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## MEETING DATES: August 10th

Venue is Conachie Hall,  
Rochester Road,  
Canterbury.  
Meetings start at 7pm.  
Email Debs if you are  
interested in attending.

**CHESS still has stock of  
school song CDs @ \$12  
and badges @ \$7 -  
email  
patjdouglas@primus.com.au**

# CHES MOVES

## CAMBERWELL HIGH EX-STUDENTS' SOCIETY INC.

<http://www.chessmoves.com>

July 2009

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear CHESS Members

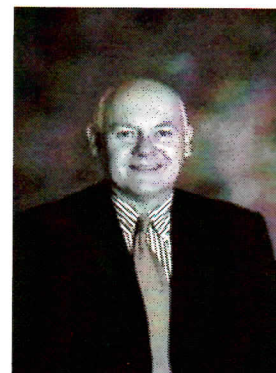
Another year whips by. I have just been given a copy of the reunion booklet for the 1991 Jubilee. This was for the Black Tie Dinner at the Hyatt on Collins. It reminded me of the drive and determination of the then principal Ann Rusden to ensure that the Golden Jubilee Dinner was a success.

CHESS has enlisted the help of the current principal Elida Brereton in an exciting challenge for the school. This is the collection of student information with the view to having an email database of ex-students. Colin Green the energy behind the Melbourne High Old Boys has agreed to assist is guiding us. There will be a commitment of time and money for CHESS. Barry Garnham a student of 1949 has pledged \$2000 to the project.

Please remember our luncheon event at the Kelvin Club later this year. Graeme Kinross-Smith will be the quest speaker.

Disco consulere Aliis

Bernard Corser  
Class of '71



**CHESS 2009 Luncheon**  
Tuesday, September 17th, 2009 12.30pm  
Kelvin Club, Melbourne Place, Melbourne CBD

**Guest Speaker**  
Graeme Kinross Smith  
(past CHS student,  
Author, Poet, Raconteur)

**"The Truth Between The Lines -  
Telling Lies Nationally in Fiction and Poetry"**

The elegant atmosphere of the President's Room  
at the Kelvin Club. Delicious gourmet meal \$45.  
Drinks at bar prices. Jacket and tie.  
Email [patjdouglas@primus.com.au](mailto:patjdouglas@primus.com.au) for bookings.



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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, 2009.  
Send all articles to  
Debs.

**PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE**

*Open Night on Tuesday May 5th was a success if we judge by unsolicited feedback, numbers present, the packed Assembly Hall at 8.00pm, and the impressions gained from touring the school myself. A highlight for me, given I was a little hungry by 6.50pm, was the delicious soup and the yummy scones, jam and cream, made and provided by students for all passers-by. The ongoing music in the Hall was of the highest standard, as were the school-wide displays of work, and staff and student demonstrations of skills. As usual the guided tours by enthusiastic volunteer students gave visitors a wonderful impression of the kind of student CHS produces. The short but heartfelt speeches given by our School Captains, Brittany Clark and Matt Kerr, and Junior School Captains, Richard Jackson-Grose and Eliza Colgrave, added to and consolidated people's opinions about the special qualities of so many CHS students.*



*The 2009 Year 9 Camp at Phillip Island from May 6th to 8th, was a great success as expected. Thanks for this are due to the leadership and organisation of PTLs Richard Geddes, Paul Cuthbert, and Graham Timms, the overall leadership of Head of Junior School Elizabeth Foulds, the responsible and cooperative nature of our students, and the presence of 14 highly-committed staff. AP Isabelle McKenzie and I visited the Camp on Day 1 and we enjoyed joining in with activities all afternoon and sharing the wild beauty (and weather) of Phillip Island with the students in our care. Well done to parents and to your children for your values that ensure that Camberwell HS students can be taken anywhere without letting you, us, and themselves down.*



*Our Senior Stage Band travelled to Mt Gambier recently, with Jo Heaton, David Hirst, Jason Taggart and Olivia Smith, and they performed extremely well against other schools participating in the Jazz Festival. We are proud of them all, and proud too of Zac Hodgkinson and Sarah Werner from the Class of 2008 who are performing soon at Hamer Hall as two of the 19 finest student performances in the Performing Arts in last year's VCE. This is a*

*great honour and fantastic achievement to be chosen for this gala concert, and we congratulate them both warmly. Drama teacher Helen Cull deserves our praise too!*



Students have been involved in a range of activities in the past two weeks: a careers seminar for Years 11 and 12, inter-school sport for senior students and other levels —well done to the Senior Girls Football team for your great win! ; the launch of the 2010 World Challenge Expedition for our students late next year —to one of my favourite countries, Nepal; involvement by a group of eight Year 10 students in the Great Transport Race this week; a vibrant Junior School Assembly led by students; and of course much rehearsal and activity to prepare for the student-devised and led Inter-House Chorals/Arts Festival, held recently. Those of you who have been to one of these traditional nights (which in the 1980s featured Our Kylie and Our Danii and others) know that it is not an event to miss.

Returning from New Caledonia safely and with happy memories were the students of French who travelled with Sue Holberton, Marion Anglin and Mamoun Scally, and I have heard only positive reports of the trip. Thank you to staff and students for this rewarding outcome. Also returning safely was AP Isabelle McKenzie who had met many of our International Students' families, and agents who work with us, in her full and demanding travel schedule in Vietnam and China.

One of our Year 8 boys, Jack Currie, competed at the Australian swimming trials during the holidays. Jack is extremely modest but Fiona Howson proudly informed me that our Jack won his way into five (5) national finals, winning three bronze medals and one silver in the relays, and GOLD in the 200m Individual Medley for his age group. Congratulations Jack! We are proud of you. (I will try to acquire his autograph for posterity to keep with those of Gary Ablett et al ...) **Editor: GO CATTERS!!!**

Elida Brereton  
Principal

## VALE

*Jennifer Barnett (née Forse) (CHS 1962 - 1965) passed away in the Black Saturday bushfire at Steels Creek.*

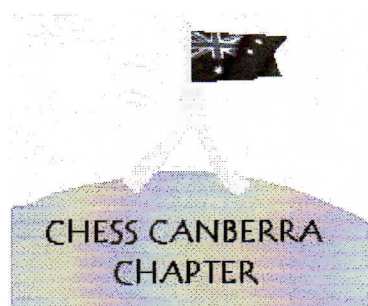
*Elaine Margaret Hatfield (née French)  
(CHS 1950 - 1954) passed away 27/2/2009*

*Elaine was a School Prefect and also a member of the CHS Tennis Team. She went to University High to do her Matriculation and attended Melbourne University to become a physiotherapist.*



The Prefects 1954. Front row: Margaret Atkins (Head), Mr Ebbels, Miss Robertson, John Addie (Head). Second Row: Shirley Floyd, Verena Fisch, Helen Fulton, Alison Thompson, Elaine French, Wendy Jensen, Claire Fairhall. Third Row: William Blythe, Malcolm Douglas, Barrie Yee, Kwong Lee Dow. Back row: Alan Moore, Geoffrey Osborne, Pierre Fink.





## CANBERRA CHAPTER

We have had two functions so far this year. Our first was a barbecue at our new home in the suburb of Bruce. We had a good roll-up and an enjoyable time was had by all, and as is usual with our functions, we didn't break up until late in the afternoon. We welcomed a new member to our group, namely Janet Sibley (formerly Edmonds) who was at CHS from 1953 to 1955, and co-incidentally was in the same years as myself, including at Camberwell Central before then.

The second function was a lunch at Shepherd's Run Winery, a new winery at Wamboin near Queanbeyan. Despite it being organised at rather short notice, we had 19 there, the largest number of attendees that we have ever had at one of our functions. Our numbers this time included Bryan Rowland and his wife Helen, who joined us from Sydney. They were on one of their frequent visits to their family in Canberra, and, as Bryan has been unable to find any similar group in Sydney, he asked if they could join us whenever their Canberra visits coincide with one of our functions. Bryan was at CHS from 1945 to 1948 was very pleased to find that we included three members who were there at about the same time, namely Fred Roberts and Thelma Bell, and Ursula Jensz who was there a little later. Bryan's wife Helen was also pleased to find that my wife Judy, and she both went to Mangarra Road, although at slightly different times.

I have observed over quite some time that an apparently large number of ex-CHS men have married girls either from CHS or from Mangarra Road school. I am aware of at least 8 couples who fit this observation, and wonder whether anybody else has noted this? If so has anybody done a study into it and come up with any conclusions?

If any CHESS members are coming to Canberra and would like to join us at one of our functions, please let me know so that I can let you know if we are having one at the time of your visit. Our next function will probably be about the end of July or early August. Please note my new phone number and Email address below.

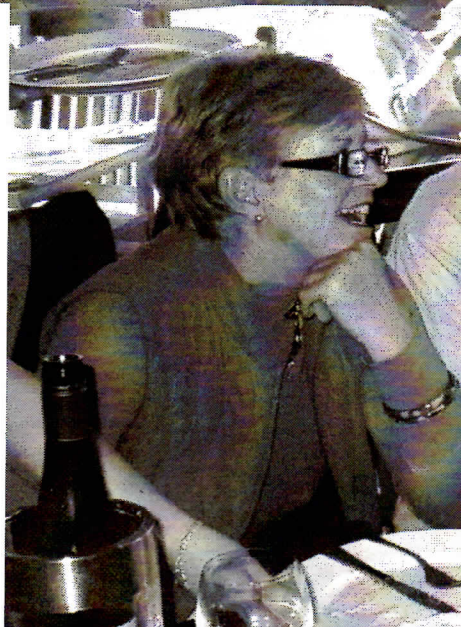
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Canberra Chapter Convenor  
Tel: 02 6251 9921  
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Backs to camera - Ian Woonton, David Harewood, Graeme Cox, Jan Cox. Facing camera from far left - Eric & Lyn Turner, Helen & Bryan Rowland, Sandra & Chris Bunn, Thelma & Bob Bell.



# CHESSES MOVES



*Clockwise from top:*

*1. Facing - Eric Turner, Lyn Turner (hidden), Judy Carter, Helen & Bryan Rowland, Sandra & Chris Bunn, Thelma & Bob Bell. Obscured - David Harewood, Graeme & Jan Cox.*

*2. Facing camera - Lyn Turner, Helen Rowland, Thelma Bell (standing), Bryan Rowland, Sandra Bunn. With backs to camera - Ron Jensz and Joy Woonton.*

*3. Lois & Fred Roberts.*

*4. Joy Woonton.*

*5. Eric & Lyn Turner*





*Our questionnaire...*

*Replies from Philip Badger (CHS 1954 - 1957)*

*Which teacher inspired you at CHS?*

Bull Adams could make Latin pretty interesting whilst Begby was full of surprises in Biology as this photo shows. (How I had a camera at school and at the ready to snap this auspicious moment, I am at a loss to explain!!!)



*Your funniest school memory?*

Way back in '57, the Oval had a manhole that could be lifted off to go down into the storm water drain. A group of kids would cluster around and fairly soon smoke would be seen arising as from the bowels of the earth. It beat smoking behind the toilets by a mile!!!! Kids would also ride their bikes home along the drain - no traffic lights!! But if there had been a flash flood and heavy rain!!! But then...we were Invincible!!!

*What subject did you hate and why?*

Maths was not my long suit.

*What house were you in?*

Macarthur.

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

Not only that but I also attended the day of celebrating, singing and feasting when the song was recorded.

*Did you still have any school library books?*

Heck NO!!! In my new career as a Library Assistant, I deplore such laxity!!!! (Strictly for unvarnished larrikins as Mr Ebbels would observe!!!) In my 25 years in Adolescent Psychology and counselling, I have never come across one Varnished Larrikin!!!

*Favourite sport?*

I was not much good (any good at all!!!!) at football, but I enjoyed being the cox in the rowing four....except one time with Mike Aikman yelling from the bank as we drifted straight towards the stone pylon under Hawthorn Bridge....terrifying stuff.

*Last day at school.*

I have a vague recollection of a procession of Ready Mix concrete trucks arriving unannounced to the consternation of Principal and Staff. (Oh, those trusting days of 1957 when a deposit and 3 forms of ID were not needed!!!!)

*Who were your best friends at school?*

Stewy Morgan.....wherefore art thou Stewy?

*What book are you reading now?*

Book group is doing Alice Pung, Unpolished Gem. A witty but poignant book that I should have read many years ago.

*Did you have a crush on a classmate?*

I recently turned up an autograph book. I can't have had THAT many crushes. Surely.

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

There was some strange mixture that, when it dried out on the old hot water radiators, would explode with an impressive noise at random intervals.

*Did CHS have a lasting influence on your life?*

With my father in Adult Education, he was not all that impressed with the fact that I failed to make the cut into CHS from Grade 6, so I was grateful for a chance to redeem myself and get in at Year 9. It was a good school with enthusiastic teachers.....and an Old Boys Club. What more could you ask of a school?



## A bit about me.....

I went on to Melbourne University after CHS and did general Arts with English and History and little idea of where it might lead. As I failed one subject, my studies went out to 4 years, and I picked up single subjects in psychology and liked it a lot. (I could even cope with Statistics)...and besides, Psychology had other branches than "Rats and Stats".

Working for a few years, and arriving around in what I felt was a "very fine MG TC", I got enough money together to go from India to London overland and work for a year in Surrey, UK, in an Approved School for wayward boys at Redhill.

I took my time returning to Australia, touring Europe, Israel and the Middle East, and seeing things I'd missed on the way over.

On returning to Australia, I was able to use "my vast experience of Psychology in England" as a way of getting a job in Child Psychology at Travancore; spent a few difficult years in prison psychology at Pentridge, and most of my working life was in the area of Adolescent counselling at Wellington Youth Mental Health Centre in St Kilda.

I must have got pretty "burnt out", "grumpy" and "hard to live with"....not that I could see any of this!!!....but my estranged wife, Judi, could. So I retired, settled up amicably with Judi; got a house with double garage for the MG and a campervan; and then set off for 12 months touring around Australia.

It was the best thing I had done for a long time!!

Cured my aches and pains (and grumpiness) and saw enough dusty museums and collections to last a lifetime!!



*Blind faith in instructions from the Navigator !!!*



**Who needs a Trophy Yacht at Docklands when you can have a Trophy MG!!!**  
**(Trophy-wise to go with it would be nice!!)**  
**The blurb on the windscreen is seeking information about past owners in the 50s/60s. It was registered RF784 then re-registered as WO676. Any leads would be gratefully followed up. Ring Philip Badger on 0429 900400.**

Back in Melbourne, my brother steered me into re-training as a Library Assistant at a TAFE College so I get as much casual work as I need, can take off on short trips with the campervan and have a great group of helpful friends in the MG Car Club, with lots of early morning runs, Funkanas, Concourse Displays, etc, etc....

Life is pretty good as I have kept on reasonable terms with Judi and our children. I just hope my hips and knees keep OK so that I can still get into the MG (I think it must have shrunk over the years!!)

Philip Badger

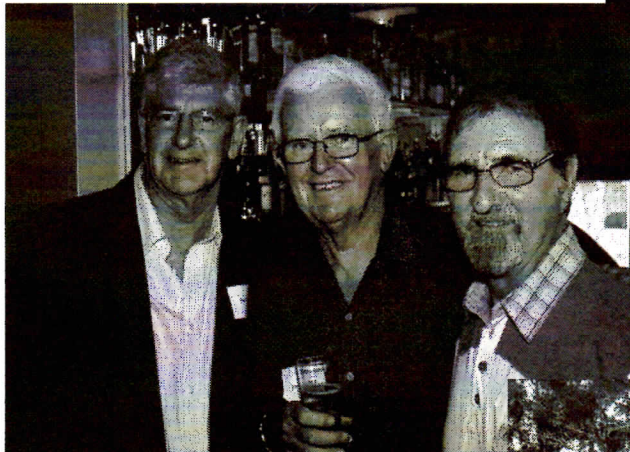


## CHS 1958 Matric 50 Year Reunion a great success

Reunions – even after 50 years - can be fun. The 1958 Matric (and 1957 Leaving) year had a great time last December.



A drinks and finger food night in a private room at Bouzy Rouge (a revamped hotel in Richmond) was very successful with nearly 50 former students and several teachers coming along. There were plenty of laughs and funny speeches by the two former head prefects - Bev Gallus (Blight) and Brian Blanksby.

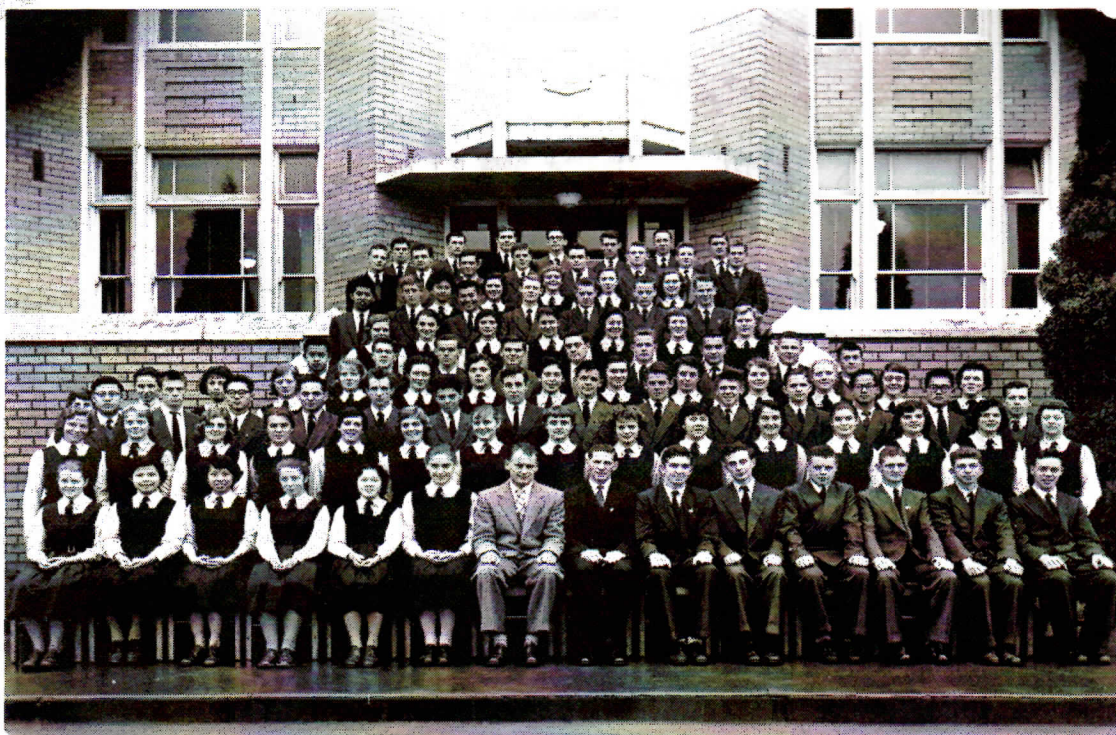


The next day, partners and friends also joined in at a casual BYO picnic at Wattle Park.

A CD with lots of old photos plus pics at the functions were a popular add on.

The group is looking at informal follow up later this year.

Robin Crocker-Jones  
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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.