



CHESSMOVES

MARCH 2002

IN THIS ISSUE:

- President's Report
- Principal's Message
- Treasurer's Report
- A Message from our Secretary
- Discourse - Brad Hannaford
- Reflections of our founder - Barry Garnham
- Membership flier
- 80s and 90s reunion RSVP

CHESS MEETINGS:

4th March
15th April with AGM to follow at 6pm
13th May
17th June
15th July
12th August
9th September
14th October
11th November
3rd December
(venue to be advised later)

Meetings are held at CHS (except school holidays) at a staff room opposite the main entrance from 5.30pm to 7.00pm. All ex-students are welcome.

PRESIDENT

Mr. Bernard Corser
331 Highett Street
Richmond, 3121
(W) 9416-3155
(H) 9429-5026
(M) 0407-300-678
bc@corserproperty.com.au

SECRETARY

Pat Douglas
PO Box 1
Bayswater, 3153
(H) 87042973
(M) 0409-598-504
frankd@opalsaust.com.au

TREASURER

Mr. Neil Bouvier

19 McPherson St.,
Moonee Ponds 3039
(W) 9605-0587
(H) 9370-2578
neil_bouvier@pivot.com.au

EDITOR

Deb Johnson
2 Duval Court
Wheelers Hill, 3150
(H) 9560-6735
(M) 0412-844175
landie@dingoblue.net.au

We welcome any contributions from past students. Please contact Deb by post or email with any written articles. Also, if any CHESS members wish to place ads, please contact Bernard.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

CHESS PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS TO YEAR 12 FAREWELL LUNCHEON
ON 12TH OCTOBER 2001

As students and ex-students we all own this school. But what will you want from your old school? This is not a question to answer today.

Your current committee of eleven members are students from the classes of 1941 to 1971. At our recent CHESS meeting, I asked the committee what message they wished to relay to you as departing students.

The responses ranged thus:

Some CHESS members spoke of our efforts to preserve in archives your student records so that you may contact the school in the future for proof of your various academic achievements. Another message was about the establishment of the Chessmoves website. This site, whilst still in its infancy, allows us providing information on the school and the ex-student organisation. Our newsletters, photographs and e-mail are just some of our choices to include as part of the Internet connection. The strong message was 'please stay in touch', keep the school informed of your address and contact points. Statistically, we know that, during the first 20 years after your departure from school, Camberwell High will not be high on your social agenda. But later on, you will reflect and maybe want to be part of, or organise, a reunion or social event at the school.

Searching for ex-students always presents us with a challenge. Obviously, people move house, move interstate or live overseas. Name changes are a problem. Girls, don't get married or, if you do, don't change your name! Many ex-students have looked at our guest lists for events and not recognised the names of girls of their year, until given their maiden name.

Our message is the invitation to belong, not just to CHESS, but to that community of ex-students that have each contributed to six years of student life here.

Finally, the committee wished to talk of hope for the future. This school was established during WWII and your houses of Roosevelt, Churchill, MacArthur and Montgomery are

reminders of that, my own schooldays were of the Vietnam War and moratorium marches.

The world now faces a complex problem in global terrorism. This problem, as shocking and depressing as it is, must not stop your commitment to planning and working for the future. Maybe things will never be the same as some were quick to quote after New York. But you are part of a great democratic tradition that will survive this trauma and move forward. You must seize every opportunity to advance your skills and work for a better world community.

Thank you for attending today and thank you to Elida Brereton, Glen Linton and Ken Tanner for their support of CHESS this year.

Bernard Corser
(Class of '71)

80s and 90s REUNION
October 18th at 7pm
Assembly Hall, CHS
(see inside for more details)

CHESS TREASURER'S REPORT

NAB TERM DEPOSIT

In October it was decided to partially redeem \$2000 out of the \$5000 held on 12 months term deposit with the NAB. The yearly interest rate has dropped from 5.25% to only 1.00% with the \$3000 maturing on 16 November 2002. The extra funds were transferred to the cheque account to meet the costs of the forthcoming mail-out and postage costs. Apart from the \$3000 there is a balance of \$3428 currently in the cheque account.

CHESS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - 10 MONTH PERIOD ENDED 11 FEBRUARY 2002

The AGM will be held on 15 April 2002 where the whole year will be reported. However, as this is the full mail-out to all ex-students, I will be discussing the results of the last 10 months. The payments don't show yet the postage & printing of the 4000 ex-students mail out being conducted this month for the March 2002 ChessMoves. The March subscription mail-out has been brought forward from June for membership renewals to line up with the start of the calendar year. Correspondingly, there is no revenue yet for 2002 year subscriptions.

There is a net deficit of \$1267 so far over the year as our payments of \$5047 exceeded total receipts of \$3780. The main revenue items included in the \$3780 were subscriptions of \$2840, donations \$677 and Term Deposit Interest \$263 with, unfortunately, no webpage advertising income (please feel free to contribute !!)

The big ticket items were reimbursing the school for the planting of the Silver Birch Trees (together with a plaque) for \$1200, signwriting of \$500 for the front gate, purchasing and updating of old CHS student records in archiving/filing cabinets of \$870 and advertising in the 2001 Prospice magazine of \$750. We have switched webpage providers and had a major overhaul of the website - and the costs of maintaining it and publishing ChessMoves amounted to \$555. Other cost items were catering, bank charges, printing and postage totalling \$1172 so together with the school reimbursements of \$3005, plus webpage of \$555; all costs came to \$5047. Remember, there was no CHESS re-union held for the last two years, except for the CHS 60th birthday celebrations in late March 2001.

MERCHANT BANK

CHESS has an ABN 54 448 712 733 principally to conduct business as a Bank Merchant so as to

accept credit card payments. Of the total \$3517 subscriptions and donations received so far, \$1845 or 52% has come from credit cards' banking. Since 1 May 2001 AGM bank charges have cost \$162 made up of ongoing imprinter fees of \$2.20 pm and floating fees of \$139.91 based on @7.65% on the value of deposits.

*Neil Bouvier
C.H.E.S.S. Treasurer*

Reflections of our founder.....

By Barry Garnham

I have always been both very proud and thankful for my happy schooldays at Camberwell High School and grabbed the opportunity of forming C.H.E.S.S. over ten years ago, when a lot of hard work (good fun too) was done in 1991, contacting past students for the "fifty years" celebrations. We capitalised on the lists of names, formed the ex-students' society and an enthusiastic band of stalwarts have guided C.H.E.S.S. since, providing a most valuable link between ex-students and the school. Pity such an organisation was not both commenced and survived much earlier, because friends made at school, have a certain significance as we all understand, trust and appreciate each other in a special way, having all had a common experience and a similar background.

Four years after the school opened in 1941, I was in the first group to go right through the school, obtaining my Leaving Certificate in 1949. Our school motto "Disco Consulere Aliis" was then translated (undoubtedly by Latin teacher, Miss Dooley) as "I am learning to help others" and this creed was drummed into us and I am sure it has had a profound influence on the balanced life I have tried to lead, embracing family, business, sporting, community and social involvements.

We made up for the lack in those days of having any school traditions and also physical resources, such as libraries, assembly hall, gymnasium, meeting rooms, etc., with many enhancing factors such as great support and encouragement from the teaching staff and by us having a strong school ethic, spirit, loyalty, enthusiasm and a determination to succeed in whatever paths lay before us.

The Australian public school system, that should be resourced and staffed to the very highest of standards, generally seems to be under constant attack nowadays from many quarters, with governments Australia-wide gaining political advantage by pandering to religious groups and the 'aspirational voters', who perhaps are blinded by delusions of status, rather than the merits of moral courage, compassion, enthusiasm, determination, hard work and service to others, which will produce good citizens and a fair and fulfilling society for all Australians.

I trust that Camberwell High School will continue to deliver these latter merits into the future and that C.H.E.S.S. will continue to support it and also thrive.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Greetings to all members of CHESS from the CHS school community of 2002! This year sees the school's enrolment at 1200 students, the highest ever, including our biggest intake of girls, forty International Students, and 105 staff. We are turning away about 60 students each year and hope to cap our total enrolment at 1250. Students come to CHS from over 50 feeder schools (at Year 7), and we now have nine (9) Year 7 classes.

Stage 2 of our Masterplan -- for our new library, Home Economics, I.T. and Admin areas -- is expected to be funded this year. The new VCE Centre (opened last year) is an excellent resource, as is the Arts/Technology Complex, and our landscaped grounds and CHESS treed pathway enhance the school.

Our Year 12s of 2001 did well, with 90% of them going on to major universities (76%) and TAFE, (14%). CHS was the third top school in Victoria in Information Technology Systems, and our Dux gained an ENTER score (tertiary entrance %) of 99.80.

Please visit the school if you can: we enjoy meeting former students.

*Elida Brereton
Principal*

REPORT FROM OUR SECRETARY, PAT DOUGLAS

We had a reasonably good year as we did not hold a decade reunion. We had 236 ex-students joining or renewing their memberships and gradually, we have been able to fill in some of the missing addresses on the school database. We get some feedback from members, via our membership forms. Over the last year, there have been many questions asked and here are the answers (to the best of my ability):

Q: When we are renewing our membership, do we have to answer all the questions?

A: You only need to fill in your name and phone number.

Q: Is there a Sydney chapter?

A: No, but if anyone is interested, please give me a call and I will arrange a contact in the area.

Q: Is there a Perth chapter?

A: Same answer as above.

Q: Is there a Canberra Chapter?

A: Yes, and the contact person is Fred Roberts, 24 Wynter Place, Hughes, ACT 2605. Ph: 02 6281 3681

Q: Is there a list of ex-students and the years that they attended the school?

A: Yes, this is available to anyone interested in holding or helping the committee, regarding reunions.

Q: What period does the membership cover?

A: 1st January to 31st December.

Q: Could vale notices include date of death?

A: Not always possible.

Q: Could we have a 5 year period for subs?

A: The Committee will look into this.

Q: Could the teachers be included in the reunions?

A: The records that were kept of the teachers are not complete. In some cases, only the initials were recorded. This makes it very hard to trace people.

CHESSMOVES DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE:

June 15th, 2002.

Send all articles to Debs at her address on page 2 or via email on landie@dingoblue.net.au

*MESSAGE FROM DEBS, THE EDITOR:

For the pedants, I have adjusted the issue number on our Chessmoves as my brother was able to donate some issues to complete the gaps in our archives. Thanks Neil for not having a throwout with your last house move!

DISCOurse

Our 13 question questionnaire.....

Replies from Brad Hannaford (1976-1977)

Which teacher inspired you at CHS?

I would have to say Mrs Tempest. She actually got me to enjoy maths. First time I ever got an A in maths.

Your funniest school memory?

Getting my finger stuck in a math-o-mat at the back of Mrs Tempest's class. She asked me what I thought I was doing. Told her my finger was stuck. Cracked up the whole class, including her.

What subject did you hate and why?

English in Year 11. I couldn't understand the Indian lady's accent, so I told her. Got sent to the Principal's office for being a "very cheeky boy, goodness me".

What school house were you in?

Can't remember.

Can you hit the high note at the end of the school song?

School song? You've gotta be kidding. What's that?

Do you still have any school library books?

Definitely not! (I think!)

Your favourite sport or, conversely, what sport did you try to get out of?

Athletics was, most certainly, my favourite sport. I was actually good at it. Did the 1500 (8 times round the oval) and javelin.

What did you do on the last day of school? (we won't tell the police)

I think I wagged it.

Who was your best friend at school?

Had a few. Robert Puser (just got back in touch through www.schoolfriends.com.au), Kel Phillips (has his own locksmithing business in Queensland) and Andrew Strauss (last time I saw him, he was a pilot with Ansett - used to bring me Macca's when I was living in Tasmania)

What book are you reading now?

In between books at the moment. Usually read 2 or 3 a week.

Did you have a crush on a classmate?

Elizabeth Malelis (sorry if I spelt it wrong Liz). Also, as I was a typical male teenager, anything female! The females were a bit more choosy.

What classroom prank can you recall?

Setting off a ping pong ball smoke bomb in the male toilets, outside the library.

Did CHS have a lasting influence on your life?

Camberwell High taught me that going to school can be fun. I was only there for 2 years, but I had an absolute ball and actually learned something.

Here is Brad's bio and an unforgettable photo of him impersonating Uncle Fester at an office party.....

After leaving CHS I started a locksmithing apprenticeship with Handy Hans Locksmiths in Camberwell. I was there for around 2 years and then finished my apprenticeship in Heidelberg at Northern Locksmiths. After this I moved to northern Tasmania in 1980, where I stayed for 8 years. (Tassie is full of slow-talking two-headed people, but you already knew that Debs**). I worked for a locksmith in Launceston for about 1½ years. While there, I married and had 2 daughters, Nicola and Elizabeth. After leaving the locksmithing company, I set up my own locksmithing business on a part time basis, based in Devonport. I also worked for a company called Tasman Starches as a shift supervisor. This was an absolute bummer of a job but the pay was REEEEEAAALLLY good. During this time I was also doing an associate diploma in electronic engineering - computers. I completed this course and then found out how much computer engineers get paid. Not much more than a locksmith so I moved back to Melbourne in 1988 and worked for a locksmithing company in Moonee Ponds. While working here I did a computer programming course and finally landed a job in the IT industry in 1990 with Holeproof (yes, the undies and socks mob). In 1994, I divorced and moved out on my own (after a 3 month stint with the oldies). Since then I've moved from company to company (this is the only way to move up in the IT industry) staying usually for around 2 years. The last firm I worked for was Carborundum Australia P/L in Thomastown where I was IT Manager. I worked with them for 3½ years. I now work for a software company called JD Edwards in Hawthorn as a Senior Technology Consultant and I have been here for just over 3 years. I met a lovely girl in 1995 named Kelly and we married in 1999. We have 2 sons, Jamie who is 4 years old and Ryan who is 15 months old. The 2 girls also live with us as well so we have a 20 year old, a 19 year old, a 4 year old and a 1 and a bit year old. Makes for some very interesting times. At least we have built-in baby sitters. Later this year I'm going to get the big snip. I'm getting too old to have any more kids. 4 are more than enough. LOL. We live in Thomastown, and yes I do wear moccasins, so don't give me no agro! I have only recently caught up with a few school friends from CHS through www.schoolfriends.com.au. Those of you who knew me at CHS would still recognise my sick sense of humour as it hasn't changed. The only thing about me that has changed is that I'm a lot larger than back then (not enough exercise) and I don't have very much hair left, which is why haircuts for me now are a number 1 comb on the electric

clippers (same ones we use on cats and dogs). I turn 42 in April. My wife is 34 (you are only as old as the woman you feel). I still drive past CHS on my way out to see clients and it's amazing how much the school hasn't changed. If anybody would like to catch up or just say hello, drop me an email to brad_hannaford@jdedwards.com I'll get back to you as soon as I receive the email. (and if it's from you Puser, you scrote, I might just take a bit longer) LMAO

Better get back to earning the dollars and I look forward to hearing from any old (OLD being the operative word here now) classmates.

Best wishes

Brad Hannaford

***Brad knows I grew up in Launceston! Ed.*

DETAILS ON THE CHS 80S AND 90S REUNION:

The big night is Friday October 18th, starting at 7pm. Go via the main entrance of Camberwell High School to the Assembly Hall. The \$20 admission cost will cover all our catering costs for refreshments and nibbles.

There are 3 ways to RSVP:

- *Fill in the form below (and enclose a cheque in your envelope)*
- *Ring Bernard on 9416 3155(W) or Pat on 8704 2973*
- *Email Deb Johnson at editor@chessmoves.com*

RSVP FOR 80S AND 90S REUNION:

NAME: _____ YEARS ATTENDED: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CONTACT PHONE NUMBERS: _____

NUMBERS ATTENDING: _____

SEND CHEQUE (made out to CHES) FOR \$20.00 PER PERSON AND POST THIS RSVP TO:
CHES, PO BOX 201, CHIRNSIDE PARK, VIC 3116