

MUNA 2013 Report

In late July, Hurlstone sent four Year 11 teams to Blacktown Boys High School for the Rotary regional **MUNA** (Model United Nations Assembly). This was our largest **MUNA** contingent from Hurlstone over the years we have been involved. At **MUNA**, Students debate on United Nations resolutions and research the politics, economy, environment and human rights background of their nations and engage in an extended debate over two days where they argue their countries views and dress in national costume.

The four Hurlstone teams represented were Indonesia, Israel, Iran and the United States. All teams performed exceptionally and two of the four MUNA teams placed at first and second in the region. These teams then progressed onto the National MUNA in Canberra in August. Again, the Hurlstone teams engaged in high level debating and rebuttal over this weekend. At the conclusion of the competition, Mexico was awarded the International peace prize perpetual trophy for their contributions to world peace in their debating arguments.

This year MUNA teams built on their success from last year winning a prizes at both regional and national level. On the Friday evening in Canberra, the students attended a black tie dinner at the Australian National University where they had the opportunity to meet several consular officials over a 3 course dinner and celebrate reaching a national level.

Overall, the weekend was a great success with Hurlstone building on their success from last year. We look forward to continuing to build on these results in 2014.

Regional MUNA TEAMS 2013

TEAM IRAN

Andrew Kay

Pranav Moore

Lezan Sarraj

TEAM USA

Claire Cao

Jessica Huang

William Zhu

TEAM INDONESIA- 1st Place

Vincent Anthony

Anamarija Mrkela

Janeda Ong

TEAM ISRAEL-Runners up

Tegan Carre

Catherine Londos

Luke Pereira

National MUNA

TEAM MEXICO- Won the Perpetual peace prize trophy.



Vincent Anthony

Anamarija Mrkela

Janeda Ong

Team India and Team Mexico enjoying the black tie dinner



(L to R) Vincent, Anamarija and Janeda



the perpetual trophy

INDIA

Tegan Carre

Catherine Londos

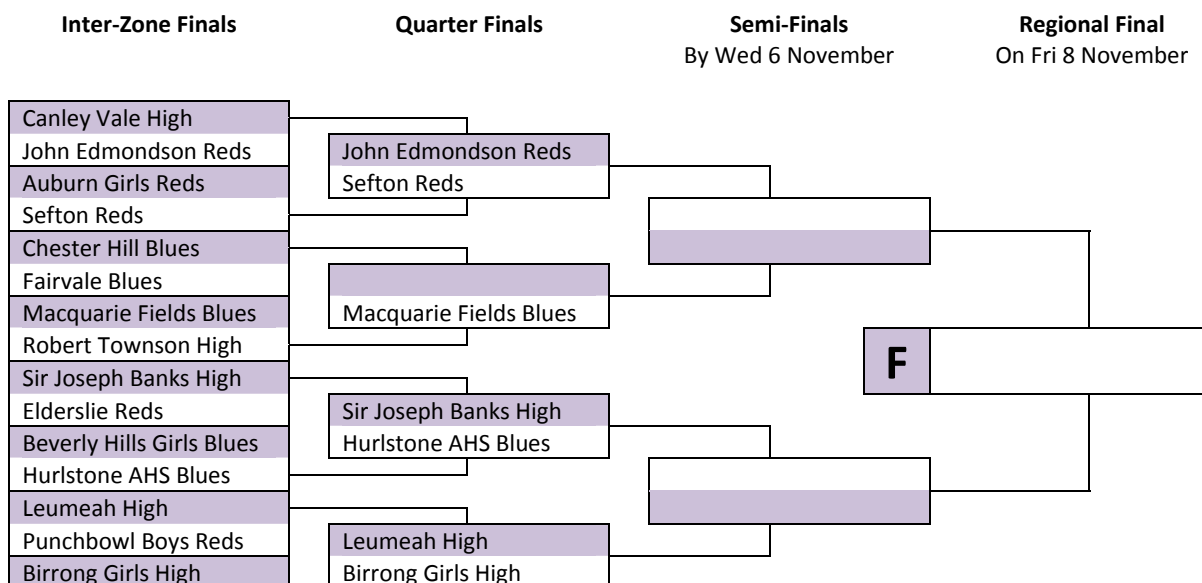
Luke Pereira



(L to R) Tegan, Catherine and Luke

Year 8 Premier's Debating Challenge

The year 8 Premier's Debating team have recently won their zone and interzone debating competitions and are on their way to the Regional semi-final in October. They will next debate against Sir Joseph Banks High School to gain a place in the Regional Final. The team comprises of Nicole Baxter, Samuel Nicholson, Kylie Nguyen, Visnja Vlahovic and Rhuten Yeole. They are enthusiastic about their upcoming debates and we wish them the best of luck.



The draw leading to the Regional Final

The Future of America Debating Competition

Students from the Year 11 Premier's Debating team have been competing in the *Future of America Debating Competition* at Sydney University. This is a unique opportunity for students to debate real world issues and deepen their awareness of the strong links between the US and Australia. Sixteen teams have been competing for the grand prize of three 16GB Wi-Fi iPads with Retina display.

Dominic Bui Viet, Alicia Lam and Christine White are representing Hurlstone and have advanced to the finals of this competition in October. They have defeated North Sydney Girls High School in their first round and debated the affirmative 'That the US needs an austerity program'. In the second knock out debate, they defeated students from The Hills Grammar School and were debating the negative, 'That the US should implement Australian-style gun control'. Both debates were challenging and saw Hurlstone emerge as winners.

Currently, the team is in preparations for the Grand Final against Pymble Ladies College. They are the affirmative side in the topic 'That race relations in the US have not improved during the Obama presidency'.

We wish them the best of luck for their upcoming debate and will update the school community on the result of this debate.