

The Bell

The Tuckwell
Scholarship at
The Australian
National University
2019 Edition



TheBell

The annual magazine for the Tuckwell Scholarship Program



Australian
National
University

TUCKWELL
SCHOLARSHIP



Welcome to this 2019 edition of *The Bell* magazine. Join us as we reflect on the year that was.

This publication takes its name from the Tuckwell Handbell, commissioned by Graham and Louise Tuckwell and crafted at London's Whitechapel Bell Foundry. The chime of this bell is the first sound to hit the ears of each new Scholar as they are 'rung in' at the annual Commencement dinner. The ring of the bell is fleeting, yet significant; it signals the beginning of each new Scholar's journey at the ANU.

This scholarship transforms its recipients by providing opportunities to chase their passions and hone their skills, so that they may one day share them with their communities. This annual magazine seeks to capture these unique endeavours and showcase what the Scholarship makes possible for every individual.

The Bell also provides updates on our ever-evolving community for all Scholars, staff and alumni within the Tuckwell and broader ANU communities.

In this edition you will catch a glimpse not only of the exciting ventures of Scholars, but also the tireless passion and support of our staff that make this Program so valuable. Every edition is made unique by the Tuckwell community, which grows and changes with each passing year. We are excited to see the evolution of *The Bell* as it tracks the unique endeavours of each new cohort across the coming decade.

Editors: Jocelyn Abbott, Oli Hervir, Jaxsen Wells

Design: Tom Dunbabin

Cover: Scholars at Tuckwell Camp

LETTER FROM THE EDITORS

Hello, and welcome to the 2019 edition of *The Bell*.

Every edition of *The Bell* is different from the year before, reflecting the rotating plethora of Scholars and staff who enter the Program. Every new cohort brings 25 unique sets of experiences, interests and passions, which each add another thread to the vibrant fabric of the Tuckwell Program. *The Bell* is, in this sense, both a yearbook of the year that has been and part of an ongoing diary that records the growth of our community across the years.

With this in mind, the 2019 edition of *The Bell* goes out of its way to record the individual passions of our current cohorts. Inside you can read about Max's mountain biking, James' experience of the Scholar community, you can try your hand at Jemma's cupcake recipe, or marvel at Emily's artwork and Jaxsen's photographic record of his first year in Canberra. Our Scholars are overwhelmingly concerned about the environment, and articles include concern about our impact on the Snowy Mountains, bushfires and other natural disasters across the globe, and insights into our government's attempts to tackle climate change.

Many thanks must go to our evolving team of support. Andrew and Adi have been on call through fire, smoke and hail to answer questions and help acquire content. We are so very grateful for their hard work; without them this magazine would not be in your hands right now! Additionally Tim Mansfield, who has been so much a part of the current Scholar experience and a point of ongoing support for every editor, has returned for one last time to provide a beautiful reflection on his time with us.

Finally, to every Scholar and staff member who has contributed here, thank you. Our aim is that a Scholar one hundred years into the future will read your article in the 2019 edition of *The Bell* and have a sense of the history and therefore legacy of this Program.

Oliver Hervir, Jocelyn Abbott, Jaxsen Wells and Tom Dunbabin
Editors of The Bell 2019



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FROM GRAHAM AND LOUISE

It has been “All change!” at Scholars House over the last year with Ryan Goss taking on the role of Head of Scholars House and Andrew Swan and Aditya Chopra coming in as Director and Project Manager of Scholars House respectively. With all this change, we are nonetheless reminded of the epigram of French journalist Jean-Baptiste Alphonse Karr: “plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose” (the more things change, the more they stay the same).

Most of our Scholars are with us for five years (and our Medicine pathway Scholars even longer!) so during their time with us it is likely that they will experience change in personnel at Scholars House, including changes to their assigned Tuckwell Fellow. As we have mentioned previously, in a healthy Program there will be a gradual turnover of staff, as this invites new ideas and energy in and enables top candidates to contribute as part of their career development, without requiring them to commit forever.

Tim Mansfield, the previous Director of Scholars House, was instrumental in laying most of the foundations for the Program and

we will be forever grateful for the enormous amount of work and the heart and soul he put into building it from the ground up. A great example of this, and one we expect to stay in place for many years, is the detail devised to run the Interview Weekend, which is a military-style operation of mind-boggling proportions. For many interview candidates, he was one of the first people they would meet at ANU and Tim knew the importance of making them feel welcome and at ease. Tim decided to change careers, possibly exhausted by the demands of university students over the last ten years, and is now in Albury teaching secondary school students. We wish him the very best in dealing with the new challenges that will bring!

Building on the foundations laid before them, Ryan, Andrew and Adi have been developing some wonderful new initiatives which we are sure all Scholars will be very enthusiastic about. One that particularly excites us is a substantial increase in resources devoted to the Alumni Program, now that the numbers are starting to build. We now have 35 Alumni and in another four years we will have more Alumni than Scholars. We are very keen and hopeful that the Alumni Program will quickly grow into

a very supportive network for Alumni and current Scholars, and that it will become yet another way for the collaborative effort of all of our Scholars to do wonderful things for Australia.

The last few months has been “All change!” for our family too. After living overseas for the past nine years, we returned to Australia and only in the last few weeks have we moved into our new home. We are still surrounded by packing boxes and may be for some time yet. Being back in Melbourne will enable us to be in contact more often with the Program, when needed. But there is another reason we will want to get to Canberra more often ... we have just become grandparents! We were absolutely thrilled when our son David and his wife Mineka (who met at Bruce Hall whilst studying at ANU) had a beautiful daughter just three weeks ago. We will be very keen to show off photos of her at Commencement!

TUCKWELL
SCHOLARSHIP



Graham and Louise at the 2019 Tuckwell Commencement

FIRST YEARS' REFLECTIONS

"It would simply be unjust not to call the Tuckwell Scholarship a transformational experience"

Fergus Abbott
B Arts / B Science

My first year at university has been one of challenges and discoveries. I couldn't have expected the depth of this year's impact on me, not only in an academic or co-curricular sense, but in my values and character. Making the move away from home was more difficult than I had imagined, but the friends and support I've found in Bruce Hall and the Tuckwell Program has allowed for self-growth that wouldn't have been possible otherwise. I can't wait to see where this journey through university will take me in the future, wherever that may be!



Steph Barton
B Political Science

Moving to Canberra at the start of this year, I had no idea what to expect, but 2019 at ANU has definitely been one to remember. A few years ago, I could not have imagined how drastically my life has shifted after high school. My academic study, college life and the Tuckwell Program have given me so many opportunities for personal growth. I am so grateful for all the experiences I've had this year and all the people I have shared them with. I am very much looking forward to the years to come at ANU!



Michael Brazier
B Engineering / B Adv. Computing

2019 has been a trial by fire. I've been tested, burned and come out the other side a better me. That's what university has been all about for me, developing myself, and that's all it's been. I'm thankful for the opportunity this scholarship has provided, and I've utilised my many peers who were solid in their course knowledge when I wasn't. I'm learning how to not only study but how to control myself physically, spiritually and mentally in ways I'd only ever read about and it's all thanks to the generosity of the Tuckwell scholarship.

Fin Dennison
B Arts / B Science

First year of university has had ups and downs, but I cannot imagine myself anywhere else. I have loved the opportunities which I have received at university this year including being able to try a handful of new sports and experiment with degree choices and courses. I could not have asked for a more cohesive and supportive cohort of Scholars who I am sure to continue to be close friends with as we continue our respective degree paths. Our ever so slightly productive study groups and social activities each Thursday have been something I will cherish for years to come.



Ethan Farrelly
B Engineering / B Economics

My first year at ANU has provided a wonderful array of opportunities to explore. Initially, the move away from home was a shock to my senses as I was thrown into a world of personal responsibility and independence, however I quickly found my feet in my new home of Canberra due to the supportive network of friends I quickly established within college, Tuckwell and the broader ANU community. Through the diverse community at ANU I have been challenged to learn a variety of new skills and engage in countless new experiences that I wouldn't have experienced if it weren't for my move to Canberra. My university experience has developed a deep passion for my areas of study through a range of demanding and engaging courses that have left me inspired and motivated for the years to come. Overall, the Tuckwell Program has been invaluable in helping me grow into the best possible version of me, pushing me to strive for new heights in all spheres of my life.





Laura Ferguson
B Science

If there is one thing Sydneysiders do well, it is proclaiming that Canberra is, in fact, a 'hole.' At the beginning of this year, as but an impressionable straight-out-of-highschooler, I had a propensity to believe them. With that dire characterisation in mind, there was a small part of me that questioned making the move to the bush capital after all. But then I met some people who quickly became some of the closest friends I've ever had. I had invigorating Tuesday night TEP debates on the merits of mandated vegetarianism or the censorship of 13 Reasons Why. I played AFL 9's, took up running and saw the sunrise over Lake Burley Griffin. I got independence, and about six months in I began to actually learn how to use it. I spoke to world-class academics and got a world-class education and I became more myself than I've ever been before. I became surrounded by people, particularly through Tuckwell, who inspire me to be better every day. So, Sydney; you're wrong. There's no place I'd rather be.



Oli Hervir
PhB (Science) (Hons)

My first year of uni has been a year of great growth: in learning what true friendship is, in learning to frequent and surpass the periphery of my comfort zone, in learning to trust and rely upon others. Yet, scattered amongst the fun has been a considerable amount of negative feedback, where I've encountered challenges that I could not and cannot face alone. In those moments, I have never been more grateful for my friends and family for pulling me back to my feet. At first, it's scary and surprising to confront your limits, your failures, and the divisive alienating opinions of others. Nevertheless, these are the moments that lead to true personal development, and somehow (with the support of others) the moments I have come to cherish the most this year. We're always changing; that's not something to be feared, but something to embrace.

Ellie George
B Arts / B Science



Since I didn't have the customary gap year to "find myself", my first year at university really has been one of self-discovery. Removing myself from a safe, familiar home environment has led me to question the values I hold and how I should act accordingly. College is a minefield of helpful opinions, so the scholarship has become my guide and reference point: surrounded by a community that not only supports me but encourages me to extend myself, I've found few excuses for 2019 not to be a good year. I am beyond grateful to my fellow Scholars and can't wait for 2020.

Jemma Jeffree
PhB (Science) (Hons)



This year has been a slow and steady process of learning to live away from home, becoming more self-reliant, leaving my comfort zone, and slowly learning to call Canberra home. I started the year having never been away from my family for more than a fortnight, and needing to adjust to being in Canberra for significantly longer. Although the distance was difficult, I loved what I was studying and the friends I was making. On an overnight hike near Kosciusko, I witnessed my first snowfall, which was astonishingly beautiful. The ups and downs are all burned into my memory and have contributed to an incredible year.

Tom Gilbert
B Law / B Commerce



2019 has been hands down the best year of my life, and I am so grateful for the amazing opportunities I've had, the wonderful people I've met and the memories that I've made this year. Highlights have been playing in Big Night Out, going on Burgmann's annual trip up to Doomadgee, and the Tuckwell Academic Dinner. I'm loving university and college life and cannot wait for what the future has in store! On reflection, the best thing I've done this year is ensuring I involve myself as much as possible and take every opportunity given to me with both hands.

Cole Johnson
B Arts / B Science



This first year at university has been an excellent vibe. Maybe it's just being so close to the High Court, but even on the worst of days the vibe has been there for me. From cutting my finger in O-Week and returning to find my dinner completed by a brand-new friend, to taking cheeky selfies with my Tuckwell mentors at the National Gallery, to discovering a community of like-minded theatre nerds, Canberra has far surpassed my expectations. Moving cities hasn't always been easy, and studying hasn't always been fun, but the ANU has left me with the unshakeable feeling that someone friendly is just around the corner, and something exciting lies just around the roundabout.



Max Kirkby
PhB (Science) (Hons)

It would simply be unjust not to call the Tuckwell Scholarship a transformational experience. For me, the year 2019 has certainly been a testament to that. From having the opportunity to study a short course at Oxford, to travelling 6000km to a remote indigenous community in North Queensland – the scholarship has offered opportunities not found anywhere else in Australia. But most of all, I have found the people here to be incredible. It is not often that one gets to engage and interact with 24 other such vastly diverse, but like-minded individuals.



Charlie O'Neill
B Law / B Science

A year like this one could be likened to being shaken about on a long road trip. The scenery changes constantly, you don't always know who's in the car with you, and the vehicle seems to slow down or speed up independently of the intentions of its driver. Studying at a university such as ANU, living at a college such as Burgmann and being with the group of people that I am makes you want to focus on the endgame of the journey. This year has taught me that, every once in a while, it's okay to pull over, walk down to the beach and watch the sunset with your friends. I love my degree (Law and Science) and there's no way I'm going to forget about my goals or my endgame. But that sunset? It sounds pretty good to me.



Jess Law
B Engineering / B Science

This first year of uni has been an exciting time of big change and new experiences. Moving to Canberra has been really enjoyable and I especially loved the first few weeks of living at Wright Hall. When everyone was new and moving in there was such great energy from meeting so many new people from all over the country and being able to have interesting conversations and do all the fun orientation events. I also really enjoyed being able to set up and personalise my room to make it feel homely and am very glad I was able to move here.



Ellie Randell
B Health Science

When I first heard of the Tuckwell scholarship and Scholars House I envisioned a library-like house with twenty-five students in sloppy joes and chinos with their eyes glued to their laptop screen. Instead throughout my first year, every time I scanned my student card on the open veranda of the ex-café that reminds me of houses at home, I was in for a new experience. From the plethora of opinions shared through hot topic TEP sessions, to the cohort catch-ups at the spring BBQ whilst wearing ridiculous hats, each moment in Scholars House has shaped my first year at ANU. I learnt that Tuckwells, in fact, wear many different outfits and there is plenty to learn from each.



Luka Mijnaerends
B Arts / B Science

I distinctly remember sitting through talks at school about how to apply for university, what majors and minors are, why you should do a double degree and naively but determinedly believing that once I was at uni I would actually understand what they were talking about and everything would start to make sense. I now know how completely misguided this outlook was, as I reflect on a year of confusion and mishaps, but also joy. Over the year, my attempts at cooking have become slightly more edible, my time slightly better managed and my life ever so slightly more together. Despite the arguable chaos of this year, I think it's safe to say it's been the best year of my life and I can't wait to see what second year brings.



Wyatt Raynal
B Arts / B Science

There is little I can write here that hasn't already been written. It has, of course, been a big year. Canberra is a tiny place in a big country; I have come to love it. There have been new discoveries. Sleeping overnight on Uni Avenue is cold. Thirty-eight people can fit in my bedroom. I've learned that Mooseheads is open in the daytime, and that Canberra's Church of Scientology closes at 10pm on weekdays. More relevantly, I've gotten a sense for who I am when all the context of time and place and food and family is stripped away. It's been a good year. It's been a hard year. I still don't know what Euler-Lagrange means. But hey- I'm still here, I'm surrounded by wonderful people, and I can't wait for what comes next.



Martha Reece
B Science (Adv) (Hons)

Moving to ANU was one of the most hectic events of my life. I must say that I wouldn't advise travelling home from Hobart to Newcastle and then moving to Canberra within the space of 24 hours, but it was certainly a 24-hour period I will never forget. After being thrown sleep-deprived into the deep end, I enjoyed the invigorating task of figuring out how to fit classes, study and assignments, Ursula Hall events and rehearsals, Tuckwell activities and sleep into a weekly routine whilst still finding time to get involved in student societies. The result has been one of the best years of my life, busy but always exciting, and full of laughter and wonderful new friends.



Olivia Taifalos
B Medical Science

Wow, first year really does fly by! My first year at ANU has been a whirlwind of meeting amazing people, moving out, navigating the world of 'adulting' and doing a bit of study amongst all that mess. A lot of people told me a lot of very different things about university, some common words being hard, fun, scary, awesome and best years of your life. After one year at ANU I can safely say that I have felt all those feelings plus more, moving to Canberra and into Bruce Hall has been one of the scariest yet coolest things I've ever done. I have made some fantastic friends and absolutely love college life despite the slightly dodgy food and I absolutely can't wait to take on second year

Riley Smithers
B Arts / B Science



Arriving at the ANU in 2019 was like arriving at the doorstep of a complete unknown frontier. The inexperience in living away from home, moving from the regions to a capital city, and only knowing a minute collection of people were all daunting challenges. However, I soon learnt that if there were one place where these concerns would be soon resolved, it was the ANU. Life at Wright Hall and as a Tuckwell Scholar has seamlessly accommodated my smooth transition into life in the nation's capital. Through opportunities presented by these same pillars of support, I will be able to explore further and deeper into this intriguing unknown frontier that is Canberra with great excitement and sincere gratitude.

Sebastian Tierney
B Arts / B Science



I recently attended my first high school reunion, and together with my school friends realised how little we knew the people in our year, even those we had spent years with. University and college life has been wonderfully different in this respect. There is an atmosphere of openness matched by most people's curiosity that means conversations can quickly go beyond the day-to-day into more personal discussions. These have been the highlight of my year, and have meant that I now know many of the people in my hall far better than much of my school back home, and I think in the process have come to better understand myself as well.

Zac Steyn
B Science (Adv) (Hons)



It's wild. First year done already. This year has been a reminder of how everything changes so quickly. Going from living comfortably in the routine and idiosyncrasies of my hometown to having to learn it all over again in a new city. Meeting so many people, many of whom are leaving just as I've come to know them. The hours spent with close friends slaving over assignments will become less frequent as we diverge in academic interests. It almost feels like there's never enough time to savour these moments before they're gone. At least I have the treasured memories of things like weekly TEP with what has to come to feel like family. A family always welcoming whether its in passing between classes, on the sports field or out at Moose. Thank you to all my fellow 2019ers for helping my make my first year so special. wait to see what second year brings.

Grace Underhill
B Law / B Arts



Life as a university student, resident of a college and as a Tuckwell Scholar has proved unique, enthralling and challenging in ways I could not have predicted. Confronted by the scary and sometimes isolating experience of living 400km from home, in Canberra I found not one, but two new networks of support. My world at college helped me figure out some of the important yet unexpected questions I had when moving home: What on earth is ISIS? How does a washing machine work? How many times can one order uber eats in a week? The Scholarship Program similarly made my transition to uni life as easy and as smooth as possible, providing me with a wider network of friends, personalised advice and academic inspiration. The past year has been terrifying, refreshing and transformational. I wouldn't change it for the world.



Max Vidler
B Law / B PPE

I conceptualise Canberra as a nucleus. Within its orbit are major centres of education, industry, and politics. I would argue that all the Canberra haters out there simply haven't immersed themselves in this dynamic city. For me, the prerequisite for immersion was a balancing act between my time at ANU and my professional and political pursuits in the lobbying sector, which landed me with a job that I was engaged with every workday. So my advice to anyone considering the move to Canberra, find your balance; don't just come here to get a degree, come here for immersion.

Jaxsen Wells
PhB (Science) (Hons)

2019 signified my first year at the ANU, my first year at Bruce, and most importantly; my first year away from home. For me, this signified the achievement of everything I had worked towards throughout year 12, a sense of complete independence. During my years of high school, I had always perceived dependence on others as a risk, or as weakness. This year, I quickly learned how illogical this mentality truly is. I've learned that sometimes we need help, and that this dependence on others isn't always a bad thing. I've learned that during times of need, I can truly trust the friends I have around me. I've learned that people genuinely have my back now, and that I have theirs. Finally, I've learned that dependence upon people isn't so much weak or a risk, as it is an extremely good way of regaining strength, especially when we cannot do so ourselves.



Reflecting on 2019

*Luka Mijnaerends and Oliver Hervir,
Scholars House Reps for the 2019 Cohort*

The beauty of bringing 25 young and highly varied minds together isn't simply in the wide array of interests they share, be it theatre, running, hockey, literature, politics, languages, singing, film and more. It isn't even in the passion and dedication with which such Scholars pursue their studies, nor is it in their ability to supersede college rivalry and connect as friends. The true beauty of such a cohort – one which is interlinked by a particular set of attributes - is in their diverse range of values. We think that range is perfectly represented in the words of the 2019 cohort themselves, and so, we have nothing more to offer you except the following photos.



Scholars watching sunrise at Kioloa camp



Pizza making and study session in Scholars House



2018 SCHOLARS



Jocelyn Abbott



Darnel Crisp



Emily Davidson



Vanessa Divet



Tom Dunbabin



Ben Durkin



Jacob Ellis



Kieran Hamley



Noah Hinds



Ben Jefferson



Mia Judkins



Thomas La



Jonny Lang



Jade Lin



Isabel Longbottom



Meg Malone



Ryan Mannes



Lizzy Mee



Ollie Pulsford



Harrison Rieck



Renee Selvey



Toby Tasker



Ruby Turner



Hayley Yates

Reflecting on 2019

*Tom Dunbabin and Meg Malone,
Scholars House Reps for the 2018 Cohort*

2019 has been a hectic and yet, as always, an incredible year for the 2018 Tuckwell Scholars. Whether leading or behind the scenes, our Scholars continue to do amazing things. Stories continued to be added to the pages of our legacy, as our cohort friendship and Tuckwell community continued to grow; for example, who can forget Hamley the amphibious cyclist?

As now second year students, the 2018 Scholars have thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to pass wisdom on to the new 2019 Scholars this year. Meeting with them regularly at the beginning of the journey through the ANU gave us the space to share our tips and tricks for surviving the craziness of university and college life. We must also celebrate the active roles our cohort have played in their college communities in 2019, with a large number of our cohort active in various leadership roles and behind the scenes. Special shout-outs go to our very own outgoing Wright President Jade Lin, and incoming Burgmann President Ben Jefferson and B&G President Meghan Malone (Tom wrote this, Meg is too modest to!).

As a cohort, we are more excited than ever for the future of the Tuckwell Program. As we welcome the new Program staff (and of course recognise

the outstanding achievements of those who left us in 2019), we look forward to the fresh ideas and passion they bring to a Program which is only just discovering its true potential.

In the last years Bell Magazine, in this very column, our 2018 SHR's Joc and Ryan offered some advice to any incoming Scholar on 'How to First Year'. That advice is equally applicable to second year, but we have a few things to add:

1. **Make the most of your time at ANU**, but don't forget where you came from. Contact those back home who love and miss you: parents, family and friends. More often than not, the wisest advice on a tricky problem is only a phone call away. Build new connections, but do not neglect the old ones.
2. **Don't get too bogged down in the minutia of academic life.** As courses start to get more difficult, as academic stress builds, as you take on more opportunities, competitions, jobs or internships, remember what brought you to ANU, where your true passions lie and what your unique vision for the future is. This provides is valuable perspective and motivation.
3. **Don't forget to have fun!**



2017 SCHOLARS



Sahibjeet Bains



Peter Baker



Caitlyn Baljak



Jye Beardow



Odessa Blain



Adam Cass



Samuel Cass



Yoann Colin



Jack Crawford



Katherine Curtis



Callum Dargavel



Callum Davis



Lachlan Deimel



Thomas Driscoll



Claudia Hodge



Clare McBride-Kelly



Mia McConville



James Naylor-Pratt



Patrick O'Farrell



Isabella Ostini



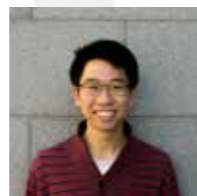
Elish Salmon



Carina Stone



Michael Taylor



Tandee Wang



Alaina Warwick

Reflecting on 2019

*Caitlyn Baljak and Yoann Colin,
Scholars House Reps for the 2017 Cohort*

As the 2017 cohort marched into the more senior years of our degrees, we were amazed to see the plethora of pursuits and level of commitment each Scholar presented to their local, national and international communities this year. From outstanding research projects across the sciences and humanities, to taking on leadership roles that shaped their college communities at a pivotal point in the life of ANU residencies, founding start-up organisations, French exchange adventures, smashing national and international sporting competitions, working a variety of jobs across government, NGOs and the private sector - it's safe to say that the 2017ers have done tremendously well this year.

We revelled in the opportunity to mentor the Tucklings (2019ers) and hopefully bequeath some wisdom upon the starting cohort in their first year of university. Its been our pleasure to introduce the new kids on the block to the city of Canberra and ANU campus and we hope that they grow to love their time at university as much as we have so far.

Even amidst the bustling lives of our cohort, it has been wonderful to see instances where Scholars have supported each other through the highs and lows of university life. Whether through taking the time to explain a difficult academic concept, cook a meal for a friend or sharing a laugh in Scholars House studying at 2:00am, it has been these little moments that have especially united our cohort this year. Not even the crummy Canberra housing market could split up the 2017 cohort, with seven Scholars moving to delightful Dickson in 2019!



2016 SCHOLARS



Ben Rada Martin



Brandon Smith



Charlie Guerit



Chloe Harpley



Damian Mazur



Georgia Leak



Isabella Mortimore



James Hayne



Jen Hung



Jonah Hansen



Julia Lindblom



Kate Garrow



Lachlan Campbell



Lorane Gaborit



Louis Becker



Lucy Stedman



Madeleine McGregor



Max Moffat



Sachini Poogoda



Sam Bannister



Sarah Callinan



Tom Goodwin



Tim Hume

Graduated Scholar

Reflecting on 2019

*Brandon Smith and Madeleine McGregor,
Scholars House Reps for the 2016 Cohort*

Just like that, 2019 draws to a close. It feels just like yesterday that 25 baby-faced 2016 Scholars descended on the capital of Australia, with little idea of what was in store for us in the Tuckwell Program. Now, a number of our cohort have graduated, including one university medalist and numerous others with first class honours. By the end of next year almost all of us will have finished our time at ANU (sorry med students, you have a little while to go yet).

2019 has been an exciting year for our cohort. Some of us have travelled overseas on exchange, studying and adventuring across Europe. Many have ventured into sharehouse living, discovering the potential of Gumtree to outfit entire rooms and enjoying integrating into Canberra beyond the ANU bubble. However, many have retained a connection to colleges, particularly evident in an ongoing participation in college sport and Inward Bound. Others have knuckled down and completed an honours thesis, on themes as varied as astrophysics and English literature, often becoming a permanent fixture of Scholars House over this time. Congratulations to our thesis writers, on their incredible (and somewhat incomprehensible) work, including:

- Jonah (our cohort's first University Medalist!) on 'A Feasibility Study for an Astrophysical Linear Formation Flying Space Interferometer'
- Julia on 'The role of the V-type H+ ATPase in conferring Resistance to the Antimalarial Clinical Candidate MMV253'
- Georgia entitled 'Ceremonials (A Short Story)' and 'Bodies on the Beach: The plurality and character of the beachspace in Australian women's writing (An Exegetical Essay)'
- Jen on 'Characterising Features of Transcription initiating on Single-Stranded DNA'

For a number of us, this was our last year as undergraduates at the ANU. Luckily many were not deterred by the long thesis and will be returning next year for further study. Those moving out into the 'real world' will be beginning exciting careers

in investment banking, publishing and scientific research. For those of us not finishing this year, over the summer we will be donning the suit and tie for clerkships and vacation programs in various capital cities, volunteering in remote communities, travelling the world or taking a well-deserved break.

2016 Scholars have continued their engagement with the Tuckwell Program through numerous events, such as a 2016 - 2019 Scholar games night and casual catch ups over pizza and ice cream. With our (alleged) growing maturity and wisdom, some 2016 Scholars attended Tuckwell camp this year as wise elders, sharing their knowledge and lessons learned from mistakes made and experiences had during their time at university. Scholars House continued to be the hub for our Cohort in 2019, providing endless opportunities for procrastination-induced coffee runs, catch-ups to discuss everything from politics to Bachelor contestants, and late night karaoke sessions.

As our time at university draws to a close, there is no doubt 2016 Scholars are as grateful as ever for the friendships, memories, experiences and support that the Tuckwell Scholarship has provided us. While each 2016 Scholar has had a unique and diverse time at university, the Tuckwell Scholarship has been formative in our experience at the ANU, and the trajectory of our lives ahead.



2015 SCHOLARS



Anthony Ricci



Billie Hook



Brody Hannan



Jeevan Haikerwal



Jonathan Tjandra



Lachlan Arthur



Maddison Perkins



Mary Parker



Matthew Bowes



Michael Turvey



Nicholas Wyche



Nishanth Pathy



Robert Cook



Tamara Bohler



Yaya Lu



Eliza Croft



Audrey Lee



Jane Tan



Hannah Sami nee Gregory

Graduated Scholar

Reflecting on 2019

*Matthew Bowes and Maddison Perkins,
Scholars House Reps for the 2015 Cohort*

From year one, it has been the official position of the 2015 Cohort that 25 is, frankly, a crowd. After all, 25 is a square number, and is thus inherently prone to being split into five equally sized factions: a bit like a Divergent novel set in Scholars House. By contrast, 19 was felt to be much more comfortable. Not only is it a prime number, and so less easily divided, but it also corresponds with the atomic number for potassium, which is generally considered to be one of the more nutritious elements.

As such, there was a strong feeling of disappointment that in 2019, our cohort had dwindled to less than that magical 19. Commencement in particular represented both a joyous and sad day, as a number of 2015 Scholars received their graduation pins and said goodbye to the ANU.

Diminished in size but not in spirit, those of us remaining took solace instead in our role as the elder statespeople of the Tuckwell Program. Throughout the year, 2015ers shared their wisdom with other Scholars in both formal

and informal ways, from Jonathan Tjandra's reflections at Tuckwell camp, to Jeevan Haikerwal's low-key session on top tips for surviving honours, to Mary Parker's lunchtime musings on the many difficulties involved in life as a law student.

A number of 2015 Scholars were also regularly to be found studying away (or taking an all-too-extended study break) around Scholars House. Despite the high stress levels present at various stages of the year, these Scholars played a big part in the day-to-day comings and goings of the House, contributing to sprawling conversations on the kitchen whiteboard and at Tuckfest events, and providing advice on challenges large and small to all who would listen. There was even time for a light-hearted mid-year 2015/16 cohort catch up over pids and drinks.

As a number of our cohort now move on to a new set of challenges outside of university, it is these small moments of camaraderie that I'm sure will stick with us as much as anything. So it is with a heavy heart that we sign off on behalf of the 2015 cohort. Congratulations to those moving on, best of luck to those remaining, and most importantly, don't forget to stay in touch!





Martha's Cookie Recipe



Ingredients
 125g butter
 ½ cup of sugar
 ½ cup of brown sugar (lightly packed)
 ½ teaspoon vanilla
 1 egg
 1¾ cups of self-raising flour
 125g chocolate chips



Method

- Cream butter, both sugars and vanilla. Add lightly beaten egg gradually
- Mix in sifted flour and salt
- Add chocolate chips
- Shape teaspoons of mixture into small balls and place lightly on greased tray
- Bake in moderate oven for 10-12 minutes

Makes approx. 30 cookies



Jemma's Cupcake Recipe

Ingredients
 125g butter
 ¾ cup caster sugar
 2 eggs
 1 ½ cups self raising flour
 6 tbsp milk
Optional: 1 tsp vanilla or mixed spice

Method

- Preheat oven to 180°
- Cream butter and sugar
- Add eggs one at a time
- Add sifted butter and milk alternately
- Put in cupcake tray in patty pans
- Bake in oven for 10-15 minutes or until tops are light brown

"Gosh these taste amazing, five stars!"
 - Anonymous Tuckwell Reviewer



- 1 Scholars make dumplings for Tuckfest
- 2 Kieran cooks for Scholars the morning after BNO
- 3 Maddison and Prof. Brian Schmidt speak to 2019 Scholars
- 4 Pat at Commencement
- 5 Sam, Ben and Tom celebrate after winning the ANU Senior Mooting Competition
- 6 Scholars are educated by Elder Wally Bell on local Indigenous history
- 7 Scholars at the Spring BBQ



WHEEL GOOD TIME

Max Moffat
2016 Scholar

In late 2018, the YouTube algorithm sensed my exam block cabin fever and decided to bestow upon me a series of mountain biking videos. The combination of spectacular scenery, intense music and gravity-defying GoPro footage was enough to transport me from my world of textbooks into wonderful daydreams of flying down trails and I quickly became captivated with the idea of doing it in real life. Filled with unsubstantiated confidence in my ability to achieve this dream, I set out to find the perfect bike for my foolproof plan to have fun.

After some pitiful research and scrolling through Gumtree, I settled on a second-hand Trek Fuel Ex 8. "It's in great condition" promised the advertisement. "Only one service away from being basically brand new", the previous owner assured me when I took it for a test ride. "Take my money!" responded the naïve consumer I am.

"It's completely wrecked" chuckled a mechanic a few weeks later when the bike started making some unhealthy noises; "it'll cost you more to fix it than you paid for it". Incredibly cross, I cursed the power of good filmmaking and huffed my way out of the shop. However, after a sufficient sulking period I found an organisation called Cycle Jam which offered me an olive branch in the form of tools, second-hand bike parts and repair advice; all for free! A handful of workshop sessions later I emerged covered in grease but with a functioning bike and a sense of great satisfaction at having proved that pessimistic mechanic wrong. Now I just had to ride the thing.

While YouTube had made mountain biking look easier than it was, it turned out that it was even more fun than I had anticipated. I discovered that Mount Stromlo is home to 50km of world-class trails, and Mount Majura and Bruce Ridge also have a large selection to explore. Getting out in the bush and steadily improving my riding became a source of immense joy for me and also a fantastic social activity. Some speed bumps manifested in my intermittent crashes and a smorgasbord of mechanical failures on one particular ride with Brandon Smith, but perseverance prevailed and we have lived to tell the tale. I have quite a risk-averse personality and usually shy away from impulsive decisions like buying a mountain bike, but this adventure is proof to myself that it pays to try new things.



THE SCHOLAR COMMUNITY

James Hayne
2016 Scholar

I entered the Tuckwell Program in 2016. I was clean shaven. I was fresh faced. And, whilst I did not know it at the time, I had just entered a community that would support me to be the best version of myself.

Since joining the Tuckwell Program, I have benefitted from a community that is willing to provide free and frank advice. When I was uncertain whether I should switch from a Chemistry major to a Statistics major, other Scholars shared their experiences with both subjects and, in doing so, made me more certain about my own decision.

I have benefitted from a community that provides another support mechanism when needed. When I did an internship in Sydney away from my home, Scholars who call Sydney home showed me around, gave me home cooked meals and even took me kayaking on the Harbour.

But most importantly, I have benefitted from a community that pushes each and every one of its members to be better. From holding me accountable during late night study sessions to encouraging me to take on new challenges, the Scholar community has constantly inspired and challenged me to be my best self.

However, I know I am not the only one who has felt these benefits. This magazine is filled with photos and stories of how each of us have benefitted from the mentorship of other Scholars. In my opinion, this informal mentorship is this Program's great strength.

2020 will be my final year in Tuckwell Program. I will leave with a beard. I will leave much less fresh faced than when I entered. But I will leave with a community that I know will continue to support me to be my best self past graduation. For that, I cannot thank the Program enough.

TUCKFEST

Reflections of a 2019 Scholar

Ellie George
2019 Scholar

The inaugural Tuckfest, held in September 2019, was a week of events designed to bring the Scholar community closer together, as well as further establishing Scholars as an active group within the ANU community. Thanks to the meticulous organisation of Andrew and Adi, we were treated to a range of activities in Scholars House and around the university that tested our intellect, our fitness, our creativity and our tastebuds.

The Tuckwell Scholarship expects Scholars to have a connection with Australia, and a desire to give back. Ryan Goss led a 'Contributing to Australia' panel, a discussion with Scholars on how best to achieve this. The panel may not have been able to clearly define the expectations of 'giving back', but it was a profound and valuable exchange of ideas.

A walk along the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Trail on the university campus was guided by Ngunnawal elder Uncle Wally Bell. Scholars learned about the history of the area, the natural resources used by its original inhabitants, and the marks of the Ngunnawal tribe's history and continued connection with the land.

Max Moffat, Oli Pulsford and Lachie Arthur organised a run around the lake during which we were all put to shame by our speedy Program Director Andrew 'I Run to Work' Swan, and a yoga class was run by the talented and impressively flexible Kate Curtis. It is rumoured that Oliver Hervir attended only for the delicious breakfast served afterwards.

Cereal and toast weren't the only gourmet dishes served at Scholars House during Tuckfest. Martha Reece and Jemma Jeffree conducted a cupcake decorating competition

that brought out the best and worst in many participants. Unfortunately, most cupcakes were eaten before they could be judged! We also had the opportunity to improve our culinary skills when Jonathan Tjandra shared his family recipes in a popular dumpling making masterclass.

Scholars put their heads together to predict the future in a 'Universities in 2050' panel. Tuckwell Fellow Anneka Ferguson led an interactive 'Giving Voice to Values' workshop which was designed to help Scholars develop their skills and knowledge in acting according to their beliefs. Andrew hosted a series of Community Conversations to discuss the future of the Program, and the 2019 cohort also had the chance to attend a valuable MATE Bystander Program session held at Scholars House.

Fun and games abounded at the LEGO challenge on Kambri's Superfloor, at which the Scholars represented strongly. A Boardgame Bonanza was also held, giving Scholars the opportunity to show off their trivia and verbosity in Articulate, and their knowledge of the Scrabble dictionary (yes, 11 points were given for 'qi'). A highlight for many were the five-minute massages offered over the course of a day in Scholars House. Scholars were also encouraged to contribute a small painting that was added to a group artwork that now hangs in the study room at Scholars House.

Tuckfest was an incredible opportunity for our community to grow closer, to make time for things we wouldn't usually do and to interact with each other in capacities we wouldn't usually connect in. It was a highlight in the calendar, and I hope it will become a tradition in the years to come.





Reflections on the Snowy Mountains

Eilish Salmon
2017 Scholar



Not so long ago I read a journal article for which the author had interviewed a variety of stakeholders concerned with Kosciuszko National Park. While these individuals had diverse opinions on various aspects of the Park's management, what struck me was the common intensity and longevity of their connection to this unique environment.

I relate to that connection. I was first introduced to this captivating landscape when I was four and my parents took my brother and me tobogganing on glittering snow. The next year we were taught to ski, and since moving to Canberra I have vigorously revived this winter hobby after a long hiatus. At school, I absorbed that national mythology which frames the Mountains in the light of Banjo Patterson poems and post-war progress. I learned that the camps on the Snowy Scheme were where Australians embraced multiculturalism and modern engineering to pursue what has arguably been our grandest nation-building exercise, which continues

to deliver electricity to the east and water for irrigation to the west. Like many other Australians, my family history is tied to that of the Snowy Scheme, and I have seen the foundations of what was my grandmother's house in Old Adaminaby before the town was flooded to make way for Eucumbene Dam.

My university coursework has disturbed these romantic visions to reveal the more melancholy reality of this contested landscape. For all its beauty, our crimes against it have been egregious. When graziers arrived in the mountains they disturbed a rich Indigenous culture and history that had existed for thousands of years, and their land management practices caused serious erosion. While the need to protect the infrastructure of the Snowy Scheme from siltation saw the progressive removal of grazing from the high country, the Scheme's redistribution of water away from the Snowy River and towards the Murray and Murrumbidgee continues to damage these ecosystems. Ever increasing

visitation to Kosciuszko National Park is driving ongoing development in the region and challenging the capacity of waste management facilities to cope with the loads placed on them by tourists seeking the likes of spa and fine dining experiences in this most remote of regions.

No longer can I recall simplistic visions of happy, hot chocolate-filled days on the snow without an uncomfortable dual awareness of my own complicity in disturbing the pristine alpine environment. I am faced with my own moral shortcoming, whereby my appreciation of the intrinsic value of the Snowy Mountains has failed to translate itself into an attempt to reduce my impact. Perhaps this speaks to the self-interest-driven disjoint between our values and our actions that is rampant in the environmental sphere, where it is often all too easy to do what we want rather than what is right.



Moving to Canberra

*A Photographic
Retrospective*
Photos by Jaxsen Wells



CLIMATE CHANGE

Charlie O'Neill
2019 Scholar

The incessant conflict between present gratification and delayed investment has never been more evident, at least when viewed through an environmental lens, than the recent Australian bushfires. As of early December, over twelve million acres of land had been scorched. This blaze runs off a fuel consisting of a lack of preventative measures, and a stubborn refusal to give up consumer-oriented aspects of the federal budget. Such a stark environmental and humanitarian crisis reminds us of previous failures of governments to address climate concerns. In most cases, these same governments have in fact culled our ability to respond to climate emergencies.

Take, for instance, the UK floods in 2014 under Prime Minister David Cameron. The country, which was not exactly accustomed to such severe disasters, experienced the loss of power to thousands of homes, hundreds of thousands of buildings, and lost a crucial transportation system for weeks: the train system. In the three years prior, Cameron had cut over 1000 jobs from the Environment Agency, amounting to essentially 25% of their workforce. The gutting came with a warning from the EA itself: "Flood risk maintenance will be impacted."

The US has suffered even more from denying the release of an austerity-driven budget, a financial plan that relies on huge cuts to

spending in the public sector. In 2011, a flurry of storms and natural disasters cost the US government over \$US 380 billion. Such emergency expenditures can't help but raise the question of whether governments would be better off directing public funds towards preventative measures, emissions reduction, and community stabilisation. Storm walls, ecosystem maintenance and decentralised renewables could all prevent outlandish government band-aids that attempt to repair the damage that's already done. What if we could prevent disasters such as Hurricane Sandy in the first place?

Which brings us back to Australia. The CSIRO have stressed numerous times since 2008 that a failure to stem global warming would lead to more intense fire seasons, which itself necessitates a greater array of backburning, undergrowth monitoring and RFS funding. This advice, ignored by both Liberal and Labour governments since the 2008 Garnaut Climate Change Review, has led to the current fires, which total over \$3.5 billion in direct costs and have led to an estimated \$20 billion in lost output. With Canberra and the ANU now shrouded in an impenetrable haze of smoke and poor political management, the question we must again ask is: when did it become so fashionable to burn the future?

"When did it become so fashionable to burn the future?"

Caitlyn Baljak
2017 Scholar

I wrote a climate change brief for the Academy of Social Sciences this year to help inform the Academy's climate change action strategy. Here are some key Australia-relevant climate change insights into what the Australian Government is (kind of) doing to curb greenhouse gas emissions in Australia and the Pacific. There's a reason the paragraph is only 161 words...

"At state and local levels, significant mitigation efforts are being made. Several state capitals have ambitious emissions reduction targets, with Melbourne aiming to be carbon-neutral by 2020, the ACT by 2045, and Sydney to have carbon-neutral buildings by 2050, all achieved through a combination of local emissions reductions and offsetting. Climate adaptation plans or policy frameworks have been released by all state and territory governments. In these plans, all the states commit to zero net carbon emissions by 2050. In 2019, the Australian Government announced that it will no longer provide funding to the international Green Climate Fund. However, it continues to contribute to multilateral development banks that invest in climate action. Australia is aiming to 'mainstream' climate change action into its bilateral aid program and has announced in 2019 that it will spend AUD \$500 million on climate change and disaster resilience action in the Pacific in a five-year period (an additional AUD \$200 million to its original 2016 commitment)."



COMMENCEMENT

Reflections of a 2019 Scholar



Wyatt Raynal
2019 Scholar

This recap was written in the early days of a new decade, stitched together from photos of the year before. While such distance makes for patchy recollection, it also serves to distinguish what was ‘memorable’ from what was not. In recounting the day, therefore, I will avoid describing its entirety and instead focus on a series of images.

Commencement day was busy. It was an all-important time of breakfasts, lunches and dinners. The parents made an appearance, as did past students and a gaggle of academics. Vice Chancellor Brian Schmidt spoke at the lunch, Tuckwell Alumni spoke at the breakfast, and in the evening Graham Tuckwell.

There were many moments during commencement that I would call ‘memorable’. I remember talking to Ryan in a casual setting and finding out he wasn’t just ‘the scary interview guy’. I remember the finger food at lunch and the seven cups of tea I had from the hot water machine. Most prominently, however, I recall the dinner at University House.

Commencement dinner was an event that sat and still sits, in my mind - a peg beyond what I have come to expect from formal dinners. It started with the ‘ringing in’ of new Scholars. The concept of the ‘ringing in’ is this: one by one, Scholars are called upon. A bell is rung. The Scholar strolls forward, confidently, and takes his place at the front of the hall. Easy. It was early in the evening, and the 2019 Scholars had lined up outside the building. It was at this point that performance anxiety - a dull rumour until that moment - began to kick

in. We started questioning: would our walk look confident? Would heels make it difficult to climb the step at the end of the hall? (Anyone who has read the thoroughly authoritative ‘Tuckwell Dress Codes Explained’ will know the answer to this question, and many others besides). As nerves grew, Ryan Mannes rang the bell and the 2019 cohort marched in one by one. Relieved and encouraged we took our seats as the night was rounded off with speeches. Older Scholars spoke, as did distinguished guests; awards were given, and fond farewells were made to the departing Head of Scholars’ House, Richard Baker.

I talk at length about the ‘ringing-in’ because it is important: it is a ritual that is supposed to stay with Scholars throughout their time at university. It is an event that can be called ‘memorable’ not in the casual, anecdotal way, but in the fullest sense: it is not simply as an event that we end up remembering, it is an event that we choose to remember. It is the start of something new; it is a welcome into the community. At the time, I don’t think I took it at all seriously enough. Memory has enlarged its relevance. Scholars are rung in once. From then on, they are part of the community. They join a body that is widespread but connected, a cohort of individuals hand-picked for reasons that aren’t always clear but can often be felt. Commencement 2019 was not - and could not be - the rolling set of polite meals that I had anticipated. It was a series of conversations and rituals with truly ‘memorable’ people. It was a fantastic way to kick off university.

AN OUTBACK ADVENTURE

Lucy Kirk and Sam Terry

2014 Scholars

In the middle of 2019, Samantha (Sam) Terry and I, had the privilege of spending six weeks in the Northern Territory. This was a placement focusing on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander healthcare as part of our third year of medicine. After spending a few days in Alice Springs, we hopped on the “Bush Bus” early one morning. The town we were heading to was Yuendumu, a remote Aboriginal community about three hours North-West of Alice Springs. Yuendumu is one of the largest remote Aboriginal communities in Central Australia, with a population of around 800 people. The Warlpiri are the traditional custodians of the area and make up the large majority of people living in Yuendumu.

As we sat on the Bush Bus, we were both nervous and excited. On a bus of about 20 people, we made up two of the four Caucasians, and everyone around us was happily chatting in Warlpiri. Neither of us had spent any time in Central Australia, and there were a number of things we hoped to get out of the placement. Firstly, we wanted to see and experience a little bit of what it is like to live in a remote community. We also hoped to gain understanding into health and, healthcare delivery and access for

the Warlpiri living in a remote area – both the challenges, but also the good things that were happening in the town. The final goal was to gain some insight into Warlpiri culture and how this might interact with healthcare.

To our surprise, the health-clinic itself was rather large and during the day would have four to six nurses running consults, and a full time general practitioner (GP). Each day we would have a team meeting and then be allocated nurses to spend the day with. Nurses would assess the patients and deal with their needs as appropriate, referring to the GP when needed. There were many recurring presentations to the clinic, and not necessarily that different from a GP practice in urban Canberra; coughs and colds, wound dressings, immunisations, check-ups, and diabetes management. If there were emergencies or patients after-hours, the clinic could contact the Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) to provide both advice and transfer patients to Alice Springs if necessary. Some of the retrievals we saw were for a woman with pneumonia, when a child had an infection in their blood, and a woman who gave birth just as the RFDS walked in the door!

Two important conditions we came across were Rheumatic Heart Disease, and Trachoma (which is a cause of preventable blindness). In Australia, these conditions are primarily found in remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. They are both conditions initially

caused by infection of different types of bacteria in childhood. Much time and effort in the community is put into health promotion and preventing these infections. Throughout Central Australia they run large programs promoting children to keep a clean face and eyes and getting treatment for infections early, as well as ensuring adequate access to clean bathroom facilities. There is also a surveillance program for Trachoma, where every one to three years, they screen the eyes of all children aged four to nine years. We had the huge privilege of going into the community with the team and checking children’s eyes for Trachoma and treating those who require it.

Many of the highlights of the trip were things we were able to experience outside the health clinic; art, sport, and music. Yuendumu has a large media studio, PAW Media (PAW stands for the three main languages in the area; Pintubi, Anmatjere, Warlpiri) that creates film and animation, as well as recording local artists and a radio station. They also run frequent concerts and act as a place where people can come to practice and socialise. PAW Media was started up following the introduction of English television and radio into the area, as the Elders were concerned that it would wipe out their native languages, so they created their own music and programs to counter that! Sport, particularly Australian Rules Football (AFL), is a huge part of the community throughout Central Australia.

We were privileged to be in Yuendumu for their Sports Weekend. This is where teams come from all around the Central Desert for a carnival of sports. The town almost tripled in size, with teams coming from as far as 20 hours drive away. The rivalries were intense, and the games rough, being played on bare red dirt. Thankfully Yuendumu made it through to the AFL final and won. A highlight was also watching the carnival of women playing AFL which had great support from a large crowd. Art plays a huge part in the community, in a social, financial and cultural way. There is a large art centre which Sam and I frequently wandered over to at lunchtime. They have over 200 different community members who contribute art, with different people and family groups painting different Jukurrpa (“dreaming”).

It was an honour to be able to spend time in Yuendumu on the land and community of the Warlpiri. There were lots of fun, and interesting moments, but also times of anger and sadness at racism we saw towards Aboriginal patients, and the prevalence of some preventable health conditions, as well as domestic violence. We both experienced a strong sense that we had arrived as outsiders on someone else’s land and that it was a privilege, not an entitlement to be let into the community. Sam and I both hope that we remember this feeling as we look forward to learning from, and working alongside Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders in the future.



Art by 2018 Scholar Emily Davidson

From top left: oil paint on paper, oil paint on paper, mixed medium (gouache, acrylic, oil paint on paper)

Mentoring the Best

Audrey Lee
2015 Scholar

This year, I had the incredible opportunity to attend the 51st International Chemistry Olympiad in Paris as the head mentor for the Australian team. We selected four motivated high school students from our summer school program to attend the competition, where they competed against 80 countries in two 5-hour lab and theory exams. Although I wasn't the one to take the exams myself (thank goodness!), I had the privilege of working with mentors from other countries to prepare the exams for the students, including various jury meetings, translation and arbitration sessions. It was most encouraging to see such a large group of dedicated volunteers working together to make this event happen each year – if we brought the same level of international collaboration to solve certain global issues, who knows how far we could go!



FROM THE STAFF

Amy McLennan Tuckwell Fellow

In 2019, I joined Scholars House as a Fellow. As someone fairly new to the ANU I wasn't sure what to expect. So why did I get involved? I could see glimpses of the rich and diverse ecosystem of people at the University of Oxford, which I called home for a decade. I could see glimpses of the John Monash Scholar community, which continues to scale into a strong network of people leading positive change across Australia and the world. Every day I am grateful for the things I've learned, robust discussions I've had, and friends I've made for life in these two settings.

What I didn't expect? The Tuckwell Program also has glimpses of my current workplace, the 3A Institute, where we are creating a new branch of engineering to manage AI safely, sustainably and responsibly to scale. In the first edition of *The Bell*, Graham and Louise Tuckwell wrote "We all knew we were taking on an ambitious project in creating a leading scholarship program from a standing start with no blueprint. This was a genuine start-up, with all the usual excitement and chaos that one associates with a new venture." To be involved in one university-based start-up-like initiative is a rare privilege; to be involved in two probably calls for a special kind of madness. Building something new with no blueprint is challenging and at times frustrating, it feels tumultuous and unpredictable. But it is also deeply rewarding and fun and, done well, will leave an important legacy for future generations. And I consider myself very lucky to be a part of it.

AJ Mitchell Tuckwell Fellow

The closing of each year is a natural time for personal reflection and, for me, 2019 was no different. This was a year of 'firsts' for me, personally and professionally. Looking back, there was one stand-out event in the Tuckwell Calendar (among many highlights): my first Kioloa Camp. One of the reasons I became a Fellow was to have the opportunity to interact with an amazing group of people – you guys! And Camp was a great way to do so. It has been a privilege to be a part of the Tuckwell Program, and I am excited about the opportunities that lie in store in 2020.



Chris Browne Tuckwell Fellow

As I take a step back from my role as Fellow in the scholarship, I find myself thinking more and more about how incredible the time of being a Scholar is. Tuckwells come to ANU for a range of different reasons: some have never heard of ANU until a week before the Stage 1 application deadline; others have been working towards coming to ANU to study a particular field for years. Either way, we know that each year the Scholarship brings together an amazing cohort of students.

I have also learnt that Tuckwells use the scholarship for a range of different reasons too: some live and breath the Tuck-Life (you know who you are), others are reluctant to engage (and are probably not reading this anyway). Being a Tuckwell, we are beginning to see, is a stepping stone to a variety of next steps.

Having invoked the stepping stone metaphor, I would like to interrogate it in terms of the scholarship a little more, and perhaps bring together a bunch of ideas important to the Scholar-Fellow relationship. As a Scholar, I encourage you to use your Fellow to break



down your time as a Scholar into a variety of smaller stepping stones, expanding into the distance and out to the sides. Stepping stones are impermanent: I encourage you to use your Fellow (and other such folk) to help sort and rearrange these stepping stones as you traverse them, replacing

paths that are no longer of interest with new alternatives. Stepping stones take you somewhere: I encourage you to experiment - jump between possible paths, and look for ways to make paths intersect or run in close proximity. Your time on each stepping stone is ephemeral: I encourage you to record your journey, and to share it with those you care about (including your Fellow!). Expect that your path will not be as you plan, and embrace the opportunity to navigate and learn about the stepping stones in unexpected ways.

As the Tuckwell Scholarship welcomes its seventh cohort, I look forward to watching Scholars traverse their paths "from the outside", and hope that I will have the opportunities to connect with many of you and share how I'm traversing my stepping stones outside of the Program.



Andrew Swan

Program Director

2019 was a big year. Crazy big. For me it included a new job in a new city where there was a large and wonderfully eclectic community of Tuckwell Scholars to get to know. Landing on Planet Tuckwell was a fantastic experience and I have enjoyed every second of it.

Thank you to the extended Tuckwell community for making me feel welcomed and included this year. I am particularly grateful to Graham and Louise Tuckwell, for embracing my ideas, to Ryan Goss, for his leadership and camaraderie, to Adi Chopra, for his awesome talents, to the Fellows, who their tireless support, and to my predecessor, Tim Mansfield, for creating so much that makes our community special.

Most importantly, I am grateful to you, our Scholars. You are the energy that animates Scholars House and make coming to work each day a joy. You have generously shared your ideas and feedback with me, which will inform our direction for 2020 and beyond. Together, we have much to look forward to! I have come to appreciate that no two Scholars are alike yet all Scholars share a common bond. In my view, this bond is a shared commitment to use one's gifts to make the world a better place, which one assumes, is why each Scholar was chosen for our Program in the first place. Tuckwell Scholars do not sit idly and watch the world go by. They actively



seek to have an impact, and so many do in the various communities within which they live, work, volunteer, play, educate and create. The values and abilities of all Scholars and their willingness to listen to, and learn from, is one of my favourite features of our Program. I am honoured to know our Scholars and proud to play some small part in developing their confidence and competence to be the change they want to see in the world.

The future of our Program is bright and full of possibilities. As this magnificent edition of *The Bell* goes to print, we are poised to welcome 25 new Scholars, bringing the all-time number of Scholars to more than 150. As the Program has grown, so too has its influence on the ANU and the wider tertiary sector; leading the way in terms of educational philanthropy and the idea of looking beyond a student's ATAR to measure their success and future potential. It is with great excitement that I look forward to working with all members of the Tuckwell community to deliver the vision Graham and Louise Tuckwell have for Australia's most prestigious scholarship program. Bring on 2020!

Ryan Goss

Head of Scholars House

As this edition of *The Bell* shows, 2019 was an exciting and transitional year for the Tuckwell Scholarship Program. Our Scholars are fascinating, thoughtful, energetic, and engaged young Australians, and it's been a privilege to be part of their journey in 2019.

The Tuckwell Scholarship Program is Australia's most transformational undergraduate scholarship program, and an extraordinary act of philanthropy. My role and the role of our team at Scholars House is to provide our Scholars with the support infrastructure to help them thrive at the ANU, make the most of their time with us, and ensure they can go on to make a contribution to Australia and the world. In my past life as a Tuckwell Scholarship Selection Panel member, I enjoyed very much the annual chance to have 75 short conversations with prospective Tuckwell Scholars. Since being invited to take up the role as Head of Scholars House in early 2019, I have been thrilled to be able to continue those conversations with Scholars throughout the year: conversations about their futures, their studies, and what sorts of support they'd like to see from Scholars House.

And so this year at Scholars House has been a year of continuing traditions, alongside careful consultation and experimentation. The year's highlights included our annual Commencement festivities, great conversations around the campfire at Kioloa, the inaugural week of 'Tuckfest' activities, vibrant academic dinners, multiple discussion and conversation events, and even a 'Reverse Interview' event where Scholars posed some curly questions for their Fellows. But beyond Scholars House, it has also been rewarding to see our Scholars engaged passionately in leadership around the ANU campus and beyond, and the astonishing variety of their co-curricular and extra-curricular activities. Our Scholars' academic achievements continue, and as our



alumni community grows, it was a thrill to see Marcus Dahl (2014) be elected to a Rhodes Scholarship for Australia-at-Large in late 2019.

This has been a year of change for the Program and it is appropriate to say some farewells to people who have been so important to the success of our Program. To Prof Richard Baker and Tim Mansfield, our sincere thanks as a community for your stewardship of the Program over a number of years. To Aneka Ferguson and Dr Chris Browne, our thanks for your generous mentoring and leadership as Tuckwell Fellows.

In 2019 we also welcomed Andrew Swan (Program Director) and Adi Chopra (Project Manager) to the Scholars House team. Andrew and Adi have been innovative, energetic, and thoughtful. They are already a central part of our Scholars' experience, and provide a daily warm welcome to all our Scholars. As Head of Scholars House, I've been grateful to Andrew, Tim, Adi, and to all our Fellows: Chris, Aneka, Dr Amy McLennan, and Dr AJ Mitchell. And I have appreciated the support of the ANU, as well as the ongoing support and friendship of Dr Graham Tuckwell and Dr Louise Tuckwell.

As the Scholars House community prepares to welcome its seventh cohort of Scholars, it is an exciting time for all of us associated with this extraordinary Program. We look forward to sharing the next phase of the journey with you.

GROWTH

The Internship of a Lifetime

Sarah Callinan
2016 Scholar

I have had the amazing opportunity to intern full time at Cisco this past semester; yet, if I had read the role requirements, I don't think I would have ever applied. As is typical of students approaching the end of their degrees, I was on an internship application spree when I came across an advertisement for a 'Systems Engineering' Intern.

And so, without much more thought, I applied. When I received notice of my first interview a few weeks later, I went back to the job posting and read through it properly for the first time. My stomach dropped. They were looking for a computer science or software engineering major in their final year of study – of which I was neither. They were a networking hardware and software company, and I had always stuck to the areas some might describe as “soft” like project management. I got through my interview, but I felt like a fraud.

When I got a call to say I had made it to the next round of interviews, I almost thought it was a mistake. Me? The un-technical-fourth-year-but-by-no-means-final-year engineering student? Well, this time I wasn't going to let myself be stumped, so I spent hours revising until I could confidently say I knew my SD-WAN from my LAN. This being said, I was somewhat relieved when I was asked nothing of a technical basis! By some miracle, no more than two hours later, I received a call telling me I had the job.

Recently, I was reading *Lean In* by Sheryl Sandberg, the COO of Facebook (something of a responsibility for a young woman entering the corporate workforce), when I came across

the following passage:

“An internal report at Hewlett-Packard revealed that women only apply for open jobs if they think they meet 100 percent of the criteria listed. Men apply if they think they meet 60 percent of the requirements. This difference has a huge ripple effect. Women need to shift from thinking 'I'm not ready to do that' to thinking 'I want to do that-- and I'll learn by doing it.’”

It was true for me: I would never have applied for the Cisco internship if I had read the criteria. Previously, meeting all of the requirements for an opportunity was just a starting point for me. Now, I couldn't help but think of all the things I might have missed out on over the last few years by restricting myself and following guidelines to a tee. But of course, it also has to do with imposter syndrome – something which I am rather familiar with being a woman in engineering, and a Tuckwell Scholar in general. And I know I'm not alone.

I doubted myself throughout the hiring process, but even now I feel like I'm stumbling my way through every day, trying my best to seem like I have it all together. I don't feel like I'm doing enough. But when I spoke with my managers, they waved my worries away. There's more than one way to contribute, they said. And the potential for growth within someone is way more important than specific, technical expertise. Don't get me wrong; I haven't got it all figured out now. But you know what? I'm on my way, and I back myself.





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- 1 Ellie finishing off Inward Bound
- 2 Sabi performs for Wright at Big Night Out
- 3 Tim and Graham thank Richard at Commencement
- 4 The 2019 Tuckfest Scholar art project
- 5 Martha poses at interview weekend
- 6 Maddison, Louise and Chris at ANU Graduation
- 7 The 2019 winners of the coveted Tuckwell Innovation Challenge



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Close up: artworks from the 2019 Tuckfest Scholar art project



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TUCKWELL CAMP

Reflections of a 2019 Scholar

Olivia Taifalos
2019 Scholar

Every year the first and second year cohorts, joined by some older year “Wise Elders”, make the three hour bus journey to the beautiful ANU Kioloa campus on the South Coast of NSW. The camp provides an opportunity for the different cohorts to get to know each other, especially so for the first years at the start of a new year. We arrived on Friday evening ready to face a jam-packed weekend schedule starting with icebreaker activities that taught us all about our fellow Scholars - both the good and bad! A late night walk down to the beach was the perfect way to end the first night of camp.

The theme for Saturday was ‘Connecting’. After breakfast (and an early morning jog by some eager Scholars) we were ready to start our morning session. Before camp, we had been asked to do some pre-reading of Duncan Green’s *How Change Happens* to facilitate discussions around the types of problems we would like to tackle and changes we would like to make in our short and long-term future. To do this, we thought about our own strengths, values and passions and then, in mixed groups, discussed the goals and ideas we had to make the changes we wanted to make. After lunch, the cohorts split up and the first and third years gathered in mentoring groups to hang out and get to know one another better. With the business side of the day over, it was time to let out a bit of the competitive spirit between the cohorts with an inter-year Tug o’ War competition, leading to a resounding victory by the 2019’ers.

Keeping with this theme, the evening began with the annual Tuckwell Trivia night featuring the classic categories such as science, history and geography along with some ANU themed

fun rounds such as name this building on campus. Some marshmallows and star gazing around the campfire with a late night karaoke performance on the beach completed our second day.

Our final day began with pop-up sessions run by the “Wise Elders” with the intention of passing on some advice about living and



studying at the ANU. Topics ranged from information on the medicine pathway to coping with stress or going on exchange during your degree. After spending some final free time chilling out, packing and enjoying Kioloa the Scholars regrouped for the final activity of the weekend: writing a letter to your future self and your fellow reflecting on both the camp and your goals and ideas for the future year to come. Then it was time to get back on the bus and back to ANU. Overall, the camp was a chance for the many Tuckwell cohorts to bond with each other (and the amazing Tuckwell staff and fellows). It left us all exhausted but excited for the year to come!



Reflections from the Top of my Bookcase

Tim Mansfield

As I packed up my office after twelve years at ANU and three and half as Tuckwell Scholarship Program Director, I paused to consider the significance of a collection of artefacts that had accumulated on top of my office bookcase. While I wouldn't consider myself to be a hoarder or collector of knick-knacks, I do see the value of displaying a few items of significance at work – more than anything, to remind me of some important aspects of who I am; my values, lessons learnt and things that bring calm to myself or to others when that is needed. So as a bookend to my weekly "From the Program Director" newsletter musings, the following is an explanation of a few of those items and what they mean to me.

A bobble head Superman figurine

While my kids and I definitely enjoy a good Marvel film over the DC franchise, I'm a big Superman fan. Beyond childhood dreams of attaining Superman-level strength (and aspirations to be buff enough to wear a spandex suit), as an adult, Superman gives me a few helpful reminders that: 1. It's important to try and do what's right. 2. That in the right environment, we can all be a superhero to someone, and 3. I am not and cannot actually be Superman – as in, Superman is a fictional character and even then, an alien from another planet – so while it's ok to aim high, it's also important to be realistic when choosing role models.



A Newton's Cradle

Given to me for Father's Day of 2016, my Newton's Cradle not only occupied my sons (for a few minutes anyway) on visits to Scholars House, but also reminded me of the knock-on effect that our actions can have. Important too is that the middle three balls don't really appear to be moving that much – but it is their transfer of energy to the next ball that enables the final ball to swing out. Sometimes we can feel like we haven't achieved much in the actions we take – but at times we just have to trust that we've made a difference and that the energy that we've passed on will lead to something noticeable. It's also helpful in life to avoid getting too hung up if you don't get noticed for the energy you're putting into something! You know it's worthwhile, otherwise you wouldn't be doing it. Just get on with it.



A brick from the old Bruce Hall

My brick was given to me by a 2014 Scholar, and former Bruce Hall resident Jakub Nabaglo – Jakub assures me it was sought legitimately without any trespassing involved. My five and a half years as Deputy of Bruce Hall was a very special period for me and my family; one that I will never forget. It's difficult to put into words how I feel about my time at Bruce – while it was one of the most joyful and exciting times in my life; it was punctuated by some of the most personally and professionally challenging moments I've faced. The brick is a reminder of that important time in my life; of the wonderful residents and staff I got to know along the way; and a reminder that all things, even big brick buildings, will one day come to an end - so we should make the most of them while they are around.

A family photo

Understanding your values is important – and I highly recommend exploring and actively grappling with what matters to you as you journey through life. For me, the concept of 'home' and family is really important and has grown in importance as I have had kids of my own. Indeed, it is the main reason I left my career at ANU and have moved to rural Victoria – a place that my wife and I feel is better for our boys to grow up in, and for us to feel connected as a family, part of a community and part of a wider network of relatives and friends. It might not be for everyone – but at this point in time, it's the right change for us.



A cast-iron toy brass cannon

I picked up my toy cannon from an antique shop in New Orleans with the purpose of using it as an office paperweight, but it never really fulfilled that function. Instead it ended up on my top shelf as a decorative ornament, amusing my sons and some Scholars when they visited. As far as it offering a reminder of 'significant life lessons learned', my toy cannon reminds me that it is important to pick your battles. It also reminds me that the adage of 'picking your battles' is not an excuse to avoid confrontation when it is required. In my experience, it is worth taking a bit of time to think in advance about what things are worth defending – and how you'd do that effectively and strategically.



I'm not sure how these items would go on the Marie Kondo scale of sparking joy, but they have meant enough to pack away so that they can join me on the next chapter of my working life – wherever that might be. What items are on top of *your* bookshelf and what do they remind you about yourself and how you want to live your life?



Lenin: A Rock Opera

Jeevan Haikerwal
2015 Scholar

In the now 4-year saga of writing my original musical *Lenin: A Rock Opera*, this year took an interesting turn as we moved to create an album to accompany our now (mostly) finalised script.

Since April 2018, we had been developing backing tracks that would have filled-out the sounds of any would-be performance of the show. While these instrumentals were relatively finalised, this time we were back in the studio with a makeshift choir to sing 20 songs with choral sections. Meanwhile, I converted the study of my partner and I's granny flat into a makeshift studio and stole a bunch of people away to sing some solo tracks.

I was furiously ambitious, thinking if I compiled all learning materials and scheduled three whole rehearsals, we could knock out all choral recording in one session.

Hubris, though, made a fool of me, and after ending three sessions with "the next session, we'll get this finished" I realised that pacing ourselves would lead to a much better end-product. And, the 12-person choir who came together around the show—infinite in their generosity, it seems—played along each time.

I'm excited to finish the album off next year. Obsessions flare and wane, so until the next spark reignites the flame, my co-writer and I are so content with what it has become so-far: 26 tracks, and a polished (?) two-act script.



From the Chair of the Selection Committee

Prof. Rae Frances
Dean of the College of Arts and
Social Sciences

2019 saw a bumper number of applications for the Tuckwell Scholarships, with students applying from an increasingly diverse range of schools and locations. As always, the standard of applications was very high and even the task of selecting who makes it to the final interview weekend is a challenge. Choosing

the final 25 is even more difficult as there are so many talented and deserving students to consider. Recognising this, the University last year decided to create a new All Rounder Scholarship for all those who were interviewed but not awarded the Tuckwell. Almost all those offered this scholarship – worth \$8,000 for up to five years of study – have accepted and will be joining us at the ANU this year. I am personally delighted that we can support so many more students and also pleased that knowing they would all receive a scholarship removed some of the inevitable stress from the interview weekend.

As in previous years, the selection process has drawn on the expertise of a large number of academic assessors from across the ANU, and their generous input is greatly appreciated. So too is the additional time contributed by members of the interview panel, whose commitment and wisdom is essential in reaching our final selections. And once again a number of Tuckwell Scholars made an absolutely crucial contribution to the process through their hosting of candidates during the interview weekend. My particular thanks to those individuals, whose warmth, knowledge and care made this weekend so much more enjoyable and informative for all of our visiting students.

Finally, of course, I extend my thanks to Graham and Louise Tuckwell, for their ongoing financial support and their inspirational input to the Program.

Below: Tuckwell candidates at interview weekend 2019



The Tuckwell Scholarship

No Ordinary Scholarship



The Tuckwell Scholarship Program at The Australian National University (ANU) is the most transformational undergraduate scholarship program in Australia. Entering its seventh year in 2020, the Program boasts a community of 117 Scholars and 35 Alumni.

The Scholarships are funded by the largest ever contribution from an Australian to an Australian University. Graham and Louise Tuckwell started the Tuckwell Scholarships with a commitment worth \$50 million in February 2013. The contribution has now been more than doubled to secure the Scholarship in perpetuity.

The Tuckwell Vision

The Tuckwell vision is to see highly talented and motivated school leavers fulfil their potential and reinvest their knowledge, skills and experience in ways that positively benefit others.

The Program has a focus on giving back to Australia and is the only one of its kind that nurtures Scholars to fulfil their broader community ambitions over and above the pursuit of an undergraduate degree.

The Scholarship

Tuckwell Scholars receive:

- \$22,200 per annum (2020 rate) for each year of their degree, for up to five years, to cover on-campus residential costs, books and general living expenses
- priority access guaranteed to ANU-approved student accommodation
- an annual allowance to assist with the Scholar's move to Canberra and to support two annual return journeys between their home and the University for each year of their degree. The allowance will be dependent on the proximity of their family home to ANU
- a domestic economy return airfare, or other transport costs, for Scholars' parents to visit at the start of the Program, and
- a Health and Wellbeing Allowance that can be redeemed in the form of either an ANU Fitness Centre membership, or reimbursement towards alternative activities external to the ANU Fitness Centre

The Tuckwell Experience

The Program has been designed to help Scholars make an impact on their community and the world by offering them unique educational opportunities and personal experiences that extend far beyond the financial component of the scholarship.

In addition to being a member of their residential community and the wider ANU community, Tuckwell Scholars also become a member of Scholars House. Scholars House is the academic, pastoral and social heart of the Tuckwell Scholarship Program, and the term Scholars House also refers to the dedicated meeting place on campus where Scholars have the opportunity to develop their own sense of community with other Tuckwell Scholars.

Each Scholar is allocated to a Tuckwell Fellow on their arrival at ANU, and a mentoring relationship is fostered through 1:1 and group meetings. The focus of support given by Fellows, who are academic staff members of the University, is on helping Scholars create opportunities, build networks and achieve personal and professional goals.

Find out more about the Scholarship and how to apply at tuckwell.anu.edu.au



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