

A Week in the Life of a Mater Dei Board Member



Not every week is the same. It depends on the time of year. This is why.

I was invited to join the Mater Dei Board at its inception in 1994 and have served as its Company Secretary since 1998. The Board meets on Thursday evenings, five times a year, however I am involved in Board sub committees that meet at other times. I am also a member of the Mater Dei Foundation and a member of its Management Committee which meets twice a year. I also attend its Wine sub committee meeting when required.

In 1998 I came across the idea to re-establish Wivenhoe Vineyard, which is located on the Mater Dei Estate, to provide produce for the Hospitality Course that was being conducted at Wivenhoe Historic Villa. The course is no longer offered, but the vineyard has just delivered its 10th Vintage of Mater Dei Chardonnay. With the help of good friends, including Barry and Louise Moore, I tender the grapes a couple of times a week during October and February. All sales from the wine are donated back to the Mater Dei Foundation, which uses some of the funds to offer scholarships to the Mater Dei students.

I work at Blooms Chemist at Camden as a



Pharmacist every Thursday. Blooms have had a long association with Mater Dei. We took the Mater Dei's first work experience student!

I am also a member of the Board of Anowah Community Living at Horsley Park, where my daughter Elizabeth attends from Monday morning to Saturday morning. Elizabeth comes home to stay with Joyce and me on the weekends.

I am Patron for the Camden Bowling Club and try to get a social game in occasionally. I love my garden, which is rather substantial, and try to work in it three times a week.

So... this week I attended a Mater Dei Board Property sub committee meeting on Monday, a Mater Dei Wine sub committee meeting on Tuesday morning, a meeting at Anowah on Tuesday afternoon, worked at Blooms on Thursday, attended a Mater Dei Board meeting on Thursday, gardened on Wednesday and Friday, picked up Elizabeth and visited some of my grandchildren on Saturday and played bowls on Sunday.

Not bad for a semi retired fellow!! And thank you Kevin for all the energy and enthusiasm that you give to help the kids at Mater Dei (editor).

