



The Old Stanfordian

The Official Newsletter of the Stanford Lake College Alumni Association

An interview with Ali Conn (Class of 2007)



Ali Conn (Class of 2007) was recently interviewed by the Round Square Organisation about his career and how both his journey at Stanford Lake College, and his experiences with Round Square, helped to shape the person he has become.

Round Square writes, *“Ali Conn’s unrelenting sense of adventure and determination has catapulted him around the world on a journey rich with experience and discovery. His insatiable desire to make a difference and “disrupt” established patterns of behaviour has made him a founding member of SA Harvest; a non-profit organisation committed to rescuing and redistributing surplus food that would have otherwise ended up in landfills around South Africa. Ali, a Stanford Lake College alumnus (2007), attributes his sense of adventure, concern for the environment, and drive to make a difference in the lives of others to his time at Stanford Lake College.*

“...Ali remembers the freedom he experienced when he first joined the “Dream and Do” programme at his new school, Stanford Lake College... Conditioned by his previous teacher-centred, classroom-based experiences of education, Ali was shocked. “It blew my mind! How would you allow kids to go and swim in the lake? Shouldn’t they be doing maths or something? But the school was like, “No! Go be adventurous and explore the world around you!””

“It was during the next three years at Stanford Lake College that Ali believes he underwent his greatest transformation. He began seizing opportunities, playing sports, engaging in class, and was finally excited by school. His passion for the environment grew, as did his understanding of his potential, his impact, and his responsibility. His teachers pushed him to question, to challenge and to engage.”

Click **HERE** to read the full interview



EVENTS

27 - 28 MAY

Penryn Derby

CLASS OF 2002 & 2012
REUNION

6 - 7 AUGUST

Wolkberg Trail Run

[ENTER HERE](#)



ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLASS OF 2021 MATRIC RESULTS



CLASS OF 2021 TOP ACHIEVERS



Stanford Lake College



Danish Saleem
8 DISTINCTIONS

Accounting,
Afrikaans First Additional
Language,
English Home Language,
Information Technology,
Life Orientation,
Mathematics,
Physical Sciences,
Advanced Programme
Mathematics



Ethan Jones
8 DISTINCTIONS

Afrikaans First Additional
Language,
Business Studies,
English Home Language,
History,
Life Orientation,
Mathematics,
Physical Sciences,
Advanced Programme
Mathematics



Hloni Mangena
7 DISTINCTIONS

Afrikaans First Additional
Language,
English Home Language,
History,
Life Orientation,
Life Sciences,
Mathematics,
Physical Sciences



Nikita Stoltz
7 DISTINCTIONS

Accounting,
Afrikaans First Additional
Language,
English Home Language,
Life Orientation,
Life Sciences,
Mathematics,
Physical Sciences



Anja Maree
6 DISTINCTIONS

Afrikaans First Additional
Language,
Business Studies,
Computer Applications
Technology,
History,
Life Orientation,
Mathematical Literacy



Mudathir Cassim
5 DISTINCTIONS

Accounting,
Information Technology,
Life Orientation,
Mathematics,
Physical Sciences



Anke Spies
5 DISTINCTIONS

Afrikaans First Additional
Language,
English Home Language,
History,
Life Orientation,
Life Sciences



Josh Fairhead
4 DISTINCTIONS

Afrikaans First Additional
Language,
English Home Language,
Information Technology,
Life Orientation



Jason Freestone
4 DISTINCTIONS

Business Studies,
Geography,
Life Orientation,
Mathematics



Heema Kalan
4 DISTINCTIONS

Business Studies,
English Home Language,
Life Orientation,
Mathematics



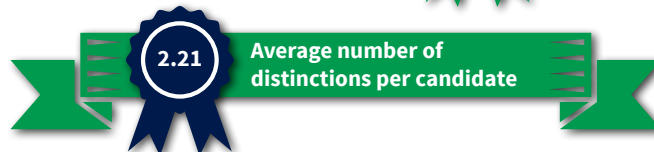
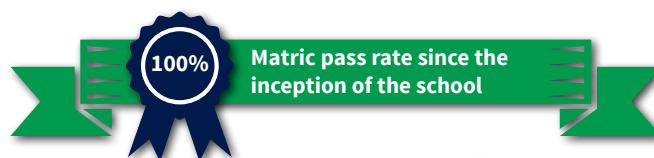
Reuben Middleton
4 DISTINCTIONS

Afrikaans First Additional
Language,
Computer Applications
Technology,
Life Orientation,
Mathematics



Stefan Otto
4 DISTINCTIONS

Information Technology,
Life Orientation,
Mathematics,
Physical Sciences



CAMPUS NEWS

SAYING GOODBYE TO LEGENDS



After 21 and a half years at Stanford Lake College, Mrs Bridget Harman retired at the end of 2021. Mrs Harman spent a grand total of 41 years as a Maths teacher, first teaching at Eshowe, then in Giyani and then at SLC. When she was appointed to her first teaching post at the ripe old age of 21, there were some matrics older than her! She had to teach Maths in Afrikaans until one young pupil in her class suggested that she should just teach them in English since they would follow her English better than her Afrikaans. After many happy years at Eshowe, her husband, Mark, took a job at Giyani College. It wasn't long before Bridget was roped in to teach there as well. Mark then took over the family farm and Bridget joined the Stanford staff. Mr Harman actually taught Biology at Stanford as well from 2007 to 2010. I'm sure there isn't one alumnus reading this who doesn't have a memory of Mrs Harman during their high school career - Mrs Harman did not follow tradition at Stanford, she helped create it. We wish Mrs Harman well as she takes on her retirement.

BEFORE



End of an era...

The large Oak tree outside Founders fell over at the end of January. Due to the wet conditions, it seems as though the weight of the tree could no longer be held by the root system and it completely uprooted and fell. Thankfully nobody was injured, but there is slight damage to Serala House. Sad to see this giant come to the end of its days, complete with all the shirts that have been tied to it over the years.

All is not lost, however, and a number of acorns were taken from the tree. Attempts are being made to propagate the seeds and once the saplings are large enough, will be replanted at the same site.

AFTER



ALUMNI ACHIEVERS



FÉLIX LAGROT



French student, Félix Lagrot, who studied at Stanford Lake College for a short time in 2015, won the famous French cooking contest, Trophée Jean Rougié, in January 2022. Félix spent time at Stanford in order to become more adept in English and was hosted by Howard and Moya Blight of Amorentia Estate during his time here.

For the last three years, Félix has studied at one of the top cooking schools in France, named after the famous Michelin-star Chef, Paul Bocuse, École Bocuse, in the city of Lyon.

During his third and final year at the school, he decided to participate in the annual contest. He was supported by his mentor, and Michelin star chef, Florian Pansin. Together, they had to prepare a recipe which included products such as Black truffle, foie gras and rabbit meat. They had worked hard for four months while designing the recipe, before the Trophée Jean Rougié contest.

Félix was selected for the final cook-off on the 15th of January, together with seven other teams. The jury was composed of some of the best chefs in France; all a very grand affair. The contest was divided in two parts. In the morning, the competitors prepared and

cooked for two and a half hours, elaborating on the pre-planned recipe. In the afternoon, they improvised another recipe with the same products. At the end of the day, the jury tasted both recipes and deliberated before declaring the winner.

This is a great achievement for Félix and a step forward, as he is now arguably one of the finest young up and coming chefs in his age-group, starting his career as a master-chef. Howard and Moya, who hosted Félix during his time in South Africa, are now working with him to develop new and innovative recipes using Dragon Fruit.

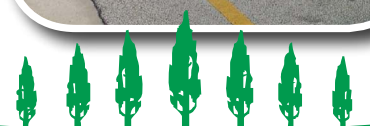


STEVE WILLSON TAKES ON IRONMAN

At the heart of Stanford Lake College, lies our value system. Each tree on our emblem represents one of the school's seven values. One of which is:

I have commitment - What I start, I will finish: I am accountable

Steven Willson (Class of 2001) showed the true embodiment of this Stanford value as he completed the IRONMAN African Championship on Sunday in a time of 9 hours and 45 minutes. Steve first started training for this gruelling event back in 2020, hoping to complete the event that same year, but it was cancelled due to the pandemic. Not to be deterred, Steve kept himself in peak fitness and knew he would achieve his goal as soon as he could. Well done on this outstanding achievement, you are an inspiration to all of us!



ALUMNI ACHIEVERS



GEORGINA SMIT

Congratulations to Georgina Smit, Head Girl of 2000, who has been nominated for the Mail & Guardian Greening the Future 2021 Award. Georgina is a technical specialist, market transformation strategist and head of training, certification and research at Green Building Council South Africa (GBCSA) and is determined to transform South Africa's built environment into a place where people and the planet thrive.

You can read more about her nomination and GBCSA via the following link:

<https://greenfuture.mg.co.za/georgina-smit-2021/>

ALUMNI ACHIEVERS

BUSINESS

ANEL AND SUSAN SCHOEMAN



Anel and Susan Schoeman (Class of 2009), set up their business, Sikhona Therapy - Educational Psychologists back in 2020, three months before the start of the pandemic. Sikhona means "I am here." This powerful greeting validates being seen for who one is - being present. Anel and Susan believe that every child has the ability to reach their full potential despite any barriers or challenges they may face. Their aim is to assist children and their families in rediscovering their purpose, passions and power through the practice of assessment, therapy and guidance.

The Schoeman sisters grew up with similar interests and dreams and decided to pursue careers in Educational Psychology together. They both studied at the University of Pretoria, where they obtained Honours and Masters degrees in Educational Psychology, including Bachelor degrees in Education.

Both Anel and Susan are also part-time lecturers at TUKS, lecturing undergraduate Education and learning support modules as well as an Educational Psychology Masters module. They will also be joining a Christian based psychiatric facility (the first in South Africa) towards the end of the year and will be the heads of the adolescent unit which will provide outpatient support to teens.



Part of the Sikhona team is Coco. She is a Labradoodle (Labrador and Poodle Mix), the dream temperament for therapy. When she is big, she aspires to join an Animal Assisted Therapy Program.



ALUMNI ACHIEVERS

BUSINESS



LIZANNE STEENKAMP

Congratulations to Lizanne Steenkamp (Class of 2011), who recently opened the doors to her new shop, Lizanzi, in the Tzaneen Lifestyle Centre. Lizanzi opened on the 9th February 2022 and is a boutique clothing store focusing on unique day wear and evening wear. Lizanzi also stocks gifts, baby gifts as well as exclusive decor. Lizanne says, "Our goal is to be bold and different - bringing the city to Tzaneen!"



CANDACE GUBITZ (NEÉ NEL)

PURPOSE - The reason for which something is done or created or for which something exists.

For that exact purpose, Candace Gubitz, née Nel, Class of 2009, began her new journey with MY BLOM - flower boutique. Candace says, "Being a wife to my beloved husband, Horst Johann Gubitz (SLC Class of 2008), and my handsome three boys, has brought me such fulfilment in life the last 12 odd years but I needed something to fulfil my creative abilities. I have always had a passion for flowers, creating beautiful spaces and hosting. Through that I found a gap in the Tzaneen market for my flower boutique. MY BLOM opened its doors on the 12th February 2022. The boutique consists of fresh flowers, indoor plants, gifts and home decor. It's a thriving small business and I am beyond blessed to have been able to find that balance between living life and loving life.

"Come pop into the store and allow me to shower you with flowers."



ALUMNI ACHIEVERS

ACADEMIC

CAMILLA JANKE

Congratulations to Camilla Janke (Class of 2013), who recently completed her MSc in Reproductive Biology (Cum Laude). Well done Camilla, this is a great achievement.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPECIAL EVENTS



London Saint Bothma

Congratulations to Xyza (née Stander, Class of 2010) and Duncan Bothma who welcomed their baby girl, London Saint Bothma, into the world on 11th December 2021. Congratulations on this new chapter of your lives and we wish you a wonderful journey for you and your family.



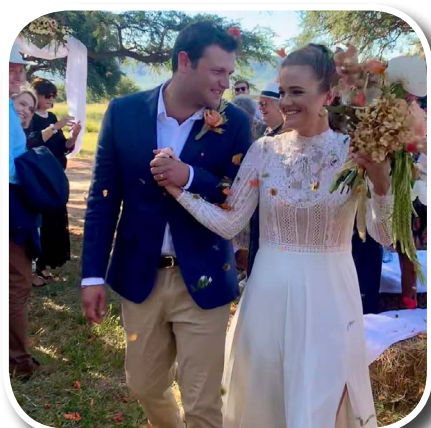
Luan Leon Brits

Congratulations to Rina (née van Niekerk, Class of 2010) and Jacques Brits, on the birth of their son, Luan Leon Brits. Luan was born on 2nd January 2022. Congratulations Rina and Jacques, wishing you all the happiness ahead.



Emmah Wilson and Nicholas Baleta (Class of 2007)

Congratulations to Nicholas Baleta who got engaged to Emmah Wilson on the 17th January.



Gillian (née Trollope) and Matthew Baleta (Class of 2010)

Congratulations to the newlyweds, Gillian and Matthew Baleta, who tied the knot on 19th March at Gillian's family farm in Thabazimbi.



Celia (née Landman, Class of 2009) and Adriaan Prinsloo

Congratulations to Celia and Adriaan Prinsloo who said their happily ever after's on 19th February at Bordeaux Game Farm. Wishing you both well as you embark on this next chapter of life.



Cassandra (née McGaffin, Class of 2013) and Tim van der Merwe

Congratulations to our Alumni Committee Member, Cassandra McGaffin, who married Tim van der Merwe at the McGaffin's family farm, Matume Sawmills, in George's Valley on 2nd April.



OUR CAMPUS IS A PLAYGROUND

THE WIK TRIATHLON



On Sunday 13th March we hosted the annual Wik Memorial Triathlon. This year was the 10th year since Wik's passing and we celebrated his life in style! We had a couple of parents, staff, alumni and students taking part in the event, with very good results. In true style, we had the perfect weather for the event – a cool morning and then clear skies for the rest of the day.

We saw an outstanding performance in the Stanfordian event by Walt Katzke, finishing in 1st place in a fast time of 2 hours 11 minutes! Eating his dust further down the field were alumni Matthew Wilkinson and Kyle Burelli, Mr Sean Fairhead, SLC's own Mr Swanepoel and Mrs Shirley Scriven.

In the Wik Junior event, five of the eight junior individuals came from Stanford. Kian Noné finished in second place, Michael Scriven in third, Benno Kotze in fourth and Lungile Sithole-Wiltshire in fifth by 1 second! Heidi Katzke won the junior girls event in fine style. In the Wik Open event, we had great performances from Mr. Roelof Niemann, Rouan and Jessica Snyman (from the Finance office!), as well as alumnus Pieter de Witt. In the Wik teams event we had the Highlanders (Straughn family) flying the flag high as well as some of our alumni.

Our junior teams made sure that they didn't get outperformed by the others and the team of Ilne Kotzé, Llewellyn Wight and Matthew Scriven finished in 1st place in the Junior mixed team category. Well done to every competitor and all the marshals / staff that helped to make this event such a success. A true 'family' event.



REUNION TIME

CLASS OF 2002 & 2012



Class of 2002

10 & 20 Year REUNION

SATURDAY
28th MAY
@ 13:00



Labor et Integritas

PENRYN DERBY WEEKEND

R150pp
Includes snacks &
limited drinks
Cash bar available after

please RSVP with proof of payment
by 18th May
to alumni@slc.co.za

**LIVE
BAND**

Banking details:
Name: Stanford College
Bank: FNB
Branch Code: 260349
Account no: 53961097905
Ref: A/R name & surname



Class of 2012

EVERY SWIPE COUNTS



Stanford Lake College

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- ▶ **Select our school**
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www.schooldays.co.za

We are delighted to announce a new initiative – School-Days – which provides an additional way to easily support Stanford Lake College. School-Days does not replace MySchool, nor do the initiatives compete with one another as they have completely different retail partners. The School-Days programme enables you to raise funds for school projects by shopping at several retailers including Dis-Chem, NetFlorist, Snapn-Save, Shell garages and others at absolutely no cost to you.

We believe that a number of additional retail partners will come on board soon, and we will keep you updated.

<https://www.schooldays.co.za/register/>

MEET OUR PARTNERS!



We look forward to having you on board!



MySchool MyVillage MyPlanet
MAKE EVERY SWIPE COUNT

With a MySchool MyVillage MyPlanet card, you can raise funds for Stanford Lake College without costing you a cent. Register for your free MySchool MyVillage MyPlanet card, name Stanford Lake College as your beneficiary and you'll raise funds every time you swipe at one of the national partners (Woolworths, Engen Convenience Centres, Loot.co.za and Bidvest Waltons).

You can apply for a card through the following site:

<https://www.myschool.co.za/supporter/apply/>

SLC BUSINESS DIRECTORY



We continue to compile an Alumni Business Directory that will be shared among SLC Society and Alumni in support of the businesses listed.

Should you have a business or service that you offer and would like to be listed on the directory, please email us at: alumni@slc.co.za with further details of your business.

