



# VOLLYNET REPORTS

Issue Ten

Released 12 August 2004

## Luxury Hotel For Executive

UFBA Executive members stayed at the luxury James Cook Grand Chancellor Hotel while in Wellington for former Executive Director Don Roper's employment mediation last week.

The James Cook has a "four star plus" rating. Its corporate room rate is \$220+GST per night.

According to the James Cook's website ([www.jamescookhotel.co.nz](http://www.jamescookhotel.co.nz)) guest services include two restaurants, a gymnasium, massage services, 24-hour concierge and valet parking. The hotel was awarded the Hospitality Association's Supreme Award for Overall Excellence in 2003. Regular guests include television personality Paul Holmes.

Wellington is a regular destination for executive members, as it plays host to most UFBA Executive Meetings. VollyNet Reports understands that the Executive have been routinely staying at at the James Cook Grand Chancellor for some time.

Over the last two years the UFBA has experienced a sharp deterioration in its financial position, failed to produce a business plan for the 2003/04 year, suffered two serious employment disputes leading to the departure of both its Business Manager and Executive Director, and has engaged in ongoing funding and accountability disputes with the Fire Service.

In June Dame Margaret Bazley imposed a number of strict conditions on future funding for the UFBA, including that the executive would confirm in writing that "no member of the UFBA executive or management will obtain a personal benefit from the provision of the grant".