

THE EPWORTH FOUNDATION

A THIRD REPORT





‘If you are planning for a year, sow rice;
if you are planning for a decade, plant trees;
if you are planning for a lifetime, educate people’

~ Chinese Proverb



Our school Epworth, based in Pietermaritzburg, KwaZulu-Natal, has shone the light of real-world education on the African sub-continent for 123 years, nurturing excellence and fostering a culture of inclusion and diversity. Our valued donors have travelled alongside us, throughout this journey. This third annual report by the Epworth Foundation is an expression of gratitude to such generous supporters for whom our appreciation knows no bounds.



EPWORTH INTO THE FUTURE



‘An investment in knowledge pays the best interest’

~ Benjamin Franklin





TRUST CHAIRMAN

Janet Channing

(nee Gray, class of 1981)

I would like use this opportunity to pay tribute and acknowledge the steady, selfless and unwavering service of Dr Graeme Shuker to Epworth and our brother school, Kearsney College. After 50 years of dedicated service and with a conservative estimate of more than a million hours of meeting time, Dr. Shuker retired from The Epworth Foundation Trust.

On November 19th, 1970, Dr Shuker was nominated to the Board of Governors to fill the position vacated by Mr RL Hulett. On October 28th, 2020, the Epworth Foundation's amended Trust Deed with Dr Shuker's resignation was accepted by the Master of the Court. According to these calculations, 50 years have passed, almost to the day, an incredible lifetime of voluntary service.

In November 1970, The Board of Governors' meeting minutes recorded the unhappiness expressed by the Treasurers of the Methodist Church regarding Epworth School's financial state. Unless an urgent fundraising scheme was implemented, there was intention to close the school down. According to Dr Shuker, this prompted a serious meeting with Victor Bredenkamp in the chapel gardens to pray with God about the way forward for our school.



Investing in People

The pathway was made clear to them. We witness how true their course was by looking at what Epworth has achieved today.

Dr Shuker inspired me with his indomitable rallying cry that the women needed to take back the leadership of their school. In 2020 the Epworth Foundation Trust did just that, we put dynamic and talented women in charge. A transformation milestone. Never underestimate the collective power of women, it is an unbreakable code.

The Epworth Foundation Trust is a non-profit organisation established to secure resources for Epworth. The Trust's primary mandate is to secure funding for bursaries to assist young women who may not have access to our world class education without financial assistance. Our trustees give voluntarily of their time, experience, expertise, and other resources to ensure that the Trust is governed effectively.

I thank each one of them for their generosity and commitment to Epworth. The Foundation Office is headed by the Foundation Director, Ingrid Roberts, nee Bredenkamp. Ingrid is the daughter of the man in the chapel garden with Dr Shuker back in 1970. Epworth owes a debt of gratitude to these families who live and breathe Epworth. Together they have provided the moral backbone to our school for decades. Ingrid works tirelessly to raise funds for the Epworth Foundation Trust's bursaries. Many of our young women of worth thank and respect her for her efforts as they achieve their goals and surpass their wildest dreams.

The famous Melinda Gates quotation: *'When we invest in women and girls, we are investing in people who invest in everyone else'*



is as relevant for Epworth is as the statement by Michelle Obama that *'when girls are educated, their countries become stronger and more prosperous.'* Despite the Covid-19 pandemic our lights shine through our masks. Sometimes the light is a dim and wavering glimmer but the light is always there. 'O Joyful Light' is the Epworth school hymn. It stirs even the crankiest of us on our darkest days.

This year the Epworth Foundation Trust extended a series of lectures to the accountancy classes at the High School. We engaged with Grades 10, 11 and 12 to introduce investment fundamentals, why bother to invest and why invest in diversified asset portfolios. What is risk and why does risk need to be actively managed? The technical investment advisor to the Epworth Foundation Trust, Andrew Pfaff, demystified the male-dominated discourse about bull and bear markets, stop losses, when to buy and sell and what to do next. Financial independence extends options, choices: Who you want to become, what you want to learn, where you want to live and who your people will be. Andrew has more Epworth pedigree than most of us. His grandmother was Bertha May Rein, who was Epworth's head girl in 1919. Andrew's sister, Diana Pfaff, was deputy head girl in 1981.

To be honest, I did not care much for school when I was a scholar. My term worm was long, extending from the first day back at school to break-up day. However, I acknowledge with gratitude that the educational grounding Epworth extended to me has been invaluable. Epworth girls are authentic, gutsy, courageous, and unstoppable. You will not experience 'sheep' behaviour from an Epworth girl. Instead, you will find systematic interrogation, scrutiny, and rigorous review. Questions and more questions, beyond the obvious why, a persistent

engagement and search for real meaning and truth. These are the reflexes that Epworth instilled in us. The mechanics of life may catch up and overtake us. When we pause to reflect, the muscle memory is triggered and we flex unconsciously into reflection.

Busi Mabuza and I were captain and vice-captain of the 'Blue' house in 1981. In 2019 Busi encouraged me to lean back into Epworth. I own that I tried to wriggle away saying that I was busy. How busy was the level and reasonable question from the woman who heads up the Industrial Development Corporation, IDC. Our school is nearing its 125th anniversary, to be celebrated in 2023. Now that is really something to be proud of and to commit energy to.

Chairing the Epworth Foundation Trust is a rewarding journey. It includes some surprising encounters and the most rewarding relationships. The Epworth Foundation Trust has achieved a standard of excellence with our investment governance that sets it apart from our peers. This is recognised within the independent schools' network. We are extending our best practice to other school foundations and heritage offices. Is this enough and can we do it better? Of course, we can, and we will. The goal is to always be impeccable and to find the joy – the joyful light for Epworth. Together we can.

Perhaps the most evocative quotation of all is Marianne Williamson's: *'Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness, that most frightens us.'*





A Worthy Investment



FOUNDATION DIRECTOR
Ingrid Roberts
(nee Bredenkamp, class of 1980)

Our vision

Girls' schools are still relatively new, and often resistant, to the concept of advancement through fundraising. The idea seems to sit less comfortably with girls' schools than it does with boys' schools and other educational institutions around the world.

Since 2016, the Epworth Foundation has chosen to challenge this.

What we do

We RAISE funds to invest in the lives of talented and deserving but financially disadvantaged young pupils, through our school's bursary programme.

Why we do this

Epworth is a renowned social justice pioneer in

education. It was the first school (January 1979) to break apartheid's strangle-hold on access to independent education in KwaZulu-Natal.

We are passionate about offering pupils the chance to distinguish themselves in life irrespective of their social or economic standing.

Why we are a worthy investment

For 123 years, Epworth has consistently delivered access to real-world education based on our founding values of faith, compassion and courage.

This is a track record of which we are hugely proud.

2020 lowlight: The Covid-19 pandemic.

2020 highlights: Notable funds raised in spite of Covid-19, significant financial assistance offered and extended by the school (assisted

Our school has been a pioneer in social transformation and a consistent deliverer of world-class education in South Africa for over a century. The Epworth Foundation consistently and committedly seeks funding to provide bursaries for talented and deserving high school girls who could not otherwise afford an Epworth education.



by the Foundation) to numerous talented young pupils, a donor-base growth of over 40%, and new and energised Foundation Trustees.

Our thanks

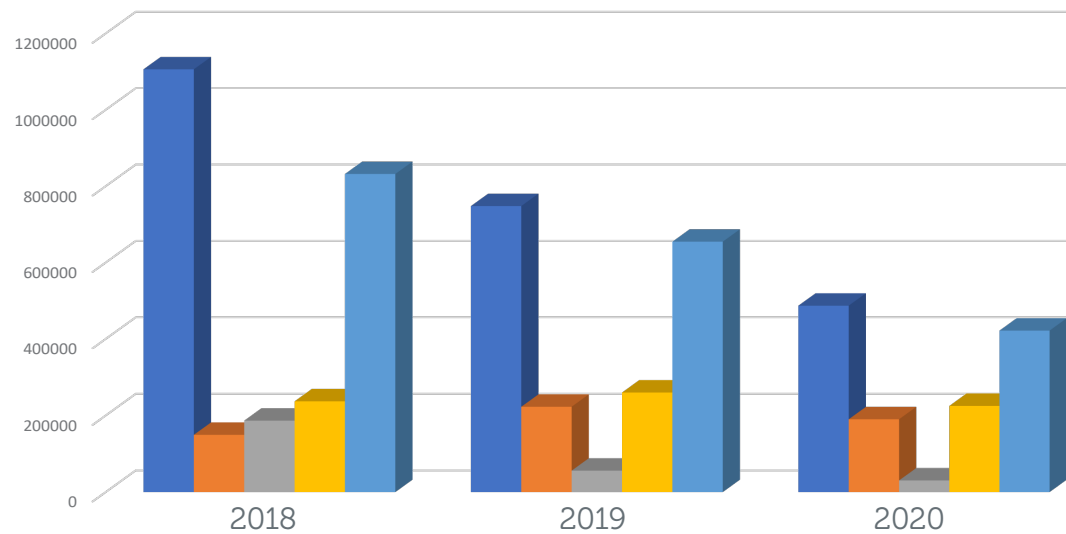
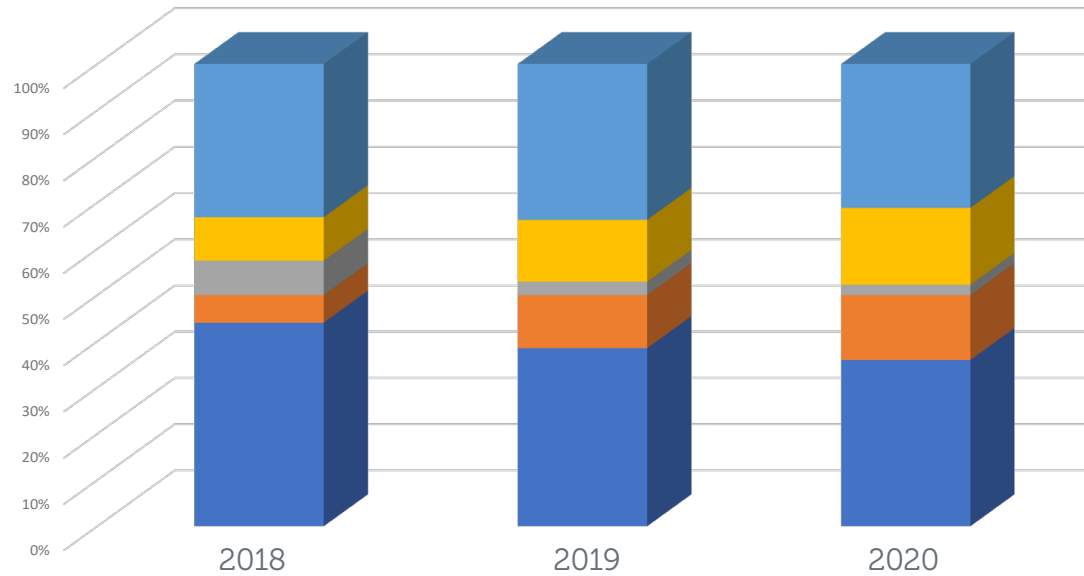
We appreciate all those who have so generously shown their commitment to Epworth through the Foundation these past five years, and especially in the dark year of 2020.

Above all, we continue to 'Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.'

Donor-driven requests, as in the Foundation's formative financial policy document, seek to secure a set percentage of all funds raised to be entrusted as capital, with the balance invested directly in the lives of young financially-disadvantaged girl leaders. The Foundation office's operational costs are borne by the school. The Epworth Foundation Trust is a registered NPO: 031-368/ PBO 930004892
Section 18A (1) (a) approved

KEY:

- Admin expenses
- Bursary disbursed
- Legacy investment
- Investment income
- Cap raised excl interest



‘Education is for improving the lives of others and for leaving your community and world better than you found it.’ ~ Marian Wright Edelman



Global Giving



Last year our Foundation was provided the opportunity to enter the world of global crowdfunding via the renowned Global Giving platform.

This provided us with a novel opportunity to reach out internationally to new and existing supporters through a simple and readily-compliant donor process.

In our first year, donations received totalled US \$3180.21, ranging from smaller donations towards school uniforms, transport and extra-murals to larger ones, that went towards boarding and tuition.

Global Giving's regular fundraising campaigns provide additional useful exposure for our cause, with incentives that help promote our Foundation's (five year) goal of affording 30 talented and deserving young girls the opportunity to attend Epworth with the necessary financial assistance.

Find our campaign at: <http://goto.gg/48051>



‘Strength lies in differences not similarities.’

~ Anon



Epworth's leaders



Our foundation supports the school in ensuring young talented women are educated and nurtured

Mrs Tracey Munro Principal of High School

'A love of wisdom should be the base from which a teacher works and aims to inspire. I believe that leading starts with listening and serving and should focus on facilitating those around you to flourish.'

Mr Reynard White Principal of Preparatory School

'We focus on educating and developing the child in a holistic and relevant manner. Allowing each child to flourish and find their unique strengths to become self-confident individuals.'

Mr Emwee Zeelie Epworth Business Manager

'We are often challenged beyond what we feel is reasonable but, at the same time, we are able to adapt and change to situations. Often these changes place us in a much better position than before.'



Mr Reynard White

Mrs Tracey Munro

Mr Emwee Zeelie



Foundation Trustees



Janet Channing, Neo Shabalala, Carol Coetzee and Bea Croudace have been appointed as trustees to serve the Epworth Foundation and are joined by Peter Keyworth, the previous Epworth School Board Chairman. Together they are a powerful force of governance and business acumen.

Janet Channing is a past Epworth girl (1981) and the Managing Director of MetGovis, a software company that provides property solutions predominately to the public sector. As a registered professional property valuer, Janet serves on the President's Panel of the Mediators and has a wealth of experience in municipal valuation and rating. She is an accredited trainer, moderator, and assessor, as well as a registered civil commercial mediator. She is the passionate mother of two adult sons. Janet believes in the well-known African proverb that 'when you educate a woman you educate a nation'. Her mother, Dorothy Gray, donated the initial funding to the Epworth Foundation Trust in 2002. Janet only discovered this after she was appointed as a Foundation trustee.

Neo Shabalala is the Chief Executive Officer of Governance Management Consulting. Neo leads the firm in its mission to help clients improve performance and ensure compliance. Neo's past roles include being a board member and partner at KPMG where she fulfilled the role of chairperson for the Transformation Committee

and Head of Public Sector for the Durban office. She is passionate about delivering the best service and quality to clients. Neo is a mother to a lovely adult daughter.

Carol Coetzee is the Chief Executive Officer of the KZN Film Commission. Previously she was Accountant General for the Province of KwaZulu-Natal and the Head of Department (HOD) for the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Economic Development and Tourism. Carol is driven by her love of serving and a desire for greater tangible success in the transformation process in South Africa. Being a parent to two daughters brings Carol great joy.

Bea Croudace is a former bursar/commercial director of Kearsney College where she was involved in the financial management, strategic planning, HR, and policy formulation for the school. Bea served as an independent trustee on the Board of the Independent Schools Association of Southern Africa (ISASA)





Janet Channing, Neo Shabalala, Carol Coetzee, Bea Croudace and Peter Keyworth

Pension Fund and on their Investment, Communications, and Marketing Sub-Committees. Following her retirement from Kearsney in April 2016, she developed a "Finance for the Non-financial Manager" module for ISASA and presented workshops to heads and the executive managements of schools nationally. Bea is the proud mother of three adult sons.

ANDREW PFAFF

Technical Advisor, Epworth Foundation Investment Committee

As Chief Investment Officer of Coherent Capital Management (Pty) Ltd. Andrew has been integral to the upgrading of the internal governance regime of the Foundation Trust. This includes (i) the drafting of charters and policies (ii) the institution of investment, operational and reporting processes and (iii) the modelling of long-term investment targets.





Khauhelo Rapuleng Class of 2013



A woman of **FAITH**



Since matriculating from Epworth in 2013, life has taken me through some serious highs and lows. If it had not been for the lessons and values learnt at Epworth (Fida, Humana, Fortis) I might not be here today.

I'm pursuing a career in education and reading a BEd Degree (FET Phase) from The University of the Witwatersrand. It hasn't been an easy journey as I found myself having to take a break due to financial issues. However those issues, by God's grace, are being sorted out.

In high school I never considered pursuing teaching; never thought I had the heart for it. But, it seems that I do and it was as I stood at the front of a classroom during practicals that I realised "I belong here" and not just teaching, but instilling values in every person I teach.

I am blessed to have had the teachers I did at Epworth. They inspired me not to just teach, but to touch the hearts of my learners and make a difference in their lives - as they did in mine.

The beauty of Epworth? You don't need

to be in the chapel to feel God's love, to have faith, compassion or courage. You find all these and more in every corner of Epworth.

You feel it in every step. I wouldn't say that I found myself at Epworth, but I definitely found out the type of woman I wanted to be and no matter what life puts me through, I hold on to that.

I am proud to be an Epworthian and was so lucky to go to Epworth. I would definitely love to make it possible for many other girls to attend there as well, because, wow, the love, community, faith, compassion and sense of self that flows from there...

I struggle to find the right words!

'A woman of faith keeps walking by faith, because for her, faith is not a game, but a crucial part of the race.'

~ Gift Gugu Mona





Ingrid Chadwick (nee Reusch) Class of 1977



A woman of COMPASSION



Ingrid's social-conscience was born from her time at Epworth. Nowadays, she devotes hours to NPO work and in her words: 'I assist a community, where we are surrounded by shacks; residents have no electricity and there is just one tap from which the community can get clean and safe water.'

A surprising amount of talent resides in the children of this community and we try to help these children to live a life that is about more than just survival. By enabling them to aspire to a greater future, they will be able to contribute to society.

This is done by providing after-school tutoring, giving each child a daily healthy meal, and setting up activities such as sport, performing arts and on-line educational programmes.

Epworth, being a private school, provides education and opportunities on a much higher level. If the opportunity of such an education can

be extended to a high potential child, it would take that child to another level altogether.

I find it so encouraging that there are past girls at Epworth who strive constantly for inclusivity, embracing diversity and giving an opportunity to a child to rise above the circumstances into which they were born.

*'Many of us think that
compassion drains us, but I
promise you it is something
that truly enlivens us.'*

~ Joan Halifax





Dr Zolelwa
Sifumba
Class of 2008



A woman of
COURAGE



On the eve of International Women's Day 2021, exciting news arrived. A former Epworth student, Dr Zolelwa Sifumba, shared her experiences during the Coronavirus pandemic in South Africa with their Royal Highnesses, the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge.

Zolelwa is extremely passionate about supporting frontline medical staff and creating awareness of their, often unknown, struggles. On World TB Day, she also lent her voice to awareness campaigns and shared the story of her fight to beat multidrug-resistant tuberculosis.

'TB is seen to be a dirty disease that can only infect a certain kind of person. But the truth is that anyone can get TB. The only thing that makes us susceptible to TB is the fact that we breathe. That's the message I'm pushing: TB is all of our problem because we all breathe.'

Zolelwa since agreed to lend her support to The Epworth Foundation and speak about the financial challenges of accessing a quality, world-class education:

My narrative has represented and included many who have attended Epworth. I was fortunate to have a dad who could pay the fees, but it's great to assist those who cannot fund themselves. I had friends who I love and cherish that attended on bursaries and I definitely want more girls to get the opportunity I had to go to Epworth.

I want for everyone the beginning of the journey to greatness, just as I had.

*'There's something which
impels us to show our inner
souls. The more courageous we
are, the more we succeed in
explaining what we know.'*

~ Maya Angelou





Renate Klass (nee Isabelle) Class of 1978



A woman
INSPIRED



I ran the IT department for two of the largest advertising agencies in South Africa and was part of introducing e-mail to the Ogilvy Group. I grew them from a network of 15 standalone computers to one with more than 500 networked computers.

For 12 years I had a training company, before doing an about turn and committing to the beauty industry. My company, Futurethis Consultancy (Pty) Ltd, imports and distributes two high end anti-aging skincare brands: QMS Medicosmetics from Germany and Team Dr Joseph from Italy. We have two local brands, RITES skincare for teens and Skinny Green Coffee & Tea.

There is an incredible spirit of belonging and being part of a family that you gain from an Epworth education, this includes an ongoing empathy and a wonderful network of likeminded people.

The above came to light at a breakfast hosted by an Epworth angel, Ingrid Roberts. The warmth and kindness

portrayed by the Epworth past girls that day was overwhelming. The way Epworth girls speak is honest, down to earth and beautiful.

I had forgotten, but I will never forget again!

To give more girls an opportunity to experience this is my purpose. A personal belief, and my reason for paying it forward by donating to the Epworth Foundation, is that while I can feed thousands of people, I would prefer to educate an Epworth girl so that she can change millions of lives.

*‘If you stop for one second
and do something, everyone
is happy. You pay it forward
and it comes back to you
twelve-fold.’*

~ Mariska Hargitay



OUR MISSION

Uplift our nation through quality education.

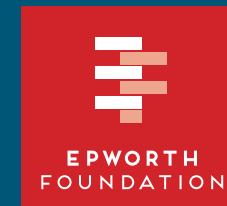
OUR VISION

A South Africa where deserving talent is educated and inspired to serve our country and its people.



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031-368/ PBO 930004892 /
Section 18A (1) (a) approved)

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