

A REMINDER:

For those who haven't already paid their 1994 CHESS subscription, or those who wish to join for the first time, payment to Treasurer Bob Knowles would now be welcomed. It's still a remarkably cheap, inflation-proofed \$10 a year!

And a thought for people now living outside Victoria: we have had enquiries from interstate CHESS members about setting up local chapters to keep in touch and perhaps organise their own functions. If you're interested in that, contact CHESS office-bearers and they'll put you in touch with like-minded people.

AT LAST!

Amid all the change that Victoria's education system is going through, there's at least one piece of good news for CHS. Some \$560,000 is being made available for a "major maintenance upgrade". Most of it will go on replacing the roof on the main School block, painting inside and out, and some lighting improvements, but it's certainly a step in the right direction and long overdue.

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C . H . E . S . S Moves

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Welcome to the first CHESS Newsletter of 1994. It's an important year for the School, and we hope to make it a significant one for Camberwell High Ex-Students' Society as well. Already, as you read this, we will have had our first finction of the year... a Sausage Sizzle for the 1993 school leavers. It's an opportunity for them to meet up again, and forge new links as they set out into the world beyond school. We hope that one of those links will be with CHESS itself, as a means of keeping contact with the people with whom they shared their school years. In that way, the organisation can be infused with new blood each year, even if only a few keep up the contact at this stage, and remain relevant to the current needs of the institution to which we all want to contribute.

With that thought in mind, we are taking the time (and the expense) of mailing out this edition of CHESS Moves, and the attachments to all the 4,000-plus names now available in the School records (and more on that subject later) to reach the widest

possible circulation and, hopefully, stimulate more ex-students to make the modest contribution which will enable us to keep them informed about what is happening at the School, and how CHESS is helping. As you will see from the Calendar of School Activities provided by Deputy Principal and CHESS Committee member Geoff Sinclair, there's plenty going on, and the new education environment in Victoria means the School must be more self-sustaining than ever before.

That's where you can come in. The demands on your time will not be great, but they can be important. Read on, as we try to show you how.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

Monday April 18th: CHESS Annual General Meeting. At Sofia's Restaurant, 857 Burke Road, Camberwell, at 6.30 for 7 p.m. The time to review CHESS's structure and activities and elect the Committee and office-bearers. Come along and add your ideas. The formal proceedings will be brisk and businesslike, and will be followed -- for those who wish it -- by a good-value meal of herb or garlic bread, pasta, pizza, coffee and sweets for just \$15 per head.

Ten-Year Reunion: Date to be advised. We are forming a small and energetic committee of people who left the School in 1984 to organise a ten-year reunion dinner. If you can help in any way, please contact one of the CHESS officers, or leave a message with the School.

Vocational Breakfast: Once again, in July, we'll be running our successful Vocational Breakfast for Year 12 students, offering them whatever help we can in weighing up future career paths and making their initial approaches. It's been much appreciated in past years, and we look forward to making this year's bigger and better than ever. Contact President Bernard Corser for details.

THE MAIL-OUT:

This mail-out to the 4000-plus names on the School's address list is a major annual CHESS activity, enabling each addressee - even if not a member of CHESS - to receive some information about their old School. It was decided for 1994 to make the mail-out early in the year, so as to include a copy of the School Calendar and request information for the School's new Scholas database.

(The Scholas software package, now being installed, includes all aspects of staff and student administration, a business directory, a report writing facility, and a development directory which is of particular interest to CHESS. This will enable us to keep records of ex-students in a single, comprehensive format and simplify what has been a rather piecemeal operation thus far. The new proforma included with this Newsletter is a consequence of the software.. it will help us to key in the information quickly.

Thank you for taking the trouble to complete the form. It will assist us in keeping contact with you, and in developing the database of former students.)

One of the major problems in organising the School's Jubilee celebrations in 1991 was making contact with people who would have liked to be involved in a major event connected with the School, but had lost touch. We want to build now on the work that was done three years ago. Remember, 2001 -- the School's 60th anniversary -- is only seven years away!

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CURRENT MOVES - an update on current school news by Geoff Sinclair, Deputy Principal.

PLAYING POOL

The Camberwell Central Swimming Pool, situated right next to the School and scene of your youthful triumphs (including those aquatic), was closed by the municipality late last year, as an economic imperative. This came as a shock to us, so we set forth in deputation to the administrator of the City of Camberwell, Mr. Des Bethke, to plead a case for the School to be given permission to restart the furnace in the pump room so the facility would be available for our students' sporting and cavorting inclinations. Mr. Bethke was not prepared to allocate any of the ratepayers' money to the pool, but granted a licence to Camberwell High School, educators and swimming pool operatives, to operate the facility, hereinunder and without prejudice designated as "pool".

Oh joy, oh rapture!

Thanks to the indomitable efforts of parents, students and staff, the pool has been operational from the beginning of the academic year. We are very pleased with the precision of the lawn mowing, the chemical balance of the water and the smooth functionalism of the change rooms and the toilet areas. (By the way, the ducks still call it home. The first task of the day for the student monitors - poolies - is to sweep the feathers off the water in time for period one physical education.)

We will enter into further negotiations with the municipality before the licence expires (or we do, always imminent with the additional workload demanded by the pool). The physical education staff are keen to instruct students in kyaking during the winter months. This is called "comprehensive education". Anyone at school before 1970 would have escaped this phenomenon.

In a recent development the personnel of the Regional Office of the Directorate of School Education have prepared a "site acquisition case" for the pool to present to the powers that be. So we are in with some sort of a chance to acquire the pool.

If Churchill can win the sports, anything is possible!

SWIMMING SPORTS

So when the sports came around, the pool put its dazzling, chlorine-clear face to the slightly overcast sky, and waited for Roosevelt to win by its usual gargantuan margin.

However, 'twas not to be. With the exception of Macarthur which declared its intention of coming fourth very early, Montgomery, Roosevelt and Churchill spent the day locked in awesome battle. The last event, the open boys' relay, determined the result in Churchill's favour by a paltry four points.

As if to prove life can be stage managed if you have a flair for it, Mr. Phillip Truslove, captain of Churchill in 1966, was there to present the cup to the ecstatic captains. Phil delivered a delightful speech, noting that Churchill's strong tradition of swimming mediocrity had at last been broken, and remarking on the strength of support for the House swimming teams.

MAJOR MAINTENANCE

As mentioned in the Newsletter, work is about to commence on a major upgrade. Much of the work will be to repair the fabric of the dear old thing - such as replacing the roof, which is holding together with silicone and rust at the moment, a paint job to the interior and exterior, floor coverings, lighting, and so on. We are expecting the smooth,

customlined daily operations to be disrupted for several months, but for the very best of reasons.

MULTI-PURPOSE SPORTS FACILITY

When you're not trying to impress people, or ask them to donate money, this is also referred to as the gym. It has been on the drawing board for five years, but now the final negotiations with the bank and the co-operative society are nearing completion, and we expect construction to commence in April. The cost will be in the vicinity of \$600,000 for a building which will extend from the front (stage end) of the Hall to the edge of the asphalted area. It will accommodate the largest court requirement, that necessary for netball. The architect has designed a building that is sympathetic with the buttressed cream-brick edifice which is Camberwell High School.

The advent of the new building will take the pressure off the Hall, which now serves the needs of a wide range of school activities.

We would be grateful of ex-students' support for this facility. Donations can be forwarded to the Bursar. They are tax deductible and will be acknowledged in the building when it is completed.

DIARY FOR THE REMAINDER OF 1994

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| April 11 | C.H.E.S.S. Meeting - at the School, 6.00 p.m. |
| April 18 | C.H.E.S.S. Annual General Meeting |
| May 2 | C.H.E.S.S. Meeting - at the School, 6.00 p.m. |
| May 17 | Choral Festival - School |
| May 24 | A.V.G. James Lecture - check with the School - subject to change depending on guest speaker. |
| May 30 | Information Night for prospective Year 7 students and families. |
| June 6 | C.H.E.S.S. Meeting - School, 6.00 p.m. |
| June 20 | VCE Art exhibition - School all day and evening. |
| June 20 - July 1 | Year 10 Work Experience - can you help? |
| June 22 | Great Hall Music Concert - combined with Canterbury Girls' SC in the Great Hall of the Art Gallery. |
| June 25 | Parents' and Friends' Association social event - it has been a jazz night for the last two years - be prepared for anything! |
| July 1 | Student Representative Council's Talent Quest - morning. |
| July 4 | C.H.E.S.S. - check venue and time. |
| July 28 | C.H.E.S.S. Vocational Breakfast - 7.30 a.m. at the School. |
| August 1 | C.H.E.S.S. Meeting - School, 6.00 p.m. |
| August 16 | Drama Festival - 8.00 p.m. School |
| August 29 | Years 7 - 10 Art Exhibition - School |
| September 5 | C.H.E.S.S. Meeting - 6.00 p.m. at the School. |
| September 16 | S.R.C. Fair - School, from 10 a.m. |
| October 3 | C.H.E.S.S. Meeting - 6.00 p.m. at the School. |
| October 22 | School Fair and C.H.E.S.S. reunion, School 10.00 - 3.00 |
| October 27 | Year 12 Presentation Assembly - 2.00 p.m. |
| November 7 | C.H.E.S.S. Meeting - School, 6.00 p.m. |
| December 5 | C.H.E.S.S. break up meeting - venue and time to be decided. |
| December 6 | Orientation Day, Year 7s of 1995. |
| December 11 | Secondhand Book Sale |
| December 21 | Last day for students, 1994 |