

## Working closely with and supporting alumni

HCfE works closely with Henley Business School and University of Reading Alumni Relations Teams, most recently with the London Henley Alumni Group. HCfE presented at Henley London Alumni's first pop-up lecture and social drinks evening of 2017 which begins extending the links with alumni for mutual benefit.



From left to right: Jurek Sikorski, Neil Poole (chair of Henley London Alumni) and Ashley Carter

Together, HCfE and the Henley Alumni Relations Team plan to launch an Entrepreneurship Special Interest Group (ESIG) to promote entrepreneurship to alumni and support the initiatives of HCfE in particular providing access to the support HCfE can offer including access to Henley Business Angel funding. **Helping alumni like Tim Brownstone, CEO KYMIRA**

HCfE has helped many alumni entrepreneurs including Tim Brownstone, CEO KYMIRA [www.kymira.co.uk](http://www.kymira.co.uk), a start-up a company developing energy harvesting technology for performance enhancing sportswear and wearable devices for the medical and domestic healthcare markets.

HCfE has provided Tim with a workspace in the Henley Start-up Business Incubator at the Science and Technology Centre from where he has built KYMIRA that is commercialising its products worldwide.

KYMIRA won the Henley Business School 'Best Start-up and Innovation of the Year Competition' in 2016 and in the same year Tim who was voted Entrepreneur of the Year.



Entrepreneur of the Year winner Tim Brownstone

In March 2017 KYMIRA secured investment from Henley Business Angels, the first company to do so. Tim said:

*'Having customer funded and bootstrapped for the first three years, KYMIRA is at a really exciting point in our development. Everything on the sportswear side of the business is in position to scale rapidly and with our R&D already having Innovate UK funding we are developing some truly innovative technologies that will power an entire industry, be used*

*in space exploration and one day save lives. Henley Business Angels was the only network that we approached during this round as we were able to find the smart money and expertise that we were looking for straight away.'*