



# CHESS MOVES

[www.chessmoves.com](http://www.chessmoves.com)



## Celebrating our History: Building to the Future

**I**n this, our 75th year, it is very good to celebrate our history while building the future.

As part of the 75th events I was invited to speak at assemblies for each year group and also at the Open Night. I profiled seven students who had attended the school over seven decades. Current students in each year level read the two or three sentence summary about each ex-student. They could have read out thousands of ex-students stories, but I picked out a few that had been featured in the alumni@work section in our newsletters. A number of ex-students mentioned how teachers had encouraged skills and

talents that led to their professional career. I found the students attentive, respectful and engaged and the ten-minute presentation was appreciated by staff and students alike.

The students also participated in an Art Exhibition, a debate 'Is education in 2016 more relevant than education in 1941?' and 'Run for the Oval', a Fun Run on Friday 6 May.

I enjoyed watching the enthusiasm and spirit of the students as they completed laps around a 1km loop of the school and adjoining parklands. They completed a total of 3032 laps.

A significant anniversary helps us reflect on our history. After the Open Night some members of the CHESS committee took the opportunity to update our archives and build on the very good work that Deb Johnson did for many years when she scanned over 9,000 photos. Soon we will have every available photo from 1941–1999 on our website. There are many 'unknown' photos. Please have a look under your decade and let us know if you can put a name to any photos.

On the back page you will find a timeline of significant events that celebrate 75 years of our history. CHESS will use this for a pull-up banner. On our website you will also find a Potted

History for each decade that I have compiled from Robert Ewins book and CHESS newsletters from 1991 to 2016. Parents and staff worked very hard over many years to build facilities that would



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## For your diary

75th Gala Dinner  
Wattle Park Chalet  
Friday 11 November at 7pm

## Postal address

CHESS, PO Box 1101  
Surrey Hills North LPO 3127

## Have you changed your details?

Please advise us so we can update our database:  
[chs.chessmoves@gmail.com](mailto:chs.chessmoves@gmail.com)

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enable high quality education. In 1961, for instance, the Parent's Association raised £1,500 at a Fete to match the Department's pound-for-pound subsidy to complete a five-year plan for the oval. The school is once again seeking support to upgrade the oval so that it can be used for another 75 years. They are building the future while celebrating the past. What a privilege it is to be part of it!

**Yvonne Giltinan (McLaren)**  
**Class of 1965**

# School News

## Memorable Musical Events



The school production of the musical AIDA by Elton John and Tim Rice was staged over a number of nights. From January over 100 students worked tirelessly with staff every weekend. The amazing costumes were sourced and sewn by parents. The quality of the singing was outstanding with convincing leads from the soloists. The strong musicianship of the chorus and also the 17-piece band led by Director of Music, David Hirst, resulted in a first class performance and a memorable evening for students, staff and an appreciative audience.

## Mid-Year Concert

The beautiful Hawthorn Arts Centre was the setting for the Mid-Year Concert when over 300 instrumentalists performed in at least one of the 15 ensembles.

Jill Laughlin welcomed parents with this message. 'Our mid-year concert is a wonderful opportunity for our

school community to come together and celebrate our outstanding music program. We are so fortunate to have such a vibrant instrumental music department providing our students with the guidance and expert teaching which enables them to progress and develop mastery as individual musicians. Thank you to our

Director of Music, David Hirst, our wonderful music staff and to parents, especially Friends of Music who are energetic and devoted supporters of the program. A special thank you to the students for providing us with entertainment which warms our body and soul on a cold winter's night.'





# Celebrating Winners

Felix Cousins was one of the winners of The Simpson Prize, a national competition for Year 9 and 10 students. The competition encourages participants to focus on the significance of Anzac Day and to consider what it means to them and to Australia. Felix received his certificate from Josh Frydenberg who later wrote: 'Congratulations to Camberwell High School student Felix Cousins on winning the Simpson Prize for Victoria. It is a tremendous recognition of Felix's intelligence and thoughtfulness in studying World War I and its significance to Australians.'

John Stamellos has won a \$5000 Innovators of Tomorrow Scholarship. The award was created to support students challenging the status quo or striving to make a positive difference to the world around them. John set up a system for live-streamed assemblies across campus, developed

a school TV program and built an information display system. His award was presented by Hawthorn Member John Pesutto MP, and Sam Sashiry, Managing Director of Broadband Solutions.

In April it was announced that the school would receive a \$3.5 million funding boost in the State Budget. The funding will go towards modernisation and upgrade works for school buildings, as well as a new synthetic soccer pitch. School Council President Judy Crigan and Assistant Principal Isabelle McKenzie worked together on the submission. Philip Dalidakis MP said: 'Camberwell High School is doing great work and this funding will help Principal Jill Laughlin and her dedicated team develop an even better learning environment.'



Felix Cousins and the Hon Josh Frydenberg MP, Federal Member for Kooyong



Sam Sashiry, Manager of Broadband Solutions; John Stamellos; and John Pesutto MP, State Member for Hawthorn



School leaders with Principal Jill Laughlin; Philip Dalidakis MP, State Member for Southern Metropolitan Region; Judy Crigan, School Council President; and Isabelle McKenzie, Assistant Principal

## School Tours

Camberwell High School offers prospective students, parents, ex-students and community members the opportunity to take a guided tour to see the school 'in action' on a normal day.

School tours are conducted fortnightly and bookings are essential. PH: 9836 0555.

## CAREER ADVISORY NETWORK

CHESS is working to establish a Career Advisory Network where current students are given the opportunity to talk with ex-students who are enjoying a variety of careers. If you are keen to participate, please send your name, profession, email address and phone number to Yvonne Giltinan: [chs.chessmoves@gmail.com](mailto:chs.chessmoves@gmail.com) and your information will be forwarded to the Assistant Principal.

# 75th Open Night

Many ex-students took the opportunity to attend the Open Night as part of the 75th celebrations. The sense of the school community extending well beyond the school gates was evident as stories were shared with current students who were volunteer tour guides. The deep affection past students have for the school was evident and those who had not been

back for many years were delighted with the facilities. Rosemary wrote: 'I would like to say a very big Thank You to the organisers of the 75th anniversary of Camberwell High School. The welcoming students were knowledgeable and personable and clearly proud to show off their school. The first class musical performance and the human stories

read so sympathetically, indicated the continuing quality of education at CHS. The members of CHES, particularly Yvonne, together with staff, had put together a first class production. From a student of the 1950s I was amazed to see the expansion and facilities now available and also pleased to observe that school history had been valued.'



Class of 1966



Above: Ex-students of all ages returned

Right: Volunteer Tour Guides





# News from the Committee

At the recent AGM the following committee were elected.

- President, Yvonne Giltinan (McLaren)
- Vice-President, Joel Porter
- Secretary, Geoff Head
- Treasurer, Ken James
- Committee members: Ashley Wah, Steve Callinan-Moore and Bob Taylor
- Associates: Jill Fletcher (Davies); Audrey Broomhead and Marnie Kok (White).

Our committee represents members from 1946 through to 2013.

We are grateful for the work and support of Eugene Smarrelli and Neil Robson, who have stepped down from the committee, and also ex-officio Trevor Robinson who assisted with the finances.

Ken James (class of 1964) has taken on the role of Treasurer. His work experience includes senior finance contract positions at ANZ and GE Money and most recently Financial Manager at a Catholic Secondary College. As a parent he has spent many hours coaching sport and been a member of school and sporting committees, including Treasurer and President of Korowa Anglican Girls School Parents Association.



Ken James, newly elected CHESS Treasurer

## CHESS Camberwell High Ex-Students Society Incorporated A0048378R

### Treasurer's Declaration

The Special Purpose report has been prepared for the members of CHESS to enable compliance with Accounting Standards and the provisions of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012.

During the financial year ended 31 December 2015 there was a profit of \$1,742 with receipts of \$12,528 and payments of \$10,786. The major Income items were Subscriptions \$4,650, Donations \$1,313, Interest Received \$225 and Function Ticket Sales of \$5,640 against a cost of \$5,480.

The major Expenditure items were printing and postage for the publication of Chessmoves \$1,188 and the webpage hosting and development \$510. In addition, CHESS donated \$3,000 in Valedictory Awards and gifted \$48 to Year 12 assistants.

Currently CHESS has total equity of \$22,859. The bank account balance is \$9,076. In addition, the term deposit of \$13,283 continues to rollover on a bi-annual basis.

The Robert Ewins Memorial Fund term deposit has a balance of \$13,031, of this \$750 is required to be paid back to the CHESS account and the remainder of \$12,281 is held in trust and the amount thereof is reflected as a Non-Current Liability (thus having no effect on the balance sheet). These funds continue to be made available to the society and awarded on an annual basis.

**Eugene Smarrelli**  
**Immediate Past Treasurer**  
**30 April 2016**

### Sign up a new member

We are very keen to increase our membership numbers so that CHESS represents ex-students from all decades. Please encourage other former students to join CHESS.

A membership form can be downloaded from <http://chessmoves.com/membership>

# Alumni@work



David outside an African house in Tanzania, 120km south of Lake Victoria

## David Thomas Class of 1978

I arrived late for the commencement of my first year at CHS but that year proved pivotal for me, the ramifications still pertinent to this day. On my first day, Mrs Nagel (Form 3 Coordinator) took me aside to explain that each student, besides taking compulsory core subjects, would also take one elective subject. Unfortunately, there were only two elective subjects still available, French and Geology. During the previous two years I had comprehensively failed French and harboured no interest in the subject whatsoever.

I didn't know what geology was, but I was not going to attempt French again! I was duly enrolled into Geology. It was the best thing that could have happened to me.

I quickly learnt that geology was the study of earth process and I found it fascinating. Before long I was collecting rocks and fossils and a lifelong passion was awakened. I owe a huge debt of gratitude to Mr Andrews, my geology teacher; previously a geologist but at that time teaching Chemistry and Geology. Once I started collecting, labelling and displaying my rock and mineral collection, dad suggested I speak with my grandfather who was a geologist. Amazing! My grandfather was a geologist and I didn't know it until then. Granted, his house was full of rocks, but he was a grandfather, and naturally all grandfathers had rocks lying around their house – it was just normal!

I am now an exploration geologist. Exploration geologists move into the distant wilds to find the next mine. To find a mine is extremely rare and these days mineral or

hydrocarbon exploration is a multi-disciplined business. I have enjoyed rich, exotic and really interesting experiences in every corner of our beautiful country and other continents as well. In Africa my work was good and I also found the people fascinating. I learnt that Africans have much more emotional and spiritual fortitude than many Australians. Despite their sometimes materially inadequate circumstances, Africans don't seem to suffer emotional or spiritual destitution and they exhibit a mental fortitude not apparent in some Australians.

I suggest that a career in mining should be considered by anyone, male or female. Our mining and agriculture industries are largely why we Australians benefit from one of the highest standards of living in the world. I hope that today mining is presented in a balanced and positive light and that a career option in mining is presented along with careers such as law, medicine and business studies. I am lucky and privileged as my working life involves regular travel around the world, and it was all triggered within the first couple of months of starting at CHS age 14! I am thrilled with my career choice that was nurtured by Mr Andrews.

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### Contributing to Alumni@Work

If you would like to contribute a short piece about your career, please forward your submission to [chs.chessmoves@gmail.com](mailto:chs.chessmoves@gmail.com)

# Two events not to be missed

## Reunion of class of 1956

In 1956 the first matriculation year commenced with 54 students who had a choice of 14 subjects. Here is an excerpt from the 1956 *Prospice*.

'Being the first matriculation form at CHS has been a great experience for Form Six. As the senior form, we have enjoyed a previously unknown freedom and intimacy with the teachers. With the opening of the new library, the majority of the Sixth Form immediately established themselves in what was to become their place of refuge for the remainder of the year. It is the only place in the school where voluntarily quiet Sixth Formers may be found. With a very small stall, we raised the mammoth total of £1/12/0 for the gym fund. Our Social Service representatives, Jenny De Mole and John Brown, have continuously delved into our very deep pockets, which are unfortunately filled with anything but cash.'



## A walk down memory lane

On Friday 30 September 2016 the first matriculation year are having 'a walk down memory lane'. They are meeting in Maling Road Canterbury near where the old theatre was. These ex-students have special memories of Maling Theatre. During the 1950s the school gathered at the theatre for the Installation of the Prefects and House Captains, the Coronation Service and entertainment.

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## 75th Gala Dinner Wattle Park Chalet

### Friday 11 November 6.30 pm for 7.00 pm

Returning to Wattle Park Chalet is a fitting way to conclude our 75th celebrations. During the 1940s and 1950s the Chalet was used to host Warragul High School sports teams who came by train to compete against Camberwell High School. Highlights for the 75th Gala Dinner include:

- A three-course dinner for \$75.
- A dance band of ex-students, now professional musicians. They will play under the direction of David Hirst, the Director of Music at CHS.
- A *Current Affair* Senior Reporter Tineka Everaardt (class of 2005).



Dinner with Warragul High School at Wattle Park Chalet, 1948



Boarding the train to Warragul, 1947



Wattle Park Chalet



# CAMBERWELL HIGH EX-STUDENTS SOCIETY

## WHERE ARE YOU IN OUR HISTORY?

