

Mail & Guardian

2000

YOUNG

SOUTH AFRICANS

2014



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Of the thousands of words I write a year, these are the ones that give me the most pleasure. The *Mail & Guardian's* 200 Young South Africans is now in its ninth year, and every year the entrants get younger and younger. Oh, wait, that's just me getting older. Okay, so they're still all roughly the same age, but for some reason they seem as if they're getting younger. And I think that's because the nature of what it means to be young, courageous, optimistic and brimming with talent has changed over the last few years. Although, having said that, I see we have people as young as 11 in our line-up, which is hugely encouraging, but also a little alarming.

Many of the people on this list appear to be people who make things work, using whatever is made available to them. Their common characteristic is not that they're 'young', whatever that invidious word may mean, but that they're all irrevocably of our present. They're people who can do whatever they put their mind to, using the tools and opportunities granted to us by the technology-driven era we find ourselves inhabiting, and who can switch interests and impetus whenever they see the need.

They're also — and I hesitate to use this word, because, frankly, it makes me as nauseous as you when I hear it thrown around — inspiring. I apologise for the word, reeking as it does of do-gooders, self-acclaimed gurus, and Instagram feeds with breast-feeding puppies at sunset, but dammit, they are inspiring.

I don't mean they inspire us to be better people, although I suppose that could happen. I mean they inspire us to do stuff that's out of the ordinary, even if it's based on the ordinary. For example, Kobus van der Merwe, the incredible chef at Oep ve Koep, once inspired me to drive almost 800km in two days, just to have lunch at his restaurant two days in a row. He doesn't know this, he just makes food. Nakhane Touré inspired me, and people on the *M&G* team, to rethink some of the ways we cover music on the *M&G*. He doesn't know this, he just makes music.

I could give more examples, but you get the point — our 200 Young South Africans inspire us by what they create, not by what they say. Actually, let me give one more example. Patrick Dakwa, who just decided to become a traditional nurse, and now he saves lives. You can't get a more simple trajectory than that. You see something that needs doing, so you do it.

A selection of the *M&G's* 200 Young South Africans is available in print, but the entire 200 profiles are available on the web at ysa2014.mg.co.za, and in a beautiful free tablet app, available on iStore, Google Play and the Amazon App Store. We like to think this mirrors the changing nature of our 200 Young, from people who require a memento to keep in the cupboard, to people who want to carry their data around with them in case they need to use it.

Chris Roper
 Editor-in-chief
Mail & Guardian

BUSISWA GQLU

PERFORMANCE POET

[Twitter: @BusiswaGquluFan](#)

It's easy to tell that Busiswa Gqulu works with words, because you ask her one question and the answer fills an entire page.

But there's a rhythm, a focus and an intensity to the words that set this performance poet apart. She's not afraid to tackle touchy or taboo subjects either, such as her poem on abortion that she performed at the Poetry Africa event.

You can catch her on YouTube in the gloriously filmed video for the dance track *My Name Is* by DJ Zinhle, featuring Gqulu rapping out lyrics in English and isiXhosa.

The track got so much airplay that it was released by a New York record label and Gqulu got gigs in several countries including Zimbabwe, Angola and Namibia as a result.

She's one of few poets to have been signed up by a record label, joining Kalawa Jazmee Records after the success of that track. Gqulu (26) is now releasing her own single and a book of poetry.

Her passion for words was ignited by her teachers, and she performed her first poem at her grandmother's funeral. As a teenager she expressed her emotions through poetry, and in 2005 she joined the Young Basadzi Women of Poetry collective in Durban.

"That's where I made money for the first time and I was hooked," she says.

They performed at children's homes and shelters for women, fuelling her desire to tackle social issues yet still make poetry fun.

She also trained in public speaking and started writing for specific corporate functions. "If someone needed something slightly close to poetry, I'd be that girl," she says.

It's the musical collaborations that are currently



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

propelling her career, however.

"Some DJs wanted to do something different so they asked me to recite on some tracks. They're tracks you can dance to so it's about having fun, but they also have a message about women taking care of themselves and growing to be fantastic," she says.

"I write about things that are close to my heart, things I have been touched by in my life or other people's experiences as young black people in South Africa. I don't preach, but it's always about the message." — *Lesley Stones*

KHULI CHANA

MUSICIAN

[Twitter: @khulichana](#)

If you asked who the biggest star on the South African rap scene was at the moment you would get one reply – Khuli Chana. This talented young musician has been performing on South African stages for many years now and has managed to win the hearts of the people with his rich and topical songs in lyrical Motswako. "Music gave me the confidence, the love and the patience I thought I never had," says Chana. "It gave me a greater purpose and a sense of belonging. Music is healing in itself; it gets the hurt into the light and out of the darkness."

Even in an interview, Chana's words have a musical cadence as he talks about his plans and what inspires him. His favourite piece is *Mnatebawen* and he says this is because "I have always wanted to make a song that would hit perfectly down the middle, have kids losing their minds and their parents losing their minds every time they heard this song on the radio." He quotes Doctor Seuss when asked what advice he would give to young South Africans to inspire them to stand out and make the most out of life – "Be who you are, say what you feel because those who mind don't matter and those who matter don't mind." He believes that a formula for failure is to try and please everybody all the time. "Knowledge is power and it's our responsibility to empower the next generation with that knowledge and wisdom," adds Chana.

Not only does Chana perform and tour, he is also the founder of Maftown Heights, an annual music festival celebrating Motswako rappers. "I was inspired to create Maftown Heights to celebrate, unite and honour Mafikeng," says Chana. "I am grateful to Refiloe Ramogase and Kgaugelo Maphai for making it a reality and one of the biggest events in the country. We've got a huge surprise for our next Maftown Heights, watch this space." — *Tamsin Oxford*



PHOTO: SYDELLE WILLOW



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

JOHN WIZARDS

Band

[Website: johnwizards.com](#)

If you're looking for contemporary music that catches the edgy undertone of South Africa and layers it with the exuberance of youth and the madness of our culture, then John Wizards is the band you should have on your headset right now. Made up of an eclectic mix of six, the band has become a phenomenon and will be seen at internationally respected festivals including Glastonbury and Primavera during 2014.

"I started writing some of the music a few years ago and then I met Jean Thierry Nzaramba. He'd just moved here from Rwanda and was looking to make some music," says John Withers, founder of the band. "We began finishing off the songs with his vocals and then invited others to join us until we ended up with the band as it is today."

Inspired by diverse musical influences that include the Congolese Rumba and a blend of synthesised and recorded sound, the songs are effortless and light. The band consists of Raphael Segerman, Jean Thierry Nzaramba, Geoffrey Brink, Alex Montgomery, Thomas Parker and John Withers and they each bring something unique to the overall sound and structure of the music and the group. When asked what they studied to achieve this successful point in their musical careers, their degrees varied from a master's in economics to a postgraduate in philosophy to a bachelor of arts, none of which related to music – that was something they describe as a passion.

"I did a bachelor of arts in English literature and Xhosa communication, but being obsessed with music since I was 12 has played a more forceful role in my development," says Geoffrey Brink. The band is very much a gathering of young, talented and dynamic people who are taking the rich flavour of South African- and Africa-inspired music to the international stage, and doing a good job with it too. — *Tamsin Oxford*

KITSO LELLIOTT

ARTIST & FILMMAKER

[Email: kitsolyenn@gmail.com](mailto:kitsolyenn@gmail.com)

Artist and filmmaker Kitso Lelliott is facing the age-old dilemma of how to make a living from her creative endeavours without pandering to commercialism. At 29 she has many years to figure it out as she hones her focus on audio-visual work with a strong experimental flavour. Ultimately, Lelliott wants her films to reach a large audience and to tell African stories that will inspire fellow Africans. "When I was growing up I aspired to certain things that had nothing to do with being an African. I admired things from outside the continent because the cultural work of America and Europe was admired," she says. "I want to tell stories that are from here and give a vision of this place that a little girl growing up in Africa can aspire to. Stories about the place we are from and that define it in different ways that are not negative."

Lelliott graduated from the University of the Witwatersrand's School of Arts with a bachelor's degree in fine art in 2006 and a master's in film and television in 2011, and she is now studying for her doctorate. After that she will probably seek some academic work to support herself while she allows her artistic and experimental side to develop. Conducting academic research for a university would serve the dual purpose of earning a living and informing her work as an artist, she says. "My reason for finding other ways of supporting myself is that I do not want to compromise what I have to say for commercial interests. It is important that I have creative freedom, particularly in these early stages of my career, and this is a way to do it." In May, Lelliott thoroughly explored her artistic possibilities as one of 12 young artists chosen to work with professional mentors on a month-long residency in Senegal sponsored by the Centre for Contemporary Arts in Lagos. Her thesis film *The Tailored Suit* premiered at the Tri-Continental Film Festival in South Africa in 2011 and was screened at the Africa in Motion Festival in Edinburgh, Next Reel Film Festival in Singapore and Cine Sud in France. — *Lesley Stones*



PHOTO: SUPPLIED



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Youth score big in the City's EPWP intervention

The youth have emerged as the biggest beneficiaries of the City of Johannesburg's Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP). The programme, whose primary objective is to create short-term work opportunities for the army of unemployed people in the City, covers a wide variety of fields from which to tap in. In the 2013-2014 financial year alone, a total of 35 967 job opportunities were given young people in various EPWP projects throughout the City. This made the youth group the largest beneficiary in the City's important employment and skills development intervention.

All the beneficiaries received training in a wide range of skills, including horticulture, HIV and Aids awareness, home-based care, plumbing, carpentry, traffic control, bricklaying, brush cutting, environmental awareness and cable trenching. The City's assistance to the youth is particularly visible in the streets, where, as JMPD Ambassadors, they can be seen directing traffic. According to EPWP Director Patson Khosa, over and above the opportunity to earn a living, the beneficiaries receive assistance in acquiring learner's and driver's licences.

Bokaba Maluleke, Head of the City's Department of Economic Development, says the primary objective of the programme is to provide the beneficiaries with skills to enable them to find permanent employment in organisations that require such expertise and knowledge. The City aims to ensure that at least 55% of those taken on board are youth.

"EPWP is not intended to provide jobs. Its primary objective is to create and provide opportunities to individuals who may then use the experience to find permanent employment for themselves," says Maluleke. On completion of the programme, the beneficiaries are presented with certificates showing the expertise they have acquired. Maluleke says EPWP funding is a top-up to budgets allocated to the various departments of the City. The programme receives requests for funding from the various departments. "On receiving these requests, we assess and evaluate their viability and also ensure that such requests conform or are in line with our principle to create employment opportunities. We insist on labour intensive projects," says Maluleke.



City develops the youth for the workplace

Recognising that its future lies in the hands of the youth, the City of Johannesburg is offering deserving learners and tertiary education students opportunities to pursue their career aspirations through bursaries, learnerships and internships. In the past five years alone, the City has granted more than 500 bursaries, 831 internships and 180 learnerships to open up career opportunities for the youth and to enable them to play a meaningful role in the country's economy.

According to Enoch Mafuyeka, Deputy Director of Employment Relations and Development, the City wants to expand its programme by offering young internships to graduates. "We want to accommodate as many people as possible. The reason that young graduates are not employed is because they are said to lack experience. We want to bridge that gap," Mafuyeka.

At present, the City is exploring the possibility of establishing relations with local businesses to create a platform where all stakeholders could assist young graduates. "Those that we take under our wing and assist must convince us that they are serious about life, that they are worthy of our financial support," says Mafuyeka. The City has a number of training programmes to meet socio-economic requirements in Johannesburg communities.

Bursaries are given to learners who want to study at tertiary institutions, internships are for those requiring work experience and learnerships are aimed at benefiting those pursuing careers within the ambit of the City, including financial and accounting management, human resource development, and emergency social services. Mafuyeka explains that bursaries are given to Johannesburg learners who not only meet the set criteria but also show potential in fields that are beneficial to the City.

"These training initiatives are offered strictly to youth or learners whose permanent residence is with the Greater Johannesburg area. Learnerships are also given to Joburg residents. But the purpose of the programme is to give the individual a recognised qualification," says Mafuyeka.

In the case of learnerships and internships, students receive a stipend. According to Mafuyeka, the City recruits interns on an ongoing basis and interested candidates can drop their CVs at any time of the year for interested departments to consider them. On learnerships, the City works with the Local Government SETA to advertise vacancies in local newspapers with requirements, closing dates and careers offered. Applications for City bursaries, including requirements and the closing dates, are advertised in September.



Student Council prepares youth to be future leaders

The City of Johannesburg's junior council has become a solid and firm platform to groom the city's and South Africa's future leaders. The junior council, which consists of 100 energetic learners from 60 high schools around Johannesburg, is a critical marketplace of the youth's ideas, a platform where issues affecting young people are debated and thrashed out.

The 100 junior councillors have a tough mission of being the voice for the City's youths, raising burning issues and finding sustainable solutions. This gives them practical local government experience. They learn everything there is to know about this sphere of government - from how political decisions are made to how these are carried out by everyone involved.

Azaraa Moyideen, a 16-year-old learner at Sir John Adamson High School in the south of Johannesburg, says being part of the junior council has taught her many things in life. She was elected to the junior council in recognition of her leadership qualities as the captain of a hockey team in her school and because of her excellent academic achievements. "It is sad and tragic that, as the youth of South Africa will be celebrating Youth Month, parents in Nigeria are praying for the safe return of the more than 200 girls abducted by Boko Haram to settle political scores. It shows how women and children are not free in Africa."

Moyideen says members of the junior council have been tasked to create awareness in their schools around the "Bring Back our Girls" campaign to show support and say no to all forms of terrorism.

Branden Molotsi, Moyideen's fellow learner at Sir John Adamson High School, says he is delighted to be a member of the junior council. The 16-year-old Molotsi says the experience has been "fruitful" for him as he now knows how the council and local government work. "I have met so many intelligent young people from different schools and different backgrounds. We have learned a lot from each other and the engagements we have had," says Molotsi.

"We're very lucky as the youth of today because we have the same opportunities as everyone else and are given platforms to air our views. We should embrace the opportunity and make use of it. The junior council prepares us to be the future leaders of this city," said Molotsi. He says June 16 is a significant day as it celebrates the role the youth played in South Africa's hard-fought democracy. It symbolises the power of the youth and what they can do. "As we celebrate this day, we should ask ourselves this question: Is this what the youth of 1976 fought for? Would they be proud to see young people abusing drugs and alcohol?" he asked.



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

KOBUS VAN DER MERWE

CHEF **Twitter:** @SardinesOnToast

If you take a trip to Paternoster, you might find Kobus van der Merwe on the seashore foraging for seaweed or dune celery.

Later he'll cook them in Oep ve Koep, a tiny bistro attached to the Die Winkel shop that his parents run in this small Western Cape fishing village.

The bistro is a one-man show, partly because it only seats 20, and partly because the kitchen is too tiny to give anyone else elbow room.

Van der Merwe (33) describes his food as heritage cuisine. "It's a mash-up between Cape Malay and some Afrikaans dishes, but I like to take it further back by being inspired by the rich history of the West Coast and using ingredients that the early civilisations of hunters, herders and foragers had at their disposal, such as small game, foraged shellfish and wild vegetation."

An example is his scenic surf-and-turf of small game such as steenbok or springbok served with limpets and seasonal wild greens. He buys the game from suppliers, but finds or grows the other ingredients himself.

At first diners were a little nervous, he admits. "People see the menu and feel they need to step out of their comfort zone, but after a few mouthfuls they realise it's not other-worldly. Even though it sounds unfamiliar I don't think the tastes are that strange in the end."

His reputation is certainly spreading, with the *Wall Street Journal* in February describing him as a "maverick chef" with an unassuming yet inventive bistro.

Van der Merwe initially dropped out of culinary school, went travelling, took a course in media studies and ended up editing an online restaurant guide. "That's when I realised I'm not cut out for an office job," he says.

He remains very much a small-town boy, and is happy with the size of Oep ve Koep. "Picking wild leaves isn't something you can do for 100 people so it's something I like to share with a small group. You can quietly cause a revolution on your own somewhere doing something small. It doesn't need to be big and loud," he says.

Limpet and seaweed soup, anyone? — *Lesley Stones*

SHANNON HOPE

MUSICIAN

What is the true measure of success? Is it accolades, fame and riches? Durban-based pianist and vocal artist Shannon Hope believes it is not.

This comes across most powerfully in the TEDx Cape Town talk she delivered in 2013 in which she speaks with rare honesty about the sacrifices in pursuing a career as a professional, self-managed and -promoted musician. She has committed herself less to living a dream than to doing what she knows she is meant to do. "Music is who I am not what I do," she says.

Classically-trained since the age of six and performing in various bands since 1997 and garnering tour experience locally and abroad, she then launched an independent solo career in 2009 and has released two solo albums and played at nearly every major festival around the country.

Her work ethic and steadfast pursuit of her own path won her a Standard Bank Ovation Award at the National Arts Festival in 2011 in recognition of artistic innovation, excellence, the exploration of new performance styles and the courage to open new conversations in the arts. Hope has continued along this path, using her performances to connect with people in a meaningful way. She considers it her mission to empower people to pursue their dreams and realise that being true to themselves is more powerful than simply following the grain. "Being a grown-up is hard enough with all the expectation we place on ourselves. You owe it to yourself to do something that makes you happy," she says.

Hope is currently focusing on developing her motivational performance portfolio, cross-medium and -genre collaborations, and sourcing

Twitter: @ShannonHope

a team to work steadily on building a meaningful and sustainable career, with more albums and touring to come.

Hope will be releasing her next album later this year, continuing her hectic touring schedule — locally and abroad — and working steadily on building a meaningful and sustainable career. — *Johann Barnard*



PHOTO: KRESHA ROSS

RUSSELL SCOTT

MUSIC TEACHER & CONDUCTOR

Twitter: @RussConductor

"Everybody loves classical music — some people just don't know it yet," says Russell Scott, a music teacher and conductor of two orchestras.

By day, Scott (29) is the director of music at Northwood Boys High School in Durban, where he has inspired an interest in music in many children who have never been exposed to it before.

By night he conducts the KZN Youth Wind Band and Durban City Orchestra, where his infectious energy has led the musicians to greater heights and made their shows more accessible.

Laughter is the key to debunking the myth that classical music is boring, he says. "People need to realise it's not all heavy and hard core. It can be fun and engaging, so at all our concerts we try to do something different."

Scott came from a music-loving family and his first instruments were the drums, then the trumpet, and he now plays eight or nine instruments. "It was a natural thing for me. Even at school I was arranging music and conducting the school brass band," he says.

He studied composition and conducting at university and has inspired several of his students to become music teachers themselves.

He recently led the KZN Youth Wind Band on a tour of China after it impressed the First Lady of China during her visit to South Africa. "It was an incredible experience. We played at schools and at a TV station that broadcasts to 30 million people," he says. "The band has some children as young as 13 playing and touring with us, and there are a number of underprivileged learners who are so passionate about it."

The band has been invited to return to China at the end of this year.

Meanwhile Durban City Orchestra has more than doubled in size under his direction. Scott chats to the audience during the shows to explain each piece, but he's not dumbing down the repertoire. He regularly challenges the musicians with more difficult works such as Beethoven's Fifth Symphony.

"I've introduced some big works that they wouldn't have been able to play when I took over," he says. "It stretches the musicians and they thoroughly enjoy it." — *Lesley Stones*



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

- ▶ Ahmien van der Walt
- ▶ Betina du Toit
- ▶ Busiswa Gqulu
- ▶ Charles Human
- ▶ Frank Malaba
- ▶ James Vilakazi
- ▶ Jana + Koos
- ▶ John Wizards
- ▶ Khuli Chana
- ▶ Kitso Lelliott
- ▶ Kobus van der Merwe
- ▶ Kyle Brinkmann
- ▶ Marli Roode
- ▶ Mohato Lekena
- ▶ Nakhane Touré
- ▶ Nkosikhona Ngcobo
- ▶ Nokolunga Mateta-Phiri
- ▶ Paul Modjadji
- ▶ Quintin Wils
- ▶ Renzo Scribante
- ▶ Russel Scott
- ▶ Senta Duffield
- ▶ Shannon Hope
- ▶ Steffen Olivier
- ▶ Thabo Mojaki
- ▶ Zakeeya Patel

All profiles are available online and on our free tablet app visit ysa2014.mg.co.za



NAPO RAMODIBEDI

CHIEF EXECUTIVE, MENDI

 **Twitter:** @BlackOnasis

"Every now and then you have an idea that is either ahead of its time, or seems so 'impossible' to others that they will try dissuade you from it. If you have tested its flaws and considered criticism, yet are adamant that you can succeed, go ahead. It's a long and lonely path, but it's worth it in the end."

So says Napo Ramodibedi, the 31-year-old founder and chief executive of the Mendi group of companies and maritime law graduate from the University of Cape Town (UCT). Growing up, he always knew he wanted to be an attorney, but when he was 14 he had the opportunity to chat to an experienced legal practitioner, who asked which area of the law he wanted to pursue.

"He looked a bit disappointed when I said I wanted to be a criminal lawyer, so I asked him why," says Ramodibedi. "He then explained a little about maritime law and I was hooked then and there. I chose it as an elective in the final year of my law degree at UCT, followed by a specialisation in maritime law. Now I always take the opportunity to give talks on maritime law and shipping in general, because most South Africans have not been exposed to the career opportunities in this field."

Mendi specialises in bulk — and oil and gas — shipping services, and offers a range of maritime services, including maritime law, vessel operations, vessel surveying, vessel chartering and administration, as well as commodity trading. It conducts business across Africa, particularly in the offshore and bulk industries. Ramodibedi offers some great



PHOTO: JOHANN BARNARD

advice for young South Africans contemplating a future in entrepreneurship: "If you are going to start your own business, make sure it's in a field that you're passionate about and understand thoroughly. It is one thing to have worked as part of a team in another person's company; it is quite another to be in charge of and responsible for all the roles in your own company."

"However, your faith, family support and resilience will see you through the tough times. Stay humble and focused — and don't be shy to say that you are the best at what you do — if you are — but always have some time for the next man, because the follow-up conversations you have are often the most valuable." — *Kerry Haggard*

BRIDGETT MAJOLA

SENIOR ASSOCIATE, DLA CLIFFE DEKKER HOFMEYR

 **LinkedIn:** Bridgett Majola

Thirty-year-old Bridgett Majola says she has found her niche in development — both in terms of facilitating renewable energy projects and in helping youngsters achieve their full potential.

Majola, senior associate at DLA Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr in the finance and banking department specialising in project finance, is passionate about her work in the renewable energy field.

With a LLB degree from the University of KwaZulu-Natal, a certificate in competition law from the University of the Witwatersrand and currently enrolled for a higher diploma in tax law at the University of Johannesburg, Majola started her law career handling corporate business and mergers and acquisitions.

However, her move to work on the financing of energy projects has proven to be where her passion lies.

"It's incredibly rewarding to be learning so much about this field," she says. "Not only because it plays an important role in the government's national development plan, but also because once a project is implemented, it is gratifying to see a tangible outcome of the work I've contributed to, and see that it makes a difference."

Majola says her work delivers the variety she enjoys: "You can be part of the drafting and implementing of agreements necessary for the financing, construction, operation and maintenance of renewable energy generation facilities in South Africa, which means that you have to get to grips with the technical and financial aspects of it, and there are challenging negotiations. I love this environment."

Development is an ongoing theme for Majola, who spends much of her spare time mentoring



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

youngsters in business and participating in community projects. She has also attended and spoken at a number of international youth conferences, including the International Conference on Human Rights in Africa in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and the World Urban Forum in Barcelona, Spain, as a special youth advisor to Anna Tibaijuka, executive director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme.

"I suppose I've always been a builder. The synergies between my work and after-hours life might be that I'm trying to make a difference, be an influence and leave my mark — at work and socially," she says. — *Tracy Burrows*

DURAN DE VILLIERS

SERIAL ENTREPRENEUR & CO-FOUNDER, STEADIDRONE

 **Twitter:** @steadidrone

"Don't wait — just do it with what you have," is Duran de Villiers's philosophy on building a successful business. De Villiers is co-founder of a highly successful international drone company, SteadiDrone, operating out of Knysna in the Western Cape. SteadiDrone, which only last year completed its first financial year and recorded more than R14-million in revenue, is the brainchild of De Villiers and his wife, Alexa. The company effectively began as nothing more than a couple with a PC and some big ideas.

The 29-year-old says that after completing high school in Knysna, he worked as a waiter and later taught himself graphic design, which led to the creation of his media production house, MotionPixel.

He also launched Cameralight, a site selling lighting equipment, which he later sold. De Villiers quickly saw a gap in the market for drones to support aerial photography and video.

"There wasn't a lot available at that stage and most of it was very expensive, costing up to R100 000 for a single drone," he says. Having always had an interest in electronics, he acquired the necessary components, bought a 3D printer, and set about designing his own drones. With their distinctive branding, significantly lower costs, and the advantages of being foldable and capable of carrying multiple payloads, SteadiDrone took off. There are now several models available — from low cost hobby models to high-end drones for military and commercial use. SteadiDrone won the Step Up awards last year and was shortlisted to participate in UStart in Milan recently. It also recently participated in the 2014 AUVSI expo in Orlando, US.

Business is booming, says De Villiers, with sales

picking up through partners and resellers around the world. All the R&D, assembly, marketing and shipping take place out of Knysna.

The team has grown to 11 people and is increasing. Mentors, funding or loans supported none of this growth. "We just did what we could with what we had," says De Villiers. "All of us are aged between 19 and 31, none of us have a tertiary education, and we never sat back and waited for investors. Too many people have an idea and wait for something to happen to get their business started. I don't believe in waiting — you should just do it."

Asked about where he turned for mentorship and business information, De Villiers says: "Google. I just looked online for anything I needed to know." — *Tracy Burrows*



PHOTO: ALFRED LOR

RULI DISEKO

HEAD: OFFICE OF THE CEO, LONMIN

 **LinkedIn:** Ruli Diseko

Thirty-one-year old Ruli Diseko's job as head for the office of the chief executive at Lonmin is worlds away from his childhood dream of owning spaza shops in Orlando East.

He credits his fervent belief in the power of education for his success, starting with his BCom and MBA completed at the University of Cape Town, followed by a postgraduate diploma in business administration from the Gordon Institute of Business Science.

The third of four children raised by a single mom, Diseko affirms the need for tenacity and empathy as critical foundations for success, whichever career path a young person chooses — and that execution is critical.

"You have to constantly follow through to ensure that you close the gap between promises and results," he says.

His approach stood him in good stead when he started working as a commodity trader after graduation, eventually leading him to run his own trading firm until he was head-hunted by Lonmin to run its by-product metals business.

His current responsibilities include managing the chief executive's strategic work streams, including strategy development and working on value optimisation with the company's top executives.

Every day is surely a challenge in the platinum mining sector — particularly at present.

"The industry is dealing with serious legacy issues, and among the most important things to consider are the wellbeing and living conditions of employees," he says. "To address these, we



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

need a pragmatic and effective compact between business, government and labour where they all partner to deliver tangible social development, and thriving businesses that create jobs."

Diseko has a clear vision for his future: "I'm going to keep learning and working hard to make sure that when all is said and done, they say that those young Africans put their all into making the continent great again," he says. — *Kerry Haggard*



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

CLARE BALLARD

CONSTITUTIONAL
LAWYER

Twitter: @ClareBallard

Clare Ballard is fighting an uphill and often unpopular battle. With a BA LLB from the University of Cape Town and a master's from Cornell University in New York, 31-year-old Ballard is on a quest to bring human rights into the criminal justice and correctional services systems in South Africa.

"As a constitutional lawyer, my interest has always been in the intersection between the law and vulnerable groups," she says.

She joined the Community Law Centre at the University of the Western Cape as a researcher in 2011 and has just joined Lawyers for Human Rights. She has carried out extensive research and advocacy work to ensure that conditions in the justice system align with global human rights standards. "It's challenging in South Africa," Ballard says.

Human rights abuses are condoned in local prisons, she says, and campaigns to improve conditions often run up against a wall of indifference, as well as budget considerations. She says that offenders might not elicit public sympathy, but incarceration without rehabilitation does not reduce the crime rate.

On the other hand, countries that are successful in their offender rehabilitation programmes do see a drop in the crime rate. "I'm concerned that vulnerable sectors, for the most part, get forgotten. But we forget that criminals have often been victims of crime themselves. So you have broken people going into a broken system and coming out worse."

Ballard worked extensively on submissions to broaden the scope of legislation defining and prohibiting torture in prisons – a lengthy process that delivered a measure of success.

"But for the most part, it's a long road, and we see little impact immediately." Her current focus areas include addressing the plight of awaiting-trial prisoners, sentencing practices and conditions of detention. Addressing these areas requires research into the entire ecosystem leading to human rights abuses in prison.

"You may find people awaiting trial for years as a result of court backlogs, inadequate investigations and many other factors. It all has to be addressed," she says. — *Tracy Burrows*

ALEXANDRA FRASER

CHAIRPERSON, SILICON
CAPE INITIATIVE

Twitter: @anfraser

Alexandra Fraser is a passionate grower – partly in her garden, but mostly as chairperson of the Silicon Cape Initiative that supports the local entrepreneur and startup scene. In case you're wondering, she says gardening has a much higher success rate because the odds are not stacked nearly as high in the garden as they are against the challenge of nurturing a new venture.

Which is not to say she is daunted by the challenge of building South African enterprises. As proof of this, she has ventured out on her own from June this year, leaving the security of her job at local venture capital firm Invenfin.

Her new consultancy Stone Tree will focus on helping venture capitalists and funders evaluate potential investments while simultaneously supporting the entrepreneur community.

Over the past decade she has seen and evaluated more than 4 000 businesses, so she is more than qualified to drive growth of the local startup and early-stage venture capital community.

Fraser completed a master's degree in international business and emerging markets at the University of Edinburgh on a Chevening Scholarship. Her dissertation on the barriers to deal flow in the South African venture capital



PHOTO: PICASA

industry was the perfect grounding for her subsequent work assessing, supporting and growing the local industry. She says she will be using her newfound freedom to help grow and build Silicon Cape into a more fully resourced organisation with the ability to better support the local entrepreneurial and venture capital scene.

Fraser describes herself as a creator and builder of communities and will feel fulfilled if she can sit back one day in the knowledge that she has helped establish a vibrant entrepreneurial environment that produces sustainable enterprises providing opportunities and employment.

Fraser clearly deserves the recognition for her passion and nurturing nature in a sector desperate for a committed, young catalyst. — *Johann Barnard*

THANDIWE MATTHEWS

SENIOR LEGAL OFFICER, SAHRC

Website: sahrc.org.za

Carrying on the family tradition of human rights activism, Thandiwe Matthews is an attorney dedicated to helping make South Africa's theoretical human rights framework a reality.

"My grandfather is the poet, novelist, writer and political prisoner James Matthews. Addressing social injustice and human rights issues were part of my upbringing," she says.

Thirty-year-old Matthews, now a senior legal officer at the South African Human Rights Commission (SAHRC), holds two undergraduate degrees — a bachelor of social sciences and a bachelor of law from the University of Cape Town and the University of the Witwatersrand — and recently completed a master's in development studies, specialising in human rights, development and social justice at the International Institute of Social Studies in The Hague.

Although South Africa is celebrating 20 years of democracy, inequalities and injustices prevail, says Matthews. Her work at the Johannesburg offices of the SAHRC entails assessing individual complaints, identifying common trends and the causes of those injustices, and finding ways to address them at a national level.

"In South Africa today, human rights violations still occur daily through a lack of service delivery, gender-based violence, and the fact that institutions of justice still don't serve everyone – be it because they are too far removed from communities, or because people simply cannot afford litigation," she says.

"South Africa has huge successes to celebrate, but the reality is that only a privileged few can enjoy the benefits of the new South Africa at this stage. Twenty years into democracy, we still seem to be a segregated and divided society. The middle class can choose to not see poverty, but it's right around the corner."

Matthews feels particularly strongly about education and human rights violations by business.

"In education, we are doing a double injustice to young learners – not only do we have huge inequality, but also the education system is not working. The entire system must be addressed," she says.

"In business, we see situations such as Marikana arising more frequently. This calls for a change in mindset in terms of how we approach human rights." — *Tracy Burrows*



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

- ▶ Alexandra Fraser
- ▶ Anda Maqanda
- ▶ Bonolo Magoro
- ▶ Bridgett Majola
- ▶ Clare Ballard
- ▶ Duran de Villiers
- ▶ Jeanine Benjamin
- ▶ Karabo Morule
- ▶ Kgomotso Mautloa
- ▶ Kristin-Ann Cronjé
- ▶ Lindiwe Matlali
- ▶ Murray Legg
- ▶ Napo Ramodibedi
- ▶ Nazreen Pandor
- ▶ Octavius Phukubye
- ▶ Rebone Mogodi-Boikanyo
- ▶ Ruli Diseko
- ▶ Samantha Marx
- ▶ Sarah Pudifin-Jones
- ▶ Sikhumbuzo Mtembu
- ▶ Teresa Jones
- ▶ Thandiwe Matthews
- ▶ Tom Manners

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RALI MAMPEULE

LEARNERSHIP

Empowering Africa in Real Estate

By Rali Mampeule

As we congratulate the *Mail&Guardian* 200 Young South Africans 2014, a thought crossed my mind as to how we can help our country create job opportunities for our youth.

Currently black people are sitting on billions of rands' worth of unregistered real estate in the former "homelands".

As a result of apartheid policies, many of SA's citizens have become used to living outside of the formal land and property registration system and it does not occur to them to challenge the status quo. But this fact, together with the legacy of a skewed distribution of land ownership which until 1991 limited black South Africans (75% of the population) to only 13% of the land, has direct implications for the country's cadastral records.

A second limitation was placed on black occupation of land in the 1950s— that is that only Xhosa-speaking blacks could live in the Transkei and own or occupy land there, that Zulu-speakers had to leave and live in KwaZulu, that Tswana-speakers could only acquire land in Bophuthatswana and so on.

Then of course a number of these homelands – Transkei, Ciskei, Venda and Bophuthatswana – accepted so-called independence and started changing their cadastral systems, which has been a major challenge in the cadastral sense since these areas became part of the jurisdiction of a united SA again in April 1994.

One homeland even tried to introduce general boundaries, whereas SA has an accurately-beaconed boundary system.

Now my argument is that the currency of the property records is extremely poor in many developing areas of the country.

The situation might not improve as much as it is expected using current procedures and that this makes land, housing management and land reform more difficult where it is needed the most.

However, formalizing the registration process of the currently unregistered properties, land in the former homelands and starting the rezoning process, that will not only give many black South Africans title deeds and security of tenure, but also it will create jobs and give the property owners access to funding through home loans.

In fact, I think it is only by setting up local-level, multipurpose land registries that facilitate the flow of land, housing information and better management, this is what will be able to solve SA's land reform and property ownership problems.

I also believe that Government should build and facilitate land and housing administrative capacity linked to this local registries, rather than trying to solve problems from outside communities by imposing top-down solutions such as land reform only in the farming sector.

Indeed, having land and property management in place would likely be vitally important in order for the registry and the rights it registered, to be perceived as having integrity, especially by the finance houses.

In short, proclamation or rezoning of the former homelands could create thousands of long-term jobs and at the same time give tens of thousands of people a sense of ownership on registered title deeds rather than the current Permission to Occupy (PTO) documents.

We would have to hire more land surveyors, quantity surveyors, civil and electrical engineers, town planners, architects, property valuers, civil and electrical contractors and they in turn would have to hire more general labour to instal the required services.

We would have to increase our municipality staffing (job creation) as we will be collecting more rates and taxes.

We would need more property lawyers to register the properties at the Deeds Office and more Deeds Office staff (Job Creation) to cope with the increased workload.

A new market would no doubt soon be established as people began to buy and sell the newly registered properties and there would be a need for more full-time estate agents, and more bank staff (job creation) to deal with an influx of home loan applications.

But the most important aspect of this vision is the much-improved service delivery that could be achieved if the new infrastructure was put in place through the rezoning process.

Another legacy of the SA's past is that unlike in other countries, the wealthy generally live close to the city centre and the poor right on the outskirts, where the costs of providing and buying services, especially transport, are much higher.

The current government has of course developed a range of new land policies and legislation to try and deal with the social injustices of the past and reverse the effects of apartheid.

These policies include the redistribution of land; the restitution of land to those who suffered forced removals; large-scale formal housing development for low income groups; the restructuring of cities and towns; the provision of land rights to labour tenants; giving the holders of customary rights more security; upgrading and giving title to informal settlements; unifying the land-delivery legislation and procedures; the rationalization of administrative structures; the facilitation of group registration approaches; changing inferior titles to freehold; the promotion of gender equality in property ownership and the provision

of a comprehensive, user friendly, affordable, accessible and transparent land information system, especially to the historically disadvantaged.

But I can't help thinking that we can do more with these policies to overcome our past and even make it benefit us, during this current challenging times as young South Africans.

**Rali Mampeule is the CEO of Phadima Holdings. He is 34 years old and has 15 years of experience in the property sector.*



Rali Mampeule is considered one of South Africa's top black Property Entrepreneur. His success in real estate investing and in the generation of passive income has resulted in him being a coveted speaker at property conferences around South Africa. He is regularly featured in the media where he champions the cause of black business ownership and property investment.

Rali Mampeule started his career in 2000 as a self employed roadside hawker selling boerewors rolls, while studying through Unisa. It was there that he caught the attention of property mogul Charles Everitt who offered him a position as an assistant Real Estate agent at Chas Everitt International Property Group in Brynston, Johannesburg.

In 2004 he took the pioneer route and acquired a Chas Everitt international franchise in Midrand, Johannesburg. Hungry for change in the South African real estate landscape, he participated with the South African Property Transformation Charter contributing ideas, information and lobbying of industry leaders to support the charter.

In 2005 he was also awarded the "Nedbank Young Lion Award". In 2006/2007 he won the South African "Nedbank Property Professional of the year award" and the following year the African Heritage Society (AHS) "Emerging Entrepreneur of the Year".

In addition to his Bachelor of Commerce (B.Com) studies from the University of South Africa (Unisa) Rali has served professionally on the disciplinary committee of the Real Estate Industry Regulator the Estate Agents Affairs Board (EAAB).

In 2005, Rali created the Rali Mampeule Learnership Programme (RML). His purpose was to fast track the entry of blacks into the industry "bringing new blood into the old vein".

In 2008 Rali set up a new residential black owned national franchise group Rali Properties (PTY) Ltd.

From 2009 Rali diversified into an integrated real estate services, ranging from property development and leasing to facilities management with a bouquet of commercial, retail and residential properties. Rali has concentrated on building his balance sheet over the last 5 years. **By: Steve Eilertsen.**

Currently Rali Mampeule is the CEO of Phadima Group Holdings.



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

INGE WESSELS

PROJECT MANAGER, SINOVUYO
CARING FAMILIES PROJECT

 [LinkedIn: Inge Wessels](#)

Violence is a problem in South Africa that affects all of us. Inge Wessels has made it her life mission to help prevent violence through strengthening the relationship between caregivers and the children they look after.

Wessels is a project manager for the Sinovuyo Caring Families Project in Khayelitsha. This involves the development and testing of a parenting programme for caregivers of children under the age of 10 that aims to reduce the risk of child maltreatment. This is the first intervention study of its kind in a developing country.

In 2013 Wessels was awarded the Potter Fellowship, awarded to outstanding individuals with a profound interest in promoting a civil society in South Africa's democracy to pursue a doctorate in psychology at the University of Cape Town. Her research will explore how to train and supervise community-based workers to deliver parenting interventions effectively on the scale necessary to effect significant change in South Africa. Over the past years Wessels has presented her work at local and international conferences, and published papers on parenting programmes and evaluation. She completed an internship at the World Health Organisation's Department of Violence and Injury Prevention and Disability in Geneva, where she engaged with world leaders in her field.

In addition to her involvement in violence prevention activities, Wessels has been involved in setting up campus-wide HIV-awareness and testing campaigns, and worked as an educational tutor for learners living in low-income communities. "As a South African I have grappled with the challenges we face as a country and how we can work together to overcome them. One of these challenges is the high level of violence that we hear about and see in our communities. "My vision for South Africa is to see a nation where kindness and understanding is central to the philosophy of life; where each and every citizen can feel safe both within and outside their homes; and where children are able to thrive emotionally, cognitively and socially, and grow into productive and well-adjusted adults. This vision is what keeps me motivated and focused in my work." — *Linda Doke*

KATHLEEN HARDY

ATTORNEY, CENTRE FOR
APPLIED LEGAL STUDIES

 [Twitter: @kathleenhrdy](#)

When the police tried to stop the women of Marikana from marching in memory of Pauline Masuhlo, one of their leaders who had died after being shot at with rubber bullets during a government clampdown in the aftermath of the massacre, 28-year-old attorney Kathleen Hardy stepped in. She argued the matter in court until midnight, resulting in an order that enabled the women to go ahead with their plan of action. Hardy – who is the head of the Rule of Law programme at the Centre for Applied Legal Studies (CALS) at the University of the Witwatersrand — met the women of Marikana in August 2012 and has been working closely with them ever since. She has represented them professionally in various matters and has also formed personal relationships with some of them.

Hardy is also an advisor to Professor Christof Heyns, the United Nations special rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, on the use of force by law enforcement officials.

She developed the Rule of Law Programme at CALS in 2011 with a view to holding both private and public actors accountable for human rights



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

violations.

Unsurprisingly then, she's the attorney representing the South African Human Rights Commission at the Marikana Commission of Inquiry, forming part of a team that has produced important expert evidence on policing.

This evidence has assessed the police's actions in Marikana and is a fundamental contribution to the commission's work.

The team also monitors the commission, ensuring that fair process is followed throughout the investigation.

"There has to be full accountability and responsibility for the tragic deaths at Marikana. I believe in a South Africa that is based on democratic values, social justice and fundamental human rights for all people, we cannot allow impunity." — *Fatima Asmal*

NYX MCLEAN

DOCTORAL CANDIDATE

 [Twitter: @nyxmclean](#)

For some people, the media is a source of information. But for Nyx McLean it's much more than that. "I believe that media is a tool, and we can use it effectively to bring about change by connecting with individuals through the stories we share," says the 28-year-old, who is currently a doctoral candidate in the field of internet studies at the University of the Witwatersrand.

"There is nothing more powerful than generating shared meaning through a story – especially for those who may feel disconnected, and then find themselves faced with another's story, and connecting through it."

Until recently McLean was the national manager of print and digital at the New loveLife Trust, where she headed the team responsible for all digital projects supporting loveLife's Aids prevention, education and social behaviour change work.

She was also one of the country researchers for the first phase of the EROTICS project that investigated the use of the internet by transgender and lesbian South Africans. She continues to be involved in it, recently participating in a global meeting in Malaysia on gender, sexuality and the internet.

"That space revived in me the need to continue my research in this field and to contribute my knowledge and understanding of digital platforms to groups that work specifically with gender, sexuality and sexual rights," she says, explaining her

decision to resign from her position at loveLife in favour of concentrating on her doctoral studies.

McLean says she enjoys her work as a researcher and contributor to digital spaces and how they can be used more effectively for social change. "There is no real word for what I do – to a degree I balance the spaces of academia, research, advocacy and civil society. I could argue that I work in a space called digital for development, but it's more than that." — *Fatima Asmal*



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SIZWE SHIBA

MEMBER, OCCUPY UMLAZI

Sizwe Shiba hasn't had it easy. He was born in a rural area in the north of KwaZulu-Natal where he didn't have access to quality education.

His father was blind and his mother – who was unemployed – had to struggle to raise him and his eight siblings. So when he moved to Durban fresh out of school he was determined to carve a better future for himself and others, irrespective of the personal cost. When he felt the powers-that-be at his first place of employment were exploiting their workers, he started organising his peers to exercise their rights and was fired for "poisoning" them. This didn't deter him though.

The 26-year-old works tirelessly to improve the living conditions of people who live in Umlazi, where he's currently based.

In 2012 he was one of the people at the forefront of the Occupy Umlazi movement, which protested against poor service delivery in the area. He's also involved in assisting disabled people in the area, negotiating on their behalf with government departments that have tried to evict them. He enthusiastically shares his skills and talent with the youth of Umlazi in an effort to keep them off the streets, and even though he admits he has no resources he is currently trying to work with the women of the area to start a community garden that can feed school-going children who often leave home hungry in the morning.

Shiba wants to be understood by everyone who is affected by the problems on the ground – young and old.

It's for this reason that he can often be seen at the forefront of protest marches, clad in traditional dress and passionately articulating the issues he feels strongly about using isiZulu spoken word poetry.

"I chose this path because I wanted to make a difference in our living conditions," he says. "And I want our government to listen to the people and respect them. I want to see people working together without pointing fingers at each other." — *Fatima Asmal*

“

IT IS OUR HOPE THAT
PEOPLE WILL DEDICATE
THEIR TIME AND
EFFORT TO IMPROVE
THE CONDITIONS
WITHIN THEIR OWN
COMMUNITIES.

WE **THANK YOU** FOR
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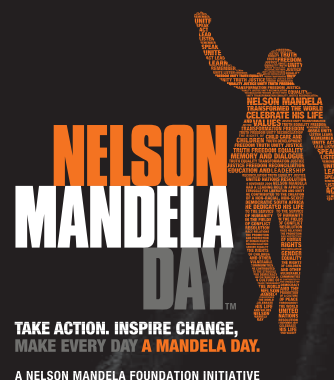
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MUHAMMAD ZAKARIA SULEMAN

SECTION27
CAMPAIGNER

 **Twitter:** @ArbstrakZak

The rights of the disabled, gender violence and food insecurity are three fundamental issues that Muhammad Zakaria Suleman fights for. A law graduate with a strong interest in constitutional education, Muhammad is a SECTION27 campaigner for the rights of people with disabilities who, although protected by the Constitution, are often discriminated against.

"People with disabilities are entitled to the same rights as everyone and are respected, protected and promoted by the state. These rights are expressed clearly in the Constitution, and yet disabled people are often discriminated against in all walks of life."

Suleman's fight is to assist people with disabilities to know their rights. Using law, activism and constitutional education, he works hard to raise awareness among learners and various organisations for the disabled, promoting constitutional education through rights-based workshops that discuss the Constitution in plain form.

As an active member of Students for Law and Social Justice, Suleman started his own campaign called Visually Impaired Positivism (VI+), advocating for the right of students with visual disabilities. He has spoken on the topic at various human rights conferences, including a research paper on disability rights in tertiary institutions, presented at the Third International Human Rights Education Conference in Krakow, Poland.

Suleman was nominated as one of the top five young Muslim leaders by the Union of Muslim Students Association and has written on issues such as sex education, gender violence, food insecurity and the promotion of constitutional literacy.

Suleman says he is inspired by the reminder that everyone is human, every person has the same aspirations as any other.

"We all cry the same, we have the same hopes, we all want the best for ourselves and our children. Every story or statement has a human voice behind it, and we as leaders and active citizens have a responsibility to be the bearers of that voice." — Linda Doke

SIVU SIWISA

FOUNDER, IKASI PRIDE

 **Twitter:** @SivuSiwisa

Sivu Siwisa is bravely determined to fight for the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transexual and intersex (LGBTI) people against marginalisation.

A few years ago Siwisa realised that living in an urban area, she enjoyed full access to information, support and resources as a black lesbian, had the backing of the South African Constitution and the support of non-profit organisations that fight injustices on her behalf, and that in contrast, black lesbians living in townships and rural areas do not enjoy those same privileges.

That's when Siwisa started Ikasi Pride, a national social campaign aimed at reducing and restoring the essence of LGBTI pride in marginalised townships and rural areas.

The movement aims to advance the rights of LGBTI people by bringing information, support and resources to bear in order to combat the marginalisation of LGBTI people who live outside urban areas.

The organisation also aims to improve their well-being by partnering with health, wellness, safe-sex, and human rights organisations, extending their reach to townships and rural areas to ensure that the issues that plague the LGBTI community are thoroughly addressed.

Siwisa is also an activist advocating for equality within the LGBTI community. She recently proposed and facilitated a discussion on creating an all-inclusive Pride in Cape Town.

"This was an important dialogue for me because it aimed to yield solutions that ensure Pride in Cape Town represents the diversity within

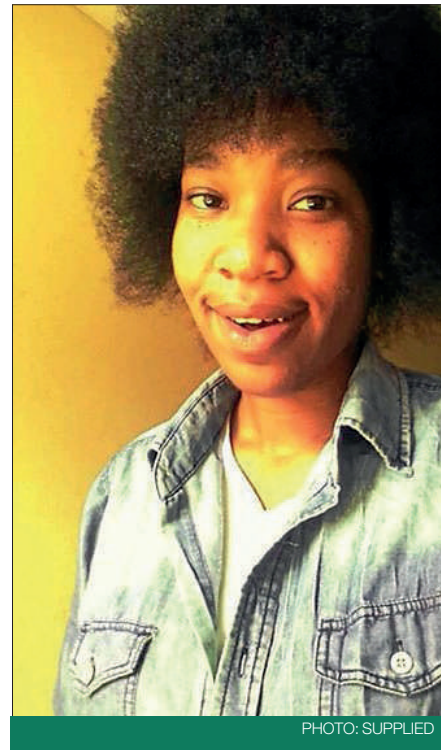



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

the LGBTI community, and not just merely serves the ideals of an elite few," she explains.

"What keeps me inspired is the knowledge that someone before me worked tirelessly to push LGBTI rights in South Africa. Knowing that these rights didn't just miraculously land on the president's lap is important, and that a number of people fought hard to afford me the privilege to unashamedly identify myself as lesbian in this country. It is then not only my duty to guard those rights, but my responsibility to ensure that everyone else in the LGBTI community, regardless of gender, race or geographic location, enjoys those rights too." — Linda Doke

TARYN LOCK

FOUNDER, READ TO RISE

 **Website:** www.readtorise.co.za/

"There can be no keener revelation of a society's soul than the way in which it treats its children" – Nelson Mandela.

This is the mantra by which Taryn Lock lives, believing that reading is the foundational skill required before any other formal learning can take place. Moved by the plight of young learners struggling to read, Lock gave up her corporate job and, with her husband, co-founded Read to Rise, an NGO that allows access to high quality, age-appropriate books for young learners in disadvantaged communities.

Lock believes that helping children to read helps them to rise in their personal development and make a substantial contribution to society.

The NGO focuses on learners in Mitchells Plain and plans to expand operations to other communities in the future.

Self-financed and assisted by donations and sponsorships, Read to Rise has two programmes: a Book Ownership Programme that aims to inspire children to read by visiting them in the classrooms, reading with them and then giving them their own book to take home; and a Classroom Mini-Library Programme, which places mini-libraries of 45 new, government-approved reading books in classrooms.

"In 2013 we distributed 2 000 new books to primary school learners. This year, we hope to visit every primary school in Mitchells Plain and give a book to every grade two learner (8 000 learners), and place a classroom Mini-Library in every grade two class. In total we plan to distribute about 17 000 books," says Lock.

"In addition to inspiring our youth to read, we hope to strengthen the social fabric of our communities by bringing people together to



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

- ▶ Brent Lindeque
- ▶ Emmanuel Bonoko
- ▶ Ezlyn Olivia Barends
- ▶ Ian Robinson
- ▶ Inge Wessels
- ▶ Janet Jobson
- ▶ Kathleen Hardy
- ▶ Khanyisa Boo
- ▶ Lerato Mahoyi
- ▶ Morgane Carriot
- ▶ Muhammed Desai
- ▶ Muhammed Zakaria Suleman
- ▶ Nyx McLean
- ▶ Paul Mason
- ▶ Koketso Moeti
- ▶ Sivu Siwisa
- ▶ Sizwe Shiba
- ▶ Takseen Adam
- ▶ Taryn Lock
- ▶ Tshidiso Ramogale

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As the world reflects on his legacy, we give thanks for Madiba's life, his leadership, his devotion to humanity and humanitarian causes. We salute our friend, colleague and comrade and thank him for his sacrifices for our freedom.

The Nelson Mandela Foundation delivers to the world an integrated, dynamic and trusted resource on the legacy of Nelson Mandela and with this, our mandate to promote the vision and work of our Founder by convening dialogues and creating platforms for engagement around critical issues to promote social justice and drive positive change.

South Africa occupies a unique space in Africa and globally as an example of a country that emerged from the intersections of deeply rooted racial, cultural and political divides.

The Foundation's mandate is to relevantly and tangibly use memory to inform, develop and define. It is the role of an embracing educator - whether you are an adult or a child - to utilise the history, experience, values, vision and leadership of our Founder and key stakeholders to provide an impactful platform and springboard to drive positive change.

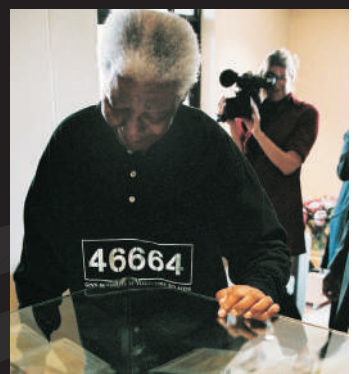
The Nelson Mandela Foundation was established in 1999, when its Founder, Mr Nelson Mandela, stepped down as President of South Africa.

In 2004, Mr Mandela inaugurated the Nelson Mandela Centre of Memory (NMCM) with the aim to create a public facility as

a multi-purpose space of memory and dialogue on his life and times.

Mr Mandela's understanding of the importance of memory as a powerful informant of the present was engendered through his years of incarceration, cut off from the possibility of a private and family life. Memory gave him the stamina and courage to continue. His ethos of inclusivity and the need to tolerate, engage and resolve conflict through dialogue and negotiation, created the space for the South African constitution to be written with the possibility of social revolution, and civil war in South Africa averted. The many areas of war and conflict which prevail around the world today are testimony to the need for Mr. Mandela's legacy of social justice and dialogue to prevail long after the man has left us.

With its launch in November 2013 of its newly refurbished building, the Nelson Mandela Centre of Memory houses a state of the art archive with access to Mr Mandela's office, a unique permanent exhibition on the life and times of Nelson Mandela, and a temporary exhibition space and interactive dialogue spaces.



“ THE CALL NOW IS FOR EACH OF US TO ASK OURSELVES: ARE WE DOING EVERYTHING WE CAN TO BUILD THE COUNTRY OF OUR DREAMS? ”

NELSON MANDELA



NELSON MANDELA
FOUNDATION

Living the Legacy

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Instagram: @NelsonMandela

JULIA CLAIRES NORRISH

PRESIDENT,
SHAWCO
EDUCATION

 **Twitter:** @julsey_claire

Julia Claire Norrish isn't sure if her mum knows this but when she was six years old, she snuck out of the family home one night when it was raining with just a beach towel and slept outside, because she felt she didn't deserve to have a roof over her, while others didn't. Now a 22-year-old honours student at the University of Cape Town (UCT), she feels similarly about education.

Norrish is the president of the education sector of the Students' Health and Welfare Centres Organisation (Shawco), a 70-year-old UCT student-driven NGO that focuses on providing free basic healthcare and education projects in Khayelitsha, Nyanga, Kensington, Manenberg, Mitchells Plain and Imizamo Yethu.

Norrish – who has made the dean's list every year of her studies – oversees more than 1 400 volunteers who assist with the education of more than 1 000 children of a school going age. Although her role has traditionally been one of oversight, she makes it a point to visit each and every one of Shawco's 13 education projects at least once a term.

"It's so important to know what is going on on the ground," she says. "Many issues in South



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

Africa have arisen because people go crazy with power, sit at desks and make decisions that don't make sense to real people. I want to know each of Shawco Education's projects intimately, their challenges and successes, so that I can provide relevant and useful help." Norrish was elected president after working as a Shawco education project leader for a year, during which she ran a literacy-based initiative for 90 children twice a week in Nyanga. But she's still convinced she hasn't accomplished much.

"I'm quite harsh on myself, so I always feel that I could have done more," she says.

"I must admit, though, that I do feel proud when I visit a project and a child runs up to me, gives me a hug and we sit and read a book. Chances are I knew that child before they could read, and now we are going through a story together. Knowing that I may have played a part in sparking that child's potential makes me smile inside." —

Fatima Asmal



PHOTO: JOHN ARMSTRONG PHOTOGRAPHY

MIKE WILTER

EDUCATION LAW SPECIALIST

 **Twitter:** @mikewilter

While Mike Wilter was studying law, he made a conscious decision that as far as possible he would use his legal education and training to improve opportunities for others. Specialising in education law was a natural extension of this decision. Wilter's services are directed at improving the capacity of the South African schooling system to act lawfully in the best interests of learners, something that has a direct impact on improving the quality of education in the country. He provides specialised legal support to schools to assist them in making decisions that are lawful and procedurally fair, including, for example, decisions relating to random drug tests and disciplinary proceedings that involve learners. Wilter (30), who previously held a position as the head of the education ministry in the Western Cape government, developed and published a number of practical manuals for school governors and school management teams on a variety of relevant topics, including school admissions, school fee exemptions, school discipline and school bullying.

Some of these include An Introductory Guide to Building Bully-Free Schools, Templates for School Admissions and A Practical Guide to School Fee Exemptions.

He regularly facilitates workshops for teachers and school principals and has worked closely with a number of schools to review and revise their admission policies and processes in line with applicable laws, assisting them in identifying to what extent their admission-related decisions are unlawful and therefore at risk of being challenged.

He also features regularly on radio, unpacking relevant court decisions that affect schools. Wilter is passionate, driven and often offers his services pro bono to schools that can't afford them.

"I am always inspired and energised by the progress that I see being made by schools that are honest about their challenges, but committed to finding the right solutions for them. It is this progress that makes the work I do so rewarding." — *Fatima Asmal*

STEPHEN TAYLOR

EDUCATION ECONOMIST

 **Twitter:** @stephengstaylor

Born to two teachers and a grandfather who founded a school, it probably does not come as a surprise that Stephen Taylor works in the education sector.

The direction he went in is quite different, though. Instead of teaching pupils, Stephen decided to go into government and spends his days cracking the whip on education policies.

Born in Cape Town, the 31-year-old studied economics at Stellenbosch University, ending up in 2010 with a doctorate in the economics of education. While studying, and between hockey practices, he also worked in the university's Research on Socio-Economic Policy Unit.

Here he gained experience doing consulting work for the basic education department, the National Planning Commission, the Botswana ministry of education and the World Bank.

After finishing his doctorate he was snapped up by the department of basic education and got into analysing large education datasets, such as the matric exam results and the Annual National Assessments, to measure the influence of the department's programmes on outcomes.

He does this because "all too often, research and policy do not speak to each other: education researchers are often working at a level of abstraction that is removed from decisions that policymakers face, while policymakers are usually too busy to engage with research findings".

If he was asked how one eats the elephant that is South Africa's education crisis, he would tell you that we need to first work out which forms of support to teachers, which programmes and which plans are actually working before we throw even more money at any of them.

The one good thing about working in a sector faced by such huge challenges, he says, is that "I know that just about whatever I do spend time on can make a meaningful difference". — *Victoria John*



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

TEBOGO SEPHAKGAMELA

TEXTBOOKS ACTIVIST

 **Facebook:** Tebogo Sephakgamela

Eighteen years ago Tebogo Sephakgamela could not have predicted that in 2014 his name would be on the founding affidavit in a court case that is part of resolving arguably the biggest education crisis in the country since the dawn of democracy: the continuing shortage of textbooks in Limpopo.

Sephakgamela finished matric in a school near his home village, Mothobekhi, in Limpopo in 1996 and began the hunt for a job. His plan was to save enough money so he could study towards a law degree, but this took longer than expected. He eventually enrolled at Unisa in 2006, but only had enough money to register for three modules.

Financial challenges got in the way of his studying, which he put on hold, but it also freed him up to tackle the injustice he grew up in and that he still sees all around him in his home province.

The 35-year-old first became a member of the community-based nongovernmental organisation Basic Education for All (Befa) at the beginning of this year. He needed help in getting the government to build a school near his village so that pupils did not have to cross a river and walk an hour and a half to the nearest school, as he had done throughout his school career.

It was an injustice, he said, that he had to stop. He grew up admiring Pan Africanist Congress founder Robert Sobukwe, whom he quotes as having said: "I totally hate injustice around myself".

"I hate it too. Whenever I see something not going well around me I feel I have to do something to change it," he said. Sephakgamela and Befa soon discovered that despite much court action around textbook shortages in 2012, thousands



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

of pupils in the Mopani and neighbouring districts were still without the books they needed in April. With the help of nongovernmental organisation Section27, Befa filed court papers hoping to force government to deliver textbooks and a month later the judge ruled mostly in their favour.

Since then, many of the outstanding books have been delivered but many have not. Under-resourced and unpaid, Sephakgamela and other Befa members continue their struggle for quality education in the province, organising rights-awareness workshops for pupils and parents and building networks for schools so they can help each other find solutions for the education problems they share. — *Victoria John*



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LWANDO MZANDISI

MEMBER, EQUAL EDUCATION

 [Twitter: @lwandoMZ](#)

For part of his matric year Lwando Mzandisi did not have a physical sciences teacher. He barely passed the subject and although he had done well in other subjects he knew that he would not be able to pursue his dream of studying medicine.

Remembering the first day, when he was 10 years old, that he realised he wanted to help people, he said: "In the village where I grew up, one of the grannies was sick... her family took her to the taxi stop in a wheelbarrow to get to the hospital. I wanted to be a doctor so I could go back to a place such as Sundwana township in rural Eastern Cape and help someone like her."

He couldn't help as a doctor, but he could help as a teacher and in 2012 Mzandisi, who is now 22, started a bachelor of education at the Cape Peninsula Institute of Technology in Cape Town.

It was hard for Mzandisi to get an education. The government schools he attended in the Eastern and Western Cape did not have the basics that a school should. That was why he decided to be a teacher — so he could one day be the teacher for others that he did not always have. His resolve to do this was strengthened when he moved to Cape Town to start high school and later became a member of nongovernmental organisation Equal Education (EE).

"Before I joined EE I didn't have a clear understanding of the crisis of education," he said, but he soon realised that he and his classmates were by no means the only ones to have suffered under crippling learning conditions. After school he started working for EE designing campaigns for better learning conditions and rights-awareness programmes for pupils and parents and has continued despite being a full-time student. He first realised the power of pupils' voices when a 2008 campaign to get the government to put up R18 000 to fix 500 windows at Khayelitsha's Luhlaza High School really took off.

"The campaign grew fast and by the end we got the government to put up R671 000 for not just windows but also other infrastructure," he said. There have been other success stories since then and until Mzandisi becomes a teacher, he is going to make sure that this winning streak continues.

— Victoria John

STACEY BREWER

CHIEF EXECUTIVE, EADVANCE

 [Twitter: @sparkschools](#)

There are people who complain about things incessantly and there are those who decide to do their bit towards making a difference. Stacey Brewer (30) is one of the latter.

She is the chief executive of the eAdvance Group, the aim of which is to revolutionise South African education through the introduction of blended learning models that combine teaching in the classroom with the deliberate use of technology to elevate student results. Brewer and her friend Ryan Harrison have initiated a network of affordable private schools — called SPARK Schools — which implement this model for primary school pupils. They opened their first school in January 2013 and their second this year. Currently, they have 350 children across two campuses, and two more schools are on the cards for next year. That will bring the total of learners they serve up to 1500.

"The academic results are outstanding," says Brewer. "Our children at SPARK are achieving at least one year ahead of their peers in South Africa. For example, our grade R children are reading independently by the end of grade R, which is only seen at the end of at least grade 2 in other schools."

Due to these successes, Pearson, one of the world's leading education companies, has partnered with eAdvance to open more schools over the next few years. It was Brewer's MBA thesis that served as a foundation for the establishment of the concept. After completing her bachelor of science degree at Rhodes University, she won a scholarship for the entrepreneurship MBA programme at the Gordon Institute of Business Science, where she chose to focus on coming up with a sustainable financial model for low-fee private schools in South Africa.

"The state of education in South Africa inspired us to provide schools that are high quality at an affordable cost. We wanted to provide an education model that proved that any child, irrespective of their background, could achieve just as well, if not better, than children from affluent schools. We wanted to provide a education model that was transferable into any community and is affordable," she says.

Brewer's journey has just begun. She and her team are constantly focusing on improving how they can better serve their learners and develop their teachers.

"Serving children to the best of our ability is at the heart of SPARK Schools." — Fatima Asmal



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

KOKETSO MARISHANE

CONSULTANT, ES'KIA MPHAPHELE HERITAGE FOUNDATION

 [Twitter: @kmarishane](#)

It's difficult to understand what Koketso Marishane means when he says he's "an obsessed cosmopolitan educational arts activist" — until you have a look at his resume. The 29-year-old wears numerous hats: as a consultant to the Es'kia Mphahlele Trust, he advises the chief executive about the direction the organisation should take in terms of global development. Since he became involved, the trust has managed to build a hall named after Mphahlele (who was a well-known South African activist, educationalist and artist) in Polokwane — this will be used to continue the legacy of Mphahlele by developing the community through various education and literature programmes. Marishane is also a researcher at the National Digital Repository of South Africa, where he plays a crucial role in preserving South African heritage by documenting it online, after interacting with people at grass-roots level.

Marishane, who studied media and communications at the National Electronic Media Institute of South Africa, is also the director of Limpopo Reads Foundation, a recently launched initiative that aims to give rural communities the opportunity to participate in private-public programme in the educational sector.

As the accounts chairperson for the Organisation of African Youth, Marishane is responsible for sourcing investments into the organisation at a continental level. He's also a keen writer and has been published on all seven conti-



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

nents. One of his earliest roles was as a marketing and communications officer for the Black Writers' Forum, which operated mainly in Limpopo, organising literature sessions that attracted more than 100 people weekly. Marishane says he's made many mistakes but they've only served to further his resolve to make a lasting contribution to society. "Behind me infinite power, before me is endless possibility, around me is boundless opportunity." — Fatima Asmal

- ▶ David Ming
- ▶ Gabrielle Wills
- ▶ Jason Brickhill
- ▶ Julia Claire Norrish
- ▶ Kgadi Mathabathe
- ▶ Koketso Marishane
- ▶ Lwando Mzandisi
- ▶ Mike Wilter
- ▶ Musa Manzi
- ▶ Nyasha Zvomuya
- ▶ Sanelisiwe Ntuli
- ▶ Shabashni Moodley
- ▶ Stacey Brewer
- ▶ Stephen Taylor
- ▶ Tebogo Ditshego
- ▶ Tebogo Sephakgamela

All profiles are available online and on our free tablet app visit ysa2014.mg.co.za



NYDA

The NYDA supports young entrepreneurs

Bahlakoana Moleko or better known as BK is a 26-year old farmer in De Deur South of Johannesburg who is one of the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA) Entrepreneurship Grant Programme beneficiaries.

He runs Yea Media Farmer Fresh Pty Ltd and grows spinach and Chinese vegetables that he supplies to Chinese markets and restaurants. BK received a grant to the value of R49 000 from the NYDA for an irrigation system, netting, tools and fencing to keep cattle off his farm.

“My goal is to apply for a loan through the NYDA-Sefa-IDC partnership and build a pack house where my vegetables can be stored and packed. If I achieve this I will be able to supply large supermarkets with frozen vegetables,” says BK.

BK did not study Agriculture, but rather is mentored by other farmers in the area. He learnt to farm Chinese vegetables from watching Youtube videos and interacting with hawkers at Chinese markets in Johannesburg.

“The NYDA introduced the Entrepreneurship Grant Programme one year ago and we are proud to announce that we have far exceeded our targets. Young go-getters like BK who claim opportunities created by government should be role models to all other young people,” said NYDA executive chairperson Yershen Pillay. “It is precisely because of such stories that young people today have a good reason to celebrate 20 years of democracy with pride and joy.”

Did you Know?

The NYDA Entrepreneurship Grant Programme was launched in April 2013 and already it has far exceeded targets:

NYDA Target for Youth Entrepreneurship Support	Actual Achievement
37 000	Over 38 000 youth entrepreneurs supported



Bahlakoana Moleko with NYDA executive chairperson Yershen Pillay. Photo: supplied

The NYDA Thusano Fund

Facilitating youth development within all sectors of society

The Thusano Fund, meaning helping hand, is a National Youth Development Agency (NYDA) initiative aimed at assisting young people or youth organisations with day to day requirements. The NYDA is inundated with requests from young people who need extra funding to settle outstanding school or university fees, students who have been awarded bursaries, but require a little extra cash to settle their travel expenses or living expenses or a local sports teams that is in need of equipment.

These are young people that are agents of change, making great strides in improving conditions in communities across the country, studying relentlessly towards becoming the next great scientist, engineer or chartered accountant.

The NYDA cannot fulfil the requirements of all the young people of South Africa alone and therefore the agency continues to appeal to stakeholders from government and the private sector to partner with us, for young people. The

The NYDA cannot fulfil the requirements of all the young people of South Africa alone and therefore the agency continues to appeal to stakeholders from government and the private sector to partner with us.

NYDA has however, made significant impact in the lives of ordinary South Africans. It is evident from each of these stories that in fact young people are doing things for themselves and their communities, and that as the NYDA we are altering the harsh reality faced by so many of our young citizens.

SAPD receives a helping hand

Promise Nhlapho together with the Soweto Association for Persons with Disabilities (SAPD), a non-profit organisation, received specialised educational equipment, practical learning aids and apparatus suitable for people with disabilities through the NYDA Thusano Fund

SAPD is aimed at equipping local youth with disabilities with practical skills to enable them to achieve their full potential and be integrated into mainstream society.

“I have a matric certificate unlike many of my peers here at SAPD, but despite this I had no practical skills or experience so I started attending classes at SAPD, I have since gotten a job and earn R450 a week, which might seem like a little but at least I am independent. For someone that comes from an informal settlement, I appreciate this income because I can buy food and clothes. I still come to SAPD twice a week where we do needlework and beading, I also try and assist them here to teach the other young people who are not as advanced as I am.

— Promise Nhlapho



Yershen Pillay with Promise Nhlapho at Soweto Association for People with Disabilities. Photo: supplied

Partnership to provide support to youth entrepreneurs

For the majority of young South Africans obtaining finance from conventional commercial lenders is a real challenge.

Often young aspiring entrepreneurs are rendered ineligible for finance due to their financial backgrounds. Stringent criteria such as requirements for collateral and credit checks, make it difficult for potential youth entrepreneurs from

poor backgrounds to access funding from commercial finance institutions.

To address these and other challenges faced by youth enterprises, the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC), the Small Enterprise Finance Agency (Sefa) and the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA) have come together to form a R3-billion partnership that will see youth-owned businesses being financed and supported by three institutions. "The birth of this partnership is a response to the issues that young people have continued to raise with us, including their cry that government and its related institutions and agencies need to open up more opportunities for youth to access business funding either to start or expand existing businesses; and this must happen with limited red-tape and its related complications" says Khathu Ramukumba, NYDA chief executive.

The co-operation agreement between the IDC, sefa and the NYDA also responds to the Youth Employment Accord signed in April 2013, where government and its social partners made a commitment to prioritise youth employment and skills development. The Youth Employment Accord is one of a series of social pacts intended to help achieve one of the New Growth Path goals of creating five million new jobs by 2020. In terms of the Youth Employment Accord, government has committed to support initiatives giving young people opportunities as entrepreneurs, as employees and as trainees.



NATIONAL YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
OUR YOUTH. OUR FUTURE.

A partnership that will see youth-owned businesses being financed and supported



Khathu Ramukumba, NYDA CEO. Photo: supplied

Nyda's Solomon Mahlangu Scholarship Fund makes dreams a reality

More than 200 young people from disadvantaged backgrounds can be counted among thousands who will this year enrol in various institutions of higher learning across the country, thanks to the National Youth Development Agency's (NYDA) inaugural Solomon Mahlangu Scholarship Fund.

Established by the NYDA in late 2013 the R20-million Scholarship Fund was officially launched by President Jacob Zuma during March 2014. During the launch the NYDA also unveiled the first group of beneficiaries of the Scholarship Fund. The Fund is a partnership between the NYDA and the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) with the NYDA committing R10-million and DHET contributing R10-million.

The Scholarship Fund provides financial

support to young people who have been accepted to pursue full-time degrees in courses that fall within the priority growth sectors and critical and scarce skills areas as outlined in the labour planning frameworks of the country.

According to Yershen Pillay, "The Solomon Mahlangu Scholarship Fund is an initiative very close to my heart. As the NYDA we want to make it our mission to make the scholarship fund, the biggest on the continent, to benefit deserving South African youth who meet the minimum entry requirements set by the NYDA. I would like to congratulate the recipients of 2014 and urge them to continue achieving great strides towards becoming skilled professionals."

The Scholarship Fund covers 100% costs of the student's studies, including tuition, books,

meals and accommodation.

The Fund is in honour of the late struggle icon, Solomon Kalushi Mahlangu, a young member of Umkhonto Wesizwe who was wrongfully arrested and in 1979, aged 23, executed under apartheid laws. Students who will be considered for the scholarship are those who have been accepted to register in the following fields of study ICT, Law, engineering, development studies among others.

Scholarship recipient, Ntsako Shiringani, 24 is currently studying towards a bachelor of commerce degree in finance. Ntsako completed her matric in 2007 in Bushbuckridge, Mpumalanga. After which she studied IT through a college last year, five years after leaving high school, Ntsako decided to go back to high school to redo her matric. She exchanged her

fancy clothes for a full school uniform to sit at a desk among learners much younger than her. "I had not passed well in 2007, which is why I ended up going to a college to pursue something that I had no interest in. But I realised that I was not happy, this was not what I wanted to do as a career so I made the biggest decision of my life. I went back to high school, this time I chose Mathematics as a subject and studied very hard."

Ntsako passed all her subjects, five of them with distinction, "I'm now older and more focused, I decided to fix my own mess and it is slowly paying off. I'm adjusting to campus life now all I want to do is pass well and do the NYDA proud for investing in me," says Ntsako. She is the first person in her family to go to university.

JADIN JORDAAN

RHINO ACTIVIST

Twitter: @rhinosa2

At 11 years old, Jadin Jordaan is making a big noise about rhino poaching.

He is a member of the conservation group Rhino SA and a national public speaking champion, so he uses every opportunity to spread the word about the need to protect our wildlife and crush the false perception that rhino horn is a medical miracle.

Jordaan fears that if these efforts are not successful, there will be no rhino left alive by the time he qualifies as a vet.

Last year he helped Rhino SA and the international youth group One More Generation to deliver 10 000 letters from children addressed to President Jacob Zuma calling for tougher measures to combat poaching.

Since Zuma wasn't available, the letters were delivered to the deputy director general of environmental affairs during a conference.

"We asked Zuma if he could start making a difference and please put more people out there in the parks to fight against the poachers," Jordaan says. He has also featured in a short, award-winning documentary about poaching.

As an accomplished public speaker he uses every opportunity to highlight the plight of rhinos. When he won the Radikale Redenaars (radical public speakers) national competition for his age group this year, his speech "I Can Make A Difference" explained his work with Rhino SA and that if a youngster could make a difference, so could everybody else.

Jordaan, of Parkdene Primary School, says: "I



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

want to become a wildlife vet when I grow up so I want to make a difference now before the impact really hits."

He tours with Rhino SA as their young ambassador, and hopes they will soon visit some Asian countries so he can tell them that the horn is useless to anyone but its original owner.

"I'm planning to go to other countries to speak to people about this, because people don't actually know what they do to these animals. I especially want to go to Asia where the kingpins are," he says. With 1 004 rhino slaughtered last year and 376 already killed by mid-May this year, Jordaan is right to fear that time is running out. — *Lesley Stones*

JOHAN KOTZÉ

ENGINEER

Email: jpkotze@sun.ac.za

Johan Kotzé is an engineer whose complex research work into solar energy can easily leave you baffled.

Yet it's hugely important stuff that should one day see South Africa building "clean energy" power stations and supplying us all with cheaper electricity.

Kotzé (29) did his doctorate at the department of mechanical and mechatronic engineering of Stellenbosch University. He's a senior member of its solar thermal energy research group, developing ways to store thermal energy more effectively. At the moment, solar thermal energy is stored in molten salts, but the storage temperature is limited and that limits the efficiency of the power plants.

"My research is looking for ways to increase the temperature the energy can be stored at by storing it in liquid metals," he says. "It really isn't that difficult in theory." But actually it is difficult, and quite novel, which is why Kotzé won an award from the South African National Energy Development Institute for making a significant contribution to the energy environment. He won the Young Researcher Award of 2013 for his concepts around concentrating solar power. He has presented his research at several international forums, and his was the only paper addressing this topic at the global SolarPACES 2011 symposium. A year later several German and US consortiums presented similar work following in his footsteps.

The overall goal of his research is to lower the cost of electricity, although this method of thermal energy storage still requires a lot of research before it can be implemented safely, he says.

Kotzé and nine colleagues are now starting the TIA Helio100 project to develop the next generation of concentrating solar power technology. "Eventually the aim is to build large power plants. When the coal runs out we will be ready to implement this technology in South Africa and build it locally. The main goals are energy security and job creation because this will be a completely local solution," he says.

It's impressive and very necessary work, but Kotzé shrugs off the praise. "I don't think I'm special in any sense. Our research group is a really excellent bunch of people." — *Lesley Stones*



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

KHADIJA SHARIFE

AFRICA FORENSICS INVESTIGATOR

Website: www.ejolt.org

Writer and researcher Khadija Sharife is a specialist in investigative research with a keen interest in shining a light on financial opacity.

She is the lead Africa forensics investigator with Investigative Dashboard and the African Network of Centers for Investigative Reporting, where her areas of focus span environmental injustice, resource politics, financial secrecy jurisdictions, apartheid reparations and multinational corporations.

She is also the author of *Tax Us If You Can: Africa*.

Sharife is a champion of ensuring that the truth is exposed and made public.

"I don't see myself as an agent of change or anything special. I am, by nature, someone who is protective and will act to protect. While I believe deeply in fighting for ecological justice and reparations, I believe that it must be based on critical investigative research," she says.

"I see myself as a decent researcher and writer; if I have a good quality, perhaps it is that I am driven. Not everyone has the luxury of dedicating the better part of their time to what they believe in."

Some of her recent research has covered topics including diamond mining and trading in South Africa and the working conditions at a chocolate factory in Madagascar.

Her research and conclusions have been featured in a wide variety of publications including *Africa Confidential*, *African Business*, *Le Monde Diplomatique*, *The Economist* and the *London Review of Books*.

Sharife's investigations also appear regularly in academic journals such as the SA Journal of

Human Rights, World Policy Journal and the Review of African Political Economy.

Our resources are not infinite, she says, and people need to rethink resource-intensive developments. "Who sets the price tag?" she asks. That will always be subject to human valuation, with some humans seen as more valuable than others.

Sharife also co-ordinates the Africa hub of the Environmental Justice Organisations, Liabilities and Trade (EJOLT) project, investigating African social resistance to ecological crises, and she arranged for 200 conflicts across Africa to be mapped and recorded on EJOLT. — *Lesley Stones*



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

KATE TOWNSHEND

FOUNDER, HARMLESS HOUSE

Twitter: @harmlesshouse

Kate Townshend (29) learnt to read by reading to "a rather ferocious collection of feral kittens", just some of the many animals she remembers from her childhood.

Her mother is responsible for forming her principles, she says: "She thinks about the knock-on effects of whatever products she uses," Townshend says, and it became a natural reflex for the daughter as well, ultimately leading to her starting her own business.

The Roedebeek pupil did a bachelor of science in environmental science and geography at Rhodes University; while there, she established an animal rights organisation that held a donkey clinic in a local township every second Saturday.

Although Townshend left the organisation in capable hands to return to Johannesburg, she still has six rescue donkeys who are part of her family and still gets involved in caring for horses.

Townshend's business, Harmless House, sells products that are cruelty-free, vegan, biodegradable and "as natural as possible", she says. "When I started the business, South Africa was really far behind Europe. That was three years ago."

Ensuring that her products were aligned with her principles required "a lot of research, a lot of phoning around", she says. "I rely quite a bit on certification – fair trade, organic, cruelty-free."

She sources as much as possible locally, but some things — her compostable toothbrushes — have to be imported.

"If it's not something I would use myself, I won't sell it. It has to work as well as be ethical — there are some things people will compromise on for

their principles, and some they won't. Household cleaners, for example, have to be effective."

The young businesswoman reports that the company is doing well, and she is now working closely with a company that manufactures locally to develop her own brand. Her goal is to make a real difference to consumption patterns in South Africa.

"We could be making really amazing products in this country. I hope to see consumers wake up to the impact and effect of the products they use, on themselves and the environment." — *Mandi Smallhorne*



PHOTO: SUPPLIED



PHOTO: PHILIP SCHEDLER

SHANAAZ NEL

RESPONSE
CAMPAIGNER,
GREENPEACE AFRICA

Website: www.greenpeace.org

When a Japanese whaling ship was forced to divert away from South Africa instead of docking here to refuel, earlier this year, Greenpeace was the organisation responsible.

A social media campaign that was picked up by the mainstream press, and roused the department of agriculture, forestry and fisheries, made sure the trawler carrying 2 000 tonnes of whale meat was not welcome, says Shanaaz Nel, a response campaigner with Greenpeace Africa.

Nel joined Greenpeace in 2013 and focuses on climate and energy issues. "Greenpeace is the only organisation that is out there and puts its activities before the brand," she says.

"Often in the development sector we get stuck in the process of thinking about a problem rather than getting out there and doing things. It's a really exciting organisation with a lot of innovative thought leaders."

As a child Nel wanted to be a journalist to tell the stories of people who were unable to tell their own. But her plans changed, and with Greenpeace she can be part of the story rather than a mere observer.

She previously worked with Action Aid International, which champions human rights. "That shaped my views on how I see the world and I met amazing people – especially women and girls – from around the world."

Her role at Greenpeace is to encourage people to take immediate action to combat climate change. "We can successfully mitigate the worst impacts if we apply successful, sustainable and alternative solutions to our lives while meeting people's basic needs," she says.

Many people see Greenpeace as a rather dramatic organisation, but Nel likes the drama because it actually makes things happen. "It shows people that someone is willing to stand up and do something and that ordinary people can do something. Greenpeace is an organisation that bears witness and people appreciate that because I think the courage of the activists is something we all wish we had. The world is changing and we need a lot more people to be brave and courageous. We can't have a few people taking this stance, we have to do it together." — Lesley Stones

ZIYAAD HASSAM

DIRECTOR OF LEGAL
SERVICES: DEA

email: zhassam@environment.gov.za

South Africans have no shortage of fascinating crimes to read about, but it's not often that pollution and environmental crimes hit the headlines.

Progress is being made, though, and Ziyaad Hassam will be delighted when a company boss is actually locked up for flouting laws put in place to protect the planet.

Hassam (35) is a director of legal services at the department of environmental affairs, and believes that such crimes should be punished more severely.

One problem is that the damage is often caused by negligence rather than willful intent and, unlike a murder, sometimes there is no clear evidence to fuel the demand for justice.

"One of the main focus areas for the department is to make sure environmental crimes are taken seriously. It's not always sensational news, but we have had a number of successful cases in respect of the illegal dumping of medical waste or facilities operating without the required permits.

"People are taking these crimes more seriously because the penalties have increased dramatically and we have had a few stiff penalties imposed," he says.

So far no company directors have been jailed and the largest fine has been R3-million, only a fraction of the R15-million fine that the courts are able to impose. A few individuals have also been



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

sentenced to jail, but so far the sentences have all been suspended.

Hassam thinks a jail term for an offender would be fantastic. "As with the financial penalties, it just takes one court imposing such a sentence to send shock waves through the regulated industries," he says.

"The nature of many environmental crimes is that the effects take longer to be seen. It often takes years before you can see what the effect of air pollution or the improper disposal of waste actually is."

Hassam currently heads a team providing legal advice to the minister of environmental affairs. He played a leading role in developing and rolling out a training course for the "Green Scorpions" or environmental management inspectors, and in the development of a training course for prosecutors and magistrates in respect of environmental crimes.

— Lesley Stones



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

LUSHENDRIE NAIDU

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVOCATE

Twitter: @LushendrieNaidu

The environmental problems blighting Durban have made a great impression on Lushendrie Naidu, by showing her the damage that bad practices can have on our surroundings.

In fact they inspired her career as an environmental advocate. "Durban serves as a veritable 'what not to do' in many matters of energy conservation and environmental responsibility," she says.

Naidu became a project officer for the South Durban Community Environmental Alliance and was part of a team that closed down a toxic waste dump in a residential area.

That success fuelled her passion for championing the environment and in 2012 she joined the global climate action organisation 350.org as its regional coordinator. Naidu and her small team now support grassroots organisations and individuals across Africa by giving them the tools and methods to use in their various campaigns for a healthier planet. Currently a main focus is the Global Power Shift campaign, which supports activities in priority countries, coaches organisations in those countries in their implementation plan and helps to generate media coverage. "We are helping these organisations to come up with strategies, campaigns and ideas in climate advocacy, such as sustainable solutions instead of dirty energy, and influencing climate change policy in their countries," Naidu says. She recently completed a postgraduate degree in environmental management and says it's important for her to feel that what she is doing is actually making a difference in the world around her. "We work with grassroots organisations, but we don't tell them what to do, we are just a channel that enables their work to move forward. We give people the initiative to start something by allowing their ideas to spark. They are like little seedlings and we are the fertiliser to help turn them into something enormous and magnificent," she says.

"My goal overall is to see good climate change policies that we can look up to as a country and as a continent and promote sustainable energy solutions." — Lesley Stones

- ▶ Andrew Bennie
- ▶ Aurelia van Eeden
- ▶ Catherine Constantinides
- ▶ Fatima Ragie
- ▶ Jadin Jordaan
- ▶ Johan Kotze
- ▶ Kate Townshend
- ▶ Khadija Sharife
- ▶ Lea September
- ▶ Lushendrie Naidu
- ▶ Lydia Mogano
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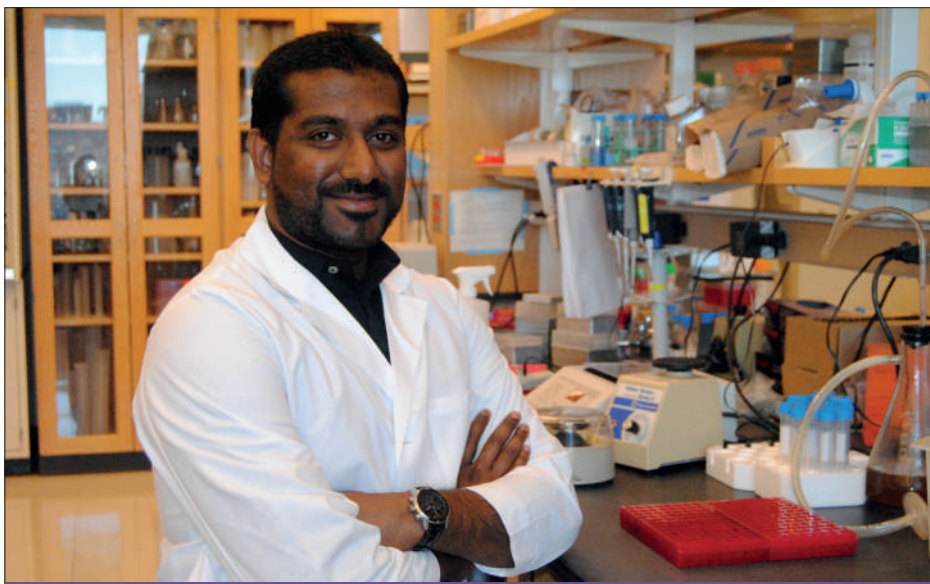


PHOTO: SUPPLIED

DEVAPREGASAN MOODLEY

BIOCHEMIST

[email: devan_moodley@hms.harvard.edu](mailto:devan_moodley@hms.harvard.edu)

"My path into health sciences and in particular my field of study was influenced by my mother's disease. She has rheumatoid arthritis, which is a chronic inflammatory autoimmune condition," explains 32-year-old Dr Devapregasan Moodley, who is currently at Harvard University in the United States.

"I was vexed by the fact that the very system that evolved to protect the body could also destroy it in such a painful way. I was perturbed that we did not know enough about chronic inflammatory diseases that we could not alleviate the suffering of not only my mother, but also the multitude of other South Africans who have similarly debilitating inflammatory diseases. Equally perplexing was that in South Africa not much basic research was being conducted in this field. "Our people suffered from these types of diseases but it was not a field in vogue. I believe that understanding the fundamental molecular nature of chronic inflammatory diseases will someday help improve the quality of life of many people, including my mother."

Moodley struggled to get there: "My high school was poorly resourced – we learned mathematics and science on the weekends by organising classes with teachers in a school that was an hour away. I felt unprepared for university but struggled through. It was during my PhD that I realised that limitations existed only in my mind and if I applied myself and worked hard I could achieve anything."

The KwaZulu-Natal native got his doctorate in medical biochemistry from the University of KwaZulu-Natal, with a focus on autoimmunity. He then spent a year mentoring postgraduate students and teaching at the university, before he was offered a postdoctoral research position at Harvard Medical School.

One project he is involved with is researching a new class of drugs for chronic inflammatory and autoimmune diseases such as multiple sclerosis. Another is studying the microbes in our gut.

He hopes to help to create a flourishing biotechnology industry on his return to South Africa, with the aim of helping patients. "Living a life beyond myself translates to searching for scientific truths that will ultimately serve the greater good." — *Mandi Smallhorne*

VICTOR MOKOKOTLELA

DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON, PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CLINICAL ASSOCIATES IN SOUTH AFRICA

[LinkedIn: Victor Mokokotlela](#)

Victor Mokokotlela is using his leave to catch up on his work as deputy chairperson of the Professional Association of Clinical Associates in South Africa (Pacasa), established in 2012. "I believe there is no other way to get progress, you need to have a strong drive to accomplish anything." In his role as deputy chair, Mokokotlela is establishing a new medical profession in South Africa. Clinical associates get histories from patients, assess them, make diagnoses, prescribe treatment for a range of common conditions seen at district hospitals, and refer patients to an appropriate doctor or specialist if necessary.

Mokokotlela was one of the first of this new breed to qualify, in December 2011, having done his three year bachelor of clinical medical practice at the University of the Witwatersrand, one of three universities to offer the course (the others are Walter Sisulu University in the Eastern Cape and the University of Pretoria). Recognition is always crucial when a new profession comes into being. Mokokotlela was closely involved with the establishment of a professional body, Pacasa.

"We will be working closely with the department of health, the Health Professions Council of South Africa and the Allied Health Professions Council," he says. A major task Pacasa needs to perform is to define the profession's scope of practice. It will



PHOTO: JOHANN BARNARD

also represent its members in labour issues and monitor the profession's impact.

"We'll also be focusing on the public, who also need to know us and what we can offer. It means quite a lot of work, but I enjoy doing it."

Public health is where Mokokotlela wants to be for the foreseeable future. "In years to come I would like to be influencing the health system on a bigger scale, ensuring that clinical associates are being utilised effectively in South Africa." — *Mandi Smallhorne*

LUNGA MFINGWANA

DOCTOR

[LinkedIn: Lunga Mfingwana](#)

"When the mother of a sick child looks at you and says 'Thank you'... that's what makes me sleep at night." Dr Lunga Mfingwana is a young doctor in his late 20s working in the public service. He is driven by "the urge to help and make a difference" and this has led to his involvement in establishing two branches of the Junior Doctors Association of South Africa (Judasa), which is a South African Medical Association interest group – one in the Eastern Cape, of which he was provincial chair in 21012/2013, and one in KwaZulu-Natal.

Mfingwana recently moved from the Eastern Cape, but he is still supporting the new Judasa executive there, and reports that attendance at meetings has risen from the low 30s to a hundred and more. While in the Eastern Cape, Mfingwana worked with the Rural Doctors Association to engage the health department locally on the burning issues of circumcision deaths.

He is keen on helping public sector doctors to develop skills in communicating with the department of health and ventilating issues such as a lack of necessary on-the-job training and poor accommodation for community service doctors. He sees this gap in skills as a contributing factor to the frustration felt by those working in the public



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

sector, and subsequent poor results for patients.

"If you invest in giving doctors the skills, knowledge and support they need on the ground, you will end up with better results than investing in expensive equipment," he says.

A DHL Tomorrow's Leader winner in 2012 and 2013, Mfingwana's interest and experience in leadership and management styles has led to his involvement in a non-profit called South African Leaders Inc, which identifies young leaders and attaches them to successful leaders in South Africa for mentoring.

Working in the public sector has steered him in a direction he never expected to go. "I hated oncology in medical school," he says, but having seen the real-life impact of treating child patients, his aim now is to be a paediatric oncologist before the age of 35. — *Mandi Smallhorne*



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

PATRICK DAKWA

TRADITIONAL NURSE

During his initiation in 2002, Patrick Dakwa had an experience that would drive him to determined activism and a life dedicated to community health. "A fellow initiate collapsed – it was a serious case. I escaped and ran to the road, where I stopped a man who called an ambulance. He was so ill, he almost died." Dakwa himself developed an infection and had to visit the hospital for treatment.

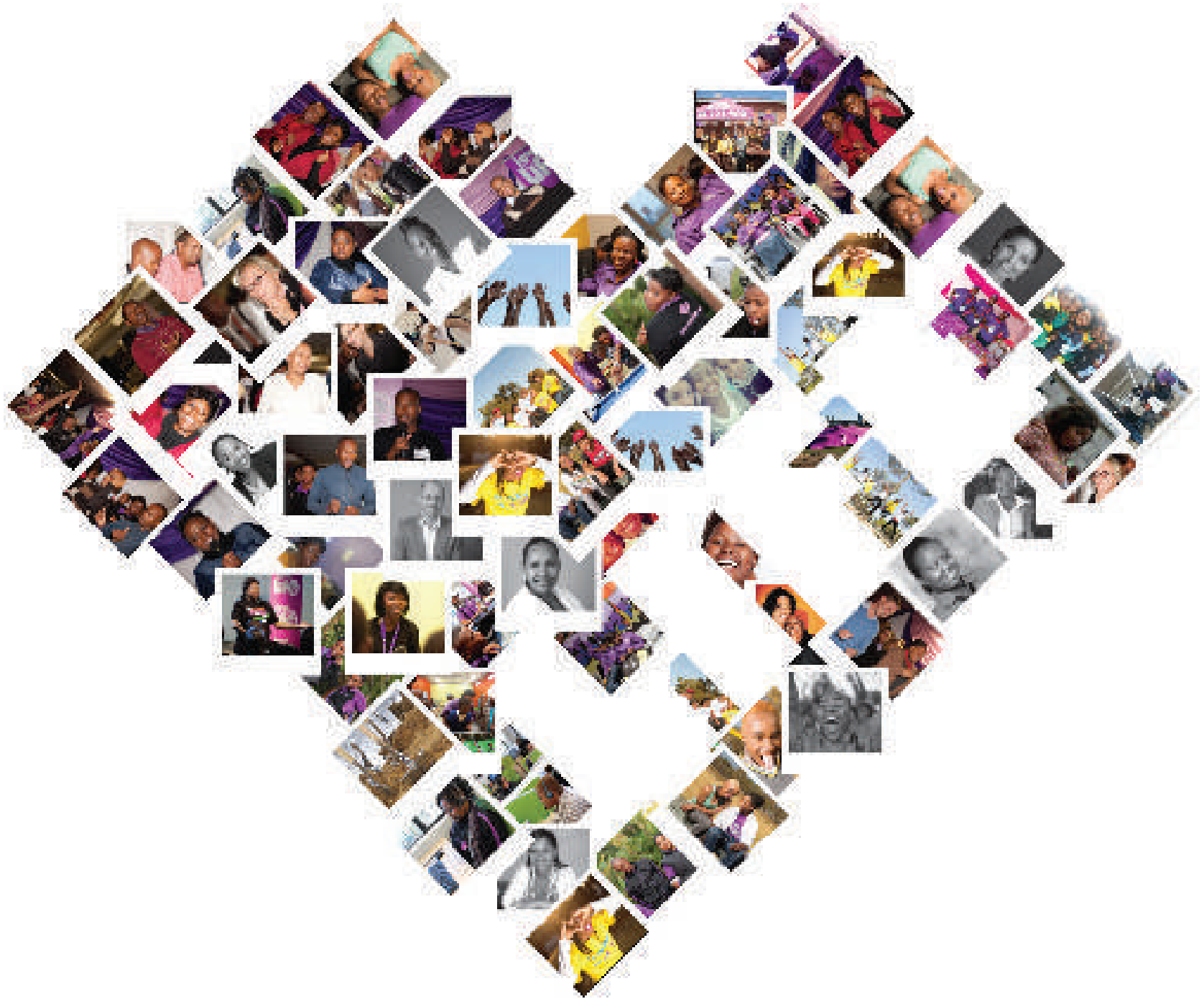
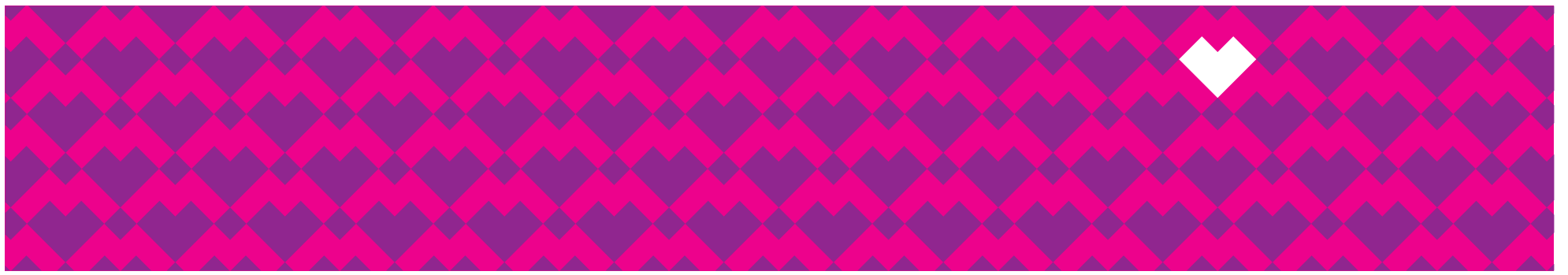
This early experience with incompetent nursing during his circumcision ritual was compounded by stories Dakwa heard from people in his own community. "I've seen the crisis around the country and especially in my own area. I've seen so many young boys harmed and even die. I decided to campaign and intervene by training a few men in my area. I taught them how to dress the wounds and how to treat them, and then I would go around and monitor them."

Dakwa learnt his nursing skills from an older man whom he had watched treating initiates, and who knew what he was doing. He began with about seven young men, and he soon saw a difference.

"Since 2005, in 12 locations near me, there have been no deaths and no amputations."

In 2007, he went on a 10-day training course in traditional nursing laid on by the department of health, which deepened his understanding of the nursing needs.

Dakwa dreams of having the infrastructure to expand his reach and make his life a little easier. Simple things such as a reliable vehicle would make a huge difference, he says. And if he could formally train as a nurse, he would be satisfied: "If I could be involved in nursing," he says, "I would work non-stop, 24/7, as long as there were patients in front of me." At the age of 27, he sees himself serving the people, doing home visits to monitor drug compliance, helping people to grow vegetables and "being involved in their everyday lives". — *Mandi Smallhorne*



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INDIRA GOVENDER

ACTIVIST DOCTOR

Twitter: @indigoesround

Activism is in Dr Indira Govender's blood: her parents, who are human rights lawyers, were active in the struggle for a democratic South Africa and her grandfather was a graduate of Robben Island.

So it seemed natural that when we spoke to the young doctor from Durban she was preparing to leave South Africa and fly to South Sudan with Medecin sans Frontieres (Doctors without Borders or MSF).

Govender was drawn to public health as a student. "I completely believe in the social determinants of health," she says.

"Working in rural South Africa is mind-blowing. I believe that community service was one of the best things that ever happened for our country." But an urgent need to work towards consistent and reliable treatment plunged her into working for MSF, where she was a key member of the group that established the Stop Stockouts project (aimed at encouraging people to report when public health hospitals ran out of essential medicines such as antiretroviral drugs), partnering with people from the Rural Health Project, the Treatment Action Campaign and Section 27.

"MSF gives voices to people who otherwise wouldn't be heard," she says. "I was looking for something like that."

A spell with a hospital in Stellenbosch followed, during which Govender also got actively involved with the Rural Doctors Association.

After several months in the Western Cape, she went back to rural work near Ulundi for a time, but she was looking for a chance to get back into MSF, this time using her training as a doctor.

She sees the two-month contract working in South Sudan as a wonderful opportunity. "It's going to be interesting," she says. "But it's not for the faint-hearted."

Govender is looking forward to coming back and working in rural South Africa once more as this is where she sees herself for the foreseeable future. "That's where you can make a huge impact," she says. And making an impact is the keynote of this young doctor's life. — *Mandi Smallhome*

PHUMEZA TISILE

ACTIVIST

Website: blogs.msf.org/en/patients/authors/phumeza-tisile

"I didn't decide to be an activist, it just happened; turns out I'm good at it and I enjoy it," says 23-year-old Phumeza Tisile, whose blog on her struggles with multiple drug resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB) and extremely drug resistant TB (XDR-TB) – and life thereafter – has helped many in South Africa.

"As much as it helps others who are going through treatment, I'm happy to help where I can. I still get personal messages on my Facebook page from people begging for better drugs."

Born in the Eastern Cape, Tisile studied in Cape Town and was doing a human resources qualification when TB struck "with a huge bang".

"It was in 2010, the time when South Africa hosted the World Cup. At first no one knew what was wrong with me, they assumed it was pneumonia, but instead of getting better I got worse."

She was diagnosed with ordinary TB, then MDR-TB (the complicated drug regimen includes a daily injection which can, and in her case did, cause deafness as a side effect).

The nightmare grew into a two-year battle as she was then diagnosed with XDR-TB. Medecins sans Frontieres (Doctors Without Borders) was able to assist the young woman with a vital drug to beat XDR; winning that fight is something she characterises as a "huge achievement".

Tisile started blogging while at the TB Care Centre. "Many people wanted to give up, but when they read my blog they saw that I had had it worse and their problems are a drop in the ocean. It's a spirit-lifter when you know someone out there cares."

In 2012, Tisile and MSF doctor Jennifer Hughes co-authored the 'DR-TB Manifesto', which explains the terrible situation facing people with drug resistant TB worldwide, and makes a call for: 1) universal access to diagnosis and treatment, 2) hugely improved treatment and 3) enough funding to achieve this.

In mid-May, Tisile headed for the World Health Assembly in Geneva to hand over the manifesto and ask governments, the World Health Organisation, major health role-players and the research community to prioritise the fight against drug-resistant TB. — *Mandi Smallhome*



PHOTO: SYDELLE WILLOW SMITH

SANDILE KHUBEKA

DOCTOR

Twitter: @sandile_kubheka

"They used to call me 'neonate' in medical school," says Dr Sandile Khubeka, who at 21 years old is the youngest doctor to graduate in South Africa.

Thanks to a dedicated crèche owner in Newcastle, where he grew up, he was able to start grade one at the age of five, arriving at the University of KwaZulu-Natal's Nelson Mandela Medical School at age 16 in 2009.

He faced a certain amount of prejudice — he was told by a number of fellow students that he shouldn't be in medical school and would fail.

"It was a big challenge to study with people who were much older than me. I think I matured and it strengthened me. The people who told me I was too young — those were the very people who motivated me," he says.

While at medical school, he got involved in community outreach through a club that helped people at a community clinic and through trips to rural hospitals during his holidays.

"It improved my skills and it was interesting to see how they handle cases with limited resources."

Khubeka was also a member of the Students' Representative Council at medical school. "I was involved in a lot of student issues – I like to see that everyone is treated fairly." Currently he and a group of four classmates are busy setting up a trust fund to assist disadvantaged communities.



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

The drive to help runs deep.

Not that this young man doesn't know how to play in his rare downtime: quad biking and horse-riding are his hobbies, and "I'll always make time for the programme Survivor – if they say they're not going to make it anymore, I'll have a heart attack."

His next move? "I want to get into an internal medicine programme as soon as possible – I love internal medicine." — *Mandi Smallhome*

- ▶ Benita Olivier
- ▶ Bonginkosi Mthembu
- ▶ Daniel Sheward
- ▶ Daygan Eager
- ▶ Devapregasan Moodley
- ▶ Grant Theron
- ▶ Indira Govender
- ▶ Lunga Mfingwana
- ▶ Maryke Bezuidenhout
- ▶ Patrick Dakwa
- ▶ Phumeza Tisile
- ▶ Pindi Sithole-Sipong
- ▶ Sandile Kubheka
- ▶ Shannon Morgan
- ▶ Victor Mokokotlela
- ▶ Zamani Dlamini

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ALIX-ROSE COWIE

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF,
BETWEEN 10AND5

Twitter: @alixrosecowie

Alix-Rose Cowie is the editor-in-chief of *Between 10and5*, a creative showcase that highlights the most interesting and exciting in South African creative talent. Her abilities extend far beyond editing, however, as she's also an established art director and photographer.

She has an innate knack for spotting talent that's bubbling away under the surface of the creative world and it's said that if she doesn't know who you are, then nobody will.

"I've always been inspired by art, design, popular culture and making pictures, so I studied art direction," says Cowie.

"Working as an art director alongside the photography I do now has helped me to develop an eye for the scouting and curating I do in my current role." Cowie is passionate about her career; she loves being part of building something that's rich with art, design, colour and flair.

Her talent ensures that she can spot original thinking, and she has her own *Young South Africa* series that recognises young local creatives doing exceptional things.

"What's really exciting is that through the act of telling these stories and showcasing this work every day, we are capturing a view of South Africa now and providing a positive perspective for the



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

rest of the world," says Cowie.

"It's rewarding being part of changing perceptions and pleasantly surprising people."

Cowie is also a strong advocate of supporting women and has developed a Creative Women series that is designed to promote a culture of women starting their own businesses and recognising their talents.

"I am constantly amazed at the endless creative work that seems to pour out of South Africa," she says.

She isn't resting on these achievements, however, what with a print magazine due out in the near future, and building content partnerships with international design platforms to help boost exposure for the best of South Africa's creative talent. — *Tamsin Oxford*

ANDREW DIXON

FREELANCE EDITOR

Twitter: @alixrosecowie

When you next watch an episode of *Survivor*, take a moment to admire how the story flows so smoothly, how the music enhances the mood and how each personality is allowed to unfold.

The man who pulled together those 67 minutes of compelling viewing by wading through a mind-boggling 2 000 minutes of footage was Andrew Dixon, a freelance editor who has found his niche in reality TV.

"Give me an edit suite and video footage and I'm in my element," he says. "You might watch 40 minutes of footage for that three second nugget that turns the story on its head."

Dixon (34) is currently working on a new series of *Masterchef*, again condensing hours of footage into a show where the emotional highs and lows are as important as the food.

As a freelance editor he has worked for clients such as EMI, Sony Music and Telkom. A video clip he edited on the sights and sounds of Ghana was broadcast around the world from the African Cup Of Nations opening ceremony.

Since then he has specialised in reality TV including *Class Act*, *The Big Break Legacy*, *Masterchef* and *Survivor*.

"I fell in love with human emotion and storytelling," he says. "I get to tell the stories of seemingly ordinary people thrust into an absolute whirlwind of emotion and drama. I want to make the viewers at home feel the emotion that these contestants are going through."

Survivor is the ultimate dream for a storyteller, he says, with up to 15 cameras capturing the action around the clock.

"It's the ultimate art of crafting a story through video and music. One minute of footage can have 20 different sound changes to drive home what the viewer must feel."

Dixon is in high demand, yet he's keen to train others to help to fill the shortage of competent film and TV editors.

"There is a clear shortage of story editors in our industry. It's a stressful job working seven days a week and it takes extreme dedication and stamina. I'm not quite sure how a normal life is lived," he says. — *Lesley Stones*



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

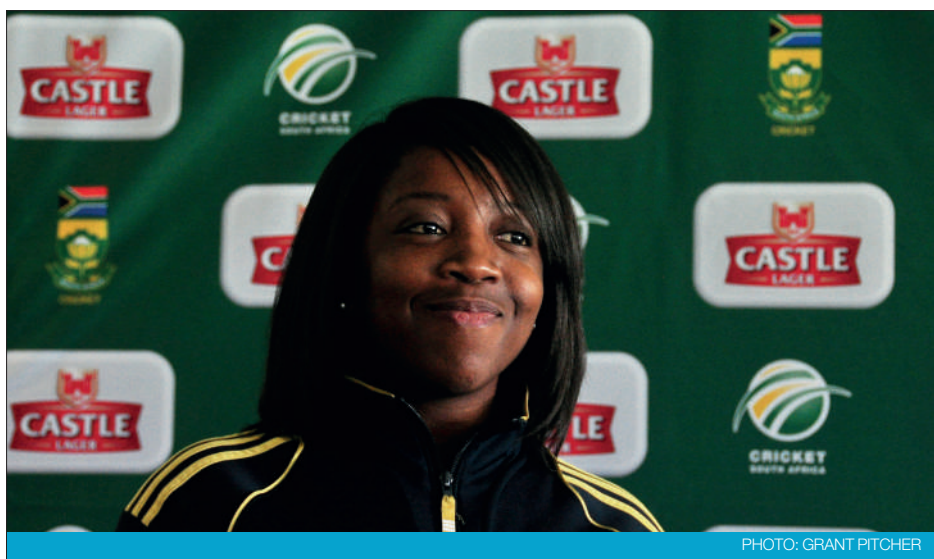


PHOTO: GRANT PITCHER

LERATO MALEKUTU

MEDIA OFFICER, PROTEAS

Twitter: @leratomalekutu

Lerato Malekutu has loved cricket since she was 10 years old and even played for her province (Limpopo) as a high school learner.

So when she studied journalism at the University of Johannesburg it was so that she could fulfil her dream of becoming a cricket journalist. Instead, she went one up and landed the job of her dreams. Malekutu (27) has been the media officer for the Proteas since 2010.

She was offered the position after working first as an intern, then as the media officer for cricket development at Cricket South Africa (CSA), a job that she gave her all to. She hasn't looked back since.

Her dedication and skill earned her the respect of the players, management and the media. Malekutu's role is a vast one and includes setting up media interviews for the players, handling press conferences, providing content to CSA's online platforms and publications and maintaining a good relationship between the team and other key stakeholders. This can be time-consuming but she enjoys every minute of it.

"I enjoy the travelling and getting paid to watch a sport I love," she says. But the most enjoyable part of her job is the people she works with.

"I work with a great bunch of people — players and management alike — and that has made an often highly stressful job quite bearable. We have such a fun and supportive team environment that sometimes it doesn't actually feel like I'm working."

Going forward Malekutu has big plans for her charges: "The most important thing for me is helping to build a Proteas legacy and helping to promote the game across the country. We have a great group of cricketers that are passionate about their country and what they do, I want them to be remembered that way. Hopefully the Proteas brand will cement its place as one of the premier sporting brands in the country and play a part in further unifying our country." — *Fatima Asmal*

ANNE HIRSCH

COMEDIAN & ENTERTAINER

Twitter: @Anne_Hirsch

Anne Hirsch is funny. She is also smart and savvy and has digitised the South African comedy culture with *The Anne Hirsch Show* on YouTube.

She has performed and co-written three one-woman shows, was the winner of the second season of SABC's *So You Think You're Funny*, was labelled *The Next Big Thing* in the *Glamour Women of the Year 2013* awards, and is the only white woman to have performed in David Kau's *Blacks Only Comedy Tour*.

She's all about looking at South Africa through a quirky lens that often highlights some pertinent issues.

"It's amazeballs to live in a country that writes its own comedy every day," says Hirsch. "I'm inspired by our diversity, by the crazy news I read and the people that I meet."

Hirsch believes that it's important for all young South Africans to stand up and live their dreams because nobody else is going to do it for them, although she does recommend that while you are dreaming big it's best to have a back-up plan.

She is also an advocate of passing on skills to the next generation.

"I think Michael Jackson was onto something when he said: 'Heal the world. Make it a better place. For you and for me and the entire human race'," says Hirsch.

"Then again, he also said: 'There's no escaping the jaws of the alien this time. Thriller night. Thriller!' so maybe he's not the best source of inspiration."

With her hugely successful online show already moving into its fourth season, Anne says that

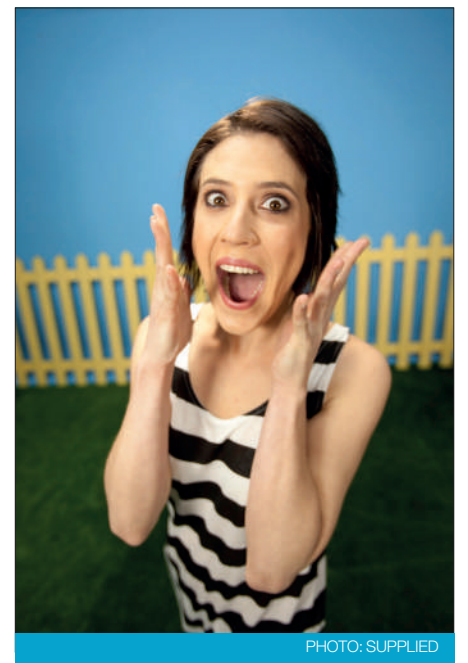


PHOTO: SUPPLIED

it's important for more resources to be given to growth in the arts.

"People are constantly complaining about the standard of television here, but they forget that most successful comedy shows overseas have huge teams of writers and funding," she says.

"We can only improve once we get the resources and development, which I think is slowly happening. Comedy has become rock 'n roll in South Africa and it's a great time to be funny." — *Tamsin Oxford*



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

NONI 'MSCOSMO' RWAXA

RADIO PERSONALITY

[Twitter: @MsCosmoDJ](#)

Mix tapes, music and mates — these are the qualities that propelled Noni "MsCosmo" Rwaxa into the spotlight and one of the most coveted DJ spots in the country with 5FM.

Her lyrical voice and the perfect tunes she has picked have graced the radio waves for some time now, and she believes that it took luck and commitment to bring her to this point in her career.

"The love of music keeps me going. The feeling I get from expressing myself through music gets my blood pumping," says Rwaxa. "I took DJ lessons to get started in the music industry and after long hours of practice, horrible gigs and opportunities taken and lost, I am where I am today."

Rwaxa is also a strong advocate of getting more women on radio as they can offer a new and much needed perspective.

"Women in radio are becoming increasingly well represented, which makes it interesting to listen to. Entertainment isn't a boys-only club anymore. Women are breaking boundaries and proving that their thoughts count."

Certainly, Rwaxa brings her sharp mind to a wide range of topics when she's on air and she finds that everything is important to look at, talk about and discuss.

"I've been lucky to know so many influential people in this industry who've motivated me and given me advice whenever I have needed it," says Rwaxa. "They've opened my mind to the possibility of being bigger than I am."

Rwaxa has got a project or two coming up that she can't whisper a word about right now, but she's definitely excited. Hopefully they won't take her off the airwaves and we'll get to enjoy her upbeat social style on 5FM for a little while longer.

— Tamsin Oxford

TREVOR 'QUICKSHOT' HENRY

LEAGUE OF LEGENDS SHOUTCASTER

[Twitter: @RiotQuickshot](#)

Born in Johannesburg but based in Cologne, Germany, for the past few years, Trevor "Quickshot" Henry is a full-time Shoutcaster for Riot Games' League of Legends (LoL). Roughly translated, this means he commentates on one of the most popular online multiplayer video games in the world.

In fact, 67-million people play LoL every month, 27-million a day, and more than 7.5-million concurrently during peak hours. But how did this local boy come good in a market dominated by European and American players? "It was about making the right business contacts from competing in the local professional game leagues. Through my contacts, I was introduced to Incredible Connection who I approached with a business plan to sponsor my team. I ran events for them and eventually was able to convert my passion for competing in esports into the job I have today," he says. And while it would be easy to say Henry is the Hugh Bladen of the Shoutcasting world, he does not really compare himself to the more traditional commentators. "As a video game commentator, e-sport is significantly more complex than a regular sport. For one, in rugby or cricket you just have to follow one ball around. But in LoL, there are multiple players each doing their own thing, so you have to be focused on so many different elements."

Anyone who thinks that Henry has an easy life watching and commentating on video games, needs to take a look at his travel schedule.

"I travel virtually all the time. Mondays through Wednesdays I spend preparing for competition and the rest of the week is a blur of travel and commentating. But this is my life and I live for my job. Hopefully, I will be able to do this for the next 10 to 15 years." — Iwan Pienaar



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

S'DUMO MTSHALI

ACTOR

[Twitter: @MtshaliSdumo](#)

Actor S'dumo Mtshali had audiences riveted when he played a good cop turning bad in the South African heist thriller *iNumber Number*.

Mtshali gave a brilliant performance in the film that premiered at Toronto International Film Festival and won the Audience Choice award at Jozi Film Festival.

But it won't be a life changer for the cast because South Africans prefer watching TV to going to the movies, Mtshali says. "It's still the TV industry that rules everything in this country."

Fortunately he's a hot favourite for TV roles too, appearing in *isiBaya*, *Intersexions* and *Rhythm City*.

Mtshali studied acting at Durban University of Technology and landed the lead in *iNumber Number* by winning the SABC1 reality competition *Class Act* in 2010.

His prize also sent him to the New York Film Academy for eight weeks to further his acting skills.

"*Class Act* was a boot camp for learning film, and New York was more about going back to the basic stuff I'd learned in drama school. It was great in the sense of really trying to find what I can do for myself in the industry and what my worth is."

He believes his worth lies in telling stories.

"We are of the generation right now that really needs to tell our stories our way. We are bombarded with how they do it in Hollywood and the UK and we need to find our own South African way and understand what our audiences want."

Young, black South African men need to discover their own worth to make themselves and this country something special, he believes.

He has already achieved a major goal that he



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

set himself as a child.

"My goal when I was 12 was that by the time I was 30 I'd be playing the lead role in a film, and we shot *iNumber Number* when I was 29 and released it when I was 30."

His next goal is to identify how he can contribute to growing the local film industry, perhaps through script writing, running his own company and making his own shows. "I need to work harder and smarter," he says.

— Lesley Stones

- ▶ [Alix-Rose Cowie](#)
- ▶ [Andrew Dickson](#)
- ▶ [Anne Hirsch](#)
- ▶ [Bridget Scarr](#)
- ▶ [Inram Garda](#)
- ▶ [Ishay Govender](#)
- ▶ [Julie Reid](#)
- ▶ [Kirsty Galliard](#)
- ▶ [Lebogang Rasethaba](#)
- ▶ [Lerato Matsoso](#)
- ▶ [Lerato Malekutu](#)
- ▶ [Mark Middlewick](#)
- ▶ [Mpange Chapheshamano](#)
- ▶ [Noni "MsCosmo" Rwaxa](#)
- ▶ [Nicole da Silva](#)
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- ▶ [Phathutshedzo Makwarela](#)
- ▶ [Rebecca Davis](#)
- ▶ [S'dumo Mtshali](#)
- ▶ [Sid Wahi](#)
- ▶ [Simamkele Dlakavu](#)
- ▶ [Trevor "Quickshot" Henry](#)
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Mail & Guardian 200 Young South Africans.

The full 200 profiles are available as part of a brand-new free tablet app showcasing the young stars who are shaping South Africa's future. Each profile is reimagined for the tablet platform and includes social media links so you can get in touch with each of our talented individuals.

You can find the free app by searching for "200 Young South Africans" on the iStore, Google Play and Amazon App Store.



Mail & Guardian
AFRICA'S BEST READ

ASLAM LEVY

DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL MEDIA, GCIS

Twitter: @Aslam_Levy

A deep fascination with technology from an early age, together with the early realisation of how transformative access to information can be, set Aslam Levy on a path to change lives for the better and transform society.

Levy has made it his life-long journey to ensure that more citizens are able to improve their lives by better access to government services and information through an internet capable device.

As director of social media at Government Communication and Information System, Levy is leading the charge in government for the adoption of technologies that will allow easier, cost effective and convenient citizen interaction with government.

"My vision is a public service that utilises digital innovations to make it flatter, more agile, streamlined and technology-enabled. That will see a government that is more participative, accountable, responsive, transparent and service delivery oriented," says Levy.

To achieve this, Levy led the initiatives to develop the first mobile application for the South African government, along with a co-ordinated effort to integrate social media into the public service culture and way of working.

"With the increase in the use of mobile devices and social media by citizens, it will be through technology that we will reach into the deeper rural areas where government information can be hard



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

to find," says Levy.

"The adoption of these new technologies requires me to engage senior politicians with educational sessions and workshops where we unpack how we should use these new digital tools. While there still is apprehension, we have made good progress in rolling out this new digital face of government."

As a World Economic Forum Global Shaper, Levy attended the One Young World summit last year in Johannesburg as one of the four young South Africans selected by Brand South Africa. Appointed incoming curator of the Tshwane hub, he will represent the city at the World Economic Forum's Annual Curators Meeting in Geneva, Switzerland, in August. — *Linda Doko*



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

KHUSELA SONGANI

NATIONAL MEDIA LIAISON OFFICER, ANC

Twitter: @KhuselaS

Khusela Songani has committed her professional life to the marriage of her two passions — working for an organisation whose mission is to realise a better life for all, and using her technical competence in communications to contribute to that objective. Now 35 years old, Songani has been a member of the ANC for half her life, during which time she has served on all executive leadership structures of the ANC Youth League at branch, regional, provincial and national executive level.

Now the national media liaison officer for the ANC, Songani's job involves working closely with the ANC's department of information and publicity to manage the public profile of the party, covering all media related matters. She also serves as the acting spokesperson for the ANC Women's League, managing the organisation's media profile.

Songani believes there is no greater inspiration than having the opportunity to do work you are committed to and are passionate about.

"There is still a lot more that collectively we need to do to tell the good story behind the achievements of South Africa and its people. My greatest motivation is this acknowledgement of the potential to create platforms for meaningful engagement that drive our country forward."

Songani sees her role as one that carries a responsibility to her peers and to the entire younger generation of South Africa to give impetus to the importance of a generational mix, and the importance of placing young people in positions of responsibility. — *Linda Doko*

ZENGEZIWE "ZENG" MSIMANG

MARKETING DIRECTOR, DIRCO

LinkedIn: @Zengeziwe Msimang

Zengeziwe Msimang, or Zeng, is dedicated to making a positive impact on society.

As part of the public diplomacy team in the department of international relations and cooperation, she makes the ideal ambassador for the South African brand.

With a father who worked at the United Nations and a grandmother who was the ANC chief representative in Stockholm and Washington during the apartheid years, Msimang became fascinated by diplomacy and communications from an early age.

Her role in the public service is to project a positive image of South Africa to an international audience, which requires an in-depth understanding of the social, economic and political positioning of our country.

With a target audience of this magnitude — the world — her responsibilities range from communicating South Africa's position at major multilateral platforms such as the UN General Assembly, to providing strategic marketing support to our country's embassies around the world.

At 35, her passion for her work is one of Msimang's inspirations. "To be in service for my country is a great honour. The conditions under which the generation before mine served their country were extremely difficult — it led them to prison, exile or in many cases, the grave. That I am able to serve a free South Africa is an endless source of motivation for me," she says.

Msimang lives by her favourite African proverb: if you want to go fast, go alone, but if you want to go far, go together. She believes that many people do not understand the work that goes into running a government and so fail to appreciate how many hard working and dedicated civil servants there are in South Africa. — *Linda Doko*



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

DAVID POTTER

DEMOCRATIC ALLIANCE WARD COUNCILLOR

Twitter: @DavidCOJ102

DA ward councillor David Potter is known to be one of the most responsive councillors in the City of Johannesburg. Whether you're nagging him on Twitter or WhatsApping him about power outages on a Saturday morning, he's always getting involved and helping out.

What's less well known is that Potter is also the youngest ward councillor in the city and, luckily for his constituents in Ward 102, he's more interested in service delivery and less in politics.

In his old neighbourhood, Blairgowrie (now part of his ward), Potter got involved with community initiatives in the suburb in 2003, when he was 17. He then got involved with other residents associations, he says, helping them to set up websites, email and SMS systems and liaising with residents and council departments to get things done.

He has been more formally involved since 2007, roughly when he joined the DA, as part of the Ward 102 ward committee. He stood in the municipal elections in 2011 and won with 81% of the votes.

In 2013, Potter launched Look and Log, an easy reference of all relevant City of Joburg contacts, that citizens can use to log issues they see in their neighbourhoods. "If the City doesn't know about it, it can't fix it," he says, and citizens need to take responsibility too.

Potter says he will stand for re-election in 2016 and his long-term plan is to remain a councillor, at the forefront of service delivery.



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

His attitude to service carries through to his day job too. As operations director for Acres of Love, he manages 27 homes that house orphaned children in Gauteng and the Western Cape.

He looks slightly confused when asked what he does other than work. "Having two jobs, I guess I don't have much time," he says. — *Samantha Perry*



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

TIM FLACK

SANDU WESTERN CAPE REGIONAL ORGANISER

Twitter: @tim_meh87

Tim Flack, equality activist and energetic voice in Parliament for the soldiers in the South African Defence Force, believes that people should always strive for what is right, no matter the cost.

This is what Flack lives by, and he has paid dearly for it, but still he champions the cause of right against wrong. Flack joined the South African Navy as a musician – a classically trained trumpeter – in 2007. Two years later he married, and it was his determination to be with his wife during her difficult pregnancy that saw him shunted around to various units around the country. Ultimately Flack lost his position in his unit, lost his marriage and his relationship with his son was jeopardised.

He joined the South African Defence Force Union (Sandu) and is now an active member of the movement, looking after the needs and rights of soldiers.

“During those turbulent years, I recognised the plight of the South African soldier, experiencing their daily hardships, heartaches and troubles first-hand. I made a decision that I would do everything I could to never allow another soldier to go through what I did. It destroyed my marriage, my relationship with my three-year-old son, and nearly gave me a nervous breakdown. Joining Sandu changed my life and gave me something to fight for,” he says. And fight he does: Flack is the union’s parliamentary representative, whose role it is to attend defence portfolio committee meetings to ensure things are being done correctly. He sees to it that South Africa’s soldiers not only have a voice in Parliament, but also have access to the defence committee and to the minister of defence. Importantly, it was Sandu that uncovered the Guptagate scandal, as well as several other national interest exposés. Flack believes only negative things result from people turning a blind eye to corruption. “Our country is suffering because too many good people stand by and do nothing.” — *Linda Doko*



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

REFILOE OGUDE

DIRECTOR OF PERFORMANCE MONITORING OF THE PRESIDENCY

Website: www.presidency.gov

Refiloe Ogude is definitely a woman South Africa needs for the future – she is dynamic, determined, forward thinking, and years ahead of her chronological age of 29. With a background in corporate finance and management consulting, Ogude has a master’s in global affairs focusing on conflict prevention and economic development. She has worked for the United Nations Development Programme, the South African Institute for Race Relations and at the Hofstra University in New York, where she was guest lecturer in comparative politics. She has published discussion papers analysing challenges in the consolidation of democracy within various African countries including Kenya, Egypt, Mali, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Guinea Bissau, and during 2010 conducted field research in Syria, Jordan, Israel and the West Bank on the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Ogude attended the 44th St Gallen Symposium in Switzerland as one of 200 Global Leaders of Tomorrow, and made it to the interview stages of the Obama Administration’s Young African Leaders Initiative, from a competitive pool of 50 000 Africans. Until recently a political analyst with the department of economic development, responsible for developing policy on issues related to poverty, inequality and unemployment, Ogude has now taken a position as director of performance monitoring and evaluation in the presidency. This role sees her as part of a team responsible for developing, implementing and maintaining a municipal performance assessment system with the view to improving the performance of municipalities across South Africa.

Ogude sees her greatest challenge as

accepting that some of the outcomes of her contribution may only be comprehensively felt in decades to come.

“I was born into a generation that on the one hand is faced with some of the most complex and daunting challenges that mankind has ever known, such as gross inequality, high levels of youth unemployment and seemingly intractable armed conflicts.

“On the other hand, we live in a technological age that emphasises the now and a relentless sense of urgency for immediate change.

“Reconciling these realities can be challenging. Although I know that those we seek to serve want change now, just as I do, I’m acutely aware that the problems we face – particularly dismantling the structural disparities that exist in South Africa and elsewhere – will take time [to resolve].”

Ogude is most inspired by being able to interact daily with people committed to bridging the inequality gap in South Africa, on our continent and globally. — *Linda Doko*



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

- ▶ Abigail Jacobs - Williams
- ▶ Aslam Levy
- ▶ Bongani Baloyi
- ▶ David Potter
- ▶ Jessica Shelver
- ▶ Khusela Sangoni
- ▶ Liezl van der Merwe
- ▶ Refiloe Ogude
- ▶ Solly Malatsi
- ▶ Tim Flack
- ▶ Tiyani Rikhotso
- ▶ Zareef Minty
- ▶ Zengeziwe Msimang

TIYANI RIKHOTSO

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS, DEPT OF TRANSPORT

Website: www.transport.gov.za

Childhood dreams of being an on-air presenter directed Tiyani Rikhotso towards media studies, political reporting and, ultimately, towards his love for politics.

Today, as chief director of communications and stakeholder relations for the department of transport, Rikhotso is fully immersed in all communication matters for what is certainly one of the most active departments in government.

“I am passionate about what I do. I see working for the government more as a calling than a means to make a living. Unlike our counterparts in the private sector who are driven by profits and other commercial interests, civil servants are in the business of changing lives. We are not accountable to a board of directors, but to an entire nation. It is the understanding that we are at the coalface of changing people’s lives for the better that drives me,” says Rikhotso.

Currently chairperson of the Havana City ANC Youth League branch in Johannesburg North, Rikhotso sees his role as championing the cause of young South Africans.

He knows that communication forms the backbone of every successful operation, and says there was no better example of the importance of clear communication than in the e-tolling debacle, a project in which Rikhotso was directly involved.

“It’s unfortunate that an advanced system such as e-tolling has been demonised in the fashion it has. Poor communication and lack of clarification when the project was first introduced are partly to blame for all that has gone wrong. Legally, however, it has stood strong in several courts, as all was done within the prescripts of the law.”

Rikhotso strongly believes that as policymakers, the government has a responsibility to come up with creative solutions for the socioeconomic challenges South Africa faces.

“We are a growing nation that needs to look beyond conventional methods for resolving challenges,” he says. — *Linda Doko*

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Turning **potential into progress:** partnering with communities to make a difference

The Mutual & Federal Corporate Social Investment (CSI) strategy is aimed at making a sustainable difference in the lives of our beneficiaries, by forming meaningful partnerships with communities in the fields of education and agricultural socio-economic development. These initiatives also complement our business operations, while simultaneously aligning with the company's own transformation objectives.

Skills development and microenterprise development initiatives – through the Mutual & Federal Trusts – complement the commitment to transform communities. Staff volunteerism is another focus area at Mutual & Federal that is experiencing growing support and participation.

Education - Mutual & Federal supports the following education initiatives which focus on primary and secondary education (with an emphasis on maths and science), as well as skills development initiatives associated with the short-term insurance industry:

- **Winning Teams, Limpopo:** Winning Teams provides a Grade 12 maths and science revision and supplementary programme in some of the poorest performing schools in Limpopo.
- **Leap Science and Mathematics School, Western Cape and Gauteng:** Leap Schools provide schooling for Grade 10-12 learners from poor performing schools.
- **ITHUBA Skills Development Project, Western Cape:** Through the ITHUBA skills development project, learners can obtain various NQF qualifications in panel beating and spray painting.
- **Ubuntu Education Fund, Eastern Cape:** This non-profit organisation provides essential health and educational support to children from the local community.
- **The President's Award for Youth Empowerment:** The President's Award (in association with the Duke of Edinburgh International Award) is active in 60 correctional facilities to rehabilitate offenders and to deter vulnerable youth from entering the justice system.

Agricultural Socio-economic Development - Mutual & Federal supports the following initiatives focused on building capacity and the development of people and communities in the agricultural sector:

- **Tswelopele Farming Project, Magaliesberg, Gauteng:** This project generates employment and the development of self-sustaining farming enterprises, benefiting 55 households, or approximately 250 people, through vegetables and poultry farming.
- **Dipping tanks:** Mutual & Federal assists emerging farmers in rural areas with livestock handling and dipping infrastructure to help them give appropriate primary animal health care to their livestock.

Staff Volunteerism - The Nakelela Staff Volunteerism programme was launched to achieve the appropriate focus on mobilising staff to become CSI Champions in support of the company's outreach programmes.

Mutual & Federal Trusts - Through the Mutual & Federal Community Trust we support further education and skills development as well as microenterprise development. The Black Broker Trust focuses on the training and development of black insurance brokers.

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- 1993** The founding of ATNS and the start of Project Pronav to upgrade and extend terrestrial navigation systems
- 1995** The founding of the ATNS college
- 1998** ISO accreditation
- 2001** Installation of 3D Air Traffic Control simulator at ATNS's Aviation Training Academy
- 2005** Satellite communication upgrade system commences
- 2009** Control tower construction at King Shaka International Airport
- 2012** Inauguration of NAFISAT Master Back-up Terminal in Uganda
- 2013** ATNS in conjunction with the University of the Witwatersrand Business School launched the Aeronautical Management Development Programme (AMDP) – the first of its kind in Africa; As part of ATNS's Women's Development Programme, 13 female staff members complete this programme
- 2014** ATNS and its ASIOACG partners are voted and awarded the prestigious Best Service Provider Award at Jane's annual ATC Awards Ceremony, held in Spain

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LAUREN TAVENER-SMITH

ECONOMIST

Website: ishackliving.co.za

Lauren Tavener-Smith has a mission: to produce research that informs transitions to more equitable and sustainable cities in South Africa. As part of this, she says, she aims to play a role in shaping a next generation of activist researchers who are trained in robust research methods, which they put to work to collaboratively solve real world challenges.

Tavener-Smith is an economist who, after having had a real-life turning point experience, is now working on her doctorate, which explores how we can scale and sustain sanitation services in our country's informal settlements. She says: "As an experiment to better understand what I was studying, I tried to live on a dollar a day while hitch-hiking around and labouring on permaculture farms in South America. After unknowingly drinking contaminated water, my entire experiment was blown when I had to call my dad to pay my hospital bills – poverty has no safety nets." This experience set her on the road with her current research and has given her life a focus and a clear goal.

She says a labour economics class during her third year at the University of KwaZulu-Natal woke her up to the fact that most other South Africans did not share her reality.

"I was introduced to heterodox ways of thinking about issues of structural unemployment, inequality, poverty and privilege and this experience gave me the shift in perspective necessary to propel me onto the path I am now on."

"The type of research I am interested in involves producing knowledge in relation to complex, or difficult to define, real-world social, economic and environmental problems with the people affected by, and affecting, the problem. Sailing a small model ship of order into a vast sea of chaos has been, and still remains, a struggle. But I do believe co-producing relevant knowledge is an ideal worth struggling for."

She believes we need to be working to create strong assemblages of change between universities, informal settlement residents, municipalities, technologists, designers, entrepreneurs, artists, in fact all people who affect and are affected by the challenges which are all of ours – present and future – to bear. —

Ilse Ferreira



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

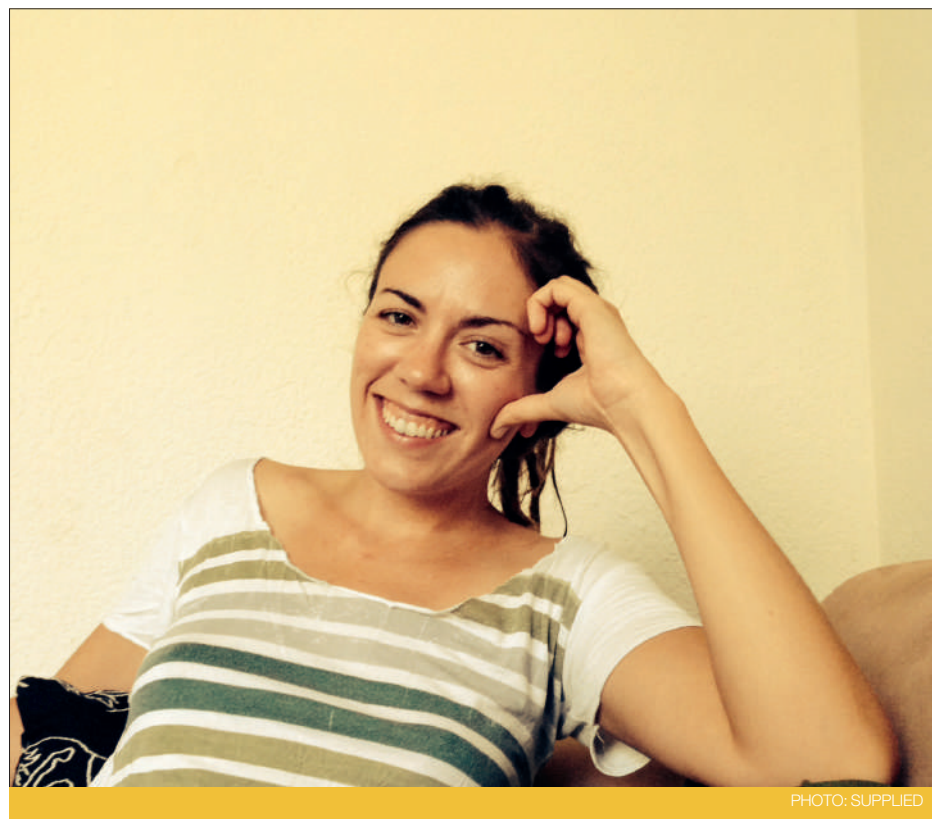


PHOTO: SUPPLIED

SIYABONGA AFRICA

HEAD OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,
HACKS/HACKERS JOHANNESBURG

Twitter: @siyafrika

At a time when the media industry is experiencing an existential crisis brought on by traditional models being supplanted by internet-driven content, 28-year-old Siyabonga Africa sees potential and promise.

Africa represents a new breed of media professional who sees beyond slabs of printed copy and has embraced all that digital publishing can be.

His early career was marked by the Aggrey Klaaste Bursary to complete his journalism honours at Stellenbosch University. His deep love for the digital medium was anchored when he spent two-and-a-half years at Indiana University completing his master's degree on a Ford Foundation Fellowship that he received through the Africa-America Institute. On his return to South Africa he did not re-enter mainstream journalism, although his passion is not diminished by any means.

He feeds this obsession with the potential for digital content as the head of the executive committee of Hacks/Hackers Johannesburg, the local chapter of a global community that bridges the worlds of journalism and coding. The organisation plays an important role in realising the benefits from melding these skills, especially at a time when local newsrooms are only starting to understand how to make the shift to digital content production. Africa's crossover from traditional news presentation to a new, media-rich environment is closely aligned to his worldview of exploring a "wandering path".

He is not content with sticking to what is comfortable and known, and believes there is enormous value in trying out new experiences and paths as a way to finding one's passions and career choices.

For the time being, he has made it his mission to be an agent of change through Hacks/Hackers to help journalists and newsrooms change how they present and deliver news that appeals to a new generation of curious, engaged minds. — Johann Barnard

CAROLINA ÖDMAN-GOVENDER

CHIEF SCIENTIST, THUMBZUP

Twitter: @carolune

Dr Carolina Ödman-Govender started off wanting to be a thinker in high school, but pointless philosophical talk eventually frustrated her. One day a teacher broke through the ice by explaining $E=mc^2$ in a way she found clear and approachable, and her love and inimitable drive for science was born.

Ödman-Govender, who is now chief scientist at Thumbzup, the local startup developing the Payment Pebble, and also an associate scientist of SKA Africa, has not taken a direct route to astrophysics, the field in which she completed her doctorate, but has been involved as a research engineer in computational fluid dynamical modelling of blood flow and evaluation of vascular grafts, and has been a consultant for the UNESCO World Report on Building Knowledge Societies. She was also the international project manager of Universe Awareness (UNAWA). She says the people who have made the greatest impact on her were the ones who have let her down: "Those people have taught me resilience and flexibility and the strength to move on."

She has worked in many scientific areas — some by choice, some by chance - and loves the multitude of perspectives that her non-linear career has given her. She says she has had the privilege of access to some of the best institutions of the world, but on the other hand "when something is a challenge for someone who is not expected to have 'problems' your credibility can crumble and people's assumptions can get in the way."

Ödman-Govender, as the recipient of a number of accolades, interprets them as leading to more opportunities. "After all, I wouldn't do the work if I did not think it was a good idea, and good ideas need to be shared," she muses.

To the youth, her advice is to get addicted to learning. "What a thrill to be able to do something you didn't know how to do before. Wherever you find yourself, there is always something to learn." — *Ilse Ferreira*



PHOTO: HANS HORDIJK FOTOGRAFIE



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

ASHA RANCHHOD

INDUSTRY MANAGER,
GOOGLE SOUTH AFRICA



Twitter: @AshaRanchhod

Asha Ranchhod is accustomed to breaking down barriers and stereotypes. In a country with deeply entrenched gender and racial bias, she has steadfastly plotted a path that has disregarded these prejudices.

Growing up in predominantly white schools, Ranchhod shed preconceived racial notions by being appointed to the Junior City Council of Klerksdorp when she was 16 and a year later selected as president of Interact, Rotary International's youth arm.

These experiences shaped the young leader and led to her ending up at no less an organisation than tech giant Google.

Ranchhod holds a degree in informatics and honours cum laude in business management.

She was recently promoted to senior industry manager at Google South Africa for the highly competitive fast-moving consumer goods sector.

She has been quick to make her mark inside Google during the three years she has been with the company. Last year she was one of 16 young leaders selected to represent Google at the One Young World summit in Johannesburg.

Ranchhod is also the co-country lead for the Women@Google group that promotes gender equality in the workplace as well as the lead for the company's local CSI programme, GooglersGive.

She is driven by the opportunities technology offers in breaking down barriers, particularly as it relates to gender and education issues, and all the more so where these intersect.

"I'm extremely passionate about education and firmly believe that knowledge is power and access to information can find a way to change lives and future generations," she says.

"I've been inspired by Nelson Mandela's words that education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world, and believe that the internet has the ability to enable that in cost-effective and far-reaching ways." — Johann Barnard

KATHARINE HUTCHINSON

CLIMATE RESEARCHER

"I am passionate about the ocean, my country and doing good for people and our planet. If in 10 years' time I can say that I have worked to honour these passions, then I will be truly content."

Katharine Hutchinson is a young Capetonian scientist who has the unusual distinction of having earned a "co-badged" qualification from the University of Cape Town and l'Universite de Bretagne Occidentale (UBO).

The two universities had signed a memorandum of understanding in 2011, whereby together they agreed to award co-badged postgraduate degrees. Hutchinson's fluent Italian served her well when she met Professor Speich, an Italian teaching at UBO. Speich expressed an interest in co-supervising the young oceanographer.

Hutchinson gained both fluency in French and a master's degree, awarded with distinction.

Hutchinson is studying a key factor in global climate change.

"The Antarctic Circumpolar Current (ACC) is the major flow of the Southern Ocean, making it the longest and largest current in the world," she explains. "The ACC links the three major ocean basins, the Atlantic, Indian and Pacific, therefore providing a major link in global ocean circulation. Despite the vital role that the ACC plays in the global system, little is known about it."

Hutchinson's honours degree in ocean and atmospheric science focused on Southern Ocean research. She presented her findings at two international conferences and to the Scientific Committee of Antarctic Research.

They were also published in the *Journal of Deep Sea Research*. Hutchinson's master's thesis on



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

the ACC south of Africa examined changes in temperature and salinity over the past 20 years.

"I found that both the heat and salt content of the area have been increasing over the last two decades.

I am currently investigating the possible drivers of this change and what portion is due to the effects of global warming."

She says: "I am motivated to translate scientific findings to people at all levels of society and I hope that in doing so I can improve society's knowledge of the circumstances and consequences of climate change." — Mandi Smallhorne

ADRIANA MARAIS

MARS ONE CANDIDATE



Twitter: @adrianamarais

Adriana Marais is not just another PhD student in the field of quantum biology — she is one of the remaining 705 candidates earmarked to establish a human colony on Mars in 2024.

She explains: "Having decided as a child to become an astronaut, I planned to study astrophysics or aeronautical engineering, but at the time became drawn to quantum mechanics, and eventually was led into research aimed at answering the question 'what is life?' and therefore the possibility of being part of the Mars project will most decidedly be the ultimate challenge for me." In the meantime her time is spent fruitfully on various aspects in her field and her research is already being published nationally and internationally.

She is involved in outreach teaching projects, has lectured at the Centre for Scientific Access at the University of KwaZulu-Natal and is already established as a speaker at physics conferences — in fact, she was awarded the Best PhD Talk at this year's South African Institute of Physics conference.

Her research touches on brand new fields such as quantum cryptography and quantum mechanics in the "green" arena.

Marais says awards and accolades are good to have, in the sense that if publicity and funding leads to enable scientists to find more answers, of giving them the opportunity to delve deeper into questions such as "what distinguishes a life form



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

from the matter from which it is made?" and ultimately, as a scientist, this is what she strives for: finding answers.

What set her on the road as a scientist? She says that during her undergraduate years at the University of Cape Town she discussed with a lecturer the impossibility of observing something without interacting with it, and therefore disturbing it in some way.

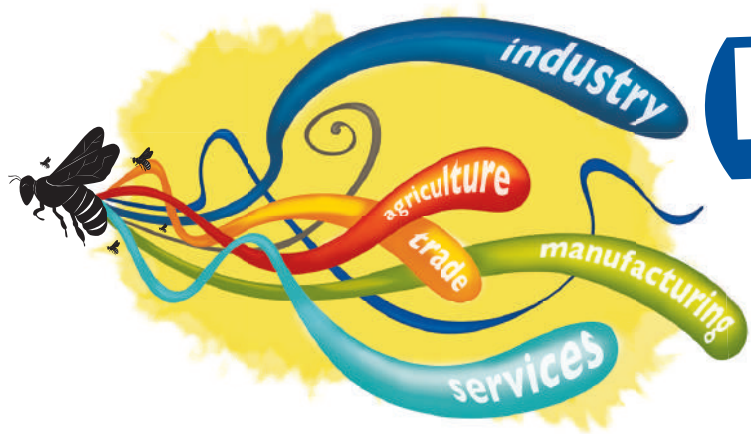
"The implication that the observer is then inextricably part of the system under observation, has intrigued me ever since," she says.

Marais believes in every person is a wealth of talent and potential and that it is your life's task to realise this potential, doing the things you are good at and that make you happy. To aspiring researchers she gives the advice to read, read, read and never stop asking questions. — Ise Ferreira

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- ▶ Adriana Marias
- ▶ Alan Wolff
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- ▶ Bruce Dube
- ▶ Carolina Ödman Govender
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Be part of it

Energy is what's needed for change and progress, but it all starts with you

Small business propels to new heights with competition

The Eskom Development Foundation is calling on small and medium sized black-owned businesses to enter the 2014 annual Business Investment Competition (BIC) and stand a chance of winning their share of R1.7 million in prizes.

The competition seeks to identify black-owned, registered businesses that have been operational for at least two years in the manufacturing, trade/services and agricultural sectors.

The Eskom Foundation, a not-for profit company, is tasked with implementing Eskom's corporate social investment strategy, and has identified economic development as a priority area.

"Small businesses and the passionate entrepreneurs behind them are essential ingredients in this country's future economic success. Entrepreneurship is a vehicle for job creation and can drive economic growth."

Propelling business growth to benefit South Africa

The competition was established in 2008 to offer a helping hand to small black owned businesses and was built on the premise that small businesses are the key to economic growth and job creation in South Africa.

Research conducted by the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor shows that small businesses are significant contributors to job creation, creating over 50% of all employment opportunities in South Africa. Add to this that small, medium and micro enterprises (SMMEs) contribute more than 45% of the country's total GDP.

As a result the Business Investment Competition was born and now attracts hundreds of entries from small businesses looking for assistance to take their business to the next level.

Prizes boost business growth

The overall winner of the competition receives R200 000 worth of prizes while winners in the individual sectors can win R100 000 worth of prizes to boost their businesses.

These prizes include a cash component that businesses can use to purchase equipment, material or even to appoint additional staff members in order to expand the business.

In addition winners are offered an exciting opportunity to exhibit at the Business Opportunities and Franchise Expo (BOFE), now celebrating its 21st year.

BOFE is one of Gauteng's premier business expos and offers businesses a unique opportunity to market their business and meet with potential clients and customers and attend education workshops to deepen their business knowledge.

Previous finalists have made contact with major retailers resulting in lucrative deals, while other finalists have met with procurement professionals from large organisations and companies looking for black suppliers at the expo.

Eskom is also aware that many small businesses lack sustainability due to a lack of basic business skills and experience. As a result, winners of the competition attend the Eskom Contractor Academy to upskill them to grow their businesses sustainably.

Sneaking onto the business scene

A common thread that runs through all entrepreneurs and indeed BIC winners is enthusiasm and a commitment to following one's passion.

This can certainly be said for Sifiso Dlamini owner of Eish Hade! Dlamini is a young entrepreneur with a passion for

bespoke footwear and he has turned that passion into a thriving business. In 2012 Eish Hade! was named a runner-up in the Manufacturing sector of the Eskom Business Investment Competition for the impressive way in which he had grown his sneaker manufacturing business.

Since then Dlamini has also been joined by two business partners and has new premises near Sandton. Instead of handcrafting their shoes, the company now produces 30 high tops and mid-cut sneakers a week using state-of-the art machinery, thanks to the help of the Zinto Marketing Group.

Dlamini says: "We will be able to employ more people, increase our production capacity and get our brand out there and create awareness."

See your business grow with the Eskom Business Investment Competition

"Eskom is committed to equalising the business opportunities available to previously disadvantaged people. As a result finalists and winners benefit from prize money to invest into their businesses and development and training to help them build sustainable businesses that will thrive," explains Liberty-Nel.

If you run a business that is making a splash enter BIC and you could win! For more information on the Eskom Business Investment Competition and how to enter visit: www.eskombic.co.za or for information on the Business Opportunities and Franchise Expo visit www.thebereed.co.za/bofe





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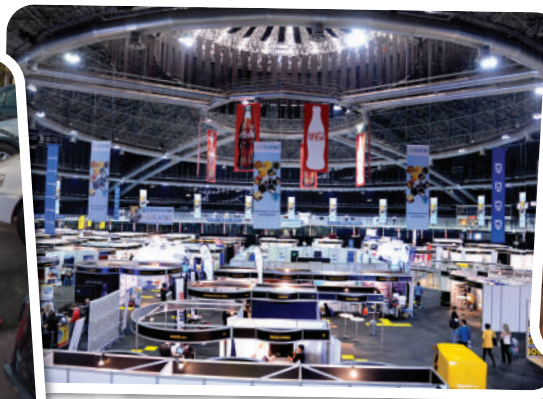
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ADRI VISSER

PARALYMPIC SWIMMER



Twitter: @VisserAdri

Speaking to Olympic swimmer Adri Visser, one cannot help but be caught up in her positive attitude and amazing enthusiasm. She knows what she wants out of life and has shown the commitment needed to achieve it. Visser was born in 1988 physically disabled as a result of German measles during her mother's pregnancy. However, she refuses to be defined by how she looks or even her success in the pool. Instead, she feels that it is her Christianity that should be the guiding light.

"What I have accomplished is overwhelming at times, but thanks to my faith I know that this has happened for a reason and I want to show people from all walks of life what can happen if you believe in yourself," she says. When it comes to races, Visser remarks that she is always seen as the underdog, but that only helps push her to prove people wrong.

"I truly feel that nothing can stop me from getting to where I am going. I use the criticism to drive me to accomplish as much as possible." Citing competing in the Paralympic Games in Beijing in 2008 as one of her career highlights to date, she has a firm plan to compete in Rio 2016 and reach the finals and potentially win a medal. And while her performance in the swimming pool is impressive, it is her passion for life beyond that which reveals a good deal about her character.

"I am not going to be young forever and want to continue making a difference in people's lives after I retire. I have nearly finished my degree at Potch (North-West University) in human movement studies and ultimately want to qualify in biokinetics and link that to prosthetics. By combining swimming with these two elements, I want to show people with disabilities that the sky is the limit."

She also wants to continue as a motivational speaker and show people what they can accomplish. Already, she has spoken at many schools and has proven to be the inspiration behind many learners facing their own challenges. — Iwan Pienaar



PHOTO: MICHAEL TWEDDLE RAYNER

TEAL HOGG

SURFER



Instagram @tealgrace_

Teal Hogg caught her first wave during a family holiday in Mozambique when she was just seven years old. She was instantly hooked and began short board surfing. She started surfing competitively at the age of nine, emerging victorious in the under 10 division of the ChemSpec Durban Surfing Junior Provincial Championships in 2007.

Hogg, who is a grade 11 learner at Crawford College North Coast, has represented her province, Kwazulu-Natal (KZN) Central, as a junior short board girl surfer for the past five years.

She was also crowned the under 17 South African girls' champion in Jeffrey's Bay last year, receiving her Springbok blazer for junior surfing, and qualifying to compete against 40 other countries at the International Surfing Association (ISA) World Junior Championships in Ecuador, where she fared better than anyone else in the South African team, finishing 16th in the under 18 girls' division.

But surfing's not all this 16-year-old is good at. She also swims for her school, plays water polo, hockey and soccer and wait for it – makes surf films.

In fact, when she needed to raise funds to get to Ecuador for the ISA Champs, she conceptualised the idea of an amateur film festival in Umhlanga, where other film buffs could enter their edited work for a small fee. The event was such a success that she's planning on repeating it.

Hogg attributes her success to her coach Quinton Jones, her family, and a healthy eating plan and fitness routine.

"My goals are to compete in Europe and America this year to gain more international experience, to defend my local KZN Champ and SA Champ titles and to make the podium at the World Junior Champs next year," she says. — Fatima Asmal

SIBUSISO VILAKAZI

Football player



Website: www.bidvestwits.co.za

Sibusiso Vilakazi is passionate about football. And it shows on the field. The 24 year old Bidvest Wits midfielder had a stellar 2013/2014 season, winning several accolades including player of the season and the players' player of the season.

He started playing at a young age, but never got the chance to go through the ranks of the sport in a traditional way. Instead, he was spotted playing at a tournament when he was 19 and was signed to play for the Wits reserve side. He only played a few games before he was promoted to the first team. Things happened quickly for him after that. So quickly that he says he often has to pinch himself to realise all the opportunities he has had over the past several years.

"Sport was a passion of mine since I was young. But you need to believe in yourself and take responsibility for what you want to happen to you. I want to show youngsters that if you take from life what you want and are prepared to work hard at it, anything is possible," he says.

Being a perfectionist might also help. Vilakazi is dedicated to continually improving no matter how well he is performing. After training in the morning with the team he still spends a few hours on his own honing his skills and trying to be a well-rounded player.

"Last season was good but the new one presents fresh challenges. I want to keep on improving my skills, score more goals, and provide my teammates with more chances to score. Football is my career and I want to get the most out of it. As with anything in life, what you are prepared to put in, you will get out," he says. One of his dreams is to play in Europe and get as much game time as possible there. Given the commitment he has shown to date, it might only be a matter of time before we see him taking on the best in the world in their own backyards at club level. — Iwan Pienaar



PHOTO: SYDNEY MAHLANGU/BACKPAGEPIX

ZANELE MDODANA

NETBALL PLAYER



Twitter @daznana

Last October South Africa beat England at netball for the first time in 12 years, at a Tri-Nations tournament in Port Elizabeth. Before the game, the Proteas head coach Elize Kotze was asked what surprises she had in store for England.

She said that she was bringing Zanele Mgodana back into position.

Mgodana — who had missed out on a tour to England shortly before due to injury — didn't disappoint.

She shone in front of her home crowd, which included her family and friends in a game that the Proteas eventually won 39-37.

The 30-year-old Mgodana remembers the moment well. "I remember the hunger — I was so hungry to play."

It's with the same hunger that Mgodana hopes to tackle the Commonwealth Games in July and the Netball World Cup next year (should she make the SA team) before finally hanging up her boots.

It has been a long and illustrious career. Mgodana made her Proteas debut in 2005.

She went on to represent the country in the under 20 and under 21 national teams, and later in the senior team, of which she was captain as well as vice-captain. In 2012 she captained the Proteas to a 47-43 win over Malawi, which inaugurated South Africa as the top netball team on the African continent.

"I've been to the Commonwealth Games, I've been to the World Cup, I've captained the side, I'm the most capped player in the side — it's time



PHOTO: DUIF DU TOIT/GALLO IMAGES

for me to shift focus," she says. That shift in focus will be directed toward the Vision Girls Foundation that she initiated in 2011 to mentor young underprivileged girls at her church who want to play netball.

"My coach saw me when I was 10 years old. I see so much of me in them — they are absolutely talented, they have natural skill, they are thin, tall and so brilliant but they don't realise how brilliant they are. I need to instil that belief into them." — Fatima Asmal



PHOTO: DUIF DU TOIT/GALLO IMAGES

QUINTON DE KOCK

CRICKET PLAYER

Twitter: @QuinnyDeKock69

Making his debut for the Proteas in the T20 international against New Zealand as a 20 year old in 2012, Quinton de Kock has taken the cricketing world by storm.

A powerful hitter and good wicketkeeper, he is currently in Sri Lanka with the Proteas following a stint playing in the IPL for the Delhi Daredevils, his second year of playing in India.

De Kock has starred for South Africa in all three formats of the game and many pundits believe that he could be one of the best wicketkeeper-batsmen the country has ever produced. High praise indeed, but how is he dealing with the pressure?

"I was 16 when I started to realise that cricket was something that I could make a career out of. My dad and I sat down and discussed my goals and my future in the sport. So far, everything has gone according to plan and I am fortunate that my dad has been with me all this time and helped mentor me to be where I am today."

For now, De Kock aims to keep his spot in the team as well as win a World Cup or two for the Proteas. Chatting to him, one realises that he is laid back and takes things in his stride.

"I adapt to situations as they arise. People tend to over-analyse things especially in professional sport. But sport is meant to be fun, so the day you stop enjoying is when you should reconsider why you are playing."

He tries to have a balanced life, but realises that his career will last only a certain amount of time.

"It is best to make the most of it now. I have especially enjoyed playing in the IPL with the bigger crowds and the fantastic atmosphere. My test debut against Australia earlier this year was also a great experience although I was incredibly nervous." — Iwan Pienaar

WILLIAM 'WEELEEYUM' MOKGOPO

MOUNTAIN BIKER

Twitter: @WeeleeeyumJNR

Growing up poor in Diepsloot, mountain biker William Mokgopo has travelled far beyond the township and into the international mountain biking racing circuit. He got into cycling through an Earn-a-Bike programme run in Diepsloot back in 2006. He joined, built and earned his own bike, and a passion was born.

Today Mokgopo co-ordinates and rides for the Diepsloot Mountainbike (MTB) Academy, where he was trained and groomed under Simon Nash. He lives in Pretoria and is doing a bachelor's degree in sport science at the University of Pretoria. He was signed to the Kargo Pro MTB team, the first official UCI XCO (cross country) mountain bike team in South Africa in May, and just returned from the international UCI MTB World Cup series in Germany. Mokgopo first hit the international circuit last year when he represented South Africa in the U23 men's team at the UCI MTB World Championships in Pietermaritzburg.

He has represented South Africa twice this year already – at the UCI MTB African Continental Championships held in the Western Cape (finished 13th place U23 Men XCO) and at the UCI MTB World Cup in Pietermaritzburg (placed 33rd U23 Men XCO).

A three-time Absa Cape Epic finisher, Mokgopo plans to finish his degree and make it into the South African team for the 2016 Olympics. "My long-term plan is to start my own motivational speaking programme so I can impart the lessons I've learnt to younger children. I want them to see that with hard work and determination, you can rise above your circumstances and achieve your dreams.

"Mountain biking is not just a sport to me, it's a way of life. Through the academy and the mentors I've met there, I realised that I can have a successful future if I want it badly enough. Sport gave me hope and a positive outlook on life. My ultimate goal is just to prove that anything is possible." — Samantha Perry



PHOTO: LEE-ANN CANTRELL, C-SHARP PHOTOGRAPHY

SÉBASTIEN ROUSSEAU

OLYMPIC SWIMMER

Twitter: @sebdrousseau

As an eight-year-old child Sébastien Rousseau told his father that he wanted to swim in the Olympics one day. His father didn't take him seriously, but never said so.

After all, at the time, Rousseau wasn't even swimming competitively. But he worked hard to realise his dream, and by the time he was 14 he was breaking South African records in his age group, followed by open national records at just 16.

When Rousseau was 17 he held both the South African and African records for the 200m butterfly.

His childhood dream also became a reality and he was the youngest member of the South African Olympic team at the Beijing Olympics in 2008, where he swam in the finals of the men's relay. He had to postpone his matric by a year and give swimming his all to compete in Beijing. But the sacrifices were worth it. When Rousseau matriculated in 2009, the University of Florida in the United States, where he is currently based, offered him a swimming scholarship.

He has excelled on the collegiate swimming circuit there, and has earned the honorary title of "All-American", which is given to sportsmen/women who excel in that arena. Rousseau, now 23, also featured in the men's 4 x 200m freestyle relay event at the 2012 London Olympics. He was the individual high points scorer at the US Open Championships last year, where he won four gold medals. Rousseau is currently in Glasgow, Scotland, where he'll compete in his main event, the 400m individual medley, as well as the 200m butterfly and 200m individual medley at the Commonwealth Games.

"He places high expectations on himself," says his mum, Vanessa, who is one of his most ardent supporters. "He'll want to do the absolute best that he can." — Fatima Asmal

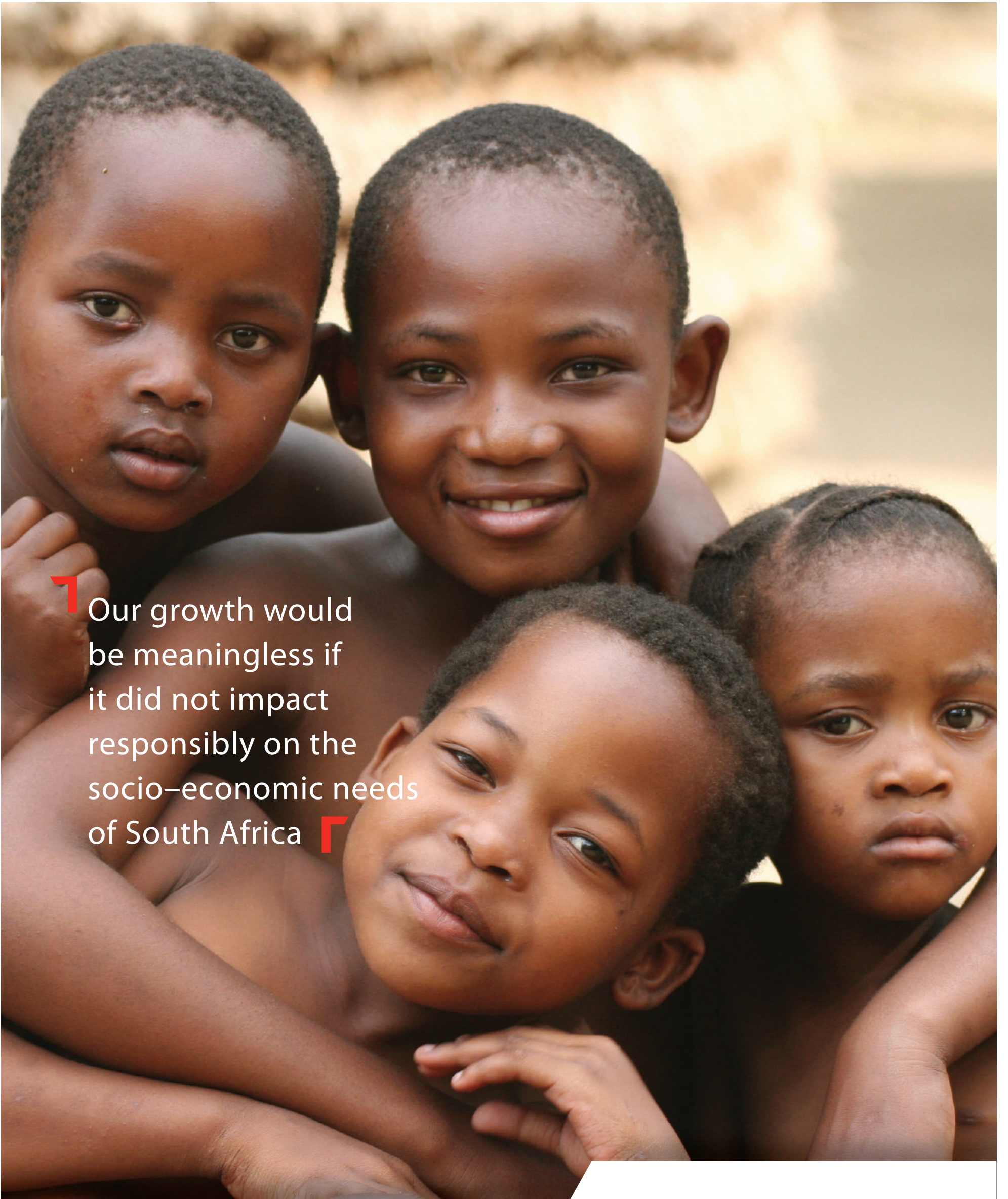


PHOTO: SYBI ROUSSEAU

- ▶ Adri Visser
- ▶ Carlyn Fischer
- ▶ Cherise Stander
- ▶ Frans Malherbe
- ▶ Gareth McLennan
- ▶ Handre Pollard
- ▶ Heidi Dalton
- ▶ Justine Palframan
- ▶ Kagiso Rabada
- ▶ Keagan Dolly
- ▶ Kelvin van der Linde
- ▶ Kwanda Mngonyama
- ▶ Leandra Smeda
- ▶ Marizanne Kapp
- ▶ Nabeela Parker
- ▶ Quinton de Kok
- ▶ Raven Claasen
- ▶ Rene Kallmer
- ▶ Richard Murray
- ▶ Seabelo Senatla
- ▶ Sebastian Rousseau
- ▶ Shireen Sapiro
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