

CHESS MOVES

CAMBERWELL HIGH EX-STUDENTS' SOCIETY

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IN THIS ISSUE

AVG James and Robert Manne
Lectures

1999 House Arts Festival
1999 Valedictory Evening
40's & 50's Reunion held
Student fundraising
Blood Bank visit
International Student Project
Asia Week Celebrated at CHS
Sri Lankan Teachers Visit
Australian - Korean Teacher
Exchange
CHS Mission to China
National Mathematics Competition
Students in the Spotlight:

Kary Rouse
Grace Pang
Jeremy Kennet
Edward Cheasley
Mark Arbuthnot

School Recognition

Symphonic Band
CHS, Winner, Outstanding School
of '99
Gail Frost, "Best Educator in Asian
Studies"
Vic Pappas - Nominated National
"Excellence in Teaching" Award

1999 President's Report
Class of '59: 40 Years On
Editor's Rant
News from the Canberra Chapter
Website news

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A.V.G JAMES & ROBERT MANNE LECTURES

The speaker for the 1999 AVG James lecture was Professor Sir Gustav Nossal. His address ~ on the subject of Global Health and Aboriginal Reconciliation ~ was extremely well received, and had such impact that a subsequent address and assembly was organised on the topic of "reconciliation".

This subsequent address, organised by Bruce Henderson [teacher], Sean Bain [student] and Jeanette Botam [parent] was held on the 14th of September in a tightly packed assembly hall.

Keynote speaker was Robert Manne, who matriculated from CHS in '65 and went on to gain an Arts degree with Honours from Melbourne University before obtaining a B.Phil at Oxford. He is well known as the author of four books, as a weekly contributor to the Melbourne Age, as a regular on 3LO and as Associate Professor of Politics at Latrobe University.

The assembly was opened by Joy Murphy, an elder of the Wurundjeri Tribe, who welcomed all present to her tribe's lands in the traditional manner - the passing of a leaf. She then spoke briefly about her ancestor's lands and their traditions.

Manne spoke of his journey to appreciating the significance of reconciliation, and of the need for governments and the people alike to embrace the notion.

Boori Prior, author, talked of his writings, his personal losses and tragedies as an aborigine, and his personal understanding of reconciliation and the means to achieving it. His story was both humorous and moving.

Sarah Bond, an ex-student most fondly remembered for her predilection for stopping traffic [in joke - Ed.], also spoke to the assembly on what she, as an aborigine, understands reconciliation to mean, and how it could best be achieved: by appreciating the land, by working through groups at school and beyond.

This lecture and assembly were the first in an annual series, to be known as The Robert Manne Lecture.

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C.H.S News in brief

1999 House Arts Festival.

The annual Arts extravaganza festival was a combination of dance, drama, choral and instrumental music, art and design. Whilst the contribution of all Houses was of extraordinary standards - to quote "Few schools anywhere in the world could produce students with such creativity and so much initiative as our students" - Montgomery was awarded outright first place, with Roosevelt, then Churchill, then Macarthur taking the subsequent medals.

1999 Valedictory Evening.

The '99 Valedictory Dinner was an emotional evening with the Mayor of Booroondara, Cr. Loreto Davey honouring the department students and the school by attending as both guest presenters and speakers.

Jayden Barbcris, Year 12 SRC President, spoke on behalf of the Year 12 student body. His speech addressed his love for the school and all its opportunities, of the high quality of his teachers, of the "great spirit, pride, traditions and fun" of Camberwell High School.



CHESS MOVES

CAMBERWELL HIGH EX-STUDENTS' SOCIETY

C.H.S NEWS in brief (cont.)

1940's & 50's Reunion Held.

The CHESS 40's & 50's reunion has been hailed [and not just by CHESS] as an unqualified success, with former students travelling from as far afield as the UK, Queensland, and Western Australia to attend. Some 150 students made the effort and enjoyed the afternoon "trip down memory lane" catching up with long-lost friends and renewing old acquaintances.

Student Fundraising Activities.

The SRC raised \$1,400 in support of the Red Cross's Turkish Earthquake Appeal. A sausage sizzle and free dress day recently saw the student community raise \$1,900 for "Challenge", an organisation dedicated to helping children with leukemia.

Blood Bank Visit.

The Red Cross mobile blood bank's recent visit to school was well rewarded, with some 50 students and teacher giving of their time and blood to contribute.

International Student Project.

5 CHS students working via email in cooperation with a team of students in South Africa delivered a multimedia presentation to an audience comprised of some 20 schools at the Powerhouse Convention Center recently.

Asia week celebrated as CHS.

Encompassing a Moon Festival Assembly Concert, Balinese dancing, kite making, preparation [and devouring] of traditional Asian foods, Chinese brush painting and special guests from both Japan

and Korea, the Asia week celebration was a great success.

Sri Lankan Visit.

23 teachers from Sri Lanka visited CHS as part of an intensive course in leadership, management, teaching and learning technologies. The Department of Education runs the course, and CHS received the honour of being the first of only six schools visited by the group.

Australian - Korean Teacher Exchange.

CHS again took part in this valuable program, acting as a host school to Ms. Park Hee-Sun. Whilst at CHS Ms. Hee-Sun visited classed and learned much about local curriculum.

CHS Mission to China.

Glen Linton and Paula Stocker recently visited China to both promote the school and to further develop the school's relationship with several of the top schools in China. Both were overwhelmed by "the non-stop hospitality" of their hosts, and have reported that CHS has "a wonderful reputation in China for the care and academic quality".

National Math. Comp.

171 CHS students competed in the annual national mathematics competition, against a field of 514,000 students from 3,350 schools Australia wide. 3 students won national prizes with scores above 99%, with further students gaining exactly 99%.

In total, 138 students were awarded a credit [or higher] mark - an excellent result given the level of competition and the standards of marking.

Kary Rouse [Year 12], 100% for her A.M.E.B. Grade 7 singing exam and competing in the prestigious Geelong Eisteddfod, gaining a first place and two honourable mentions.

Grace Pang [Year 12], reached the finals of the Gacthc poetry Competition at Melbourne Uni.

Jeremy Kennet [Year 12] winner, 1999 Monash University "Law Challenge"

Edward Cheasley [Year 11] chosen to attend 1999 Australian Defense Force Academy, Spring Engineering School.

Mark Arbuthnot [Year 11] won the Victoria Open School Geography Essay competition.

Music and Art Competitions.

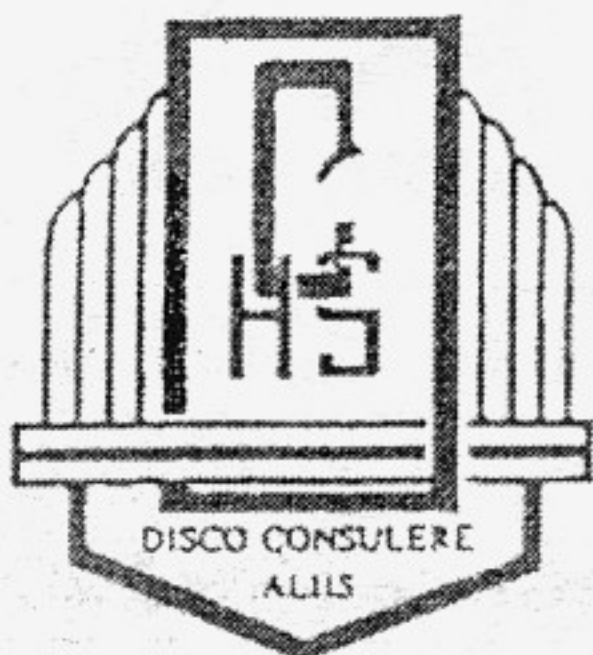
Symphonic Band - Gold Shield - Melbourne Schools and Competition.

School Recognition and Awards.

CHS, Winner "Outstanding School of 1999" Asia Education Foundation.

Gail Frost, Asian Studies Coordinator, Winner "Best educator in Asian Studies" Asian Education Foundation.

Nomination - **Vic Pappas** - ASG, National "Excellence in Teaching" Award.



CHESS MOVES

CAMBERWELL HIGH EX-STUDENTS' SOCIETY

1999 President's Report

1999 has been another busy one for the committee.

We are building a database of addresses for our mail outs to keep ex-students in touch. Currently we are obtaining quotes on the costs of establishing and maintaining a website for CHESS. More on that in 2000.

The reunion from the 1940's and 50's was a success on the 23rd of October. The attendance was over 150 students from all years. Elida Brereton welcomed the group and entertained the hall with stories of education in the 90's. The school home economics group was responsible for catering and staffing on the day, an excellent job was done. Thankyou from CHESS. Also many thanks to those ex-students that attended with memorabilia and those that subsequently sent copies of photographs for our archives.

CHESS has contributed to the graphics on the front in Prospect Hill Road Gate and the garden works at the front of the school. The Year 12 presentation was again completed with a CHESS award.

Thankyou for your support of CHESS and remember that new committee members are invited to join us on the 7th of February at the school for our first meeting of the year.

Bernard Corser '71.

"Class of '59: Forty Years On" Reunion

A very well received reunion of the "Matric" class of 1959, and others of that cohort, was held in the Common Room at the School on 23rd October, 1999. Approximately 43 of the original 90 attended and came from as far as Brisbane and Sydney.

A big effort had been put into locating people and some amazing detective work was done – 14 others were contacted but couldn't come, 21 were uncontactable, 6 had died and 7 didn't respond.

The organisers felt that a structured program would be needed. Indeed this seems to have been the secret to the success of the evening, as gauged by the numbers staying to the very end and the many favourable comments. People had been asked prior to the night to send in a summary of their life since school. Part of the program included the forming of a large circle and two of our number Gill (Levy) and Bob Managhan then leading a discussion. For each person they read out a summary of the story sent in and then asked them one or two questions. The person then responded and everyone had a chance to hear and therefore feel connected.

As well as the speeches there were the inevitable 'announcements' and mock presentations. A group photo was taken on the front steps and a light tea was served.

Please come to the 50 Years On celebrations. Thankyou to everyone for making the effort to attend and those who helped so willingly before and after. If you were missed or know of anyone who would like to be included next time, please telephone Win Smith (James) on 9459-3282 or Barbara Harrison (Turner) on 9598-9055.

"A short note of thanks to the organisers of last night's CHS 1959 Reunion for a thoroughly enjoyable evening. Having attended 4-5 CHS Reunions over the past eight years, I was a reluctant starter for last night's gathering. However I am just so glad that I 'saw the light' and was able to be with you all for the occasion... at reunions since 1991, individual contact had been fleeting and I have come away somewhat disillusioned and not too clear on what many people had actually been doing. Perhaps that's part of the again process? I might have known that last night's get-together would be different!

The format was near to perfect. Bob and Gillian's efforts with the 'potted histories' were terrific and, or a change, I came away with a pretty clear idea of what each person had been doing over the past 40 years. Ron has obviously developed a flair for MC duties and his amusing mathematical analyses and recollections of 1959 set the scene for the evening. Barbara (Turner) proved to be the real 'dark horse' of the night! And I was delighted to be able to meet up with Michael Frankel again, for the first time in 40 years. Compulsory attendance at the after-part at 718 Riversdale Road was icing on the cake! But the most striking thought that I will hold from that evening are that members of our group have been involved in a wide range of endeavours with a very high level of achievement since we were together in 1959.

Obviously it is likely to be more difficult to get everybody together for a big "50" celebration in 2009... and it may be difficult to recapture the same spirit that we enjoyed last night? I suppose only time will tell? Whatever the case, I'm very glad I attended in 1999. Thank you once again.

David Jenkins.

EDITOR'S RANT:

Firstly, my apologies to everyone for the lateness of the this issue of CHESS MOVES. Unfortunately my computer was stolen, and the newsletter with it, just prior to Christmas and it's taken this long to find the time to do it again. Just wanted to let you know that submissions are being sought for future editions [anything from saving me from having to come up with all of the ideas! :)] - so if you have something you'd like to see in print here - and its relevant! - please forward it to editor@chessmoves.com or to the secretatary of CHESS, Pat Douglas, via PO Box 1, Baywater, Vic, 3153... email is preferable, if possible, as it saves me having to retype everything...



CHESS MOVES

CAMBERWELL HIGH EX-STUDENTS' SOCIETY

News from the Canberra Chapter

Despite the announcement in the July 1999 issue of CHESS MOVES of its recent formation, the Canberra Chapter has actually been up and running for six years! The full story appeared in the March 1998 edition, so I won't repeat it now. [My mistake – apologies to all concerned. Ed.]

Our small but select band of members and supporters meet three or four times a year for a social meal and a drink in informal, friendly surroundings. Sometimes it's a barbecue at a member's home, sometimes breakfast or lunch at a restaurant or hotel. We seem to have established one tradition; each June or July we gather at a local winery for a midwinter fest, and this has proved very popular.

Late last year we ran one of our most successful functions when 15 of us gathered at the National Gallery for a tour of some the permanent collection, followed by lunch in the bistro. Once again, it seems to have struck the right chord, and we will probably do it again some time.

One of our most successful activities isn't of a social nature at all, but is one which, we hope, helps the School. Thanks to the good offices of chapter member (Professor) Graeme Cox, for the last three years we have hosted an outstanding science student from the School on a visit of John Curtin School of Medical Research, part of the Australian National University. The idea underlying the visit is that, as students in Years 11 or 12 don't always have a clear view of what their options might be in pursuing a career in science, it might be helpful to open up a window into an area that they might not have considered.

In 1997 our visitor was Ming Kalanon, and in 1998 Mary Phan joined us for the day.

Last year, we were able to add a visit to Canberra Hospital arranged by another member, Dr. Rosemary Wright. Rosemary not only accompanied the visitor, Michael Hedger, on the Grand Rounds at the hospital, but also billeted him in her home overnight.

All three of our young visitors have been excellent representatives of the School and exemplars of all it stands for, and we are looking forward to meeting this year's lucky nominee when the time comes.

Any member moving to beautiful Canberra, or even just visiting, are more than welcome to look us up and, even better, to join us.

Fred Roberts,
Convenor, Canberra Chapter,

WEBSITE UPDATE: CHESSMOVES.COM

The CHESS Committee is continuing to investigate the use of the Internet as an aid to furthering accessibility, and expanding our services, for members.

We have purchased our domain name - www.chessmoves.com and are in the final stages of determining the content and layout that will be put in place on the website.

At this point we anticipate a "Stage One" involving general information about the current activities of the School and CHESS itself. Future plans to expand the online offering include an online version of our database of ex-students, the ability to submit [if you so desired] current contact information and personal history so that your past classmates can contact you and learn what you've been up to.

We're also investigating the option of having members nominate what field you work in, so that you may - for example - find ex-students in your own field, or perhaps in a field in which you're seeking services.

We're also considering implementing [slowly, due to the size of the task] an on-line photo library that would encompass all of the archived photographs held by the School.

If you have any thoughts on what you'd like to see online, please let us know.

Incidentally, there's no website up yet - expect it with the next edition of CHESSMOVES.