



“The Robber”

The Robb College Alumni Magazine - Volume 4 - December 2017

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Alumni President Report

Lilly Moar



Hello Robbers

As the 2017 year draws to an ever increasingly fast close I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a happy and restful Christmas. This year has seen some major developments within Robb College. The Heritage Council decision means that we can get on with business as usual and welcome both returning and new students with a certainty that Robb College will keep growing from strength to strength in the years to come. The appointment of Mr Jamie Moore has also seen the College grow academically, culturally, spiritually and re-affirm its position as an integral part of the wider Armidale Community.

In the coming year, I hope to create opportunities for you to make greater contact with each other through the organisation of some low key events, so watch this space! And since it is the season of giving and family, take the time to reach out and re-connect with those people that apart of your Robb family remembering that #nothingrunsliearobber.

Cheers

Lilly Moar



Head of College Report

Jamie Moore

2017 has been a great year for Robb College.

We started with a full house of 205 students and ended the year in the mid 180's. I am told that this attrition rate is not unusual and closely mirrors that of the University as a whole. To be honest, I do not find this acceptable and see every loss as an opportunity to address and evaluate how we can make our student experience better for everyone.

If it was for financial reasons, then what can we do to assist these students to stay at UNE, I thank Geoff Perry, in particular for the many long conversations that we have had about improving our ability to assist students with scholarships and bursaries. His efforts to get the pool of funds to grow and his dedication to the foundation is awesome and 2018 will see a real push for the continued engagement of Old Robbers.

If a student has left because they do not like what Robb has to offer, then we need to look steadfastly in the mirror and ask why. We need to question, are we an inclusive college? Do we show each other respect? Would our behaviour and treatment of others withstand the scrutiny of the wider community. The Human Rights Commission Report into the Sexual Harassment and Assault on University Campuses has highlighted that some past practices have to be modified or eliminated to be acceptable and we need to act... as our inaction indicates our acceptance. We welcome this report and, as has been the case at Sydney University, I expect our own independent review is imminent and this will be a mandate for change. One of our new leaders for 2018 sent through a quote that will be a mantra moving forward "to tear down tradition focus on renewing it". As I have said many times Tradition cannot be used as an excuse for poor behaviour.

If the student leaves because University just wasn't for them, then we need to challenge the University to be more supportive or implement better screening so that these cases can be counselled into making the right decision earlier before they have incurred heavy costs or lost time in the workforce.

The students participated in many events this year with a solid participation in the Mary Bagnall and Presidents Trophy competitions. Our Netball teams performed well and our one and only Hockey team made the preliminary final only to be defeated, after extra time still saw the sides locked in a draw, by finishing below the other side in the regular season. Our Rugby club also had a successful season with all sides making the finals and the Women's 7s and 1st Grade being defeated in Grand Finals. Sport is an important part of who we are and 2018 will see a renewed push for more involvement by the entire student body starting with a college fitness afternoon.

The College's charity efforts raised over \$45,000 for the "Burrumbuttock Hayrunners" who organize stock fodder drives and transport to farmers in need. Some of the key events for the charity organisers include The Robb Art Show and Auctions held on Parents weekend. The Charity Rugby Matches for both the Girls XV and 1st Grade, against St Alberts which is also held on Parents weekend. The college's annual Project Week which had the students, this year, getting about in their flannellette pyjamas for the whole week. Finally the College hosted the Charity Long Lunch which was addressed by the founder of the Hayrunners organization. Although I am immensely proud of these efforts I would like to see a service element be part of our charity, efforts moving forward. It is very easy (much easier for some than others) to put your hand in your pocket but to get your hands dirty in the name of our charity would add

real meaning to what we do. Being able to connect in a tangible way is something that we can work on.

Academically we strived to establish an academic rhythm within the college to bolster our chances of retaining the Whalley/Pigram Shield, an academic competition with St Alberts. We will hold our breaths until Tri 3 results come in. Irrespective of the result we will continue to push for academic excellence through the encouragement and support of our students. On a positive note, of the 1477 units studied this year (Tri 1 and 2) the college recorded 54% (approx. 798) of units passed at Credit level or above.

With regards to the Robb rebuild, the University has reacted to the Heritage Councils' delisting by pushing through with plans to refurbish the Dining Hall and for all intents and purposes look to start demolition proceedings of the old residential blocks. Although being unfortunate and inconvenient to lose access to the precinct, I believe it to be a small price to pay for the end result.

Finally, this year we have introduced the concept of having a set of Core Values that guide our decision making process. We settled on 5 and they are FAMILY, RESPECT, ACCOUNTABILITY, CONTRIBUTION and CELEBRATION. I have been able to incorporate these into 5 statements that will form the centre of Resident Expectation moving forward:

- Treat those around you as FAMILY being inclusive, generous and supportive
- RESPECT yourself, others, your environment and the privilege that it is to be given this opportunity
- Approach, with enthusiasm, the opportunities on offer and be ACCOUNTABLE for your learning, your behaviour and your decisions
- Create a legacy of positive CONTRIBUTION. Put your hand up to help row the boat, passengers just weigh us down.
- Hard work breeds success and success deserves CELEBRATION. Take comfort in helping others achieve their best and approach your best with humility and thanks to those that helped along the way

In finishing can I once again thank all those who assisted the college in any way, big or small in 2017. I am excited for what lies ahead for the college and looking forward to meeting you sometime in 2018.

Cheers
Jamie

Robb College Foundation Report

Geoff Perry



Hello Robb Alumni

Robb to be re-built

What great news! Many of you would have received an email/letter from the Vice Chancellor on 20th October announcing the decision by the NSW Heritage Council to cease the process and push for listing of Robb College and her subsequent announcement that UNE will now move to commence re-building the College. This is after 5 and a half years of bureaucratic delay.

The VC further advised that commencing early 2018 the Residential Courts will be demolished and work will commence on re-storing the Dining Hall back to its original condition. Robb

students will meantime hold their formal dinners in the new Wright College dining hall and are currently residing in the old Drummond College.

We see this as a sensible and pragmatic outcome. A good compromise between preservation and modernisation. We look forward to working with the UNE in reviewing their plans for the re-build and assisting where possible with the development. We have been advised the Dining Hall should be completed and scoping for the residential blocks will commence in 2019.

Meanwhile the College has been kept alive and vibrant by the student body, supported and led by the new Master Jamie Moore and the Senior and Junior Common Rooms. The compelling reason to ensure Robb is re-built has been a strong demand by students to reside in Robb College.

I feel the "battle to save Robb College" has been won and the "battle to re-build Robb College" now moves into gear. We didn't need to save the College by saving the building but to save the building we need to ensure the enduring of the College.

Need for New Scholarships

Now is the time we must build the Foundation endowment funds to lift our scholarships to help attract, support and retain talented students and help add to and lift the academic and research capabilities of the College within the UNE platform.

Over the last few years the Foundation Board have been working hard to build our funds in Trust to ensure our current awarded scholarships are enduring. Coming off a low base our Trust Funds have more than doubled to nearly \$200,000. This has been achieved through a combination of continuing, annual donations from a devoted few, increased returns on our invested funds and launching a successful "Rural Focus" event which has helped to cover the annual scholarship commitment. This has enabled our endowed funds to accumulate and preserved any donations gratefully received into the capital base.

However this is a very small corpus of funds so we must lift this quickly to preserve and grow the current awarded scholarships plus expand and launch new scholarships to support our needy and talented young people.

I invite any Alumnist who is willing to assist [to contact me](#) to discuss how they might be able to help us lift our scholarships and assist us to re-build Robb to last for another 100 years and progress and develop into a leading academic, residential College in the Pacific and SE Asian region.

Kind regards
Geoff Perry
Chairman

Brett Smith



Brett Smith is the wool manager for Elders at Walgett and St George and he is based in Walgett . Brett was the Vice President of the Robb JCR in 2008 and heavily involved in Robb Rugby administration and Robb student affairs.

In August 1917 Brett won the National Council of Wool Selling Brokers of Australia annual Wool Broker award. The Executive Director of the National Council of Wool Selling Brokers of

Australia, Chris Wilcox' said "the selection panel was impressed with Mr Smith's innovative approach and ability to use new tools to help to maximise his clients' returns".

Brett Smith, Robb 06-08; B.Ag.Ec. & Dip. Nat.Res

Robert Everingham



Robert Everingham Robb College 1994, BFA degree. Robert is a leading Australia contemporary blacksmith.

Robert has been working as a Blacksmith for about 20 years, he founded his business, Ironfist by Robert Everingham in 2001 and works in Brisbane's South. He and his staff work with all types of metals and uses objects such as nuts, bolts and horseshoes to produce art works, sculptures, household furnishings, light holders and a myriad of objects – almost anything the customer wants." We use the same techniques that have been used for hundreds of years creating products by hand. Each design is a functional piece of Art". Robert is excellent at his craft.

Although much of his work is on small items he has worked on large projects such as the ironwork for St John's Cathedral in Brisbane. See Robert's web page for more details and images of his work - www.everinghamwroughtiron.com.au.

Robert Hoddle



Robert leads an Australian family company, The Gunnible Pastoral Company, in the Gunnedah shire of NSW. They are producers of grain feed beef and Salusitana Oranges. The Gunnible property has approximately 26,000 orange trees on 100 acres of farmland and they produce about 1500 tons of oranges a year. They export a good percentage of their orange crop to China. Last week (22-24/11/17) Robert Hoddle Robert gave a presentation to the International Citrus Summit in Shanghai, China. His presentation was focused on "the Australian Citrus Industry, it's market trends and the quality of the Australian product".

The conference was attended by many Chinese importers, representatives of sales outlets and producers. Attendees included producers and citrus researcher personnel from around the world and important researchers from the University of Florida.

In the last few years Australia's citrus exports to China have increased 100%. Robert is doing all he can to assist in increasing exports of Australian citrus products, investment in key infrastructure and finding ways that producers in the Gunnedah region can increase their farm profitability. View [more information about this story](#).

Robert Hoddle, Robb College 1973-74, B.Ec.

Old Robbers Information

The information provided here is available in the public domain. This publication is only made available to ex-members of Robb College and current members of Robb College. If there are errors or you would like to make additions or comments please contact Glenn Druitt: gdruitt@yahoo.com.au or 0423 928 528.

AUBREY David (02).

B.Ag.Bus. Sales Consultant Allshelter Group. David is based at Lake Cargelligo in the Central West of NSW. He is involved in selling all types of shelters and the business recently entered the grain handling market. Web: LinkedIn & allshelter.com.au.

BALDWIN Annie (11-12).

B.Ag (Hons). Now a Laboratory Analyst for Vintessential Labs, a wine testing facility in Hobart, Tas. Web: LinkedIn & Vintessential.com.au.

CLARKE Matt (92-93).

B.Ec., Dip.Fin.Mark. Portfolio manager at MSF sugar, Sydney NSW. Formerly at INTL FC Stone Inc. Web: LinkedIn & www.msfsugar.com.au.

FAGAN Elizabeth (05-07).

B.Com. Senior Business Banking Manager at the National Australia Bank, Wagga NSW. Rb: Resident fellow 2007. Web: LinkedIn. Site Engineer at Visionstream Port Macquarie NSW. Web: LinkedIn & www.its-australia.com.au.

FOURACRE Alastair (10-

12). B.Eng. Site Engineer at Visionstream Port Macquarie NSW. Web: LinkedIn & www.its-australia.com.au.

GARNER Noy (97-98).

B.Bus/Comm. Operations Manager at Hyne TimberTumbarumba, NSW. Attended a Robb reunion 9/15 (the 90s). Web: LinkedIn & www.hyne.com.au.

GILL Lall (61-62). B.Sc

(Forestry)-UNE, B.Sc-Botany (Madras) Retired but formerly Executive Secretary and Board member NTIB, a forestry expert worked in Myanmar & Laos. Lives in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Web: LinkedIn.

GRAUER Judith

(2003)B.Rur.Sc. Finance & Agriculture Professional & Project Manager- owner builder. Formerly the sales & Production manager at the Rangers Valley Cattle station in the Glen Innes NSW region. UNE: Publicity Officer for the UNE Young cattle producer committee 2006, coach and team manager -UNE ICM carcass. Web: LinkedIn.

MOLONEY Simon (05-07).

B.AgBus (Marketing). Director of JCL Rural in Wagga NSW. Rb: SFK Rep 06, JCR President 07, lived in North Court. Affiliate in 08. Web: LinkedIn.

NOBLE Henry (09-11)

B.Agr. Export Manager at RTC Foods in Tamworth

O'Malley Kate (10-11)

B.Bus., & B. Law. Team leader Risk control at the

PURSEGLOVE

Richie (87-90) B.Ag.Ec; Grad.Dip.App. Fin. (Sec Int.

NSW. Formerly relationship manager at the Commonwealth Bank Moree. Web: LinkedIn & rtcfoods.com.au.

Macquarie Bank group. Work experience in Quality Assurance. Web: LinkedIn and Macquarie Group. Kate is Interested in gender pay equality.

of Aust.). Executive Director at Morgan Stanley & Director of the Australian Stockbrokers Foundation. Web: LinkedIn & Morgan Stanley.

PEARSON Liz (01-03). B. Ag.Bus. Commercial supply Chain Manager at Angus Australia, Armidale NSW. Rb: 01 Robb Women's Sporting Scholar. Web: LinkedIn & Angusaustralia.com.au.

REID Shelley (01-04). B.Rur.Sc. Travel Manager at FCm travel solutions Parliament House Canberra. Rb: 03 JCR VP. Web: LinkedIn & www.au.fcm.travel.

SINGLE Jemima (12-14) B.Media & Comm. General Office Manager at Pepe Saye Butter Co., Tempe, NSW. Web: LinkedIn & www.pepesaya.net.au.

SMITH Brett (06-08) B.Ag & Res. Ec. District wool manager Walgett & St George Elders Rural Service. Rb: 08 JCR Committee & VP Robb Rugby. South Court.

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