

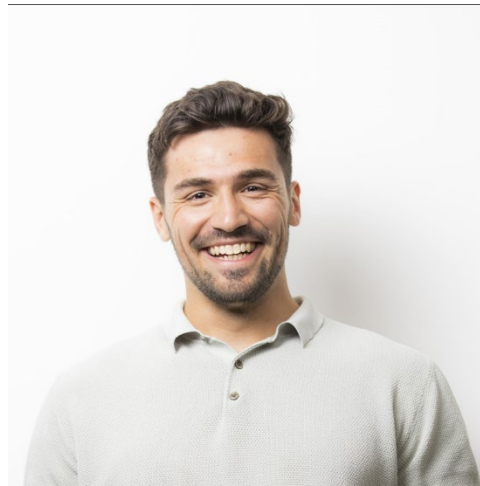


ALUMNUS OF THE MONTH JULY 2024



Oliver Wingfield

This is my quick story from how I left school not knowing what I wanted to do to now living out my dream in Australia!



After I left school, I found myself at Brunel University in west London. I studied Business Management and Accounting because, well, numbers and business seemed like a decent fit.

During my time at university, I secured a placement with a market research firm, where I provided valuable insights into the confectionery market to renowned companies like Unilever and Mars Wrigley. This experience provided me with invaluable exposure to the professional work environment and built confidence going into my final year of study. Additionally, I was in London, so I seized the opportunity to work at football stadiums across the city

during music and sporting events. Again, new experiences, new connections providing some of the best learning during my studies.

Graduation came around, and I walked away with the 1st class honours. I went back to the same company but had this itch to travel, especially to Asia and Australia. Unfortunately, plans got derailed thanks to lockdown, so I decided to try my hand at Corporate Finance. I stayed in the world of confectionery moving into a role with the

chocolate manufacturer Lindt. I was intrigued by the prospect of delving into Corporate Finance, and I expressed my aspirations to my employer. In my spare time I began delving into financial analyses, particularly within the realm of sports—an area of personal interest. This proactive approach inevitably led to a transition within the company, landing a role in commercial finance team six months after I first arrived. Yet, despite my success, the allure of travel remained persistent. After two years and two promotions, I made the bold decision to leave the business and embark on a year-long journey, intending to disconnect from work and immerse myself in new experiences.

Little did I know, this would be transformative in more ways than one. Six months earlier I had met the head of commercial finance at Lindt Australia when he visited the UK, what began as a casual beer when I first arrived in Sydney turned into an unexpected job opportunity. Subsequently, I

PROFILE:

NAME: Oliver Wingfield

JOB: Commercial Finance
(Lindt Chocolate)

YEAR left STM: 2015

Subjects studied at A LEVEL:

Business, Geography and
Psychology

University: Brunel University

1st class Business

Management and Accounting



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embarked on a three-month travel through Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, and Vietnam, before finally settling into a new lifestyle by the beach in Sydney. Now, I find myself, spearheading a newly established pricing role at Lindt Australia—a result of relationships forged, and reputation cultivated during my time in the UK.

Though my career journey is still unfolding, these past few years have highlighted the importance of perseverance, seizing opportunities, and nurturing meaningful connections. It's a reminder that with dedication, a touch of luck, and a clear vision, one can truly steer their desired path in both career and life.