

**AGENDA FOR THE 97th OLD HERSCHELIAN ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD VIRTUALLY VIA TEAMS ON WEDNESDAY 12th February
2025**

1. WELCOME

- Thank you for joining the 97th AGM and welcome to all members present.
- Special welcome to the classes of the years celebrating their reunions.
- Specific years we are welcoming to the cocktail party and Founder's Day are 1965, 1975, 1985, 1995, 2000, 2005 and 2015.
- We are looking forward to the service at St. Saviours, lunch in the Mary Jagger Hall and tours of the school and the Herschel Heritage Centre by the Matrics.

Apologies: Justine MacDonald, Barbara Vintcent.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

These have been circulated to committee members as per the email sent to all HAU members by the secretary on 30th January 2025.

Proposed: Tamlyn Prevost

T Prevost

Siobhan

Seconded: Siobhan Mannion de Esnouf

3. MATRIC RESULTS, STUDENT AWARDS AND NEW HAU MEMBERS

3.1 New HAU Members in 2022

Every year we welcome new members to our union, especially the Matrics of 2024, and we hope they will enjoy the memberships and the work the union does on behalf of all Herschel Alumnae.

- We welcomed 105 Matrics from 2024. The 3 who declined didn't give a reason.
- HAU committee gained 2 new members. We welcome Zoe Simpson and Siobhan Mannion de Esnouf and thank them for their time.

3.2 Matric Results

Congratulations to the 2024 Matrics on their exceptional results and 100% bachelor's degree pass; especially as they are the first class to write the IEB exams. The results were sent out by email with the AGM minutes, so I won't repeat them here.

3.3 Recipients of Special Awards and Bursaries

- Old Herschelian Award for Service, Loyalty and Leadership: Emily van Heerden.
- Due to POPIA we can't mention the names of Bursary recipients, but we may share that this year 12 girls were awarded Brendalyn Stempel Bursaries, 1 girl was awarded a Kerry Hoffman Bursary, and 19 girls are receiving a bursary from the Herschel Bursary Fund.

4. HAU MATTERS

4.1 HAU Bursary Fund Donations

- The HAU has committed to making an annual donation to the Bursary Relief Fund of R30 000, for which the school provides a report on the expenditure.
- We aim to top up this amount throughout the year when able.
- In 2024 we contributed R30 000. Due to having to cancel our Winter Dinner this amount is not as high as we would like.
- The school has expressed their appreciation of the HAU's continued financial support of the Herschel Bursary Fund and asked to please extend their gratitude to the HAU members.
- The funds were used to provide relief for pupils requiring financial assistance. A summary for 2024 is as follows:
 - 16 Sports and Cultural tours.
 - Textbooks and external tutoring was provided.
 - Matric dance costs.
 - Medical costs for one pupil.

4.2 Caroline Herschel Award

- In 2024 the worthy recipient is Cheryl Hemingway who will receive her award on Friday at the Founder's Day assembly. You can read more about Cheryl and her achievements in the 2024 HAU Newsletter sent out at the end of last year. We congratulate her again.

4.3 Publications

- The HAU newsletter was sent out electronically at the end of the year.
- The Herschelian magazine will be published on the Herschel website on Founder's Day.
- Hardcopies of the newsletter and magazine can be printed at a cost and collected from the Senior School reception if required by members.

4.4 HAU Archives and Heritage Centre

- We are on track to have everything in our Heritage Centre digitised by the end of 2025. Our museologist and alumna, Kathy Wheeler, continues to work on this. There should be a soft launch by the middle of this year.
- We are always eager for any donations of memorabilia to the Heritage Centre we can preserve Herschel's history for future generations.
- Thanks to Kris Miller and Kathy for their continued hard work on this project.

4.5 HAU Communication

- Please join the HAU Facebook and Instagram pages to receive notifications of events, news of fellow alumnae and read a bit about our history. This is in addition to the emails sent by our secretary.
- We would love to showcase our amazing alumnae on our pages. Please be in touch if you or your business would like to be showcased.

4.6 HAU Database and Keeping in Contact

- Please email the secretary should there be a change to your email address to ensure that you continue to receive communications. nturner@herschel.org.za
- We rely heavily on Circle Secretaries to keep their years up to date and connected with each other and us, and to inform us of news of their class members.
- Please remember to email us news each year which we can include in our newsletter and on our social media pages.

4.7 HAU Funding and Donations

- The HAU relies on membership fees and donations for its funding and all support is highly appreciated.
- We are immensely grateful to members who have supported us.
- Please note that donations can be made through the school account for which an s18a tax exemption certificate can be issued. The school passes these donations on to us.
- Should you wish to donate to the HAU, please specify either HAU or Bursary Fund and your name as the reference. Please email our secretary for bank details. nturner@herschel.org.za
- The HAU membership fee is R1000 for a lifetime membership. This will be increased by a nominal percentage each year, but we are committed to keeping the cost as low as possible.

5. OTHER

5.1 Lady Margret Herschel Cocktail Club

- The club meets several times a year at various locations across Cape Town and all alumnae and friends are invited. Please join the Facebook group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/894720840635588> or email Caroline Isted to be added to the mailing list. carolineisted@gmail.com

5.2 Cocktail party

- Our annual cocktail party will be help in the Senior School atrium at 5:30pm tomorrow. Tickets are still available on Quicket or at the door at R250 a ticket.

5.3 Other matters to discuss

- Alumnae Abroad gathering happening in the UK for the first time. Cocktail party happening on the 5th March.

6. TREASURER REPORT by Ariyaana Cader

- Adding to this year's financial total were membership fees from matric subscriptions and R5000 merchandise sold at the book collection day.
- We were able to increase our contribution to the bursary support fund to R30 000 over the financial year, and donated R20 000 to the personal trust.
- This brings us close to one million rand in our current investment.
- We're in a good position financially, with money from Centenary items still trickling in.
- Our thanks go to Willow Financial services. And my thanks to Barbara, Nikki and Karen for all the support.
- About R4000 added to the fund from late HAU membership subscriptions around Founder's Day.

7. THANK YOU'S

- Nikki Turner for keeping the HAU afloat.
- Herschel IT and Marketing departments for all their help.

Adjourn meeting: 5.15pm

Sign Minutes

