



# CHESSMOVES

## **JUNE 2000**

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### **NEW ADVERTISING POLICY**

The CHESS Committee has decided to open the CHESSMOVES newsletter, and (later) the website, up to moderate levels of advertising. This decision was taken in light of the cost of both of these activities.....the newsletter costs in excess of \$2,000 to print, collate and mail to our 4,000+ local and international members.

Please note that all advertisements will be vetted by the committee and no inappropriate advertising will be accepted. Preference will be given to advertisers who are ex-students of CHS, and their firms. Contact Bernard for more information.

### **El Presidente Speaks “Great Expectations 2000!”**

This year presents us all with the opportunity to assess our lives, our goals and to look forward with excitement to the new millennium. You can ask what does the old school do for you? What relevance is it for the future? Rest assured your committee asks this question of itself each month. What is our work? Will our work survive?

Well the word may well be the Web. The school is the repository of all student records; these include the names, ages and academic records of all students. This amounts to some thousands of names since 1941. Your current CHESS committee has registered a website address and is currently analysing our options on what data can be committed to the public domain as well as photographs of the school and other information. We are currently seeking sponsors who will receive advertising space on our site. With email we will be able to offer CHESSMOVES immediately to all subscribers as well as conduct a more active collection and update of data.

CHESS has collected over 4000 names and current addresses of ex-students and our sincere desire is that this be kept up to date and used as a resource for ex-students to remain in contact.

### **CHESS SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION (a.k.a. “The Annual Grovel”)**

Yup, it's that time of year again....Pat Douglas, our indefatigable secretary, maintains a database of ex-students. Many of these people are CHESS members and we'd like many more to take the plunge....cost is a mere \$20 per year.

CHESS uses these funds to contribute to select school projects, organise and run reunions, to complete this newsletter (which is delivered quarterly to members and annually to non-members) develop and maintain the (impending) website, to facilitate the preservation and organisation of the school's history, and, and, and.....etc.

The point is perhaps best demonstrated by real-world illustration; the database of ex-students has been compiled by Pat in her spare time. With over 4,000 names it is the only register of past students of CHS that exists, and, as such, is the primary point of reference for any ex-CHS student trying to track down old friends and acquaintances.

Pat does this free of charge. The Editor of this missive contributes his work free of charge. Everyone on the committee, and active in the organisation, is an unpaid volunteer, working to further the CHS community.

Your support is needed to ensure that CHESS can continue to offer the services it does, so please fill out a membership form (enclosed) and return it to us with your \$20.

For those with a more ‘hand-on’ outlook, feel free to come to any of our meetings and contribute; any and all input is valued and fresh people lead to fresh ideas.....you can have a direct influence on the activities of CHESS; why not take part?

Finally, we are constantly concerned with the need to keep the database accurate and as complete as possible; have you moved since your last subscription? Perhaps we've sent you a copy of this newsletter and it's been forwarded through many hands to finally catch up with you....if so, please let us know your current address details so that we can contact you more directly in the future.

If you know of ex-students not being reached by CHESS, please let us know their contact details so we can send them future newsletters and keep them apprised of developments within the CHS community. We won't tell them you doxed them in, promise!

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

In addition to the reunions as discussed elsewhere, CHESS has been involved in a number of CHS school building maintenance projects, at the request of the school vice principals, in the last few years. In total, CHESS has directly contributed nearly \$5000 to these projects.

Also CHESS subsidises award nights for VCE students and an annual BBQ get-together for students who departed school the previous year.

We further financially assist students with a special request for funding from time to time, enabling them to participate in activities that might otherwise be denied to them. Such funding disbursements have included one-off payments to allow students the possibility to represent the school internationally.

On the administrative side, CHESS has purchased numerous filing cabinets for holding all the ex-students'

records, registered a domain name for the Internet and re-framed and copied several old school photos, now hung in the Hall of Honour at the school.

We are currently delaying further expenditure in anticipation of the 60th anniversary celebrations of the school, to which we expect to make a significant contribution.

### **MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

Our CHESS membership is steadily growing and the database of addresses of ex-students is also getting larger. The mail-out to all ex-students will be approximately 4,500 - considerably up on last year.

As next year will be the 60th birthday of Camberwell High School, we will need to contact as many ex-students as possible, so if there is someone that you know that went to the school, please drop us a line with their address.

We will also be looking for helpers to work with the school and try to make this a very enjoyable 60th birthday.

The reunions have been very successful with ex-students who attended and the money raised. This is given back to the school for many worthy projects.

Our committee is small and not very over-worked so if you would like to help in any way, please give our President - Bernard Corser - a call and arrange to come along to one of our meetings and see what it is all about.

Pat Douglas

### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 2000, RESULTS:**

President	Bernard Corser	T: 9416-3155 F: 9416 5144 M: 0407-300-678	bc@corserproperty.com.au
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### **EX-CHS TEACHER GALLERY HONOUR**

A short time ago the school received a small parcel of memorabilia from an ex-teacher. I was delighted to find out that it had been donated by Mrs Phyllis Palmer, nee Parkhurst, who had been my French teacher in 1945 when I was in fifth form.

Mrs Palmer resides in Bendigo. She had led a most interesting life and indeed continues to do so. She had been taught by Miss Egan and Miss Dooley at MacRobertson's Girls' High and was very much in awe of them when appointed to Camberwell High School in 1945 at a very young age, the youngest staff member.

However, she had been head prefect and a house captain at MacRobertson and they welcomed her with much enthusiasm to the school. She must have been an excellent teacher as French was one of only two subjects I passed that year. You guessed it - the other was English, courtesy of that magnificent teacher, Dolly Egan.

For those interested, Phyllis's brother married Rhonda Beynon, a student at Camberwell High in the early 1940s, who finished school at "Mangarra Road".

Phyllis herself married and had three children all living in Melbourne. A fourth child was injured at birth and

lived until aged six years.

As a tribute to her seventeen years on council of the Bendigo Campus of La Trobe University, the Gallery there has been named in her honour and she is still much in demand at Graduation ceremonies.

Amongst her many interests, apart from teaching, was a close association with the prison system in Victoria, a post she held for many years.

If anyone is interested in contacting her, they may first like to contact me on 9813 1914.

Yvonne Wray

### **CHS NEARS 60 YEARS OF OUTSTANDING EDUCATION**

As I am sure you are all aware, next year marks the 60th Anniversary of the opening of Camberwell High School.

CHESS has therefore decided not to hold a decade reunion this year, but instead we will be working with the school to help them with any activities, which they decide to organise.

Next year, there will therefore be plenty of opportunities for any ex-students who feel so inclined to volunteer to help with the work necessarily involved in such celebrations.

The school community is in the pre-planning stage as yet, but we hope many of you will decide to become involved. A phone call to the school or myself would be much appreciated.

We hope to hear from you and thank you in anticipation.

Yvonne Wray 9813 1914

### **EDITOR'S RANT**

There are a few things to cover this time around; firstly the new-look CHESSMOVES. I've opted for a cleaner, less busy, layout - hoping to improve readability and make the newsletter appealing to a wider audience....any feedback, preferably constructive :), will be appreciated.

I have also taken the liberty of rebuilding the school emblem (see cover page) to make it print better; so before anyone writes and tells me that the font used in the lettering is wrong, yes I know.....but I think everyone would have to agree it is sharper and clearer, and, as that was my purpose, we'll have to make do - unless someone would like to take the time to provide me with a sharp, reproducible logo?? I thought not <grin>

A couple of people have asked me about how the newsletter is put together; well, it takes around 20-30 hours in total, using a K6-III/450 with 128MB RAM and a high-end scanner. I have been using Pagemaker 6.5, but with this edition have upgraded to Indesign 1.5. I used Win98 as my OS, but am seriously considering going to Win2K.....many of the articles themselves are contributed by committee members and the balance I cull from the weekly school newsletters. They usually need a re-write to make them "flow" as I'll often take details from several articles to write one 'article' (I use the term "article" very loosely...)

Finally, no, I am not a graphic designer; I'm qualified as an economist (we all make mistakes!!) and run an internet consulting and design firm...but web design and design for print - in spite of both having the word 'design' in them - are realms apart and there is surprisingly little correlation between the two.

TO close, I feel compelled to add my voice to the chorus asking for your assistance; CHESS is doing valuable work supporting the school, the current students and the population of past students, and is gearing up to take on a wider range of projects for the coming year; to continue to do all this we need your help.

Any contribution will be appreciated - simply joining is a significant boost to our revenue, and relatively inexpensive. Obviously, if you can find the time to attend a meeting, we'd love to see you there.

Cheers

Blake Robertson

Editor

PS Tony Hoye said he'd join if I could get his name in the newsletter. Well Tony Hoye, looks like you just

joined up for two years. Thanks mate! :-)

*Unbelievably cheap space for hire! Just think, it's a tax-deductible business expense that helps CHESS, is well targeted and is cheap!!! Call Bernard today (please....)*

### **CHS NEWS IN BRIEF**

#### **International Student Project, 2000**

5 CHS students have been selected to participate in the 2K International Student Project. The project was established in 1997 and encourages schools from around the world to participate. Its aim is to provide for an international web of gifted children, promote academic excellence and to enhance cultural understanding. Teams from each school are partnered with teams from another, international, school and work cohesively on whatever project is assigned to them.

Communicating via the internet and email, the students are required to produce work of extreme quality; the outcomes of their research are presented to the annual 'final forum', last year held here in Melbourne.

This year the final forum is being held in Greece; CHS students, as participants, are expected to attend. TO do so they need to raise in the order of \$18,000 before September.

If you or your firm can help in any way, please contact the school.

These kids need all the help we can muster, so if you're in a position to help directly with donations of money, or indirectly with donations of prizes, organising fundraisers or the like, please do so.

#### **CHS Students Visit China**

Several CHS students and staff travelled to China, by invitation of the City of Melbourne, to represent Victorian government schools at a ceremony celebrating the relationship between the City of Melbourne and our sister city in China, Tianjin. People present at the formal ceremony included Melbourne's Lord Mayor, Peter Costigan, the Lord Mayor of Tianjin, and Australia's Ambassador to China, His Excellency, David Nevins. Channel 9s "Postcards" program also had photographers and crew present, and are expecting to air the segment sometime later in the year. The students spent a day with the 3,200 students of the Tianjin Experimental School, but were unable to determine exactly what about it was experimental.....

#### **Canberra CHESS hosts CHS student**

The Canberra Chapter of CHESS sponsored a student, Michael Heder, on a visit to Canberra to undertake a whirlwind tour of some of Australia's highest level medical research facilities. The itinerary included the John Curtin Medical Research Institute (including a tour of their world-renowned "advanced labs") and an "access all areas" tour of the Canberra General Hospital. Writing in the weekly school newsletter, Michael commented "...I found the experience to be enormously interesting and highly informative. Furthermore, I would encourage anyone interested in science to grasp such an opportunity wholeheartedly."

#### **ROTARY, POWERHOUSE AND CHS**

CHS continues to receive generous support from the Rotary Clubs of Camberwell, Canterbury and North Balwyn for students to participate in RYPEN weekends and "emPOWERme" events - a day of "direction and focus" activities facilitated by the Powerhouse organisation and Lord Somers Camps.

The camp has been running for 16 years and was attended this year by three CHS students.

Rotary, through supporting activities such as these, makes a continuing and valued contribution to the school's extra-curricular programs.

#### **CHS STUDENTS SCULLING AGAIN**

CHS Senior Girls Rowing Team have competed in several competitions, including the Head of the Yarra and the Henley Regatta, State School Championship and the Head of the School Girl's, held in Geelong.

#### **HOUSE SWIMMING SPORTS RESULTS**

Held at North Balwyn Pool, the entire event was manned and run by students and teachers with the following results: Churchill, Roosevelt, Macarthur and Montgomery.

### **CHS ACADEMIC PERFORMANCES - OVERVIEW ONLY!**

#### **VCE Results, 1999 VCE Students:**

Most Outstanding Student: Mary Phan, 99.1%  
Group Results: 14% of students received 95%+  
41% of students received 80%+

80% of students received first round offers from major universities.

School Recognition - 1999 "Best Victorian Government Schools" Listing:

1st	Drama
Equal 1st	Biology
	Classical Societies and Culture
Equal 3rd	Geography
	Graphic Communication
	History
4th	Materials Technology
	Maths Methods
	Specialist Maths

### **PEER SUPPORT PROGRAM**

The Peer Support program runs for eight weeks. The purpose of the Peer Support program is to improve the quality of life for school students through positive peer influence. It helps students to adjust easily to a new school, contribute to a spirit of community and promotes self-confidence, responsibility and leadership qualities.

Each Year 7 student is placed in a group of 8 students from other Year 7 classes, with two Year 11 leaders for each group. These leaders have been trained to conduct activities and discuss relevant issues with their students.

The program runs in Term 1 with each group having a peer support session once a week on a rotating timetable. Generally, Year 7 students enjoy the interaction with senior students and continue to keep in contact after the program finishes.

The Year 11 students also enjoy the challenge and responsibility - for some it is an 'eye-opener'!

### **QUICK FACTS ABOUT CHS**

#### **2000 Enrolments**

Enrolments for 2000 are again at record levels for Year 7 and overall, in excess of 1050 students and 70 teachers now turn up each morning....well, most do, most mornings.

#### **Sports**

CHS is continuing its long tradition of competing in a range of sports. At last count (and this may not be the complete list - Ed) CHS was fielding teams and/or competing in the following sports:

Football	Cricket	Tennis	Swimming
Baseball	Basketball	Golf	Athletics - all
Ironman	Volleyball	Rowing	Surf Championships
Softball	Hockey	???	

#### **New Building**

The day after the footings were dug for the new building, the weather, for the first time in three years, decided to get into the spirit of winter and subsequently flooded the newly dug footings. The weather is proving such an obstacle that it *may* delay completion. Welcome to winter in Melbourne.....

#### **NEXT ISSUE: Profiles**

Several famous people have passed time as students of Camberwell High.....best known perhaps are the Minogues, but there have been numerous others. Look for profiles in future editions of CHESS, or write one yourself and submit it to us!

#### **WEBSITE UPDATE....AGAIN....**

The CHESS committee has finalised plans for the website and, like the school's new complex, "construction has begun".

The website will be found at [www.chessmoves.com](http://www.chessmoves.com) - please note that we have opted against getting a .com.au name (for a plethora of reasons that we won't go into here!), so please don't type the .au at the end!

We discussed at length precisely what should be available, what facilities we thought should be implemented and what information should go online from the CHESS archives and the CHESS database.

Particular attention was paid to the information included in the database and what, if any, of that should be available via the internet.

The outcome of these discussions is that the only information of this nature available on the website will be the name and year of departure of each student; you will NOT be able to determine a person's contact details from the website. We took this decision with a view to protecting the privacy of those people in our membership lists and we will not be deviating from it.

The website itself will be constantly update and, were requested, expanded to incorporate new information and to meet the needs of the CHESS community as they evolve further.

As with the newsletter, we have opted to open up the website to advertisers to defray outlays. The advertising rates are very reasonable, so give it some thought if you're in business or need advertising.

It is our hope that the website will serve as a resource for all ex-students of CHS; it is not in any way restricted to members of CHESS, nor is it our intention that it should be. We are creating the site, in part, to give you the means to communicate more easily with CHESS, and to enable you to simply and conveniently catch up on what's happening at your old school.

The site is slated to go live on 30th June - so please drop in and give us your feedback.