



MAY 2024 | VOL. 2

THE WANDERER

Official newsletter of Hurlstone Park Wanderers FC

SEASON OPENING ISSUE

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Rosalie Viney

Dear Hurlo Community,

And just like that it's May! And we are into the traditional washout weekend challenges!

But what an amazing start we have had to our Centenary Season. In this newsletter I want to start with a huge thank you to the HPW Committee, the HPW Centenary Committee and to all the other volunteers and members of the HPW Community who have made the start of our Centenary season so spectacular.

As you all know, it has been a long-held part of the club's strategic plan to upgrade our facilities, and we have slowly but surely been ticking off these goals over the last decade. This year it has been incredible to be able to start the season with our new Ewen Park amenities building, which is already delivering more than promised, not just because we now have a fit for purpose facility, but also an incredible place to meet.

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Already this year we have had committee meetings, coach education sessions and hosted the Canterbury Referees Association training sessions in our club room, in addition to the lovely opportunities for families and friends to meet and watch football (training or games) from our amazing terraces. I just want to again thank all the members of the HPW community who made this a reality, as well as the incredible staff in the sport and recreation and the capital planning teams at Canterbury Bankstown Council, and the Councillors who supported us, Football Canterbury Board and staff, and of course the NSW Government for the Greater Cities Sports Grant. It has made season 2024 so much easier than any other season. We are also excited about the resurfacing work being undertaken at Beaman Park – while it is challenging for us to manage with Beaman offline for this season, we are fully committed as a club to this important upgrade.

This is my 5th year as President, and those years have been some of the most interesting and challenging for the club, with weather, with a global pandemic, and with the work towards our new facilities. They have also been incredible, exciting years in which we have seen amazing growth in our club and in the support of football, particularly women's football both locally and nationally. I am so proud of the fact that this year we have more adult women's teams than any other Football Canterbury club, and also that we have an amazing range of programs that have been established from the commitment and dedication of our members – if you have been at Ewen Park on a Saturday morning lately, you will have seen a huge number of MiniCubs, led by our incredible team of MiniCub Coaches, Briana, Jordan, Beatrice, Rachel, Gilbert, Marcus, Skye, Lucas. As a club we are so proud of the way that we are developing young leaders in football. The MiniCubs program is open all through the season so if you know a tiny person who looks ready to chase a ball please get in touch.



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But I also want to say I could not have been more proud of our amazing Hurlo community and our committee and Centenary Committee for the way that they got behind our events for the Amenities Building Opening and the Centenary Launch and the Hurley Burley Charity Day on the weekend of 22nd-24th March. It was a truly incredible celebration of our club, of its amazing community and of football. In this newsletter we bring you lots of photos and vignettes from that weekend! Looking forward, as well as having an amazing season ahead of us, we are continuing to celebrate our Centenary in many ways. Next up on the Calendar is our Centenary Gala Dinner on 15th June at the Canterbury Hurlstone Park RSL. Coming along to this event is a fantastic way to celebrate being part of the club, as well as getting together with your team mates or with the other parents and supporters of your kids' teams. We are hoping for an incredible celebration of Hurlo, past, present and future and look forward to seeing you all there.

In closing, I want to celebrate an amazing achievement for one of our players and for the club. As part of Female Football Week we have the opportunity to nominate club members for awards. Last year we were honoured to have our incredible MiniCub Coordinator Briana Wong recognised as a finalist as Coach of the Year for Football NSW. This year we are absolutely delighted that one of our superstar players, Tamsin Colley was the national winner of Player of the Year in these awards. Tamsin is absolutely amazing and an incredible football ambassador and we are thrilled about this very deserving award. And for me, this is what makes HPW the best community I have. Thank you all, enjoy this newsletter and I look forward to seeing you down at the park

Yours in football,
Rosalie
HPW President

CENTENARY GALA DINNER

The next event to celebrate our 100 years is the Gala Dinner. Tickets are now on sale and selling fast. We hope that many of our teams are getting together to organise a table for what promises to be a great night of celebration. Details are available here:

<https://tinyurl.com/HPW100Gala>



HURLSTONE PARK WANDERERS FOOTBALL CLUB

Centenary Gala Dinner

WHEN • Saturday 15 June. Doors 6:30, event 7:00

WHERE • Canterbury-Hurlstone Park RSL

ATTIRE • Cocktail / Smart Casual

TICKETS • \$125 each. Available at CHPRSL
or through the link in the post

OPENING WEEKEND 2024

On the weekend of March 22nd-24th our Club hosted 3 days of wonderful events to open the Ewen Park facilities, celebrate the beginning of our centenary season, and host the Hurley-Burley charity event! It was an action-packed few days involving players, volunteers, local dignitaries and many across our fantastic Hurlo community. On the following pages are some highlights, and at the end of this newsletter there are plenty of photos!

EWEN PARK FACILITIES OPENING

Friday March 22nd

This was an important day for our club, because it was our opportunity to officially open our new Amenities Building. The event was attended by many current and former Hurlo members, and the official honours of cutting the ribbon to declare the new amenities block officially open were undertaken by distinguished guests the Hon Jo Haylen MP, Member for Summer Hill and Mayor Bilal El-Hayek.

We were delighted to be able to announce that our new Club Room, the first club room that our 100 year old club has ever had, is officially named the Jim Fraser Club Room. We announced this as part of the opening event, and we have confirmation that there was not a dry eye in the audience – most of all Jim and his team mates from the 1960 u12s were overwhelmed. But Jim managed to pull himself together to accept this honour with a delightful speech that included an official presentation to the club of a framed replica Australian goalkeeper jersey as worn by Jim.

A small side note here: Every Socceroo and Matilda has a club that is their starting point, but it is really special for them to have a continuous connection back to the club. In Jim Fraser, we not only have a Socceroo but an international goalkeeping coach who still has a direct connection to our club – he is part of our Centenary Committee, he rallies his team mates from the 1950s and 1960s to be part of club celebrations and he brings us his football knowledge to build our coaches' expertise. We are honoured to count a true football luminary as part of our club.

In this newsletter we have some fabulous photos of guests and members enjoying the post-opening barbecue and picnic. It was a very special day. Huge thanks to everyone who contributed to fund raising over the years, to those who put together the grant application for the Greater Cities Sports Grant that allowed us to have the building of our dreams, and to City of Canterbury Bankstown, Football Canterbury, the Office of Sport and many local community groups for their support of this important project.

Since the beginning of the 2024 season we have had many opportunities to enjoy the benefits of our new building, and to be the envy of the District! There is nothing better than watching training or games from the bleachers, it has been fantastic to have Committee meetings in the Jim Fraser Club Room, and we have also been able to host the Canterbury Referees Association trainee sessions, as well as hold in-house coach education sessions. Billy and Wilma are loving the new canteen, and best of all, we now have the best coffee available at any sporting field thanks to our amazing coffee cart operator and Huro player Paul Gallanos. Be sure to grab a coffee to go with your bacon and egg roll or sausage from the famous Hurlo barbecue next time you are the field on a Saturday or Sunday – all of this helps us to be able to keep bringing better equipment and facilities for football through important fundraising.

2024 CENTENARY SEASON OPENING

Saturday March 23rd

Thank you to everyone who came along to our Centenary Season Launch, including the amazing drone shot, but also to join in all the fun down at the new fortress Hurlo. A highlight of the day was the Acknowledgment of Country from Auntie Tracey Bostock, a beautiful acknowledgment that was very focussed on our youngest members and on everyone recognising connection to Country. Thank you Auntie Tracey!

This event was a wonderful celebration of our club and our connection to the local community. It was so amazing to see how many Hurlo folk, young and old, past and present were keen to come along and be part of our drone shot, but also to join in celebrating our club's culture.

There were so many highlights of the day. The amazing number of our members who turned up in their Hurlo 2023 shirts to be part of the drone shot.

We were also really delighted by the fantastic All Abilities Gala, that included so many of our members taking part and having an awesome time, along with the All Abilities guest teams from Balmain, Marrickville and Purple Hearts (featuring our very own ParaMatilda Tamsin Colley). This was an opportunity to welcome back players from previous All Abilities Gala Days, and for our BBC players to get in some special training before their Australia Cup fixture which was the headline game of the day, with a 5-2 win vs Auburn FC.

It was also great to have many of our teams have the opportunity for a run on the field in the afternoon.

We've included a bunch of the photos from the day here. Big thank you to Mariam Johari from @photographedwithlove for capturing an amazing day.

HURLEY-BURLEY CHARITY DAY

Sunday March 24th

The final event of our celebratory opening weekend was the bigger than ever before – the Hurley Burley Charity Event.

This grew out of the friendship between men's teams from Hurlstone Park Wanderers (our Hurlers) and Burwood Football Club. In fact it has its roots in the amazing charity efforts of the Hurlers, led by club legend Marin Sardelic over many years. When Nathan Ruff, a former Hurler joined a team at Burwood, the gents decided that they should continue their fundraising together and dreamt up the Hurley Burley Cup – a game to be played between the two teams with a focus on raising funds for charity. These men have an eye for how to make something grand out of a small start, and very quickly the Hurley Burley Charity Round became not just two teams, but a whole day of games between the two clubs across all age groups, and all in honour of raising funds for charities that, through the personal experience of club members at both clubs had become dear to their hearts. This year we were honoured to host the Hurley Burley event at Ewen Park, with 14 games across the day on both fields, an awesome fundraising effort and some incredible fun, but also some very poignant moments. Every game started with a minute of silence in honour of Marin and we were very honoured to have Marin's family members there for the headliner game. Even more special was that every member of the Hurlers honoured Marin by wearing the number 14, and that the team included Marin's son wearing his jersey.

A huge thank you to all the members across both clubs who contributed to the success of the day and the fundraising efforts with more than \$22,000 being raised for St Vincents' Hospital Charity, Chris O'Brien LifeHouse and Heartbeat of Football.

And congratulations to Burwood who not only won the coveted O45s Hurley Burley trophy but also took out the honours across the day with an aggregate win on goals scored across all games.

VALE MARIN (MUD) SARDELIC

It is with great sadness that we remember and honour the life of Marin (Mud) Sardelic, an absolute stalwart of and driving force behind our over 35s team The Hurlers, a former committee member with the club and the instigator and champion of charity raising efforts for the Club over many years.

Marin will be hugely missed not only by his team mates but also by the whole club. The flags, the special barbecues and social events following games, the charity kits, the camaraderie of The Hurlers, and most importantly the incredible charity fundraising that was Marin's passion – trivia nights, charity football rounds, pink socks, barbecues, shaving his head – you name it, Marin not only did it but led by example and with an incredible and boundless energy.

Marin began these charity efforts on behalf of his team and then the club long before his own health became an issue, and what is a huge credit to him is that he brought everyone along on the ride and continued this even when facing his own health problems.



On Sunday 24th March Hurlstone Park and Burwood football clubs honoured Marin through the Hurley Burley Charity Round. This is something that was fostered by Marin, his team mates at HPW and his friends at Burwood Football Club. Sadly Marin did not get to see the Hurly Burley event come home to Hurlo in our Centenary Year, but his presence was felt by everyone who participated in the event.

Marin Sardelic, we thank you for your incredible contribution to community sport and to community charity fundraising over many many years.

DRONE SHOT SPOTLIGHT



Thank you to everyone who turned up with their Hurlo shirts and their Hurlo Can Do Attitude for our amazing HPW 100 drone shot! We are thrilled with the results, and as those in the photo will understand, there is something very special about being part of something bigger than you can see. Most of all we are chuffed that so many Hurlo folk found time on their Saturday morning to be part of this photo shoot. We are sharing the shot here - also look out for some upcoming merchandise.

Just for fun here are a few moments from the day:

Steve: This is what 10 years of Little Lions field set up was training me for - I am so relieved that my dyslexia did not result in 'HBW'!

Gemma: You were all amazing, but also, it was a bit like trying to marshal ants. The number of times everyone went to fill out the H or the W was a bit scary.

Holly: this is amazing, I really thought I was putting out cones for some weird small sided game

Anonymous Participant: What is even happening here? Can anyone see the drone?

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



Tamsin Colley:

Hurlo Player, ParaMatilda and Female Football Week Player of the Year!

At just 21, Tamsin already has a distinguished sporting career, as the youngest ever Australian track and field Paralympian. But now we are celebrating her enthusiasm, dedication and performance as a footballer. Tamsin is passionate about football and has trained with the Randwick City Purple Hearts and participated in NSW CP football training programs, with the dream of becoming a ParaMatilda. In 2023 Tamsin approached Hurlstone Park Wanderers where a family friend was playing in O35 womens. We suggested she join an All Age Women's team competing in Football Canterbury competition. Tamsin immediately became a key member of the team, playing a key role in defence with her incredible speed and fitness, determination and never-give-up attitude. Tamsin's team reached the semi-finals in 2023 and have had a fantastic start to season 2024.



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

Tamsin Colley

But 2023 also saw Tamsin realise her ambition when she was selected first for a ParaMatildas camp, then for the IFCPF Asia Oceania Championships squad, where she made her debut with a hat-trick! This is incredible success, but what we also want to highlight is how Tamsin has embraced our club community. She was an enthusiastic participant in our 100th Anniversary All Abilities Gala Day, joins in club women's skills training, is a vital member of her team, has also promoted Football Canterbury through social media, and is an enthusiastic role model for our planned All Abilities Female program to launch in 2024. Tamsin is an amazing inspiration for all our players, because she always pushes her limits and because of her joyous enthusiasm for football, for her club and for her teams (both HPW and the ParaMatildas).



She is also an Ambassador for the Cerebral Palsy Sporting and Recreation Association and member of the UNSW Elite Athlete Program, demonstrating the success of athletes with disabilities.

We are beyond thrilled that Tamsin, who is an incredible athlete and an amazing player in our AAW7 team this year was awarded Female Football Week Player of the Year at both the State and the National level.

Tamsin is an incredible ambassador for our game and so deserving of this award.



MAKE IT RED FOR HEARTBEAT OF FOOTBALL

This year our club supported the Make it Red for Heartbeat of Football. This is an important and one that is (literally) close to our hearts. It was founded by football luminary and commentator Andy Paschalidis. Andy has strong connections to our club – he was even our junior goalkeeper of the year in 1977!

Andy has a distinguished career as a football journalist, but when he saw a team mate suffer a cardiac event on the football field, he established Heartbeat of Football. This incredible charity was established in 2016 and is creating awareness about heart health among players and participants in football, minimising health risks through screening and providing rescue ready defibrillators at football fields.

This year we got involved in the Make it Red round. To make it fun we promoted MakeltRed(Frogs) – as an incentive to donate. We are very proud that we raised more than \$2500 for this important charity as well as raising awareness about heart health. A big thank you to our committee members, our young volunteers and to all our teams who joined in the fundraising. Heartbeat of Football also played a big part in our amazing Hurly Burly Charity Round, as one of the nominated charities.





Terry Wong
HPW
Coaching
Coordinator

The Clubroom is being put to good use with regular Coach Meetings. Recently we hosted Miles Downie, General Manager – Coach Education & Head Coach – Futsalroos with Football Australia, but most importantly a Hurlo U7/8 Coach, to speak on Youth Development. Here's a couple key takeaways:

- Despite being the greatest participation sport, football has dropout rates of 38% each year – meaning, of the 30,000 U6s that start playing each year in NSW, only 97 of them will be still playing at U19.
- The main reasons children dropout are reduced engagement and fun (when the focus is on winning, when they don't feel competent and confident and when coaches and parents are pushy)
- Over the years, there has been a change in how children interact with sport – from unstructured, self-directed environments (like playing football at a local park with mates where they set the rules) to more structured environments (like what we have now with football and every other extra-curricular activity).

- Early specialisation (that is, only focussing on football from an early age) appears to inhibit development and long term success in a sport. Children should be encouraged to participate in a wide variety of sports.
- How do we produce well-rounded footballers/people? We need to have Player-Centred Approach to coaching.

What that means is:

- We must listen to players – involve them in the choice of training sessions
- Be holistic – consider what else is going on in their life
- Be inclusive – make every individual feel special
- Make it fun and safe – try and make it the best part of their day
- Prioritise the love of football – use the Smile Metric. If they are smiling when playing, you're on the right track.



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

SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY SO THEY CAN SUPPORT YOU



We are seeking donations (\$ and in-kind) from local businesses to support our Centenary celebrations.

Your business will get guaranteed exposure at our events, social media and website to ensure recognition and patronage from our 3000+ community.



**To donate, simply scan
the QR code**



For any more information, contact Terry at
sponsorship@hurlstoneparkwanderers.com.au or through your local
Hurlo representative

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