

HERITAGE NEWSLETTER

Produced by the Student Heritage Group

Issue No 1

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The Student Heritage Group

In 2006, a group of year 11 students, now in year 12, in collaboration with Deputy Principal, Mr. Marsh, formed the Student Heritage Group (SHG). This group was formed to give students a voice and means of input into Hurlstone's Centenary Celebrations. Members come together to track progress on our goals and the procedures we have implemented to achieve them.

The group's major goals for this year are the creation of this newsletter on the alumni website and the creation of a Hurlstone History Walk with a number of historical plaques dotted around historical sites in the school. The plaques will be made of metal and contain historical text and a picture. As a group we have raised some funds towards the production of the historical plaques. This is a great example of student initiative at Hurlstone. We still need donations to finalise this initiative. If you make a donation, you can be forever remembered by having your name engraved on a historical plaque. If interested please contact the Student Heritage Group c/HAHS.

Where are they now?

This is a feature in the alumni news letter which is dedicated to honouring ex-Hurlstonians. This space details the achievements of old Hurlstonians after their schooling at HAHS. In the first few newsletters the authors will spotlight some famous past students. But we would like to hear from past students and staff and use their information to let readers know where alumni are and what they have been doing since leaving good old Hurlstone.

So if you have some info about an ex-Hurlstonian, please send their name, a short blurb, and picture (if possible) to the school's mailing address. Our first featured alumni are the well known singing group about town: Human Nature.



http://www.smh.com.au/ffximage/2006/09/21/human_nature_wideweb__470x364,0.jpg

Where are they now?

Brothers Andrew and Michael Tierney joined with Toby Allen and Phil Burton in 1989 while at Hurlstone Agricultural High School representing their school in a combined regional schools concert at the Bankstown Town Hall.

Human Nature released its first album *Telling Everybody* in 1996 which went on to sell enough records to earn three platinum records. The first single from the album was "Got It Goin On" which established the bands success with "Telling Everybody", "Wishes", "Don't Say Goodbye", "Whisper Your Name", and "People Get Ready" also released as singles. The group also helped build their reputation by working as support acts for Michael Jackson and Céline Dion.

Human Nature decided to come back with a set of Motown covers for their fifth studio album *Reach Out: The Motown Record* on 6 November 2005. It has peaked at number one and has reached 5 times platinum. They toured extensively around Australia in 2006 on The Motown Show tour and members Phil Burton and Toby Allen both starred in reality TV shows during 2005/06.

Outstanding recent student achievements

- David Hicks, Alex Ngo and Shaun Skelton attended the National Youth Science forum in January
- A large group of Hurlstonians led by Mrs Vercoe travelled through Italy on a historical tour in January
- HAHS's Mock trial team of Year 11 Legal Studies students won its first four Mock trials.
- Year 9 Commerce students produced a website called "My Financial Future" which was showcased at a South Western Sydney Region Conference on ICT Pedagogy. This was as a result of Hurlstone winning a Commonwealth Bank Literacy Grant in 2006. Copies of the website have been professionally duplicated. HAHS has won another Literacy Grant for 2007.
- 36 Year 10 students competed against schools at Sydney University in the Science and Engineering Challenge Competition
- 2 teams of Year 12 Chemistry students took part in the Annual Titration competition organised by the Royal Australian Chemistry Institute
- 600 students took part in the 2007 UNSW Science Competition. Students were awarded 37 High Distinctions, 198 Distinctions and 222 credits.
- 2007 saw the beginning of the HAHS Chamber Orchestra who played at the Centenary Thanksgiving ceremony.
- Several HAHS students played in the State Jazz and State Wind Ensembles.
- 17 Hurlstone students and 9 cattle took part in the Sydney Royal Easter Show. Hurlstone won 19 ribbons.
- At the Camden Show 14 students participated and won 11 ribbons.
- Almost 50 Hurlstonians will be going to Japan on a study trip in October.
- Giles Gardham was selected to represent Australia in the Mathematics Olympiad in Vietnam.



Giles displaying his bronze medalion in Vietnam

The History of Hurlstone

A regular part of the alumni newsletter will be a tidbit from Hurlstone's illustrious and colourful past. The following is an excerpt from the recently published history of the school launched in April this year, *Bedbugs, Daygos and Slabs, A Century of Memories, The History of HAHS, 1907-2007*, written by HAHS history teacher Alan Pollock. Copies are on sale from the Hurlstone Front office for \$25 and \$5 postage.

Increasingly after the war Hurlstone found itself cramped for room and in 1923 it was decided to move to the rural and spacious setting of Glenfield. The Glenfield site had been selected way back in 1916 and one hundred acres of land had been purchased from Mr Robert Ross for 100 pounds per acre. By 1920, total enrolment had reached one hundred and fifty two and the school was bursting at the seams. The farm was too small and the soil was relatively poor. The school was surrounded by suburbia with the accompanying problems of trespass, burglary and vandalism.

From 1923 Trinity Grammar School's Principal Reverend G.A. Chambers had been negotiating with the government to acquire the Ashfield/Summer Hill site. The government was keen for Hurlstone to move but also keen to expand the land available for Dulwich Hill Primary School. An exchange was arranged whereby Trinity provided land and buildings it owned in Dulwich Hill to the government and Trinity took part of the Summer Hill site after paying the government 13,000 pounds for its new seventeen acre property.

In 1926 Hurlstone pupils and staff relocated to new buildings at Glenfield, south of Liverpool. The Department spent almost 40,000 pounds building dormitory and classroom blocks along with excellent farm facilities. By the end of 1927 the enrolment was one hundred and forty nine students and in 1929 Hurlstone offered the full five year course which led to the award of a Leaving Certificate. The introduction of the new course quickly led to enrolments rising to one hundred and sixty nine boarders and forty six days boys in 1930. By 1936 total enrolment had skyrocketed to four hundred and seven.

Included in the new curriculum was Physical Training and the school was generously endowed with ovals, cricket wickets and tennis courts. In the 1930s a Deputy Principal was appointed to Hurlstone to ease the administrative workload. A Registrar was also appointed and they took over the clerical load of running both Hurlstone Agricultural High School and The Glenfield Special School which had been set up in 1927 on Hurlstone's western boundary.