



THE WANDERER

Official newsletter of Hurlstone Park Wanderers FC



We wish all our players, families, team officials and other volunteers the very best for the holiday season and look forward to a bigger and better 2020 season for Hurlstone Park Wanderers FC.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Rosalie Viney

Season Wrap Up!

This edition's president's report is the report from the Annual General Meeting, and a reflection on the year for Hurlstone Park Wanderers.

2019 has been a busy and successful year for Hurlstone Park Wanderers. This is my first year as President and I want to begin by thanking the fantastic committee, age coordinators and other volunteers for their wonderful support throughout the year. Our club is fundamentally volunteer run:

- Our parents and players who help with the barbecue, field set up and pack up, or the shirt and orange roster, or with lifts to and from training and support from the sidelines
- Our coaches and managers who step up each year, and then often return year after year to provide our teams with the support they need to get on the pitch
- Our age coordinators who help with team formation, communication about teams to parents and players, and vital communication of key information throughout the season

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands on which we meet, train and play

IN THIS ISSUE:

- President's Message
- Coaches Corner
- Registration Reminder
- Martin Wang

EVENTS:

Registrations Open
- January

Team Formation Days
- 4th, 5th, 6th Feb
- 11th, 12th, 13th Feb
- Sundays TBC

Coach & Managers Meeting
- to be advised

2020 Season Begins
- 4th & 5th April

Easter (no games)
- 10th - 13th April

Female Football Week
Gala Day
- 3rd May

Charity Round
- 30th & 31st May

Queens Birthday Weekend (no U6-U11 games)
- 6th & 7th June

- Our amazing Committee who each take on additional roles (and most of whom double up on age coordination, coaching, managing and helping out with other activities), and who give up countless hours of spare time to make the club run smoothly
- Other club members who put up their hand to help with special events or specific tasks
- Our minirefs who do a wonderful job of game leadership and are great role models for the young players in their games, and our miniref coordinators who make sure that each game is covered and the minirefs are well supported on the day
- Our ground managers and ground officials, without whom the games would quite simply not go ahead.

These are all the people (and I have mentioned some specifically elsewhere in this report, but to everyone one of you - thank you!) that make our club run smoothly, and that most importantly contribute to HPW's core values - a community football club, that promotes the playing of football in a way that fosters inclusiveness, participation and enjoyment, and promotes respect for our opponents, for officials and for our fellow players as well as the love of the game.

The club continues to grow and to foster football. This year we had around 1500 players and even more members, 87 teams in total (as well as our u6-u8 teams who play internally) and 61 teams in competition. We had 30 teams that reached semi finals, 10 teams that were grand finalists, 4 teams that were minor premiers and 6 teams that were champions in their age groups and divisions. Congratulations to all these teams (listed in the last newsletter) but also to all our other teams who played with enthusiasm and great spirit throughout the season.

In this report I want to mention some highlights of the year, as well as our current and future challenges. Our season preparation begins almost as soon as the previous season has finished, with the Committee holding a planning day to reflect on how we can improve the delivery of football for our members, and what our goals are for the next season. For 2019 there was additional work behind the scenes as Football Federation Australia switched over to a new national



registration system. Special thanks to Steve Cumming (Registrar), Anthony Maher (Treasurer) and Adele Walsh (Committee member) in particular for their hard work in managing the inevitable teething problems of that system. Also special thanks to each age coordinator for their cooperation and persistence with the challenges of getting our teams submitted with the requisite number of players. This is a huge job, involving much chasing of payment details, team requests, late additions, wonky and missing photos and the rogue glitches of the system.

At the same time in the background, our gear coordinator David Tartak was working hard with our previous gear coordinator Martin Paddon and our immediate past president Mark Higgins on managing a massive gear order.

Our Coaching Coordinator and Vice President Terry Wong also deserves mention for the coordination of grading days for many of our age groups with external graders, the grading committee and age coordinators and coaches. In a big club this is a challenging task.

Thanks also to Janice Leahy, Warwick Moss and Gerry Choate who all work with the age coordinators to ensure that we have fields available, referees organised and oppositions for pre-season games.



Bruce Drake Memorial Cup

This year we were particularly lucky to have Ewen Park and Beaman Park available for the last weekend before the season began (thanks to the CDSFA CEO for his assistance with negotiating this access), which meant that we not only had great chances for our teams to play, but could invite a quality opposition for our Grace Martin Trophy team, and most importantly, could return the Bruce Drake Memorial Cup to its spiritual home.

The Bruce Drake Cup is played between our Bill Brackenbury Cup team and a HPW invitation team (many of whom were coached by Bruce and Billy Fraser for many years), in honour of Bruce Drake, who holds a special place in football at HPW and in NSW for his contributions as a coach and as a promoter of fair play. It was wonderful to have Bruce's wife and sons there for the day and to present the trophy.

Season Opening

The weekend also included the opening of the Pemulway mural on the water tank, which has featured as a backdrop in many of our photos throughout the season, and has added colour and indigenous history to Ewen Park.

We began our season with a special season opening ceremony that included a Welcome To Country from local elder Aunty Lyn Martin, and was also attended by local Councillor Linda Eisler. This was a lovely way to begin our season, and Aunty Lyn spoke about the history of the land, and the meaning of the Welcome. Thanks to everyone who assisted with organising - this was a wonderful way to begin our season before the brand new under six players got underway with their first official games of football.

Season Highlights

There were other many highlights during the season that are deserving of special mention. The Annual Charity Round, which grew from the initiative of one of our over 35 men's team (aka The Hurlers) has become one of the great days of the season - and it is wonderful to see how this initiative has grown through other clubs as well, becoming part of the Association's season. What is great is to see how this has evolved. This year, Committee members Adele Walsh and Mark Slocum took charge of the organising and did a

wonderful job coordinating the ordering and distribution of socks and the collection of the charity funds (as well as the collection of all the fabulous team photos). In the interests of sustainability, we also encouraged teams that had already purchased pink socks in previous years to re-use them and make a donation (either directly or via the club). There were some great spinoffs as well with more than one of the adult teams using their post-game esky as an opportunity for additional fundraising. As a result of this effort, the Club was able to make donations of \$2477 to each of the Lilian Howell Project and John Moriarty Football as well as purchasing \$8500 in socks which raise funds for the McGrath Foundation. Thanks to everyone for their enthusiasm about this great activity.

The Charity Round also coincided with a visit to our park on Saturday morning by our local MP Ms Sophie Cotsis. Ms Cotsis has been a great support for the Club this year, providing us with advice and support in terms of how to address our infrastructure plans.

Season Activities

I want to thank everyone who has been involved in some other really wonderful activities and initiatives that, having started in previous years, have grown substantially in the past year, due to the efforts of our Club members and particularly many of our Committee members. We have continued to run our Everyone Can Play day, which this year was held in the last week of the regular season at Ewen Park. Thank you to everyone who came along and joined in the fun at our Everyone Can Play Gala Day on Saturday - especially to all our guests, many of whom have now become regulars at the Club for the Gala Days. It was lovely to see so many family members along too, and our junior players getting involved, and we really appreciated the gesture of the CDSFA who donated medallions for the participants. This is always one of the highlights of the season.

This season, thanks to the great work of Robin Hawkes and the enthusiasm of many of our junior players, we have expanded on the Everyone Can Play Gala Day, by starting a Football For All program for junior special needs players. Over a four week period we held four sessions on

Saturday mornings in which players trained and then played a game. A great feature of this was the fact that each of the participants was “buddied” with one or more of our teenage players, who volunteered to be part of the program. The feedback from parents and players was wonderful. This is volunteering at its best, and the success of this program is a credit to everyone who was involved. Special thanks of course to Robin, but also to all our players.



I also want to note and thank those involved in the growth of our Aldi Miniroos program, for 3-5 year old players. We started Aldi Miniroos late in 2018, and it received a great reception – clearly filling a demand for football for they youngest members of our community. This season we have run two Miniroos programs, and what has been fantastic is that these have been lead by two of our younger volunteers – Briana Wong and Jordan Tartak. They both did a great job, supported behind the scenes by Terry Wong and Janice Leahy in particular and our ground managers. We are looking forward to welcoming many of the Miniroos as players in under 6 in 2020.

Another great initiative this year has been the development of our Coaching program, and particularly the introduction of skills clinics for players. These have been a huge success and very popular and well received, and we look forward to expanding this in 2020. Particular thanks to Terry Wong for his energy and enthusiasm and hard work in organising this.

Other notable highlights of the season included:

- The appearance of many of our junior players as club mascots and half time players at W

League, A League and NPL games – thanks to everyone who organises this possibility and for the enthusiastic support from parents and players (particular thanks to Janice, who has been the key organiser from HPW)

- HPW’s role in hosting the CDSFA Female Football Day celebration at Beaman Park where, as part of Female Football Week, all the games at Beaman Park (on all fields across three clubs) were from the girls and women’s teams across the district, and Football NSW and CDSFA organised additional activities and some guest appearances of W League players. Particular thanks to our ground managers who took on additional duties because of the number of non-HPW games that we hosted as part of this great day.
- Our u14 girls participating in Kanga Cup, continuing a long tradition of HPW teams having a great team bonding and football learning experience as part of this festival of football in Canberra.
- The enthusiasm with which our club embraced the Women’s World Cup fever, including a great “bragging rights” tipping competition.
- The wonderful end of season celebration through the u8 World Cup which is a very special HPW event that has a long tradition and gets better each year – special thanks to Steve Cumming, Gemma Viney and Jackie Hennessy for their coordination of this event and to the enthusiasm of the coaches, parents and players for their great approach.
- Hosting of finals at Ewen Park and Beaman Park in July and August – this is always an honour but requires a great deal of extra
- The CDSFA Volunteer Recognition dinner at which our GMT co-coach and long standing volunteer Martin Paddon was recognised with a Cec Barlow Award for his services to the club (as a coach, as gear coordinator and as someone who is always willing to help out)



Martin Paddon

Photo credit: MMS Photography

While football is all about having fun with your mates and being part of the community, there are some times when passions tip over, and behaviour management was a theme that came up on a number of occasions during the season. For the most part our teams behave well and our record in terms of incidents and red and yellow cards is generally very good – especially given the size of the club and the make up of our teams (with a high proportion of adult teams). I would like to thank the Disciplinary Committee (Gerry Choate, Steve Cumming, Adele Walsh, Michael McTegg and Terry Wong) for their careful handling of issues, and also our age coordinators and team managers for their pro-active responses when the rare issues did arise. This is something we take very seriously, and we plan to keep working on in the future. For the record, our club finished up with 29 red cards during the season, which given that we have 61 teams in the competitive age groups, is not bad – but we can do better. Disciplinary issues of any sort take up an enormous amount of time and energy, that can be better directed to other activities on behalf of the club. The Committee will continue to focus on this in 2020 with the aim of improving it.

A special thanks to our Competition Secretary Warwick Moss who has been a leader in encouraging teams to manage discipline and foster a positive attitude (in addition to his hard work each week in managing competition information).

I would like to thank everyone in our Club but particularly the Committee, Coaches and Managers for their proactive approach to addressing problem behaviour at football. In particular, we have taken part in the Office of Sport Shoosh For Kids initiative each year for the past 3 years, and promoted the Shoosh message at all our fields. HPW, thanks to the great work of



We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands on which we meet, train and play

Terry Wong, our VP and Coaching Coordinator, and an enthusiastic group of ground managers and minirefs ran a pilot of Silent Sidelines over two weeks in July. While not everyone agreed with the concept of the Silent Sideline, it was a great success in that it started a serious conversation with other Clubs, parents, players and team and game officials about why shouting on the sidelines (even positive encouragement) does not help the game, the players or the referees. There was considerable media coverage, and engagement from the Association and other clubs. We look forward to following this up with "Supportive Sidelines" (a less stringent version of the concept) in the future.

2019 has been a year in which we have ramped up our activity around our infrastructure needs, with the Committee engaging directly with our local politicians at all levels of government, Council, the Association and Football NSW to ensure that our badly outdated infrastructure gets the upgrades we need. Our aim is to ensure we have 21st century facilities in time for the Club Centenary in 2024. This takes time and effort and has been a major focus. This year we have submitted a number of grant applications towards this end. Through this process we have secured the funding for the new lights at Ewen Park, through three grants – from the My Community Projects state government funding, the Football NSW Let's Light Up Football Fund, and the CDSFA Infrastructure Improvement Fund. The new lights should be installed in time for season 2020. I'd like to thank everyone who assisted with the process of applying for funding, reviewing applications and providing support (encouraging everyone who was eligible to vote in the My Community Projects public vote). In particular, the CDSFA Board and CDSFA CEO, Ian Holmes, our local MP Sophie Cotsis, the facilities officers at Football NSW and the staff of Canterbury Council have been hugely helpful in securing this vital funding. Our next focus is on the clubrooms at Ewen Park and the playing surface and lights at Beaman.

I also want to thank our sponsors for their continued support of the Club – Richardson and Wrench Hurlstone Park, Dulwich Hill Chiropractic and Therapeutic Centre and Canterbury Hurlstone Park RSL. We would like to increase

range of sponsors so encourage our members to get in touch with the Committee if you know of sponsorship opportunities.

I want to make special mention of Martin Wang, a wonderful member of our club who sadly passed away in November after a long illness. Martin began his involvement with Hurlstone Park Wanderers back in 2006 when his daughter Santina, who this year played in our Grace Martin Trophy team (in addition to her refereeing commitments in NPL and CRA) began playing. So Martin was first of all a parent in the Club, but immediately got involved in coaching. He loved coaching and so when Santina moved to play in Premier league, he looked for other opportunities to coach, which lead him to be one of our most successful coaches over many years - coaching an All Age Women's (and then over 30s women's team) to five premierships, as well as instilling a love of the game in many new players to the game. Most recently Martin helped out with co-coaching the WIL1 team. Martin's commitment was remarkable because for the past decade he has coached teams in which he did not have a child. He coached for the love of the game and his commitment to bringing out the best in players - many of whom were new to the game. Martin's patience, skill, dedication and enthusiasm really did bring out the best in players, but also gave them his love of the game. Martin's success as a coach is there in the club's records - he took his teams to grand finals and premierships, but more importantly, he kept them coming back to football each year. The players he coached and the coaches he worked with, and many others remember him with great fondness, respect and gratitude - a true gentleman, a wonderful inspiring coach, and a great man. Our deepest sympathy to Cindy, Melissa and Santina.

Finally although I have mentioned many of them already in this report, I want to particularly thank all of our Committee members and our regular volunteers who do a fantastic job. We simply would not have a club without them:

- Terry Wong (Vice President and Coaching Coordinator) who has contributed to so many of the highlights of the year mentioned in this newsletter.

- Steve Cumming (Registrar and U6-U8 Coordinator, and Member Protection Officer) who in addition to all of these activities looked after Ewen Park every Saturday morning and organised the training allocation
- Warwick Moss (Competition Secretary) who has ensured that everyone knows exactly where they should be, looked after communications and managed forfeits, ground changes
- Anthony Maher (Treasurer) who has done an amazing job of securing our financial position and ensuring proper governance of finances.
- Robin Hawkes (Secretary and Volunteer Coordinator) who as well as managing all these processes has lead our Everyone Can Play and Football For All Activities.
- Janice Leahy (Committee Member and Admin Officer) who has looked after much of day today management of communications and the newsletter
- David Tartak (Committee Member and Gear Coordinator) who has done an amazing job to ensure our teams are all well kitted - this is one of the biggest jobs throughout the season, and takes special patience!
- Adele Walsh (Committee Member) who on top of her Age Coordination duties has provided amazing support on activities such as registration, charity round and any other activity where help is needed.
- Mark Slocum (Committee Member) who has also helped out with all the club's activities throughout the season with enthusiasm and revealed special talents (who will forget his call of the U8 World Cup Final).
- Gerry Choate (Disciplinary Committee Chair and Committee member) who has taken on the tough challenges of disciplinary issues, developed new processes and, on the side, lent his many skills to fixing whatever needed fixing.
- Billy Fraser (Committee member and Canteen Coordinator) who has been such a long time supporter and volunteer with the Club that we would be lost without him.

Also thanks to all our regular Ground Managers and Canteen Managers - Billy, Wilma and Stuart Fraser, Rod and Pat Jenkins, Pam Hogan, Peter Chapman, Eion Varley, Jackie Hennessy, Gemma Viney, Steve Cumming, Dave Tartak and Robin

Hawkes, and then also to the regular volunteers who helped out when needed - Phong Giang, Holly Eades, Jay Viney. These are unsung heroes of our Club, and deserve accolades!

And finally, thanks to all of our Age Coordinators - many of whom have been willing to come back year after year. They do a wonderful job, and we are the envy of many clubs for having such experienced and organised people in these roles: Steve Cumming, Janice Leahy, Chris Behan, Antonia Jones, Peter Stein, Mark Slocum, Nelson Araya, Joanne Douglas, Anne Marie De Bettencorp, Venetia Maher, Adele Walsh, Robin Hawkes, Alex Anderson, Clayton Daw and Warwick Moss.

I also want to particularly thank Mark Higgins, not only for his continued support of the Club, but for the great shape and structure he gave to the President's role over the last 3 years, his wisdom, advice and guidance and for always being willing to help out with anything and everything (and especially IT!).

For season 2020 we hope to build on the success of 2019, and so I hope that everyone has a great off-season and restful holiday season as we gear up for the next season.

Rosalie
president@hurlstoneparkwanderers.com.au



2020 Team Formations

SAVE THE DATE!

February 4th 5th, 6th AND 11th, 12th & 13th have been set aside for team formations for 2020.

More details will be shared in January so please ensure you check emails and social media in the new year.

Terry
coaching@hurlstoneparkwanderers.com.au

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands on which we meet, train and play

2020 Committee

At the AGM on 9th December the 2020 Committee were elected.

It was not exactly a case of out with the old and in with the new - quite the opposite, with all of the current Committee putting up their hands and being elected again for 2020. This is testament to their hard work and enthusiasm.

President - Rosalie Viney
Vice President - Terry Wong
Secretary - Robin Hawkes
Registrar - Steve Cumming
Treasurer - Anthony Maher
Competition Secretary - Warwick Moss



General Members - Janice Leahy, Mark Slocum, Adele Walsh, David Tartak, Billy Fraser and Gerry Choate

Additional Roles

A number of our Committee members also have important additional roles within the club as noted below:

- Coaching Coordinator - Terry Wong
- Disciplinary Committee Chair - Gerry Choate
- Administrative Officer - Janice Leahy
- Volunteer Coordinator - Robin Hawkes
- Member Protection Officer - Steve Cumming
- Gear Coordinator - David Tartak
- Canteen Coordinator - Billy Fraser

In addition we have several members of our club who volunteer to take on roles that help the Committee enormously:

- Referee Payments - Neil Mackellar
- Results Recording - Holly Eades



**Dulwich Hill Chiropractic
& Therapeutic Centre**

Proud Sponsor of Hurlstone Park
Wanderers 2019

REGISTRAR'S MESSAGE

Steven Cumming

2020 Registration

Ah yes, how time flies! It's almost that time of year again. 2020 Registrations will open in the second week of January- we are working towards Monday, Jan 6, but there are a few 'back end' processes that are only available from Jan 2, so it might slip by a day or two. Please keep an eye out for emails from the Club during the first week of the New Year. The good news for next year is that all of the most frustrating bugs in Play Football have been fixed- no more sideways photos or multiple FFA numbers- yay!

Here are a few handy tips to make your 2020 registration as straightforward and pleasurable as possible. Yes, OK, 'pleasurable' might be overselling it.

- Remember that in Play Football, your email address is your login ID, so you will need to log in using the same email address that you used for registration in 2019.
- If you are registering a child and intend using an Active Kids voucher, you must have the voucher details in front of you as you start the registration process. We cannot process Active Kids vouchers after registration.
- This year photos will be required for ALL registered players (in the past we have not needed them for some of our junior age groups. If you are registering a u6-u9, make sure that you have a photo (or the child and a smartphone) available when you commence registration. Photos should be head and shoulders, of the child only (no sibling or pets), and digital (no photos of the school photo or the sizing can go weird!)
- If you are registering as a coach or manager of a team with people under the age of 18 in it, you will need to complete a Working with Children Check (if you do not already have

one) to complete your registration. You can do this via the Services NSW website. This process can take several weeks, so you would be wise to apply well before you intend to register.

- We will process de-registrations and refunds once a month between March and May. You will be provided with a form that must be completed in order to facilitate any refund payment. Note that we are unable to refund or transfer Active Kids voucher monies.
- The Play Football system only accepts credit card payments. There are some circumstances under which the Club will allow alternative payment methods but these are on application and approval by the Club's Treasurer.
- In limited circumstances, a player may apply for partial or progressive registration payments (eg, under financial or personal hardship). Any player seeking this assistance must do so PRIOR to commencing registration and completing the necessary request form.

Thanks, and looking forward to seeing all of your lovely registrations come in in the new year.

Steve
registrar@hurlstoneparkwanderers.com.au

PLAYFOOTBALL

Re-registering to play this season?

<https://www.playfootball.com.au/#whereCanIPlay>

New to Football?

<https://www.playfootball.com.au/#whereCanIPlay>

Coaches / Managers / Volunteers

https://www.playfootball.com.au/football-finder?st=club&club_name=Hurlstone+Park+Wanderers+Soccer+Club&clubId=74729#infoModal



At the 2019 AGM, there was a unanimous resolution to bestow life membership on four wonderful hard working volunteers for the club, who have contributed enormously over many many years.

Neil Mackellar - Neil is a stalwart of our over 45s, known for his amazing defending and reliable corner kicks. Neil is also one of our most longstanding coaches, having coached his daughter Margot's team since under 6s. This year Margot has moved interstate for her studies and so was unable to play, but Neil is so committed that he has continued to coach the enthusiastic WIL2 team who come back each year because they are so inspired by Neil's enthusiasm and love of the game. What many people in the club may not know (but all of our managers do) is that Neil designed the referee payment system that runs so smoothly and is the envy of many other clubs, and puts in many hours over the season to ensure that all our reimbursements to managers for referee payments happen smoothly and quickly.

Robin Hawkes and David Tartak - Robin and Dave are truly a power couple of football, and they literally live at our parks. They are around for most of every weekend doing almost every job, and often during the week. They respectively manage and coach teams in addition to their amazing contributions as Committee members. Robin and Dave have taken teams to Kanga Cup (a wonderful bonding experience for all involved), Robin has been the driver of our Everyone Can Play initiatives, and they are creating a football dynasty because when you are Robin's and Dave's kids football and volunteering is part of the fabric of your life.

Martin Wang - It was with great sadness and much respect that the AGM bestowed life membership posthumously on our much admired and loved coach Martin Wang.

Martin's contribution to the Club is mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter, but worth noting again. An inspiring, dedicated, gentle and highly respected coach who took his teams to repeated premierships, but also brought new players into the game and kept players coming back year after year.



Neil MacKellar



Robin Hawkes and David Tartak



SUPER 6 SOCCER



TRIBUTE TO MARTIN WANG

Shelagh Doyle

I am very honoured and humbled to speak on behalf of the Hurlstone Park Wanderers Football Club regarding our beloved coach Martin. Martin had a long and esteemed association with the Club, firstly as a very dedicated parent, supporter and successful coach of Santina's teams, as an all-rounder and expert volunteer and as a highly successful coach of a number of other Hurlstone Park Teams. Most recently he co-coached our Women's Intermediate League team who made it to the semi-finals this year and prior to that the U16 girls' team. He also coached the over 30's women's team of which I was very lucky to be a part of for 5 successful seasons from 2012- 2016. What is outstanding about Martin's coaching commitment is that he did not have a family member in these latter teams - he coached for the love of the game and his dedication to bringing out the best in players - many of whom were new to football.

Our over 30's women's team first met Martin when he came down to a training session at Ewen Park one Wednesday night in early 2012. He spoke to one of our players and said he was looking to coach a new team as Santina's team had been so successful that she and other players were heading off to the Premier League. Well for us it was like a thunderbolt of luck from the Gods. We all quickly got wind of it that night and pretty much circled Martin and said "we would love you to coach us" "choose us"! We were a rag tag bunch of over 30's, more like over 40's and 50's - mostly mums - and we even had 60 somethings in our team. We had never come close to winning a premiership and, I think it is not unfair to say we were a pretty undisciplined and rowdy bunch. Martin agreed to take on this motley crew and began the process of whipping us into shape (well as much as anyone realistically could) - tolerantly turning up to every training session with brilliant drills and enthusiasm and coaching us at every Sunday game with incredible encouragement and strategies. Santina would most often come along to training as well and help demonstrate the expert set plays and inject a youthful energy into the sessions. What a dream coaching team -



we were blessed! Martin's consistency, patience and belief in us took us all the way to the grand final that year and to our absolute astonishment we snatched the premiership from the one-time dominant Balmain team. We were all ecstatic. Martin, in his modest way was chuffed. Cindy took the photos of the winning moves and goals and the ensuing celebrations - it was a family affair. The great thing is, that whilst it was about being competitive - for Martin it was never at the expense of having fun or being considerate to all involved. He demonstrated the utmost respect for every player in the team and also for all the teams and coaches we competed against and, very importantly, the referees and officials. He was an absolute gentleman. Players and officials from other clubs often commented to us on his positive, motivating and respectful approach.

He generously continued to coach us for the next four years and we won 4 more premierships and had a lot of fun and fulfillment along the way. He told us in the early stages of his coaching us that he had some health challenges, but if he hadn't mentioned it we would never have known. He was incredibly brave and stoic throughout that time. Adele, the Manager of the Women's Intermediate League team Martin coached this year said the same thing - that he was resilient right to the end and very tolerant of a bunch of HSC and other students when they couldn't turn up for training because "the assignment was due or the exam was on".

Many players, fellow coaches, club officials, parents and club supporters have come forward in recent weeks and expressed their fondness, respect and gratitude for Martin. He is perhaps the most successful coach the club has had to date. As our Club President Rosalie wrote on our website earlier this week, Martin's success as a coach is there in the club's records - he took his

teams to grand finals and premierships, but more importantly, he kept players coming back to football each year and helped us "grow" soccer in the area and in particular girls and women's soccer in the Club, in the Canterbury District and beyond.

Martin - you were a wonderful encouraging coach, a fantastic friend and a great man - we will miss you - but you have left a valuable legacy for each and every one of us to carry forward a tremendously strong coaching benchmark, a love and respect for the game and its players in all their diversity, and an inspiring and galvanising faith in humanity.

Thank you !



TRAVELLING HURLOS

It is that time of the year again. When you go on holidays, or when you are hanging about at the beach or the cricket or having a casual kickaround at home or in an exotic location - don't forget to take some Hurlo gear and send us a Travelling Hurlo photo. As usual there will be prizes for the favourite/funniest/most elaborate/most exotic entries (no discussion with the judges will be entered into) but there is also bragging rights. We also love to hear from you and what better way than a travelling Hurlo entry. You can send your photos to:

admin@hurlstoneparkwanderers.com.au

or

president@hurlstoneparkwanderers.com.au

or message them to our Facebook page.

Keep an eye on the Facebook page for updates. We'll start this year's competition with the wonderful entries from the Slocum family from their trip to Thailand (which also involved delivering Hurlo gear to local villages). A hard one to beat, but the Hurlo community is always up to the challenge.

LIGHT WARMING

**Welcome to Season 2020
with a "light warming" evening picnic**

We were very disappointed that we had to cancel our Family Fun Day in 2019 due to the only serious bit of inclement weather for the year causing a major wash out of the fields.

As you also know, we were very excited to learn that the lights for Ewen Park are in the Canterbury Bankstown Council capital works for 2020, and even more excited that the funding for these lights has been secured by the hard work of the football community - through the My Community Projects scheme (thank you to everyone who voted), the Football NSW Let's Light Up Football Scheme, the CDSFA Infrastructure Improvement Fund and a commitment from HPWFC for funding.

We are proposing to replace the 2019 Family Fun Day with a Light Warming in early 2020. Details will be forthcoming once we have more details about when the lights will be ready, but we are planning a family picnic at the park to celebrate the long awaited bright new future for Ewen Park.



R&W

Hurlstone Park

9558 0322 | rawhurlstonepark.com.au