



# CHESS NEWS

April 2023

[camhigh.exstudents.org](http://camhigh.exstudents.org)

## COMMITTEE NEWS

- The CHESS AGM was held via Zoom on May 8, 2023, with the presence of the whole committee and several CHESS members. The sitting 2022 committee was re-elected for a further year. There are open positions for new committee members, who can contact CHESS by email: [info@camhigh.exstudents.org](mailto:info@camhigh.exstudents.org)
- **CHESS committee:** President: Theo Mantamadiotis (1980), Vice President: Joanne Newman (1969), Secretary: Rory Hughes (2017), Treasurer: John Stamellos (2018), Members: Frank Pagram (1975) & Graeme Cameron (1977). A special thanks to the outgoing & long-serving committee member Bob Taylor (class of 1962) for his many contributions.
- The AGM noted that CHESS remains in a strong position, ensuring we continue to provide achievement awards to students, the Well-Being Fund for students who need assistance, and other donations to the school.
- The committee also calls on any financial CHESS member who are in contact with ex-students, to encourage them to join CHESS, via the CHESS website membership link: <https://camhigh.exstudents.org/membership/>

## News snippets:

- **CHESS** now has a presence on two major social media platforms: **Facebook** (<https://www.facebook.com/CamberwellHighExStudents>) & **Instagram** (<https://www.instagram.com/chs.exstudents/>).
- CHESS secretary, Rory Hughes, attended the **CHS Open Day/Night** on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, to highlight CHESS's school initiatives & activities to new/prospective CHS families.
- **CHESS End of Year Dinner 2022** – This was the first face-to-face, post pandemic dinner, held at Deco in Camberwell in late November 2022, with about 30 members, including a few first-timers! A rolling big-screen display of CHS history was part of the evening's entertainment. The food and needless to say, the company was amazing! (*photos to the right*)

## RECENT REUNIONS: Class of 1972 text provided by Fiona Reed

The Class of '72 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion was organised by ex-students: Head Prefect, David Tyson, Head Prefect, Jan Burder, Geoff Head & Fiona Reed). It was attended by about 40 alumni and a few partners and was held at the Box Hill Golf Club on Saturday 22 October 2022. Some came from interstate to catch up with old friends. The energy in the room was electric - it was clear that all those who attended really valued the opportunity to reconnect after five decades of life experience. Many photos (see below) were taken on the night & shared with the group. We all looked so young!!!



**OTHER REUNIONS:** Class of 2013 held their 10<sup>th</sup> Year reunion at the Elgin Inn, Hawthorn, on May 7, 2023.



## CHS HISTORY

Anyone remember this event?

**Opening of the Camberwell High School fete by the Mayor, Cr R.C. Cooper on March 18, 1961.**



**CHS Alumni Profile:** John Cayless was a student at Camberwell High School from 1964 to 1969 where he matriculated. He then applied to Swinburne Tech to do a Diploma of Computer Programming but quickly decided that this was not his work life aspiration and switched to Business Studies. During his studies he decided to defer, after he and a group of friends had a desire to travel to Queensland on an adventure. When he returned, he took a position with the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works where he was allocated a day per week to complete his Business Studies course. However, by now the travel bug had nestled into his thinking and after working for a few years for the MMBW he decided to take a year's leave without pay to backpack around the world. After returning and working for a few years, his desire to travel took hold again and he was off, taking a flight from Melbourne to Bali where he would backpack for a further 4 years. Upon his return in 1983 he established a business where he hired windsurfing & paddle boards during the summer at McCrae beach. Unfortunately, this was only seasonal, so he applied to train as a Senior Enrolled Nurse at the Mt Eliza Centre, giving him the flexibility to run his summer business. In 1986 John won a major prize in a game show which gave him the ability to start his dream of owning a travel business. Always with an entrepreneurial spirit, in 1990, John organised a back packers trek to Nepal and India. His first group was 19 travelers (not bad for his first trip). The trekkers were to enjoy Johns' extensive knowledge of remarkable destinations throughout Asia, knowledge which he had gained during his earlier backpacking years. A testament to John's personality & travel skills, many of John's past travelers continue to maintain contact with John.



**UPDATE YOUR MEMBERSHIP or JOIN CHES** <https://camhigh.exstudents.org/membership/>

**Becoming a member and making a donation couldn't be easier!**

Choose \$30 for 1 year, 5 years (\$130) or 10 years (\$250)



### Contact details

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