



MARCH 2024 | VOL. 1

THE WANDERER

Official newsletter of Hurlstone Park Wanderers FC

WELCOME TO OUR CENTENARY YEAR

[HTTPS://HURLSTONEPARKWANDERERS.COM.AU/PLAY/](https://hurlstoneparkwanderers.com.au/play/)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Rosalie Viney

Dear Hurlo Community

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2024, our Centenary Year. As I write this we are well ahead with registrations for 2024, and looking forward to an exciting year for HPW. On a personal note this is my 20th year as a player with the club (well behind many of our longest playing members but still a record I am proud of). While I have registered to play, those of you who have seen me around the field will possibly know that I will be testing the limits of modern orthopaedic surgery in planning to take to the field with a hip replacement - let's see how that goes! Wish me luck - playing as well as volunteering is very important for me, but this year more than ever because this is such a big year for the club. (And yes, I have been saying that I will be playing the part of Kyah Simon in my 035Ws team, but to be honest, if I show even a minute of the brilliance of Kyah I will be pretty stoked).

IN THIS ISSUE:

- [President's Message](#)
- [Season 2024](#)
- [2024 Key dates](#)
- [Ewen Park Official Opening & Centenary Launch](#)
- [Ewen Park Official Opening & Centenary Launch Program of events](#)
- [Hurlo Minicubs](#)
- [Australia Cup](#)
- [New Centenary Playing Jersey](#)
- [Introducing Blick Oval](#)
- [Become a Sponsor](#)
- [Women's style shorts](#)
- [Hurlo Heroes: Jim Fraser](#)
- [Game Leader Program 2024](#)
- [Coach's Corner](#)
- [Help us to celebrate our Centenary Year](#)



Anyone who has walked by Ewen Park in the last few months will have seen the transformation. After years and years of effort by the HPW committee and community over more than two decades, we finally have a facility that is fit for our club and our game. We will say it again, but I really want to thank every single member who bought raffle tickets, those who signed petitions and sent letters to politicians, and those who helped us with our successful grant application to Greater Cities Sports Commission in 2020, and to all the local sports and community groups who provided letters of support, and the facilities committee who pushed this along. And of course to Football Canterbury for their support and Canterbury Bankstown Council who took on project management and responsibility for the overall grant, and who were so willing to work with our Committee to ensure that this is a facility that meets our needs. We were handed access on 8th February, and we are now working on getting everything ready for the season – this is no small feat and big thanks to our Vice President Gerry Choate who has been leading this aspect of the project.

Next on the agenda is the launch of the new facility which is set for 22nd March, as part of a huge weekend of celebrations. Read on in this email for more details of this exciting weekend.

And of course those of you who have been long part of the club or who have been following our social media will know that this is also a huge year for the club as we are celebrating our 100th year. This makes us one of the oldest sporting clubs in the country, and we love that we have direct connection via our community back to our founder Bill Brackenbury. Bill was a 16 year old in 1924, agreeing to enter a team in the local football competition and beginning a lifetime of being a volunteer and leader in community sport. The Football Canterbury premier men's competition is named for our founder and our

champion team have set their sights on bringing the trophy home in the Centenary year.

We have lots planned to celebrate our Centenary, including a fantastic launch on the weekend of 23rd-24th March, a Gala Dinner on 15 June and a trivia night. We will also be bringing you bits of history via our social media throughout the year – follow us and the #hurlo100 hashtag to keep up with these posts. We have such a proud history, both from our early days and our older history and we really want to make sure this is captured and celebrated.

And this is where we rely on our members. So many of you have been part of Hurlo for longer than you can remember. And you have photos, stories, mementoes and magic moments. We need you to share the with us. We have an email address hpw100years@gmail.com where you can share your photos and memories (but please give us details). This is the chance to make sure our club's history is preserved and celebrated so please join the fun.

And finally, big thank you to everyone who is preparing us for season 2024. We are a volunteer run club with an incredible history of amazing volunteers who we will be celebrating throughout this year, but this is also an opportunity to remind you that you can be one of these. It might be something as simple as providing oranges, putting your hand up for the bbq roster, or it might be agreeing to be a manager or a coach. This is what makes community football really special – it really is a community. And being a volunteer in any capacity makes you part of that community, and you will not regret it. Here is the chance to be part of our Centenary and to be part of history. Keep in touch and join in.

Yours in football

Rosalie
HPW President

SEASON 2024

HOW DO I REGISTER?

For more information, go to the Play with us page on our website.

<https://hurlstoneparkwanderers.com.au/play/>

WHAT DO I GET WITH MY REGISTRATION FEE?

As we celebrate our centenary, all U8 and above teams will receive a playing jersey, playing shorts and playing socks. The club also cover all referee payments.

WHAT'S NEW AT EWEN PARK?

Be sure to visit our brand new canteen - new coffee cart, new merchandise and a vego bbq trial.

WHO IS MY AGE COORDINATOR?

Find your age coordinator on the Contact page on our website.

<https://hurlstoneparkwanderers.com.au/age-coordinators/>

2024 KEY DATES

9 March 2024
U6 and U7 Orientation

19 March 2024
U8 to U12 Coach and Managers
meeting

20 March 2024
U13 and above Coach and
Managers meeting

22-24 March 2024
Ewen Park Amenities official
opening and Centenary launch

5-7 April 2024
2024 season opening weekend

15 June 2024
Centenary Gala Dinner

15-16 June 2024
All SSF recommences with new
Draw

Late July/August Premiership
Finals (schedule dependent upon
rounds concluding)

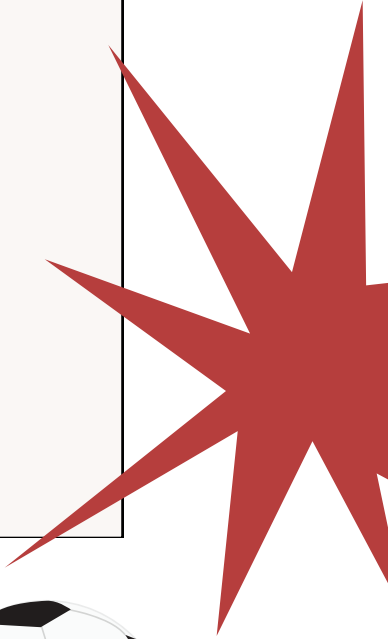
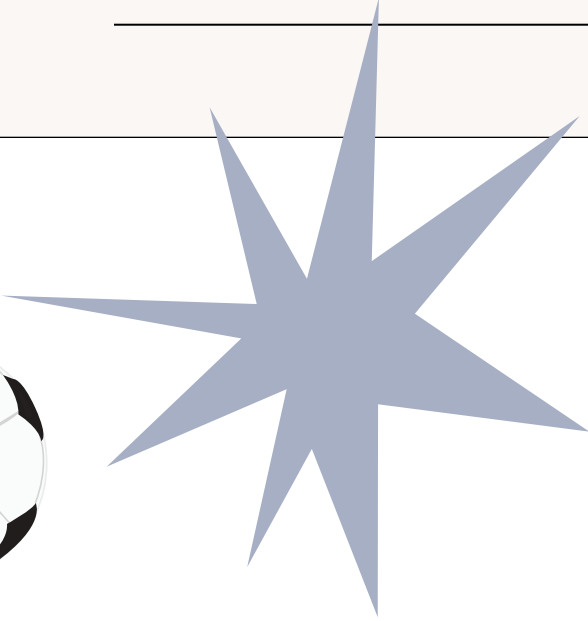
17-18 August 2024
SSF Presentation Round

Ewen Park Official Opening & Centenary Launch



**SAVE
THE
DATE**

22-24 MARCH 2024



Ewen Park Official Opening & Centenary Launch Program of events

Friday 22nd March 2024

5:00pm Official Opening of
Ewen Park Amenities

6:30pm Small-sided games,
activities for kids and family
and community picnic



Saturday 23rd March 2024

10:00am Official Centenary
Launch

11:00am All Abilities Games

2:00pm Premier team games,
including BBC Australia Cup
game



Sunday 24th March 2024

10:00am Hurley Burley Festival
Charity event



HURLO MINI CUBS (MINIROOS)

Football Fun for 3-5 year olds



Do you have a MiniCub (3-5year old) who would like to roar with the fun-est football program in the Inner West?

A new 8-week program starts on 13th April 2024 and runs through to 8th June 2024 (no session on 20th April 2024)

8.30-9.30am @ Ewen Park Half

(<https://maps.app.goo.gl/EnA1woWETm9tuDzSA>).

To register, go to
<https://registration.dribl.com/club/15>
and select the
"Hurlstone Park Minicubs program. April-June".





AUSTRALIA CUP



For the third year in a row our premier men's team have put their hat in the ring for the Australia Cup. It is an amazing start to any season to play in this flagship knockout competition, and these are some of the most exciting games you will see.

In 2024 we have drawn a bye in Round 2, and so we have to wait to see who we will play in Round 3. But whoever it is it promises to be a cracker of a game, as we will play the winner of the Round 2 game between Auburn FC and Brighton Heat.

Yes, that's right Brighton Heat who we met and conquered in the final of Cottam Cup last year, in the tightest of games. And Auburn FC another of Granville District's finest.

Stay tuned for details of the Australia Cup fixture!



NEW CENTENARY PLAYING JERSEY

It's our 100th year, and we've decided on a retro look for our special Centenary jerseys! They feature an old school harlequin design, collars and our Centenary logo. All players U8s and above will get their very own to keep. Many thanks especially to Dave Tartak for his efforts in both the jersey design and distribution phases of this exciting project!

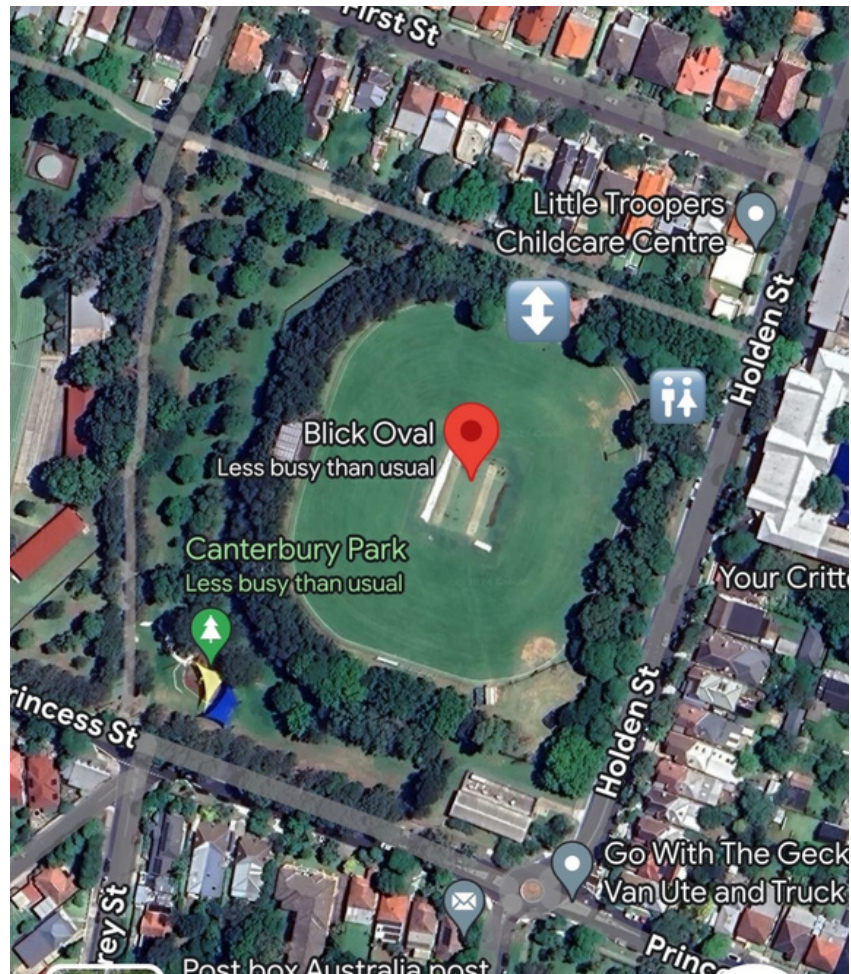


INTRODUCING BLICK OVAL

As we all know, Beaman Park has been in need of work for some time! Council have started the process for this, and we'll need to use an alternative park for training and matches normally held there. This ground will be Blick Oval. For those who haven't been there, it's in Canterbury and just a 5 minute drive from Ewen. It's large and has got a nice pitch and there's even a grandstand!

For those unfamiliar, it's important to note there is only one gate for the park, marked on the image with a . The bathroom block is marked with a .

Plan extra time to find your way there the first time if you haven't been before.



Become A Sponsor!

Hurlstone Park Wanderers is a not-for-profit local sporting organisation and one of the largest football clubs in the Canterbury District.

Sponsorship opportunities are available to businesses and organisations. By sponsoring the club, you are supporting a leading local sporting club and making a vital contribution to our community. Sponsorship creates goodwill and links your business with positive community experiences.

Sponsorship allows for investment in football development, equipment and facilities to support our players and ensure a successful future. It is an opportunity to have your brand associated with a community run club with over 1400 registered players.

If you are interested or know of any business that would be interested in sponsoring the Hurlstone Park Wanderers, please contact: contact@hurlstoneparkwanderers.com.au



WOMEN'S

STYLE

SHORTS

The club has been able to source women's style shorts from our kit supplier Stanno. These have a different fit and may be more comfortable for many players.

You will be able to let your manager know whether you would like men's/unisex shorts or women's.



HURLO HEROES: JIM FRASER

**FORMER AUSTRALIAN GOALKEEPER AND FOOTBALL
CANTERBURY HALL OF FAME MEMBER**

I first set foot on the hallowed turf of Ewen Park as a shy nine-year-old in 1958. At that time, I had never kicked a soccer ball and had no idea of the impact that belonging to the club would have on my football career and influence that the coaches and my older club mates would have in shaping my future both on and off the field.

In those days there was no structured coaching courses and coaches were often a father who had a son in the team and who owned a car as many families did not own a car at the time. Most Saturdays teams were ferried to away games in cars that were overloaded with the teams.

The park was our home away from home and from eight in the morning till dark for the next eight years when we were in season, we spent the days playing down behind the goals at the river end before and after our games. Thursday night was practice night and as there were no on field lighting all the teams gathered at the top end of the field with the only lighting coming from a single streetlight on the opposite side of the road.

Cliff West, Dennis and Bluey Lawther the senior goalkeepers in the club always ensured the younger goalkeepers had some time in goals and showed us the basics of the goalkeeping position.



As we progressed through the grades and after our own match, we would hang around prior to the start of each game hoping to get a run with an older team.

Phil Brazier and Ernie King and other all age players always looked after us and encouraged the younger players, it was like having a team of older brothers.

Looking back the football was rudimentary compared to the standard of the present structured coaching, the balls were heavy and difficult to both control and kick. Ewen Park had a large downhill slope running down towards the river, which caused the opposition teams to shoot over the bar most time when playing down the slope. The canteen was a tent, and the dressing shed was an old brick building with one room and a shower with no hot water.



HURLO HEROES: JIM FRASER-CONTINUED

But to us the park was our Wembley, we loved it and I still get the same feeling walking onto the ground as I did when I walked on it all those years ago.

Our 1958 team is still in touch with one another a testament to the coaches and players who guided us through those years.

As a coach and coach educator I still try to provide players and teams with the same positive environment as I received when at the club. I have been fortunate in my career both play and coach at international level and this would not have been possible without the development that was provided by the club in my junior years.

I am proud of my affiliation with the club and my preferred tracksuit top on a casual day is a Hurlo one I have owned for many years. I was blessed to be a part of the club and to have had contact with so many wonderful players coaches and volunteers over the years.

And it is very satisfying to see the progression of the club and the fact it is in good hands and still supplying the same opportunities for players of all ages as it moves towards the hundred years mark.

Hurlo always was and always will be a family club and I am grateful that I was blessed to be part of such a wonderful club. I along with my teammates are looking forward to the centenary celebration.



Game Leader Program 2024

A great opportunity for our junior players to learn leadership skills, have fun and earn some pocket money

Are you (or do you know someone who is) between 12 and 17 years old, someone who loves football, and is looking for some weekend work? We have the perfect opportunity through our Game Leader Program. HPW has a great record of developing young match officials for the game through our MiniRef program that has operated for many years. In fact, our current Game Leader Coordinator started out as a MiniRef back in 2007!

Our program has produced many of the current CRA Referees, as well as giving our kids the opportunity to develop football and leadership skills, earn some pocket money and hang out with their mates at the park on the weekend.

Our Mini Ref program was such a success that it encouraged other clubs to develop similar programs, and Football Canterbury have now formalised this as the Game Leader Program. Our club was the first to begin a training program for Game Leaders.

What is involved?

To become an accredited Game Leader, you need to sign up here.

Gemma and Jackie will then start the training process (after an initial discussion) and appoint you to games.

- We will let you know about the information and training sessions (this is a short info session that is not compulsory, but you do need to attend a training session to be part of the program – this is a one hour session at Ewen Park).
- Once you have completed the training session you can be allocated to Little Lions games as a game leader.
- For games for U8s and U9s, you will first be allocated along with a peer mentor (partner). Each of you will be game leader for half a game and observe your peer for half a game. You will receive feedback from our Game Leader Coordinators and from your peer mentor.
- The Game Leader Coordinators will decide when you are ready to be a fully accredited Game Leader. From then on you can be appointed to games in your own right.



- Our experienced Game Leaders will be appointed to u10s, u11s and u12s games.
- We may also ask Football Canterbury Referees to appoint Game Leaders for u10s-u12s Games.

We will be continuing this process in 2023 and we already have many new keen young people who are signed up to join the program. But we still have room for more so please let us know.

Why is it great to be a Game Leader?

You get to watch football and run around on a Saturday or Sunday morning. You earn some pocket money. You get a sausage (or equivalent) and a drink from the canteen. You learn some great skills.

Last year we expanded our Game Leader program to cover u10-u12 games. This means our most experienced game leaders (and those who develop experience and show promise during the season) will also be appointed to these games. Lots of these games are on Sunday so we need to know about your availability.

We have a sliding scale of payment for game leaders for 2024, reflecting the time and responsibility:

- Little Lions (U6s and U7s): \$10 per game
- U8s and U9s:
 - Trainee Game Leaders \$10/game (game leader for a half, observe for a half)
 - Accredited Game Leader \$15 per game
- U10s-U11s: Accredited Game Leader \$20 per game
- U12s: Accredited Game Leader \$25 per game

If this sounds like something that you or your child is interested in getting involved with, get in touch with Gemma and Jackie at gameleader@hurlstoneparkwanderers.com.au or fill out the [google form here](#).



Terry Wong
HPW
Coaching
Coordinator

Plans for 2024

With the opening of our new facilities at HPW Headquarters Ewen Park, we will have access to a Club Room that will enable us to provide much more support to our coaches and players. Here is a snapshot of some of the things in the pipeline:

- Coach Accreditation Courses - Grassroots/Miniroos (U6-8) and Foundations of Football
- Female leadership development program
- Regular Coach Education opportunities and meetings
- Coach mentoring
- Monday Skills Sessions
- Goalkeeper Training

Interested in coaching in Season 2024?

If you are interested in coaching in 2024, please complete the following EOI. Each season, we have a number of teams that are looking for engaging and passionate coaches. Note - call coaches must have a current Working With Children Check and will have (or scheduled to attain) the age-relevant coaching course (for more info see below).

[HPW Coach Register EOI](#)

Upcoming Events

14 March - Grassroots Course (for anyone planning on being involved with teams U6-8); 5:15 to 6:15pm @ Ewen Park. For more information, contact coaching@hurlstoneparkwanderers.com.au

8, 15, 22 March - Skills Training (for anyone coaching U8-12); 5pm to 8:45pm @ Sydney Secondary College, Leichhardt. For more information, contact coaching@hurlstoneparkwanderers.com.au

11, 18, 25 March - Game Training (for anyone coaching U13-18); 5:30pm to 9pm @ Strathfield Park. For more information, contact coaching@hurlstoneparkwanderers.com.au

5-7 April - Opening weekend for the season
13 April (for 8 weeks) - MiniCubs Program starts; 9am to 10am @ Ewen Park. For more information, contact minicubs@hurlstoneparkwanderers.com.au



COACH HUB



This is a private group for HPW Coaches. Information, resources and discussions will be hosted here to continue to improve the standard and support of coaching within our Club. Contact Terry to sign up.

coaching@hurlstoneparkwanderers.com.au

HELP US TO CELEBRATE OUR CENTENARY YEAR

One hundred years of Hurlo is a lot to celebrate, and it is also an opportunity for us to make sure that we have the memories and achievements of our centenary of community football captured and preserved.

We also want to have a fabulous celebration and for this we need your help. Here are some ways that members of our football community can assist:

Come along on Friday 22nd March, with a picnic or grab a sausage sizzle and join us to celebrate the official opening of the new amenities building.

Start organising your team to have a table at the Gala Dinner on 15th June - ticket details to follow soon, but book the date in your diary, organise the baby sitters and plan a fun night with your football friends (parents and players).

Volunteer to help with organisation of the Gala Dinner on 15th June. We would love to have a small group of volunteers to help make this a great celebration.

To celebrate our 100 Years, we are hoping to get a drone shot on Ewen Park with our Hurlo community in their Hurlo 2023 end of season shirt shirts spelling out HPW 100. For this we need all of you to come along and be part of the photo, and most of all we need a member with a drone camera and the skills to operate it to come along and capture it. If you are able to contribute please get in touch with admin@hurlstoneparkwanderers.com.au. Or if you are able to come along in your Hurlo 2023 end of season shirt between 10.15 and 11.00 on 23rd March, please complete this [short google form](#).

Have you been a Hurlo member for a few years? Or are the previous Hurlo members in your family - we are looking for photos, memories, stories to be captured in our social media, in our centenary brochure and on our website. You can send these to HPW100years@gmail.com. If they are too many to send by email, get in touch.

HELP US TO CELEBRATE OUR CENTENARY YEAR

Would you be interested in being interviewed for our Centenary film?

Local historian (and former HPW parent) Tim Carroll has volunteered his time and skills to record reflections from Hurlo members. Particularly for long standing members of our community, we need your input to make this a success.

Put your hand up to be a helper at our events - this could be staffing the BBQ, helping with set up, helping with advertising and writing.

Do you have any significant memorabilia that you would be willing to donate or lend to the club for our celebrations. This could be gear, penants, medallions, trophies or premier's or champion's plaques. With our new clubroom we really want to display our history, so this is a time to let us know. Contact HPW100years@gmail.com with anything you might consider lending or donating. We have a system for capturing a photo and your details.

Are you a local business or do you have connections with businesses that could sponsor our Centenary events. We have a range of sponsorship packages and opportunities available, ranging from platinum sponsorship through to donation of prizes. Any sponsorship will help to make our Centenary year a success, so please get in touch.

Organise a team for our trivia night - details to follow.



2024 HURLEY BURLEY CHARITY DAY



SUNDAY MARCH 24th , FROM 10am
EWEN PARK

COME ALONG TO THE THE 4TH ANNUAL
HURLEY BURLEY CHARITY SHIELD
& SEE A FRIENDLY & FIERCE DERBY DAY,
SUPPORTING 2 AMAZING CAUSES.

BBQ and Prize Giveaways.
One Club's "going straight to the pool room"



SCAN TO DONATE



ST VINCENT'S
HOSPITAL
SYDNEY





Wurridjal Festival

— March 14 - April 7, 2024 —

Celebrating the Cooks River

During the month of March, Cooks River People gather for Wurridjal Festival to celebrate the strong communities and ecologies along the river. This year, Wurridjal Festival will be held from March 14 to April 7.

The festival marks the start of a season when thousands of mullet - known as 'Wurridjal' in Dharug - enter the Cooks River during their pre-spawning migration along the east coast of Australia. For thousands of years, the river was healthy and a source of food for Aboriginal people. Wurridjal Festival aims to reconnect communities with First Nations knowledge and care for Country.

Click [here](#) for more festival information.