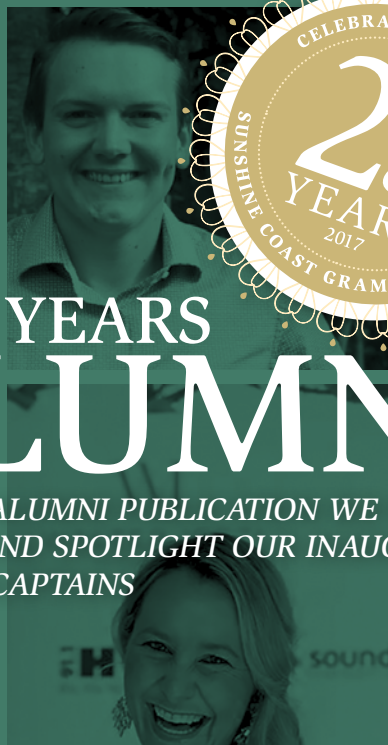




ISSUE 1 | 2017



# CELEBRATING 21 YEARS WITH 21 ALUMNI

INSIDE OUR NEWLY LAUNCHED ALUMNI PUBLICATION WE CATCH UP WITH 21 OF OUR ALUMNI AND SPOTLIGHT OUR INAUGURAL SCHOOL CAPTAINS



SUNSHINE COAST  
GRAMMAR SCHOOL







## CHAIRMAN'S NOTE

As Chair of the Sunshine Coast Grammar School Foundation, I welcome you, our Alumni, to this edition of the Quarterly magazine with a special section for Alumni. This year the Foundation wishes to formally recognise, honour and celebrate the Alumni of Sunshine Coast Grammar School. Many educational institutions celebrate Alumni as witnesses to the journey they have taken in their developing years, launching them into careers and life. In 2017 the School celebrates 21 years, and we believed that this was the right moment to celebrate Alumni and develop a new way of continuing your association with this great school in this great region.

You are probably not aware that the School has a Foundation, set up in 2007 with the object to "support and assist the school in acquiring funds". To date the main function of the Foundation has been to secure funds for the construction of the Aquatic Centre – a dream fast becoming a reality. The Foundation is of course focussed on fundraising and philanthropy as an investment in the sustainability of the School. There are many ways in which we practice philanthropy in our lives. We provide voluntary services to help those in need, and we make donations to those organisations that we cherish. The act of philanthropy is based on our own values, and matching those to the values of the organisation to which we give. You are part of our community and I know you share our values: excellence in education, integrity and ethical behaviour, achievement and fulfilment, and investment in young people for a truly positive future for society.

I am very proud to chair the Sunshine Coast Grammar School Foundation and I encourage you to learn more about the Foundation and to be an active member of the Grammar Alumni wherever you are in the world. Your ongoing relationship with the School is important just as it was when you were a student of the School. All you do in your life is important to us. Tell us about your achievements, your adventures, your new directions. Share with us as we invest in the School for now and for future generations.

***Emeritus Professor Jennifer Radbourne***  
Chair SCGS Foundation



## MAYOR JAMIESON TALKS *milestones*

OUR SUNSHINE COAST IS A REGION THAT IS EMBRACING  
BEING PART OF A CHANGING WORLD.

We have a clear and coherent plan for our future, and a determined approach to seeing that plan implemented. We are building confidence – that most essential ingredient in any success story and one that is very important for the growth of a community.

Our focus is on liveability with better access to jobs and services for our residents and making sure our outstanding environmental assets remain just that – outstanding – and a valuable community resource for generations to come.

*In short we are creating a healthy, smart and creative city-region that has its own identity and is intimately connected to the world.*

The students who graduate from Sunshine Coast Grammar – past, present and future – can be sure that we are positioning our region at the forefront of economic prosperity, liveability and sustainability with fantastic opportunities available for all.

One of our key missions, through our 20-year Regional Economic Development Plan, is to provide the right environment for more of our secondary school graduates than ever before to remain here on the Coast if they choose and that they will be in well paid occupations with the potential for further growth.

Many of them will be in employment opportunities created by our game-changing major projects which are moving from the drawing board to become reality, exactly as we planned.

### SUNSHINE COAST AIRPORT

After several years of intensive work, council has secured the required State and Federal government approvals to proceed with the expansion of our Sunshine Coast Airport, a project that will deliver an economic benefit to the region of some \$4.1 billion through to 2040 and 2230 jobs over the same period.

The airport expansion project, scheduled for completion in 2020, includes new fully compliant 2450m long x 45m wide runway as well as upgrades to the existing terminal.

We will be able to welcome flights from South-East Asia and more Pacific destinations, building our tourism and export capabilities.

The Sunshine Coast Airport continues to be the fastest growing major airport in Australia, hitting the million passengers mark within a single year for the first time at the end of 2016.



## MAROOCHYDORE CITY CENTRE

It has also been rewarding to see work progress on our region's new Central Business District on a 53ha greenfield site in the heart of Maroochydore.

The Maroochydore City Centre project will create more than 30,000 jobs by 2040 and provide a \$4.4 billion boost to the Sunshine Coast economy.

We are also taking the opportunity associated with a greenfield site to build in the infrastructure and digital solutions that will make Maroochydore Australia's first truly smart city.

For example, our council is installing Australia's first underground automated waste collection system in a CBD.

The announcement of this inclusion attracted attention from around the country, increasing awareness of what we have



underway here and the innovation and sustainability principles that are at the heart of what we do.

There will be more to come as we incorporate smart lighting, smart parking and other smart solutions throughout our new CBD.

### BROADBAND CABLE

Council has lodged a submission with the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) to start the process to declare an offshore cable protection zone.

If the zone is declared, this will encourage the private sector to deliver an international submarine broadband cable connection that would land at the Sunshine Coast.

The Sunshine Coast would be the only regional centre in Australia able to offer direct international broadband connectivity to global markets.

If this protection zone is achieved and the cable is delivered, the region's economy and our attractiveness to new businesses will change profoundly – and forever.

It will provide milli-seconds of advantage and significantly improved speed and bandwidth from Queensland – all from the Sunshine Coast.

Milli-seconds are integral to banking and finance operators, digital solutions developers and those businesses and industries that are heavily reliant on online transactions.

Businesses locating near the cable landing point will achieve a significant commercial advantage so many will want to locate here rather than other regional centres.

The greater speed and bandwidth will also transform the capacity of our Sunshine Coast University Hospital to undertake remote diagnostics and clinical treatments.

The hospital will also be able to gain direct access to some of the world's leading health and medical research institutes.

The opportunity to market the Sunshine Coast as a place in which to invest and operate a business will be exceptional.

### SUNSHINE COAST SOLAR FARM

In July, we commissioned our 15 megawatt Sunshine Coast Solar Farm at Valdora, west of Coolumb. Our Solar Farm will offset 100% of council's electricity consumption across all its facilities and operations, with solar energy going into the grid.

Most other governments are still talking about offsetting 50% of their energy needs from renewables by 2025.

Importantly, this solar facility will reduce the cost of council's operations – at least \$22 million after costs over the 30-year life of the project – and we will no longer be exposed to escalating energy costs.

This is a great win for the environment and a great win for our residents too.

### A NEW ECONOMY

More broadly, there is considerable activity occurring that is helping us to achieve the strong economic position that we are now able to claim. Our region has more than \$10 billion committed (or in the pipeline) in major public and private investment in the region.

In March, the long awaited \$1.8 billion Sunshine Coast University Hospital opened at Kawana.

Work is now underway on the region's two large scale master planned communities - Caloundra South (now known as Aura), which has already accepting residents, and the \$3 billion Avid development Harmony at Palmview.

These master planned communities will eventually be home to 50,000 people and 17,000 people respectively.

The \$400 million Sunshine Plaza expansion is underway with the transformation of the centre due for completion prior to Christmas 2018.

Each of these major regional projects are contributing to the reshaping of the regional economy and helping to deliver a wider mix of employment options, facilities and services for current and future residents of our region.

*The future is here on the Sunshine Coast.  
I encourage you all to take advantage of the opportunities being created.*





COME HOME  
FOR  
CHRISTMAS

WEDNESDAY 20 DECEMBER  
2017

SUNSHINE COAST  
GRAMMAR SCHOOL  
INVITES YOU HOME  
FOR CHRISTMAS...



SUNSHINE COAST  
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

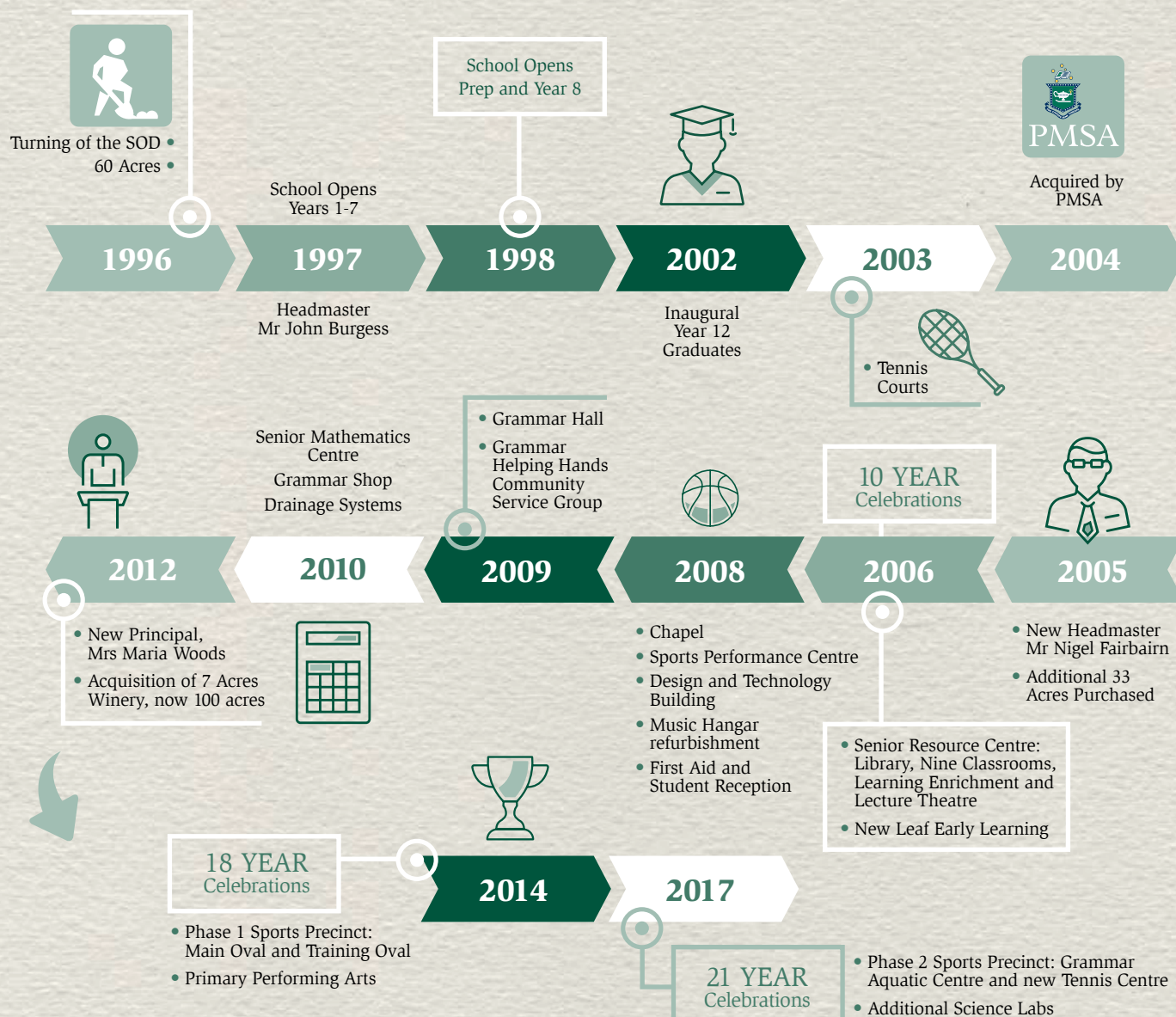
Venue Sunshine Coast Grammar School  
Enquiries [alumni@scgs.qld.edu.au](mailto:alumni@scgs.qld.edu.au)  
Web [www.scgs.qld.edu.au/alumni](http://www.scgs.qld.edu.au/alumni)

*A School of the Presbyterian and Methodist Schools Association*





# GRAMMAR historical timeline



## GRAMMAR future growth

AS THE LONG ANTICIPATED AQUATIC CENTRE COMES TO FRUITION, ALONG WITH THE NEW TENNIS SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE, OUR EYE TURNS TO THE FUTURE AT GRAMMAR. IT IS TIME TO RENEW OUR MASTER PLAN.

Work is already underway to establish the foundations for our renewed Master Plan. Input from stakeholders is being sought, both internally and externally, including: Main Roads, Town Planners and Sunshine Coast Council.



The Master Planning process will be finalised in 2018. Proposed future works and timelines will be explored and budgeted for in terms of:

- focus upon maximising opportunities for our students
- relevance and timeliness, and,
- financial viability.

It is certainly exciting times at Sunshine Coast Grammar School and indeed on the whole Sunshine Coast, as we position ourselves for growth and a promising, prosperous future.



## Grammar Alumni



1524

ALUMNI GRADUATES  
2002-2016

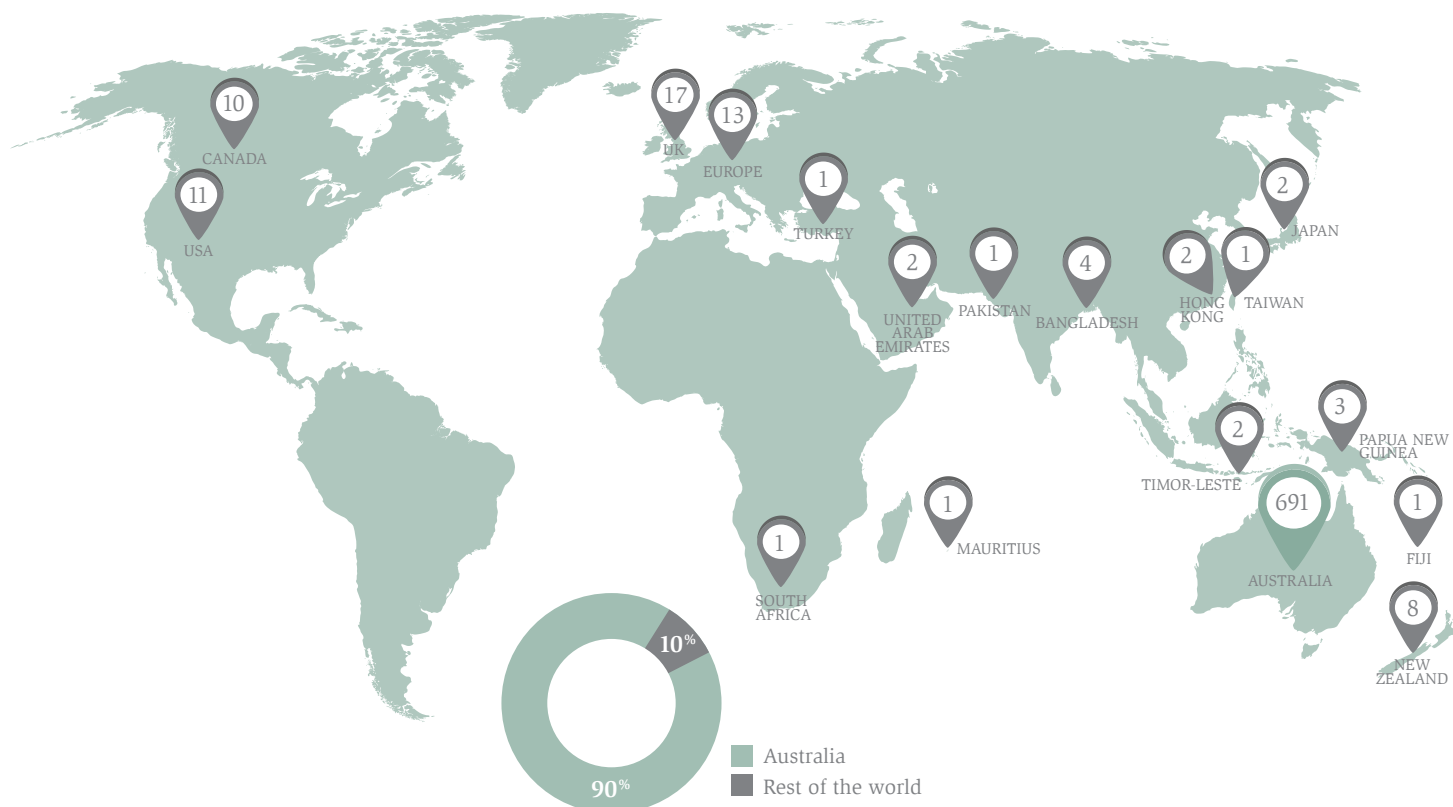
+88

ALUMNI GRADUATES  
2017

41%

760  
FACEBOOK  
FOLLOWERS

59%

GET IN  
TOUCH

## WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU

*Grammar Alumni are invited to contact  
Sunshine Coast Grammar School to share their journeys.*



@AlmuniSCGS



alumni@scgs.qld.edu.au



scgs.qld.edu.au/alumni



# INAUGURAL SCHOOL CAPTAINS *where are they now?*

*Welcome to the first edition of Grammar Alumni. We are committed to reconnecting with our past and it is particularly heartening to hear from Alumni. Our past allows us to reflect on where we have come from in order to understand where we are and build the future we want for our current and next generation Grammarians.*



**MEGAN MEINEKE**  
*School Captain 2002*

*Not often does a school's inaugural School Captain return with such passion and dedication as that of Sunshine Coast Grammar School's Marketing Manager, Megan Meineke.*

Megan and her family emigrated from South Africa in 1998 and within weeks of arriving started Year 8 at Grammar as part of the foundation year level. Megan always had a strong interest in travel and business, which saw her embark on her studies at Queensland University of Technology straight after school and in 2007 she graduated with a dual degree Bachelor of Business and a Bachelor of Creative Industries.

Megan spent the first five years of her career working with a boutique public relations and marketing consultancy where she gained first-hand experience in media relations, crisis management, stakeholder engagement and both internal and external communications. After taking some time out and adventuring through Europe to pursue her love for travel, on her return she accepted a contract at Grammar as the Marketing and Communications Manager, where she has spent the past 7 years working to assist with the School in developing, implementing and delivering high quality marketing and public relations campaigns.

Well recognised for her commitment and contribution to the local community, Megan has also spent the past decade working with Wishlist, the Sunshine Coast University Hospital Health Service charity organisation. Megan's generosity as a committee member has delivered opportunities for public relations, corporate communications, sponsorships and event management.

An enthusiastic and highly motivated individual with strong communication and interpersonal skills, Megan enjoys working as part of a dynamic team in a positive and competitive environment. Since 2010, Megan has enjoyed delivering the strategic direction and execution of Sunshine Coast Grammar School's marketing.

Megan now has two beautiful children who attend the School's New Leaf Early Learning Centre and much of her free time and energy is spent chasing them around at the local parks and stunning beaches.



**ALEX ALDERSON**  
*School Captain 2002*

*Inaugural School Captain now NRL's Data and Digital General Manager*

The year was 2002, and Alex Alderson was Grammar's first male school captain. With a passion for law, business and rugby he completed a Double Degree at the University of Queensland and graduated with First Class Honours in Bachelor of Business (majoring in International Business) and a Bachelor of Laws.

Taking the opportunity to travel across summer breaks, Alex has explored Canada, Japan, Thailand, America and New Zealand.

Completing internships at two law firms, Alex had the opportunity to work on Media and IP law, which he attributes to the career he now leads. Rising to the next career challenge, Alex relocated to Sydney and moved into Management Consulting. Putting in the hard yards, Alex has thoroughly enjoyed his journey to date and the opportunities that have unfolded.

"In both Law and Management Consulting, I was fortunate to work with some highly intelligent colleagues who nurtured my growth and pushed me," said Alex.

Joining NRL in 2014 as a member of the in-house strategy team, Alex was responsible for planning and executing the strategy around the negotiation of NRL's broadcast rights. He is now responsible for NRL's new in-house digital publishing business, the NRL network, which started as a team of six and will employ almost ninety staff by this Christmas.

"I love that we're building something new. I love that it's unstructured and that we have to solve problems everyday – big and small! The NRL network goes live in December. We're all pretty intently focused on launch right now, and our goal is to make it an outstanding success," said Alex.

Alex attributes his success to working hard and spending as much time as possible around business savvy professionals with an abundance of business experience.

Growing up on the Sunshine Coast and still a beach fan, Alex often heads out for swim and surf when time permits.



# CELEBRATING 21 YEARS WITH 21 ALUMNI



## DIGITAL MARKETING ENTREPRENEUR AND CHANGE-MAKER

JUSTIN HANNAN  
*Class of 2007*

If you had said to Justin when he graduated that in ten years he would be a business owner and entrepreneur changing the scope of Digital Marketing, you would have some convincing to do. He was uncertain on a career path so undertook business and science subjects in his senior school years.

After graduating from Grammar, Justin went on to study a Bachelor of Business and Bachelor of Creative Industries at QUT. During that period, he received a scholarship to study in Paris on a 6-month exchange. He then took another 6-months to live in France, an experience that has been a personal highlight in his life. After arriving home from France, Justin was asked to be an Associate Producer on a large Australian student film project - Omega The Film. Described as a 'challenging experience' Justin was required to raise over \$20,000 in funding, lease a warehouse and build a spaceship film set. Not your every day job!

Progressing his digital career Justin snapped up the opportunity to grow his marketing skills with Personalised Plates Queensland, which led to his role as Digital Marketing Manager. With his entrepreneurial passion coming to life, Justin is now the Owner & Director of digital marketing agency, Reiterate.

Inspired by Richard Branson and continuous learning, Justin is always looking to grow professionally and personally. Having found his purpose, Justin has scope to grow the talents and offerings of his business to one day be the best boutique digital marketing agency in Australia. Justin's advice to future Grammar Graduates.

*"Spend less time worrying about Instagram and spend more time on personal development. Don't wait until you're in your 20's to start the process of finding out what your passions are and what's important to you. Start reading books that inspire you. Finally, write everything down. Store your thoughts, ideas, goals and aspirations. You'll be glad you did!"*

## CRIME PREVENTION LECTURER AT GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY

EMILY MOIR *Class of 2007*

Commencing in the Foundation Year of 1997, Emily Moir was a Year 2 Student with big dreams and a passion for learning. In Secondary School Emily's academic interest in Science and Japanese lead to a new career discovery in Year 12, one of Forensic Psychology and Criminology.

After a GAP year, Emily began a double degree in 2009 in Criminology and Psychological Science at Griffith University, and graduated with First Class Honours. Going on to complete her PhD in March this year, the opportunity arose for Emily to become a Lecturer in the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice.

Emily's research interest spans three areas of crime prevention including; burglary, child



sexual abuse, and elder abuse. She has taught courses on crime prevention, crime mapping, theories of crime, and homicide.

Although Emily has successfully set up life in Brisbane, she still enjoys visiting family on the Sunshine Coast.

*"It is extremely rewarding to know that I can assist crime prevention by educating current students in today's world, so when they complete their degree they are ready for tomorrow's challenges." Emily said.*

## CRUISE SHIP PERFORMER RETURNS HOME WITH A NEW MINDSET

SIMON DREW *Class of 2011*

Commencing in Year 7 at Grammar, Simon had a real passion for the performing arts. Heavily involved in music, music extension and drama at Grammar he attributes the development of his talents to the teachers who inspired him and nurtured the evolving talent he has today.

Upon graduating Simon went on to study at the Conservatorium of Music in Brisbane. Within two and half years he landed his first 'gig' on The Royal Caribbean Cruise Ship-The Oasis of the Seas, which at that time was the largest cruise ship in the world.

For five months Simon was the lead trumpeter and singer of his band, The Simon Drew Quartet, in the ship's Jazz club. He became popular amongst cruise ship audiences and went on to secure an additional two performance contracts with the Cruise Ship 'The Allure'.



Simon recently married wife Jennifer and returned home to Australia in January 2017, and is enjoying life on the Sunshine Coast.

Life experience has provided Simon with so much more opportunity than just music and travel. Today he is a Mindset Coach, Musician, Speaker, Podcast Host, and Student of Life. Broadening his horizons by developing a range of skills for mindset coaching, Simon enjoys assisting students with ideas and techniques designed to assist them during their final years at school and has spoken to students at Grammar. For more on Simon Drew visit: [risetothegoodlife.com](http://risetothegoodlife.com), or [simondrewmusic.com](http://simondrewmusic.com)



## TWO ANGELS IN OUR MIDST

### COURTNEY ANGEL *Class of 2010*

Business Studies - the subject at Grammar that made Courtney Angel realise the many career avenues possible by studying Business and Marketing together. Collectively the skills are needed in every business and industry around the world.

Life at Grammar offered Courtney endless opportunities to find her passion. Before graduating in 2010, her drive to do well academically, along with her interests in netball, sports aerobics and music, it was evident that she enjoyed being involved in many opportunities at school. Friendships were also a big part of Courtney's life that have continued well beyond the gates of Grammar.

Studying a dual degree at the University of the Sunshine Coast in 2011, this consisted of a Bachelor of Business and a Bachelor of Arts: Marketing and Public Relations, which she completed in 2014.

Moving to Brisbane Courtney took a position at Ikon Communications for two years. With a hunger for bigger opportunities and experience in the marketing arena Courtney moved to Melbourne earlier this year. Landing a marketing role at Global Health Limited, a software solutions company for the healthcare industry, no day is the same for Courtney. As part of a small marketing team, she enjoys a broad range of marketing tasks and responsibilities across several brands and product lines.

Professionally, the career opportunities in Melbourne are endless. However, Courtney is looking forward to her travels to Europe in 2018.

### EMMA ANGEL *Class of 2013*

Emma Angel was a passionate student during her time at Grammar who enjoyed being involved in as many activities as possible. With a passion for sport, music and community service she gained many life skills.

Graduating in 2013 Emma was accepted to the University of the Sunshine Coast in a Bachelor of Business. However, after a semester she decided business was not her career focus and chose to take time out to think about what type of career she wanted to pursue. Since then Emma has never looked back.

In 2015 Emma embarked on studying a Bachelor of Primary Education at the University of the Sunshine Coast and has never looked back. She was privileged to be selected by the PMSA for a Teaching Scholarship, at USC which speaks volumes for her passion, talent and commitment to progressing her career path.

Emma noted that her inspiration for her career came from her school environment; "Grammar has, and always will inspire my career as a teacher because I was taught by the very best. When I reflect on my own personal teaching, I think about what my teachers would have done in that situation. Without my teachers at Grammar I would not be the preservice teacher I am today - so thank you!"

No day is the same for Emma who works casually at a pharmacy and as a lifeguard, during her University studies. She plans to complete her studies and begin teaching as a Primary School teacher. However, for now she wants to explore and is planning to travel to America and Canada at the end of the year.



### ADVICE TO FUTURE YEAR 12 GRADUATES...

*"Take advantage of opportunities when they come along and run with them - you never where they will lead."*

Courtney Angel

*"Always have a balanced life, even if study or work gets busy. Don't miss out on exercising or spending time with family and friends just because you have an assignment due. It will be more beneficial to your assignment or work (and your wellbeing) if you give yourself a break".*

Emma Angel

## LIFE IS WHAT YOU MAKE OF IT

### EMMA SWANN *Class of 2010*

Prior to graduating in 2010, School Captain Emma Swann enjoyed the leadership opportunities Grammar offered. From engaging with a wide range of people, regular public speaking invitations, valuing the acquisition of building knowledge, and development of wellbeing and confidence.

In 2011 Emma lived on campus at the Women's College at the University of Queensland, where she began a Bachelor of Arts. She moved to dual degree in Nursing and Midwifery in 2012 before choosing to take some time off university and work. During this time, she realised her passion for working with people and helping others was not to be wasted. At the end of 2013, Emma was accepted to study a Bachelor of Primary Education at the University of Queensland and is about to graduate with Honours.

During her studies in Primary Education, Emma

has enjoyed being a member of staff at two independent girl's schools in Brisbane, teaching students from Prep - Year 6.

Describing herself as a people person Emma is excited to have found her career passion. "I feel as though teaching allows me to have fun and be creative, all the while continuing to learn and teach at the same time. Every day is different, full of surprises and new opportunities and that is what makes things so interesting," said Emma.

Not afraid of a challenge, Emma looks forward to continuing to learn and grow both professionally, and personally.

Energetic in nature, Emma enjoys the outdoors and her weekend escapes to visit family on the Sunshine Coast whenever possible.

Emma is truly grateful to Grammar for teaching her how important it is to support students



wellbeing, and providing a wide range of learning opportunities in many different areas. "Everyone is different and it is so important to ensure that we all have equal opportunities to find what we are passionate about in life," recalls Emma.

With a positive approach to life's challenges, Emma sees them as opportunities to grow.

*"It is important to enjoy life and be thankful for all it has to offer you. Everything is what you make it, and if you want it to be good, make it that way!"*





## RESTAURANT SAVVY

**CAMERON BINET**  
*Class of 2011*

Cameron commenced Grammar in Grade 1 in Year 2000. Cameron is well remembered as the State Champion Representative for Cross Country in Year 11 and Year 12.

In Year 10 he completed VET workforce careers with McDonalds as his family were, and still are, franchise owners.

Cameron's family own five McDonalds franchises on the Sunshine Coast of which Cameron is the Restaurant Mangers for two of them, Noosa and Kulin.

Cameron has leadership qualities and business experience that many young professionals aspire to acquire, which is reflected in the 260 staff that are employed across both restaurants.

Cameron's staff are recruited as team players, who love to create and serve great food, possess a positive attitude, great customer service skills, not afraid of being challenged, and most importantly, like to have fun while they're working!

*What Cameron loves about working on the Sunshine Coast:* Close to home, still easy to travel around the Coast yet large enough to have everything I need without travelling to Brisbane.

## RUGBY STAR RETURNS TO HOME SOIL

**TATE McDERMOTT** *Class of 2016*

Bond University Queensland Country scrumhalf Tate McDermott returned to home soil recently visiting Sunshine Coast Grammar School, ahead of the Bond University Queensland Country v McInnes Wilson Lawyers Brisbane City National Rugby Championship (NRC) derby, which took place on Saturday, 9 September. Since graduating from Grammar in 2016 Tate was chosen to train with Queensland Reds Rugby this season ahead of a three-year contract which commences in 2018.

Staff and students at Grammar enjoyed



## A FOCUS ON WORK LIFE BALANCE

**ELI MOORMAN**  
*Class of 2002*

After graduating in 2002, Eli went on to study a Bachelor of Communication majoring in Public Relations at USQ before changing to a Bachelor of Engineering Technology majoring in Civil.

While attending Grammar Eli met his wife Brianna (Class of 2003). Together they travelled parts of Australia and the world before settling down to raise three children on the beautiful Sunshine Coast.

Eli has focused his career around his family and now owns and manages a civil engineering company specialising in urban developments, affording him time to see his children grow up.



## SHERIDAN'S CLASSROOM

**SHERIDAN VICKERS-DALTON**  
*Class of 2012*

Sheridan has been undertaking her Bachelor of Secondary Education majoring in Biology and Physical Education at Queensland University of Technology. She lived in Brisbane for the first year but moved back to the Coast and commuted to attend her classes. She worked part time for the university in her roles as a Student Ambassador and Campus Life Leader.

Sheridan did her final teaching field experience at Tullawong State High School where she completed her internship and she hopes to begin her teaching career on the Sunshine Coast.

She has made the most of the long university holidays travelling to London, the Seychelles and Dubai.



*"The Sunshine Coast is producing some very talented rugby players and as the region continues to grow there is definitely more opportunity for future stars. Grammar provided me with great opportunities and support in the three and a half years I was a student, and I really enjoy helping out when I can."*

catching up with Tate as he spoke to local media ahead of the game, about the opportunities the Sunshine Coast now offers rugby players.

With a bright future ahead Tate said, "The experience I have gained from training with the Queensland Reds players has been invaluable."

As a Grammar Alumnus, Tate continues to be involved with Grammar Rugby when time permits. Earlier this season Tate generously

assisted with coaching and mentorship on a weekly basis to younger rugby players at Grammar.

After the media conference students from the Under 15's and Under 14's Grammar Rugby teams enjoyed catching up with Tate including a few coaching tips.

When not in training or attending other rugby commitments, Tate enjoys being a Life Guard at The University of Queensland Sport Aquatic Centre in St Lucia, Brisbane.



# MAKING A REAL DIFFERENCE FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

**GEORGINA CLUTTERBUCK**  
*Class of 2007*

Graduating from Grammar in 2007 with an OP1, Georgina went on to complete a Bachelor of Physiotherapy at the University of Queensland. In her final year she completed an Honours project, investigating the relationship between quality of life, fitness and motor control in school aged children and graduated in 2011 with first class Honours.

Georgina began working with Education Queensland in Toowoomba as a Paediatric Physiotherapist helping students with disabilities to access their education.

After twelve months the opportunity arose to work with Disability Services in the Family and Early Childhood Services Team based in Brisbane, working with children aged 0-6 years with a range of disabilities. Group work included gross motor development and introductory sports skills for children aged 4-6 years. Her passion for developing long term relationships with families and supporting their changing therapy needs led Georgina to open her own private practice, Clutterbugs Paediatric Therapy.

Two years later Georgina was invited by Choice Passion Life, formally Cerebral Palsy, to develop and implement group programs for children with Cerebral Palsy across Queensland. In addition to

clinical practice two days per week, Georgina successfully set up ten multidisciplinary group programs that now run across Queensland.

Currently undertaking her PhD to investigate the effect of practitioner led sports groups on the gross motor function, fitness, quality of life and participation of school aged children with cerebral palsy, Georgina is on track to complete this in 2019.

Georgina recently submitted a systematic review for publication, investigating the effect of active exercise interventions on school aged children with Cerebral Palsy. She was invited to present the findings of this review at the American Academy of Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine conference in Montreal in September and again at the Australian Physiotherapy Association conference in Sydney in October, and the Austral Asian Academy of Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine in Auckland in March 2019.

Presenting this lecture on Cerebral Palsy at Griffith University for three years now, she continues to be heavily involved in the University of Queensland's Paediatric Physiotherapy course.

Georgina is inspired by the effort that each individual child puts in to their goals, and is focused on translating her research into practice.

"I continue to see children as a physiotherapist during my PhD and one of my biggest joys is helping kids achieve their goals, whether that is holding their head up for five seconds or taking their first steps. It really is a privilege to be a part of their lives and help them achieve their goals," said Georgina.

Georgina and Fiancée Alexander, visit family on the Sunshine Coast when time permits. Personally, Georgina is a running enthusiast who has participated in a number of marathon festivals in the last few years and hopes to do many more.

*"Really think about what it means to be successful and to prioritise your life accordingly. A lot of things that look good on paper are not going to bring you happiness. Spend your energy on the people and things that you love and be kind to yourself. Your 'failures' are not as terrible as they seem. Money is never wasted on education or travel!"*



*"I knew what I wanted to achieve in order to progress in dance and I was more confident to undertake my teaching qualifications journey here on the Sunshine Coast, under the guidance and incredible support of the Principal of Sunshine Dance Centre, Carman Olley."*

## FOR THE LOVE OF DANCING

**AMY FERRIER** - *Class of 2012*

Grammar Alumnus, Amy has made a local career in an industry that she has loved since she was three years old, dance. Attending Dance classes in Nambour since 1997, Amy now teaches girls from as young as three through to adult at Sunshine Dance Centre, at studios in Nambour and Caloundra.

Throughout Secondary School Amy assisted with teaching dance classes at Sunshine Dance Centre, in preparation for obtaining her teaching qualifications. After graduating from Grammar in 2012, Amy spent the next year preparing for her Commonwealth Society of Teachers of Dancing Teaching Certificate Examination, this included theory as well as teaching between 20-25 hours of classes per week.

Growing up with a strong connection with the Sunshine Coast community and lifestyle, Amy wanted to give back to the dance school who had nurtured her love of dancing throughout her life, and went on to complete the necessary examinations required to become qualified.

Amy also assists Grammar as a Sports Aide in the Primary School. Opportunity has risen on occasion for Amy to provide students in Years 4-6 hip hop dance lessons, and more recently teaching Years 1-3 cheerleading for sport at Grammar.

With Amy's knowledge she now assists with the general operations of Sunshine Dance Centre, including preparing students for competitions and examination work.





## GRAMMAR POWER DUO

### DOMINIQUE MORITZ

*Class of 2005*

2005 Grammar School Captain, Dominique graduated from Queensland University of Technology with a Bachelor of Laws/Bachelor of Justice.

After completing a Master of Laws, I was admitted to the Supreme Court of Queensland as a solicitor in 2013.

Currently a Law Lecturer at the University of the Sunshine Coast (USC) who specialises in Health Law, Dominique enjoys teaching Sunshine Coast Grammar School graduates who are studying Law.

*In 2014, she became the first Law PhD student at University of the Sunshine Coast. Submitting her PhD at the beginning of 2017, Dominique expects to be conferred with her Doctorate at the end of the year.*

As someone who has always enjoyed Surf Life Saving, Dominique is a long service member at Dicky Beach Surf Lifesaving Club.

*In 2015, Dominique married a fellow Sunshine Coast Grammar School graduate Ben Knibb and in November 2016, they welcomed their first child, a beautiful baby girl named Adderley Rayna Knibb.*

### BEN KNIBB

*Class of 2006*

A passion for performing and creativity, Ben studied a Bachelor of Music at the Queensland Conservatorium of Music.

He spent twelve months studying jazz performance in Canada before returning to Australia and working as a professional musician. Ben has toured Australia as a musician and his expertise has seen him land a number of opportunities including originals music, musicals, cruise ships and even a Hollywood movie!

Ben currently plays saxophone in Sunshine Coast band, The Floating Bridges. He also runs his own recording studio called The Library and wedding videography business, We Film Weddings.

Ben has taught instrumental music at a number of Sunshine Coast schools, including Matthew Flinders Anglican College and Noosa Pentair Steiner School. He has currently cut back on his teaching to spend more time with his beautiful daughter, Adderley.



## A MASTER IN MEDICINE

### DILUM EKANAYAKE

*Class of 2010*

We were excited to welcome former School Captain and Class of 2010 graduate, Dilum Ekanayake, back to Grammar who spoke to students in Year 11 and 12 hopeful of embarking on a career in medicine after school.

It was an invaluable experience for these students as Dilum imparted his words of wisdom to them having had first-hand experience of this himself.

After graduating with an OP1 in 2010, Dilum was accepted into medicine at the University of Queensland where he has been studying a dual degree - Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Medicine Surgery. He is currently in his final year of a six year degree. Next year he commences his internship along with his Masters of Medicine.

Dilum gives credit to Sunshine Coast Grammar School for laying the foundations which have enabled him to launch into a career in medicine. He said Grammar provided him with a strong work ethic and an important life balance which was crucial for the transition from school into university. He also discovered a talent and interest in music whilst at Grammar which he also says helped to keep him grounded and balanced during the crucial final years of Year 11 and 12.

Continuing his interest in music, Dilum is currently an active member of the Queensland Medical Choir. He has also written several review articles which have been published in Hepatology International and the European Journal of Medicine. Dilum also volunteers his time with the Teddy Bear Hospital in Brisbane.

*He says he has thoroughly enjoyed his studies at university so far, especially the hands-on clinical years where you get to experience what medicine is like in the real world.*





## GAME, SET, MATCH

**KOBY JANSEN**  
*Class of 2013*

Recently, 2013 School Captain - Koby, returned to Grammar to speak to the Year 11 cohort about making the most of the opportunities available to them. Koby discussed the next part of his educational journey where he is attending College in the United States.

As a previous Grammar Tennis School of Excellence student and a top ranked Junior in Australia, Koby was offered a number of scholarships and accepted the offer from the University of Texas, Rio Grande Valley to study Bachelor of Science (Kinesiology Major) and represent the College playing tennis against other Universities across the US. Koby is in his 3rd year of studies and upon completion of his degree plans to return to Australia to work in the Sports Health sector.

Koby was inundated with questions after his presentation, about the process of applying to American Universities and College life in general. His story is another reminder of the many and varied opportunities available to Grammar students.



## A LOVE OF LANGUAGES

**KARLIE PAUL**  
*Class of 2013*

We were pleased to welcome Karlie back to Grammar earlier in 2015 as a UQ Language Ambassador. During her time at Grammar Karlie immersed herself in the Schools' French Program and was a keen participant in the French Tour in 2011. In 2012 Karlie returned to France for a further 2 months extending friendships with our sister school in Aurillac.

After leaving school, Karlie was accepted into the International Studies program at the University of Queensland studying Economics and French.

Karlie is grateful for the opportunities provided through the cultural exchange programs during her time at Grammar to forge lasting friendships and a love for learning. She is an active member of the UQ French Society and has been selected as a UQ Student Ambassador.

*With a passion for travel and a love of languages, Karlie literally has the world at her feet.*



## JOIN THE ARMY, SEE THE WORLD

**ELLOUISE MCCARTHY**  
*Class of 2014*

When Ellouise got her acceptance to the Australian Defence Force, she wasn't sure what lay ahead, but 3 months into training she couldn't imagine doing anything else.

Ellouise completed her basic soldier training at Kapooka in 2015 and says that it has been a lot harder than first anticipated but she is loving every moment.

She is excited by the travel opportunities, incredible training and qualifications she has to gain. One of the highlights so far in her training has been the very physical obstacle course, rope swing and underground tunnel activities.

*"It's hard work but has also taught me the value of team work in challenging situations," said Ellouise.*

## A MAN ON A MISSION

**TRAVIS BOON** - *Class of 2012*

In 2014 Travis spent 30 days with the First Recruit Training Battalion (1RTB) in Kapooka NSW. This is where all recruits from around Australia complete their basic training for the Australian Army.

As an Army Reservist, they are required to complete the course in a third of the time of regular soldiers. The course consisted of learning Australian traditions, law, dress and bearing, navigation, first aid, weapon handling, marksmanship, drill, field craft and physical mental fitness techniques.

"It is a very strict environment where even the smallest things such as leaning on walls or putting your hands in your pockets are not

allowed. Doing the wrong thing meant receiving 'fault corrections' or in non-army terms, screamed at!" said Travis.

"I was honoured to receive the most outstanding soldier award for my platoon, which was very surprising because I didn't feel very outstanding at all!"

As a reservist and Kinsman in his last semester of Science at UQ, Travis will continue his training at the Gallipoli Barracks in Brisbane and hopefully one day serve with the regular army on deployment. Travis plans to study Medicine.







## GRAMMAR PAIR ON A ZAMBEZI CONSERVATION MISSION

JAMES BLEVIN & SAMMY LEECH *Class of 2005*

James Blevin and Sammy Leech are not your typical Sunshine Coast couple.

Aside from meeting each other in the courtyard of Sunshine Coast Grammar School in 2005 during their high school years, their story contains much more intrigue than a classic high-school sweetheart tale.

The dynamic duo tied the knot but amid planning wedding details, the two ambitiously embarked on their own conservation venture: Diwa Zambezi.

Diwa Zambezi's mission is to protect and conserve the Zambezi River and its wilderness surrounds.

James, is the Diwa Zambezi chairman, said his multi-faceted approach combined ecotourism, volunteering and retail profits to supplement conventional fundraising and donations.

The former Zimbabwean is determined to preserve the Zambezi wilderness areas so that future generations may have the privilege of

experiencing these wonderlands for themselves.

"Over the last decade, elephant numbers in the Sebungwe region, which includes the Matusadona National Park on the shores of Lake Kariba in Zimbabwe, have plummeted by 75% or 9000 in number," James said.

"If the population loss continues at the current rate, the African elephant will be extinct in the wild in less than 10 years.

*"Other iconic African species such as the rhinoceros, lion, cheetah and wild dog are gravely threatened with the same fate. To see any of Africa's iconic species in the wild is to really live, and the next generation deserves that opportunity."*

Over the years, James and Sammy have travelled to more than 40 countries together, but the Zambezi wildernesses remains a stand-out in their adventures.

Think Simba, Timone and Pumba staring up at

the night sky in The Lion King.

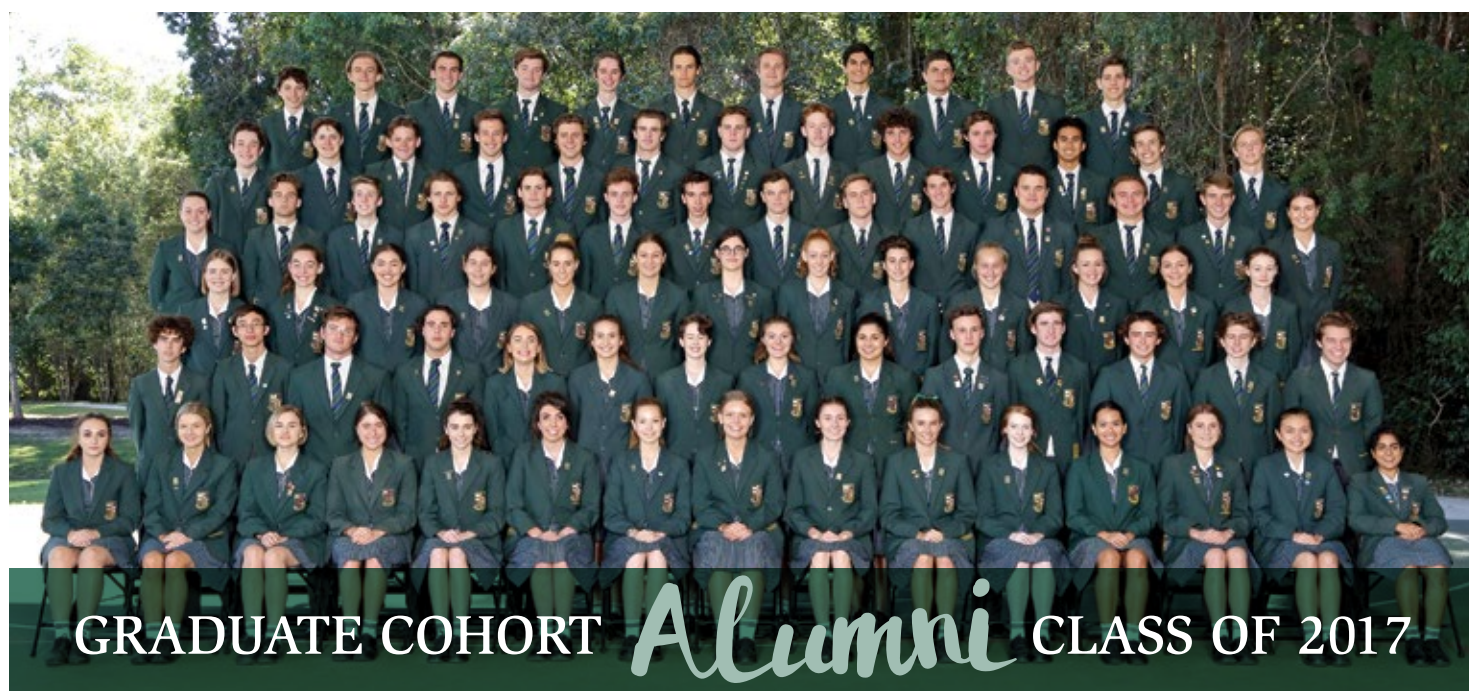
Diwa Zambezi differentiates itself from other conservation organisations by wanting to involve the community through guided safaris, for example, to a number of locations in the vicinity of the Zambezi River such as the Mana Pools National Park, Lake Kariba and the Victoria Falls.

Activities for prospective visitors include game viewing, photographic safaris, tiger fishing, elephant rides, bush walks, bungee jumping and white-water rafting in the celebrated Batoka Gorge.

The next steps will see the establishment of an online shop to promote African wildlife and habitats.

Profits from these commercial operations will be coupled with fundraising and donation revenues and used to fund conservation works in the national parks.

For more information, visit <http://www.diwazambezi.org>.



GRADUATE COHORT *Alumni* CLASS OF 2017