



CHESS NEWS

camhigh.exstudents.org

1945 must have been an exciting year for our school. Despite the turmoil of the war and temporary re-location to other schools, students from 1945 onwards experienced the “real beginning of the school” (Dr. James, Speech Night 1945). Prefects, school houses, green uniforms, *Prospice*, a choral festival, sports carnivals and the new school motto, *Disco Consulere Aliis*, all helped to create “an excellent school tone.” (Roy Andrews, 1948)

In the 1946 *Prospice*, Principal Dr. A.V.G James wrote: “The selection of a badge and motto for the school was not the least important part of the foundation. *Disco Consulere Aliis* - *I am learning to be thoughtful of others* - is the guiding principle of the school, and I feel that if a pupil leaves with that thought ingrained in the heart, the school has done its work well. The motto is engraven in the stonework of the building: let it be built into the character of its pupils.”

I’ve been thinking about our school motto lately. Steve Cain, the CEO of

Coles, sent me an email and asked me to be thoughtful towards the elderly and people at highest risk so they can access the everyday products they need. He also asked me to show understanding and patience towards his team members who are doing their best to ensure they are helping all customers. Similarly, Brad Banducci, the CEO of the Woolworths Group, has written and asked me to support the team members and demonstrate patience and understanding.

I think about our school motto when I drive around the leafy streets of Kew and those noisy leaf blowers inconsiderately blow leaves onto the road. I wonder who will pick up the rubbish that those machines and their operators leave behind!

And of course, I’m also being encouraged to be thoughtful towards others and self-isolate if I’m feeling sick and at risk of infecting others.

I’m wondering why our communities need to be reminded about this basic

in this issue

- School Report
- Events
- News from the committee
- From the archives
- Tributes and In Short

Have you changed your details?

Please advise us so we can update our database

Email

info@camhigh.exstudents.org

Postal address

CHESS
PO Box 1101
Surrey Hills North LPO 3127

Like us on Facebook

[www.facebook.com/
CamberwellHighExStudents](https://www.facebook.com/CamberwellHighExStudents)

quality when our school community has had it imprinted in our building, our hats and blazers, and our school song for 75 years.

Disco Consulere Aliis.

Yvonne Giltinan (McLaren)
Class of '65



Principal's Report

Here are some events that have been included in the Principal's reports in the 2020 school newsletters:
newsletter.co/camberwell-high-school

High Achievers and Student Leaders assembly

On the 20th February we welcomed back our 2019 highest achieving Year 12 students and it was a pleasure to present them with certificates of achievement. Over morning tea our 2019 Year 12 students were very pleased to reconnect with their teachers and express their thanks. We were delighted to hear about their pathways and their current activities, including work and preparation for university or a gap year.



Open Day and Evening

Tuesday 21 April

Ex-students are invited to join a school tour during the day or early evening. Call 9836 0555 for times and bookings. Evening tours are led by enthusiastic students. All welcome.

School Camps

The Year 12 Kickstart camp was held at Queens College, Melbourne University and the Year 7 Orientation camp at Portsea. Each of these camps play a vital role in establishing foundations for the year ahead.

The Addams Family musical

This year's musical production is well underway and recently music and drama staff ran a camp for all students involved. I know that the musical will be a treat for the whole school community in May. I am looking forward to seeing our students shine on stage, in the orchestra pit and in the vital supporting work backstage and at the sound and light desk.

Jill Laughlin, Principal



News from the Committee

Student Awards and Donations from the Ex-Students Society

At the end of each year, the committee ensures that your membership fees and donations go towards our school. In 2019, we gave a total of \$4,000: \$3,300 went towards the Well-Being Fund which is administrated by the Principal for students needing assistance with their education, and four scholarships were awarded to two Year 12 and two Year 11 students chosen by staff for their citizenship and contribution to the school.

In addition, \$1500 from the Robert Ewins Memorial Fund was distributed. The Library received \$750 (plus \$500 from CHESS funds) and 2 students in Years 10 and 11 received literature awards, named in honour of Robert Ewins.

Summer Metcalf: *Thank you very much for giving me one of the CHESS awards for 2019. The money will be put to good use by using the money towards helping pay for my school books for Year 12, which will help me with my education and my parents with paying for the fees. I am very grateful to you and CHESS for gifting this to me and I will make sure that it is put to good use through my VCE results.*

Toby Stewart: *Last Wednesday I was awarded the CHESS scholarship award for showing a strong commitment to my studies in year 10. Thank you so much for having this award and for giving it to me this year. I was extremely happy to be recognised for my hard work and effort and will use this as motivation to keep going. I used the \$200 to purchase my year 11 VCE books at the second-hand stall last Saturday. I am very grateful and my parents are too! Thank you again.*

Am I Financial?

Ex-students often ask us this question. It's now even easier to become, and remain, financial and you can now do it online. Your membership renewal starts from the day you pay.



You can also pay for 5 or 10 years (for a discount) and make a donation! Here are the steps:

1. Click on this link: www.joinit.org/o/camhighexstudents
2. Click on the Donation link if you would also like to make a donation to CHESS in addition to your membership payment. Add your details and pay with your credit card.
3. Choose which membership you want: Annual \$30; 5 years \$130; 10 years \$250.
4. Click JOIN, enter your details and pay with your credit card. You will receive a receipt immediately.

We still accept memberships by bank transfer or cheque. Please contact us at to arrange this.

If you believe there is an error, or information needs to be updated, please contact us at info@camhigh.exstudents.org and we will assist you.

Thank you for your continued support. We encourage you to share these links with other ex-students so they can also be part of our Camberwell High Ex-Students community.

Alumni@Work

Lyn Gilbert AO (nee Murray) Class of '59

Writing this short self-portrait was surprisingly challenging, but reminded me how much I really enjoyed high school. When I was in Grade 6, I decided I wanted to go to Camberwell High School, rather than PLC (which my parents offered, although they could ill-afford it).

I'm not sure why - perhaps I was snobbish enough to be proud to be eligible to go to the famous (and semi-selective) Camberwell High School. Of course, it was the right decision.

Early on, I realised I wouldn't excel at sport, so I concentrated on being a swot. Years later I realised that any success wasn't because I was as clever as I thought I was, but because I had imbibed a Presbyterian work ethic and an embarrassing need to 'come top'. I had a few extracurricular interests though, including, being leader of the madrigal group and house pianist. Looking back, both surprise me - I had limited musical talent and not much formal teaching - but I guess I worked at it.

After the major hurdle of the Matric exams, I had to decide what to do next. According to my "Prefect Personalities" entry, in the 1959 Prosopice, my secret ambition was 'to be a farmer's wife and raise chickens'. Good grief! Although it was the 1950s, I can't believe I said that, even then. Really, I wanted to be a doctor, but I was nearly diverted by a



chance conversation with my former French teacher, who advised me to become a nurse instead, because that way I would find a better husband. Whether because of his advice or the daunting prospect of six year's study, I applied to do nursing at the Alfred Hospital, but they knocked me back. So I accepted an alternative offer from the Melbourne University Medical School and had the satisfaction of declining the Alfred's belated offer of a place six months later. The apparently interminable six years' as an undergraduate, extended to many more of postgraduate study.

I started training in infectious disease, at Fairfield Hospital, in 1967, and later in clinical microbiology, which was more family friendly, while my three children were little. I didn't know, at the time, but the '60s was a time when many clever people thought infectious diseases were more or less finished, because of vaccines

and antibiotics, and the future of medicine was elsewhere. But soon, the 1968 'flu pandemic began a series of emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases, of which a small selection are: Ebola, 1970s; AIDS, 1980s; drug-resistant TB, malaria and 'golden staph', 1980-90s; and, in last 20 years, SARS (2003), MERS (2012), another flu pandemic (2009), Zika in Brazil (2015), Ebola in West Africa (2015) and, now, COVID-19. And, throughout this time, the insidious global plague of antimicrobial resistance has been unrelenting and – not unlike climate change – there is too little professional and political will and too much vested interest to reverse it.

It's been an interesting time and, for me, it's not over yet, despite an attempt to retire in 2016. Now that I am not actually employed I can, theoretically, do what I want. For the past four years that has been research into the politics and ethics of infectious diseases - until, of course, I was drawn into the thick of Australia's COVID-19 response, which has a way to go yet.

Contributing to Alumni@Work

If you would like to share about your career since you left Camberwell High School, please forward your details to:
info@camhigh.exstudents.org

Events

End of Year Dinner 2019

Café Paradiso in Hawthorn is described as a “rustic-chic venue that serves shared plates of gourmet Italian dishes”. Last year was no exception. Over 25 of us, ranging from the class of 1946 to the class of 2013 enjoyed good food, wine and company. We finished off the meal with churros with chocolate sauce—what more could you want!

This opportunity to get together is becoming a favourite with ex-students because of its casual atmosphere and opportunity for lively conversation. The committee also used the occasion to present Emmanuel Skoutas, the Assistant Principal and former student, (class of '80) with a cheque of \$7,500 for scholarships, the library and assistance for needy students.



Mid-Year Luncheon 2020 (Postponed)

The committee of Camberwell High School Ex-Students Society (CHESS) invites you, along with present and past students and partners, to our 2020 Mid-Year Luncheon.

We are delighted that Lyn Gilbert (Class of '59) will be our guest speaker.

Professor Lyn Gilbert AO is a senior researcher at the Marie Bashir Institute for Emerging Infections and Biosecurity and Sydney Health Ethics at the University of Sydney.

Until recently she was Director of the Centre for Infectious Diseases & Microbiology Laboratory Services and Director of Infection Prevention and Control for Western Sydney Local Health District at Westmead Hospital.

Thinking about a reunion in 2020?

CHESS has an extensive database that will enable you to start contacting people in your year group. We can assist you by advertising in the newsletter and on Facebook.





Have you checked our website lately?

This is our 'living' archive, a 'work in progress', that enables our archives to come out of the storeroom under the school, into our homes and onto any of our electronic devices. Please have a browse and appreciate over 75 years of history in articles, photos and memorabilia. We are hoping you can add to our photos, name some unknown photos or scan some documents that we don't have already have. Here are some highlights:

What we do

- CHESSE NEWS (formerly CHESSEMOVES)
 - Copies of newsletters from our first publication in June 1991 to April 2020
- Reunions
 - Past reunions with photos and reports from 1999 to 2019
- Events
 - Past events including photos and reports
- Merchandise that is available for purchase including:
Robert Ewins: A Jubilee Retrospective 1941-1991; the CD of the school song; a CHESSE pen
- Photos of the Ex-Students committee

Our story

- A Potted History of the 8 decades of our school with photos of year groups, school life, sports and staff photos and documents about school life into the early 2000s
- Former Principals, plus a new section that pays tribute to former teachers: Don Gibb, Alexandra Cameron, Robert Ewins, Michael Aikman, Bruce Anderson and David Collins

Alumni

- The 18 alumni chosen for the 1991 Jubilee Hall of Fame
- Other alumni who have been on our website for a number of years

Prospice

- Every school magazine from 1946 to 2019

Membership

- Details showing how to pay your 2020 membership for 1 year, 5 or 10 years.

From the Archives

Can you name these 'unknown' photos from the early 1970s?

camhigh.exstudents.org/our-story/1970-1979/school-life



1971 A Potted History

From: *A Jubilee Retrospective* by Robert Ewins

- Enrolments continued to climb to 956 students: 556 boys and 400 girls.
- Despite having no curtains or lights, the school hall was used for the first time for 7 drama productions.
- Lack of specialised staff, overcrowding, and poor quality of incompetent teachers in the junior school were challenges addressed by Principal Joan Essex.

Tributes

It is with sadness that we advise of the passing away of an ex-student from the late 50s.

Michael Cheshire (class of '59)



After 20 years of community service to the Hepburn Shire, Michael Cheshire is being remembered as a generous, community minded leader.

Michael attended Camberwell High School from 1957-1959 and maintained his interest by being a financial member of the Ex-Students Society.

He thrived at school before enrolling in one of the world's first formal tertiary qualifications for photography at RMIT.

A cadetship with The Age led to a senior role as a photographer with the Ministry of Tourism.

After working in a number of roles across the next 30 years, including becoming a Justice of the Peace, Bail Justice and President of the Australasian Council of Justices' Associations, Michael and his wife moved to the Hepburn Shire, where he served as both a councillor and mayor of the Hepburn Shire Council in the early 2000s. His significant contribution to the Clunes community led to his "Citizen of the Year" award on Australia Day 2016.

In Short

Have you changed your details?

Please advise us so we can update our database

Email

info@camhigh.exstudents.org

Postal address

CHESS
PO Box 1101
Surrey Hills North LPO 3127

Like us on Facebook

[www.facebook.com/
CamberwellHighExStudents](https://www.facebook.com/CamberwellHighExStudents)

Thinking about a reunion in 2020?

CHESS has an extensive database to help you start contacting people in your year group. We can also assist you by advertising in the newsletter.

Sign up a new member

We are very keen to increase our membership numbers so that we represent ex-students from all decades. A membership form can be downloaded from our website: camhigh.exstudents.org

Contributing to Alumni@Work

If you would like to tell us about your career, forward your details to: info@camhigh.exstudents.org