

# WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

## CALLUM ROBERTSON-DUNCAN CLASS OF 2011

***When did you attend Lowanna College, and what year level did you complete?***

I graduated in 2011 and completed all 6 years of high school at Lowanna College.

***What are your memories of Lowanna College?***

I remember loving the diversity of options we had in subjects offered. The facilities for technology classes were especially my favourite as I generally enjoyed those the most.

***How do you think your experiences at Lowanna College helped you become the person you are today?***

Since finishing high school, I have been diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder. Throughout my schooling at Lowanna I never ran into issues brought about by my condition. Due to the amazing support from all the staff, I was able to finish Year 12 and graduate with my VCE despite my learning difficulties. The support and teaching I received throughout my time at Lowanna helped give me the tools I needed to go all the way to the end.



***Was there anyone at Lowanna College who had a positive impact and upon reflection, influenced you to follow the path you have chosen?***

My former science teacher, Mrs. Stewart. She was my Year 8 science teacher and was the first person to suggest science as a possible career path for me because of my interest in science. At the time, most of the suggestions I received were to become a tradesperson due to my struggles with class work due to my learning difficulties. After high school, I successfully completed my Marine Biology Degree and I owe a lot of my motivation and passion to Mrs. Stewart.

***Tell us about your journey after leaving Lowanna College, and where are you now?***

Upon leaving Lowanna College I applied for the Australian Defence Force aiming to be a Pilot in the Army. I was





working full-time with the Department of Health within the Victorian Health Building Authority as a Data Analyst Graduate since January this year (2024).

***What are your greatest accomplishments (awards, achievements, defining moments, travel, family etc.)?***

I have two accomplishments I am most proud of. First is completing my bachelor's degree during a tough period of my life where I was struggling with my mental health on top of Covid19 lockdowns. When I finished and was awarded with my degree, I was so proud of how far I had come. The second accomplishment I am proud of is achieving a place in the Victorian Government Graduate Program. When they told us how many applicants they processed and how many of us were successful in obtaining the positions, I was blown away that I was one of those lucky few who made it!

***What advice would you like to give to current Lowanna College students?***

Follow your passion! No matter how hard things in life can get your passion can carry you through some of the toughest times you may face. Always look to the end goal of where you want to be and don't let anyone tell you that you aren't good enough, because that simply isn't true. You're awesome!



unfortunately declared medically unfit due to a sinus condition I have. After this I applied for a backdoor entry into Engineering through an Advanced Diploma of Material Engineering. After a year of trying this, I felt this was not a good fit for me, so I stopped studying. I started a job hunt and eventually stumbled upon farming. I milked cows for one year before deciding that I wanted to pursue my passion for science, and I applied for a Marine Biology Degree through Deakin University. After finishing my degree, I applied for several different Graduate Programs. I was fortunate to be given the opportunity to be a graduate in the Victorian Government Graduate Program. 3700 people applied for the Graduate Program, and I was 1 of 140 applicants who made it into full time work with the Victorian Government. I have been