



# CHESS NEWS

July 2023

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

## CHESS: Foundation & Future

- CHESS was founded in 1991 by CHS ex-students & key staff, including the then principal & long-term teacher, Ann Rusden.
- CHESS is a registered charity, operating under the rules & guidelines of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (Victoria). The first statement in the CHESS incorporated rules is: *"The association will pursue the following charitable purposes: The provision of scholarships and/or financial support to deserving and/or socially or financially disadvantaged students at Camberwell High School"*.
- To this end, CHESS membership fees are used to reward CHS student academic excellence, via scholarships & financial support for disadvantaged students.
- CHESS also provides current CHS information via publication & distribution of 3 newsletters/year and an evolving digital historical school archive, which includes stories, class photos, event photos & the school magazine, Prospice, available via the CHESS website: <https://camhigh.exstudents.org/>
- Although not directly involved in organizing student reunions, CHESS can assist reunion organisers by providing contact information, if available, & promoting these events on FB & the CHESS website.
- Current financial CHESS membership is around 230, with another 1100 members on the CHESS email list.
- Most current CHESS members finished school between the 1950s & 1960s. This means that ex-students completing form 5 or 6 (year 11 or 12) from the late 1970s onward, are "lost", with respect to CHESS visibility & membership.
- It's clear, that for CHESS to survive & continue to support the maintenance of the CHESS website, organisation of ex-student events & importantly, support of current CHS students, CHESS needs to convince more ex-students, especially those from the late 1970s & beyond, that CHESS membership is important.
- **So, a message which we (CHESS) & all current members can communicate to ex-students who are not members, is: by paying for CHESS membership, you will support a strong alumni network via the continuation & expansion of a rich CHS historical record on the CHESS website, opportunities to connect with ex-students at social events, and play an active role in creating a positive and lasting impact on the education & lives of current CHS students.**
- Annual membership is only \$30 (the cost of about 7 take-away coffees/5 pots of standard beer/wine). See membership information at the end of this newsletter.



CAMBERWELL HIGH SCHOOL  
EX-STUDENTS SOCIETY

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## News:

- **In mid-July, ex-student, John Cayless (class of 1969)** entertained Camberwell High School Ex-Students Society - CHESS members, at the CHESS mid-year lunch, at Chapter 3, in Maling Rd, Canterbury. John talked about his life at CHS and post-school passions: trekking southern & SE-Asia (India, Nepal & Tibet), & South America, starting in the late 1970s and continuing to this day. He talked of his motorcycle trips and meeting the King & Queen of Bhutan. John used his travel bug to establish a business specialising in niche trekking tours, including motorcycle trekking.





○ **Congratulations Geoff!** Ex-CHS student, head prefect & former CHES president, Professor Geoff Head, was awarded a King’s Birthday Honour, earlier this year, for his service to medical research. Geoff’s appointment as a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) is for his significant contributions over four decades to blood pressure research and patient management. Over the course of his career, he mentored over 100 research students and young scientists, demonstrating outstanding leadership.

**1974 CLASS PHOTOS** Thanks to Mel Humphreys-Grey, Elizabeth James & others, who have recently been posting 1974 class photos on Facebook. CHES acknowledges that 1974 class photos are not currently on the CHES website, and that CHES will be adding photos we acquire from ex-students & other sources to the CHES website.

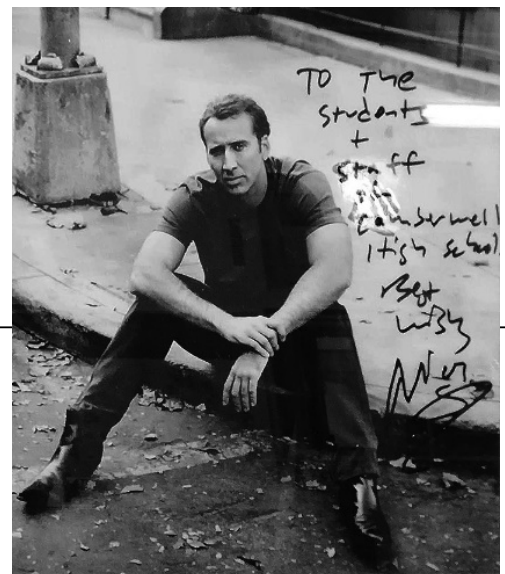
Note that there are several FB groups describing themselves as CHS groups. The official CHES FB group link is: <https://www.facebook.com/CamberwellHighExStudents>

**CHS HISTORY**

Prompted by the following recent University of Melbourne LinkedIn post: *“Did you know: Percy Edgar Everett designed the Chemistry Department Building? He was best known for striking Modernist/Art Deco schools, hospitals, courthouses, office buildings and technical colleges. His most well-known design is the Police Headquarters at Russell Street (top right photo), giving Melbourne its first Gotham City silhouette”,* we asked:

What’s the link to CHS?

Percy Everett was the architect of the original CHS building, with its famous facade! Everett also designed the Camberwell Police Station (bottom right) & the Melbourne Zoo main entrance. A testament to Everett’s architectural talent, the CHS old building façade was used for the movie 2009 movie Hollywood movie, “Knowing”, starring Nicholas Cage, a story featured on the CHES FB page in May 2022. Notably, there is an autographed photo of Nicholas Cage, on the set of the movie in the school library, thanking the school & CHS students (see photo).



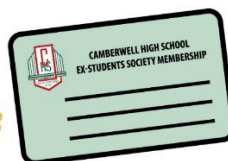
For more information on Percy Everett see:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Percy\\_Edgar\\_Everett](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Percy_Edgar_Everett) & on the CHS “Knowing” movie set, see: <https://tokyofox.net/2019/05/31/australia-filming-locations-5-knowing-2009/>

**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**

Please notify us if you have changed your address  
 Email: [info@camhigh.exstudents.org](mailto:info@camhigh.exstudents.org)  
 Postal: CHES PO Box 1101 Surrey Hills North LPO 3127

**CLICK HERE**