

SUPPORTER Q&A



WITH ROB BURNS

Rob Burns joined the Mater Dei Board in May 2000. During his 15 years of service, Rob has served as Chair of the Finance Committee before assuming the role as the Chair of the Mater Dei Board from May 2007. Rob is also the Chief Financial Officer for local business Camden Hire. In his spare time Rob enjoys performing in local bands El Banditos & Werombi Rain.

Q How did you first become involved with Mater Dei?
A Sue Dixon, the CEO/Principal at the time, approached our business, BCP Accounting & Business Advisors, to see if we would be willing to provide a financially oriented person for the Mater Dei Board. I volunteered and the result has been 15 years of wonderful memories and friendships.

Q What have you learnt since you began your connection with Mater Dei?

A A lot! I guess the most important lesson is to value everyone for who they are, look at how people are enabled by their abilities and remember everyone deserves to be treated with dignity and respect.

Q You have stayed loyal to the cause for some time. Why?
A Simple. Mater Dei just permeates into your blood. You just feel great helping so many awesome children in a very unique community environment.

Q Who are the most inspiring people you have met?

A I am inspired by everyday people who do something to help their community, whether it's at the school fete, the football club, a special event or for a charitable cause.

I am also privileged to work at Camden Hire with former Mater Dei students Tom Battaglini and Glenn Potts (Potsy). Both these young men have overcome, and continue to overcome, hurdles with a determination that has earned them great respect from their colleagues. They are proud of the work that they do and are valued members of our team.

Q What are your mantras?

A Be yourself and not who someone else wants you to be, nothing of true lasting value comes from being fake.

Family and friends are worth more than any amount of money or material goods, and should be valued as such.

Q How do you like to spend your leisure time?

A I like travelling

, cooking and entertaining with my lovely wife, Michelle, spending time with my sons, Rogan and Josh, playing guitar and occasionally getting out into the 'wilds' to prospect for gems.

Q If you could invite any five people to dinner, who would they be?

A Exotic answer? Robert Plant, Jimmy Page & John Paul Jones from Led Zeppelin --- simply just wonderful musicians. Keith Richards to try and work out his secret of eternal life despite the odds. Ringo Starr so we had a drummer for the after dinner jam session.

Rob retired from the Mater Dei Board at the May AGM. We thank him for his insight, professionalism, generosity and dedicated service.