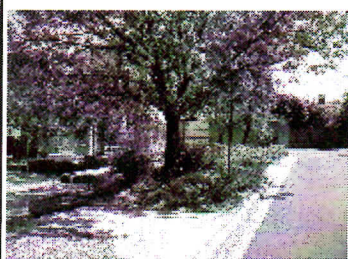




## IN THIS ISSUE:

- ✿ President's Report
- ✿ Principal's Message
- ✿ Discourse - Keith Richardson
- ✿ 60s Reunion Report
- ✿ VALE notices



## MEETING DATES:

12 February

16 April (AGM)

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.

# CHESS MOVES

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

<http://www.chessmoves.com>

**November 2006**

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear Fellow CHESS members.

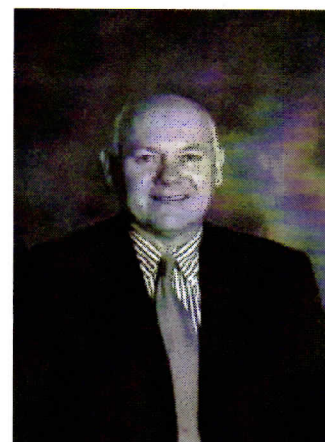
CHESS has just celebrated the 1960's reunion at the Kelvin Club. Some 100-plus ex-students gathered to sip wine, swap memories and enjoy the digital projection prepared by Deb Bouvier of scores of school photographs on the big screen. The night ran from 7pm until midnight and I thank all those that attended. We have received emails of thanks from numerous guests.

CHESS is keen to be aware of the websites of other government secondary schools. If you know of an ex-students group that belongs to a state school please email us here at CHESS so that we may make contact.

Seasons greetings to all our members and we look forward to 2007 with more CHESS publications and a reunion of the 1970's students.

The committee wishes Pat Douglas the best in her forthcoming hospital visit and we look forward to her joining us fit and well in the New Year.

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



## chessmoves committee news

Bernard has authorised the production of 1000 CDs of the school song - apologies for the delay - the artwork for the jewel case was overseen by Yvonne, working with MOVE Records. This involves a foldout with information and also the names of our choristers. Plus, and we have Yvonne to thank for this idea - if the CD is played on a computer, a pdf file with the complete score is viewable. Bernard has contacted MOVE for further news and as soon as the production run is done (and we're crossing our fingers for a pre-Xmas mailout) your faithful committee will volunteer their spare time for assembly and packaging.

Also our CHESS badges are now ready for ordering at \$5 each - unfinancial CHESS members will see a reference on their membership forms or else, contact Pat Douglas via email.





**PRESIDENT**

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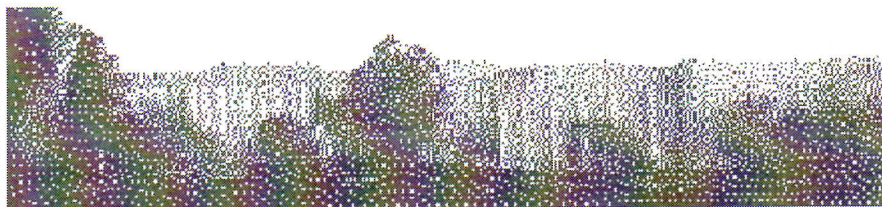
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landie@bigpond.net.au

**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, 2007.  
Send all articles to  
Debs.

**PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE**

As you know, I enjoy praising and boasting about our students and offer you the following wonderful examples of recent days: Natalie Yu of 8F has been honoured by the University of New South Wales for outstanding results in a national talent search in Maths; Chris Longden of 11E has been selected from thousands to be one of 19 Year 11s involved in the National Youth Science Forum via Rotary; Chantelle Spiller-Ball of 10E competed with great distinction in the Werribee Horse and Pony Club Horse Trials despite a late injury to her pony; Dean Crozier of 12B played extremely well (named in the Herald Sun best players) as his team the Oakleigh Chargers, won the AFL TAC Cup Grand Final at the MCG (Geelong may need you, Dean!!!); Gene Kahoe was chosen in the Australian Lacrosse team; Joe Brewer of 12A is Australian Mountain Trailbike Riding Champion and came 5th in the world; Caleb Barry won the Victorian Olympic Council Award and is in the State Basketball team; Luke Whittaker won a gold medal in the Karate World Championships; James Lucas, Matt Geros and Darby Kitchen are AGE Champions at District Level; Year 9 debaters Daniel Mills, Jamie Blaker and Thomas Whiteside are into the final of the DAV Schools Competition for their age group. **Well done to you all!!**

There have been a few highlights in the past fortnight, but none more important than the final school days of the Class of 2006, our graduating Year 12s, who had their last classes on Tuesday and who were honoured by the whole school community in various settings. The Valedictory Assembly held on Tuesday morning was a great success, with particular praise going to our School Captains, Simon Kershaw and Cara Casiano, both of whom spoke with sincerity, wisdom, and clarity of message. They have been articulate and inspirational school leaders and the audience was moved and hushed as Cara and Simon spoke. I will quote a small segment from the speeches of both so that you can share a little of their messages:



"Here we stand 6 years down the track finally appreciating the things we'd walked past countless times and the people we'd argued with more. One of the hardest things is breaking out of this bubble which has been like our second home.... What can we say about our teachers, the people who if you actually stop and think about it have loved and supported us all throughout the past 6 years? When it was "popular" for some of us not to participate, they were there... Now years later, when we hassle them for SAC results, ask numerous questions because we are actually listening and for extra practice exams for them to mark they are still there.... What they do not realize is that they have taught us lessons not only in English, Maths and Science but about life, mistakes and responsibilities, and they will live on as much, much more than a memory.... When you know where life will take us. The road is long and in the end, it is the journey that is our destination.... On behalf of the class of 2006, we'd like to say thank you."  
Cara Casiano

"....One of the things Nelson Mandela said was 'Your playing small doesn't serve the world'. This is especially true here at Camberwell High; your playing small doesn't serve the school. Thankfully, within Camberwell High are the people and the opportunities to do great things, to insure we do not "play small".... For the class of 2006, this is quite a poignant moment.... Our familiar high school lives are at an end.... Thank you to our teachers."



# PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE (continued)

3

*To teach is one thing, and to inspire is another. The gift of knowledge is an amazing thing and you all made the receiving of that gift enjoyable and inspiring....*

*I was reminded of the importance of bravery...Acts of bravery need to be forever present in a school and I hope they stay with you through your days at Camberwell. Choosing not to play small is an act of bravery, an act of which we are all capable. Camberwell High is a brave school; a school that the class of 2006 is proud to have been a part of. We hope you all reach deep within and display acts of bravery that will take this school even further once we have left..."*

*Simon Kershaw*

*The Assembly was led by Year12s and their amusing awards and singing were enjoyable. The students applauded them off the stage. The last day for the Class of 2006 was Wednesday morning when they were given a hot breakfast and time for them alone to celebrate, most of which was accompanied by water pistols and imaginative free dress. (Peter Frost and I did a "William Tell" impersonation as water was directed our way via an ingenious slingshot... the last small balloon hit our feet, the first nine having missed !) The students left the school without nasty incidents and the rest of us got on with our normal activities unimpeded. I thank the Assistant Principals, Leading Teachers and other staff for their assistance in ensuring a pleasant departure for these students and safety for all.*

*After a wonderful luncheon put on for them and staff by the generous , hard-working Parents and Friends Association, and after the 2006 Visual Art and Design Exhibition which was dazzling for the quality of student work, Year 12 students, with families, friends and staff, gathered for the Valedictory Evening, where every student was mentioned and presented with a memento, and awards given to the highest achievers, in areas across the board, with the following students in particular being acknowledged:*

*Outstanding Academic Achievement Award: Adam Prosser*

*Principal's Award: Cara Casiano and Simon Kershaw*

*International Student Award: Wendy Jiang*

*Jurgen Tauchert Award: Alana Shaw*

*Citizenship Award: Kyle Minall*

*Caltex All-rounder Award: Evelyn Krivonos*

*CHESS (ex-students) Award: Hugh Vivian*

*Don Anderson Award: Amanda Pearce*

*Senior Writers Award: Cara Casiano*

*Sporting Excellence Awards: Emma Bitmead, Caleb Barry*

*Elida Brereton*

*Principal*

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*In a recent EMR Journal the following (written by the Regional Director Dr Jim Watterston) appeared: "Elida Brereton, Principal of Camberwell High School, has won the Australian College of Educators [Victorian Branch], Sir James Darling Medal for 2006. The Sir James Darling medal is awarded to an eminent Victorian educator who has made an outstanding and sustained contribution to Victorian education. Elida, a Fellow of the College and previous President of the Australian College of Educators, is a tireless and passionate advocate for state school education and a thoroughly deserving winner of this prestigious award. Well done Elida!" Congratulations Ms Brereton from all the staff, students and school community at Camberwell High and CHESS.*

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*I've just received a lovely long letter from Pat Taylor (Class of 1971) who is keen to know if there are any former CHS students living in New Zealand, especially anyone from his years there. I'm hoping to feature Pat in our next DISCOurse if he'll say YES so you can hear about the busy life he leads! Email me at [landie@bigpond.net.au](mailto:landie@bigpond.net.au) and I'll forward on contact details.*

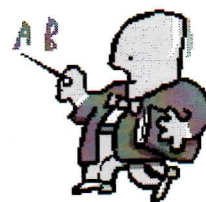
CHESS MOVIES



## DISCOURSE

*Our 13 question questionnaire.....*

*Replies from Keith Richardson (1952 - 1954)*



*Which teacher inspired you at CHS?*

There were teachers I respected, such as 'Sniff' White and Miss Mason; teachers I liked such as Miss Yeas and John Onyons; but most teachers were simply 'there' and inspiration didn't get through. That came later, and not from schoolteachers.

*Your funniest school memory?*

Playing cricket with 'Bulldog' Muirden. The game took place during history. Certain people would take it turns to push him to the limit with questions. The more exasperated he became, the more frequently his glasses were removed. Every time it was a 'run'. When someone was sent out into the corridor it was a 'wicket'. And we all kept score. Poor man ... he didn't deserve students like us.



*The 1952 House Captains with Keith Richardson on the bottom row, far left and inset.*

... Or was it when the school siren on the roof was stuffed with a tennis ball? The end of the lunch break was signalled with an extremely muffled squawk. Memory plays tricks, and I am not sure whether I was in the group that did it, or just privy to the planning. Either way, if Stalin was the headmaster I would have joined all conspirators and be put against the wall, and shot.

*What subject did you hate and why?*

Physics! Definitely! Should never have studied it.

*What school house were you in?*

Roosevelt. House activities were a lot of fun. In fact, being elected House Captain in my final year saved me from what I thought was a fate worse than death. It was the highlight of my three-year sentence at CHS. The organization of teams, administration of various sporting events, conducting the House choir were great, and the memories give me pleasure. We picked up the aggregate shield for the year. (The only sour note here was that we just got pipped in the choral competition by Kwong Lee Dow and the Macarthur boys. I think the judges were got at.)

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

I have to confess that I cannot remember the school song as being a part of my life at school. And when asked what the school motto was I usually replied 'Discipuli picturum spectate'. (Please don't criticize my spelling you Latin students ... that happened too often at school!)



*Do you still have any school library books?*

Nope! One of the things about school I loved and respected was the 'tiny' school library. "Private Study" periods were a joy when I could legally take my books into the library, and read everything except the books relating to subjects I was supposed to be knowledgeable about. I hope the library is heaps bigger than it was in 1954.

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

Athletics tops the list here. Mind you I loved cricket in Year 9. Lionel Willison and I dominated the house fourths. That was pretty easy seeing all the other players were in year seven, and were easily intimidated.

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

Remember the years ... it was the early fifties! The last day of school was a great anticlimax. Schoolies week hadn't been invented, and the 'hoohah' that marks the final day of HSC schoolwork these days would have given nightmares to the teachers in the fifties. If I remember correctly we got our reports, milled around the common room until we felt it was safe to go, and quietly disappeared into the real world. I left as early as I could as I had a job sorting Christmas mail at the Spencer Street GPO on the night shift, and I wanted to grab some sleep.

*Who was your best friend at school?*

Lots of names spring to mind, but the word 'best' cannot be used. Most shared the days at primary school (old friends are the best) and include such names as Bill Blythe, Lionel Willison, Bill Logie, Malcolm Douglas, John Giltinan, John Addie, Giles Bridson, and many many many more. To paraphrase the old Bob Dylan song, 'most of them I have never seen again.' Very sad!

*What book are you reading now?*

In the kitchen, during morning and afternoon teas, I am reading recipe books to broaden my culinary skills. In the study I am rereading Karen Armstrong's book 'Buddha'. I had intended to reread her work on Islam but I must have sold it at the market on one of my many downsizing exercises preceding a move.

*Did you have a crush on a classmate?*

Yep! (Come on lady editor! Hormones were raging for all (most) adolescents during their teen years. If anyone says 'no' to this question then I would question his or her mental health.

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

See 'Funniest School Memory' on the previous page.

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

Wow! Moment of truth! This is a very complex question, and one that cannot be answered simply. The time spent in CHS is just over 4% of my total life to date, so I would have to say that it was probably lasting, but not terribly important in the total scheme of things. But it is a part of my life that cannot be removed, or treated lightly. Did I enjoy it? Adolescence is a difficult time! Nuff said!

## *A bit about me.....*

*Left CHS at the end of '54 and joined a small company that owned gasworks throughout the three eastern states. Starting as a Sales Clerk, I quickly progressed, and was appointed Advertising Manager by the time I was twenty. Being young and ambitious I joined an advertising agency, where I worked until I took off for the UK in search of the great adventure. After hitchhiking through Europe and the Middle East, and meeting the love of my life, I returned to Australia a different man, got married, and spent the next twenty five years in marketing and advertising. Got dissatisfied. Started my own business. Lost money. Went back into advertising. Retrenched. Started another period of self-employment. Went broke. Worked as a tram driver. Made an offer I couldn't refuse. Back into marketing. Hated it. Back on the trams. Into head office. Worked on computers for the next thirteen years. Got Jeffed. Migrated to Chewton just before the turn of the century. Should have done it twenty years ago!*

*(continued overleaf)*



Life in Chewton is a joy. It's a feisty and proactive little town of some 400 souls that owns its own Post Office and Town Hall (Jeff tried to sell them. Wrong!); is fiercely independent; and even has its own newspaper. Once a significant mining town it still has that solidarity and sense of community that exists all too infrequently these days. It is also very difficult not to get involved. Like all small towns, life is very busy, and my life is no exception. Apart from various committees; writing the weather column for the local paper; growing vegies and roses; tending my bonsai; coaching literacy to Year 8 & 9 ferals at the local Secondary college; travelling to California every other year to see my American family; playing croquet; walking the dog, cooking (sometimes) and chatting to the folk you meet in the street, your time is your own. Life is tough!



Keith Richardson

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60s REUNION held @ The Kelvin Club on October 14th.....





We enjoyed a wonderful evening with a good turn-out. The CHESS committee thinks that the Kelvin Club is ideally suited for our reunion functions as it is a warm place with tons of character and is centrally located.

Past students can easily register at the entrance, give their updated details to us, collect their name tags, and then walk through to the lounge with adjoining bar and pool room.

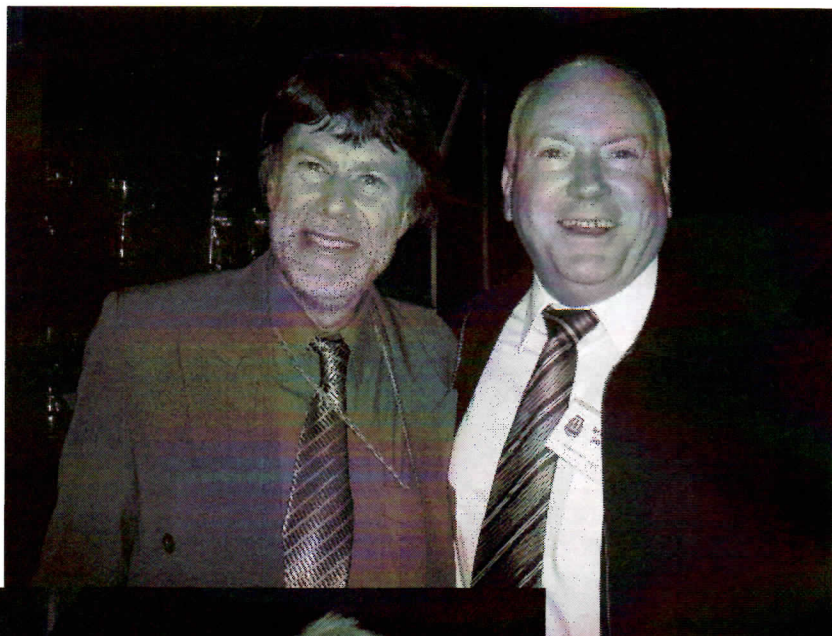
About 120 past students and their partners attended and heard the welcome speech from Bernard, then congregated in groups with old mates. Our new name tag system (many thanks to Tony Giblett for devising this) has worked well and it is now easy to differentiate between guests and past students using background colours on name tags.

CHESS has bought CDs, thematic of different decades so it was all Mamas and Papas with a Mersey Beat! Dennis Spielvogel (our favourite photographer) arrived and organised us into three groups upstairs for happy snaps. Then we assembled for the school song with Yvonne Giltinan at the piano and Mary Hill conducting. A thoroughly successful night and, on the strength of it, the 70s reunion WILL be held in October 2007 at the Kelvin Club. So keep tuned!





*Bob Hodgson  
and Robert Swan*



*Audrey Broomhead,  
Anne Scerri (Donaldson),  
Kath Simpson (Peowrie)  
and John Davy.*

*Ruth Bain (Weber)  
with John Cayless*







*Robert Savage  
with Jim Backholer*



*Christine Aisbett  
(Williams)  
with Luci Bombaci*



*Phil Giltinan,  
Ben Korman and  
John Harris*



## VALE

### JOHN WATERS (CHS 1948 - 1952)

John was Head Prefect in 1952 and also a school athletics champion. He was chosen to represent the City of Camberwell in the Sun Youth Travel Scheme. In 1953, he attended Melbourne Boys' High School for one year and then enrolled at Melbourne Technical College (later the RMIT) to do a Diploma of Applied Chemistry. After one year of study, he completed the course part-time.

John received a cadetship to work in the research laboratories at ICI Australia and whilst there, he developed an interest in the Patent profession. He obtained a position as a technical assistant with a Patent Attorney firm, which had a clientele of large chemical and pharmaceutical companies and John continued to study part-time until he became a registered Patent Attorney. From there he went on to be a successful senior partner for the next 40 years.

In 1960, he married Gwen Ward (CHS 1949) and they had four children. He was committed to the Uniting Church and served this in many ways. A large number of people celebrated his life at St Michael's Church in Collins Street, Melbourne, where it was said that John was universally admired for such qualities as courtesy, modesty, integrity, loyalty, generosity and compassion.

John held many fond memories of CHS and its ethos. It was an important influence on him, along his life's journey. He never forgot "Disco Consulere Aliis".

### BARRY DUFF (CHS 1958 - 1962)

Barry Duff's widow, Chris, would like his former classmates (who went to the recent 60s Reunion) to know that he passed away three years ago. He was a senior town planner with the Department of Sustainability and Environment for almost 30 years. Barry was extremely fit and regularly ran around The Tan. He suffered symptoms of a stroke after his last run and died four days later at the Epworth Hospital.

## EDUCATION FOUNDATION NEWS

I've been in contact with Kylie McGowan from the Education Foundation - and her reply below will be of interest to CHESS members:



"As part of Back to School Day 2007, we have developed an Alumni Strategy. The first stage was to develop a tool that would deepen the Back to School Day event - from a 'one-off' event, to a sustainable program. In a few weeks time, if a school registers to be a part of Back to School Day, they will receive their own login and password that will enable them to have their own former student association. As former students register their support for their former schools, the school coordinator will be able to contact them through the new system. For those schools, that already have their own Former Student Association, it will assist in reconnecting or establishing contact with former students that may have lost touch. It is designed to assist established Associations. We are currently in discussions with the President of ADAPE regarding Stage 2 of the Alumni strategy, which is to develop and implement training in the area of Former Student Associations. It would be wonderful to establish a committee of Public School Alumni groups to work together with ADAPE and Education

Foundation Australia, in developing and implementing Alumni training/seminars etc. Let me know if C.H.E.S.S would be interested in this idea."

**Debs** - And we are! Adape's website is [www.adape.org.au](http://www.adape.org.au) and the Education Foundation's website is [www.educationfoundation.org.au](http://www.educationfoundation.org.au) CHESS also wants to hear from any CHESS members who know of any government secondary school (apart from Melbourne Boys' High) with a past students' association and/or a past students' website.

*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.*