



The Old Stanfordian

The Official Newsletter of the Old Stanfordian Association



EVENTS

DUE TO THE EXTENDED LOCKDOWN, EVENTS HAVE BEEN CANCELLED OR POSTPONED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

**UPDATED EVENTS
T.B.C.**

By Akani Baloyi
(Chair of the Alumni Committee)

Ubuntu - we are family, celebrating the strength in our diversity. A simple yet profound value. This is one of the seven Stanford Lake College values that is communicated but is sometimes not acted upon by all.

Without Ubuntu, our courage, respect, integrity, Tshanduko, quality and commitment is all in vain.

If we cannot make a difference to those around us, then we surely cannot make a difference to those far away. At the end of our lives, we will not take the material things we accumulate but can take the impact we had on others.

As Dr Myles Munroe likes to say, "The graveyard is the richest place on earth." Many lived without having shared themselves with the world. They died with all the riches intended for others.

Now more than ever we need to make Ubuntu a reality. Before looking to your neighbour or other institutions, ask yourself; What difference are you making? What is it that you have in abundance and can share? Is it knowledge, joy, peace, love, materials? Whatever it may be, share it.

We are no longer gathered on a mountain in Magoebaskloof, we are gathered across the globe. Wherever you are, that is your family or community and it eagerly awaits you to share your riches.

Just as the river flows, trees grow, animals eat, let our lives be for the benefit of others.

This is an opportunity for you to partner with the alumni committee in all the endeavours we will take on. Be it raising funds, reaching out and bringing awareness, join us in making the difference. We will make a difference and you can be a part of it.

This is not just another message; it is a heart matter. Open your heart because it is the only way you can connect to the words written.

Thank you and I look forward to your contribution. God bless.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stanford Lake College



20 YEAR REUNION - CLASS OF 2000

When Stanford Lake College opened in 1998, we, the then Std. 8 class, were the senior class of the school and maintained this title for three years. There were 64 of us in the first year and, as unusual as the experience was, it is possible that we never fully realised we were making history. Naturally, we moved on to become the first Matric Class of Stanford Lake College. The class of 2000! We paved the way for the years that would follow and we did so with pride. Looking back, I wonder if there was a conscious sense of trepidation, for the risk that was taken by each parent, teacher and scholar? This brand new school had to prove itself and we were the ones to make it happen. Which we did.

We were lucky to make our 20-year reunion because the National Lockdown was announced the very next week. Those that could made it are extremely grateful to have had the opportunity to reconnect with each other and to revisit a very special chapter of our lives. Our 20-year reunion was a time of great reflection.

We had a beautiful, small dinner at The Mountain Café on the Friday night. There were only 35 of us; the group was made up of old class mates, some from the years below us, our parents, our headmaster Gavin Schofield, and co-founder and chairman of the board, Howard Blight. (All our teachers and board members were invited but many could not make it). Gavin gave a moving speech, walking us down memory lane in great detail. He told us he was proud of us. We shared many laughs. It felt surreal to share a dinner table with our old headmaster as adults, each of us forging our way through life.

Our Head Girl, Georgina Smit, who flew up from Cape Town to make the event, brought the 1998, 1999 and 2000 yearbooks along and gave us a good laugh during her heartfelt speech. Howard said a few words too, he congratulated our group on becoming well-established adults and for making the school proud. Howard included a warm toast to the late Ed Hillary, an original board member and close friend of the school.

We met up again on Saturday for a lovely lazy lunch at Zwakala Brewery. Those of us who are local, brought our kids along. Nothing reminds you of how much time has passed like your school friends' kids playing with your own kids!

Finally, on Sunday, we gathered at the school for the WIK Memorial Triathlon. We marveled at how much the school has developed since our time. We loved visiting the school again, loved reliving memories and spending time with old, special friends.

During the weekend, some of the best memories that came up were: naming The Hatchery Concert, sending the new Std.6s into the forest at night during orientation week, many secret forest forts, planting the grass on the field, bridge club, Ken Shuter, hockey games, runs in the forest, the DISCOS, midnight swimming in the lake, ordering pizzas from Tzaneen on our last night in boarding school, adventure challenges, science with Mr Perkins and the Debs ball.

Thank you to Shelley Hoets for initiating the event and for doing much of the organising and to Sarah Hillary for designing the invitation and hosting some of us at Cheerio. Thank you to everyone who travelled from far and for making it so special.

- By Lauren Strever (née Blight, Class of 2000)



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stanford Lake College



RONA MCGAFFIN COMPLETES MBA



Congratulations to the previous Marketing Manager of Stanford, Mrs Rona McGaffin, who recently completed her MBA.

In September 2017, Rona started her MBA in Leadership and Sustainability while still working at SLC. She took part in the course online through the University of Cumbria in the UK. In March 2018, she attended lectures in the UK and completed all her modules in the coming months. Her dissertation topic was "A comparison between Corporate Social Responsibility and BEE and the effect it has on SMME's in the Greater Tzaneen Area". Rona is passionate about social responsibility and would like to pursue this further.

She thanks her family and friends for their fantastic support and said it would not have been possible without them.

SIPHO KINGS NEWLY APPOINTED



We would like to congratulate former student, Siphon Kings (Class of 2004), who was recently appointed as the acting editor-in-chief of the Mail & Guardian. Siphon completed his BA Honours in History and BJrn (journalism) Degree in 2010 at Rhodes University. He then continued to become a Sub Editor at the independent student-run newspaper, The Oppidan Press at Rhodes in Grahamstown. His journey with Mail & Guardian began in the beginning of 2011 as an intern. In 2017 he was selected to join an elite group of 24 journalists from around the globe for a year, who constituted the Nieman Class of 2018 at Harvard University, Cambridge Massachusetts. Since then he has written and published a book alongside Sarah Wild, called 'South Africa's survival guide to climate change'. The book was released in 2019 and he was also featured on a TEDx Talk in Johannesburg that involved individual action and climate change.

You can visit the following link to read his recent article about his appointment and his experience: <https://mg.co.za/opinion/2020-06-03-we-do-what-we-do-because-of-you/>

OTHER NEWS



Congratulations to Barry (Class of 2003) and Holly Wood (Née van Wyk, Class of 2008), who welcomed the birth of their beautiful daughter, Regan Wood, on 25 April 2020. Wishing you both an abundance of joy and happiness with your baby girl! #lockdownbaby



We would like to congratulate Lauren White (Class of 2010), who recently got engaged to her fiancé, Callum van der Walt, on 11 July 2020 at a very special spot in the Timbavati Private Nature Reserve. Wishing you both a very happy future together and enjoy the wedding planning ahead!



ALUMNI ACHIEVERS



ELANÉ MARITZ



Congratulations to Head Girl of 2018, Elané Maritz, who received an invitation to join the Golden Key International Honour Society. The membership is by invitation only and is based purely on academic merit. Places are limited to the top 15% of degree students, from all disciplines, who have completed at least one year of study. Elané is currently a second year Pharmacy Student at the North West University in Potchefstroom. The North West University has identified her as a suitable candidate for meeting the above mentioned criteria and want to recognise her for this achievement by providing her with an opportunity to join the Golden Key International Honour Society. Golden Key has grown internationally and now operates at 400 universities and colleges across eight countries.



THOMAS MAYES



We would like to congratulate former student, Thomas Mayes (Class of 2019), who recently received the Best U/19 Boys Provincial Cricket Player of the Year Award for the Limpopo Impala Cricket 2019/2020 cricket season. This was announced at the annual Limpopo Impala Cricket Awards Ceremony on 10 July 2020 via their YouTube channel.

JACKSON DANDO



Congratulations to Jackson Dando (Class of 2012), who is currently studying his Masters in Marine Biology and recently received his final thesis submission back from peer review that has been formally accepted. His thesis entailed using baited remote underwater video (BRUV) systems to survey the fish life in and around the Goukamma Marine Protected Area (MPA) in an effort to determine whether changes to the zoning structure of the MPA could increase its overall effectiveness. He then compared the species data from the Goukamma MPA to three other Cape MPAs to determine the level of complementation and redundancy of protection along South Africa's warm-temperate South Coast. The results indicated that strategic changes to the Goukamma MPA's boundaries could significantly increase the amount of protected reef in the area and subsequently the amount of fish it could sustain, and that the south coast's marine fishes are well represented by the current MPA network. This is incredible work, Jackson, we wish you all the best with your career in Marine Biology!



ALUMNI ACHIEVERS

GRADUATIONS IN ABSENTIA



Gavin Stirling
Class of 2014

BEng in Mechanical Engineering
at the University of Pretoria.



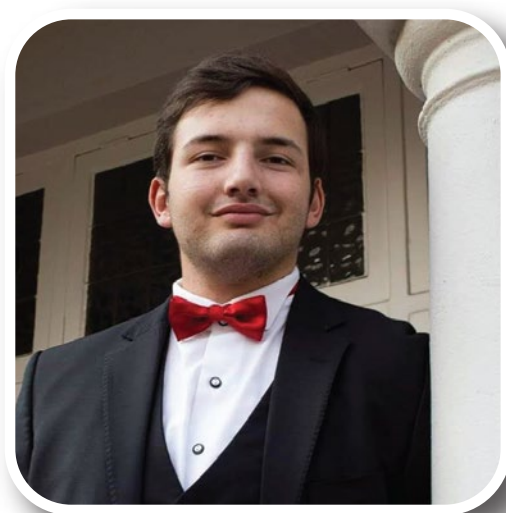
Sarah Pogrand
Class of 2016

BCom in Politics, Philosophy and
Economics (PPE) at the University
of Cape Town. Currently pursuing
her Honours in Economics.



Adam McGaffin
Class of 2016

BCom Accounting Science
at the University of Pretoria.



Riaan van Niekerk
Class of 2013

Bachelor of Information Science (BIS)
at the University of Pretoria.

**Congratulations to the above students on their qualifications and to all of those
whose graduations have also been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.**



SMALL ACT OF KINDNESS



We are so proud of alumnus, Hayley Dawson (Class of 2013), who made 67 beanies for Mandela Day that was handed out with lunch packs by a charity organization called One SMALL Act of Kindness.

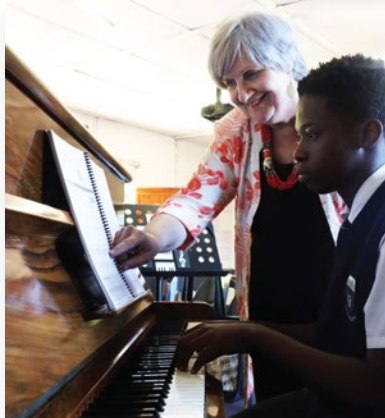
This little project started on 19 May when Hayley decided to set a goal to knit 67 beanies for Mandela Day, with donations from friends and a lot of determination she managed to achieve that goal. Such a thoughtful and brilliant initiative Hayley!



SLC SOCIETY



EVERY SWIPE COUNTS



With a MySchool MyVillage MyPlanet card, you can raise funds for Stanford Lake College without costing you a cent. The school has bought a new piano for the Music Department, astro turf by the 'dream an' do' Centre and a electronic timer for the pool at the High Performance Centre with funds raised through this initiative. Pick up 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/>



Stanford Lake College Alumnus, Lauren Strever (née Blight, Class of 2000), has recently launched her new and exciting business venture called Lopo. The name Lopo encompasses Lauren's identity (her nickname, Lol) and the province of Limpopo.

From the forests of Limpopo, Lopo Botanicals creates small batch, hand crafted essential oil based products. The business is proudly South African, aiming to source locally produced raw materials and packaging. They make use of organic oils where possible and strive to use eco-friendly packaging options. For more information, you can visit their website, www.lopo.co.za, or email Lauren directly at hello@lopo.co.za. Follow her journey on Instagram: [lopo_botanicals](https://www.instagram.com/lopo_botanicals)

SLC BUSINESS DIRECTORY



We have started to compile an Alumni Business Directory that will be shared among the 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: admissions@slc.co.za with further details.

