



Veritas

A newsletter for St Albert's College Alumni and Friends

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 2

NOVEMBER 2008

Message from the Master

Welcome to the third edition of "Veritas". This year has been a very busy and successful one for the College.

- Despite falling UNE internal enrolments we have remained full for most of the year. We have now had almost 5,250 students stay at St. Albert's since it began in 1969.
- Our sports teams, in particular rugby and netball have had successful seasons.
- Academically we continue with 60% of our students achieving a credit average or better. This year we saw the College's 12th university medallist graduate and we now have well over 70 students who have received 1st Class Honours.
- We came 2nd in the SFK (cultural) inter college competition.



We are also adapting to new conditions affecting the College. This year 70% of all UNE's internal enrolments were from female students and at the recent Open Day we saw the females making up 66% of the visitors. Interestingly, one school who brought 30 students to the College reported that only 10% of their male year 12 students were even looking at studying at university. This potentially may make our College very different to the College that existed in the 1970s. Kathie, in addition to her Alumni role is also our Marketing Officer and under her guidance we have become more aggressive in our marketing to ensure people are aware of St Albert's College at UNE.

UNE is also changing many of its courses to provide more relevant and interesting options to potential students. This year, in addition to the new medical school, they started a number of new courses, such as criminology, which have proved very popular. Next year UNE is introducing a rural social work course.

At UNE there are significant changes occurring in the other colleges.

- The business operations of the colleges are being removed from the individual colleges and concentrated in a central business office under a Director, Residential Services.
- The Heads of the UNE colleges will just be responsible for the pastoral care of the students.

Thus St Albert's will have to position itself to ensure it remains a viable independent college, as the UNE Residential System changes around it.

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**See you at the 'Back to
Albies' 40th Anniversary
Reunion Weekend in Armidale
20—22 March 2009**

Additional details page 3

From the Editor

Remember when shorts were short and hair was big? Disco was a distant memory and we were watching movies like 'Mad Max' and Crocodile Dundee? That was the 80s and this edition of *Veritas* will feature profiles and photos from that era and the early 90s.

It sounds so cliché but the last couple of decades have really flown. It probably doesn't seem that long ago that you were leaving College and starting your career. The job interviews have commenced for our final year students and some have been fortunate to secure wonderful graduate positions. Luke Volker, this year's Senior Academic Advisor will commence with AMP Capital Investors in Sydney as a Finance and Investment Services (Graduate). While Sal Leedham, one of our RAs has been appointed as an HR Graduate, BHP Billiton (Western Australia). Congratulations and best of luck to each of our 2008 valedicts about to embark on an exciting period of their life.

The UNE and Albies combination seems to hold our students in good stead and I'm sure this will continue to be the case. You may recall that in the April edition I mentioned that UNE's residential system was under scrutiny. As Geoff mentioned, there will be significant changes to the other UNE residential colleges with much of the management and administration moving to a centralised structure. Fortunately, Albies remains as an independent college and we will continue to offer a 'traditional' college experience for our students—one of the few Australian university colleges to do so.

March 2009 is quickly approaching and plans are moving along well for the reunion. I've had a huge response and enquiries are continuing to come in—thanks to you all for spreading the word. I've started compiling displays—please send in your suggestions, photos as well as anecdotes about your time at Albies.

In the meantime, there will be Alumni get togethers in Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne with further information on page 7.

I hope you enjoy reading the latest edition of *Veritas*. I'm sorry for the delay in sending out the newsletter but extenuating circumstances halted proceedings so this edition is almost a two in one. Remember, this is your newsletter. Use it to keep us informed of what's happening in your life, catch up with old friends or to publicise a get together you may be organising. I look forward to hearing from you and always welcome any suggestions you may have to improve the newsletter.

Happy reading

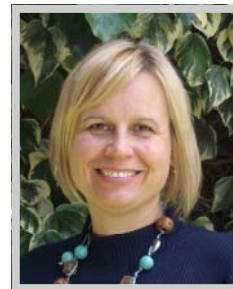
Kath

Albies History



Opening of the Library and Science Room 1985

L to R: Rochelle Aldons, Cathy Bathgate, Father Carter, Eva Gajer, Roger Hegarty and David Harris



From The Master Cont.

Next year at the reunion, it might be a good time for our Alumni to relaunch the Alumni Association.

With the work that has been done at College on the data base and the work Kathie has been doing with the *Veritas* newsletter to help re-establish connections between our Alumni, I believe we are ready for interested ex-students to build a viable Association that is able to support Alumni groups around Australia and overseas.

Please let Kathie know if you are interested in being involved in the reformation of the St Albert's College Alumni Association.

Geoff Johnston



Reunions

40th Anniversary Reunion Weekend 20—22 March 2009

Need accommodation for the reunion weekend?

Visit the Armidale Tourist webpage www.armidaletourism.com.au/accommodation.asp to check out accommodation options.

I'd recommend you start organising accommodation as soon as possible as there's always a steady demand for rooms in Armidale. Bookings can be made by contacting the motels either online or over the phone.

I've had a great response with hundred's of 'Expressions of Interest' received from across all year groups—the reunion is shaping up to be a great weekend.

Thanks to those of you who are putting out the word about the reunion. One of our younger alumni members has taken charge of Facebook, (thanks Luke) and our youngest alumni cohort, the 2009 group, is keen to get involved. Keep up the good work!

*Albies is turning 40
next year and
you're all invited
to join the party*

PROGRAM

There's been a few minor changes to the draft program from the last edition of 'Veritas' but primarily it remains the same.

Friday: Evening reception & registration @ SAC
(hosted by JCR)

Saturday: BBQ Breakfast at Netball
Netball matches—Albies v Robb
Registration at College (for Saturday arrivals)
Tours & displays around College & UNE
BBQ lunch at Rugby
Rugby afternoon – Golden Oldies,
Albies v Robb, Regional rep game
Dinner & Anniversary Ball

Sunday: Alumni Association Meeting
Mass
Lunch—Local vineyard (hosted by SCR)
Casual dinner at local restaurant or hotel

Email any suggestions to: albiesalumni@une.edu.au.



Looking forward to seeing back at Albies in March 2009

Ilona Reminisces!

I recently had the pleasure of meeting Ilona when she last visited Albies. I'd heard so much about her and how important she was to the College so it was great to finally meet her in person. Ilona has kindly agreed to host a regular column in *Veritas* and share some of her stories with us all. I'm sure you'll enjoy reminiscing with Ilona.

NOISE

As in most residences noise was always an issue. However, students always knew if they were in real trouble when Fr Fitz appeared at your door in his famous red dressing gown. There was no immediate reprimand, just a polite request to "see me in the office first thing in the morning son".

Fr Fitz was a shrewd strategist and would let the student squirm while he made great play of lighting his pipe and then, peering over his glasses, would say "Tell me about it". He used to swear that they would sing like canaries and he would find out all sorts of unexpected things. He also had a secret weapon - he had a friend who had an uncanny skill in reading faces and who passed on to him many of his skills.



Current students: Edwina Renshaw, Melanie McGilchrist and Jess Bower with Ilona

Occasionally however the students struck back. In the dead of one night the inhabitants of Top A carefully lowered a radio down on a string so it played full blast just outside Fitzie's bedroom window. Naturally, by the time he got to the top floor there wasn't a student in sight.

Water

Water played quite a part in student life, ranging from the saunas that were created by blocking up all the doors and windows in the showers and turning on the hot taps full blast to more aquatic ventures. After a while the fire brigade lost patience and started to charge \$50 a call out, which in those days was quite a bit of money.

One year, six (I think) of our students decided to paddle from Gunnedah to Lake Alexandrina. We all watched them construct their canoes and then went to wave them off and bless the fleet. The journey proved to be tough. One of the canoes was caught under the weir in Burke, smashing the craft and nearly drowning the occupants. A lot of the time they had to chop their way through fallen logs in the rivers and they all lost kilos in weight. However, one morning we received a phone call to say that they were arriving at journey's end the next day so within half an hour we were on our way to Tamworth where we picked up a small plane and headed for South Australia. We had two pilots – Father During, a much-decorated World War II pilot who was reputed to have landed on every airport in the South Pacific, (some unkindly suggested that he had no idea where he was at the time) and who later was a chief pilot with Air New Zealand and David "Digger" McKay who got his licence while at Albies. Being both fairly strong minded they enlivened our journey by arguing all the way about how the plane should be flown. Anyway, we were there to greet the exhausted crew when they arrived.

Father Perry was not one to waste his time. While at Albies, as well as completing a double degree, he also built the College a sailing boat out in the boiler house. It was a thing of beauty, painted in the college colours and I was thrilled when it was named "The Ilona E" and at the launching got to christen it with champagne while the Fathers gave it a more religious blessing. My delight did turn a bit sour when I discovered it was a "Lazy E" class boat and still wonder if I was being got at.



Joe Biddle—A Broad

Cont. on page 5

Water also featured indoors. One resident of B Block was notorious for water fights and as a result was finally sent down for three weeks. Don't think he'd been back a week when he, armed with a rubbish bin full of water ready to be discharged and Fr McComb came face to face around a corner. Without missing a beat he smiled at Fr McComb and said "Aw, come on Father, I've been out of the place for three weeks – I'm owed a few!"

Entertainment

Students today would find it hard to believe in a weekly formal dinner, complete with gowns, tablecloths and flowers. Highlight of the year was the entertainment put on after the Valedictory Dinner for the students and the Senior Common Room. Images that linger are an hysterical mimed version of Shelley Berman's Julius Caesar which was a cross between Shakespeare and The Godfather, a Victorian melodrama with twirling moustaches and Joe Biddle swanning across the stage in one of my dresses, a wig and a sign announcing "Secretary – A Broad" (I'd not long come back from an overseas trip).

Then there was Fr Fitz's High Anglican sermon, based on the text "Old Mother Hubbard Went to the Cupboard". Freshers sat bug eyed! The stage lost a lot when he decided to join the church.

But for sheer courage who could ever forget the performance given by one of the students about whom rumours had been floating regarding his sexual preferences. He got up, clad in fish-net tights, black suspender belt and all and launched into a rip-roaring version of "I'm a Sweet Transvestite from Transylvania". It brought the house down and the rest of his time at college was trouble free.



Alumni News

Father Hallinan celebrates his Golden Jubilee

Congratulations to past College Master, Fr Denis Hallinan OP, who will be celebrating his Golden Jubilee as a priest on the 26 November this year.

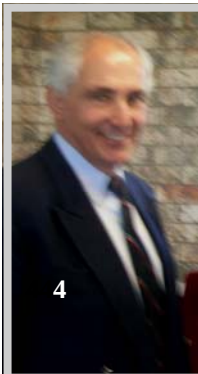
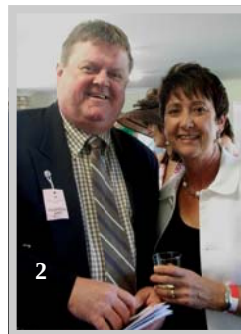
A celebration to mark the Jubilee will take place in Sydney on November 23. We wish Fr Hallinan all the best.

Fathers Durning, Hallinan, Galvin and Fitzgerald in 1975



Reunions

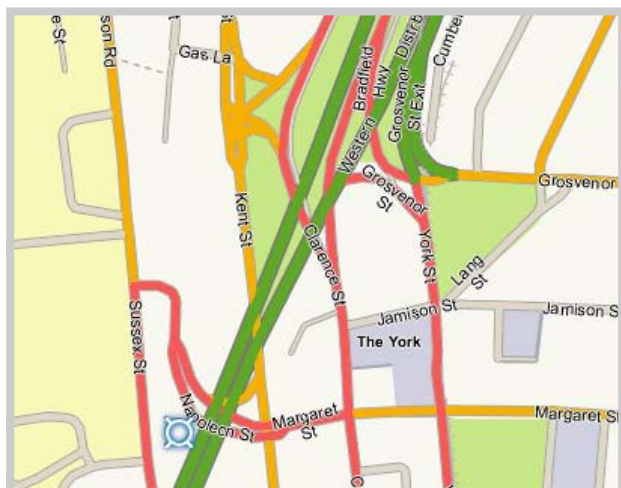
ALBIES RACE DAY @ ARMIDALE JOCKEY CLUB



Reunions

Brisbane — 14 November 2008

A reminder that the Albies Brisbane Reunion will be held on 14 November from 4pm at the Grand Central Hotel in Brisbane. For additional details please contact Anthony Dennis at anthonydennis@hotmail.com.



Sydney — 5 December 2008

The Albies Sydney reunion, traditionally held on the first Friday in December, will this year be held on 5 December at Morton's Hotel (formerly called the Big House), 20 Sussex Street in the City.

You'll find everyone in the courtyard area of the hotel from about 12.30pm. It's a chance to catch up with old mates for a drink and some lunch.

Please note the change of venue as the Palisade Hotel is being renovated. For catering purposes please contact Michael Brent: brents@optusnet.com.au if you'll be attending.

Melbourne — 26 January 2009

Not to be outdone by the Sydney and Brisbane chapters of Albies Alumni, two of the Melbourne crew are organising a get together early in the New Year to celebrate Albies 40th Anniversary.

All interested Melbournian Albies ex-pats are asked to indicate their interest in a gathering at Chloe's Bar in Young and Jackson's (Princess Bridge Hotel) at 12:00 on Australia Day Monday 26 January. If you are keen on having lunch as well as a few drinks please let the organisers know. The tennis (Australian Open) and Cricket (One Day Internationals) will be on across the road at Flinders Park and the MCG and a group booking could be arranged for these events if people are interested.

Please let either Robert Shields (Albies 1978—1982) or Rallas Buttriss (Albies 1979—1982) know by email at roshields@mgs.vic.edu.au or rallas@optushome.com.au what part of the day's events you are interested in attending.

St Albert's Race Day (photo captions)

1. Nat Groves (2003—2006), Sam Lee (2003—2006), Brad Cavanagh (2003—2004) and Scott Newberry (2003—2004)
2. Joe (1971—1975) and Kerry Biddle
3. Martina Valks (2003—2006) and Kate Carrigan (2005—2008)
4. Maurie Stephen (1970—1973)
5. Erica Cuell (2003—2005), Jeremy Brigden (2001—2005) and Kay Hammond (College Secretary)
6. Speak no evil (Geoff Johnston—Master), see no evil (Pip Kneen—Dean of Students) and hear no evil (Kath Hunt) - *Couldn't quite get the order right!*
7. 2008 Valedicts and RAs: Dylan Duncan (2005—2008), Charles Mill (2005—2008: SRA and Collegian of the Year) and Matt Browning (2005—2008)
8. Lyla and Chrissy Stephen
9. Greg Stephen (1979) and Chaddy Mardini (2003—2007)
10. Gaye Piper (nee Aubrey: 1983—1985)
11. Jonathan 'Joffo' Kelamac (2000—2004), Andrew Windsor (2000—2002), Glen Ubergang (2003—2005) and Andrew Brigden (2003—2007)
12. Joseph van der Berg (2003—2006), Erin Singleton (2002—2005), Stephanie Kennedy (2003—2007) and Melinda Stafa (2003—2006)
13. Nat Groves (2003—2006) and Kate Carrigan (2005—2008)



Reunion Reports

Thanks to Simone, Trevor and Janet for sending through reports on a couple of recent Albies get togethers. If you'd like to promote an upcoming reunion please forward your information to albiesalumni@une.edu.au.

Ready Steady Cook — Port Stephens 2008

—Simone Timbs (nee Philbrook) 1990—1993



Every two years we try to get together to show off our culinary skills, growing clans, and expanding waist lines (Simone Timbs won unchallenged at eight and a half months pregnant!).



Port Stephens was the location for this year's contest. Teams were arranged as follows for the two night cook off. Red Team leaders and Dubbo 2004 hosts,

Phil & Rachel Cranney (nee Shannon)

(Orange) were noticeably absent leaving:

Graham & Anne Kent (nee Buchanan)

(Lake Macquarie),

Ken & Karla Loughnan (nee Healy)

(Singapore) and

Chris & Lianne Mc Cormack (nee Doohan) Gunnedah, to challenge the Green Team leaders, defending champs, and

Mudgee 2006 hosts,

Chris & Liz Densley (nee Millard)

(Mudgee),

Phill and Jane Dennis (nee Muldoon)

(Orange) and **Damien & Simone Timbs**

(nee Philbrook) (Walcha).

The audience comprising of 15 children aged 10 years – 5 months confirmed an even draw for 2008

Mid 1970s Gathering—Digger's Camp

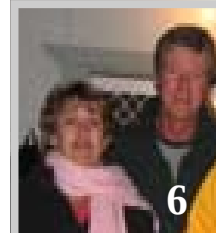
Janice & Trevor Knight

A small gathering of ex-Albies residents and affiliates from the mid 1970s came together on the weekend of 12 & 13 July at Digger's Camp near Grafton on the North Coast of New South Wales.

The timing was deliberately chosen to coincide with the running of the Grafton Cup Carnival. Most of the men present played in the first ever First Grade New England Rugby Union Grand Final contested by Albies, sadly unsuccessfully that time. The year was 1974—the fourth year of Albies' entry to First Grade.

The gathering was a very happy event and became a huge “talkfest” during which reminiscences were enjoyed, past events were exaggerated, former old friends were welcomed and absent friends were discussed in the most affectionate of terms.

It was truly a warm, friendly, pleasant and cheerful occasion. Most of these people are from this region and have remained in touch with each other since they left Albies, some of them for almost forty years.



1. Back: Wayne Bailey (Wacka), James Levy (Chopper), Cathy Doherty, Judy Lee, John Lawler (Larper), Robert Philp (Frosty),

Front: Mick Conaghan, Kim Butler (Kimbo), Peter (Monty) Lee, James Doherty, John Galvin, Jim Bricknell, Graeme Smith (Smithy)

On ground: Tony Burley

2. Frosty (Robert Philp) and Jim Doherty
3. Smithy and Jim Bricknell
4. Cathy and Jimmy Doherty, Kimbo and Jim Bricknell
5. Lee Lawler, Trevor Knight and Lexine Bailey
6. Lee and John Lawler
7. Judy and Monty Lee
8. John Galvin, Chopper Levy, Lyn Levy
9. Judy Lee, Lexine Bailey, Julie Burley, Wayne Bailey, Tony Burley, Lee Lawler
10. Wacka Bailey, Trevor Knight, Monty, Kimbo, Chopper.

*Mid 1970s Gathering
Digger's Creek*

Your Stories

Pope Benedict XVI's Brush With Fame

— Angus Blair (1994—1998)



On his recent visit to Australia for World Youth Day, Pope Benedict XVI had the pleasure of meeting Albies alumnus, Angus Blair.

Blair is currently the chef for His Eminence Cardinal Pell in Sydney, and hence had the opportunity to cook His Holiness a meal or two (including the delightful *Chicken a la Drake*).

Thanks to Matt Lyons for forwarding this photo and bringing it to our attention.

Kokoda Trek

— Stuart Southwell (2004—2006)

Stuart Southwell recently embarked on an arduous trek along the Kokoda Trail. This is his report prior to the trip.

The trail is about 120km long and involves a total of 4400m ascent and 4500m descent. We will be carrying packs weighing approximately 15kg and will generally do eight to ten hours per day of hiking. There is one incline that is approx 4000 continuous steps uphill (the Amp Building in Sydney is 2500 steps high!). There are approx 40 creek crossings and the temperature has been a consistent 30 degrees C and humidity at 80 - 90%. They say some men can require up to 9L of water per day during the more arduous days of the trek.

Training has been pretty intense although I haven't done as much as I would like to and the nerves are starting to set in. However, I have it on good report that there is a US hospital ship parked offshore on a humanitarian mission that has the capability to airlift the sick and dying so that is comforting! I'm doing the trek with my girlfriend Brooke Spokes from Tamworth and she's been doing a lot more training than me! Typical training involves walking up hills laden with bags (up to 19kg worth of ballast), jogging, stair climbing and lunges. Brooke has also been busy doing a lot of Gym classes and bike riding.

Although I have no known family ties to the WWII campaign, I am interested in the history of the trail. Brook has a grandfather who was engaged in the campaign as a signaler and her family is very excited about her attempting the trek. I was also keen to head overseas but didn't want to do the standard Vietnam, Thailand thing that seems to be a compulsory holiday for Aussies my age! I love a physical challenge and really looking forward to the experience.

I hope to include a follow up report from Stuart in the next newsletter.



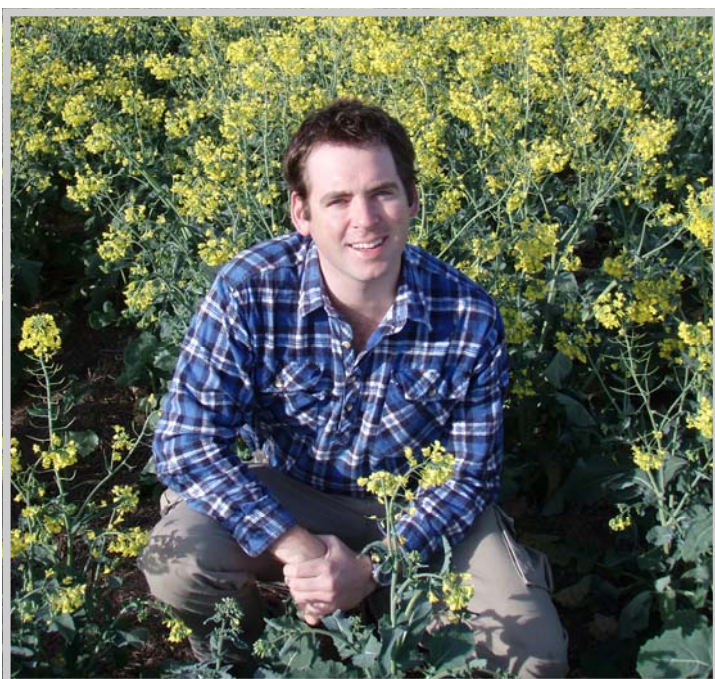
Stuart in training on Yulludinida Crater in the

Your Stories

Evan Ryan awarded prestigious Nuffield Scholarship

Congratulations to Albies alumnus, Evan Ryan (1999—2001), who was recently awarded the prestigious Nuffield Australia Farming Scholarship at the Innovative Farming Australia awards dinner in Hobart, Tasmania. Evan was one of only 16 Australians to receive the scholarship in 2009.

The Nuffield Scholarships are each worth \$26,000 and give young Australian farmers the opportunity to



travel internationally and explore agricultural issues and opportunities in a global context. Evan will use his scholarship to investigate the role of soil micronutrients (trace elements) in improving yields for broadacre cereal and oilseed crops. He will study micro-nutrient fertilisation regimes to improve plant growth, vigour and yield and to improve water-use efficiency.

Evan co-manages the family farm business at Yarrawonga, Victoria, with his parents John and Helene. Their 1000 hectare property 'Clontarf' includes 400 hectares of flood and sprinkler irrigation. They use no-till production systems, continuously cropping cereals, oilseeds, lucerne for seed and oats for hay.

The 16, 2009 Nuffield Scholars will leave Australia in either February or June 2009 for a compulsory Global Focus

Program. This will involve travelling to China, North America, South America and Europe investigating agricultural marketing, trade and environmental issues as well as experiencing the different social and cultural aspects of each region.

Following the initial six-week program, the scholars will go their individual ways to pursue specific study programs in the country or countries of their choice. Evan hopes to travel to Canada, the US, South America, Europe and Kenya on his individual tour.

Thank you to Albies sponsors whose support make it all possible!

St Kilda Hotel
Armidale Sportspower
Westend Wholesalers
Sport UNE
Liston & Clifton Solicitors
Invest Blue

Precision Motors
Ross Hammond Building Service
DJ's Fruit Wholesalers
Mt View Pharmacy
Eagle Boys Pizza
Airtask

Your Stories

Vale Dave Killen

— Extract from the eulogy given by David (Digger) Mackay 1969—1973 at Dave's funeral

I first met Dave on a squash court at the University of New England in Armidale in 1969. I was a second year student at UNE living in St Albert's College. David and I weren't actually playing squash together, but I was about to, and he was preventing me from playing because he was sanding the floor of my court. David worked for the University then, and had suggested to his boss that to prevent players from falling over and potentially breaking their legs, that the shine on the floor of the court should be removed and simply sealed. He volunteered to apply his theory. I didn't realise it at the time, but this was typical of David's approach to life—always look at how you could improve things for other people. We continued talking over the coming weeks as he sanded all the floors, and I remember he often turned the lights on in the courts for us so we didn't have to pay—his generosity knew no bounds!

The next time I met David was when he and his business partner Don Harper won the contract to look after the cleaning and maintenance of St Albert's College in 1970. It was from then on that our friendship developed and flourished from that chance meeting on the squash court. David introduced me to his wife Christina and his two lovely daughters, Cindy and Donna. Many family dinners and trips away together ensued. For me it culminated in David agreeing to become my Best Man when I married Maureen in 1978 in Warrnambool.



David was very much a community-minded person, but with a bit of a larrikin spirit within. As Vice Presidents of the Armidale Police Citizens Boys Club. I remember one Saturday evening after we had helped to raise money for the Club at the Armidale Show with Sargent Murdo McKenzie. Dave and I, with his partner Don, called into the Ex-Services Club for a quick drink before heading home. The three of us left the Club and headed for Don's panel van just up the road, not far from the Club and toward the Armidale Police Station. Don hopped in, but didn't let David and I get in. In fact, he began to drive off without us.

As fast as anything, David said to me, "quick Digger jump up on top of the van, we need to get home". This we did. Thinking Don was about to do a

U-turn and then stop and let us in, he instead did the opposite. Don drove up the road and was about to turn into the street where the police station was located, just as the Police wagon turned into our street, right in front of Don, with David and I still on top. Naturally, we were pulled over and asked what we were doing. David, as always quick witted, and knowing we were in potentially serious trouble, explained to the policeman that we had been at the show with Sgt. McKenzie raising funds for the PCBC and we were heading home.

Two hours later, a rather irate Murdo McKenzie rang David and told him how lucky we were, that we would not be charged this time with being *improperly seated in a motor vehicle*. Had Dave not mentioned Murdo's name, we could well have spent the night in the local lockup.

David taught me many things. One of them was gambling. We would often go into the Armidale Ex-Services Club for lunch, where we were both members. Inevitably we would not resist the temptation to put some money in the poker machines. Back then they were mostly 5c and 10c machines. Dave had the luck of the Irish. He would tell me, "Digger, I feel lucky today. I think I will put 10c in that poker machine over there." And you know, he would more often than not, put in the money, turn and walk away, only to hear the sounds of a \$20 or \$50 jackpot pour out of the machine.

During my five years in St Alberts College, I probably ran into David most days during the week. He always saw the funny side of things and would greet you with a warm welcoming smile, and often with a new joke to tell. He had an absolute phenomenal memory for jokes on almost any topic. He also had the uncanny ability to deliver them without 'stuffing up the punch line'. I remember a number of jokes that he told, some of which shouldn't be repeated here. But one I remember was about the Irishman who went to heaven and met St Peter at the gates. St Peter said welcome stranger, what did you do on earth? The Irishman recanted, I was a member of the IRA. Well, said St Peter, you cannot come in here.

Your Stories

That's not the point, said the Irishman, I'm giving you three minutes to get out!

A significant part of David (and Chris') working life was spent at St Albert's College. I always told people that while the Master was technically responsible for the College, it was really David who ran it. He trained many Masters of the College (who remember were single Catholic Dominican priests) in the ways of how young adults live. The person he had special regard for was the first and longest serving Master, Father Tom Fitzgerald—or Fitzzy to most of us. Fitzzy and David couldn't have been more different. One a catholic priest, the other a protestant all the way from Belfast. However, the two of them got on like the proverbial house on fire. They shared many years together running the College with Ilona Eberle the College secretary.

David had many friends. He couldn't help himself but make friends. He used to say, "if you want never to have enemies, make your enemies your friends". His friendships extended into the community of Armidale taking on many leadership roles including becoming president of the Skating Club, due to Cindy and Donna's love of skating. And was controller for State Emergency Services in the Armidale region saving many persons' lives due to his skills and dedication to the service. In 1975 he became an Australian Citizen, and the following year he became Armidale Snooker Champion. Although I'm not sure there is a direct connection between the two events!

It must sound from what I have said that David was nearly perfect—almost a Saint. Well, he wasn't, as those of us who knew him could well testify. He was a hopeless letter writer—even worse than me. I think in the 36 years I knew him, I received at best two letters. He preferred to talk, so that when you would next meet—even many years apart—it was as if you had only just missed a day. Such was his friendship.

David was born in Belfast on 21 January 1933. One of seven children (4 brothers and 2 sisters). He married Christina on Xmas eve 1955. He told me that he had received his best ever Xmas present a day early! Just as he was married he commenced two years of national service (mostly as a Military Policeman where he achieved the rank of Corporal). For a number of years after this service, he worked for British Rail (BR) as a train driver. One of the issues BR had was that the roller blinds

on the front of the train were always wearing out. All of the station names were in alphabetical order on the roller, so that as the driver moved it around and around from station to station, the roller blind soon wore out. David, of course, had the solution—put the stations in order of station location on the blind, not in alphabetical order. Such was his constant lateral thinking mind—thinking how to improve things for the betterment of others.

Once he had solved BR's problem, with their two daughters Cindy and Donna, then 4 and 2 year old, they emigrated to Australia via a five week passage on a ship where Dave admitted he was the fish bait—he didn't travel well on the sea. It was on this voyage they met Margaret and Pat Roper and their children. After a short stay in Brisbane they joined David's brother Andy and his family in Inglewood where David managed the local swimming pool. Within two years they moved to Armidale where the Roper family had also made their home.

David, like all of us, was tested many times in his life. Both in business and personally. But he always supported the ones he loved and the ones that stuck with him. While he may not have been a perfect husband or perfect father, he never let his family down. He was a devoted husband of 50 years to Christina and always had faith in the way he and Chris had brought up the two girls—such was the bond between them. He loved his wife and two daughters, and of course his two son-in-laws (Peter and Philip) and grand children (Jessica and Adam). He once told me (on the phone, of course, not in a letter) just before he and Chris's move to Queensland, that all he wanted to do was to be close to his family, and to enjoy fishing, golf and taking photographs.

It seems fitting that as David told us many stories about Ireland that I should finish with an Irish poem that he might well be saying to each of us today:



An Old Irish Blessing

May the road rise up to meet you.
May the wind always be at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
and rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of his hand.

Around the College

COMMUNITY SPIRIT

Albies Week



Albies JCR Committee Members: James Bartley, Brogan Walsh and Tom Cullen (President) with Marilyn McCarthy and Pam Pateman from the Armidale Hospital.

Our students braved Armidale's cold conditions for a week of festivities and fundraising during 'Albies Week'. More than \$1,600 was raised for the Armidale Community Oncology and Cancer Support Unit through a variety of charity events including a golf day, car wash and College Ball.

This brought the Albies students' fundraising effort to almost \$8,500 for the year, with the majority of the funds going towards cancer based charities, including the NSW Cancer Council and the Leukaemia Foundation.

Donations will go towards the purchase of much needed specialist equipment for the Armidale Oncology Unit and for providing comfort and symptom control care for cancer patients in their home.

World Youth Day

Albies was a temporary home for more than 240 young pilgrims from Belgium, Germany and The Philippines in the lead up to World Youth Day (WYD). The visitors were impressed with their first taste of Australia and Albies – all thoroughly enjoying their time in College, though very much quieter than our regular residents!

Albies sponsored one of our own students – Jesse Smith – to attend the Marist International Festival and WYD in Sydney. Jesse had the opportunity to engage in a diverse range of youth forums and activities. He found the experience of sharing with other young Catholics from around the world truly moving and rejuvenating—it was an experience he will treasure and remember for all time.

To reinforce that ex-Albies students pop up everywhere – Jesse ran into a young police officer at WYD who was residing at Albies in 2004 in C Block and studying Primary Teaching.



Jessie Smith (centre) and friends at WYD

Around the College

Relay For Life

More than 150 Albies students were among the 1700 Armidale residents taking part in Armidale's Relay for Life, which raised over \$100,000.

Albies had walkers throughout the 24 hour event, with all College floors represented. Congratulations to Angus Hodgkinson (one of our freshers) who held the fort for the full 24 hours.



Top B Residents with Prime Possum



Fundraising

Now that Movember is in full swing, College is starting to take on the appearance of a bad 70s movie set. Mutton chops and handlebars are all the rage—even the Master has entered into the spirit of the fundraiser sporting a moustache. Already this month, over \$1,000 in sponsorship has been raised in College. Our students hard work and generosity of spirit throughout this year has resulted in a total of almost \$10,000 being raised for cancer related charities.

WELL DONE ALBIES!



Around the College



**Emma Bricknell—
debating (daughter of
Katherine Bricknell
(nee Wade: 1985-1987))**

2008 has been another successful year for Albies students, with accolades received across all facets of university life—academic, sporting, cultural and social. Our students may know how to play hard, but they also know how to work hard, achieving a strong academic average across the College during first semester and this year five of our students received 1st Class Honours. Second semester exams are due to start 12 November—curfew is now on—so for most it's head down, tail up.

Once again our students have been successful in the meat judging arena. Three of our students are included in the top ten finalists vying for selection in the 2009 Australian Inter-collegiate Meat Judging Team. Of these ten, five students will be selected to represent Australia at the National Western Inter-collegiate Meat Judging competition in the USA early next year. We have a strong tradition in this competition, with three of the five members of the 2008 Australian Team coming from Albies.



**Anna Dawson (2005-2008) & her father?
dancing in the snow**



**David Pears (Dubbo) losing his beard for
charity at the hands of Nikki Strauss
(Sydney)**

Albies was also successful on the stage, gaining second place in the UNE inter-college SFK cultural competition, where our students got to 'strut their stuff' and perform in a broad range of cultural and creative fields, including public speaking, debating, theatre sports, small music ensemble and performance.

Mid year Albies celebrated Parents' Weekend. Traditionally, this is one of the highlights of the year and 2008 was no exception. Almost 300 parents travelled from as far a field as Northern Queensland and Tasmania.

The traditional St Albert's v Robb rugby and netball matches were a highlight with Albies proving their dominance on the rugby field with wins across all four grades. The Netball teams were also successful in a number of their matches but unfortunately the firsts were narrowly beaten. A black tie charity ball featured on Saturday night with over 500 guests dancing well into the evening.

Great generosity was shown throughout the night with a total of almost \$6,000 raised at the ball. All proceeds were donated to the Leukaemia Foundation and NSW Cancer Council.

Later in the evening guests were treated to a magical Armidale snowfall, which for many of our students was their first experience of snow.



**Professor Alan Pettigrew, UNE Vice Chancellor; Bishop Luc Matthys
and Geoff Johnston, Master at Foundation Dinner**

On the Sporting Field

Albies' strong sporting traditions were again prevalent throughout the 2008 winter season with a high level of participation, a number of premierships, as well as individual selection at regional, state and national levels across a range of sports.

Although our First XV were runners up this year, the Albies Rugby Club is again the most successful club in the New England Rugby Competition—winning the minor premiership in all three grades of the competition and taking out the premiership in second and third grade (all of our teams went through the competition round undefeated). The First XV Coaches were awarded the UNE Coaches of the Year; two of the players, Tom Cullen and Tom Hollis, were selected in the winning NSW Country Cockatoos Team, and a third, Josh Coulthurst gained selection in the Australian Intersvarsity Merit Team. Tom Cullen has also been invited to attend a Waratahs training camp over the Summer break.



First XV



Albies premiership winning netball teams



Albies A Grade Women's Basketball Team

Five of our 11 women's netball teams made the final series—three played in the Grand Finals and two took out a Premiership, making the Albies Netball Club one of the strongest in the local competition.

Our A Grade female basketball team was successful in winning their competition and one of the B Grade teams was runner up. The men's A grade Basketball and Soccer teams were also runners in their respective competitions.

The UNE Universities Games Team which recently competed at the Australian Intersvarsity Championships included a number of Albies students: Sarah Heagney was selected as the female captain; the Gold winning Men's bowling team featured three of our students, and approximately 11 of the 15 plays in the Rugby 7s squad were from Albies which was successful in winning the silver, narrowly being beaten by Sydney University in the Grand Final.

Keeping in Touch

We love to hear what you've been up to since leaving College. Thanks to everyone who has sent through information—keep it coming! Please send your details and photos to albiesalumni@une.edu.au for inclusion in the next newsletter.



Thanks to **Benny Ballard (1998—2002)** for sending through an update on the Ballard clan:

- I'm currently on six months leave from the Teachers' Federation and travelling through China, Europe and India. I'm not yet married but have been seeing the same girl for three years. After my travels I expect to return to teaching in Bungendore in 2009.
- **Luke (1998 – 2002) & Shona (nee Hurrell) (2000 – 2003)** are both teaching at the same school in Bungendore.
- **Miriam (1998 – 2001)** is married with three children (fourth due in January) and teaching part time. She and her husband Clayton are living on a large property just out of Scone, which Clayton oversees.
- **Bek (2000 – 2003)** is married with two children. She and her husband Richard have recently moved to Tamworth where Richard is the service manager at a truck dealership.
- **Gabe (2002)** is married to **Amanda (nee Butler) (2001—2004)** and is working as a police officer in Muswellbrook. Amanda is teaching at Jerry's Plains just out of Singleton and they're expecting their first child in April 2009.
- The two youngest Ballards: Pete and Naomi are both nursing. Naomi has recently married, and Pete has almost completed his nursing degree at Bathurst after completing a season of pro rugby in Canada.

Rodney Caldicott (aka Miester) - 1994—1996

After finishing at Albies I spent five years working in Sydney before returning to Brisbane in 2002. I spent a further five years in Brisbane before moving to Canberra to take up a management position at Nexis Accountants. I am currently studying a Masters of Commerce degree at the University of Southern Queensland.

Jo Crowley (nee Ward) - 1997—1999

After Albies I taught for two years at St Joseph's Walgett, followed by another two years at St Mary's in Warwick. In 2004 I married Michael Crowley and moved to Tamworth where I worked at St Joseph's, West Tamworth for 18 months prior to our first child Lucy being born. We now have two beautiful children, Lucy (3) and Tom (18 months) and I'm enjoying looking after them at home.

Janet Hollyoak (1988—1989)

My time at Albies and UNE has sent me in an unusual direction—beer—I'm at the Redoak Boutique Beer Café in Clarence Street, Sydney. There's a group of us who are hoping to make the 40th reunion next March.

Sam Kebby (1990—1991)

I taught English for a while at various colleges in Sydney before going to China where I lectured in European Studies at Tsinghua University, Beijing. I'm currently training Examiners for IELTS at the British Council, Kathmandu, Nepal.

Nathan Post (1998—2000)

I'm currently living and working in the UK and half way through my Masters degree—very much looking forward to graduating mid 2009. I'm engaged to Lisa, with a wedding date set for 18 months time.

Geoff Thompson

After spending 20 years with Pricewaterhouse Coopers (10 years as a partner), I am now a partner with a Hunter Valley based accounting firm, Farrow Wyatt. I have a beautiful daughter, Lilli aged 10. My sister, **Pamela Adams (nee Thompson– 1979-82)** married **Mark Adams (1979-82)**, also ex Albies and they both teach at John Paul College at Coffs Harbour. Pam and Mark have twins Sam and Alexandra, aged 15 years.

James Wade (1982—1985)

Since leaving uni, I've had numerous jobs in Agriculture, ranging from a broiler serviceman at Steggles in the Hunter Valley (where I met my wife Louise), to managing feedmills and farms, technical manager of a vitamin and mineral company which set up premix plants in Victoria, Fiji, Beaudesert QLD and South Africa, to becoming a consultant in my own company. I am primarily an animal nutritionist and I cover all species but I prefer ruminant nutrition.

We live at Mt Tamborine in QLD and I have four children, the oldest is in her second year of Pharmacy at Griffith University living on the Gold Coast, my eldest son is doing a pre apprenticeship in Avionics in Brisbane, and the two younger boys are at high school at Mt Tamborine.

Melissa Ward (nee Clarke) - 1994-1997

I'm currently employed as Manager of Planning at Narromine Shire Council. Narromine is a great little town with lots of ex-Albies students, including: my husband **Matt Ward (1996-1999)**, **Jeremy Brown (1996-1996)**, **Justin Lewis (1995-1998)**, **Anna Patton (2000-2003)**, **Danielle Ward (2001-2004)**, **Greg Wynne (2002-2003)**, **Ryan Pratten (2002-2004)** and **Skye Cochrane (2007)**. The Narromine Gorillas rugby team is very social and has a great young crowd.

Matt Lyons (1994—1996)

I finished a Bachelor of Agricultural Economics in 1997 and at the end of that year landed a job as a junior grain trader with Agracom in Quirindi. After a year there I caught the travel bug and left for the sunny shores of our motherland with another Albies alumni **Adam Goss (1993—1995)** and we lived in London with yet another Albies grad **Dougal Scott (1992—1995)**.

At the end of 1999 with mounting debt, extreme hair loss and the onset of a UK winter, I decided that I should drive myself into further debt and hypothermia and play rugby in Ireland. I initially funded this by selling scratch-it tickets for a charity on the miserable streets of outer Dublin and teaching Irish school kids how to play rugby. Fortunately I got injured pretty much instantly and had to find a real job which turned out to be in investment banking. At that time this sector was booming in Dublin and employed anyone who could string a sentence together after 10 pints of Guinness. Albies kegs were finally paying dividends.



Georgina, Lily, Fergus and Matt Lyons

I received a transfer with this job back to London and ended up living in St Albert's College F Block situated in Earl's Court west London (it must have been built at some stage whilst I was in Ireland). Here lived approximately two hundred ex-Albie's people. Needless to say we had fun.

In the European summer of 2000, **Gus Blair (1994—1998: aka chef of His Eminence—see pg 10)** and I bought a converted ambulance van and drove through Western Europe, into Morocco (and out again very quickly) and then through Eastern Europe for four months. We had to stop as it got too cold, especially after enjoying too many Trappist beers in Belgium and forgetting where we'd parked the van. The highlight of this trip was my blossoming relationship with a young lady who joined us on our adventures in Madrid.

Keeping in Touch

After the van trip I returned to London where I remained working for various investment banks until March 2004 when my fiancé Georgina (aka Madrid girl) and I returned home via Africa to get married in Brisbane. Blairy was one of our groomsmen and about a dozen Albies friends attended what was the day and night of my life. We moved to Sydney to live and I started working with Macquarie Bank.

In September 2006 we had our first child Lily before we were transferred with my work back to London in early 2007. Our second child Fergus was born there in May this year just before my work decided I would be more useful in New York. We had a month back in Australia in July and drove from Sydney to Brisbane via Armidale and caught up with some ex-Albies faithful **Tom and Sue Newsome**, **Tom and Gerry Vanzella** and **Dom and Berl Makim**. It was great to reminisce again, ten years has gone quickly. We have now been in NYC for a few months and love it and hope to stay here a little longer yet.

Rallis Buttriss (Ral) - 1979-1983

At the completion of my Bachelor of Arts at UNE, I left Armidale and followed **Margie (Walker) (1979—1981)** to Melbourne where I started work in a small software development company developing engineering applications. I then moved into a full-time job with the Victorian Public Service and stayed for three years. While there Margie and I married. After the public service, I joined a software consulting company and stayed with them for five years. In that time, Margie and I had three children—Jessica, Emily and Joshua.

I later joined one of the international software vendors and rose to Senior Technical Consultant level, after which I started my own consulting company, and added Alexander to the family. After 13 years of running my own company, I couldn't resist the offer to join my current employer as Senior Technical Solutions Architect. In 2006 I was promoted to Principal Consultant and the company merged/acquired in April 2007 to create one of the largest digital media and consulting companies in Australian/Asia-Pacific.

I completed post graduate studies in Computing Science at Monash University in 1996, as well as authoring a number of industry publications and specialist technical articles, and contributed to books and technical manuals.

I occasionally see **Robert Shields (1977-1981)** and his wife **Kathy (1978-1981)**, both ex-Albies. I recently caught up with **Chris Lai (1978-1982)** and family while they were visiting Melbourne as well as having a visit from **Andrew (1982)** and **Anne Lowry (nee Gill) (1979-1982)** and family when they made the long trip south from Casino. I also have some infrequent email conversations with **Jim Green (1978-1982)** and family.

Peter Ireland - 1975—1978

I'm currently the Executive Assistant to the Executive Director (ED) of Schools in the Archdiocese of Sydney where I manage the ED's Office as well as special projects at Principal, Regional and State levels.

After completing a Bachelor of Arts and Diploma of Education at UNE (1975-1978), I completed a Masters Degree in Education also from UNE. Since then I have managed to squeeze in a Certificate of Religious Education from ACU; a Certificate of School Administration from UNSW; Certificate of Law from Sydney University, and I've almost finished a Bachelor of Economics. In 2003 I was awarded a Fellowship by the Australian College of Education.



Much of my early professional life was spent in schools, working in positions which included Faculty

Coordinator (St Stanislaus' College, Bathurst), Studies Coordinator and Campus Principal (McKillop Senior College, Port Macquarie), and Deputy Headmaster (St Ignatius' College, Riverview). While in these posts I co-authored three books; *"Fundamentals of Senior Economics"*, *"Boys in Schools"* and *"Pastoral Leadership"*. In addition I served on the CSSA Trial Examination Panel for seven years and spent five years as an HSC marker. In the four years previous to my current position I was the Academic Administrator and Compliance Manager for Billy Blue Schools Group in North Sydney.

During my years at St Alberts College I represented New England Zone and Australian Universities XV, and was awarded the St Albert's College Sportsman of the Year in 1976. Always keen for a goal, in 2007 I won the "Balmoral Burn" race for my age which supports children's cancer research. This year I placed second in the Balmoral Burn and the Sydney Tower Run. Earlier this year I represented Australia at the World Master Athletics, winning Gold and Silver medals in the 400m / 110m hurdles events.

More than anything, I am the happy father of Sally (27) Hannah (22) John (17) and Bede (15). In my spare time I get to do some rowing, yoga, tennis, chess, theatre and writing.

Geoffrey Williams (a.k.a. "Wombles") - 1976—1979

After studying one year at Armidale CAE I then transferred to UNE for the first intake of the Bachelor of Financial Administration course. Immediately on returning to Newcastle in December 1979, I joined the Anglican Christ Church Cathedral Choir and am approaching my 29th anniversary!

After graduating in 1980, I started working as an audit clerk with (then) Coopers & Lybrand in Newcastle. Deciding not to study the 'Professional Year', I moved to BHP's Newcastle plant, working in costing and internal audit until 1985 when I saw the writing on the wall!

A year's working holiday in Europe followed, including 2 Contiki holidays then bar work before getting a job with a Harley Street accounting firm. I returned to Australia in April 1986, and began working at the ATO in time for the last year of Assessing. After 22 years at the ATO doing assessing, desk audit, advisings and appeals work, I have been a fraud investigator since 1999. I often see **Tony 'Wheelbarrow' Warzecha (1974-1982)** who also works at Newcastle ATO.



I was heavily involved in Apex for 11 years, including 2 years as Newcastle Club President and 1 year as District Governor. I finished up on the Apex National Board in 1997 when compulsory 'retirement' at age 40 brought release and was awarded Life Membership of Newcastle Apex Club that year.

In October 2003 I married Phillippa Wood, a music teacher, and now live at Charlestown, a suburb of Lake Macquarie (near Newcastle). Leaving it a bit late to start a family, we 'adopted' a Labradoodle (Labrador x Poodle) instead. Phillippa joined me in the Cathedral Choir in late 2003.



Charlie "Chook" Mill Collegian of the Year—2008

Congratulations to Charlie Mill on being named Albies Collegian of the Year for 2008. This was a unanimous and popular choice with Charlie receiving a standing ovation at Valedicts' Dinner. "Chook" exemplifies the Abies spirit—he has the respect of both his peers and staff and has successfully walked the fine line of a Senior Resident Adviser.

We wish "Chook" all the best and look forward to catching up with him at our Alumni events.

Alumni Profiles

This edition's Alumni profiles are from Simone and Damien Timbs, two of our students from the early 90s. Thanks to them both for agreeing to share their memories of their time at Albies. They represent one of the many couples who met at Albies and have moved onto marriage and children.

Simone Timbs (nee Philbrook) & Damien Timbs

YEARS AT COLLEGE:

ST 1990-1993

DT 1992

ROOMS AT COLLEGE:

ST Top C & Bot B Tutor Flat

DT Top A

WHO WERE YOUR COLLEGE NEIGHBOURS?

ST Rachel Cranney (nee Shannon) & Karla Loughnan (nee Healy)

DT Adam Smith and Dave Jarret

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE ST ALBERT'S?

ST I went to a Catholic High School in Orange and there were four of us going to UNE and so it was recommended to us. I actually didn't know anything about the College except there were sinks in the rooms!

DT Because of the sinks.

YOUR LIFE SINCE ALBIES

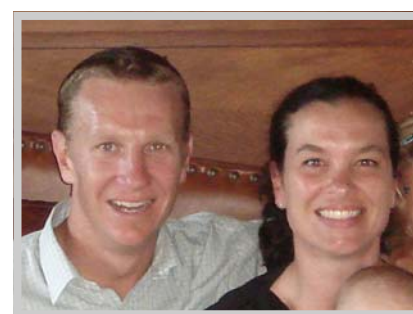
ST After leaving Albies I worked for Qantas for five years in the Finance and IT Departments. During this time in Sydney I had some great flatmates who all happened to be Albies Alumni - Ted Fenwicke, Leanne McCormack (nee Doohan), Joanne Hickey and Karla Loughnan (nee Healy).

I had done quite a lot of short holidays and tripping around, thanks to the generous Qantas staff perks, but in 1998 I decided I had to get the travel bug out of my system once and for all (I realize now it is one bug I will never be rid of!). So I spent most of 1998 travelling with my good friend from Albies, Rachel Shannon. We had a great time backpacking, it really was one of the best things I have ever done and I probably wouldn't have come home when I did except that our boyfriends at the time (and now husbands) decided to surprise us and turned up in London to travel with us for awhile and then encouraged us to come home!

On returning home I was employed in the Human Resource Services Department at UNE. In early 2001 I was fortunate to be appointed Assistant Head of Earle Page College. It is a role I really enjoy. I love seeing Freshers arrive at the beginning of O Week and see them grow and develop over their time in College and at University. My experiences as a student at Albies and UNE have helped enormously. The only problem is I so often identify with the students and forget that to them, at 36 years of age, I am an old married woman with kids!

During this time I have completed my Law degree, well actually almost completed it, as my final exams were the week Sophie was born. I managed to sit one exam the day before birth but wasn't able to sit the one two days after! It is my most credible excuse for a Special Examination used yet!

Damien and I married in September 2000 (we started seeing each other in September 1992 – we never



rush into anything!) and we have three children, Mia 4, Samuel 2 and Sophie 4 months.

DT After watching the movie Wall Street once too often in the Top A Common Room, I worked in Sydney on the Options Floor for Prudential Bache for a couple of years. Once I worked out that my slow voice and mind weren't really cut out for such an industry, I returned to Armidale to complete my Agricultural Economics degree. I was then fortunate to gain employment with a local Armidale firm, Richardsons Hardware & Agriculture, where I worked as a Pasture Agronomist for 10 years.

Simone and I now run a private agronomy and farming business in the New England and are based in Walcha.

Since retiring from playing rugby for the Walcha Rams I have been getting into my running and have completed the Sydney and Gold Coast Marathons.

FONDEST MEMORY OF COLLEGE

ST They are all fond memories but it would be remiss of me not to say meeting Damien!!

DT Watching my 80 year old Gran have her first beer at the Imperial Hotel (Impies) after the '92 Rugby Grand Final.

FUNNIEST MEMORY OF COLLEGE

ST Playing a game of imaginary cricket on Belview Oval in the early hours of the morning. Father Kevin (Master at the time, Bot E dweller and fellow cricket lover) was woken by the antics and from all accounts was not impressed! The Dean, Greg Eddie gave us all a \$25 fine and community service – I think I still have the disciplinary letter somewhere!

DT So many. But I remember Dave Kapsa?? driving Abrose's much adored bright yellow ute into the A Block carpark, forgetting to brake and crashing into the concrete pylon.

WHAT DID YOU LEARN AT COLLEGE THAT HAS SERVED YOU WELL IN YOUR CAREER / LIFE TO DATE?

ST Have confidence in yourself and if you try your hardest and never give up, you will succeed.

DT Look after your neighbours, everyone has a story to tell.

BEST ADVICE YOU RECEIVED AT COLLEGE

ST You get out what you put in, and this is true of everything in life.

DT Run hard, play straight.

ARE YOU STILL IN CONTACT WITH ANY OF YOUR OLD COLLEGE FRIENDS?

ST Many of our friends married the boyfriend/girlfriend they met either at Albies or UNE and so it is easy to keep in contact with a large number of old college friends. Amazingly, you will always run into someone from Albies wherever you go.

DT Yes, all my mates married Simone's mates. We have the 'Aussie BBQ – boys on one side – girls on the other' without getting in trouble.



Damien, Simone, Sophie, Mia and Sam Timbs

VISITS BACK TO COLLEGE

- ST As part of my role as Assistant Head at Earle Page College I sometimes attend meetings at Albies. I feel a real sense of nostalgia whenever I enter the grounds and the main building, then I have to snap out of it and remember they are now my competition!
- DT Living locally I often drive past College and look up to my Top A full corner room and have a little giggle. Loving the success Albies are having in the footy over recent years.

FAVOURITE MEAL AT COLLEGE

- ST Not curried sausages or prawns, that's for sure!
- DT Loaves of bread and litres of milk, life was pretty good.

FAVOURITE SOCIAL ACTIVITY AT COLLEGE

- ST I loved every O Week— songs from each year remind me of the fun nights at Impies – like Vanilla Ice “Ice, Ice, Baby”, B52’s ‘Love Shack’ and Tom Cochrane’s “Life is a Highway” – now that really dates me. My favourites on the social calendar were Toga Party and Gender Bender.
- DT Formal Dinners and Top A “Frank Sinatra”.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AT COLLEGE

- ST I wasn't the best participant in the sporting or cultural activities, however I was pretty involved in the social committees and activities, maybe a little too involved sometimes!
- DT Footy, Touch Footy, Footy training, more Footy.



L to R: Liz Densley (nee Millard), Chris McCormack, Ken & Karla Loughnan (nee Healy), Anne Kent (nee Buchanan), Chris Densley, Leanne McCormack (nee Doohan), Jane (nee Muldoon) & Phill Dennis, Damien & Simone Timbs, Graham Kent and kids

A call for help!

The displays for the 40th are underway but I need your help in filling the gaps.

I'd love your recollections of significant events at Albies plus your thoughts on why Albies is so special.

These events may include :

- **milestones in your life at Albies**
- **the transformation of an all male college to a co-educational college**
- **the move from Dominican to lay Masters**
- **the handing over of the College to the Catholic Diocese.**

I'd also appreciate you sending through electronic photos or an oral account of your days here.

I'd particularly appreciate photos from the mid 80s through to the mid 90s, as well as sporting photos covering the following teams:

- **2001, 2002 and 2003 A Res 1 Netball team photos.**
Our records show that these are the only premiership winning A Grade and A Res 1 netball teams between 1998 and 2003. If this isn't the case, please let us know.
- **Intercollegiate Rugby League Teams**—was Albies successful in winning a Premiership between 1998 and 2005.

**Please forward your submissions and photos to
albiesalumni@une.edu.au
at your earliest convenience.**

ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS

**If you enjoyed your time at Albies,
please pass on the good word to your school's
Career Advisor and senior students.**

**Let me know if you require any stickers, brochures or other
information. My contact details are: phone—02 6773 6002
or email: albiesalumni@une.edu.au**

Blast from the Past—1985 & 1986

St. Albert's College

The University of New England



University of New England
ARMIDALE NSW 2351

Phone: 02 6773 6004
Fax: 02 6773 6399
E-mail: albiesalumni@une.edu.au
www.une.edu.au/campus/st-alberts/



Pygmalion cast 1985



Orientation Week 1986—Run Swim



*Please forward your submissions and photos for
the next edition to albiesalumni@une.edu.au
prior to 10 December 2008*