



ALUMNI NEWS



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FROM THE DESK OF...



This month sees the launch of 'Amazing Grace' in movie theatres across the country. The film tells the inspiring story of William Wilberforce and his role in the abolition of slavery. 2007 marked the 200th anniversary of the abolition of slavery. Perhaps most exciting about the film is the fact that it clearly portrays the role that Wilberforce's Christian faith played in his lifelong struggle. William Wilberforce was first elected to the House of Commons at the age of 21 together with his friend and Prime Minister William Pitt; and dedicated the rest of his life to leading the fight to abolish slavery. Though he was chronically ill and his anti-slavery bills were repeatedly rejected by Parliament, his courage and passion to abolish injustice earned him the title the "Conscience of Parliament." He worked to collect evidence of the crimes of the slave trade, collected 390 000 signatures to support his cause and relentlessly crafted anti-slavery bills. After almost 20 years of leading the British abolitionist movement, Wilberforce wept tears of victory when the slave trade throughout the British Empire was abolished in 1807. Outstanding is that, compelled by his Christian worldview, Wilberforce also

believed in the reformation of larger society. Some of his good works included prison reform, fair care for prisoners of war, improving hospitals and the lot of the poor. He also helped found the British and Foreign Bible Society, the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, as well as many other charities. He fought for societal reform in both India and around the world. Wilberforce's life can best be summarised by the following quote: *"Surely the principles, as well as the practice of Christianity, are simple and lead not to meditation only, but to action."* It was his friend William Pitt that penned these lines as an encouragement to Wilberforce during the abolition struggle. Pitt's words and the testimony of Wilberforce's life stand as an encouragement to us to engage in the world around us, putting our own faith into action. There is a poignant scene in the film, where an exhausted William Wilberforce collapses into the arms of his wife. The British MP is heartbroken over his repeated failed attempts to stop the slave trade. After years of struggle—of enduring political tricks, treachery, and deceit—he is ready to give up; the campaign seems utterly hopeless. Today as we look at our societies and the world at large, it is easy to become discouraged by what we see. Even as believers, we can lose hope, wearied by the obvious needs. Years earlier Wilberforce received a letter from John Wesley, whose words ring true today just as they did for William Wilberforce: *"Unless God has raised you up for this very thing, you will be worn out by the opposition of men and devils, but if God be for you, who can be against you? Are all of them together stronger than God? Oh, be not weary of well-doing... Go on in the name of God, and in the power of His might."*

- Michael Neumann



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PROJECTS & PRAYER REQUESTS

Student Village



The completion of the first house of the student village was truly an exciting thing for HTC! Students in 2007 have really enjoyed their big rooms and bathrooms and plenty of cupboard space. So it is with great excitement that we announce to you that Phase 2 is underway and is steaming ahead! Our second student house is being built between the first one and the soccer field, next to College house, and is already a floor high! It is of similar design to the first one and will house about 36 students. It should be completed by the middle of October 2007. This means we will be selling Saffron house and move into the new house in the 4th Term of this year. We will then have the two new houses, College house, Varsity house and Tucker house (purchased in 2004). The idea is to eventually have four new houses in the Student Village, with a communal eating hall, but already with the completion of Phase 2, we could house a total of 90 students *just* in the 2 new houses and College house which are all next to each other. It also improves the student living experience substantially. We would love for you to come for a tour of the Student Village, so let us know when you're in town!

- Creston Mascini

Small Business Initiatives

We would also like to bring to your attention the small business initiatives that we are venturing into this year. We have identified areas where we, as HTC, can make a practical difference, and in the process bring in additional income that we can use to sponsor students and expand as a Training Centre. These include the following:

Refreshment Sales

We have started a small business of selling refreshments like 'boerewors' rolls and drinks after the Sunday services at the church. This not only provides a service to our members, but also work opportunity and the development of skills in entrepreneurship for our students. We are currently looking to expand this outside the church environment.

Hatfield Driving School

We would also like to announce to you that the Hatfield Driving School is in the process of being born! We've realized that assisting our students, Alumni, and the public in getting their drivers licences is a service we would like to offer. Soon you can get driving lessons from our trusted HTC driving instructors. Stay in contact with HTC at 012-3682381 for opening dates.

Career Direct

Career Direct is an exciting new service offered by HTC with very positive results so far. In January, two HTC staff members were trained by Crown Financial Ministries to be Career Direct consultants. They have since then assisted many people to make decisions about which career to follow or to know how to structure their current career so that it is ideally suited for them. Career Direct is a computer-based aptitude test that was designed by Larry Burkett (*Business by the Book*), and Christian psychologists to help every person find their purpose as they find the job and work environment in which they will be the happiest, perform the best, and have the least stress. We would like to make this service available to you at a special Alumni price. Contact HTC at 012-3682381 to book an appointment.



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HIGHLIGHT REVIEW

YOYL Tracks



In the last Alumni newsletter we introduced the new Audio-Visual and Music & Worship tracks, as part of YOYL, to you. The tracks have been running for a term now, with 6 students discovering the world of Audio-Visuals from Gary Price in the Impact Media & Communications Department, and 16 students being enriched by Gerben & Mieke Grooten in the HCC Worship Department. It has been a huge success and we, as HTC, are very excited about the level of input that the students are receiving. Faye Oberholzer, one of the Music & Worship Track students has given her impression of the term: *"I speak on behalf of all my fellow students when I say that this has been an amazing term of discovering worship in its true and original form. Although it is an ongoing journey, something big has definitely been opening up in the spirit for us and we are very excited to bring what we have discovered to the world around us. Even though there has been a lot of focus on the theory and history of music, which can sound like potentially boring concepts, we have all been glued to our seats! I am personally learning a lot about being free in God and being lead by the Spirit by the way that Gerben lives his life and by the realness of God in every class. The thing that stays with me after this 1st*

term in the worship track is that God created all music. Sin has perverted some of it but all of it can be redeemed and can be used to glorify God again. I am so excited to be a part of that process!"

YOYL Outreaches



The YOYLers just returned from their first outreach for the year. Six different teams went to Hazyview, Klerksdorp, Elekwatini, Pietersburg, Hillbrow and Nellmapius where they used dances, dramas and mimes to minister in schools, hospitals, old age homes, prisons and churches. They also did door-to-door and open-air ministry and for those of you who may wonder: yes, MALIBONGWE is still going strong! It was wonderful to hear the testimonies of how the Lord used them to touch people's lives through the sharing of their testimonies, prophetic ministry and through being the hands and feet of Jesus in practical ways to the people they met. One of the most amazing things about outreach though, is how God works in the lives of the students the most. One of the YOYL leaders said it like this: *"The most beautiful thing I experienced on outreach this term was seeing how God intervened in the students' lives and changed them. One of the most breath-taking things to see in this world is the change of a single life, and I saw God come and do this in my team as He revealed Himself to them and through them. My team was brave, they stepped out, and even in the difficult things they chose to trust Him and keep going. They chose to live and because of that they saw*



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God and they became channels for others to see God through." Well done to all the YOYLers who stepped out of their comfort zones to show Jesus to people around them. May the seeds that you sowed and the seeds that were sown in you grow into real life in HIM!

various positions before joining the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) in the Communication Directorate in 1988. Tinks worked as the Personal Staff Officer (PSO) to the Surgeon General from 2000 until 2005. Her last position was as PSO to the Chief of Corporate Staff until she retired in July 2006. Tinks is the mother of Ministry Training School Coordinator, Michael Neumann. Since her start at HTC in January, Tinks has been a blessing and support to Ps. Jack and everybody at HTC.



CURRENT ISSUES

Birth of a Baby Girl



Michael and Andri Neumann became the proud parents of a beautiful little girl on 9 March 2007. Kaylin Shae was born at about 17:00 on that Friday afternoon. Although surprising her parents by arriving 2 weeks early, Kaylin was born without complications and weighed a tiny 2.55 kg. We pray that she will bring endless hours of joy to her very proud parents and that they will be blessed as they serve the Lord in raising her.

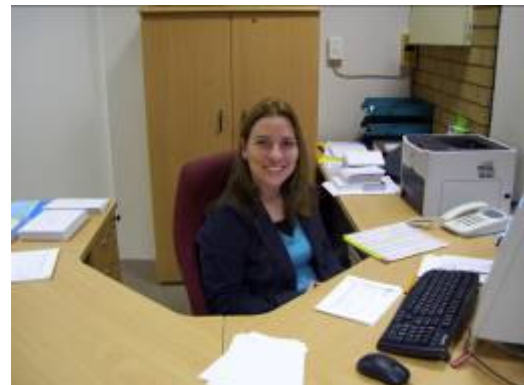
Introducing: Lydia Labuschagne

Another friendly face that can be seen at HTC nowadays is that of Lydia Labuschagne. Lydia did YOYL in 2002 and was a YOYL leader in 2003 and 2005. From 2006 she has been the HCC Membership Administrator under Ps. Jack Ferreira and has moved from the HCC Admin Department at the beginning of 2007 to become part of the HTC-staff. All the pastors and HCC members who deal with Lydia are touched by her friendliness and care, and we at HTC are very happy to have her as part of our team!

Staff matters

Introducing: Tinks Neumann

With Naomi Zietsman leaving HTC to join Dr. Graham and Marie Catto in the Community Services department, a position opened for a Personal Assistant to Ps. Jack Ferreira. This was filled by Ms. Kathryn Neumann (Tinks). Tinks was born and schooled in Pretoria and attended Pretoria University while completing her BA Degree in Social Work. She held





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Introducing: 2 new HTC Ministry Assistants

As of the beginning of 2007, HTC has 2 new Ministry Assistants who, with their love for the Lord and His people and their dedication and hard work, are both huge assets to HTC.

Letichia Hutchinson did YOYL in 2003, was part of the YOYL leadership team from 2004 – 2006, and is now a full-time Ministry Assistant to YOYL .



Sandi Mallinson did YOYL in 2005 and was a YOYL leader in 2006. Now in 2007 she is Ministry Assistant in the Ministry Training School, assisting Michael Neumann in the running of the program.

Applications

Please note that our second student intake for the year is coming up on 16 July 2007 for both YOYL and MTS. If you know someone who could benefit from joining HTC now in July or in January 2008 please urge them to contact HTC at 012-3682381 or at training@hatfield.co.za soon!

The Community

In the Newsletter of November 2005 we introduced you to “The Community Year” – a place for students who have completed YOYL to continue living in community. This has run successfully for a year and a half, with students receiving ongoing discipleship and the opportunity to be part of the HTC community while they work or study. We have decided to change the name from “Community Year” to “The Community”, so that it sounds more like a home than a program. It really has become home for the students and a place to keep growing in God. It is also becoming a place where students can reach out and touch the greater community. A Community cell is currently running on Wednesday nights for all Alumni or anybody else that is interested, and many people are positively affected by being exposed to The Community. Remember that all HTC Alumni can join “The Community”, as well as anybody else who would like to be part of a community that seeks God and makes a difference in the broader community. Boarding & lodging is reasonably priced and includes all meals. Anyone interested can contact The Training Centre for more info.

Please note that this newsletter is available in full colour on our website - www.hatfieldtc.co.za/alumni

Are you on FACEBOOK?? There is a fast growing YOYL group on www.facebook.com! Visit it and find YOYL friends you haven't spoken to in years!

Do you have any suggestions for the Alumni newsletter?

Please contact the Hatfield Training Centre at **012-368 2376** or e-mail us at htcalumni@hatfield.co.za

We'd love to hear from you!!