

Royal Commission

Statement of Peter Roach

On 18 February 2015 I, Peter Roach, of **REDACTED** in the State of New South Wales, state as follows:

1. I was born on **REDACT** 1962.
2. I am currently employed as Executive Manager, Commonwealth Private Office. I am also an independent member of the Davies Family Advisory Board.
3. I hold the following positions:
 - (a) Director and Responsible Officer of Mundango Abroad PAF (a Private Ancillary Fund which supports charities predominantly in PNG);
 - (b) Director of Jbooks Holdings Pty Limited (a private trustee company associated with the Fairfax family);
 - (c) Director of Riproarer Pty Limited (a private trustee company); and
 - (d) Director of Cavagem Pty Limited (a private trustee company).

History of involvement with Knox

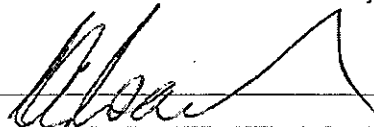
4. I am currently Chairman of Knox Foundation Limited. Knox Foundation Limited was established in the 1970s to oversee the fundraising activities of the Knox Grammar School Foundation.
5. During the period November 1997 to February 2001 I was President of the Old Knox Grammarians Association.

Council Knox Grammar School

6. In May 2001 I was appointed to the Council Knox Grammar School (the **Council**). In May 2007 I was appointed to the position of Deputy Chairman and in May 2013 I was appointed Chairman.
7. The Council Executive is currently as follows:
 - (a) Mr Peter Roach Chairman
 - (b) Mr Mark Scott AO Deputy Chairman
 - (c) Mrs Fiona Balfour Treasurer
 - (d) Mrs Sue Conde AM Secretary

Signature

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8. The Council Members are currently as follows:
 - (a) Mr Richard Alcock;
 - (b) Mr David Caspari;
 - (c) Dr Simon Longstaff AO;
 - (d) Professor Sheelagh McCracken;
 - (e) Mrs Cathy Tunbridge;
 - (f) Mr John Oldmeadow; and
 - (g) Mr Simon Rothery.
9. The Council appoints the Headmaster. The last time the Council appointed a Headmaster was 2003, when it appointed Mr John Weeks. I was a member of the Council sub-committee responsible for appointing Mr Weeks as Headmaster during 2003. Mr Weeks appointment was effective from 1 January 2004.
10. I was a student at the School, from 1969 to 1979 inclusive. After 30 years under the Headmastership of Dr Ian Paterson, Knox had developed academically and physically. With changing demands throughout the community and a general feeling that Knox needed a Headmaster with a different style to his predecessors, Mr Weeks's strong sense of family and his obvious ability to build school communities were factors that influenced his appointment, together with his ability to focus on student welfare, pastoral care and a genuine concern for the boys' emotional well-being.
11. Whereas Mr Peter Crawley, who was Headmaster for five years following Dr Paterson, brought 21st century technology to Knox, Mr Weeks has brought a clear sense of responsibility for the emotional and physical well-being of the boys, above all else. Knox now provides a far more caring environment for the boys at the school.
12. I have read the statement of John Weeks dated 6 February 2015. Subject to the matter set out in the following paragraph, I agree with and adopt Mr Weeks' statement as an accurate statement as to the current governance and operation of Knox.
13. In paragraphs 10 and 11 of Mr Weeks Statement he refers to the Constitution under which Knox is governed and the Constitution is purported to be attached as Annexure "C". The constitution attached to Mr Weeks statement and marked Annexure "C" is a draft proposed revised constitution and not the current Constitution. I have attached the current Constitution (see: P-W Annexure A). The statements in paragraphs 10 and 11 of Mr Weeks' statement are correct, except to the extent that the incorrect constitution has been attached and the existing Constitution

includes some different requirements (including the number of Council members). The current Constitution has been in place for several decades.

Dated: 18 February 2015

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Roach', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Peter Roach