



CHESSMOVES

JULY 2002

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CHESS MEETINGS:

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. And Elida gives out FREE chocolates to attendees!

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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. Also, please consider our chessmoves website for your advertising!

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I am writing this report in the winter of 2002. One of our ex-students has emailed me to tell that he is off holidaying in Africa then up to Queensland! Have a good time while I turn up the heating.

Your committee has been meeting and planning the reunion for October this year. We welcome any input from any 1980's and 90's students for this event. Deb Johnson (nee Bouvier) is busy collecting email addresses for our data base. CHESS spent over \$4000 on our annual mailout this year and welcomes any new email addresses so that our costs may be reduced in the future.

Our recent AGM passed without the disruption of an election. There were enough nominations to fill all of the vacancies. This is quite a familiar procedure to the committee. However we welcome the day when various parties are campaigning for the coveted positions of President, Secretary and Treasurer.

Thank you again to Neil (Treasurer), Deb (Chessmoves) and Pat (Secretary) and the committee for their commitment for the 2002/03 year.

Disco Consulere Allis
Bernard Corser (Class of '71)

A Letter from one of our American exchange students - Harry Schooley (CHS 1962-1963)

Dear Editor

I just discovered your site while on a "nostalgia trip" through the www. I was an American exchange student at CHS from August 1962 to August 1963 (the American academic year) and spanned forms 5 and 6. I was hosted by the Camberwell Rotary Club while in Australia. It was a wonderful year for me to be in your country. I still have my school cap and the pocket patch from my green uniform blazer. I was in MacArthur House.

I do recall some memorable faculty that others from that time will no doubt remember.

Miss MacMillan taught French and accused me of speaking French with an American accent! I took English literature from Mr. Robertson, who I considered a "class act" as a teacher. Mr. Andrews was the Principal. For the time that I was there, I don't think he ever really knew who I was or why I was there! I took American History with Mr. Jones (he wore funny things in his lapels!) and was somewhat surprised that I was interested in the course and did well in it.

I was there during the Cuban Missile Crisis, which was sort of scary for me. I had seen the movie "On the

Beach" (Gregory Peck et al) the previous year and expected to live out the last of my days in Melbourne waiting for the end of the world.

The exchange program I was on had me living with nine different Rotary families in the general Camberwell area. None of my host siblings went to CHS. One of my host families were the Adairs. They owned a store at the Junction called Adair Brothers. Perhaps you've heard of it. Because two of my host families were avid Magpie barrackers, I still have a fondness for Collingwood and check their web site from time to time to see how the 'pies are doing. I received a "Nicest Listener Award" from radio station 3UZ for having given an American flag, that had flown over the US Capitol Building, to the Camberwell Rotary Club.

Well...as you can see, I really am wallowing in nostalgia. What do I do now? Since 1967 I have been teaching high school history at a small private school for girls in Buffalo, New York.

In closing, I was delighted to find your site. Please let me know if you received this note.

Disco Consulere Aliis!

Harry B. Schooley

Editor: I have exchanged many letters since with Harry, who is absolutely delightful. If any of his former classmates would like to contact him, please email me. Harry has very kindly sent me a photo of he and his wife, Lon, taken in 2001..

Canberra Chapter Report

Fred Roberts

It's been a while since you last heard from us. We still exist, but we're a quiet, mild-mannered lot and we don't make much fuss!

We are a small but select group, and it's a happy fact that some of our most loyal supporters are the partners of the actual CHESS members. At our last function, a barbecue lunch at the home of original chapter member Thelma Bell (Cocks) and her husband, Bob, we had a marvellous time (again) enjoying interaction with friends and going on a tour of the Bell Botanic Gardens.

As I key this, we're gearing up for our next get-together: brunch at the Crown Plaza Hotel on 21 July. All of our social functions have a good meal at their heart and the formula seems to work well.

It's not all good news, unfortunately. We've had to abandon a part of our program of which we were very proud. Our member, (Professor) Graeme Cox, initiated a program of inviting an outstanding Science student from Year 11 at CHS to visit Canberra and spend a day exploring the John Curtin School of Medical Research, which numbers a couple of Nobel Prize winners among its distinguished members. After the scheme had been running for a couple of years, another member, Dr Rosemary Wright, added her own contribution. She hosted the young visitor at her home and, on the second day of the visit, escorted him or her on Grand Rounds at the Canberra Hospital.

We welcomed four splendid young people under this program, but two events last year have led to its collapse. Rosemary left Canberra and returned to live in Melbourne, and the JCSMR's funds dried up in the arid atmosphere which has affected all research institutions. Reluctantly, the John Curtin School told us that it could no longer support the annual visit, so, even more reluctantly, we have had to drop it.

We'd love to have some new members. As I mentioned, we are a small group, but we're mostly of what might be described as Mature Age and we could do with a transfusion of

younger blood. If any ex-CHS people are moving to Canberra, please get in touch and we'll make you more than welcome.*

VALE

Dr. Pauline Armstrong (néé Watkin)
Elaine Eishold (néé Watkins)
Kathleen Outram (néé Allen)

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

We've had many successful events during our school year: the latest being the Mid-Year Concert on June 19th, which attracted a capacity audience exceeding 600 and featured superb entertainment. We saw improvement of all novice groups, (including Beginner Band and Orchestra); the excellent solos by our Music Scholarship winners, Ben Ellwood, Emlyn Vivian and Hugh Vivian; the excitement of the large multi-age choir, the quality of the string quartet; the delightful promise of the Junior Strings, and the sheer quality and musicality of our Junior Jazz, Symphonic Band and Stage Band, which impressed our audience greatly.

Other diverse events were the sensational Year 7 Karaoke Competition, organised over two lunchtimes in the Assembly Hall, with all home groups represented; the Junior Social; the Year 8 expedition to the Rivoli to see Star Wars as part of their English studies; the journey of 12 accompanied students to our Japanese sister-school in Yokohama; the finals of the inter-school Chess Tournament, where our gallant junior players did their best against some older students; and the participation of 85 students in the Australian Schools English Competition.

The CHS School Council has asked me to pass on to you Council's current activities: the Building Advisory Group (BAG) has recommended the building of three new science rooms as soon as possible (using school funds), because we need them and the government will not fund science rooms within the next few years. This is an exciting and sensible use of our funds. BAG has also proposed some smaller scale projects (using school funds) about which your feedback is invited (via the school General Office); upgraded fencing along Prospect Hill Road, extending size of some smaller rooms, covered ways to portables, an indented bus bay.

The Education Sub-Committee has secured a 'coup' in terms of our annual AVG James speaker for September 12th - the famous and entertaining Campbell McComas. Keep the date free for this special event.

Recently I received this email from a member of the travelling public:

"Dear Madam

I boarded the train at Surrey Hills around 8.30am last Friday and sat in a carriage where there were about eight Camberwell High boys sitting in a set of seats near the door. As I am a regular train traveller (and father), I often find myself observing the behaviour of school students as they travel on trains and trams and, unfortunately, I am not always impressed. However, on this occasion, (and in view of the current adverse publicity concerning government schools) I am particularly pleased to say that your students were a complete credit to their school. Some were reading, others were chatting. I can easily imagine any of these boys holding their own amongst any group, regardless of the school. Unlike many current critics of State Education, I think education is about much more than ENTER scores, and it looks like a good dose of this less easily-measurable stuff is being received at Camberwell HS... .."

In my emailed reply to this gentleman, I thanked him and hoped that this situation would always be true of our students. Well done, these and all well-behaved students of CHS!

Elida Brereton

Antarctica; a Wordy Journey by Hazel Edwards

ANARE (Australian National Antarctic Research Expedition) Writer on ice 2001
(CHS 1961-1963)

My Antarctic journey was a state of mind as much as an expedition to Casey Station. Proud that I'd

passed the stringent medical, despite not having a prostate (male checklist sent by mistake) I expected the major challenge to be coping with the cold or the crevasse field training. Instead, it was the imaginative challenge of using words to come to terms with the scope of Antarctica. And trying to use the FUD (female urinary device) while wearing thermals, ventiles (wind proofs), balaclavas, woollen jackets, boots with chains and the polar immersion survival suit.

Few 55 year old children's authors get the opportunity to go on an expedition, nor to become 'beset' in the ice for weeks, where creativity, rather than physical strength becomes the survival skill. I was a 'roundtripper', researching children's books and an adolescent eco-thriller when the polar re-supply ship M/V Polar Bird became 'beset' in the ice. There were 37 expeditioners and only three other females.

I was seduced by the icebergs, especially the one I could see from my porthole for weeks. No camera does justice to the translucent pink, blue or green colours caused by old marine life. Jokingly the guys called one the St Peter'sberg and another the Hazelberg .

So I created the 'Lachieberg', a children's story which expeditioners e-mailed home, after doing a find-and-replace to insert their own child's name. And after the onboard glaciologist had checked the facts! Since we were beset for several weeks, it was helpful to have something other than the sit-reps (situation reports of latitude, longitude, weather and knots we were't moving) to e-mail home. One of the 'tradies' swapped a jade iceberg photo for a version with his niece's name inserted. One of the 'boffins' as the scientists are known, painted a water colour of the 'Lachieberg', named after a neighbour's 7 year old Lachlan who had demanded 'A story from Antarctica with my name on it, Hazel.'

While 'Kodak poisoning' is common, and expeditioners joke that in an emergency they grab their camera and then call SAR (search and rescue), words are a way of coming to terms with surreal Antarctica. Most kept diaries, the Met (meteorologist) guy wrote poetry, the Doc was translating a German novel, the glaciologist was planning an autobiography and the polar stations generally issue a Year Book of expeditioners' writings. During the long winter, 'big' books by Steinbeck, Tolkein and Jeffrey Archer are popular.

'Wintering' expeditioners are away from home for up to fourteen months. That's hard on any family, even when exchanging daily e-mails and digital photos of Dad's icy workplace.

Skills are bartered in a cashless society. I helped spell e-mail love letters in return for a guarantee that when I had to climb over the ship's side into the barge, they'd make sure I didn't fall. Four hours is the maximum you'd survive.

While beset, activities are vital. A females-only belly dancing class was a first! Apart from limerick lunches and trivial pursuit (with no more than 2 Phds per table) the SL (Station leader) organised a Virtual Reality launch of my 'Non Boring Travel Writing ' book. No book. When my enterprising publisher faxed the front cover by satellite, only the white words came out. 'Boring Hazel Edwards' were the only words which could be read. Pity! But I can claim to have a book launched in Antarctica.

Being surrounded by experts on ele-seals, Antarctic law, navigation, polar medicine, and marine life was a bonus for an author. Especially as they wanted to share possible plots.

I've retained contact with the winterers and received their weekly Icy News and even written an Antarctic 'Whodunnit' for performance on station. Well, they did send me an invitation to the Midwinter Dinner (see below)

The men of the 54th ANARE cordially request the pleasure of your company at Midwinter Dinner, on Thursday the 21st June, 2001.

Pre-dinner drinks at two o'clock in the afternoon
Dinner at three o'clock

Formal dress and decorations

Transportation may be provided from the ice edge, somewhere north of 66° South, 110° East in the Southern Ocean.

Carriages at ten o'clock

RSVP

My reply was:

Subject: RSVP for Midwinter Dinner

Dear Men of 54th ANARE

I'd be delighted to accept your invitation to the MidWinter Dinner at Casey Station in Wilkes Land Antarctica on Thursday 21st June. It is the longest night here, but I guess yours will be longer.

BUT...

I have a slight transport problem.

Walking (or shanks pony) was one option, but it will take years, and I don't like to be late for functions.

Skiing was one possibility but the Great Southern Ocean is fairly challenging in an up-and-down kind of way.

Parachuting was another possibility, but the chute might freeze mid-air, and roof-crashing into the Red Shed seemed a little like gate-crashing the party.

The carriage from the ice-edge sounded enticing, but I have to get there first.

My tri-weekly swimming tends to be 20 laps, not 2000 nautical miles...

So unless you can arrange a fly-over to an airfield iceberg near you, I'll have to decline your invitation.

But I'll be there in spirit.

Hazel

In case I get another invitation and need transport, I'm creating a children's series called Antarctic Hot Ice Pack about vehicles such as the Hagg, Skidoo and Quad.

Hazel Edwards' Antarctic Writer on Ice' (Common Ground are the publishers) was launched at the All Saints Literary Festival in Perth in late March. 'Non Boring Travel Writing' is also available at

www.BooksOnWriting.com Her homepage contains some Antarctic stories www.netSPACE.net.au/~hazele

Editor: Hazel is a prominent Australian author, who has had 146 books published, ranging from the famous Australian children's book, "There's a Hippopotamus on Our Roof Eating Cake" to "Difficult Personalities".

CHESSMOVES DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE:

15th October, 2002.

Send all articles to Debs at her address on page 2 or via email on landie110@bigpond.com

DISCOurse

Our 13 question questionnaire.....

Replies from Liz Sanzaro (1965-1969)

Which teacher inspired you at CHS?

Ms Rusden, Ms Hardingham, and Ms Moore (Literature).

Your funniest school memory?

Finding the smallest classroom on the second level stuffed to the ceiling with screwed up newspaper as an end of school prank.

What subject did you hate and why?

Economics with Mr Bragge for reading out one of my test answers in which I wrote that the average Australian female receives 75% of the average Australian male (the word wages omitted) I believe this statement still stands.

What school house were you in?

Maçarthur

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

Wouldn't attempt to. Never could. I'm an alto.

Do you still have any school library books?

I don't believe I ever borrowed any, weren't the librarians from the dragon breed?

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

I avoided all sport and mostly succeeded.

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

Was too ill to attend. A right of passage not to be missed.

Who was your best friend at school?

Ann Corcoran, and still is.

What book are you reading now?

Trying to get my hands on a copy of "no logo".

Did you have a crush on a classmate?

Don't believe so. They were way too immature. Most of us were too busy in year 12 looking out the window at the blonde builder with the good legs who used to ride up on the steel beams being carried by crane during the construction of the new wing.

What classroom prank can you recall? (we know nothing)

None.

Did CHS have a lasting influence on your life?

Absolutely! Weren't we all at a very impressionable age?

Liz's article.....

Just received my March issue of Chess Moves and felt inspired to write.

I attended CHS from 1965 to 1969 inclusive. I was known as Elizabeth Stevens (now Liz Sanzaro). Secondary school years were a mixed bag for me; I had a couple of long illnesses, one over Matric exams, which I was not able to sit for at all. The time spent away interrupted my schooling somewhat.

When I was there, I had quite an assortment of friends, across a couple of years, most of whom I have lost contact with; Julie Smith whose wedding we attended and then promptly and carelessly lost contact with; Gwenda Miller who moved to New Zealand and I kept in contact with till her untimely death from cancer a few years ago and, luckily for me, Ann Corcoran, who I still regard as my best life long buddy. Ann has recently become a Federal MP for Isaacs and is quite a busy lady these days.

Others I have seen around the traps over the past few years are Ian Carlsson, Kevin Bailey who lives in the next

street with his wife and family, and, of course, Ann's siblings, John and Kevin; Margaret and her life partner Adam Shackleton; Bernard and Teresa. I have noticed David Thomas is an Art lecturer at RMIT and I'm sure I see Michael Paulusz on Ringwood East station most mornings. Sue McMillan, a year or so ahead of me, now Sue Thompson, is a vague relative and we keep in touch infrequently, as is Mark Stevens (form 6) 1965, now living in UK. Coincidentally, I believe Bernard Corser's wife used to work at Orica with my husband Bob.

One reason I have time to write this is that this year for the first time I have some "me" time. After leaving CHS I went to a most bizarre teachers college for young women, known as Larnook. I believe only Katherine Peowrie (1966) and myself were the only CHS girls to attend this institution where we became secondary school Home Economics teachers, which I have to say I love. I spent the next 8 years teaching, first at Flemington High, the building now houses the racing fraternity. Then at Blackburn South High School for 7 years, before having my family. In 1974 I married and moved from Moorhouse St, Camberwell to Heathmont. We have stayed in Maroondah in spite of moving twice more; just love the area, in particular the trees.

Bob and I have two offspring and they have done precisely that. Our son, Chris, after attending Melbourne High, left us at 18 to move to Adelaide to study Dentistry; he has 18 months to finish. Our daughter, Natalie, left us this year, also at 18, to move to Wagga Wagga where she is doing B.Arts TV and Film Production, so we are suddenly empty nesters, at least between holiday breaks. I have never left teaching but have diversified somewhat, doing a long five years emergency work to have some flexibility and for the past 7 years have been at Box Hill Institute of TAFE teaching Food Science, Nutrition and Food Hygiene to apprentice cooks, again something I thoroughly enjoy. Of course, at Box Hill I see John Maddock, who is our illustrious CEO and, in the Art and Photography department, I have found Steve Wickham. It's encouraging finding so many CHS past students in meaningful roles in our community.

Apart from raising the kids and teaching, I am passionate about conservation, environment, food production and sustainability and have been active in our local community for the last 17 years. My sister, Margaret Stevens, attended CHS, probably 1957 to 1963. She resides in Queensland but remembers her school days with affection, especially Miss Pettitt. Not so long ago I dropped in to CHS to visit Miss Rusden, who was Principal at the time. Both she and Miss Hardingham left a lasting impression with me, in their application of science. Mrs Moore, who taught literature, was outstanding. Music was an interest of mine and I wonder what happened to Trevor Henley. Of course, I've seen Mick Conway still doing Jug band music on morning TV not too long ago.

Hope my ramblings have conjured up some memories for a few of you out there and that your trip through life has allowed you too to reflect on those formative years with fondness.

Sincerely
Liz Sanzaro.

CHESSE Committee News:

With a poorer response with memberships, which has put a strain on some of our revenue, we may have to review our previous policy of having a big March Chessmoves mailout to everyone on our database; we have felt that this has fostered a connection with the school and has also helped us maintain a more accurate names/addresses database with responses about address changes....all vital when it comes to organising reunions, but it affects the viability of Chess. Of course, we will always provide a quality regular newsletter (in printed form) to our paid-up members - but the March mailout is such an expense that we may have to direct non-CHESS members to read the newsletter online. I implore anyone who has not renewed their membership to please do so....we are SO appreciative of subscriptions, which allow us to organise reunions, the Year 12 sausage sizzle, various projects that need to be done at the school (such as the replacement of the main sign at the entrance to the school, CHESS WALK, the proposal for seating in the gym changing room area), the printing of the newsletter, our inexpensive website (which has been wonderful, in terms of feedback from past students wanting to make contact - also the site is an enhancement to the school's main one, which is linked to ours)....So, please if you haven't renewed your subscription, please consider it as it keeps CHESS afloat! Membership forms can be downloaded from the website and also were inserted in the March 2002 Chessmoves.

chessmoves website update

The website is expanding progressively. I'm individually writing to several former students who will be featured in a section of the site showcasing achievements in different fields. There will be quiet achievers and prominent figures. CHS has been such a melting pot of talent....so watch the site! Please be patient in the photo galleries - formatting photos from the archives is labour-intensive work; each photo takes about six steps to its final uploaded state and site....old, dark photos (with tiny faces) have to be lightened....and many, for the computer-savvy, have to be uploaded as gif files because of poor detail. Getting one decade up can take a fortnight, in between the baby and the preppie. Not to mention my two disabled kids! The newsletters are uploaded after each edition...but without graphics (photos) so past students overseas can keep up too. Please DO look at the site: <http://www.chessmoves.com> and if you have any candid photos you want featured, please email me.