

SAM WADDELL

Finance & Operations Manager
Clear Grain Exchange

LOCATION

Richmond, VIC

AGE

26

CAREER GOALS

Sam sees his career continuing on a steep learning curve. In an operational sense, he sees himself continuing to help solve complex industry inefficiencies while developing his leadership and coaching capabilities to become a better mentor to those he works alongside. Sam hopes to undertake further study, completing either an MBA or a Master of Finance.

Sam has always taken every opportunity he's been given, whether in the grains industry or other industries he's worked in, and is excited to see where that attitude continues to take him.

Five Under 30

GRAIN TRADE AUSTRALIA
Facilitating Trade

EDUCATION

BACHELOR OF AGRICULTURE (AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS)
University of Melbourne

WORK EXPERIENCE

Sam's primary responsibility is to provide leadership to the settlements and operations team at CGX, which is responsible for all CGX market operations and trade settlements.

He is also responsible for finance and compliance tasks, including accounts payable and accounts receivable, financial reporting, payroll, audit and general governance.

Sam is a trusted adviser to CGX's managing director and general manager, working alongside them to implement executive and board decisions and solve business challenges. He also provides broader leadership and mentorship to the Melbourne-based business development team.

THE IMPORTANCE OF FIVE UNDER 30

Through the Five Under 30 program, Sam is looking to receive mentorship from outside his organisation and gain additional industry training and knowledge. He believes this will support him to become a better mentor and leader to his current team and future professionals, providing them with the support they need as they commence their careers in the industry.

The program will also provide Sam with recognition and visibility in an industry he is committed to, while allowing him to advocate for young professionals for years to come.

Sam also wants to champion the establishment of a dedicated, year-round GTA program of targeted, in-person events for younger, junior and back-office professionals. He believes events across major capital cities and regional hubs would help establish and foster genuine connections. He sees this as a way to build a more collaborative and cohesive industry and invigorate an emerging cohort of young professionals who are genuinely excited to be part of it.