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## MEETING DATES:

14 August

9 October

We are now holding our meetings bi-monthly at Sofia's in Burke Road, Camberwell....usually at a long table near the window. Anyone interested in joining us can phone Bernard on 9416-3155 (W) or 0407-300678 or just rock up on the night at 6.30pm.

# CHES MOVES

**CAMBERWELL HIGH EX-STUDENTS' SOCIETY INC.**

<http://www.chessmoves.com>

July 2006

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

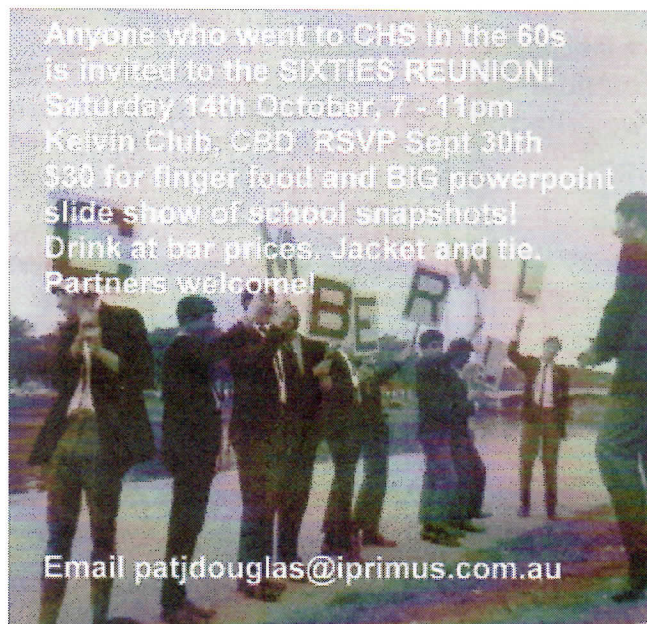
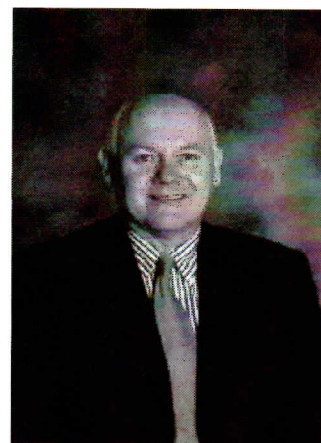
Dear Fellow CHES members.

I am writing this report before heading to New York, Washington and Montreal for as they say "some well earned leave". Unfortunately I will miss the June meeting and I thank Mary Hill our Vice President for being available to chair the meeting.

Last week I attended Camberwell High for part of the daytime celebrations for the 50th Anniversary of the first matriculation year at the school. About 42 ex students and teachers returned for the celebrations. Colour photographs were taken on the school steps with the students posing in the same positions as their 1956 school photograph. The organizer was Tony Giblett and I would like to thank him for his efforts for his fellow ex students. Deb Johnson, our intrepid data guru, has posted on [www.chessmoves.com](http://www.chessmoves.com) some interesting shots of the event.

The much promised CD print of the school song should be completed soon with this to be mailed out. I remind all students of the 60's of the reunion at the Kelvin club this October. Deb Johnson will be presenting a data show of photographs of the era.

Regards  
Bernard Corser  
(Class of '71)  
Disco Consulere Aliis



*\*Students who had (projected) exit years from 1960 to 1972 will find an RSVP form inside this Chessmoves.*



**PRESIDENT**

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**We welcome any contributions from past students. Please contact Deb by post or email with any written articles. Also, if any CHESS members wish to place ads, please contact Bernard. Also please consider our chessmoves website for your advertising!**

**CHESSMOVES  
DEADLINE FOR NEXT  
ISSUE:**

October 15th, 2006.  
Send all articles to  
Debs.

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

*It gives me great pleasure to announce that Petro Georgiou, Federal Member for Kooyong, rang me last week to say that our submission for funding to upgrade our classroom music facilities had been successful and we will be receiving \$101,000 from the Federal Government for this purpose. The outcome for our classroom music students will be enhanced beyond just the improved spaces, as there are elements such as sound recording facilities also included in the plan. On your behalf, we thank the Federal Government for these funds.*

*You may have seen the recently published list, in the newspapers, of the destination of the Year 12s of 2005 for each school. Camberwell High School has 64% of our 2005 cohort actually enrolled at university, which is an excellent figure and places us in the very top government schools. Given our open-entry policy, our commitment to VCAL and to giving students every opportunity, no matter how they performed academically in earlier years (not the case in many schools), this outcome is even more meritorious. Again the quality of our teachers is endorsed by this outcome.*

*The 1956 Matriculation Class of our school held a reunion of their 50th year since leaving CHS. Organiser Tony Giblett located 52 of the 55 students from all over Australia and 45 of them came back to school. Five 1956 teachers attended also! Our School Captains and many students met them and the day was delightful. The female Head Prefect was photographed with Cara Casiano, and House Leaders with the ex-students in each House. Only the front building*



*was here in 1951-56 and the grounds were very different. Some 'luminaries' in the group include Brian Blythe (Spotless), John Brown (the legend of Tennis Australia), John Macarthur (Hawk's 1961 Premiership Team), Don Seedsman (Antarctic leader), Professor Graeme Cox (eminent molecular biologist and Fellow of the Academy of Science) and athletes Neil Twitt and Nicola Donkin. All visitors enjoyed their time here and loved the welcome from the present students and the appearance, facilities and successes of their/our school today. I would be thrilled if the Class of 2005 were able to return with great pride to whatever CHS is in 50 years' time - but reaching their potential as students and citizens will thrill me just as much!*

*Some words from our School Captains, Simon Kershaw and Cara Casiano, who spoke at the Open Evening Gathering on May 9th:*

*Cara: "...Whether your child wants to be a scientist, lawyer, philosopher, businessman, film maker, musician, actor or writer, Camberwell High accomodates to all. We are encouraged to think for ourselves. We are never force fed, but always helped when help is needed. This attitude of do it yourself adds to the culture of this school. The culture that gives us....a home and a very good education."*

*Simon: "...I think the main difference that sets apart public schools such as Camberwell High is the freedom to be an individual...even emphasis on the individual doing all they can to succeed in whichever way they wish...Camberwell High will not mould your child into a narrow standard of success. It will offer them the chance to discover what it is they wish to be in life."*

Elida Brereton  
Principal



# Secretary's Report – Pat Douglas

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*It is amazing how time flies but it seems that I am in the 15th year of being Secretary of CHESS.*

*There has been some change to our agenda.*

*We now meet away from the school, which is more convenient to our members.*

*Tony Giblett organised a reunion for the 50th anniversary of the first Matric class that was completed at Camberwell High School. He managed to contact all but 3 of the students. They had a full weekend with visits to the school and a dinner at Wattle Park Chalet.*

*We do have some requests from ex-students from time to time for information about how to organise a reunion of their year at Camberwell High. We try and help as best we can. We are still learning and gathering information from other ex-students' associations ourselves.*

*This year we will beholding a reunion for students who were at the school in the 60s. This will be held at the Kelvin Club in Melbourne.*

*Our membership has been growing slowly over the past years and at present we have 252 members of CHESS. On a relative note, CHESS paid \$450.80 for Prospice's mailout, enclosing membership forms for the exiting Year 12 students - unfortunately, none were returned.*

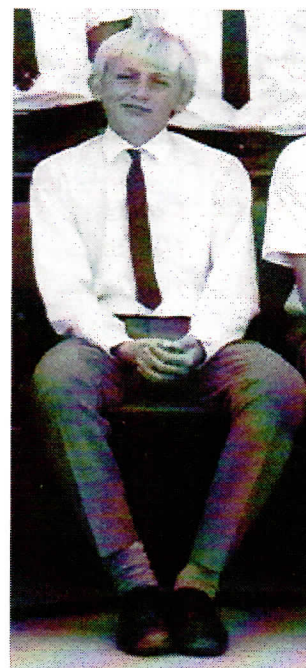
Pat Douglas  
Secretary

## CHESS Treasurer's Report (an annual satirical piece by Neil Bouvier)

### **CHESS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 12 MONTH PERIOD ENDED 10 APRIL 2006**

*In one of the biggest surprises in CHESS history, we had a huge turn-up at our opening meeting in February, but that up-turn took a u-turn at our AGM. Unfortunately, there was no carry over from that inaugural Incorporation meeting and so we had the normal roll-up of the usual suspects ie. just committee members and no others. So my suggestion is that we have bi-monthly Incorporation meetings as that topic seems to attract ex-students (we had 10 extras that night) rather than trying to go a meeting to get some one to come on board (read "dobbed in") and become the next Treasurer.*

*I have moved interstate, worked 120kms from the CBD, lived 10 suburbs away and tabled 25 resignation letters but they (the President & the rest of the committee) have still tracked me down. I'm currently watching re-runs of the Fugitive and following Jack Bauer in "24" to get some idea of aliases and learning to become evasive and non-conformist like I was in the old days as a student at CHS. So lucky me I'm in the job for another year and I think I'll follow the President's lead by being overseas each meeting – mind you in Bernard's absence the meetings have been going like clockwork and we are down to only committee member nodding off, eh, Laurie?!!.*



CHESS MOVIES



So with that rivetting preamble and the pulling out from the records the CHESS cheques the President didn't use to fund his overseas junkets (don't worry I've got John So and So from the Melbourne City Council looking into it), I'll now present the CHESS results.

There was a surplus of \$1,003 for the year with total receipts of \$10,634 exceeding payments of \$9,631.

The main revenue items were Subscriptions of \$6,500, Donations \$2,354, School Song Proceeds \$200 and Reunion Income of \$1,550.

Total costs were made up of Printing \$1,403, Postage \$1,204, Bank Charges \$263, Incorporation \$53, Webpage and Newsletter Updates & Hosting \$1,104, Membership Administration \$805, School Song Recording Costs \$2,515, Re-Union Expenses \$ 1,969 and Sundry Items of \$315.

One of the highlights of the past year was the recording of the School Song and we are now on target to cut a few CDs free of charge for financial members and the choir on the day. I was not able to attend that session as I'm still receiving therapy after Churchill knocked off the Macarthur Madrigals in the 1973 House Choral festival. We are now hopeful to have these CD's in this mail out as we have been diligently clearing 24/7 the backlog from the president's in-tray which at one stage rivalled the latest planned Grollo Tower in height.

#### **CHESS RE-UNION FOR ALL 40's and 50's PAST STUDENTS AT THE TOWER HOTEL, HAWTHORN HELD ON 21 OCTOBER 2005**

Late last year we cranked up the third edition of the 40s and 50s at the Tower Hotel and, after negotiating the steps, were able to step back in time and have a great night. One of the features apart from my sister's slide night of all the old photos was the sale of the book by Graham Kinross-Smith "If I Abscond" which I purchased a copy of to hopefully give me a few ideas on becoming ex-treasurer. If you see below there is a table of the past reunions and how we fared on the night.

#### **CHESS REUNIONS HISTORY UPDATE**

CHESS-sanctioned reunions previously held at the school are now held at licensed venues. A nominal entry fee is charged to cover food, staff, postage, advertising and audio video displays – the ones held prior to the last two included liquor. You will note that the gaps of 2000 and 2001 relates to a 60 year reunion run by the school in March 2001 and the 2003 break where a proposed ALL years black tie event planned for Leonda in October 2003 was not proceeded with due to lack of numbers.

<b>DATE</b>	<b>DECADE</b>	<b>No. People</b>	<b>Entry Fee</b>	<b>*Revenue</b>	<b>Expenses</b>	<b>Net Profit</b>
27/10/95	1940s	60 (est.)	\$10.00	\$ 560.00	\$ 570.73	\$ (10.73)
25/10/96	1950s	165	\$20.00	\$3,315.00	\$1,267.65	\$2,037.50
17/10/97	1960s	189	\$20.00	\$4,100.00	\$2,128.70	\$1,651.30
16/10/98	1970s	135	\$20.00	\$2,910.00	\$2,572.85	\$ 337.15
23/10/99	1940s/50s	145	\$10.00	\$1,655.00	\$ 962.50	\$ 692.50
18/10/02	1980s&1990s	65	\$20.00	\$1,505.00	\$2,278.85	\$ (773.85)
08/10/04	ALL	46	\$69.00	\$3,174.00	\$3,491.20	\$(317.20)
21/10/05	1940s/50s	102	\$15.00	\$1,580.00	\$1,969.35	\$(389.35)

\*Revenue covers entry fee and other items on sale on the night.



## The Queen's Baton Relay from the inside....

In March this year, I was in the relay, representing parents and carers with disabled children, and it was the most mind-blowing experience ever, even for a closet republican! I'm sure I wasn't the only past student of CHS to have received this honour and I mentioned to Pat that there must be others out there, who were Community Runners like me.

My section of the relay was through beautiful Jells Park in Wheelers Hill - and all my four children were there, (I have three boys on the autism spectrum) and they all enjoyed the spectacle of it. It was surreal to be walking with four policemen in shorts, with security earpieces, plus the three police motorcycles in front of us - one rider hi-fiving the onlookers! Sirens, flashing lights...and a BIG (heavy) baton, lit up like a lighthouse. Tom was the lovely, young man who handed it over to me (he'd bravely supported his mother during her fight with breast cancer so there were pink balloons everywhere amongst the green gums.)

It's an interesting experience also, in terms of meeting up with the other community runners in the Waverley Women's Sports Centre just prior and learning of their contributions to society and sport. We all gave a short talk on ourselves - Nicole Richardson, the Olympic netballer and softball player lead our party. We had other former athletes there, plus young Tom, and also runners belonging to major Sponsor companies. A big group hug, Aussie Aussie Aussie Oi! Oi! Oi!, hopping in to the van with lights going and loud Shannon Noll's LIFT blaring, then we joined the police convoy and went through a guard of honour made up of young netballers. WOW!



They dropped us off at signposted places in the road, park (for me) and the roads leading out up the hill. And we waited. My children all hugged me, though son number two looked a bit bewildered by the people and noise. Then, the motorcade came up the path....Tom and I met for a hug and photo, then I held the baton aloft (remembering to hold my thumb glove in place to trigger off the sensor within the baton) and off I went at a cracking pace. I'd ticked 5 minutes in the application form for the 500 metres so it was F-A-S-T. I was worried that I was going to drop it as my failing grip reminded me of my carpal tunnels! But I made it. Hopped into the bus behind the retrieval convoy (wondering who had used the obligatory ambulance in it) and as we were progressively picked up during 'the

mop-up', we did hi-fives out the windows! I saw mums from Lachie's kinder and Holly's primary school. My cheeks were sore from grinning. My husband gave me a lift back to the picnic area and I had a celebratory glass of plonk with my family, who really enjoyed the day. Number one son just LOVED the police sirens and lights. His autistic obsession is police and security! Perfect. Debs :-)

PS My brother said I looked like Plucka Duck!

## VALE

Geoffrey Morton (1948 - 1952)

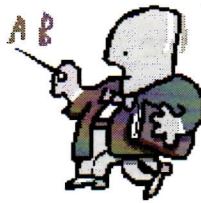
Elizabeth Joan Jenkin (née Veitch) (1956 - 1958)

Judy Munster (née Firth) (1953 - 1958)



## DISCOurse

*Our 13 question questionnaire.....  
Replies from John Cayless (1964 - 1969)*



*Which teacher inspired you at CHS?*

There were many teachers that gave that bit extra which put them above the others.....conversely there were a few who just made up the numbers!!! The standout teachers were Mr Rickard for the light hearted way he approached Physics, Miss Rusden, Mrs Moore and Mr Trevare for their commitment & passion for teaching and Wayne Bishop ( Phys Ed ) who indulged in my love of sports.

*Your funniest school memory?*

Would have to be the numerous times that "stink bombs" were made during the Chemistry class and the effect/disruption this had on the other classes.

*What subject did you hate and why?*

Latin.....could never see any logical reason for learning this subject.

*What school house were you in?*

Montgomery.

*Can you hit the high note at the end of the school song?*

I couldn't hit any of the notes, let alone the high one.....sorry to anybody who happened to be next to me during my singing attempts.

*Do you still have any school library books?*

The library was out of bounds as you couldn't kick a footy in there. On the odd occasions I entered that hallowed place, the borrowing system overwhelmed me

*Your favourite sport or, conversely, what sport did you try to get out of?*

I loved all sports, which was probably to the detriment of my academic side. Wayne Bishop pointed me towards baseball which was my main sport whilst at CHS.....still feel quite chuffed at being in the school team whilst in Form 1 and playing with the "big boys".....could it be that they needed someone short in the team to get "walked" every time they went up to bat?????

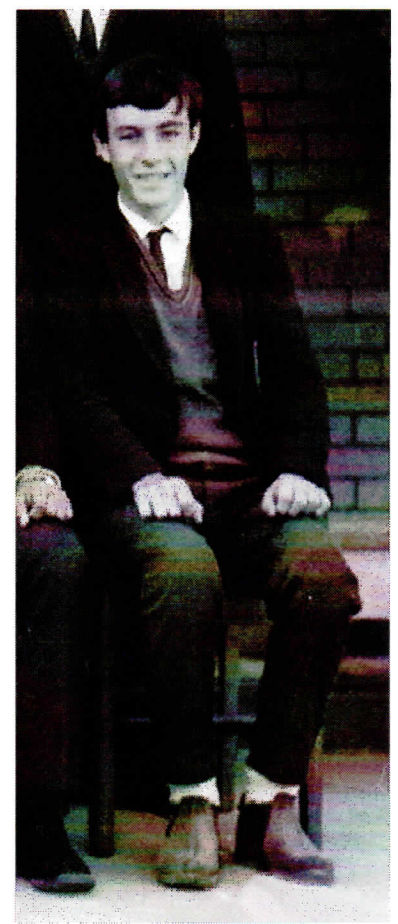
*What did you do on the last day of school? (we won't tell the police)*

Didn't really do that much - just the usual flour bomb, water fights.....nothing too bad.

*Who was your best friend at school?*

Mark Payne was my best mate, but unfortunately he finished school early and I haven't heard or seen him since. Other good mates were Bryan Raine (still good mates), Alan Hopkins and Stephen Hunt.

*That's John, third from the left, in this 1969 Baseball Team photo*



*John in Form 6*



What book are you reading now?

"Love and Death in Kathmandu" which gives an account of the lead up to and massacre of the Nepalese Royal Family several years ago.

Did you have a crush on a classmate?

There were many.....some even carried over from my time at Hartwell State!!! The one constant "crush" was with a classmate who used to wear a skimpy white bikini whilst we were hanging out together at the Camberwell Baths during the holidays.

What classroom prank can you recall? (we know nothing)

Other than the "stink bombs", just the usual things like locking people in the classroom/toilets, hiding school books, letting down bicycle tyres, putting sticky things on seats.....your intelligent??? kind of pranks!!!!

Did CHS have a lasting influence on your life?

Certainly did.....you can never have times like that again.....you're like a sponge soaking up all that life throws up at you.....good or bad. CHS was one of the good things and I'll always have the fondest of memories.

## A bit about me.....

Life is full of twists, turns and changes ( some wanted and some not ), but isn't it great. I look back at my life and I've had all these, but wouldn't change a thing.

After CHS I went to Swinburne to do a Diploma of Business Studies - Computer Programming, only to quickly discover that programming these new machines called computers was not my cup of tea. Subsequently switched over to Business Studies - Accounting....and this after having done science subjects in Forms 5 & 6!!!! After some stop/start studying, I eventually ended up at the MMBW Accounts Dept. during the good old days when a Public Servant job was secure and for life. However, a life sentence in the Public Service was not for me, as I always wanted to get out there and see more of this world of ours. At the grand age of 19 I met my future wife and we were married when I was 21 and she was 19. Fortunately Jan also had a passion for travelling so we took 12mths leave and hit the "Hippie Trail" to Nepal, India, Africa, Europe and came home via Turkey, Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Nepal and started work the next day.....what a challenge that was!!!

Travelling was in our system, so after 2 years of hard saving, selling all our worldly possessions ( house, car, furniture ) and giving our dog away, we once again donned our backpacks and took off not knowing when we would return.....but we did after 4 great years.



John and a friend in Nepal

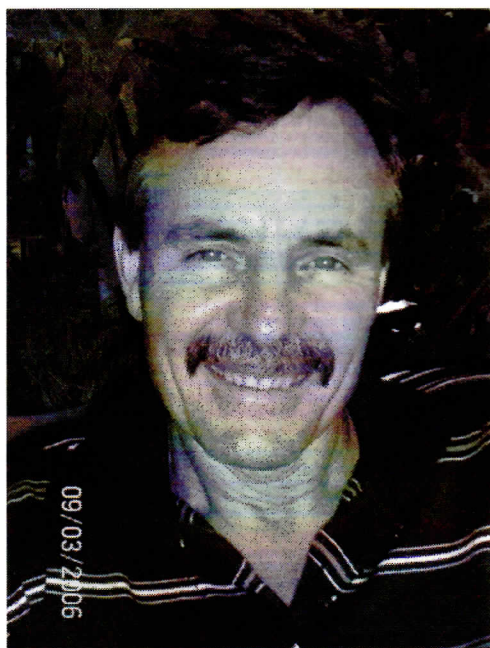


## A bit about me..... (continued)

Settling back into the swing of things was very hard as I still had the urge to travel, but Jan wanted to start a family....she won!!!! Luckily we decided to buy an old run down house on some land in Red Hill, which was a place that we'd never heard of, but immediately fell in love with. Fortunately I landed a job in the Accounts Dept at the local Shire, but quickly discovered that the 9 - 5 routine was not for me and decided to start a windsurfer & paddle board hire business which involved the hard task of sitting on McRae beach with Jan who was heavily pregnant by that stage. One day whilst sitting, I noticed in the local paper an ad offering a Nursing course at Mt Eliza and thought this could be just what I want, as the hire business was seasonal and nursing would allow the flexibility in hours, days worked so that I could have time to do "other things".....subsequently did the course and now 22 years later, I'm still at Mt Eliza and absolutely love it.

One of the "other things" was to have a stall at the local Red Hill market making and selling Indian Samosas and fruit juice drinks. I'm still doing this 22 years later, but have gone upmarket and progressed to a mobile food van and sell your more Australian (not Indian!!!) bacon & egg rolls, sausages, hamburgers and steak sandwiches at the Red Hill, Mornington and Balnarring markets, as well as catering for events and special occasions.

Another of my "other things" was a desire to start a travel business organising tours to Asia - Nepal, India and Tibet. However, with the raising of kids, paying off the mortgage, work and market commitments, I was forced to put this on hold. Finally I thought if I don't do it now I never will.....I sat down, worked out an itinerary for Nepal, advertised, got a group together and it all went so well that the group wanted to do another tour which included India.....this gave me the confidence to know that I was doing something right and that I could actually do it!!!! I called the business Asian Experience, as I felt it was an experience to visit these amazingly diversified, colourful and vibrant countries. I've since expanded to include other destinations and also to organise motor bike tours....I was the first Australian to do this and also the first person to be given permission to take groups to Bhutan, which I am quite proud of. If you ever want an Asian Experience, have a look at [www.asianexperience.com.au](http://www.asianexperience.com.au) or phone 59892512.



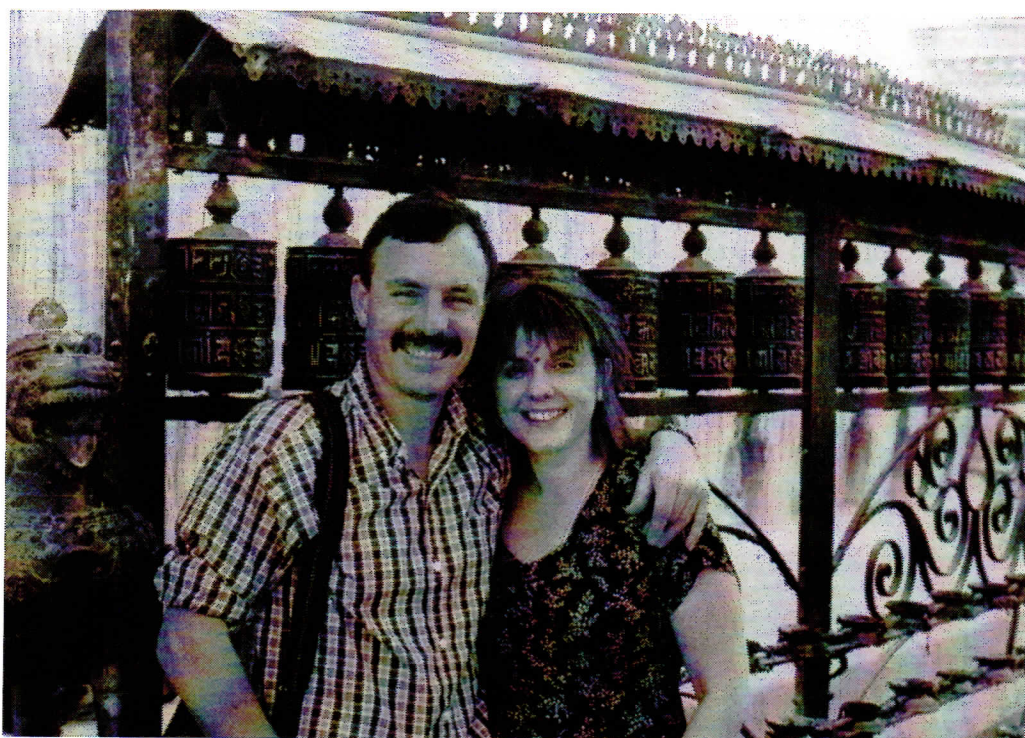
On the family scene, our son Shane arrived early (10 weeks premature) which was scary at the time, but he's now a strapping 6ft (metric anyone???), fit and healthy. Two years later our daughter Miranda arrived who luckily turned out to have Down's Syndrome.....I say luckily, as you couldn't get a more likeable person than a "Downie".....they're so full of life, always happy, affectionate, loving and take life as it comes. I couldn't have wished for a nicer person than Miranda.....with her you get the full spectrum.....typical teenager (music, dancing, boys) and yet is a believer of Santa and the Easter Bunny and hopefully always will be.

One of the bad twists in life involved my divorce from Jan.....however as one door closes another opens.....and I have been very fortunate to meet Helen, who came on one of my tours to Nepal (my parents and sister also came on this tour, so Helen met the family!!!) Helen is also an avid traveller and has slotted into the Asian Experience scene and also takes many of the tours.....but being a vegetarian makes it a bit hard at the markets dealing with all the meat!!!!



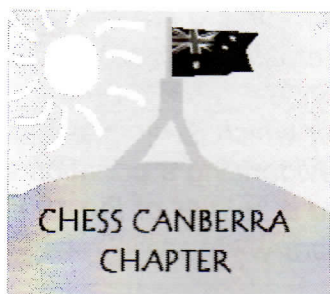
*So that's my life.....if you ever want a holiday, feel the need for a hamburger or ever get sick or injured...come and see me!!!!*

*John Cayless*



*John and Helen in Nepal*

## ***Canberra Chapter Report***



*The Canberra chapter of Chess has had two functions so far this year. The first was a barbecue in February at the home of Gaye White (Goodson). We were fortunate to welcome Ian & Joy Woonton for the first time and hope to see more of them in the future. Ian was at CHS from 1954 to 1959. (ie a 'golden era' graduate). It was a fearfully hot day, even for a Canberra summer, but we all survived and enjoyed our usual good time.*

*Then on 18 June we gathered at the Australian War Memorial for a guided tour of the "War and Sport" exhibition.(which has now finished) with lunch afterwards at the 'Chill' Restaurant in the suburb of Campbell nearby. I have an acquaintance who is a trained guide at the War Memorial and arranged for him to give a us a tour which highlighted some of the more unusual aspects of the exhibition. Some of these were Don Bradman's war service record in the RAAF and the Army, including his service medals; one of Keith Miller's baggy green Australian caps; and the Kings Cup itself, first awarded by King George V to the winner of the Eights at a Henley post war Peace rowing regatta, and won by a 1st AIF rowing eight. We also did a brief tour of a few other AWM exhibits.*

*If any CHESS members are coming to visit Canberra and the Australian War Memorial, then they should know that the AWM has a large group of volunteer trained guides to take you on guided tours of the memorial. Remember it is your national war memorial, and one of the best museums in the world.*

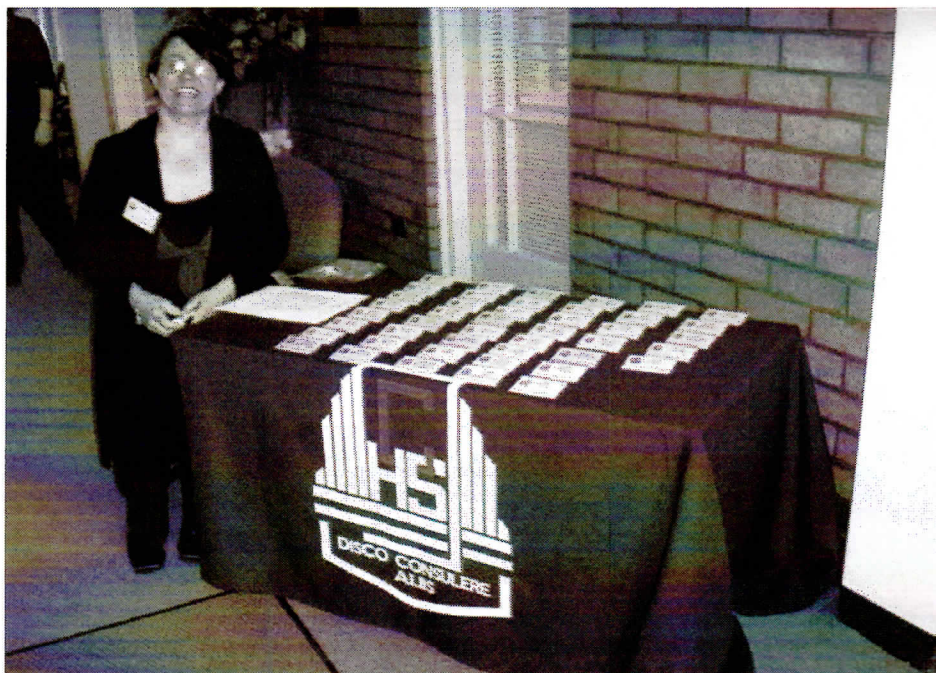
*Allan Carter*

*Convenor Canberra Chapter*



# 1956 INAUGURAL MATRICULATION CLASS (YEAR 12) REUNITES

*On the 19th and 20th May, 2006, forty of the fifty-four students of the school's 1956 inaugural year 12 class, together with five of their teachers\*, were reunited in what transpired to be an emotional and meaningful event. Only three of the remaining students could not be traced, six could not attend due to ill health or unchangeable prior commitments and unfortunately five had died.*



*Lynda welcoming the ex-students with their name tags in the school's administration foyer.*

*The reunion was spread over two days and consisted of three phases. On Friday the 19th May participants gathered at the school and after re-introductions over morning tea, Principal Elida Brereton formally welcomed the group and gave an interesting thumbnail sketch of the evolution of the building and educative changes at the school since 1956. Bernard Corser addressed the group on aspects of the aims of C.H.E.S.S. after which Tony Giblett on behalf of the 1956 students presented the Principal with a certificate evidencing a donation to the school of \$1595 for purposes yet to be determined. There followed a 'retake' of the 1956 class photo on the front steps, then a light luncheon in the Brereton library.*

**Past student, Tricia Phillips (née Ashley)  
with Principal, Elida Brereton**







That evening, the reunion continued in the form of a buffet dinner at the Wattle Park Chalet. On this occasion the former students were accompanied by spouses and partners and two of the five teachers, Geoff Adams and Wilbur Keene. The evening was addressed by Wilbur on his recollections of his time at C.H.S. and in particular the qualities and reputation of Mr. A.T. (Tom) Ebbles, Principal of the school from 1953 to 1957. Tony Giblett provided an alphabetical summary of 1950's school nostalgia.



**Tricia Phillips (Ashley), John Brown, Graeme Galt, Neil Twitt, Don Seedsman**

The following day, Saturday the 20th May, the third and final phase of the reunion concluded the unique reunification in the form of a relaxed catered for spit roast, a tour of the school and a rousing rendition of the school song. Whilst the sun may have set on the event, the warmth and light educed will linger on. It was fantastic!



**Allan Carter and  
Alan Sipos**





*Back row, left to right: John Clark, Robert (Bob) Lord, Graeme Cox, Graeme Galt, John Mercer, Keith Walker, Ken Petrie*

*2nd back row, left to right: Teacher Jack Foster, Edward Clarke, Peter Chesterman, David Wilson, Brian Blythe, Elemer Sipos, Clive Beed*

*3rd back row, left to right: Don Seedsman, John Francis, Robert Kaegi, David Chesterman, Neil Twitt, Gerald Robinson, Peter Friend, Ray Yates*

*3rd front row, left to right: Kevin Quinlan, Robert Jones, Alan Meiers, John Youens, Ross Reading, Anthony (Tony) Giblett, Ray Spark, Brian Firth, Charlie (John) Kirkman, Jonathon Holmes, Geoffrey Sproat*

*2nd front row, left to right: Norman Head, John Brown, Robyn Curry, Kerrie Price, Patricia Ashley, Lorraine Anderson, Teacher Miss Lynch, Nicola (Nick) Donkin, Lyn Carter, Jennifer de Mole, Tom Shen, Allan Carter*

*Front row, left to right: Brigitte (Britt) Gatzke, Heather Burden, Beatrice Mason, Diana Whitney, Ann Evans, Ruth Spetts, Margaret Reid, Cedar Sonnenberg, Sigrid Beilharz, Hanna Korman, Judith Eltham*

*and now....*



*The views expressed by contributors to every Chessmoves are the reflections of private individuals and not those of the committee. All articles are edited for grammatical purposes only...and we accept articles in good faith.*