



CHESS NEWS

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President's Page

As your President, I have had the opportunity to give two speeches in the last few weeks. Our committee brought morning tea to the Year 12's and I spoke for a few minutes.

Here is some of what I said:

'If you have been at Camberwell High School for six years, you have probably spent 236 weeks together. There is probably no other time in your life that you will spend this amount of time with the same group of people. Certainly not at university, or in your working life, and not even with your family. A few of you may remain close friends. A few of you might be like me, and marry your boyfriend who you met at school! And some of these people that you have spent these 236 weeks with, you will probably never see again, unless you go to a reunion.

In two weeks' time, over 110 ex-students from the class of '77 are coming back to the school to stand on the steps and have their photo taken again. It made me think about you, the class of 2017. Where will you be in 2057? Will you be here for your 40th reunion?

Our Ex-Students has a huge database of over 16,000. One of the reasons we are here today is to ask for your details so we can stay in touch with you, and the thousands of ex-students



who have gone before you. We also want to tell you what the Ex-Students Society does. Every year our memberships enable us to make a contribution to the school. A few of you will have received scholarships in years 10, 11 and 12. We also give the library a substantial donation and we make a large gift to the Principal's Fund for students who may need extra financial help with their education. We congratulate you on finishing Year 12. We are proud that you will soon be ex-students like us. We celebrate your completion of this milestone in your education at our school'.

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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

Like us on Facebook

CHESS is on facebook
www.facebook.com/Camberwellhighexstudentsocietyinc

I also represented the Ex-Students Society at the Memorial Service for Miss Cameron who passed away in September, aged 107. It was a privilege to speak on behalf of the many students whose lives she touched. A tribute to Miss Cameron is on Page 3.

Finally, I ask you to renew your membership for 2018. It is only \$25 and it enables us to provide outstanding students with scholarships, and also assist others who need support with their learning opportunities. It is a very worthwhile investment.

Yvonne Giltinan (McLaren)
Class of '65

School News



Aaron Cheng with his award winning work

Arts, Technology and Design Exhibition

Family, friends, staff and Ex-Students attended the Arts, Technology and Design Exhibition on October 23. School Captain, Aaron Cheng, won The Principal's Award.

Aaron wrote: My work, 'Pang Huang' (徨 in Chinese) means 'pace up and down', and describes the confusion, uncertainty and lostness in people's lives. Starting a new life in a whole new culture and environment is not an easy thing.

This work does not only reflect my personal confusion on life and identity, but also shows the confusion and uncertainty of my generation who are

Chinese and live abroad. In the new world we are starting a new life in an unfamiliar environment while getting a new identity in two different cultures.

At the same time we are losing our original culture and identity. Behind this self portrait the work contains my personal happiness and hope, pressure and anxiety and the confusion about my belonging.

My work is like an answer to the questions: 'Who are we? Where are we from? And where do we belong?'

It shows the worries and anxiety of multiculturalism and losing original identity.

CHESS Awards

At the Valedictory Evening, the annual Camberwell High Ex-Students Society awards were given to 'two individuals who have sought to achieve their personal best. They have both displayed outstanding leadership across the school and contributed positively to the life of everyone in our school'.

The 2017 CHESS awards were presented by President Yvonne Giltinan to Yuval Hayoon and Alex Capp.



Births, Marriages, Farewells

Chessmoves would like to hear from you if you have celebrated a birth, marriage or are aware of the passing of a former student.

Send a photo and a paragraph up to 60 words to: chs.chessmoves@gmail.com

Vale

Dr Alexandra E Cameron MBE

Miss Cameron was Head of Music at Camberwell High School from 1958 to 1964. She was a fine music teacher who inspired her students and encouraged their musicianship.

A number of ex-students have acknowledged her influence on their lives.

I remember Miss Cameron fondly. I even have a photo of her in class. She gustily led us in song singing "Speed bonnie boat like a bird on a wing, over the seas to Skye!" -The Skye Boat Song. I had always thought that it was a bedtime lullaby until I visited Scotland last year and heard it sung over the bagpipes in an evening show and found that it was a wartime tune. It took me back to Miss Cameron's class. Funny the small things we remember and stay with us for more than half a century.

Cecilia S Wu, Class of '66



I was school pianist in 1958. Miss Cameron was my inspiration and did a lot to help me with my vocation. At Melbourne Uni. she lectured in music method before becoming a school inspector of music teachers. .

Gwen Dunstan, Class of '58



I am writing on behalf of my dear friend Jan Lee (née Devlin). Miss Cameron supported and encouraged Jan enormously as a music student. Jan became a wonderful music teacher and staged a musical every year, which was notable because she had huge casts involving many students. Sadly, Jan now has advanced Alzheimer's and could not be aware of the memorial service. If she were still herself, she would be there to honour the woman who did so much to help her on her way.

June Smith (Gregory), Class of '58



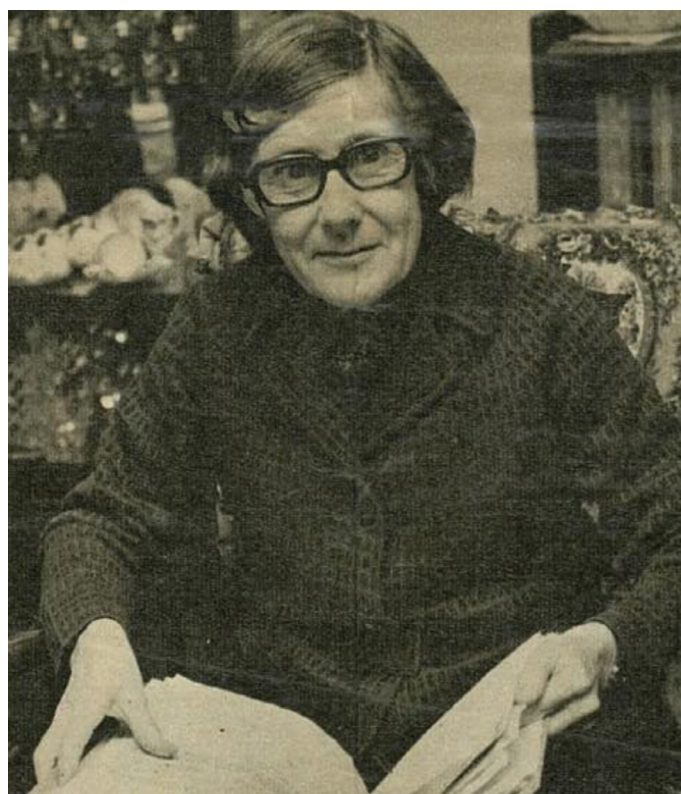
I came to Camberwell High in 1962 after having failed everything in Year 10 except Art and Craft. The headmaster at my former school told me I would never matriculate, so my parents sent me to Camberwell High School where I had to repeat Year 9. Somehow Miss Cameron, 'found me' and in Year 10 I became the Junior School Pianist. In Years 11 and 12 I conducted Montgomery at the Choral Festival, sang in the madrigals and became a prefect. I studied music at The University of Melbourne and became a Director of

Music in schools in Darwin and Hobart. In 2005 we formed our own Camberwell HS Ex-Students "choir for the day" to record our school song. Although in her 90's, Miss Cameron was there to support the project, and a number of us were able to acknowledge the impact she had had on our lives.

Yvonne Giltinan (McLaren), Class of '65

Post Camberwell High School

Dr Cameron changed the face of music education in Victoria. With a background as a lecturer in music education at the University of Melbourne, she became the State's first school music inspector in 1966 with responsibility for the total development of music education in secondary schools. She started a Saturday Music School in 1967 which became the Melbourne Youth Orchestra. When she was 70 she started The Chamber Strings of Melbourne, creating unique performance opportunities for hundreds of gifted young musicians, many of whom have gone on to pursue full time professional careers in many of the leading orchestras in Australia. The Chamber Strings of Melbourne performed throughout the UK, Russia, China, Japan and the USA. Dr. Cameron retired at 100 after organising a finale in the Melbourne Town Hall.



Alumni@Work



Pictured are Bethany, Naomi and Daniel Gebert at Naomi's wedding in March 2017

In this edition, we are featuring the Gebert family who were at Camberwell High School for over a decade. Many of you would have been in classes with students who had brothers and sisters at the school. It is interesting to see how different members of the same family develop unique interests while learning in the same environment.

If you would like to contribute to this alumni@work feature, or nominate another ex-student who has an interesting career, please forward your details to Yvonne Giltinan: chs.chessmoves@gmail.com

Daniel Gebert 1997–2002

My first career was as a Software Engineer with Transtech, a small company building technology for the transport and logistics industry. I was involved in some interesting projects, including designing a system for predicting when truck drivers need to take rest breaks according to complex legal requirements. I also discovered that although

competent as a programmer, I enjoyed customer support more. I was able to translate the software's complexities into ordinary language.

Looking back, I can see that even while focusing on IT and Maths in years 11 and 12 at Camberwell High, my faith as a Christian was maturing. While at uni, I realised that after a period as a programmer, I wanted to work as a pastor. I believe God has called and gifted me for this. I am now in my third year as Assistant Minister at St. Luke's Anglican Church, South Melbourne, which is a unique area of Melbourne with extreme wealth and poverty right next door. I love meeting people who drop in, love preaching, leading study groups, and helping people meet Jesus Christ and grow as his disciples. In January, I will begin as Priest in Charge at St. Aidan's Anglican Church, Parkdale.

Bethany Austin (Gebert) 2000–2005

When, as a graduate teacher, I effectively stepped into the role of Music-Coordinator-by-default at Laverton P-12 College, they loved my work. I attribute their love of my work not to any ingenuity on my part, but to the high expectations instilled in me during my time at Camberwell High School concerning what a music program should look like. Thank you Jemima Bunn, Kathryn Cooper, David Hirst, and everyone else who contributed to such a wonderful experience of high school music.

After a rather short, but very rewarding career as Music Coordinator (5 years), I have now retired from teaching as my husband and I prepare to work in Niger, West Africa, with a mission organisation called SIM. For this phase also Camberwell High School has played its part, having trained me in French from Year 7 to Year 12. Thank you Madame Holberton and all my other French teachers – I had no idea at the time what you were preparing me for!

Naomi Gainsford (Gebert) 2003–2008

After graduating from Camberwell High, I spent 5 years at RMIT studying a Bachelor of Social Work (including some study in Psychology along the way) and for the last 4 years have been working in a job I adore. My role at Housing for the Aged Action Group involves working with older people at risk of, or experiencing, homelessness. This has been an extremely eye opening experience, particularly as a young person. Understanding the major issues that impact on groups in the community to which I don't belong has taught me many life lessons, and allowed me to support vulnerable people by empowering them to stand up for their rights as tenants and human beings.

University was also an enriching experience. My involvement in extra-curricular activities at Camberwell High taught me that many interests can be developed and friends can be made by trying something new. I made plenty of use of RMIT Student Union's events and clubs, particularly the Christian Union, and by the end of my time there I had gained a lot more than just a degree. I am now about to go on maternity leave for the first time, and although I will miss my job for the next year, I look forward to more growth opportunities in my life.

Is 2018 your reunion year?



The Prefects of 1958: <https://chsalumni.files.wordpress.com/2015/07/prospice-1958.pdf>

Next year is a significant one for ex-students who completed Year 12 in 1958, '68; '78; '88 etc.

It is also 25 years since the class of 1993 graduated. Please contact CHESS so we can assist you with organising a memorable reunion: chs.chessmoves@gmail.com

Sign up a new member

We are very keen to increase our membership numbers so that CHESS represents ex-students from all decades. A membership form can be downloaded from our website: <http://chessmoves.com/membership>

Looking for missing photos

We are keen to add to our photo collection on the website. If you have some photos that are not on the website, please scan them and email them to: chs.chessmoves@gmail.com

Principal's Report

Our Year 12 students are commencing the final weeks of their timetabled classes. The school puts in place a number of supports and events to assist them as they make this significant transition from school students to VCE examination candidates to their independent pathways beyond school. In the first week of Term 4 we hold a whole school assembly to explain the transition process for Year 12 students to the whole student body. It is a time of some anxiety and emotion for year 12 students and the events which take place are designed to support all students while recognising that for the majority of students in the school it is business as usual. In the last week, we have a celebration morning and a full day Valedictory program on October 23. Year 12 students then commence

their study program and the written exams start on November 1.

Relocatable classrooms have been delivered to the school and will be used for the next 18 months as we undertake several construction programs on site. The first redevelopment is the interior of the yellow D building, near Prospect Hill Road.

There has been a lot of media attention about schools' roles in gender education.

Camberwell High School is a lead school in the government's Respectful Relationships Program. This program has been introduced as a primary prevention strategy to address domestic violence. A small team of teachers have undertaken a professional learning program focused on the causes of domestic violence and how the school can address this. We have also formed a community of practice to share strategies and approaches with seven of our local primary schools.

The Respectful Relationships Program is being implemented in response to the Royal Commission into Domestic Violence and aligns with the Childsafe Standards. The Education Department has developed an educational resource titled Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships. It requires a whole school approach which includes



addressing the culture, policies and practice involving all in the whole school community. The school will be undertaking an analysis of current practice in consultation with students, parents and teachers to identify priorities for the next 12 months.

It is important to note that this program is a completely separate program to the Safe Schools Program. The Safe Schools Program is focused on schools fostering a safe environment that is supportive and inclusive of LGBTI students.

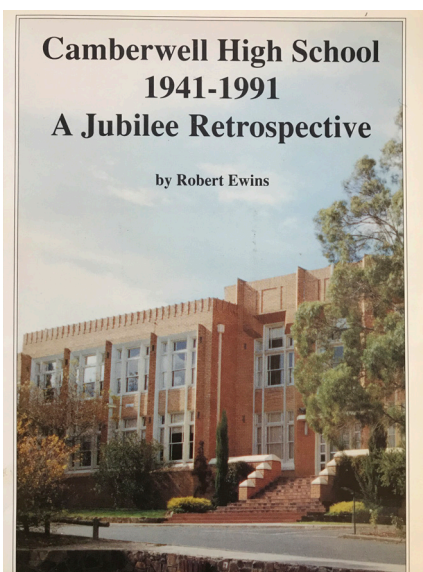
On a lighter note: I was asked to do an interview with Ex-Student Tommy Little on FOX FM Radio. It was just a bit of fun, but good publicity for the school. I am happy to share it with the Ex-Students community. Please go to <https://chessmoves.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/Tommy-and-Carrie.mp3>

Ms Jill Laughlin
Principal

CAREER ADVISORY NETWORK

CHES 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** and your information will be forwarded to the Careers Coordinator.

In Short



Reprint now in stock

At the Jubilee celebrations in 1991, the Robert Ewins book *A Jubilee Retrospective 1941-1991* was launched. This history of the school from its inception until 1991, is a fascinating snapshot of post WWII education. Principal Ann Rusden encouraged Robert Ewins to write the history in time for the Jubilee and many students added their recollections. The original edition has now sold and the CHESS committee has organised a small re-print.

We are indebted to the original printers and designers Dally Messenger and Rex Thompson for their advice about having the book scanned. The front cover photo was originally taken by Dally Messenger. *A Jubilee Retrospective 1941-1991* is now uploaded to our website as an E-book. <https://chsalumni.files.wordpress.com/2017/09/camberwell-hs.pdf> It is also available for purchase. Contact us on chs.chessmoves@gmail.com or phone Yvonne Giltinan on 9816 9413 to purchase a copy. It is \$20.

Donated memorabilia

Recently the CHESS committee received valuable donations from ex-students. They will be stored in the school library and used for display on occasions like Open Day. Thank you for these precious items.

The daughter of Jeanette 'Jenny' Hanley (Crocker) wrote:

'Thank you for taking care of my Mum's belongings from her time at Camberwell High School in the 1960s. Unfortunately, mum has younger onset Alzheimer's disease, but when we were young she told us many happy stories about her school days. Her hat spent many years in the dress-up box at home'.

Another donor left a parcel at the school. It contains priceless memorabilia, including Prospector from 1946-1950 that are bound in leather and were a gift to Senior Mistress Miss Egan. Also a letter from the Acting Director of Education addressed to Miss Egan on her retirement. It speaks highly of her teaching prowess: 'the work that you have done over many years, both as senior mistress in charge of girls and as a teacher of English, has always been held in the highest esteem and we are very conscious of the fact that teachers such as yourself are very difficult to replace'.



Thank you

In October 2012, our newsletter was revitalised when Helen Cumming offered to assist us.

At the end of this year Helen will finish her long association with the school as a parent, and with CHESS. This edition is Helen's last production. As a desktop publisher, Helen has brought a high level of professionalism and made our newsletters very attractive. We are indebted to you Helen. Thank you very much.

Scanning help required

As a result of the diligent work of Deb Johnson, thousands of school photos are uploaded on our website. We would be very grateful for some more assistance scanning photos, particularly from 1999 on, so that our website is relevant to all our ex-students. It can be done at your leisure – there is no urgency! Please contact Yvonne Giltinan if you can assist: chs.chessmoves@gmail.com or 9816 9413.



CAMBERWELL HIGH SCHOOL EX STUDENTS SOCIETY

Thank you for becoming a member of the Camberwell High School Ex-Students Society and for supporting the opportunities we have to contribute to our school. For your convenience membership may now be paid for more than one year. Donations are also most welcome.

DATE _____

MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS

- ☐ Annual Membership: \$25 for a calendar year
- ☐ Membership for 5 years: \$120
- ☐ Membership for 10 years: \$200

MERCHANDISE ☐ R Ewins *A Jubilee Restrospective* \$20 ☐ CD of School Song: \$6

ADDITIONAL DONATION: \$ _____ **TOTAL:** _____

PERSONAL DETAILS

Title Mr/Mrs/Ms _____ Given Names _____ Surname _____

Preferred Name _____ Maiden name _____

Years at C.H.S. Commenced _____ Completed _____ Year level _____

Address _____ State _____ Postcode _____

Phone Home () _____ Mobile _____

Email _____

☐ I am willing to share advice about my career in _____ (name area)

PAYMENT OPTIONS (Please mark your method of payment) **DUE 1 January 2018**

☐ **CREDIT CARD:**

I authorise CHESS to deduct the Annual membership/donation from my credit card

CARD TYPE: MasterCard /Visa Number: _____

Expiry Date: ____ / ____ CCV: ____ (Security code on back of card)

Name on Card _____ Signature: _____

☐ **DIRECT CREDIT:** BSB: 083125 Account Number: 507238691

Please scan this form and send with payment to: chs.chessmoves@gmail.com

☐ **PAYPAL:** Copy and paste this link into your address bar:

www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=L2S6CSNV6SMGC

☐ **CHEQUE:** Post form and cheque to CHESS PO Box 1101 Surrey Hills North LPO 3127

Please advise us when you change your contact details: chs.chessmoves@gmail.com