



The Albies UPDATE

Issue 19 | April 2019

From Jas Lincoln, College Principal



Watching the college spirit come to life!

Wow, the 50th Anniversary Celebration Weekend was an amazing experience thanks to the enormous combined efforts of so many members of the broader college family. To host 1,050 people for the Gala Evening so well was a credit to everyone who worked tirelessly to ensure the weekend was a success. The College sparkled on the Saturday evening and I wish to offer my thanks to everyone involved who assisted in showcasing Albies in the best possible light over the weekend.

As we head into the mid trimester break I wish to remind all our students that this is an opportune time to consolidate your work as exams will close in quickly in Term 2. To that end we have been delighted with the student attendance at Nerd Nights accompanied by the number of students set up to study in the Dining Hall.

The sporting fields have been filled with green and red in recent weeks and I wish to congratulate our Fresher teams on their outstanding performances in their matches against Robb College. It's been a highlight watching the college spirit come to life in support of our first year students.

Finally, this Thursday our Academic Dinner begins with the Gown vs Town Debate between our students and some high profile members of the Armidale community, I encourage everyone to join us at 5:30pm for what is set to become a highlight on our annual calendar.

Best wishes,

— Jas Lincoln, College Principal



50th Anniversary Celebration Weekend

For 50 years St Albert's College has stood proudly as an Independent Catholic College within the University of New England.

Humbly established in 1969, Albies doesn't compete with the age, sandstone and grandeur of university colleges in Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne. Where St Albert's does exceed though is in its community. Over the final weekend of March the broader Albies family continued this legacy by descending en masse upon the College to join the current students in celebrating the College's 50th Anniversary.

With dates for the Anniversary Weekend decided upon back in 2017, a save-the-date was sent out to students, parents and to the contacts the College had within the alumni body. Since then the team at Albies have embarked on a two and a half year campaign of engagement led by Jas Lincoln and Mary Wright in an effort to unify our broader community and large alumni across the world in the lead up to the celebrations. In that time we have secured thousands of contacts which we did not have and were able to once again bring our past students together at events in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Canberra, Singapore, Hong Kong and more. In anticipation of the impending 50th celebrations it was decided that College facilities should undergo upgrades to enhance the advantages that Albies can offer to students in their university journey and to be able to cope with our ever-growing numbers.

Jump forward to 22 March 2019, we nervously closed off the bookings for the weekend and saw that we'd be playing host to just over one thousand people for the event. With nerves and excitement the College saw the beginnings of the 1,050 attendees begin to trickle in on Friday, 29 March for the weekend's opener; the Albies Rugby Club 50th Celebration. In 1969, the College was established as an all-male residential college which, under management and students saw the inauguration of the St Albert's Rugby Club. In paying tribute to this, the College opened its doors to 700 alumni and students to commence the weekend in the recently upgraded Dining Hall. The excitement was palpable in the buzzing crowd as long-time friends dating all the way back to 1969 through to the present, spread themselves across the facilities for what was a fitting tribute to St Albert's College's oldest club.

As the main event, the Albies team had planned for a Gala Evening to be held across the College grounds from the Dining Hall through to marquees and a dancefloor on our lawns. The morning of the Gala Evening guests of the College were greeted by torrential rain which had organisers on edge and landholders dancing for joy. As the rain carried on into the early afternoon alumni sporting fixtures were cancelled, yet





the Albies spirit was running on a high, and the College saw hundreds of visitors touring the College grounds, perusing the comprehensive archives exhibit and supporting the men and women of Albies rugby through the rain. The afternoon saw a dramatic weather shift with the sun cutting through the gloom and clear skies brought a collective sigh of relief from guests and organisers alike.

Despite mixed results in the rugby, the guest's and student's excitement was reaching fever point as the Gala Evening commenced. With the grounds, facilities and marquees absolutely sparkling the event was humming from the go as PLC's outstanding string quartet signalled the beginning of a night to remember. The 1,050 black tie clad crowd dispersed amongst the venue's many spectacularly arranged grazing tables and numerous bars. We were treated to Albies' finest catering options circulated by an army of waiters overseen by the fantastic Albies Head Chef and his team.

The highlight of the night was the performance by Armidale and New England music legends Maxwell Street. The nine

piece band brought together the crowd through nostalgia and energy with a fine selection of music from across the decades. To see members from the class of 1969 dancing side-by-side with 2019 first year students, perfectly demonstrated the special sense of community and spirit that Albies has been built on over 50 years. The Gala Evening was brought to a close late on Saturday night with a raucous rendition of the Albies war cry echoing across the grounds. Students and guests left the Gala Evening smiling and laughing which was all the Albies team could've ask for.

Come Sunday morning the College closed out the weekend by hosting the alumni for mass and breakfast. Former College Master, Father Dennis Hallinan and Father Paul McCabe's celebration was well attended with students, alumni and friends overflowing out the Chapel doors. St Albert's College was pleased to have hosted such a successful series of events and we look forward to catching up with our broader family in the future!

— Oliver Grimble, Communications & Events Manager





SPORT RESULTS

NETBALL

| | | |
|----------|-------|------|
| A Grade | 35-22 | Won |
| A Res 1 | 35-28 | Won |
| A Res 2 | 24-29 | Lost |
| B Orange | Draw | |
| B Yellow | TBC | |
| B Green | Draw | |

NETBALL cont.

| | | |
|----------|-------|------|
| B Red | 18-17 | Lost |
| B Blue | 26-23 | Lost |
| B Black | 14-8 | Lost |
| B Purple | 69-0 | Won |
| C Grade | Draw | |

RUGBY

| | Albies | Robb |
|-----------|--------|------|
| 1st Grade | 3 | 46 |
| 2nd Grade | 3 | 28 |
| 3rd Grade | 24 | 5 |
| 4th Grade | 22 | 0 |
| Womens 7s | 22 | 0 |

UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL 2019

Tuesday, 9 April
Fresher Hockey

Thursday, 11 April
Academic Formal Dinner

Sunday, 14 April
MBPT Volleyball

MAY 2019

Sunday, 12 May
MBPT Football (SportUNE)

Friday, 17 May - Sunday 19 May
Parents Weekend & Ball

Tuesday, 21 May
MBPT Athletics Week 1000m
(Bellevue)

Wednesday, 22 May
MBPT Athletics Week 3000m
(Bellevue)

Thursday, 23 May
MBPT Athletics Week 5000m
(Bellevue)

Sunday, 26 May
MBPT Athletics Day (SportUNE)

JUNE 2019

Friday, 14 June
Trimester 1 Ends

**Saturday, 15 June –
Saturday, 22 June**
New Zealand Tour

