

CHERMESIDE & DISTRICTS



Volume 7 No. 6.

NEWSLETTER

December – January 2004

President 3350 2874
Beverley Isdale

P.O. Box 416, Chermeside Qld 4032
Editor: Pat O'Shea 3260 7384

Secretary 3359 3022
Carolyn Bowser

President's report for February March

Welcome back to a new year of activities with the Society. We have some interesting guest speakers, another one of Terry's marvelous bus trips and some research to keep us all busy.

During the holidays, I spoke to Ed Kann about the Chermeside and Districts Youth Club which operated in the old School of Arts building until the 1980s. It was a very busy club and we now have their archives to add to our original resources – our real archives. One of the clippings shows the old School of Arts Hall in the 1980s – something we have been searching for, for some time. The photo must have been taken shortly before the building was demolished.

Pat's book on the history of the Chermeside State School is coming on. He really needs more photos, particularly from later times in the school's history.

Our theme for the annual display in Chermeside Library this year is Industrial Heritage in the Kedron Shire, to 1950. We have a few ideas but in such a large area, we'll need everyone to help with suggestions.

We have been so busy documenting the history of our district that sometimes we forget about our Society's own history. The latest display in the Fitzgerald Room shows our members at work and play since our beginnings in 1998. Some of us are not at our sartorial best after a session in the garden during February & March but look much better at other functions. Thank you all for your contributions to our activities.

The Westfield & BCC road around the Precinct remains on course. The Dept of Main Roads still has to approve the plan. They expect a 5% increase in the number of

cars turning right from Kityhawk Drive into Hamilton Rd., which is a problem. Westfield will probably build units on their land abutting the Voyager Centre which can be between 3 and 8 stories high. This could be

a good thing to have apartments overlooking the Precinct as it may make it more difficult for vandals to operate here.

According to a report from Faith Hopkins in the Bayside Star (22/12/04) BCC had endorsed the building of the new road to avoid the Voyager Centre. Faith also noted that new pathways were to be built to Kidspace (we can adjourn there after meetings and play on the swings) Westfield is to contribute "some \$10 million of 'in-kind' works towards the project".

The Reunion 1950s, 1960s and 1970s ex pupils of CSS on the 3/11/2004 attracted about 100 persons along with about 15 members who staffed the show. On a hot, humid day the work was not light, it was sweaty weather. Something like a hundred class photos were copied, printed and laminated for the event. Also a large number of Christmas cards were sold. All produced on our own equipment.

A photographer came and snapped the as-

sembly in the shade of the Voyager centre. Devonshire Tea, which is a CDHS specialty, was served in the Drill Hall and it was hot, the hall as well as the tea.

The souvenir raffle was won by Leigh Masters. The profit on the day from the Raffle, Stall, Tea and Class Photos/Copying was \$405.52. Three new members signed up and the new whiteboard was used for the first time.

The History of Chermide State



The Head Teacher addresses the assembly at the 2004 Reunion. This was the second female Head Teacher in the history of CSS. Do you know her name?

School is moving into its final stages as further proof reading and editing continue. The Society is looking into the possibility of publishing the book and is going to apply for a grant from the BCC. We will need a lot of support from the members and the local community as the cost will be in the vicinity of \$5,000. Hopefully, the Council and also some of the local businesses, will support us. We will also need people, par-

ticularly ex pupils, who will be prepared to buy copies as sales will be necessary to cover the costs.

At present, I am wending my way through the jungle of copyright law in negotiations with various organisations. Photos and cartoons are an especial problem. Katie Hume, from Terry Sullivan's office, and several other people, have been assisting me in this endeavour. I may have to leave out some items unless permission to use them is

granted.

At the bottom of each page of the History will be a space in which people can dedicate the page. The cost will be \$20 per page and the dedicator will be entitled to write something in the box, about 25 words, as long as the words are not too long. Otherwise the slasher will be called in. And no rude comments about the teachers or you will be sent to the Office.

An example of a

dedication is shown at the foot of this page.

The changing face of Chermide can be seen in the new six story block of units going up in Playfield Street. There will be about 20 apartments with under cover parking replacing three houses that once stood on the site. This is a prime example of the closer settlement which is spreading throughout the suburb. Keep an eye on it, this is history in the making.

The Christmas Party 2004

went with a bang, literally. One of our mature members was transformed, rather suddenly, into a very noisy girl. She had a bag of doo-dars, which when one pulled the string, it gave a loud bang and fired streamers into the air. She was having a ball. The Editor, being of a nervous disposition, got such a fright that he was propelled into the air

and spilt his tea, twice. When he found streamers in his tea he called for the offender to be sent to the Head but, as usual was ignored. Well, really, is this the way for a **Historical Society** to behave? Please don't tell anybody about this as it may scare people away from us. So undignified, and in the school room! The Head will not be pleased.

Apart from this the party went well with lash-

From the Brown Family; John, Emily, Marion, Uncle Jack, Aunt Minnie, Little Freddie, Old Joe, Uncle Tom Cobley and all who spent many happy years at old Chermie

ings of food, endless chatter inside, pouring rain outside, the front veranda stacked with wet brollies, and the kitchen staff running to keep up the supplies of milk for the tea. The cow finally ran dry and they had to use powdered milk.

The Christmas Raffle was drawn and the winners were:

1st Prize – A large hamper – Lisa Connolly;

2nd Prize – Another hamper – Keith Postle;

3rd Prize – A Christmas cake – Kay Reid.

After everybody was talked out, the lights and the fans were switched off and the school closed down for the holidays.

Mountains to Mangroves or M2M is coming up again next year and we were addressed by a representative, Seoniad Melville, at the Precinct

Committee meeting on Thursday 25/11/04

Seoniad told the meeting that one of the local residents is trying to gather support among the residents to form a local support group to care for the wetlands beside the Precinct. The

idea is that they will pullout weeds, plant trees, mulch the area, plant ground cover and keep the area clean. The Committee applauded the plan and encourages any members of the Society to join the proposed group if they so desire. The CDHS will have a stall at the M2M

in 7th Brigade Park on the closing day.

Local History & Biography Writing.

The Livelong Learning Program sponsored by the BCC will have a speaker at the Chermide Library on 15th February 2005 from 6.30pm to 7.30pm. The talk is free and is aimed to help people who are writing family histories or biographies. Topics such as how to find source material, use of equipment, techniques of writing and some case studies will be examined.



Only the Grade 7s or 8s were allowed to ring the bell at CSS. One of the Seniors of the 1950s, Keith Tune, is still bell ringing outside the school for Reunion 2004.

Bus Trip 2005.

Terry Hampson is again organising this year's trip which will visit the homesteads of Westbrook, Old Gowrie and Jondaryan. The proposed date is Saturday 18th June and more details will be published as they are decided. To avoid disappointment book early.

Toilet Upgrade.

You have heard about upgrading computers but Carol & Bob Cunningham have gone one step further and upgraded the Precinct toilet. It was a rather basic unit before but now it is definitely 21st Century - a space age toilet. There are lockup toilet roll holders, dispensers for hand towels, new toilet lids, soap dispensers and, the crème de la crème, much more comfortable seats. So don't all rush there at the next meeting, take your place in the queue and don't take too long. Thanks to the Dynamic Duo for the best toilets in the park. The cost will be borne by the Precinct fund, to which we contribute.

Unseen Work

You may not be aware of the large amount of work that goes on in the Society during the week. Such things as indexing the enormous photographic collection, the continuous collection and indexing of newspaper cuttings relating to the local area, the preparation of display boards for exhibitions, the preparation of Grant applications, the compiling of indexes of names, places and incidents

One such piece of research which is currently underway is the analysis of the WWII CSS Honour Board. The results will be included in the history of the school. On the next page are two tables showing some names about which we know little, or nothing. We need your help to fill out the details.

Questionable Names

	Original Board	School Registration	Nominal Roll Canberra	Date of Birth	Rank
Boland, Olive Eileen – School Boland, Olive – Army - NSW		1924	Nil AWAS	Sept 1919 4/1/1914	
D'arcy in Register Darcy, Eileen – Army - NSW		1925	Army	June 1917 23/11/1920	
Robertson, John		Nil	Army		
Stevens, C.		Nil	Nil		

Suggestions:

1. Unless someone can come up with further information the above names be deleted.

Early, George Joseph	Yes	Nil	Army	7/2/1902	Corporal
Eckford, J. Roy Eckford in Register and Army	Yes	1928	Army	23/7/1922 3/7/1922	
Green, Keith	Yes	1934	Nil	27/7/1922	
Hough, B. M.	Yes	Nil	Nil	No records –	
Hough, Francis William	Yes	Nil	Army	29/4/1922	
Jackson, L. A. C.	Yes	Nil	Nil	No records –	
McPherson, George William	Yes	1910	Nil	June 1904	
Moore, B. (Betty)	Yes	1929	Nil	12/9/1922	
Stevens, G. M. This should be Stevens, C.M.	Yes	Nil	Nil		

Questions

1. When was the original board drawn up?
2. Who did the job and from where did they get the names?
3. Can anybody identify any of these people? Lindsay Staib told me that his three brothers all went to CSS but I could only find one of them on the alphabetical list. Then I did some basic arithmetic and found the two missing brothers. Their names had been spelt Steib back in 1914 & 1916.

Suggestions:

1. G. Early did not go to CSS.
2. J. Eckford be changed to R for Roy.
3. Leave the others alone as they were nominated at an earlier time possibly by people who knew these people.
4. Also the bottom parts of many of the pre-1920 Register pages are missing.

