40 years she's been the smiling face that has greeted thousands of hungry and homesick UNE college students, but Maureen Hollis has finally called time on her long-serving career.

A constant, kindly presence in the kitchens of Duval, Drummond and Smith, Austin and most latterly Robb, Maureen has worked for both the university and its contract catering teams, mostly on the frontline.

[Read more >](#)

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## Robb Students

### Lending a hand at the Armidale Show

It was great to see Robb students pulling up their sleeves and lending a hand at the recent Armidale Show. It is important to our College that residents are willing to contribute their time and effort to volunteering at a variety of local events and the show is a good example of this.



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## Robb Events



*2023 Freshers cohort*



*BCJ Meredith Scholarship winners (first years)*



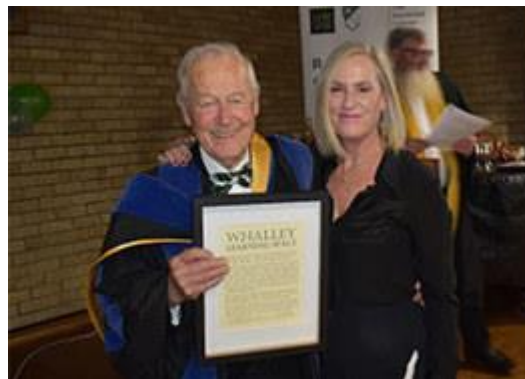
*JCR President James Macaulay & Harriet Watson at Robb College Long Lunch*



*Adam Marshall MP presenting Irvine Scholarship to Georgia Tooth*



*2023 Leaders being presented Gold Bars from UNE Chancellor James Harris (recipient: Kate Office - Robb Academic Mentor)*



*Wal Whalley & Kim McConville (Chair SCR). Wal receiving citation for naming of Whalley Learning Centre in honour of Pam & Wal Whalley*

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# Robb History

In the beginning...

It's hard to imagine what it was like in the beginning for Robb College. Imagine the first Master of Robb, Ben Meredith, sitting down and writing a set of rules about how students should behave at dinner! It must have been incredibly exciting for Robb's first students, Fellows, Tutors and staff. They were establishing a great institution Did they know that? Did they have any thoughts of being pioneers?



*Ben Meredith, First Master of Robb College*

[Read more >](#)



## Robb Heads of College

Click on the link below to take a look back in history at the list of Robbs Head of College, College Presidents, Scholarship and Award winners and Prize holders. Records date back to the College's inception in 1960!

[Read more >](#)



*Robb College early 1960's. This photo used to sit in a frame in the Robb office.*

Not so long ago....



In 2018 Robb represented UNE agriculture in Argentina. At the time there were 21 Robb students who made the exciting trip overseas (11 current residents, 9 affiliates and 1 graduate and 2 SCR members)

They visited various organisations throughout the Humid Pampas region, which is some of the most productive arable land in the world. The organisations include; farms of varying sizes and operations, cropping and a livestock, research organisation INTA, and farmers cooperative AFA.

Pictured are students on day 5 of their tour. They visited a farm which was located 140km west of Pergamino. This farm was one of 4 LiAg properties, which in total every year plant 70,000ha of crops. Students were extremely impressed by the advanced agricultural technologies being implemented by LiAg.

Eight of the students went on to competing at the IFAMA case competition in Buenos Aires.

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# Robb Rugby

Robb Rugby are looking for new Coaches, and Players for the 2023 Season. If you are interested in joining our club or holding a coaching position for the 2023 season, please reach out.

We are seeking club orientated applicants who are willing to contribute and drive the club culture in 2023, while providing success both on and off the field.

If you are interested in playing or coaching during our 2023 season , please contact:

**President, Dougal Mims**  
0447 892 880  
[dmims@myune.edu.au](mailto:dmims@myune.edu.au)

**Vice President, Hamish Cannington**  
0478 047 753  
[hjcannington@gmail.com](mailto:hjcannington@gmail.com)

[#rollonrobbrugby](https://www.instagram.com/rollonrobbrugby)



## Robb Rugby Tour to Canada

Late 2022 - 37 Robb College Rugby players took off for a three match tour of Canada and sightseeing.

See their tour [HERE >](#)

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## Robb Family



Robb College is one of the oldest colleges at the University of New England. It celebrated its 60th anniversary in 2020 and has a fine heritage and strong alumni community. We have been a second home thousands of students from around the country with students coming to us from all walks of life. While you may walk in a stranger, the people you meet and connections that you make, will have you leaving as a part of our Robb family.

Our connections are what makes Robb such a lasting part of our lives. Whether you finished one year, ten years, or fifty years ago, you are a part of our history. Our Alumni website aims to act as a point of contact, encouraging Alumni & Friends of Robb to see what is happening throughout the year, to join our alumni ranks, and to help make sure Robb will be as strong into the future as you helped make it in the past.

We would love to get back in contact and keep in touch, so make sure you fill out the form to join the Robb Alumni Antiques or Friends group!

[Find out more >](#)



Founded In  
1960

Over 20  
College  
Sporting  
Teams

Over  
\$600,000  
Raised  
for Charity

214 Student  
Residents

18 College  
Scholarships  
Available

Over 6,000  
Alumni

## Robb Support



CPC



## Robb College Foundation Industry Partners

Giving Robb students leadership-training, scholarships, work-experience, coaching and career-pathways. We thank our industry partners for their generosity and commitment to supporting the education and development of our young people...[more >](#)

# University News

## Top job prospects

UNE has ranked in the top three performing universities for domestic full-time graduate employment in the 2022 Graduate Outcomes Survey – the measure of employment rates among students who have completed undergraduate or postgraduate degrees.



[Read more >](#)



## UNE helping to fill growing demand for medical professionals

Across the country, communities outside of the cities are facing widespread doctor shortages and GP clinic closures.

[Read more >](#)



## UNE to lead \$1.9 million methane reduction project

UNE will lead a ground-breaking research collaboration that will help the nation's cheep graziers overcome an important barrier standing in the way of carbon neutrality.

[Read more >](#)



## UNE Tamworth progress update

UNE is in the final stages of approving the successful architectural firm that will design UNE Tamworth, on track to be completed by the end of 2025.

[Read more >](#)

## Stay Connected



[www.une.edu.au/alumni](http://www.une.edu.au/alumni)

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The University of New England respects and acknowledges that its people, programs and facilities are built on land, and surrounded by a sense of belonging, both ancient and contemporary, of the world's oldest living culture. In doing so, UNE values and respects Indigenous knowledge systems as a vital part of the knowledge capital of Australia.

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