



HSOBA IVIED TOWER NEWSLETTER



Thursday 17 March 2016

FROM THE PRESIDENT

There's something wonderful about reading of the exploits of people you know or people you share a connection with, don't you think? One of the great things about living, or having lived at least for a time, in this smallish capital city with its strong community groups, is being able to maintain connections and being able to belong.

I find it exciting to read stories about Old Boys who left in 1952 ... or 2014. You'll find many of them in this edition of Ivied Tower. Their achievements occur in the Arts, in many fields of business, in service of their community or in a diverse range of sporting arenas. In some cases they live and work in far corners of the globe ... in some, they're just around the corner. Of course, our community extends into every corner of the planet and into every field of human endeavour. They're great stories to share – and its terrific that this Old Boys network is connected to them ... and to you!

In 2016, your Old Boys Committee will run a number of functions and events and will consider how it might participate more fully in its community to support the School and support Old Boys. We want our events to be successful and we need your active participation to ensure they are. This year will also see the inaugural Young Alumni Award presented.

The purpose of the new award is to inspire current senior students and recent leavers by recognising an Old Boy who is still in the early - mid stage of his career. It also offers the current leavers group and the Old Boys an opportunity to work together on a project that discusses contemporary values.

The award will be presented to an Old Boy who left school no more than 15 years ago and who has excelled in Arts, Sport, Business or Community Service and has made a significant achievement in his field of endeavour. It's a good time to consider Old Boys you know who might be worthy nominees.

I urge you to stay connected to the Hutchins School Old Boys' Association and participate in as much as you are able. Come along to a reunion, re-connect with a school mate, share a story with us, contribute ideas or provide some feedback. For now take a moment to enjoy reading about the exploits of Old Boys just like you and me.

Mr Tim Munro, HSOBA President

BAD MAN BREAKS FAMILY TRADITION

Grapes are in his blood but Claude Alcorso ('12) has made a break in his family tradition by making his mark with apples. Claude has launched his own cider called Bad Man Cider made from Tasmanian apples. Although the Alcorso's are well known for their winemaking and their family winery Moorilla Estate at Berridale, Claude said he wanted to explore the opportunities afforded by the State's premium apples and booming cider industry. His business model, which he developed for a school project in Year 12 involves keeping the prices low by delivering the cider in kegs to pubs. The cider is made by award-winning cider maker Adam D'Arcy, chief cider maker of Winemaking Tasmania at Cambridge. The Dr Syntax Hotel in Sandy Bay was the first pub to stock Claude's Bad Man Cider, which can be found at selected venues including Hobart's newest pub The Whaler.

UPDATE YOUR DETAILS

Please send any updated contact info to hsoba@hutchins.tas.edu.au or update your HSOBA Online Network account at www.hutchins.tas.edu.au/old-boys

HSOBA CALENDAR

For more information on these events visit www.hutchins.tas.edu.au/old-boys

- FRI 6 MAY** - Launceston Drinks
 - FRI 13 MAY** - Melbourne Reunion
 - FRI 20 MAY** - Sydney Reunion
 - JUNE DATE TBC** - Corporate Connections Breakfast
 - FRI 5 AUG** - HSOBA Lions Unveiling and Anniversary Lunch
 - SAT 6 AUG** - School Reunion for Pre '61, '66, '71, '76, '81, '86, '91, '96, '01, '06, '11
 - FRI 25 NOV** - Ray Vincent Lunch
- Adelaide and Perth Reunion dates will be scheduled for later in the year





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PARSONS STRIKE GOLD WITH THEIR TOURISM VENTURE

Tim Parsons' ('85) decision to transform their working farm at Hamilton into a B&B and later into farm-stay accommodation has paid off in spades. Curringa Farm Tours and Accommodation recently won Best Hosted Accommodation at the Australian Tourism Awards and has been attracting stong interest from Chinese tourists in particular. With the Chinese President's recent visit propelling the 38% increase in Chinese visitation to Tasmania in the past 12 months, Tim has made the Chinese market his primary focus for his business. "We've done a lot of marketing in that space. I've been over to China six times visiting travel agents, meeting people and better understanding the culture and knowing how to present back when visitors come to Curringa". Asian guests are facinated by the hands-on farming experience along with the beautiful landscape and scenery that Curringa offers. Tim is a sixth-generation farmer in the Derwent Valley and his enthusiasm and passion for the business and farm has been the cornerstone of their success. Tim has already started plans to expand the business with new accommodation and a restaurant/function centre.

SUCCESS IN THE FIELDS AND ON THE WATER FOR ANDREW HALL

Since leaving Hutchins Andrew Hall ('85) has completed his honours in Ag Science and has worked primarily in fruit production, quality assurance and grower liaison for export and domestic fruit markets as well as time in the fertilizer industry. He is passionate about horticulture in Tasmania and when hearing that Reid Fruits were to embark on a green-fields high altitude orchard at Jericho he was keen to be involved. He has now joined the project which utilises a new irrigation scheme and will extend the cherry export season as well as providing a boost to the Southern Midlands. Andrew is also a coach at Hutchins. As an ex-Hutchins rower, he naturally became involved when his son Alex ('14) started rowing in Year 7 and he has now been coaching for eight years. 'I thoroughly enjoy putting something back into the School and seeing not only the progress of my sons but getting to know all their mates and watch these young men grow. Most of the dads are my old school mates so we have a ball – that's the strength of the Hutchins community'. Since leaving Hutchins Alex has now taken on a career in the Navy while Andrew's other son Sam is currently in Year 11 and in the 1st VIII.

BODANE'S GOT TALENT

Since leaving Hutchins Bodane Hatten ('09) has pursued his passion performing as an actor and as a stand-up comedy magician. His work has led him to meet and in some cases perform with some of Australia's most talented performers such as Josh Earl, Dave Hughes and The Umbilical Brothers. Some of Bodane's career highlights include the Melbourne Magic, Circus, and Adelaide Fringe Festivals and recently Australia's Got Talent. Bodane wowed the Australia's Got Talent judges last month with his act of swallowing a series of needles before having them re-emerge on a piece of string and was chosen as a potential wildcard entry. He hopes that his act which combines comedy and magic would help put local performers on the national stage. 'It's very hard to find work in Tasmania as a performer. A lot of people still think magic is a kids' thing, I also thought I had something to show the Nation. Bodane's current focus is performing one act shows and working on a National tour. His favourite joke is 'When I was at school I said I wanted to be a comedian and everyone laughed at me. Well they aren't laughing now.'





LATEST NEWS



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PUSHING THE BOUNDARIES FOR AGRICULTURAL INNOVATION

Sam Trethewey ('01) has moved back to Melbourne to head up Australia's first Agritech Accelerator. With a fresh focus on Innovation from all levels of government and agriculture moving into the lime-light as a key driver of Australia's economic growth, Sam has been bought on board to develop a national ecosystem of support that matches entrepreneurs and ag innovators with mentors and investors. "Yes, we've some of the best farmers in the world, but our support network for converting research, tech, talent and passion into commercial outcomes is deplorable," he said, "Many of our ag innovators just move overseas where they get great support and a financial kick-start. The opportunity to harness our best people is now."

His move to Melbourne follows two years in Queensland where he completed his Executive MBA at Bond University and gained more experience in northern farming systems like cotton, macadamias and beef.

Since leaving Hutchins in 2001, Sam has worked across nearly every major agricultural commodity group in Australia and overseas. He's also applied himself through professional roles in Melbourne and Sydney which has given him some invaluable experience but also a fresh set of eyes to look at agriculture he says. That was what partly pushed Sam into writing for Fairfax Agriculture these last few years where he has stood his ground and lifted the lid on a number of sensitive and taboo topics in the industry. From there Sam is often asked to speak at events where he engages through his stories and experience but challenges thinking always aiming for a fresh approach.



RIVERSDALE ESTATE SET TO DELIGHT PETER RABBIT FANS

Once upon a time there lived four little bunnies and their names were Flosy, Mopsy, Cotton-tail and Peter - they are soon all to be found in the Coal River Valley in the enchanting Peter Rabbit Garden at Riversdale Estate. A vision of 36 years in the making the Roberts family will soon open the only "Peter Rabbit" garden outside the United Kingdom. Riversdale Estate at Cambridge under the guidance of Ian and Wendy and sons Christiaan ('07), Anton ('11) and Rainier (Year 12) has come a long way from a sheep and grazing property to a 38ha vineyard. The family has added agritourism to the mix and also offer accommodation. Their Peter Rabbit garden is designed around the Beatrix Potter books and they have also launched a French bistro, cellar door and a high-tea orangery. "It's the first time in Tasmania value-adding to this scale has been done in a vineyard. It's unique and we are proud of it," Anton said. The garden is sure to keep guests young and old enthralled.



GRACING THE STAGE AGAIN

Directly after graduating from the Victorian College of the Arts in 2009, Kevin Hofbauer ('06) landed one of the lead roles in Channel Tens AFI winning drama Rush as Constable Christian Tapu. After the success of the show it led to multiple opportunities where Kevin landed roles in other Channel Ten and Foxtel shows such as Small Time Gangster, Mr & Mrs Murder and an entire season on the ever popular drama series Offspring. After that, Kevin went back to his VCA roots and performed on stage with the Malthouse Theatre Company in a school education program, which toured in Melbourne and up to Albury. In 2014, Kevin then went on to perform with the Red Stitch Theatre Company in a very successful show called The Flick written by Annie Baker. The show was given 4.5-5 star reviews at the Melbourne Film festival and thus was given the opportunity for a remount the following year. It was then named as one of the top five theatre performances of the year. Kevin married Sally-Anne in October 2015 in Melbourne.

Kevin is currently working on producing a script to develop a web series with fellow Hutchins graduate Peter Sherwood ('06).





WHERE ARE THEY NOW



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DON CALVERT ('52) is a sailing identity on the Derwent with his 31yo yacht 'Intrigue'. Don sailed Intrigue in the 1985 Admiral's Cup and she is still gracing our river under the direction of Don and his crew who are sailing very well this year in the Group A, IRC Division.

SHAUN LENNARD ('79) is working as a media adviser to Senator Ricky Muir of the Australian Motoring Enthusiast Party. Shaun had been honorary chairman of the Australian Motorcycle Council for nine years prior to taking up the position in Senator Muir's office at the end of 2015.

NATASHA CICA ('85) was recognised by the AFR and Westpac Banking as one of Australia's 100 Women of Influence, in the category of innovation. She is currently Director of kapacity.org and Perfect Pitch which is an intensive professional development initiative helping participants to communicate effectively to groups.

MICHAEL COOPER ('86) is planning to sail his SB20 at the Worlds in Cascais, Portugal in August. Michael and his crew recently sailed his boat, Export Roo, to third overall in the Crown Series on the Derwent in the Tasmanian Championships. Michael's son William (current student) also takes after his father and will be representing Australia with crew member Hugh Allison (current student) in the International Cadet World Championships in Argentina.

CHARLES JACK ('87) is currently living in Tokyo, and working at The Westin Tokyo as General Manager. Charles left Australia in the late 1990s and has had a variety of roles with the same Company since then. Married with two children (born 2001 and 2003). If you are travelling to Tokyo and know Charles he would love to see you.

NIALL SEEWANG ('97) has joined ESPN Australia as an Associate Editor after five years as a sub-editor and match editor at AFL Media. The new role involves a mix of strategy, management, writing and editing allowing Niall to be involved with a broad mix of sports, rather than just AFL.

JASON CHUCK ('99) has just completed an MBA and is the Business Development Manager of the Vet Group Victoria and now lives in Cobden, Victoria.

WILL BIGNELL ('00) of 'Thorpe Farm' has developed a start up business DroneAg which uses drones to assist farmers and Agriculture consultants to gain information to collate detailed data that can be applied in irrigation, frost management and drainage among other things.

SHAUN KING ('00) had his sights on a professional athletics career after leaving Hutchins, however after tearing his achilles he was forced to rethink his Olympic dream. Having a passion for the human body, he began

study to become a Sports & Remedial Massage Therapist and he is now the owner of "Shaun King - Massage & Remedial Therapy". Shaun enjoys what he does in helping people with not just sore and tight muscles, but working on their alignments, posture and strengthening weak areas. Shaun has also been fortunate to work on Australian and International sporting people.

GREG IRONS ('01) is successfully running the Bonorong Wildlife Park and this year was awarded the Australia Day Community Citizen of the Year in Brighton. Greg has started an innovative wildlife rescue service which provides safety and care to thousands of native animals a year. If you are interested in becoming a wildlife rescuer please visit their website and register at www.bonorong.com.au/wildlife-rescue. Bonorong is currently raising funds to complete Tasmania's first ever wildlife vet hospital staffed by a full time vet.

MATTHEW DEAN ('01) is now a First Officer on a 777 flying international long haul flights with Cathay Pacific. He has been settled in Hong Kong for the last 2-3 years after flying out of the United Kingdom for the previous decade.

CRAIG IRONS ('05) founder of the Southern Players Wheelers Luck will be having a return season at The Theatre Royal Backspace in May. The Southside Players which includes Craig have been nominated for the upcoming Tasmanian Theatre Awards in the Best Ensemble category. Good Luck Craig.

HAMISH ('08) AND HUW ('10) PEACOCK are currently training hard to qualify for the Rio Olympics. Hamish will be competing for javelin and Huw for the hammer throw. We wish the two brothers good luck.

THOMAS TSIAKIS ('12) has finished a Bachelor of Commerce at The University of Melbourne with a double major in finance and management. He is working at Ernst and Young, a multinational professional services firm in a graduate position in the financial services division. This year Thomas and 19 other students from around Australia were selected to study European and German politics at the Ludwig Maximilian University.

HENRY FORBES-SMITH ('13), OLIVER LANE ('13), RYAN JONES ('14) AND OLIVER SMITH (CURRENT STUDENT) have been selected to play for Tasmania in the Under 21 Hockey side to compete in Sydney in April. We wish you all the best boys.

MITCHELL HIBBERD ('14) has been picked up by North Melbourne in the AFL draft and he hopes to get a game this season. Well done Mitch and good luck.





LATEST NEWS & EVENTS



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THE HUTCHINS OLD BOYS' LODGE CELEBRATES 90 YEARS

Ninety years ago a group of Old Boys' petitioned The Grand Lodge of Tasmania to form The Hutchins Old Boys' Lodge. They convened an informal meeting of Old Boys of Hutchins, Queen's College, Kings Grammar School and Franklin House on 16 April 1926. The meeting decided to present a petition on behalf of the School to the Grand Master for a Warrant of Constitution empowering the petitioners to form "The Hutchins Lodge." Bro. Waring was appointed as acting Secretary and the Consecration Ceremony was conducted on the 3 August 1926, by the Grand Master (Most Worshipful Brother Claude James). Since that date the Lodge has continued with a new Wor. Master each year and it is the only School Old Boys' Lodge in Tasmania in its own right. The Hutchins School continues to support the Lodge aiding us to ensure this long standing tradition continues.

On 22 January The Hutchins Old Boys' Lodge held it's fourth (now annual) Commencement Dinner at Burbury House. Lodge members and their partners were joined by the Grand Master Most. Wor. Bro. Allan Sangwell and his wife Pam, who evidently had a great evening. Lodge Members from all over the State also attended with their partners including several Northern Worshipful Masters. For the last four years the numbers have increased and to our knowledge all had a very enjoyable evening, ensuring future annual dinners.

Today anyone of a good character can apply to join the Lodge and this can be very rewarding for them. We would welcome any interested people to contact us.



TOM'S MOTLEY CREW GAINS MO - MENTUM!

The international fundraising event Movember 2015 marked the 10th year of participation for local Tasmanian Team, the Mobart Mo Bros. The group put in their best effort yet raising \$92,000 and were the highest fundraising team in Australia. Captain, Tom Windsor ('99), was very humbled by the result "the support from local businesses, family and friends is incredible." The group always feature a strong representation of Old Boys and has grown year to year with the help of a number of long term veterans, George

Roberts ('98), George Friend ('00), Shaun Wallbank ('00), Finn Dorney ('00) and Luke Doyle ('99). The motley crew come together every year to promote men living healthier, happier and longer lives.

Having run from Launceston to Hobart three times, tackled the gruelling 200km Tour de Mo across the State four times and scaled the Point to Pinnacle half marathon seven times, veteran of the team Shaun Wallbank ('00) thought he better tackle something even bigger to mark their 10th year. Shaun was filmed surfing 20+ft waves at the notorious Shipstern's Bluff on Tasman the Peninsula holding a giant inflatable moustache aloft in a barrel, as his attempt to raise awareness and kickstart donations. The footage went viral and was the most shared social media post that Movember Australia have seen. "I don't know how we'll top it in 2016 but no doubt the lads will again feature heavily in championing the cause, it's good fun and a great chance to catch up".

