

ALUMNI AND DEVELOPMENT
GROWING WORLDWIDE SUPPORT

Review 2022



Henley
Business School

UNIVERSITY OF READING

Where business comes to life

Our focus



Jean-Pierre Choulet

**Director of Development & Alumni,
Henley Business School**
Henley Pioneer

It is once again my pleasure to introduce our annual review of activities, a chance to showcase the impact your support has made at Henley Business School, both in the UK and far beyond.

From those who give financially to help support research, student bursaries, hardship grants and more, to those who volunteer their time to mentor current students, our achievements are yours to celebrate.

Over the pages in this booklet, I hope you see how we have been able to both support a global alumni community of nearly 90,000 and enhance the experiences of learners across our network. From running accessible knowledge webinars with Henley's faculty, to funding entrepreneurs, supporting academic research to facilitating mentoring partnerships, this year has been as busy as it has been impactful.

2021/22 was our Year of Sustainability and Societal Impact, and much of our work focussed on this theme. Next academic year is our Year of Leadership for a Fairer World, a crucial topic at this time. I look forward to seeing you at one of our activities soon. This year we again engaged with over 100 young entrepreneurs in Africa to support their professional journey. Read more about our transformative initiative, the Nexus Project, on page 9.



Richard Boocock

**Chair, Henley Alumni
& Development Board**
Henley Pioneer

It was a great honour to be asked to be the Chair of the Alumni & Development Board. For me, engagement with alumni is really a vital part of the lifeblood of any business school, especially in terms of remaining relevant and current.

I would like to pay tribute to the exceptional leadership, guidance and passion the outgoing chair Helen Gordon showed during her tenure. The global alumni community is in a healthy place thanks to her hard work and commitment.

The Alumni & Development Board plays a key role in forming a linkage between business school and alumni, enabling two-way communication and engagement, as well as supporting the philosophy of lifelong learning. I think one of the things that is most important to me is maintaining a link with alumni that is thriving, one that reflects the demographics of Henley alumni all over the world.

We launched new alumni chapters this year, and started new initiatives to help alumni reconnect. You can tap into this and much more on Henley Live, the home of networking and learning (find out more on Page 13). Henley's network is growing rapidly, and I hope you are making the most of our exceptional business community.

Your impact

During the academic year 2021/22 we received donations for a total of £40,161 from various supporters including individuals, corporates and alumni groups. The funds were allocated across a wide range of projects that provide support to our community including student bursaries and conferences.

Over **£40,000** raised

11,667

Hours volunteered

64

Individual donors

119

Chapter volunteers

Disbursement

Supported eight Henley Business School Bursaries, two of which were awarded in 2021

Amount
£40,000

One Henley Alumni Masters in Management Bursary

£10,00

In the same academic year, Reading Real Estate Foundation (RREF) raised over £450,000 - this enabled the charity to provide quality support to the students of Real Estate and Planning at the Business School and deliver projects that promote inclusivity, diversity and social mobility in real estate education and by extension, the real estate sector.

- Awarded over £200,000 in bursaries, grants, prizes and awards to 71 students
- Facilitated 345 student mentoring partnerships

Ways to support



Individual Gift



Corporate Donation & Partnership



Volunteer

Find out more online: henley.ac.uk/alumni/support-henley or by getting in touch with us at development@henley.ac.uk

A thank you from this year's bursary recipients

Before
being awarded the
Henley Business School Bursary,

I had many worries about joining university due to the big cost that comes alongside it. From a young age, attending university was a dream. I am the first person out of my whole family to attend university. As such, I want to create a brighter future for myself and my family. By studying in university and getting quality education, it will open up many doors for me in the future, allowing me to take away all the financial worries of my family in the future. Thankfully, with the generosity of Henley donors, I am able to realise this. The bursary has changed my experience in university. It has become a much more enjoyable experience as I do not have to focus on money as much. It has allowed me to purchase all the necessary equipment and textbooks which will enable me to maximise my potential in learning.

Undergraduate Henley Business School
Bursary recipient
2021/22

The
bursary that I was

awarded by Henley Business School has helped me in an indescribable way. I am able to cover my accommodation rent each term with ease, being able to afford groceries each week, and able to visit home every now and then. I can afford all of my books and still have some of the bursary left over to live off - this has put so much less stress on my family and I. This has been one of the few things that I could rely on during tough times at university. Whether that be keeping up with course content or loneliness from being away from home or feeling out of place at university. The security of this bursary is a huge weight off my shoulders. The relief from that is, without question, one of the main reasons I was able to achieve a 1st in my first year of university and a 2:1 in my second year and I hope to do the same for my final year. I want to give the most appreciative thanks to the donors to the bursary that made this possible. For students like me that come from very low-income backgrounds, being awarded a bursary can be one of the biggest motivators to try our hardest in all things related to our studies

Undergraduate Henley Business School
Bursary recipient
2021/22

Demonstrating Henley's commitment to a more sustainable future

Building on the success of our Sustainability Summit in May 2021 that kick-started our year of Sustainability and Societal Impact, we established an Innovation Fund to meet the increasing need for sustainable ideas.

The fund aims to support and develop new ideas that showcase the strength of our alumni and the opportunities that come from being a part of the global Henley community. Applications were invited from alumni and close partners of Henley, and the projects were required to be aligned to at least one of the UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals, and to be able to demonstrate a positive impact on society.

By investing in projects at the earliest of stages, we were able to make the most impact. As well as an investment of modest capital, we also provided mentorship support to the winners with Henley faculty sharing their expertise. This bringing together of industry and faculty has proven fruitful to all involved.

Winners

Project Title: Tangible Africa

Winner: Ryan Le Roux

Course: MBA

Project Title: Gulab Haveli

Winner: Pushpender Singh

Course: MSc Real Estate

Project Title: Eran Ogun

Winner: Jubilian Ngaruwa

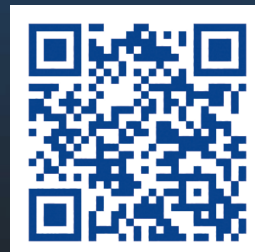
Course: NICE Programme

Project Title: Catenna

Winner: Josh Elliot

Course: MSc International Business Management

Read more about the 2022 winners here:



Activities and Events

We ran many activities during this academic year, from local alumni gatherings, to webinars, online networking events and more. We also were able to hold our famous Henley Regatta Picnic again in person. We had designated this our **Year of Sustainability and Societal Impact**, and many of our activities reflected this theme.

We began the year with another of our pioneering event series – Henley Challenges. This time we examined the concept of Pivoting for Societal Impact with **Professor Andrew Godley** (Academic Director for the Henley Centre of Entrepreneurship) and **Chike Maduegbuna** (CEO of Afrinolly Nigeria Limited).

Professor Godley explained the concept of pivoting, interviewed Chike, and introduced us to the challenge for this event: “Find a small business or social enterprise near you and explore whether and how that enterprise could enhance its societal impact through pivoting. If you are part of a business or social enterprise you can offer your own company as the case study for your group.” Watch the event here:



Then in March, we marked International Women’s Day with our latest Women in Leadership webinar – Building Resilience to Create a Better Future. With panellists joining us from Canada, South Africa and the UK, we explored how companies and individuals can better support growth and resilience in female leaders.

Listen to **Dr Yemisi Bolade-Ogunfodun** (Lecturer in Organisational Behaviour, Henley Business School), **Dr Georgette Zinaty** (Executive Vice President, Corporate Class Inc.) and **Arthi S Rabikrisson** (Founder and Managing Director, Prerna Advisory, South Africa) discuss the topic and with practical scenarios and fresh concepts for change by following the link here:



In addition, we held our first virtual Supporter Event in May, where **Dr Paola Tinti** (Head of Fundraising) shared details about the impact our donors and volunteers create, as well as how they enrich the student experience at the business school. **Dr Andrew Hull** (Head of Undergraduate Programmes) joined us too in the wake of our successful Undergraduate Bursary Appeal, to offer his personal thanks, as well as to update on the range of programmes at Henley, and to answer questions from the attendees.

Finally, we were delighted to be able to hold our famous Regatta Picnic back on site at Greenlands again. Hundreds of alumni joined us, bringing family and friends to the historic UK campus. From boat trips to live music, cream teas and more, it was a memorable time for our community and we look forward to continuing this tradition. Photos from the event can be found here:



Volunteering

This year over 840 volunteers supported Henley Business School and the Reading Real Estate Foundation (RREF). See page 12 for more information about RREF and their work.



119

Chapter volunteers

Our Chapter volunteers coordinate activity with other Henley Alumni around the world. They arrange events to enable the network to thrive and to support the aims of the Business School. A committed Chapter Chair and Committee transforms alumni activity in a region.

The volunteers' local knowledge, professional contacts and cultural awareness make them the most effective way of supporting our global network. They also help recruit new students, support our fundraising efforts and welcome home new graduates.

This coming year, we are also looking for international alumni who can share their knowledge of the local job market with our graduating students, as well as advertise graduate vacancies to help boost student employability.



My mentor has been exceptional, offering regular communication and providing me with links to a variety of news articles and sources that she finds interesting to help aid in increasing my commercial awareness

2021-22 Mentee



Volunteers

Volunteering hours

11,667

Our volunteers are at the heart of what we do. By giving their time to help the Business School our volunteers enrich the student experience, strengthen our brand and engage our alumni network. Their support is invaluable.



Mentors

388

Our mentors work with an individual mentee to offer insights into the industry, advice on job applications, CVs and interviews, work shadowing opportunities, site visits, networking opportunities and guidance.

In the past year we have moved to an open-access, self-matched programme for all Henley students and graduates. This gives mentees access to an exceptional selection of Mentors, but puts the initiation and management of the relationship into their hands. The aim is to give mentees some networking practise and ownership of the partnership, resulting in strong commitment to the programme.



guest speakers

Henley teaching and events are brought to life by industry experts. Speakers who volunteer their time to share the latest industry insights, thought provoking perspectives and captivating case studies keep

our community engaged, informed and inspired. This year we have had an increase in volunteer speakers enhancing our events and we are keen to build on this as we go forward.

Other volunteering opportunities

Advocates

Alumni who publicly celebrate Henley and share our successes with their wider network have a great impact on our reputation, on our recruitment activity, on the strength of our brand and also on their own brand. When we succeed our alumni succeed and there is no more compelling endorsement than that of an alumni advocate.

Work placement providers

Employability is dramatically improved when students spend some time in a real working environment. The pandemic presented challenges with this, but our volunteers found innovative ways to provide this experience to our students virtually in most cases.

If you would like to get involved and **support Henley Business School as a volunteer**, please contact the team on alumni@henley.ac.uk

The four-day week: The pandemic and the evolution of flexible working

The pandemic has made a four-day working week more attractive to workers and businesses. Research reveals 65% of UK businesses surveyed are now implementing a shorter week for some or all of their staff.

The COVID-19 pandemic, lockdowns and shift to remote working has had a significant impact on organisations' attitudes towards a shorter working week, new research from Henley Business School has revealed. The longitudinal study found that 65% of UK businesses surveyed are now implementing a four-day working week for some, or all, of their staff, compared with 50% who answered a similar survey carried out by Henley in 2019.

What's more, businesses which have introduced a four-day week are already benefiting from significant financial savings, with those surveyed claiming to have saved an estimated £104bn, approximately 2.2% of the UK's annual turnover.

The new report explores the benefits of working fewer days to both organisations and workers, including improved quality of work (64%), the ability to attract and retain the right talent (68%), and employees feeling less stressed at work (78%).

The study is part of an update to the business school's 2019 report *Four Better or Four Worse*, which explored the relatively new concept of a four-day working week and the potential financial impacts on businesses. However, the pandemic brought the conversation to the fore in ways the researchers could not have predicted and provided an unexpected testing-ground for flexible working practices, which were previously thought to be unattainable.

Same pay, fewer days

The new research explored what flexible working options were most appealing to employees, with 69% stating that working fewer days for the same pay, while being able to choose which day they took off, was the most attractive option. Rather unsurprisingly, 61% also said they would choose to take Fridays off.

The pandemic has also improved attitudes towards working from home, with 51% of workers supporting a move to home-working, compared with 43% in 2019. The study found a general disdain for commuting among employees' reasons for wanting to work from home, with 62% stating this as a key reason to choose flexible working, and 27% of employees surveyed even said they would be willing to take a pay cut in order to work from home.

Dr Rita Fontinha, Associate Professor in Strategic Human Resource Management, said flexible working arrangements are proving to be a vital recruitment and retention tool for many organisations. Dr Fontinha said:

Organisations are only just beginning to understand what impact the pandemic has had on their business and management culture. Responding positively to the call for greater flexibility could be of huge benefit to the workplace and the greatest silver lining to come from a pandemic that has brought such hardship to many.

"Businesses need to better understand their employees' desires and aspirations, to enable them to recruit the best people and to keep those people happier and more productive in the workplace."



Activity Focus: the Nexus Project

Henley Business School, Lagos Business School and Semicolon Africa have launched the 'The Nexus Project' to help tackle youth unemployment in Nigeria.

The project is designed to support young entrepreneurs building sustainable businesses. It aims to improve the conversion rate of job seekers into job creators and reducing the failure rate of start-ups. In the first phase of the project, a total of 30 African techpreneurs representing 15 projects or business ventures with great entrepreneurial ideas will be trained, mentored, and supported to transform their ideas into investable and sustainable ventures.

FIRST PHASE



The beneficiaries who are selected for the training will undergo a six-month management programme from April to August 2022 which delivers specialist knowledge transfer, education, coaching, and mentoring to propel their venture ideas to investment readiness and connect them to a nexus of investors.

The project also sees the creation of 'The Nexus', a virtual platform that connects young entrepreneurs to an ecosystem of knowledge intervention and technical support services.

The Nexus platform is developing a range of features, including personalised mapping of enrolled entrepreneurs' learner journeys, tailored management education from Henley and Lagos Business Schools, dedicated personal development and wellbeing opportunities, and a comprehensive coaching and mentoring programme. There will also be an investment hub designed to showcase to investors the equipped and trained entrepreneurs, and their business ideas.

Speaking about the launch of the project, Jean-Pierre Choulet said:

“Through this partnership, the beneficiaries will have requisite coaching, mentoring support as well as access to relevant information to enable them to make informed decisions while connecting them to a pool of investors who can propel their ideas to the next level.”

With funding provided by the British Council, this project represents a long-term investment from all stakeholders.

Find out more about the project here:



Legacy Giving

The people your gift will impact may not be born yet, and you might not recognise the challenges they will face, but you will share their desire to improve tomorrow for others as much as themselves.

How to leave a Legacy gift

We recommend that you contact your legal advisor or accountant for professional advice before making a new Will or making any changes to your existing one.

There are types of legacies that allow you to put your family first while still making provision for Henley. You may decide to leave a fixed sum to the Business School, a percentage of your estate, or the residue once you have provided for your loved ones. Your solicitor can advise you on the best way to record your intentions.

If you decide to leave something to Henley, please let us know. Any information that you give us will be treated in confidence and does not involve you in a binding agreement. We will only use this information to thank you promptly and appropriately.

If you are considering leaving a legacy to Henley and would like to discuss it with a member of the team, please get in touch.

e: development@henley.ac.uk
t: +44 (0)118 378 4195





Alan Rugman Memorial Fund

In addition to its usual support of the Henley International Business Masterclasses, this year the Alan Rugman Memorial Fund generously supported the organisation of the eighth Reading International Business Conference jointly with the 48th Academy of International Business UK & Ireland Conference.

Held in April 2022 and hosted at our Whiteknights Campus, the Conference had 180 participants, nearly half of whom were not representing UK institutions. This international gathering featured over one hundred papers in the programme, spread across 29 sessions including panel discussions and plenary debates. There was

even a special workshop on “How to publish from doctoral thesis and plan your academic career?”

The Rugman Debate at the Conference grappled with the issue of “Internalization strikes back: the limits of GVCs” and featured two Alan Rugman Fellows, Ari Van Assche (HEC Montreal) and Stephanie Wang (Indiana University).

Entrepreneur Exchange Fund



Aquaverticulis and I were delighted to win this prize from Savio Kwan at IDEAFEST 2022. Winning the award for the company I co-founded, Phytavaren Technology, is a great endorsement and will allow us to turn our initial idea and project into a vibrant business. Phytavaren Technology aims to bring potential into reality by developing innovative and integrated technology into the built environment. Through the use of a vertical planter system that can repurpose building wastewater, we can create a greener future. The award from IDEAFEST and Savio Kwan is a fantastic opportunity for us to grow and nurture our business.

Kolatat Phaiboonnukulkij
Savio Kwan Prize Winner



Supporting Real Estate & Planning education at Henley Business School, the Reading Real Estate Foundation (RREF) is a pioneering educational charity that has been building bridges between industry and education since 2002.

RREF engages students to achieve their full potential and become the best in the industry. This is achieved through an extensive mentoring programme, financial support for students in difficulty, an annual careers fair and an evening lecture series giving them access to the top firms in the industry. RREF continues to engage with students, as they become alumni, through fundraising and networking events that help to support the aims of the charity.

RREF enjoys considerable support and in 2021/2022 the charity disbursed over £200,000 to 71 undergraduate, postgraduate and PhD students at the Department of Real Estate & Planning. In addition to this, RREF facilitated 345 mentoring partnerships, and provided seed funding for a range of new projects.

henley.ac.uk/rref

rref-info@henley.ac.uk

Pathways to Property

Launched in 2012, the Pathways to Property project aims to widen access to the real estate profession by raising awareness of and aspirations about the vast range of careers available within the sector. Through a successful outreach programme, the project exposes students from less advantaged and non-traditional backgrounds to opportunities within the property industry. The tenth Pathways to Property Summer School took place from 25–28 July 2022, and after two years of being held online, this year's event saw a return to campus as a residential activity. 89 students from Year 12 of school/college joined us over the course of four days to take part in taster lectures, a site visit, sessions offering careers advice, a group project and the opportunity to meet a selection of recent graduates, apprentices and professionals during a vibrant careers fair.

By the end of the Summer School, 77% of the participants confirmed that they are considering a career in property after attending the event, up from 38% at the start. We will continue to work with the participants to provide them the chance to take part in a one week work experience placement in a property firm and to join our e-mentoring programme. In addition, they can receive financial support if they study a property related degree at university up to £30,000 over three years of study, and we can offer any additional support required to progress their journey into the industry.



Awesome experience. To work at such a prestigious and highly reputable company was an honour. The fact that everyone there met you with a smile everyday and tried to help you on any occasion made the experience a joy. Wish it was for longer as I have learned so much and has helped me so much in terms of my decisions for university. 10/10.

Pathways to Property Work Experience Participant 2021



During the Summer School I enjoyed getting the chance to meet lots of different people already working in property. It really helped me weigh up whether I want to study at university or do an apprenticeship and hearing about all the positives and negatives of working in property. Thank you.

Summer School Participant 2021

Meet the community – Henley Live

The Home of Networking and Learning

Everything you need to thrive in today's fast-paced world is here for you.
Where would you like to start?

Networking

Join a local alumni chapter, attend one of our regular events or browse the live global community map.

Knowledge

Enjoy Henley's knowledge by reading the latest insights, watching webinar recordings or join a group.

Development

Find or become a mentor, engage with our careers team, and discover how you can support the next generation of professionals.

With thousands of Henley alumni registered on the platform from across our history, now is an ideal time to create your free account and start exploring everything Henley has to offer you.



What next?

All alumni from any phase of our history are warmly encouraged to join.

Simply visit live.henley.ac.uk and click 'request to join'. Once you are accepted, you can start networking, learning and much more.

live.henley.ac.uk

#IgniteYourNetwork

Donor Recognition

Our supporters from 1 August 2021 to 31 July 2022

Corporate Supporters

Organisations who have supported Henley Business School with a financial gift.

Name
CORE Lighting Ltd
Keith Holder Consulting Associates Limited
Red Tape Consulting Ltd

Major Donors

Individuals who have given £5,000 or above to support Henley Business School

Name	Graduation year	Course
Derek Pearce	1983	General Management
Helen Rugman	–	–

Ambassadors

Individuals who have given between £3,000 and £4,999 to support Henley Business School.

Name	Graduation year	Course
Peter Johnson	1994	MBA
Peter Stansbury	2007	MBA

Pioneers

Individuals who have given between £1,000 and £2,999 to support Henley Business School.

Name	Graduation year	Course
John Board	–	Dean, Henley Business School
Richard Boocock	1995	MBA
Jean-Pierre Choulet	–	Henley Staff
Sarah Davis	2006	MBA
Helen Gordon	1997	MBA & President of the Council, University of Reading
Khalid Yousif Khalafalla Mohamed	2015	MBA
John Marshall	1985	MBA
Bryony Moore	1992	MBA
Jason Payne	2004	MBA
Debbie Pearson	2004	MBA
Geoff Standland	1994	MBA

Your support is invaluable.



Individual Gift



Corporate Donation
& Partnership



Volunteer

Find out more online: henley.ac.uk/alumni/support-henley
or by getting in touch with us at development@henley.ac.uk

Friends

Individuals who have given up to £999 to Henley Business School.

Name	Graduation year	Relationship to Henley
Olivier Aeschlimann	2014	MBA
Bertha Asante	–	–
Holly Ann Baldwin	2017	MBA
Monty Baul	2012	MBA
Nikunj Bhutani	2011	MBA
Jeffrey Bohn	1999	MBA
Rupert Douglas-Bate	2014	MBA
EM08 Cohort	-	MBA
Duncan Fraser	2000	MSc, International Securities and Investment Banking
Rachelle Gaskell	2014	MBA
Andrew Gaule	2000	MBA & Visiting Fellow
Paul Glennon	2000	Risk Management Operations and Regulation, ICMA
Faisal Hafeez	2008	Marketing and International Management
Muna Hamde	2011	Accounting and Management
Chris Heyer	1997	MBA
Alan Holland	2009	Coaching - Leadership, Organisations and Behaviour
Arthur Hood	2012	MBA
Twyla Howse	1999	MBA
Zdenek Indra	2014	Enterprise Information Management
Andy Innes	2021	MBA
Pui Sum Ip	1997	MBA
Alan Jackson	2014	MBA
Kerry Johnston	–	Henley Staff
Zayd Kassam	2003	BA, Accounting & Management
Julius Kora	2012	BA, Management and Business Administration
David Lee	2006	MSc, International Securities and Investment Banking
Maria Levanti	2001	MSc, International Securities and Investment Banking
Joanna Lloyd-Baker	2002	MBA
Penelope Mayson	2001	Management
Roger Metcalfe	2013	MBA
Robert Moffat	2007	MBA
Mo Nasrollahzadeh-Massouleh	2004	MBA
Beverley Nicholson	2014	MBA
Peter Onime	1994	MBA
James Pepper	2011	MBA
Kannan Raviganesh	–	–
Jeremy Richardson	–	Henley Staff
Sandra Robertson	2012	MBA
Robert Schroeder	1997	MBA
Jeannie Scriven	1983	Executive Programme
Vikas Sharma	2013	MBA
South Korea Alumni Group	–	–
Wajeeha Tahir	2012	BA, Accounting & Management
Katie Venn	2019	Management



Henley

Business School

UNIVERSITY OF READING

Our supporters are at the heart of what we do. By giving their time and/or financial support to help the Business School, our donors and volunteers enrich the student experience, strengthen our brand and engage our alumni network.

Support like this is invaluable.

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& Partnership



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Henley Business School

For more information, please contact:

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