



CHESSMOVES

MARCH 1998

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Welcome to our first CHESSMOVES for 1998.

Fellow Ex-Students, CHESS currently has over 3000 ex students on its database.

This mailout is a contribution by CHESS to make annual contact with ex students and inform them of the activities of Camberwell High School. We would naturally be delighted if you returned your membership to CHESS.

I would like to thank the committee for their excellent work over the last twelve months and invite others to attend our meetings which are held on the first Monday of each month at the school (school holidays permitting)

1997 Office Bearers -

President	Bernard Corser
Secretary	Pat Douglas
Treasurer	Neil Bouvier
Editor	Desma Williamson

Bernard Corser
PRESIDENT

SOME 1998 DATES

6th April - CHESS AGM

SCHOOL MUSICAL - MID MAY

YEAR 12 BBQ - MID MAY

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL - 10TH SEPTEMBER, 8PM

(School orchestra and choir)

70S REUNION - MID OCTOBER

ACG JAMES LECTURE - TBA

ANNUAL SCHOOL RAFFLE - TBA

CHESS meetings are held at the school and start at 6pm.

ALL MEMBERS WELCOME

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

The year has begun very well for CHS with our highest total enrolment ever (ignoring Wattle

Park HS merger) of 907 students, another high Year 7 enrolment (171 students), a full quote of staff and the acquisition of .6ha of extra land! The excellent number of overseas fee-paying students (23) is a compliment to the school.

The Year 12 VCE results for 1997 were excellent. Above the state average in As and Bs for exam CATs, at least 2 Dean's Scholarships. In certain subjects, including Specialist Maths, Studio Arts, Human Development, students at CHS ranked in the top ten schools in the state.

A visit of Japanese students (March 6 - 15) is being well supported. Last year's visit was a great success.

The House Swimming Sports were won by - MACARTHUR.

CHS is a pilot school in the Drugs Strategies for Schools project.

CHS is now the proud owner of the swimming pool site and adjoining residence. Clearing of the land at the D of E's expense has been negotiated by us but the timing is linked to priority lists for funding and our development with architects of a relatively comprehensive masterplan.

Elida Brereton (Principal)

IF THERE ARE ANY EX-STUDENTS WHO FEEL THAT THEY, OR THE COMPANY THEY WORK FOR - OR OWN - IS IN A POSITION TO DONATE A PRIZE, OR PRIZES TO THE ANNUAL SCHOOL RAFFLE, PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO CONTACT THE SCHOOL OR A MEMBER OF THE CHESS COMMITTEE AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE.

A WORD FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

As you all know, we have now run three most successful decade reunions - 40s, 50s and 60s. Plans are in place for our 70s reunion later on this year and we would ask you all again to help with publicity for the event. Publicity for any event like this is essential if the event is to be a success.

As I am always saying, if you know something's on, you can make up your mind whether you go or not; if you don't, then you can't go at all! For those of you who are our constant and faithful members who happily renew their subscriptions each year, take heart. We need a minimum of around \$2000 to have an annual mailout to all the past students for whom we have addresses, including our financial members. With our successful reunions, we have made a small profit after costs and this then enables us to put something back into our old school.

I personally find my present association with the school most rewarding. Am I searching for my lost youth!?!?!? Who knows! Both CHESS and my Probus club are finding it most difficult to recruit members willing to take office. There seems to be a general malaise out there in the community.

Anyone willing to come on the committee or help out in any way would be made most welcome - just ring and let someone know.

Also, suggestions as to what we could do, or what we could have that might be a success,

would be gratefully received.

Anticipating your replies

Yvonne Wray (Vice President)

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NEWS FROM OUR CANBERRA CHAPTER

It started I suppose, in November 1990, when I wrote to the then Principal, Miss Ann S Rusden, asking whether there was still any such animal as the CHS Old Pupils Association. I had been a member and at times, Secretary and President, of that body after leaving the school in 1946, but it trickled into the sand for want of support in the early 50s. In those days, the ex-student body was counted in scores and later in hundreds, but certainly not the thousands who now form a solid platform for CHESS.

Miss Rusden replied to me by drawing my attention to the plans to celebrate the school's Jubilee in 1991, and putting me in touch with the new CHESS committee. I joined straight away and came to Melbourne to join in the Jubilee activities in September 1991 - a truly memorable week.

Back in Canberra, it soon became apparent that being a remote member of CHESS didn't mean much in terms of sharing the activities. One received the newsletter and read about the splendid functions being held a day's drive away. So, when I renewed my sub in 1994, I offered to start a local chapter of CHESS if I could get hold of names and addresses. Pat Douglas replied by saying how enthusiastically the committee viewed my suggestion and sending me a list of members in the Canberra district.

We've gone on from there. Not all the people on the list Pat send me have kept up their interest but, on the other hand, some of our most enthusiastic contributors have been the wives or husbands of the CHS ex-students.

Most of our activities include a good meal - sometimes a BBQ or dinner at somebody's home, sometimes breakfast or lunch at a hotel or restaurant, and one occasion which was so successful looks like becoming a hardy annual, a lunch-cum-wine tasting at a local boutique winery. But food companionship is at the heart of it.

While nearly all of our functions are social, we were able last year to inaugurate an activity which we hope will benefit the school. Through the good offices of one of our members, who holds a senior position at the John Curtin School of Medical Research, we organised a very successful one-day visit to that institution by one of CHS's best science students. We hope to repeat that event annually, with a view to helping an outstanding Year 11 or 12

student to gain a better appreciation of possible study or career options.

We are looking forward to another year of social interaction and friendship in 1998 and urge any former CHS students coming to Canberra to get in touch. You'll be made very welcome.

Fred Roberts (Convenor, Canberra Chapter)