

VERITAS

THE MAGAZINE OF ST ALBERT'S COLLEGE
within the University of New England

ISSUE 2 | JUNE 2017





FROM THE MASTER

I have often said that the true strength of Albies is the senior student body.

They propagate the culture of the College and espouse the values that we are working hard to embed here moving forward. I can happily report that these values, including engagement, heritage, integrity, respect and service are being lived in all endeavours at our great College. It has been reassuring for myself and others that these students feel a true sense of ownership of this legacy, whilst at the same time they prepare for their step beyond college and university life.

College management is acutely aware that shortened trimesters and increasing academic accountability has added stress to our student experience. Although, I personally have been delighted with the level of support that is offered to our student body, in particular for one another by one another this year. It is this level of support and focus on engaging in a unique journey that continues to create the point of difference that our College is so proud of, ensuring Albies remains at capacity this year.

It would be foolish to look at a successful university experience as being determined by results alone, as it is the intangibles that will also create a positive university journey. To that end, the spirit of Albies is alive and well, as was witnessed at the Parents' Weekend. The experience of all who attended 'Grease' the Musical on the Friday night will attest to the outstanding performances of our students, which were backed up by numerous successes on the sporting field on the Saturday. This wonderful weekend culminated with the enormous celebration of our families at the Parents' Ball.

I believe that it is this unique spirit which exists here at Albies that ensures that our students stay committed to their college experience both during their days here and well beyond them. It is for this reason that I was absolutely delighted that we were recently able to gain the support of key members of our Alumni, fifteen in fact, from across the decades who have assisted in forming the inaugural St Albert's College Alumni and Friends committee. These impressive men and women are assisting the College as we begin preparations for our 50th year celebrations in 2019, a most worthy cause to celebrate.

Finally, our College's success story continues as it has for generations thanks to the contributions of many. Personally, I am greatly appreciative of this selfless act of giving ensuring that all who are attached in some way to our great College, benefit from their involvement, and leave here with a genuine understanding of what is meant by the saying, 'Once you're Albies, you're Albies for life.' To that end, please take the time to read about the launch of the Albies Legacy in December this year in Sydney. It would be wonderful to see a huge contingent of the Albies community able to share in this exciting College initiative.

Jason Lincoln
College Master



Head Students Michael Thomas and Peta Bradley, College Master Jason Lincoln

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FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

What is special about St Albert's College? And what are its plans and aspirations for the future?

Last year the College Board led a strategic planning exercise as a way of articulating the key qualities and values of the College. The process involved wide consultation with individuals and groups who have a passionate interest in Albies, and this culminated in a weekend Planning Retreat last September in which various representatives participated.

The result is a document called VISION 2025. It focuses on three main areas in the life of the College:

The community within Albies – its essential nature, as a community of learning grounded in a Catholic understanding of human dignity and the common good, and expressed through diversity; a community that fosters student participation in all aspects of College life, and is supported by a high standard of pastoral and academic services.

The College's relationship with the wider community – its external focus, as a community that looks outwards and fosters strong links especially with alumni, encouraging participation as well as financial support from all those who love this College.

The formation of future leaders in society – a specific aim of the College, reflecting the purpose and potential of university education, and the responsibility of those who have received this privilege to strive to give back.

For thousands of students over the past half-century, Albies has offered a residential community as a vital part of the university experience. Its natural effects are the strengthening of confidence and a capacity to lead that have proved of lifelong benefit, not only for individuals and their families but for the wider culture and community as well.

On behalf of the Board, I look forward to seeing the realisation of the College's plans in VISION 2025, and invite every member of the Albies community – current students and staff, alumni, and so many others who are valued friends – to contribute to the future development of this special College.

Karl Schmude
Chairman
St Albert's College Board



VISION 2025

ST ALBERT'S COLLEGE

Endeavour, Evolve, Exceed



FROM THE BISHOP

In a recent issue of Catholic Viewpoint five new residents at Saint Albert's College reflected on their decision to live at the College whilst undertaking their studies. I was struck by their comments, which capture the best of what 'Albies' has to offer residents.

Ellen Ryan said that she chose Albies because of "the opportunities that are presented, from pastoral care to academic support and community involvement".

Victoria Lake said "everyone gets involved and supports every event whether it be sporting, academic, cultural or even just saying hello in the Dining Hall; no one is left out of the Albies family".

I am delighted that the Diocese of Armidale is able to offer a Catholic residential college option for students attending the University of New England. The comprehensive support that residents receive, significantly contributes to their success at university. The feedback I receive from alumni also tells me that the impact is life-long.

For Saint Albert's residents, their time spent in a Catholic residential college is possible because of the hard work, dedication and commitment to the College by the Board, Staff, Senior Common Room members, the Diocese and the Cathedral Parish. I am sure you join with me in gratitude to all these dedicated people.

May God Bless you. Yours in Christ.

Most Reverend Michael Kennedy
Bishop of Armidale

FROM THE COLLEGE CHAPLAIN

I often get asked the question, what do you do in St Albert's College? My answer has always been, 'I celebrate the Mystery of Faith.'

Every week when I walk into St Albert's College, the life, the death and the resurrection of Christ comes alive. Jesus was born among people from different backgrounds, with different stories. St Albert's College embodies these realities. But more importantly, the College embodies the struggles of every human being responding to God's call, "I need you. I love you."

The students are on a journey of response, and they are responding with the heart that reflects their time and circumstances. As a chaplain, I am hopeful and very open to the baby steps of their journey. I don't know how long the journey will take, but I hope we get there and we find Him, God, who alone can give us true peace and meaning to live.

The floor gatherings every week and the once in a month Sunday Mass feed our hope.

Fr. Francis Afu



ALBIES – MY CHOICE



This year St Albert’s College was delighted to welcome five students from senior schools within the Catholic Diocese of Armidale. Victoria Lake, Hannah Backhouse and Emily Reid from McCarthy Catholic College, Tamworth, and Ellen Ryan and Sean Skinner from O’Connor Catholic College, Armidale. They have joined a cohort of 124 first year students who began their Albies journey in February. Our students have offered some insight below to any young men and women looking at joining the Albies community in 2018:

WHAT MADE YOU CHOOSE ALBIES?

Ellen: The opportunities that are presented, from pastoral care to academic support and community involvement.

Victoria: Family and friends had attended St Albert’s and they loved their experience, also the family like atmosphere at the College.

Hannah: The family atmosphere, you gain lifelong friends.

WHAT DO YOU ENJOY MOST ABOUT ALBIES?

Hannah: I have enjoyed the constant support I have been given. Everyone is always willing to lend a hand with study and make you feel included.

Emily: The students who live here help and support you in so many ways with your studies but also in the transition from moving away from home.

Victoria: Everyone gets involved and supports every event whether it be sporting, academic, cultural or even just saying hello in the Dining Hall; no one is left out of the Albies family.

Sean: Albies is a massive family, which encourages you to do your best

ADVICE FOR STUDENTS LOOKING AT JOINING ALBIES IN 2018?

Ellen: Get involved in as much as you can.

Emily: Just do it! It will be the best thing you do for yourself and your studies. Definitely visit Albies during the UNE Open Day (5th May) and don’t leave applying to the last minute.

Sean: Joining Albies will be the best decision you’ll ever make

Students in photo left to right (Hannah Backhouse, Emily Reid, Victoria Lake, Ellen Ryan absent: Sean Skinner)

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to 4th year Education students Ashlee Doak, Meredith Hunt and Katrina Doak who were successful in their applications to receive a NSW Department of Education Enhanced Teacher Training Scholarship. This state-wide Scholarship is highly competitive with recipient’s guaranteed full-time teaching positions upon completion of their degree. Well done girls!



NZ SPORTS TOUR 2017

During the first week of the mid Trimester break, 70 members of the College participated in the inaugural New Zealand Sporting Tour. The College fielded 2 Rugby Teams, 2 Netball Teams and a girls Hockey Team. The students competed in a number of entertaining fixtures against Canterbury University and Lincoln University during the 7 day tour. Some of the additional highlights of the tour included the following:

- Students attended a sporting breakfast with New Zealand elite athletes, including Ryan Crotty, Codie Taylor, Anna Thompson, Zoe Walker, Gemma McCaw and Sophie Cocks.
- The opportunity to participate in a two hour coaching session with some of the best Rugby, Netball and Hockey coaches in NZ.
- The Rugby boys were fortunate enough to be invited to attend the Canterbury Crusaders training session in preparation for their game against the British Lions.
- A trip to Hanmer Springs to take a ride on the Thrillseekers Jetboat and experience the world famous hot pools and thermal spas.
- A trip to Kaikoura to witness firsthand the devastation caused by the November Earthquake.
- A day skiing at Mt Hutt in blizzard like conditions.

It was an outstanding experience and an opportunity of a lifetime for our students, who represented Albies exceptionally well.





COMMENCEMENT DINNER

The 2017 St Albert’s College Commencement Formal Dinner, held in March was well attended with over 380 students, staff and SCR members. The evening was a wonderful start to the year with the Albies spirit well and truly alive! The evening was topped off by musical performances from students Jo Keady and Tom Fisher and SCR members Tracey and Colin Butters. Congratulations to first year students Jack Inder (Merriwa, NSW) and Clare Weeks (Lightning Ridge, NSW) who were the recipients of the 2017 SCR Entrance Scholarships.



ACADEMIC DINNER

The Academic support at Albies is going from strength to strength and testament to this was the considerable number of students who received Academic Merit Awards for their achievement in Trimester Two 2016, over 50 of whom received a Distinction average or greater.

- Knight Prize:**

SCR Prize:

Martha Hallinan Prize:

Master’s Prize:
- Kieran Smith

Georgia Devenish

Peta Bradley

Ashlee Doak

Ellie Gooch

Emma Brodbeck

FUTURES DINNER

The 2017 Futures Dinner proved to be another successful evening highlighted by an entertaining and insightful speech from Albies Alumna, Mrs Joy McClymont. Joy’s story beyond college life has been remarkable. This included her innovative stance in creating the company ‘Off the Track Training,’ which she did at the same time as her family was battling one of the worst droughts in the history of Western Queensland.

Joy’s themes included, amongst numerous others, the role that resilience can play in dealing with challenges you will inevitably face, utilising your support networks and life-long friendships that are being developed at Albies, and not being afraid to have a go at whatever comes your way. Joy’s stories, anecdotes and messages were very well received by our student body and the many special guests in the room.

The night was a celebration of Joy’s journey and achievements since leaving Albies, and served as a reminder to our students that they share this College with alumni and other stakeholders from across Albies’ (almost) 50 year history, who also loved what our great community brought to their life. As stated by Joy, ‘To see friends tonight from my own time at College, and others I remember well still invested in the Albies journey, gives me a great sense of faith in the College’s ability to inspire, as well as a strong feeling of pride as an Albies alumna.’



FRESHER SPORT

The annual Fresher Sporting Competition against friendly rivals Robb College, sees first students go head to head in Rugby, Netball and Hockey.

FRESHER RUGBY

An inspiring effort was made by the Albies Fresher Rugby team who were in pursuit of the elusive Fresher Rugby title. Unfortunately, Robb College proved too strong on the field taking home the win 7 - 0.

FRESHER NETBALL

The Albies Fresher Netball team played in very slippery conditions on grass courts, in their annual match up. The Albies ladies secured their lead early in the game and by the final whistle had proved too strong for Robb College, taking home a long overdue win 22 to 5.



FRESHER HOCKEY

What a game! The Albies Fresher Hockey team secured victory in a nail biting match up with scores tied 2 all at full time. The game then went to a 5 penalty shoot-out with Robb scoring 1 goal and Albies scoring 3 goals (Anthea Powell, Ellie Fordyce, Ash Flint) to secure the win.

PARENTS WEEKEND

From near and far Albies parents made the trek to Armidale in May for the annual Parents' Weekend. The weekend kicked off with the Albies Art Show followed by the inaugural College production of Grease the Musical. Saturday saw parents from both Albies and Robb come together to support students in Netball, Hockey and Rugby fixtures.

Records were broken as 670 students and guests attended the Parents' Ball at Servies with the function spilling over two rooms. Sunday morning the College hosted breakfast for students and their families in the Dining Hall as final preparations were made for the Mother / Daughter Charity netball game played on a make shift grass court at College. Spectators and players alike enjoyed the game with the mothers showing their experience and coming away with a convincing win. Thank you to all the parents who supported this special weekend on the College calendar.



GREASE

Congratulations to Berni Lai, Justine Biddle, Jenny McGarry, Leanne Roobol and the amazing cast and crew of the Albies production of “Grease”. This spectacular musical was performed over two nights with 800 guests treated to an entertainment extravaganza! With many laughs along the way, both actors and the audience thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Friday nights performance was attended by many Albies parents who had arrived for the annual St Albert’s College Parents’ Weekend. Thank you to the Armidale and Albies communities for their support of what were two outstanding evenings.



MCGRATH FOUNDATION 2017

This year Albies is proudly supporting the McGrath Foundation, a breast cancer awareness and support charity founded by Jane and Glenn McGrath. Through national breast cancer education initiatives like 'Curve Lurve', the McGrath Foundation aims to make breast health awareness a priority, with a particular emphasis on young people. The second aim of the organisation is to raise money to ensure that the thousands of women and men experiencing breast cancer can have the specialised support of a McGrath Breast Care Nurse, no matter where they live or their financial situation. Throughout Trimester One, our student led fundraising committee has organised various initiatives to raise funds and awareness for this worthy cause.

SCR CHARITY GOLF DAY

The St Albert's College Senior Common Room (SCR) in conjunction with the College Charity Committee held a Charity Golf Day at the Armidale Golf Course in support of the McGrath Foundation. The day was well supported with over 90 students and members of the Albies and wider community attending the event. Some very creative outfits graced the golf course with players donning a 'touch of pink' in the hope of winning the prize for Best Dressed. Just over \$8,000 was raised on the day. A special thanks to SCR members Angus McDouall and Scott Waterson who helped bring the event to fruition. The day was well supported by local businesses in Armidale who generously sponsored the event.

MOTHER / DAUGHTER NETBALL GAME

On Sunday morning of Parents' Weekend, mothers, daughters, fathers and sons gathered at the College to participate in the inaugural Parents vs Students Charity Netball Game. In front of a wonderful crowd of spectators, a very entertaining game was played with the parent team proving they've still got it, coming away with the win.

PARENTS' WEEKEND RUGBY MATCH

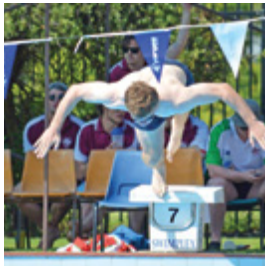
The St Albert's College Rugby Club showed their support for the McGrath Foundation on Parents' Weekend, playing in specially made pink and black jerseys coupled with the notable pink socks of the Foundation.



ALBIES 2017 TIMELINE

FEBRUARY

O' Week
Student Leadership Retreat
SCR/ Fresher Meet & Greet
MB/PT Swimming Carnival
SCR/Student Leader BBQ



APRIL

Charity Golf Day
Futures Formal Dinner



MAY

Albies Art Show
Grease the Musical
Mother/Daughter
Charity Netball
Parents' Weekend



MARCH

Commencement Mass
Commencement Formal Dinner
Fresher Rugby
Fresher Netball
Armidale Autumn Festival
Academic Formal Dinner



STAFF FAREWELL



MICK MCGUIGGAN

The College farewelled Mick McGuiggan earlier this year after a fifteen-month stint in the role of College Dean. Mick's professional attitude and personable nature endeared him to the community during his time here. As an alumnus (2006-2010) Mick was able to offer great insight into the college journey and felt strongly about creating the best experience for all students. Whilst it was sad to farewell Mick, we do so knowing that this is a very exciting time in his life, as he returned home to Camden, working as an Ag teacher at St Gregory's College Campbelltown, and more importantly, announcing his engagement to fiancé Caitlin, shortly after departing the College. We thank Mick sincerely for all his exceptional contributions during his time here and wish him every success and happiness for his career and upcoming marriage.



STEVE DREW

The College also sadly farewells our Maintenance Manager, Mr Steve Drew, who retires in June this year. Steve has been a wonderful contributor to the College over the past six years fulfilling numerous roles from maintaining buildings in need of repair, through to being actively engaged in large scale works, overseeing aspects of our building audit as well as managing numerous staff and projects. Steve's genuinely kind hearted personality, along with his flexibility and his willingness to support all others in the College has endeared him to the whole Albies community. We wish Steve well for the future as he looks forward to his retirement where he will be travelling the great Australian highways (and back roads) as well as spending much deserved time with Jenny and their extended family.

WELCOME

CHARLIE MILL



Charlie is an Inverell boy who attended Holy Trinity until Yr 10, finishing his high school at Toowoomba Grammar School. He then attended Albies from 2005 culminating in his appointment to Head Student (SRA) in 2008 at which time he was also voted for by the College as Collegian of the Year.

Since that time Charlie has worked as an Agriculture Teacher at St Joseph's Aberdeen as well as holding positions in middle, and more recently senior management. He has received numerous accolades including the R/U for the National Rural Ambassador. He was awarded NSW Rural Achiever of the Year last year and recently awarded a Scholarship by the RAS to attend the Agricultural Conference of the Commonwealth in Singapore.

Charlie has created and convened the Upper Hunter Beef Bonanza, the largest secondary schools agricultural gathering in NSW, and has contributed to numerous other rural, extra-curricular and social justice initiatives over many years. His connections run far and wide within both schools and the agricultural industry and he is held in the highest regard by our alumni.

We are delighted that Charlie has chosen to return to Albies in this key leadership role this year, and already his positive energy and dynamism have rubbed off on others assisting to create a wonderful culture here in 2017.

JANE SCHMIDT



We are delighted to welcome Jane Schmidt to the role of Alumni Officer and Archivist. Jane has been working for many years in Education having been the Head Teacher Business at TAFE New England, and has studied extensively at the same time gaining Masters Degrees in Education and Business. Jane and husband Richard have three daughters, two of which attended Albies. Since her arrival at College Jane has taken ownership of building our Alumni data base and at the same time she has loved hearing many tales from past students which are helping us to shape the Albies story thus far. We have really appreciated the way Jane has immersed herself in our community, including taking on the important role of our A Grade netball coach.

LOUISE BUTTERWORTH



Louise joins us after working in the School of Health at the University in the role of Field Education Officer for Social work. Louise is a qualified teacher and we were delighted to be able to welcome her in the crucial administration and relationship building role of Student Relations Officer. Louise fills her day with an enormous ability to multitask including assisting the student experience in every aspect the College operates in. She has been a welcomed addition to the team as Louise has been relied upon by staff, students and numerous stakeholders to ensure that the College remains operational on a daily basis. As the first point of contact for most students and visitors, it has been wonderful to be able to utilise her skills in problem solving which have assisted the experience of all with whom she is in contact.

SENIOR COMMON ROOM 2017 WRAP UP

Well, put quite simply it has been an extremely busy first half of 2017 and the SCR is delighted to have been involved with so many events and assist with the journey of these great students through our College.

While not a time for self-gratification it would be remiss of me not to acknowledge the efforts of the SCR for the benefit of those parents, friends and members of the Albies community who are not entirely familiar with what this group of people offer. Without singling out individuals the SCR has silently assisted in so many ways this term, including but not limited to, being sports coaching staff, musical directors and producers, mental health guidance mentors, social directors, employment agencies, academic role models and pastoral providers. All of these tasks are provided with an affection and commitment to making the students stay at College a complete one.

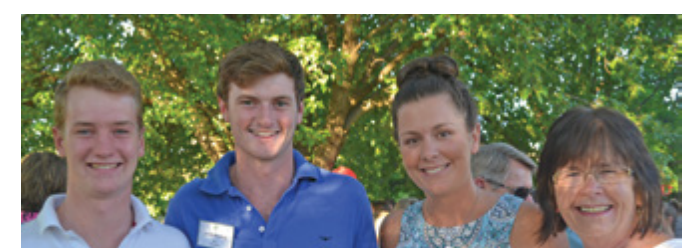
It is with a generous heart that our SCR members launch themselves into these roles and while our students regularly acknowledge this assistance, rest assured it is not a one way street. There is enormous satisfaction had by all in the SCR and it is with great enjoyment that our aging legs and broken vocal cords delight at the satisfaction of watching the success and participation of the students.

That brings me to a point where I would like to share a very special example of the bond that has developed within the Albies community. While I know this person will be embarrassed for me highlighting his efforts, I would like to acknowledge the enormous commitment from Richie Burke to his mate Mark Buttenshaw during the recent Tour De Rocks fundraising cycle ride; a 255 km charity ride through the gorge country to South West Rocks. Butto sadly lost his father in 2016 and at late notice Richie was called upon to ride with his good friend to raise funds for cancer research. With limited training, (I actually mean none) Richie accepted the challenge, and despite facing extreme difficulty in some of the mountainous legs, refused to buckle in respect of his buddy... This was no mean feat.

For me it was a very special moment as I rode beside Richie, Butto and Scotty (manager of Servies - our major sponsor) and it typified for me what our College is all about... being involved, mateship, friendship and camaraderie.

Study hard, play safe and we look forward to catching up in Term 3. Go TOP C!

Angus McDouall
President of the SCR



FROM THE ALBIES ALUMNI & FRIENDS PRESIDENT



Once again hello to all Albies Alumni & Friends. It is simply a privilege and a pleasure to be involved with the on-going story of Albies.

Welcome to all those who wish to continue their journey with the College whether it be by re-connecting with friendships forged years ago or by committing to the future success of Albies.

Since we last spoke, the amount of ‘behind the scenes work’ that has taken place is actually phenomenal! A huge congratulations to Alice, Jane and the Albies team, thank you. From a completely practical and logistical point of view, the mammoth task of gathering and collating data from 50 years of Albies history is well and truly in hand, and the task of finding lost contact details of past students is in over-drive.

But.....we are relying on you!!

If you receive an email that lists lost contacts and you can help, even a little bit, please do so! Make a call to Jane or Alice at the College (02) 5733 5200 / albiesalumni@une.edu.au or go to the Update Details Form on the Albies website. Your support is vital in creating the best ‘Albies Contact Database’ for us to use to ensure our 50th Reunion in 2019 is awesome.

The genuine connections and positive energy Jane, particularly, has felt from the many phone calls received recently, gives an increased motivation that Albies is alive and well and poised ready for an even greater future.

ALBIES LEGACY LAUNCH & LONG LUNCH

Friday December 1st, 2017 @ The Kirribilli Club from 12pm.

Please mark this date in your diary now and show your support for this wonderful initiative by the College.

Having in recent years run into names such as Fludey, Chaffey, Barnaby, Chunder, Bornsy, Joy, Peter McCue, Smoothy, Bindo, Charm, Mel, Oults, Fordyce, Hunter, Evo, Irish & Penzo, just to list a few, has made me realise the enormous potential Albies has to change lives and the sheer enjoyment of re-connecting with ‘OLD FRIENDS’

Looking forward to seeing many of you in December.

Yours in Albies

Kate Pigram (’88-’91)
President of Albies Alumni & Friends

BLAST FROM THE PAST



B Block 1977

ALBIES REUNITE

Former students of St Albert's College at the University of New England held a reunion in Sydney at the weekend.

More than 100 people took part in the weekend's activities, meeting in the city on Saturday before travelling by bus to the Randwick Rugby Club for lunch.

The group then went to the Sydney Cricket Ground to watch the Rugby international in which New Zealand defeated Australia 18-8.

Among the Albies group were many former players from the college Rugby team.

They included a former captain in Monty Lee, as well as other zone representatives in Graeme Smith (now a first grade prop with Gordon), Tony Burley (fullback with Warringah), Jim Levy and Philip Crane.

Other ex-Rugby players were Peter McCue, Tim O'Brien, John Lawlor, Tony Favaro and Richard Haire.

Three players from St Albert's inaugural Rugby side in 1969—Steve Ring, Rod Gates and Noel Purcell—also attended.

The college was represented by the present master, Fr Dennis Hallinan.

Junior Common Room patron Mr Robert Hanna and Senior Common Room president Mrs Janice Knight also attended, along with a former first grade coach of the Albies Rugby side, Mr Trevor Knight.

The reunion function will probably be repeated, although not on an annual basis.

Albies Reunion 1983



Netball Grand Final 1981



Vikings - 1992



Formal Dinner 2002



Students Building Fish Bowl Stone Wall in 1984

ALUMNI IN THE SPOTLIGHT

In this issue of the Veritas, we hear from four members of our alumni community who have pursued their interest in the agricultural sector since leaving university. Michael, Peter, JAL and Clara along with many past Albies students are currently working for Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA). We took this opportunity to find out about their experiences at College and how this time prepared them for the world beyond university. They also have advice to current students interested in pursuing careers with organisations such as the MLA.

CLARA COLLISON – ALBIES 2012 TO 2014 BACHELOR OF ANIMAL SCIENCE (HONOURS)

What are your best memories at Albies?

Best memories of Albies includes playing women's rugby, a positive learning environment, great culture and making some life long friends.

Would you say Albies helped build your life experiences and business career?

I do remember in my first week at Albies, teaching a young man how to use a washing machine, so any chance to spread your wings and live away from home teaches you life skills. Albies has a great culture and community spirit and teaches you how to be a part of not only the College community but also the wider community. There are many opportunities to take on higher roles within the College and advance business skills such as people management and running meetings.



What advice would you give to current Albies students who are interested in working for organisations such as the MLA?

Whether the aim is to work for an organisation like MLA or to work within the agriculture industry, my key piece of advice is to take on every opportunity to learn as much as you can about the entire supply chain. This includes extracurricular activities, work experience, research or even exchange programs. The more knowledge you have about how the industry works from paddock to plate and the stakeholders involved, the more open minded and knowledgeable you become. It opens greater employment opportunities across the supply chain and also increases the level of technical and industry knowledge you can apply to your first role.

MICHAEL CROWLEY – ALBIES 1997 TO 2000 BACHELOR OF RURAL SCIENCE

What are your best memories at Albies?

The many social functions and working very hard together to support each other to pass our exams. The comradery to work hard, play hard and celebrate our academic and sporting victories.

Would you say Albies helped build your life experiences and business career?

During university, I got heavily involved in meat judging as an extracurricular activity and this was led by an Albies senior common room member. This gave me a number of contacts in the industry and led to my first of many international industry experiences. My first role in the meat industry came from an Albies old boy who recognized my name on the new starters list of a large company I had recently joined.

How and when did you become involved with Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA) and what is your role within this organisation?

I joined MLA in 2009 and was employed to manage the Meat Standards Australia Program. I also held the role of International Business Manager – EU and Russia based in Belgium and I am currently the General Manager – Producer Consultation and Adoption where I manage investments in MSA, Beef and Sheep Genetics, On Farm Adoption and the national Consultation program to develop national producer R&D priorities.

What advice would you give to current Albies students who are interested in working for organisations such as the MLA?

Find an industry that you love working in and be prepared to start at the bottom ensuring you learn all aspects of your industry. When you are in leadership positions, there will be no task you require someone to do that you haven't done yourself. This gives you credibility and will position you to have depth of experience that will set you up for success.



PETER DUNDON – ALBIES 1983 TO 1985 BACHELOR OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS



What are your best memories at Albies?

Friendships. I made life-long friendships at Albies which you tend to treasure more as you get older. I think most people value these friendships and reflect on the significance of college spirit the most. Having been involved in Albies (on-and-off) since the 80's, they really were glory days, with exceptional performances in men's and women's sport. I think we're back to those days now with fantastic college spirit and leadership. We also laughed a lot and had a lot of fun. Albies and Rural Science balls and dinners were a highlight – they were great.

Would you say Albies helped build your life experiences and business career?

Definitely. Through College friendships and networks, I was exposed to all sorts of experiences, including some memorable time in the NT with Brett Bolton, David Johnston, Daryl Irwin and John Bourke. They were great days and cemented my interest in working in the meat and livestock industry. Time spent at Alison Chad's property at Manilla was also really important in directing my career interests and ambitions in livestock. They were great, uncomplicated times.

How and when did you become involved with Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA) and what is your role within this organisation?

I currently manage the Livestock Export Program for MLA. I started with MLA as Livestock Manager - Middle East and North Africa (MENA) based in Bahrain in 2007. I did this for 5 years, returning to Armidale in 2012. It was an incredible experience being based overseas with my family, particularly in such a culturally different part of the world. I scored the work in MENA through a combination of academic / technical qualifications combined with some solid, hands-on experience, particularly in the area of livestock transport. One without the other – I probably wouldn't have got the job. Demonstrated passion for a role is highly valued.

What advice would you give to current Albies students who are interested in working for organisations such as the MLA?

It's really important to get as much practical experience as you can through University. Don't just do the bare minimum required for your degree. Practical experience combined with academic / technical knowledge is critical in completing the livestock picture. A lot of MLA work involves dealing with industry stakeholders and you'll always be more credible if you've got some hands-on experience under your belt. Practical experience also gives you a lot of self-confidence which really underpins your ability to effectively communicate with industry (exporters and producers) and Government. Embrace the principles of hard work, loyalty, commitment and determination and you'll be well regarded for work anywhere, including MLA.



JAL, John Swadling & Peter McCue

JAMES ALLISTER LUGSDIN (JAL) – ALBIES 1973 TO 1976 BACHELOR AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

What are your best memories at Albies?

1973 - I came to Albies for the mirror and sink in my room, but found that it offered much more than that! Fr Fitzgerald was the Master and a strong leader. At formal dinners, he reminded us to keep the noise down as he had complaints from Guyra and Uralla! I worked in the kitchen. It was a great way to get to know people in the College.

1974 - Ilona Eberly, Albies Secretary, raffled her 20 year-old car and I won the 1953 Austin A40 Somerset. It was green, had style and it was much better than walking to lectures along the goat track!

1975 – Colour TV was launched and in D Block we rented a TV and watched ABBA on Countdown. Lots of new students arrived that year. I am still in contact with many of those - particularly through the Sydney reunions organised by Choco (Michael) Brent.

1976 – We had the first intake of female students. It was a great development and College spirit quickly lifted to a new level. It was a very enjoyable year for me as Senior Tutor.

How and when did you become involved with Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA) and what is your role within this organisation?

In March 1977 I applied for a research officer's position with the

Australian Meat Board (AMB), Sydney. AMB became Australian Meat and Livestock Corporation and then Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA). I am a member of MLA's live export team, specialising in South East Asian markets. We assist livestock exporters and importers promoting cattle, sheep and goat exports. Prior to this role, I spent many years working on meat export markets in South East Asia, living for two years in Singapore and four years in Seoul, Korea. It is great to work at MLA. The meat and livestock industry is always changing and challenging..

What advice would you give to current Albies students who are interested in working for organisations such as the MLA?

Study hard and make the most of the opportunities offered at Albies and UNE. Use your uni holidays to work in ag related areas. MLA's role includes marketing and research; on-farm, processing, domestic and international marketing; market intelligence and communications. MLA will look for graduates who have a strong drive and interest in the cattle, sheep and goat industry. Many MLA staff have a rural background. MLA is a good employer and it is a great place to be part of a dynamic industry.

ANNUAL ALBIES REUNION THE ROCKS, SYDNEY

“FROM LITTLE THINGS BIG THINGS GROW”

(It’s always the First Friday in December!!)

Although Paul Kelly’s famous song, “From Little Things Big Things Grow” was written as a memorial to indigenous Vincent Lingiari accepting land rights from Prime Minister Gough Whitlam in 1971 at Wave Rock Station, the words could just as easily apply to the Annual Albies Reunion.

The initial gathering had six attendees but has since grown to a regular capacity crowd of 60-70 Alumni at a venue in the Rocks.

While the Committee cannot really recall, they believe the annual Albies gathering at the Rocks in Sydney has functioned for over 27 years. Michael “Choco” Brent deserves generous accolades for persisting with the concept. His original scheme to take a loooong lunch has turned into an event that pulls Albies Alumni from far and wide. For example, in 2016, Albies Alumni joined the gathering from the Hunter Valley, Trangie, Adelaide, Melbourne, Orange, Newcastle, Minneapolis, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Central Coast, Canberra, Brisbane, Wollongong, Bathurst, Tamworth and Moree as well as a core group from Sydney.

Demonstrating a typical Albies commitment to inclusion and diversity, the last five years have been notable for the growing numbers of Albies women coming for lunch.

Besides the happy ‘catch-up’ factor, one aspect that appeals to me is the way everyone enjoys the pleasure of meeting a few new Albies men and women each year...and that’s when the conversation and stories begin! So much history in common (some forgettable!) from our years at UNE.

It is safe to lock The First Friday in December into your diary years ahead. The annual gathering in Sydney always kicks off with Grace & special welcomes, then we honour notable achievements and remember those who have gone to God....not unlike a Formal Dinner in the St Albert’s College Dining Room! It has also turned into an occasion to welcome new Alumni. A second ‘wave’ rolls in around 4.00pm.

Please note the 2017 reunion will be run in conjunction with the Albies Legacy Launch at the Kirribilli Club.

Peter J Ireland (“Irish”) (’75 – ’78) on behalf of the Sydney Committee



UPCOMING BRISBANE REUNION

The Brisbane Albies Reunion is on once again on the 25th August (the last Friday in August), starting at 4pm. We’re booked into the "Dining Car" at the Grand Central Hotel. Drinks and food (both snacks and meals) are available from the bar.

Last year it was great to see alumni from the 1970’s right through to the 2000’s attend the event. Hope to see you all there.

Please feel free to RSVP on the Albies Alumni Facebook page or via email below. Also, if you have your computer open to respond, why not update your contact details on the Albies website <http://www.stalbertscollege.catholic.edu.au/contact-us/> - this information is very helpful to keep you informed on coming events alumni events including the 50th Anniversary celebrations in 2019.

Tony Dennis ’76 – ’81
anthonydennis@hotmail.com

Date: Friday 25th August 2017

**Venue: The Dining Car, Grand Central Hotel
Brisbane**

Time: From 4pm

**RSVP: Tony Dennis -
anthonydennis@hotmail.com or via the
Facebook Event which can be viewed on the
Albies Alumni Page**

ALBIES LEGACY LAUNCH LONG LUNCH

Friday 1st December	12noon to 4pm	\$80 per person
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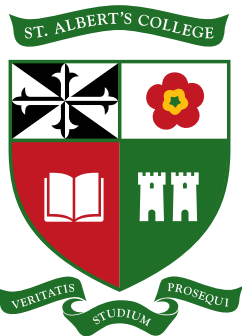
The Albies Legacy is being launched with the aim to meet the needs of our College community as we evolve. This will enable those who are deserving of the Albies Advantage, to embrace this unique opportunity and to ensure there is a bright future for this remarkable College, that many of us have had the privilege of calling home.

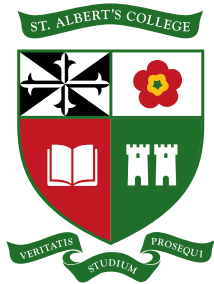
We hope you are able to attend our Long Lunch in December, where you will have the opportunity to re-connect with old friends, meet current Albies students and hear about the future direction of our beloved College. An invitation will be sent to all Albies Alumni and Friends in July, so keep an eye out. Hope to see you there!

Venue: The Kirribilli Club, 11 Harbourview Crescent, Lavender Bay

Price includes canapes on arrival, 2 course meal and an open bar

Dress: Smart casual





2017 ANNUAL APPEAL

As Albies closes in on our 50th year, the College has set about achieving an aspirant vision focussed on securing the future of our great college. To that end, we are launching the Albies legacy aimed at ensuring that the student body continues to benefit from the culture we have long been renowned for, coupled with the infrastructure that each is fully deserving of. The fact remains that any vision for St Albert's College can only be achieved with the support and generosity of our broader community. Together, we can ensure that Albies remains a viable choice for students over the next 50 years. There are three key areas of focus within the Albies Legacy, each of which is tax deductible:

BURSARY FUND

With the increased cost of a tertiary experience and competing priorities, it is critical that the Albies Advantage remain open to students from all backgrounds. This will ensure that we maintain our culture of inclusivity and support that we are staunchly proud of.

BUILDING FUND

The life span on College buildings and infrastructure has reached a critical point as we close in on our 50th year. In recognition of this fragility, the College has commenced an extensive maintenance and upgrade program, as a part of a building master plan, to ensure we are well equipped to cater for students and other stakeholders long into the future.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

St Albert's is renowned for bringing out the best in our students, whilst still upholding the core values of community engagement and support. The ability to produce outstanding young men and women who are contributors to society across numerous endeavours is something we believe strongly in. To that end we aim to offer scholarships to those who personify the values of the college.

YES, I WISH TO CONTRIBUTE.

The sum of \$

Prof / Dr / Ms / Mrs / Miss / Mr

Name :

Address:

.....

.....

Phone Number:

Email:

I would like my donation to go towards:

- ☐ Bursary Fund
- ☐ Building Fund
- ☐ Scholarship Fund

I have enclosed my cheque OR please charge my

☐ Visa

☐ Mastercard

Number:

Expiry Date:

CCV:

Signature:

☐ I will make a direct debit to the
St Albert's Scholarship and Development Fund
BSB: 082 105 A/C: 001 008 866

☐ Please do not publically acknowledge this gift

☐ Please contact me about the Bequest Program

Mail To: Mary Wright, St Albert's College
University of New England, ARMIDALE NSW 2351
Or scan and send to: stalberts@une.edu.au

ALUMNI NEWS

DO YOU HAVE NEWS TO SHARE?

We would love to hear from our alumni and receive updates and stories to publish in the next edition of the Veritas.

If you have information and photos you would like share please contact Alice Schmidt at albiesalumni@une.edu.au.

VISIT THE COLLEGE

We would love to take you on a tour of the College, have you meet with current students and staff and share your stories. Just call ahead (02) 5733 5200.

READ THE VERITAS MAGAZINE

To ensure you receive your copy of Veritas, please update your details by contacting us at albiesalumni@une.edu.au or (02) 5733 5200.

SUPPORT STUDENTS

The Development Office at Albies provides alumni with the opportunity to offer financial assistance to deserving students through bursaries and scholarships.

Find out more by contacting Mary Wright, Director of Development at Albies at albiesalumni@une.edu.au or (02) 5733 5200



**ALBIES IS TURNING
50 IN 2019**

*KEEP CONNECTED
THROUGH FACEBOOK,
WEBSITE AND ALUMNI
NETWORK TO JOIN IN
THE CELEBRATION*