



# The Old Stanfordian

The Official Newsletter of the Stanford Lake College Alumni Association

By Mr Alan Redfern  
(Headmaster of Stanford Lake College)



It really is heart-warming paging through this edition of The Old Stanfordian. Whilst it represents merely a glimpse of what a few of our Alumni are up to and what they have achieved, I am sure that it is representative of so many more of our amazing ex-pupils. Every time I drive onto this campus, I marvel at what has been achieved on this little piece of paradise over the past 22 years – and I am referring to far more than the physical development that has taken place here. While there cannot be too many community-funded schools that (after just over two decades of existence) can boast the amazing facilities that our school can, our school is about more than buildings. It is about the people that pass through our gates, each one adding a unique stitch to the ever growing tapestry that represents our school's life. Stanford offers a wonderful launch pad for young South Africans to develop a set of skills that prepares them to head out into the world and make a difference. The magic that takes place here over five years is remarkable. As we all know, education is not limited to what happens in the classroom; but rather the emotional, physical, spiritual and mental growth that takes place as a result of exposure to a wide range of experiences. This environment is certainly conducive to growing children into young adults.

It is with great pride that we continue to celebrate the achievements of our alumni. We love hearing updates from you and following your progress. All our alumni have an open invitation to visit us on campus whenever they can and, with this in mind, I remind you of our plan to still host our 10 year and 20 year school reunions this year. Please watch this space for dates, further plans and requests for assistance in putting these together. The past 18 months or so have not been easy for anyone but in true Stanfordian style, we can all take great pride in how we as a community have come through this. Our alumni are very much a part of that community and we thank you for your support of your school.

God Bless

Alan



## EVENTS

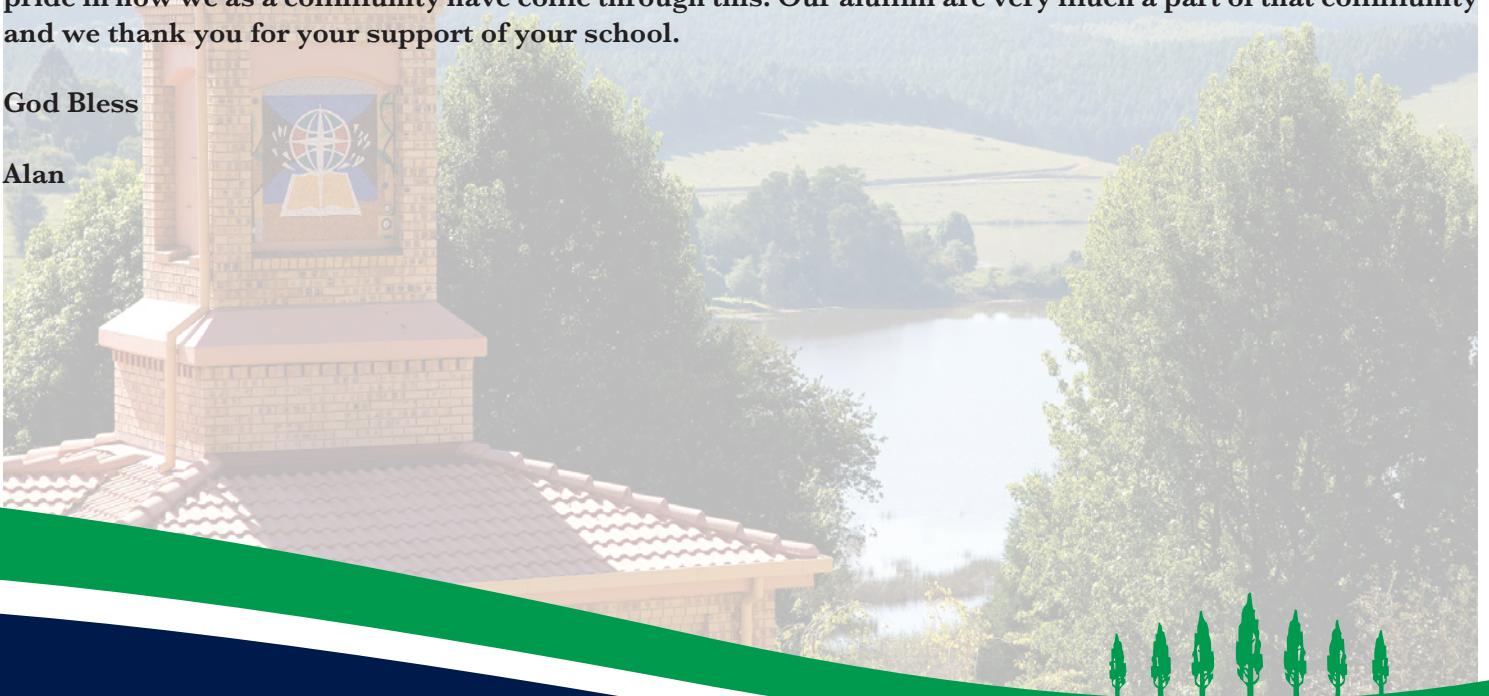
**17 - 19 SEP 2021**

Magoeba Trek  
at SLC

<https://www.entryninja.com/events/54862-wolkerberg-trail-run>

**16 OCT 2021**

Class of 2001, 2010  
& 2011 Reunion  
(Details TBC)



# ALUMNI ACHIEVERS

ACADEMIC



## SARAH POGRUND



We would like to congratulate Sarah Pogrund (Class of 2016), who recently got accepted at Oxford University to study a one-year Masters in Economics for Development. Sarah completed her undergraduate degree in Politics, Philosophy and Economics at the University of Cape Town in 2019. She continued with her Honours in Economics in 2020. Since then she has worked part-time here and there, but mentioned that she has been privileged to focus predominantly on her studies and enjoy university and all that comes with it. Below are a few questions we asked Sarah to answer:

### **1. When do you plan to start and why Oxford as opposed to some of the other highly ranked Universities in the world?**

The course starts late September 2021 and I'll be affiliated at Lady Margaret Hall one of the constituent colleges of the University of Oxford in England. The classic PPE (Politics, Philosophy and Economics) originated from Oxford and so it has always been at the back of my mind as the top ranked Social Sciences University in the world. My privilege, education and supportive parents have afforded me this opportunity, and I feel compelled to use it for a positive impact.

### **2. What are you most excited and most nervous about?**

I'm unbelievably excited to mingle with people and ideas from all over the world. Naturally, I'm nervous about setting up roots in a new place as well as the possibility of the pandemic potentially tampering with my experience.

### **3. What's the long-term goal once you have graduated from Oxford?**

The goal is to be passionate about people and possible change. I think if you work hard and remain present in every job/moment/stage of life, doors will open, and your 'long-term goal' will change and grow as you do. At this stage I'd like to work in economic development at an impactful multilateral institution or consultancy post graduating, and possibly return to academia to pursue a PhD or another skillset at some point.

### **4. How did your time at Stanford Lake College help to guide you to where you are now or shape you as a person?**

At an impressionable age I was lucky enough to be exposed to daring adventures, warm friendships, and worldly experiences through SLC. I continue to cherish and chase these three things, and probably always will, thanks to my little mountain high school.

# ALUMNI ACHIEVERS

## ACADEMIC



### FEZEKA NTSANWISI



Congratulations to alumnus, Fezeka Ntsanwisi (Class of 2012), who was admitted as an Attorney of the High Court of South Africa on Thursday, 6 May 2021. She completed her Articles of Clerkship at Norton Rose Fulbright South Africa Inc. in Johannesburg in 2019 and went on to study her Master of Laws Degree (LLM) in the Law of Mineral and Petroleum Extraction and Use at the University of Cape Town.

Her minor dissertation topic for her Masters was Consultation and Consent under the MPRDA (Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act) and the IPIRLA (Interim Protection of Informal Land Rights Act): A legal analysis of the decision-making practices of customary communities in South Africa. She passed her minor dissertation with distinction which is classified as a First Class Pass and will be graduating in December 2021.

She mentioned that this degree was undoubtedly the most exciting educational experience she had so far, "I thoroughly enjoyed the degree and the writing of my dissertation was a journey of constant learning and enlightenment." She went on to say, "My advice to the current Stanfordinians is that it is important to find your passion and even more important to run with it confidently. You have to find what you care about, nurture it and execute it in a meaningful way. My time at SLC laid a good foundation for me to have confidence in realising my life's ambitions. I consider this as SLC's gift to me, and I have every intention to use it to make a meaningful contribution to the people that occupy the spaces I intend to enter."

A sincere congratulations on your hard-earned success! We are so proud of you, Fezeka!



# ALUMNI ACHIEVERS

## ACADEMIC



### NKATEKO MUYIMANE



Congratulations to alumnus, Nkateko Muyimane (Class of 2016), who is currently a 3rd Year Medical Student at the Kharkiv National Medical University in Ukraine. He and a Pathomorphology Professor, Tetiana Bocharova, have conducted a case study at the Kharkiv Region Infectious Hospital for the 17th International and 59th Polish Conference Juvenes Pro Medicina 2021, which will be held online, 14-16 May 2021. The Conference is usually held in Poland but due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it is now being held online via Zoom. The study is about the macroscopical and microscopical effects on internal organs caused by COVID-19, Pneumonia and Chronic Cardiovascular diseases that can lead to the death of patients.

He mentioned, "My time in Ukraine has been a wild experience, rough in the beginning, but it's been amazing meeting new people from all over the world and learning about the Ukrainian/Russian culture. I would advise Stanfordians to travel and explore other avenues of life and not get too comfortable. We are privileged compared to others and we should take advantage of that."

### AIDAN DU PREEZ



Congratulations to alumnus, Aidan Du Preez (Class of 2016), who recently completed his Ichthyology and Fisheries Science Honours with distinction at Rhodes University. Aidan has been offered a bursary from One Ocean Hub to complete his Masters of Science in Fisheries Science.

This is an amazing achievement Aidan and we wish you all the best with the rest of your studies.

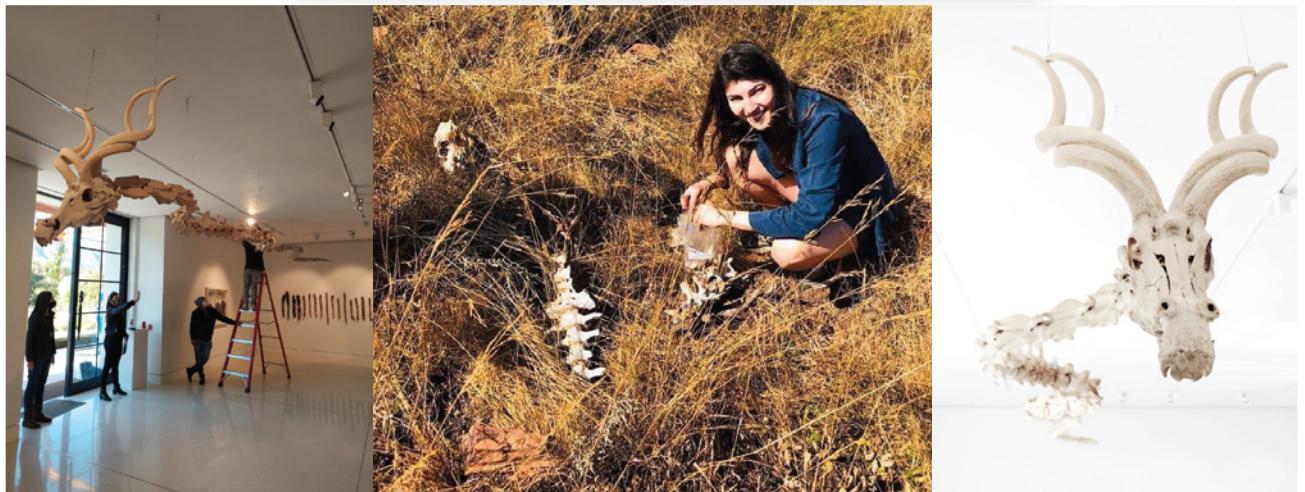


# ALUMNI ACHIEVERS

## ACADEMIC



### ERINN STRAUGHAN



We would like to congratulate alumnus, Erinn Straughan (Class of 2014), who graduated with a degree in Fine Art from Michaelis School of Fine Art at the University of Cape Town in 2018. She recently got an incredible opportunity to showcase her art piece called "Once upon a Time" at the Everard Read Gallery at the Leeu Estate in Franschoek.

"Once Upon a Time" is meant to illustrate how even the animals of the contemporary will soon fall to extinction if the world continues upon its current trajectory. One day, these animals will be the creatures of myth and memory. She explained, "In Africa, we are the keepers of one of the most biodiverse continents on the planet and much of our economy relies upon tourism and our tourism industry relies upon our unique creatures and places. The conservation and preservation of our natural environment and her occupants is not only the right thing to do, it is an act of self-preservation."

Well done Erinn, this is such wonderful news. May your passion and skills continue to raise awareness to protect what we have on earth currently.

### SHIKARA JANKE



Congratulations to alumnus, Shikara Janke (Class of 2017), who recently received her Degree in BCom Business Management at the University of Pretoria. She is currently pursuing her Honours in Business Management.

Well done, Shikara, this is a wonderful achievement and best of luck with your studies.



# ALUMNI ACHIEVERS

## ADVENTURE



### LORI HYDE



Lori Hyde (Class of 2012) recently embarked on a 28-day Apprentice Trails Guide Course and has shared the following details of her experience with us:

“No connection to the outside world, campfire stories before going to bed, staring at the stars with the sound of lions roaring and francolin setting off your alarm clock at sunrise. Can you think of anything better?

“I spent the month of April with Lowveld Trails in Timbavati Nature Reserve to obtain my Apprentice Trails Guide qualification. We were a total of eight students, ensuring personalised attention from our mentors, Brenden, Wayne and Leighton. We were equipped with basic bush skills required for multi-day trails. Our tented campsite became our home and we all grew to become a tight-knit bush family. We had our own chef, David, who cooked the most delicious food on the campfire. His pot bread was one for the books!

“Our course consisted of three phases. The first phase was completing our ARH (Advanced Rifle Handling) which took a lot of practice; dry handling and heading to the shooting range every morning and afternoon to work on distance, timing and accuracy. This was done during the first week of our course so we could start logging hours as 2nd Rifle.

“The second Phase was a primitive trail which took place in Klaserie Nature Reserve. We slept under the stars in sleeping bags and took turns doing night watch duties (STAG). A time used by all of us to reflect on the day’s activity. All our food and equipment was carried in backpacks similar to Trek, however, we had to dig for fresh water and always be on the lookout for dangerous game.

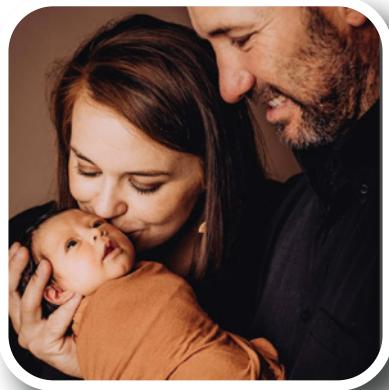
“The third phase included walking hours, encounters and theory. We spent on average of 8-10 hours a day walking, tracking and trailing animals through a wild and unpredictable environment. The great advantage of walking allowed us to focus on the finer details such as arthropods, flora, bird life and the geology of the area, which we tend to overlook from a vehicle. We had a total of thirteen encounters including white rhino, elephant and buffalo. We had an incredible lion sighting with cubs from camp and wild dog on foot. Our theory focused on rifle handling and dealing with dangerous game by learning about different warning signs and avoiding getting ourselves into difficult situations by recognising safe zones in the bush.

“It was special to be able to live as our ancestors once did and walk the ground that provided them with a means of living. The valuable ‘Laws of The Wild’ enabled us to look at the natural world and ourselves differently. The life lessons that we all gained from this experience have been life changing and brought us all back down to earth and allowed us to realise the important role that we play in our environment.”

Lori also completed the Greater Makalali Big Walk of 95km in 24 hours to raise funds towards the Rhino Protection Trust on 19 – 20 June 2021. She took part in this cause with nine others, including their experienced guide, on wild “Big 5” terrain. You can still contribute towards this cause by donating via the following website: <https://www.rhinoprotectiontrust.com/>. Well done, Lori, you can be so proud of the work you are doing in the conservation sector and we wish you all the best with your future endeavours.



# SPECIAL EVENTS



## Emma Olivia Pretorius

On Thursday, 27th of May 2021, Nicola (née Pirie, Class of 2008) and Antony Pretorius welcomed their beautiful daughter Emma Olivia Pretorius into this world. Congratulations on this new chapter of your lives and we wish you a wonderful journey for you and your family.



## Inge (née van Rensburg, Class of 2014) and Tiaan Janse van Rensburg

Congratulations to Inge and Tiaan Janse van Rensburg, who got married on 5 June 2021 at the Black Horse Brewery in Magaliesburg. Best wishes on this wonderful journey, as you build your new lives together!



## Juno Moon Lethabo

Congratulations to Rebecca Tooley (Class of 2006) and Patrick Lambert, who welcomed their second child, Juno Moon Lethabo, a beautiful baby girl into the world on 18 July 2021 at their home. We wish Rebecca and Patrick happy and memorable times ahead.

## SONU PATEL



Sonu Patel (Class of 2018), who is currently a 3rd Year Accounting Sciences student in Australia, has returned to South Africa for a 6-month visit. During his visit, he has decided to embark on a project which entails feeding 210 underprivileged children as part of celebrating his 21st birthday. A lot of planning has gone into this, such as identifying specific communities to feed, what supplies need to be bought, how much food must be bought, etc. He started this ambitious goal by feeding approximately 150 children at Mafarana Drop-in Centre, near Letsitele. He donated the food required to feed these children which was then distributed by the service project manager to the children in need. By the middle of June, he hoped to complete his goal of feeding at least 210 disadvantaged children but exceeded his own expectation by feeding over 300 children.

Sonu mentioned, "It is really heartwarming to give back to the community and see children happy. My one aim in life is to give back and I am happy that I have started at a young age. My parents as well as my community are proud of my achievements and I aspire to become a better person day by day."

Thank you, Sonu, for sharing your project and achievement with us. We are so incredibly proud of the work you have done for the community and hope you inspire many more youth to do the same.



# ALUMNI ACHIEVERS

## ADVENTURE & OTHER



### RED ANTS

Alumni, Casper Venter (Head Boy 2019) and Brian Gardner (Head Boy 2002), raced together as part of Team Red Ants at the 120km Expedition Africa Adventure Race in Parys on Saturday, 29 May 2021 and finished in 5th position against 25 other teams.

Well done, Casper and Brian, this is an incredible result!



### AKANI BALOYI

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A connection of biblical scripture to existing quotes. An elaboration of how careers look to address our challenges and Jesus being the one who solves our problem.

For more information:  
[glorybelongstojesus@gmail.com](mailto:glorybelongstojesus@gmail.com) | 073 218 7671

Alumni Chair, Akani Baloyi (Class of 2008), has recently launched a book called "Glory Belongs to Jesus", which he has been working on since 2017. He describes the book as follows:

"This book focuses on giving Jesus the glory without taking away the credit from man. The first part focuses on the most popular quotes and idioms, which are compared to scriptures. In the second part of the book we focus on the make-up of careers and demonstrate how they are similar to God's set up for mankind. Again, it is simply to give Glory to Jesus."

Should you be interested to support Akani by purchasing his book, you can contact him via [glorybelongstojesus@gmail.com](mailto:glorybelongstojesus@gmail.com).



# SLC SOCIETY



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As you are aware, we have enjoyed a wonderful partnership with MySchool for many years and, thanks to the ongoing support of so many members of our Stanford community, we receive funds through the initiative which are used to support key projects at the school.

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, SnapnSave, 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/>



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 have started 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: [admissions@slc.co.za](mailto:admissions@slc.co.za) with further details of your business.

