

2024 in Review It's been a wonderful year for ex-students with several milestone reunion events, and a CHESS-organised school tour, as well as an end of year dinner, in Camberwell.

CHESS School Tour event was held on Thu Oct 24. Ex-students across many decades met & chatted about their school memories. Assistant principal & ex-student, Emmanuel Skoutas, explained how the current school operates & gave us an overview of the current student. A current year 10 student, Will, was also there answering questions about his experiences at the school.

Attendees got to see some of the teaching & activity hubs across the old & new school buildings. For those of us who were at the school several decades ago, the current library is on the upper level of the original building. The open student areas in some of the photos, are located on the upper floors of the 'new' building. With the school concert was starting at 7PM on the same evening, the school was abuzz with students & staff, preparing for the concert, with the familiar sound of school band instruments, as students warmed up. We hope to hold a similar event for members, again, next year.



REUNIONS

A **60-year reunion of the Class of 1964** was held at the Latrobe Golf Club on November 3. Tony Townsend was the key organizer of the reunion, and Tony shared a "Where are they now?" report, with photos; the report will be available on the CHESS website, soon. This group, via Tony Townsend, also kindly donated money



to CHESS, which will be used to donate back to the school (see below). Thanks, class of 1964!

It seems all attendees had a fun time, with an abundance of good humour, with attendee comments, such as: "Great to see some of the faces once again. Looking forward to catching up in 5 years, stay vertical".

A Class of 1974 50-year reunion was held on November 17 at Extracted café (the old Canterbury Post Office): key organisers were Mel Humphreys-Grey, Laurel Rayner & Ordette Turner. The event was attended by 61 ex-students.



"The buzz of the conversation, the smiling faces and the laughter showed that people really enjoyed reconnecting with those, that in many instances, they hadn't seen for decades. The post-reunion feedback was extremely positive and smaller groups of people are already planning to get together in the near future."

More details & more photos from this reunion, supplied by Mel & Ordette, will be added to the CHESS website, soon. We also thank Ordette, who helped sell CHESS merchandise at the reunion: these money will go into the school donation funds (see below).

End of Year Dinner: An **end-of-year dinner** was held on Wed December 4, at Cafe Paradiso, opposite the Rivoli Cinema, where ex-students met and mingled, and the assistant principal, Emmanuel Skoutas thanked CHESS for continuing donations to the school.





CHESS Donations to CHS 2024: CHESS donated \$5,000 to the school, which includes \$750 from the Robert Ewins fund and the Bruce Hayman memorial fund, which CHESS administers.

School Events: CHESS President, Theo Mantamadiotis, was present at the end of year **CHS Presentation Evening**, where current student academic achievements are recognised via awards, including awards supported by CHESS. These awards are incredibly important to the school & students. The feedback to CHESS from one of the students, Daniel Elias, who won one of the senior school academic achievement awards wrote:

I am writing to express my heartfelt gratitude for being honoured with the CHESS Award. It is truly an honour to receive such a prestigious recognition, and I am deeply appreciative of your generosity in presenting it to me.

This award is not only a significant personal achievement, but it also motivates me to continue striving for excellence in all that I do. Your support and encouragement mean a great deal to me, and I am truly grateful for the trust and confidence you have shown in my work. Once again, thank you for this incredible honour. I look forward to continuing to contribute to the community and uphold the values that the CHESS Award represents.

Stay in touch with CHS ex-students via the CHESS website & Social Media:

The official CHESS website link is: <u>https://www.facebook.com/CamberwellHighExStudents</u> (we are having some issues with the website, where some web browsers / antivirus software are reporting a security/trojan issue – this is not the case, & we are trying to fix the issue causing this false alarm)



CHS FB page: <u>https://www.facebook.com/groups/2231118739</u> CHESS Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/chs.exstudents/

CHESS membership fees support a strong alumni network & expansion of a rich CHS historical record on the CHESS website, opportunities to connect with ex-students at social events, & play an active role in creating a positive and lasting impact on the education & lives of CHS students.

UPDATE YOUR MEMBERSHIP or JOIN CHESS 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 Postal: CHESS PO Box 1101 Surrey Hills North LPO 3127



CLICK HERE

NOTE: if you pay your membership via bank transfer, instead of the online membership link, please also send an email to: <u>info@camhigh.exstudents.org</u>, so we can manually update your membership information.