



CHESSMOVES

MARCH 1995

President's Message:

Welcome to this first edition of CHESSMOVES for 1995. Each year CHESS sponsors the mail out to all ex-students on the school list as a contribution to the publicity of the school. You do not have to be a paid up member of CHESS to receive this letter. It is our aim to assist in providing the school with a mailing list that will allow for comprehensive mail outs for class reunions and important anniversary dates like the golden jubilee celebrations for 1941-1991.

Results of Survey:

Thank you to all of those members that responded to the CHESS survey on what activities most interested students. Year reunions and decade reunions were the most favoured choices. CHESS is working to locate and encourage ex-students to organise year reunions. Please ring Pat Douglas, our secretary, if you would like a year list printed from our database.

Annual General Meeting:

All invited. This year our AGM will be held on Monday April 3 at 8pm. Coffee and sandwiches will be provided.

Bernard Corser
President

Principal's Message:

Greetings to all former students of this great school, and despite changes since your days as students, it is still a top school.

Fierce competition between our neighbouring schools, both government and private, and the better marketing of single-sex girls schools has led us to decide a School Promotion Plan. This plan involves closer and more effective links with our feeder schools, glossy publications, better publicity, a strong campaign to improve the image of our present students, and soul searching, with the staff, to develop a clear, consistent and challenging vision for Camberwell High School in the late 1990s.

Should we re-introduce blazers (and joke, gloves for the girls)? Should we aim for University graduates only or acknowledge the diversity of the qualities and needs of our post-compulsory schooling students? Should we try to emulate private schools and possibly place greater financial stress on families? Whatever we decide, our task is to provide a safe, relevant, challenging and enjoyable educational environment, and I urge all CHESS members to join us on the journey.

Elida Brereton
Principal

Uniform Changes at CHS:

During 1994 and the first part of 1995, a Uniform Review Committee has been working on the task of revamping the school's uniform. This initiative will result in a uniform that better reflects the needs of the students during summer and winter, and while they are studying physical education.

The Uniform Review Committee is representative of students, staff and parents. It has sought advice from uniform manufacturers and suppliers, other schools and fashion industry members. The Committee aims to develop a uniform that reflects the philosophy and culture of the school, maintains the school colours, is comfortable, reasonably priced and pleasing to all those associated with the school.

There are proposed changes to the girls' summer dress, the winter skirt, blouse, tights and their shoes. Summer shorts, top and hat will be introduced. A new summer top and hat are proposed for the boys. The windcheater will not be part of the uniform. Boys and girls will wear a common physical education uniform consisting of shorts, track pants, top and windcheater.

The Uniform Committee will offer two options for most items of uniform and will organise for the school community to vote on their preference. This process will occur in March-April.

It is planned to phase in the new uniform at the commencement of the 1996 school year and to have all students wearing the uniform by 1998.

Claire Bolster
Acting Assistant Principal

SPORTS HALL/GYMNASIUM:

Great news!!!! The Victorian Treasury belatedly consented to guarantee the National Australia Bank borrowing last week, enabling CHS to immediately commence building construction. We look forward to CHESS having volleyball, netball, basketball, callisthenics, etc facilities before this year is out and our members enjoying regular participation.

Assistant Principal's Report:

The school's enrolment at the moment is over 800. This is a source of some concern, although it can be partly explained in demographic terms. We expect an upswing next year. Of greater concern to us is the imbalance of boys to girls - boys are in the numerical ascendancy by 2:1. Single sex schools for girls are enjoying a dream ride in the press and the advent of the Melbourne Girls' College is having an effect on the enrolment of our school and others in the inner east.

Our day will come!

The Central Swimming Pool is where generations of trim, sleek bodies knifed through the water - with the possible exception of the current President of CHESS, whose

hydrodynamical properties, even in his youth, were more conducive to recreational aquatics as opposed to competitive sprints. The Pool is still “alive” we have a lease for this season for “educational purposes”. Naturally, we are hoping for a longer term arrangement which will enable us to plan more effectively and economically. But it’s great to see the students using it for PE and sport and at lunchtimes.

The major maintenance project is dribbling to a conclusion (why do that always end with a whimper?). The effect, however, has been marvellous. The old place is now bright, clean and sprightly. Come and have a look. (Room 6, the junior science room, is now Assistant Principal’s offices and a commodious new sick bay. I sit where you lit your bunsen burner!)

We’re soldiering on with reduced facilities. The one constant is the school’s commitment to providing a first class education for its clients. We continue to do this.

Support CHESS won’t you? They mean a lot for the current generation.

Regards

Geoff Sinclair

Assistant Principal with special responsibility for yard duty.

CAMBERWELL BATHS:

The school has enjoyed total use of the pool this summer following the City of Booroondara ceasing operations this season. The whole school community has assisted with the management and cleaning responsibilities and negotiations for future use will be entered into soon.

DIARY DATES:

April	3	CHESS AGM
	27	School council
May	1	CHESS
	17	House Choral Festival
June	5	CHESS
	22	Concert at St Paul’s Cathedral
July	27	School council
Aug	4	School Choir trip to Sydney
	15	House Drama Festival
	24	School council
Sep	4	CHESS
	21	School council
Oct	2	CHESS
	26	School council
Nov	13	CHESS
	23	School council
Dec	4	CHESS
	14	School council

AVG James Lecture - to be advised.

1940s REUNION:

We are planning a reunion of students who attended the school in the 1940s to particularly

celebrate the 50 year anniversary of the re-opening of the school in 1945 when the Second World War ended and Melbourne High returned to South Yarra. More details later and a weekend in September of October is envisaged and if you are willing to help with this reunion, please contact:

Barry Garnham 818 2010

Laurie Hodgson 830 4823

Yvonne Wray (nee Simmons) 813 1914

A CAREERS NIGHT:

will be held on Thursday 10th of August for Years 10 and 11 students, replacing our traditional Vocational Breakfast. Students are currently being canvassed as to career choices and we will encourage ex-students to attend and from their practical experience and knowledge, give current students insights into possible vocational choices. Please register your name and experience if you are willing to participate and we strongly urge you to do so. Dinner (at a nominal cost) will be available at the school for ex-students attending the evening, from 6pm.