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From: Progressive PR and Publicity on behalf of *Australian Book Review*

(03) 9696 6417 | darren@progressivepr.com.au



Lucas Grainger-Brown wins the Calibre Essay Prize

Lucas Grainger-Brown is the winner of the twelfth [Calibre Essay Prize](#) – Australia's most prestigious essay prize. The judges – novelist **Andrea Goldsmith**, NewSouth Executive Publisher **Phillipa McGuinness**, and *ABR* Editor **Peter Rose** – chose Lucas's essay 'We Three Hundred' from a field of over 200 essays submitted from thirteen countries. Lucas receives \$5,000, and his essay appears in the April 400th issue of *Australian Book Review*.

'We Three Hundred' is a candid and unsentimental account of life as a cadet at the Australian Defence Force Academy in Canberra for a bookish, idealistic adolescent straight out of high school.

On learning that he had won the Calibre Essay Prize, Lucas Grainger-Brown commented: 'It is an incredible honour to win the Calibre Essay Prize. When I was ready to write out this formative story, I knew I had to submit it to the Calibre Prize. *Australian Book Review* provide a fantastic national platform for the appreciation of Australian arts, ideas and culture. I hope my essay is read as a constructive addition to the ongoing dialogue about who we are and where we are going.'

This winner of the second prize, worth \$2,500, is **Kirsten Tranter**. Her essay, entitled 'Once Again', will be published in an upcoming issue.



Lucas Grainger-Brown and his mother at ADFA

About Lucas Grainger-Brown



Lucas Grainger-Brown joined the Australian Defence Force as a high school student. Subsequently he worked as a management consultant. He is a researcher, tutor, and doctoral candidate at The University of Melbourne. Philosophy and politics are his enduring passions. He has published commentary, essays, and fiction across numerous media. He first wrote for *ABR* in 2016.

About the Calibre Essay Prize

The [Calibre Essay Prize](#) (first awarded in 2007) is Australia's leading award for an original essay. The Prize is intended to encourage brilliant new essays and to foster new insights into Australian culture and society.

Further information

More information about *Australian Book Review* and the Calibre Essay Prize can be found on the *ABR* website. Please contact Progressive PR and Publicity on (03) 9696 6417 or darren@progressivepr.com.au

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