John Cameron

Completed year twelve in 1997, the second eldest of six children all of whom attended MRSS for their entire schooling.

John's great passion is the suburban farm community (The Hood) he has established together with all his siblings, their partners and their children, in Heidelberg West. Here they grow food, organise vegie swaps, milk goats and ride bikes with family and friends.

After leaving school John worked in Madagascar doing conservation work, counting lemurs and survived malaria and being shipwrecked!

He completed a Bachelor of Computer Science (Software Engineering) La Trobe University, in 2001 and co-founded 'Two Bulls', a Melbourne based app development company with clients including Apple, Qantas, ANZ, Catch of the Day, Fairfax, Sesame Street and parks/conservation agencies, to name a few.

Two years ago, John left Two Bulls, recognizing that with 50 staff it could now support itself, (although he is still co-owner of the company). He became Vice President of LIFX, an Australian Internet of Things startup with the world's most popular WiFi-connected smart light - an energy efficient bulb that shines in any colour, controlled by smartphone.

With Silicon Valley investing in LIFX, John regularly travels to the US and other parts of the world. John leads the Australian engineering and design teams and oversees LIFX relationships with partner companies like Google, Apple, Amazon and Samsung.

Having adopted into the same family the values that he grew up with (no TV!) he is fascinated by the number of IT specialists that he meets in Silicon Valley who share those values. John says there everyone is aware of Steiner schools with many sending their children to either Steiner or Montessori schools. It seems those who understand the impact of technology severely restrict screen access with access to mobile phones for older children restricted to phone calls and music!

John is also the chair of the "Smart Spaces" working group at the Linux Foundation's AllSeen Alliance - the largest Open Source industry alliance of tech companies working together to build the "Internet

of Things". There they cover growth, usability, interoperability and security aspects of the growing "Connected Home"/ "Internet of Things".

He is now particularly interested in building healthy work teams and commercial relationships. Although he is still using the skills of creativity and inventiveness he says his education helped him develop, he is now applying this to the people and teams he employs … And he notes that so many past Steiner students are very successful in the IT world yet without excessive focus on IT during their schooling.

We can look forward to hearing more from other members of the Cameron family soon!

Here is a great recent podcast and article on The Hood: http://subtledisruptors.com/mariacameron/

Alumni News from Terri McMillan

Photo: John & partner Yuki (MRSS class of '95), children Clancy 10 & Leo 8)