



CHESS MOVES

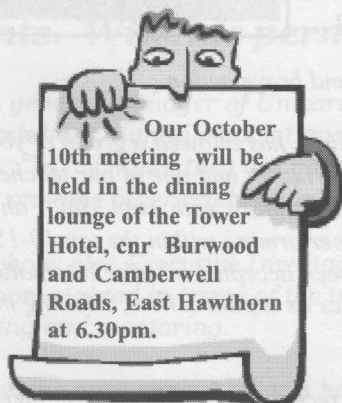
CAMBERWELL HIGH EX-STUDENTS' SOCIETY

<http://www.chessmoves.com>

September 2005

IN THIS ISSUE:

- President's Report
- Principal's Message
- A Reflection on the past 15 years of CHESS
- CD recording update
- Committee Report
- 40s & 50s Cocktail Party
- 1956 Matric Reunion
- 1984 & 1985 Reunion
- Discourse - Fred Roberts
- Letters to the Editor



We are now holding our meetings bi-monthly. Anyone interested in joining us (2006) at Sofia's restaurant, please ring Bernard on 9416-3155 (W) or 0407-300678.

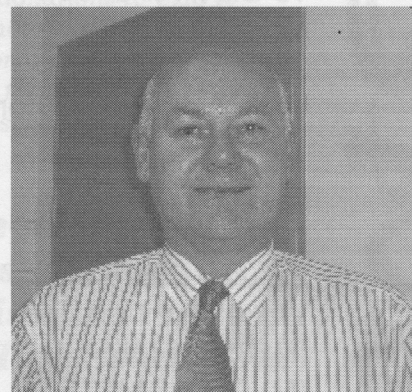
PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The Golden Jubilee year of 1991 inspired Barry Garnham to form CHESS. I would urge all CHESS members to read part of Barry's report (page 3) on that first year as we pace ourselves 15 years later. The work of Deb Johnson (Bouvier) on our electronic archives is the most obvious addition to Barry's list. There is plenty of latitude for us to perform in other areas of the 1991 President's Report and all ex-student help is encouraged.

Regards

Bernard Corser (Class of '71)

Disco Consulere Aliis



40s and 50s Cocktail Party

Friday, October 21st 5 - 7pm

**Room 686, Tower Hotel,
Cnr Burwood & Camberwell Roads,
Hawthorn**



\$15 inc. finger foods Drinks at bar prices
Dress - neat casual RSVP - October 7th
Email Pat - patjdouglas@iprimus.com.au for an RSVP form
or ring her on 8704 2973.

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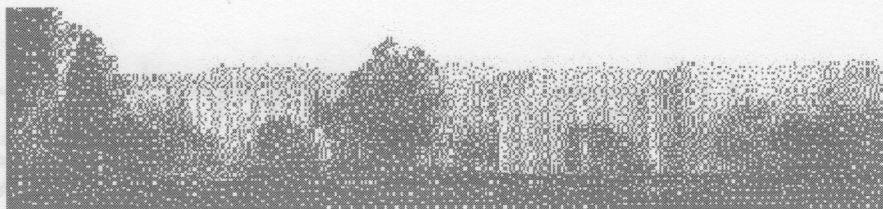
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We welcome any contributions from past students. Please contact Deb by post or email with any written articles. Also, if any CHESS members wish to place ads, please contact Bernard. Also please consider our chessmoves website for your advertising!

**CHESSMOVES
DEADLINE FOR NEXT
ISSUE:**

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



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Recently, we have seen a range of activities, designed to assist and to inform parents/guardians and students of their options for 2006 and beyond, and activities which allow students to demonstrate their musical, sporting and learning skills within an encouraging environment.

The Melbourne Schools Band Festival at Monash, featured all of our ensembles and the students and the music staff are to be congratulated for their excellent performances. was able to attend three evenings and was proud of our students for their musicality, self-discipline and professional appearance. The Wind Ensemble and Concert Band won a Silver Shield, while Bronze Shields were won by the Symphonic Band, both Stage Bands and the Beginner Band. We competed against private schools and government-designated Music Schools so these results are doubly meritorious. Well done to you all.

This year, our Principal for the Day was Steve Persson, Managing Director of the magazine "The Big Issue", sales of which assist the homeless and marginalised of our society. Steve has an impressive 'track record' of working with disadvantaged people over many years, and his gentle manner, strength of character and concern for others came out in his talks to classes in Years 8, 9, 10 and 11. Steve was highly impressed with the atmosphere and human warmth of 'his' school, finding our students to be open, honest, and thoughtful, with a good relationship to their teachers and Principal Class.

Former student, Joel Chester, received a bravery award for his courageous rescue of another, much younger, CHS student from under a train last year, and you no doubt saw something of Joel in the media. We are proud of his impulsive and brave action.



The Maths Challenge for Young Australians has allowed a group of young students, assisted by Julie Campbell (former CHS student and one of our teachers) to demonstrate their high-level mathematical ability, with Alan Tsai, Fahim Zafar, Long Nguyen, Kento Hagino and Natalie Yu performing within the top 10-15% of national scores. Camberwell High School has been accepted into the International Centre of Excellence for Education in Mathematics as a pilot school, trialling materials over the next two years. This is a great honour.

The District Athletics Sports were held recently, and a strong contingent represented Camberwell High School against all our neighbouring schools. Jack Ymer of 8E won the title of Age Champion with wins in the high jump, U14 90m hurdles, U14 400m and U14 Boys' 4 X 100m relay - well done, Jack! And we won an amazing 38 events! Our students came second in another 10 events and third in 2 more. The students who performed for our school, whatever their results, are to be congratulated. Round-Robin sports days for Years 7 and 8 students have brought victories, including our Year 7 Boys' Hockey and Basketball teams, across the board. I was delighted to receive District Champions pennants, delivered to me in person by team members, and was very pleased to hear about good sportsmanship and brave and resilient struggles by other teams. Thank you, students and staff coaching you, for maintaining the school's reputation as a leading sports school.

Elida Brereton
Principal

A Reflection on the past 15 years of CHESS.....

(The following is an excerpt from Barry Garnham's President's Report in our inaugural year)

What is the Future of CHESS?

We must:

Retain and expand our current membership to remain viable.

Provide ongoing assistance to the school.

Encourage the students to develop attitudes of self-reliance in these difficult times of both restricted funding and tertiary places.

Involve students from the 'Eighties' and 'Nineties' before they disperse and contact is lost.

Provide worthwhile opportunities for social, cultural and recreational contacts between our members.

I have every confidence that the foundations have been successfully laid for CHESS and that it will be able to enhance its assistance in the future to the Camberwell High School community, whilst providing much enjoyment and satisfaction to its members.

Barry Garnham

* Barry also mentioned achievements of the inaugural CHESS committee - to provide donations to CHS to assist financially needy students and towards the purchase of House Banners (which now hang in the hall); circulation of a newsletter advising of CHESS activities and aspirations; representation on the school council (we liaise now on issues such as archives); attendance at school major events (such as the Speech Night where we present the CHESS Award); vocational assistance to VCE students. CHESS also assisted the Appeal Fund for the Sports Hall. - Ed.

There was an article in the Education AGE of August 29th, reporting on the influence of alumni with exclusive girls' schools - it also touched on the alumni of government schools, which is of relevance to us. Colin Green, Executive Director of Melbourne High School Old Boys' Association, was interviewed and he made some interesting comments. With his permission, I am reproducing them below:

Colin Green, general manager of Unicorn Consultants, a company set up to help schools (essentially government ones) establish alumni associations, estimates that few than a dozen state secondary schools have active associations. "In the main, they are moribund, often only becoming active for a short period as a result of an anniversary or some other celebration", he says.

Mr Green, who is also Executive Director of Melbourne High Old Boys' Association, believes government schools have been short-sighted in terms of the valuable role played by alumni associations, particularly when it comes to fund-raising and mentoring.

"Post Year 12, the government schools haven't involved themselves with their past students and therefore deprive the school of a very valuable resource."

The article, by Janet de Silva, mentions the comparative lack of funds of government schools' alumni being a contributory factor to their effectiveness. She mentions one clear exception being MacRobertson Girls' High, Melbourne's top selective high school for girls, and their past students' association, the Palladians, boasting a network that reaches across 50 countries. They, like us, run their own website, providing members with online access to a database of international and local contacts.

Ed - I should mention here the excellent MHSOBA organisation and website too... <http://www.mhsoba.asn.au/> our school has an historical affiliation with Melbourne Boys' High, dating back to the war years...and also beyond (see the 1956 Reunion article by Tony Giblett on page 8.) I've also sent an email to Janet de Silva to alert her to our website, which, apart from giving the school archives life by putting them online and also advertising reunions, is also a contact point for all past CHS students.

School of our Youth CD recording

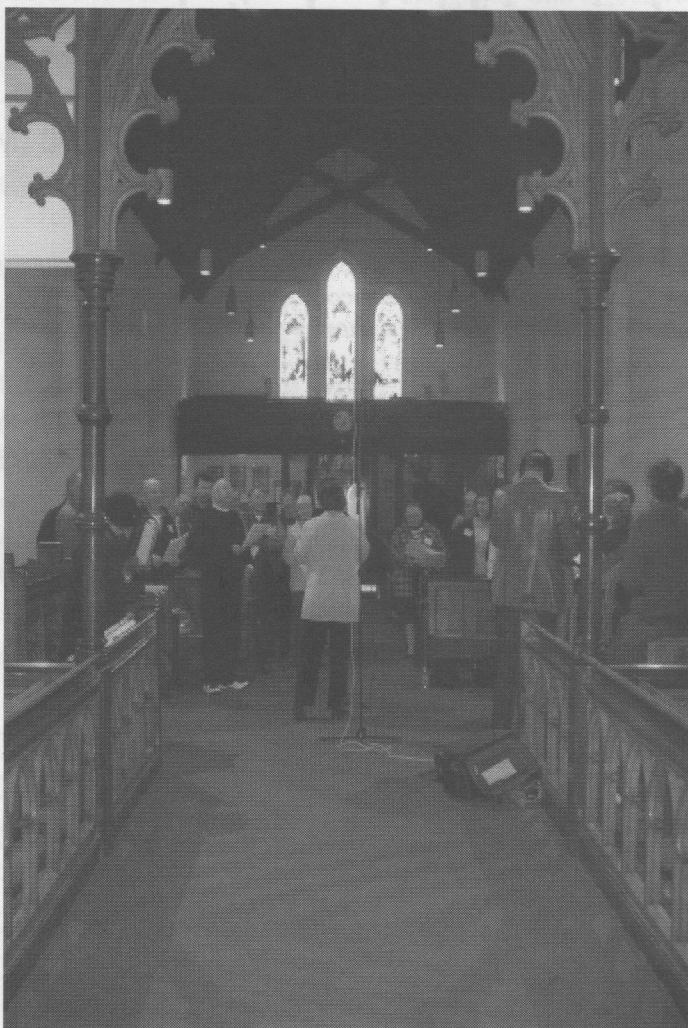
On July 30th, we assembled in the old Christ Church, West Hawthorn, to record our wonderful school song for posterity....and it is aimed that we distribute it to students to foster the same emotions that we have for the song penned by two of our own former CHS teachers....Miss Egan and Mr Hallett.

And speaking of fine teachers, Miss Cameron, a fondly-remembered (and inspirational) former CHS music teacher in her nineties, came along to observe and give input. David Collins, one of our former CHS principals, sat in the pews too!

Yvonne Giltinan (née McLaren) did a fabulous job of co-ordinating the event and whipping our vocals into shape....starting off with a brisk warm-up, then dividing us into altos, sopranos, soprano descants, basses and tenors.



Miss Cameron sits with Dianne McConville (née Noldt) and Andrea Ramirez (née Savage)



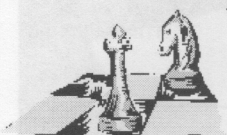
By lunchtime the song was taking shape with the third definitive verse having five-part harmonies....it was just PHENOMENAL and the final Disco Consulere Aliis was crisp and when we stopped singing, it was a beautiful full sound because of the acoustics in the old church. I must mention that Leah Scholl did a brilliant job as our pianist; many thanks also to John Tungyep, whom CHESS commissioned to pen the score (the first time that the piano accompaniment has been fully scored); also Trevor Henley for giving valuable input and for his detective work - I was singing a wrong note in the descant and he picked it!!! Martin from MOVE Records did a marvellous job of recording the complete song, then each individual harmony as separate entities, then the piano as a solo.

Another highlight was the gourmet meal, catered by a local Hawthorn establishment, OSSO, and provided by CHESS in grateful thanks for everyone giving their time and energy to this project. The adjourning hall became a place for an impromptu reunion across the decades.

Bernard brought the first 'draft' CD to our last CHESS meeting and it sounded lovely....we will be going into production in the New Year and hope to give a copy to each financial CHESS member for 2006 and/or each member of the choir present at the recording.



Our complete choir, with Miss Cameron, after the final recording....photo taken from the pulpit!!!



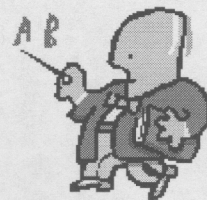
chessmoves committee news

Your CHESS committee has several projects underway at the moment - we are finalising the 40s and 50s Cocktail Party at the Tower Hotel on October 21st. Please contact Pat if you would like to come (information on page 1) For the past two CHESS meetings at the Tower Hotel, we have trialled the finger food menu and endeavoured to make it easy to eat (with a glass of wine in the other hand) as well as delicious. We have engaged Spielvogel Photographics to do group shots (they specialise in school reunion photos and did the 1963 CHS reunion) Plus we are organising quotes for an audio visual display (a HUGE powerpoint I created of all the relevant 40s and 50s photos) and hopefully, we can set that up in Room 686 at the Tower.

Our second major project is the CD, with Yvonne Giltinan assisting Martin of MOVE Records in the production of the disc. Our aim is to distribute it freely to all who stayed for the recording - and to paid-up members for 2006. (Plus, contingency plan to be decided, to distribute it to current and/or exiting students next year.) Bernard is more than happy for anyone wanting to sponsor some advertising on the jewel case CS cover for the sum of \$200 - please ring him (contact details on page 2) if you are interested.

Our 13 question questionnaire.....

Replies from Fred Roberts (1944 - 1946)

*Which teacher inspired you at CHS?*

Without wanting to seem too PC, I'd describe the school's first Principal as truly inspirational. Dr AVG James - "Doc" - was universally liked and respected by both pupils and staff. Some other teachers had a hard time with us, and I recall two maths teachers, in particular, who would look back in horror on their CHS years. But nobody played up in Doc's classes.

Doc James was a true leader, and his early vision for the School as a centre of excellence, before that term was even invented, is reflected in its acceptance today as one of Victoria's finest, if not Australia's, leading high schools.

Besides, he was a good bloke. I recall that he lent the original CHSOPA a hundred pounds (interest free) a fortune in those days, to pay for the manufacture of badges like the one featured in the last edition of Chessmoves. I also remember our pleasure and pride when, after several years, we were in a position to repay him.

Your funniest school memory?

The day Teddy Greenwood got himself locked in the stores cupboard at the front of the classroom before a maths session with one of the aforementioned victims (oops, that should be 'teachers'). I can still remember Teddy staggering forth in the middle of the lesson looking the worse for wear. Our concern for his welfare was quite touching.

What subject did you hate and why?

Science. I was no good at it, and "Snoop", our teacher, wasn't much interested, either.

What school house were you in?

Churchill.

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

School song?

Do you still have any school library books?

Not that I know of. Any offers?

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

I loved swimming. The school was joined at the hip with the Camberwell Baths and during the warmer weather we went there on any excuse.

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

I think we were allowed to play Monopoly!

Who was your best friend at school?

I don't recall having a particular Best Friend, although I had a small circle of good mates. I still have contact with a couple of blokes whom I've known since CHS days, friendships which have really lasted. One, Kevin Hambrook, is now one of my closest friends although we didn't really know each other well at school.

What book are you reading now?

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time by Mark Haddon.

Did you have a crush on a classmate?

Yes - three: Margaret, Joan and Patsy. I won't embarrass them with surnames in case they see this. In any case, they weren't aware of my existence.

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

The Teddy Greenwood incident stands out, although I wasn't the perpetrator. I was a Good Boy.

Did CHS have a lasting influence on your life?

I hope so. I really appreciate what the school taught me, and not only academically. That I still belong to CHES in my 70s must say something.



A photo of Fred taken in 2002, barging (literally he says!) along a stretch of water known as The Navigation, part of the Barrow River, just out of Dublin. He says he became quite competent as a bargee, apart from the language!

A bit about me.....

7

I lived in Glen Iris between 1931, when I was born, and 1964, when I got married, apart from some years working at Department of Social Services offices in Bendigo and Hamilton between 1957 and 1961.

Between 1944 and 1946, I was at CHS. After leaving Melbourne High in 1947 (half a dozen of us went there for Matric, as CHS didn't go beyond Leaving year then), I made an abortive attempt at a Law degree, but succeeded only in gaining a great proficiency at billiards (I still play a reasonable game). I went back to university as a mature-age student about 35 years ago and took a BA degree with emphasis on professional writing, journalism and English.

Joining the CPS in 1950, after dropping out of uni, I spent the next 35 years in the Department of Social Services (later Social Security) and spent my last working decade at a senior level in the Ombudsman's Office. I've been retired from paid employment for about 10 years now, but I keep myself busy with voluntary work such as guiding in the National Gallery and as Editor of the Newsletter for U3A ACT.

My wife, Lois, and I came to Canberra in 1964 when I took up a promotion. At first, we thought we'd stay for five years or so, to honour my obligation to the job, but we soon decided to stay in this wonderful place, where both of our kids were born and grew up. Funny, our son now lives in Hawthorn!

I was one of the members of CHSOPA, and served on its general committee as well as having terms as Secretary and President. I came down for the 1991 Jubilee celebrations and joined CHESS, then just getting off the ground. After returning home, I offered to start a Canberra Chapter, and ended up its convenor for the next 10 years, until Allan Carter took over from me in 2004.



Fred, dancing with his daughter, Mardi, on her wedding day in 2003.

Fred Roberts
Canberra

Looking for old classmates.....

My name is Dennis Sindrey, and I graduated from Camberwell High School in 1951. I have lived outside Australia (being a professional musician in Jamaica and America) since 1958, but I am thinking of returning soon. I would love to be able to get in touch with some of my old classmates.

My address is 410 NW 53 St, Boca Raton, FL, 33487, USA, and my E-Mail is Densin@Hotmail.com.

If you have E-Mail addresses of students from my time, I would love to get them. I do visit Australia every couple of years.

*Thanks for your help.
Dennis Sindrey*

Hello there,

I just found your wonderful webpage on the internet and thought to drop you a line.

I had been a German exchange student at Camberwell High in 1992 and visited it this year in January just for fun as I spent a couple of days in Melbourne. Unfortunately, I could not get hold of my old colleagues from that time (I was in year 12 from July until December '92).

Do you know if there exists any possibility to get a list of the names of the students that went to class with me that time? It would be just great to contact some of them to find out what has happened in their lives.

*Thanks a lot for your help and keep up the good work,
Dirk von Wiarda! dirkvwiarada@yahoo.com*

CHESS MOVIES

50th Anniversary of the 1956 Matrics



Until 1956, education at Camberwell High School terminated at Form 5, Year 11. Students seeking to proceed to the next level had to enrol at one of the limited number of schools, which then catered for Year 12 (called the Matriculation Year).

Because of the comparative geographical remoteness of those schools (Melbourne Boys' High being the most sought after) from Camberwell and its immediate environs where most CHS students resided, some were deterred from continuing their education.

1956 saw the inaugural Matriculation year at CHS. It coincided with the completion of the room on the second floor above what was then the Girls' Common Room at the northern end of the building. In that new room, the school's first student library was established, complementing the commencement of the school's first ever Year 12.

Next year, 2006, the students of that class, now in the age range of 65 to 67, will celebrate the 50th anniversary of their Matriculation year. The reunion will involve a nostalgic visit to the school and a rare opportunity to reminisce on what was a significant influence on their lives. Of the total of 54 students, 5 are known to have died and only 3 of the remainder have yet to be located.

They are HEATHER BURDEN, BEATRICE MASON and RUTH SPETTS. Should anyone knowing their whereabouts or have any information which may lead us to them, would they please advise Tony Giblett on 94343 910 or email ant65@dodo.com.au Would you also contact him if you have any knowledge of the names and contact details of any teachers of that era?

1984 and 1985 Reunion

(School Reunion for those who did Year 11 in 1984 and/or Year 12 in 1985)

Date: Saturday November 12th 2005

Time: 7.30pm

Venue: Richmond Club Hotel, upstairs lounge

Address: 100 Swan Street, Punt Road end

Dinner available - bookings essential



If interested in dinner, please email Lisa Grayson on
lisajgrayson@optusnet.com.au

PLEASE RSVP by 9th November to Lisa or Andrew McNeilly on
mcneilly.andrew.j@edumail.vic.gov.au

Please let others from CHS know ASAP as time is running out.

VALE

Alan Rudd 1941

Dorothea Ann Griffiths (née Jeffries) 1946 - 1947

Barbara Jones (née Bottomley) 1946

Fred Craig 1946 - 1950

Lucy P. Cook (née Hey) 1950 - 1954

Ray Laird 1945 - 1949

Neil Jeffery 1949 - 1951

Valerie Noyes-Brown (née Auhl) 1950 - 1951

Heather Hanlon (née Brown) 1952 - 1954

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Ed

Spent a Sat night at Max Diggins 60th up at Gladysdale - a few of us were at CHS in the late 50's - remember Lucy Pettit - arms folded and glowering at all her French students - dominating figure who could impose her will on anyone. Woodwork teacher called Mr McCallum who used to roar "Will you stop that infernal chattering?" The pencil sharpeners and tool boxes were prizes for years after that - have vague visions of lockers - down in the dungeon-like basement - dark and mysterious.

Staff names come to the tip of the tongue - 'Donger Gibbons' - music man aptly named for his limbs, which could extend go-go gadget-like and tweak many an imp's ears.

Rumour had it that Harold Begbie taught Biol after leaping on to the benches - was he really locked in a cupboard?

Mike Aikman - an imposing man who dominated lots of CHS life in the late 50's - what was that inane rowing song which he taught us to chant as Camberwell swept all before it on the banks of the Yarra?

Eddie Hart was a legend too - who could be so dexterous as to draw lines on the board like he could manage? And throw the duster he was using with pin-point accuracy at maths innocents nodding off in the back row. Many a tennis sport session was avoided as Eddie's roll-marking skills seemed to open up crumpet-like holes through which reluctant tennis players could slip un-noticed.

And Jim Hoble - masterly P.E. teacher who bluffed us all into learning to swim - it was either that or drown in the chlorine at Camberwell baths - guess I owed him my life on at least one occasion.



Rob, preparing for one of his cricket shows on Radio 97.7FM

So many misty memories as the days turn into the autumn of our lives. Have many to thank too - 'Black Mac' for all that 'comment s'appelle tu' which served me well in gay Paris - politically incorrect these days - Don Gibb with the indelible tarns, cols and other iceology of Matric Geog - while the master of all teachers, Robert Ewins, inspired many to follow in his footsteps - even wrote my own local history - he would be proud of that one - during a teaching career which spanned over three decades.

Hope others can still stroll down memory lane - the lasting impressions will remain with us to the last day.

Rob Hansen (1956 - 61)

Other contemporaries: Jeff Burman 45 Forest Park Drive Upwey; Max Diggins c/- Hazeldene 450 Hazeldene Rd Gladysdale Vic; Geoff Hansen 78 Cape Schanck Rd Cape Schanck Vic.; Robert Taylor 5 Burton Rd Upper Beaconsfield Vic 3808. Am sure that the 'lads' would be glad to be contactable. Others that come to mind are Ian Herdman (was living in Mangarra Rd. opposite the Girls school) Lynda Wright who spent a short time at CHS - but many years at Berwick Sec Coll as one of the longest serving teachers.

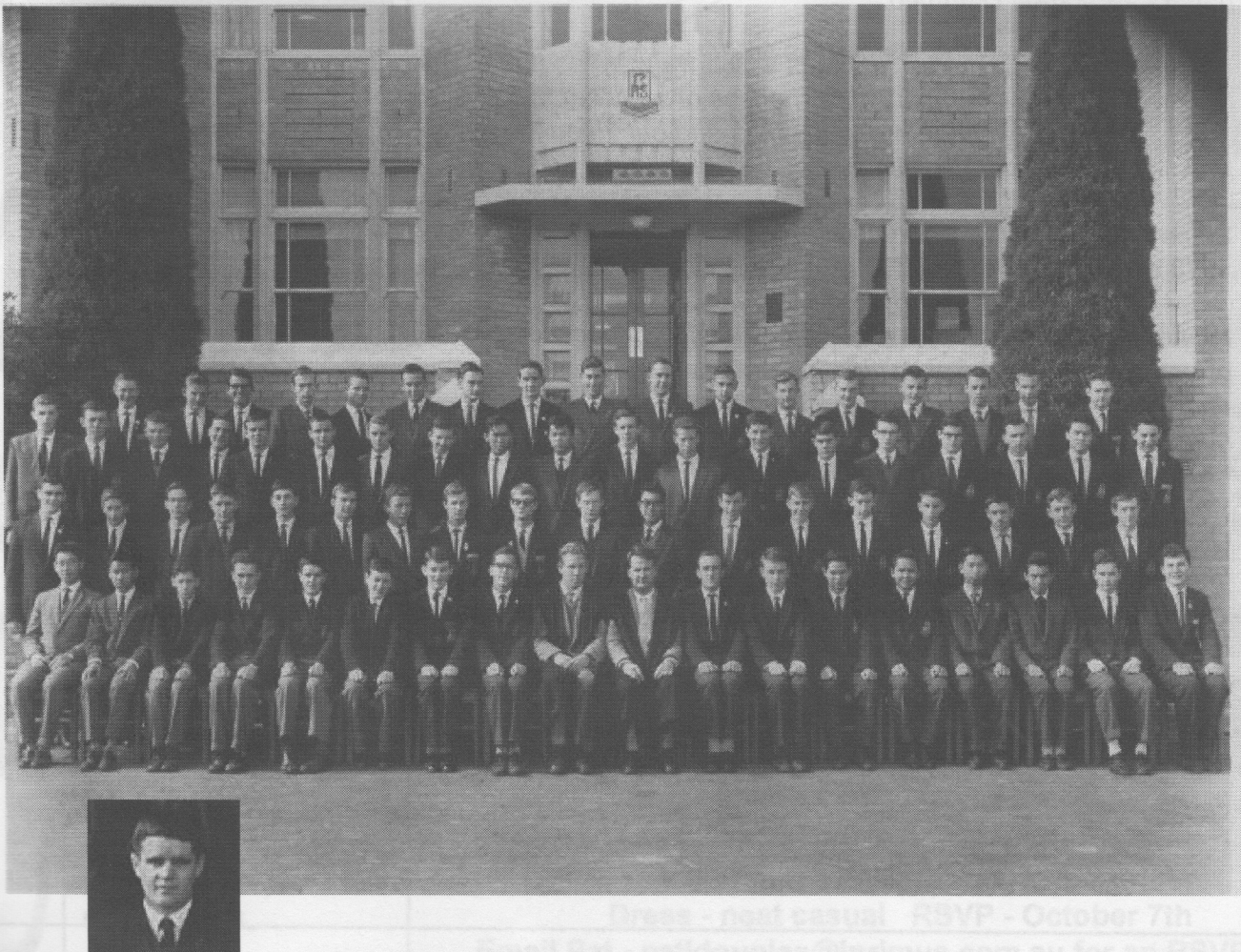
Have had a look at the form photos and there is a good clear one of Form 6 boys 1961. I am sitting in the front row five from the end on the left side next to Wally Evans and Ron Huttner, whose Mum used to teach Maths - probably junior levels - remember that she taught us in Yr 9 and we were fairly merciless I spose - I've been repaid in kind many times over a teaching career. My friends were Wally, Ron Ingram - end of front row on right hand side - Noel Hulbert (good tennis player), Geoff James back row left standing - remember him smashing the 220yds record at the most memorable swimming meet ever at the Olympic Pool (used for the 56 Olympics) when Camberwell surged to the front after a marvellous relay performance and one of the Asian boys blitzed in the relay - the whole building shook and dust was raised from the concrete bleachers as the entire school stamped its approval. They were the heady days when Camberwell was almost the equal of all the other schools in the Central Schools sports comp and we could hold a flame to the likes of Melbourne HS and Box Hill for some unlikely victories.

It was also the era of the Aikman influence on the banks of the Yarra. Other notables in that year were Charlie Lovett - great long distance runner and Bruce Robb was the Head Prefect I think - we used to spend memorable times at his place just off Maling Rd. - which has become a yuppified precinct - a far cry from the place where we used to stamp our feet and howl at the spooky serials of Spiderman and The Shadow in the Maling theatre, then snatched some steamy, slippery chips stuffed in the week's newspaper at old man Emery's Fish 'n Chip shop. When you look back they were great days but being young and incredulous we didn't realise that they were the 'best days of our lives.'

Other names from that era that I recognise are Robert Spicer (Prefect until the Cross Country where he fell foul of the admin), John Crout (these are not in any order) - Terry Onto, Klaus Hilgerman, Geoff Allan, Mike Headberry, Eric Shade - played for Prahran cricket and Camberwell State Hockey, Ian Mills represented Australia in Water Polo - other faces look just as if it were yesterday but the brain needs some prompting to bring back their names.

GOOD LUCK - will keep in touch

Rob Hansen - Ph: 59 682 815 Mob 0412 080 592 Jeff Burman 9754 2702



Form 6, 1961 - Rob Hansen (inset)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (cont'd)

Dear Madam

I don't quite know why I write this. I paid my dues a while back and then thought it's a waste of time as I doubt I would know anyone or anyone me.

It was seeing the name of that great lady, Miss Egan, that prompted me. I was a student from the day the school opened until the day we girls were cast out to make room for M.B.H.S., who had to make room for the Navy. We arrived at school one morning, having waited a long time for our school to open, to be told we were "out". Gathering in the Girls' Common Room, we were about to go on strike - seriously! - and it was only Miss Egan's common sense that prevented it (and all things considered, she must have been steaming. She had lost her school.)

So we were moved, along with MacRoberston Girls' to Mangarra Road - 3 schools in 1, MacRob to make room for the Americans. Our form room, with Miss Egan as mistress, was a cloak room, where we put cactus plants on the window sill and wrote above the door: "Never do today what you can do tomorrow", and she never made us take it down - a woman of greatest wisdom and tact. She understood us.

When I saw Miss Egan's name, I had to write of how much she did for us. I wonder how any of us passed our exams though.

Those of us who were language students were reduced to one as there was no room or teacher for more. We chose Latin and the classes, held by Miss Egan, in 4 desks jammed into the front porch - and I mean jammed.

We did not get back to our home, of which we were so proud. I still have my blazer pocket and my hat badge. We didn't have school houses or a school song. We didn't go on school camps. There were no post graduate gatherings and our Head Master was insulted by being offered the Vice Principalship of his own school.

Some of us stuck together within the fellowship of the Youth Operatic Society, which I started in 1943 and which eventually grew into the Victoria State Opera.

I write this in the hope that you may remember those who came before you when the school grounds were mud holes, when the younger male teachers went to war, when we had air raid drills and when we did without the facilities that you have enjoyed.

I wish you all success though it does not please me to see the physical growth of the school.

Dr James always wished that the school would not grow above 350 students and would be the most select High School in Melbourne.

*Disco Consulere Aliis
Are you?*

Betty Farley Wood