

## August News 2012

Ex-student and distinguished long-serving teacher of humanities and languages at Northcote High School, Mr Chris Manousopoulos passed away suddenly on 29 July 2012 resulting in shock and grief for his family, colleagues, friends, students and parents. At his funeral at St. Haralambos Greek Orthodox Church, Templestowe, on 6 August a very large congregation bid a sad farewell to a beloved man. He completed Year 12 at NHS in 1977 with outstanding results in humanities and proceeded to take an Arts Honours degree and Diploma of Education at the University of Melbourne.

In his final year of Arts, Chris obtained a First Class honour in Roman History, the quality of which was attested to at the funeral by his Professor in Classics, Ron Ridley. His teaching was highly respected by students, colleagues and parents. He had coordinated Humanities and Year 12 in his time and acted as a Learning Technologies Coach to colleagues within the School, the State and from overseas. He had later obtained a Graduate Diploma in Computer Science which he put to good use demonstrating the role of learning technologies in humanities. He was always the professional with an approachable and friendly manner and his sense of humour was legendary.

The Ex-students' Association extends sincere and heart-felt sympathy to his wife Diana, son Dinitri, his mother, sister and family. [A Memorial Service was held in the school](#) hall. The very large and impressive School orchestra played and several speakers voiced their feelings and gratitude for what Chris had brought to their lives and to NHS. *Vale Chris. Meliora Sequamur!*

### Ten Year Reunion

On Friday evening August 10<sup>th</sup> the "first ten year on" reunion was held for the Class of 2002. The reunion was led by former School Captain, **Riste Avramoski**, now an engineer working in New Caledonia and Deputy Captain, **Anthony Cianflone**, electoral assistant to a Federal MP. A goodly crowd of the class members and former teachers attended to enjoy refreshments and speeches by Riste, Anthony, former Principal **Gary Israel** and former Deputy Principal **Sally Clarke**. The ex-students later adjourned to a local hostelry to continue the celebrations. It was a most successful event which will be followed up by another next year for the Class of 2003. Thanks go to the School (especially Anna Foundling) and to Riste and Tony for their work in preparing the function.

## May News 2012

The Back to Day luncheon held on 9 May was a conspicuous success with some fifty ex-students and staff attending in the pleasant surroundings of NMIT restaurant, Preston. Guest speaker, **Gordon Duxbury OAM** (1938 to '42) delivered an interesting and often amusing account of his life as a Senior Partner in a Law firm, company chairman and director and leader in the formation of Guide Dog Association Victoria. He has been honoured with an OAM, Gold Medal Community Service Award and was a Rotary Paul Harris Fellow. Principal Kate Morris informed the group that the School would host an Afternoon Tea Tour at the School later in the year. It was interesting to chat to Ron Sainsbury who started at the School in 1934 and clearly remembered Headmasters Johnson and Kitson!

### *Vale Alan Leslie Hawthorn Smith.*

Alan passed away on 17 April 2013. He attended NHS from 1942 to 1947 and later graduated from the University of Melbourne with a Master of Science degree and Diploma of Education. He became a research scientist but was tempted to take on teaching at his old School by Headmaster Alex Sutherland. He was an outstanding teacher of Science and Chemistry.

In his first year of teaching Matriculation, students in the class obtained several first class honours and the State Exhibition in Chemistry. He taught at NHS from 1955 to 1959 but was then "head hunted" by Carey Grammar. He taught there until his retirement in 1992. He was

Deputy Principal of Carey from 1976 to 1992. At NHS as a student he was House Captain of Merri, Prefect, played in the first XVIII, Athletics Team member, Magazine Committee and Debating Team member.

He was an active member of the NHS Ex-Student Association and gave invaluable support to the writing of the recent School history. Alan's memorial service at Carey was very well attended and included several NHS ex-students many of whom are medical doctors. Several commented that they obtained places in Medicine because of their results in Chemistry as members of Alan's class. Condolences were extended to his wife Noel and family on behalf of NHS through a notice in the Melbourne *Age*. The Association has lost a dear friend.

### ***Herald Sun* article about Northcote High School**

An article in the *Herald-Sun* criticised the School for ignoring old boy football personalities in its Ex-student Register. It was actually referring to a Wikipedia site which was not created by NHS, although staff occasionally correct it from time to time. The newspaper was made aware of the official site (and the extensive list on the top of this page) which includes many of the footballers' names, which the journalist accused the school of ignoring! The official Register does not claim to have the names of all ex-students and our goal is to keep adding information as it comes to hand. The School takes pride in the achievements of all ex-students.

The article did however have a positive slant to it and has led to further contacts with ex-students;

- John Greening attended NHS in 1967 while playing at Collingwood football Club. He played 107 games, kicked 70 goals and was noted for his strong running and balancing skills. He was severely injured in a game in 1974 and did not play again until the 1975–1976 seasons. He won the J.J.Joyce Trophy twice (1970, 1972). He was recently granted Life Membership of Collingwood Football Club.
- Brian Downie has contacted NHS after reading the article. A student of 1942 to 1943 he later worked in accounting in various firms, rising ultimately to being Sales' Manager for McAlpine & Co., Bakery and, later, running his own wholesale wine business. Brian umpired in the VFL including 3 Grand Finals (Reserves 1948 and Seniors 1949-1950). He was Captain of Victoria's Under 18 Basket ball Team in 1946 and was presented to Her Majesty the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh at the Opening of the Commonwealth Games in 2006 on behalf of Guides at the MCG.
- Trevor Johnson OAM was a well-known footballer with the Melbourne Club in the 1950s and 1960s. He was nicknamed 'The Phantom', playing in seven final series and five Grand Finals. He played in 118 games in total. The author is presently seeking further information about Trevor from the Western Demons Support Club.

## **April 2012 News**

**Kevin Yon**, Principal of NHS from 1975 to 1980, passed away in early February this year. Kevin was Principal of Eltham High School before coming to Northcote and spent a year as Principal of Waverley High School after his time at NHS. The 1970s were turbulent times in State education but, while Kevin stood for traditional educational values, he was also progressive on many issues. His contribution to NHS was to strengthen and widen the curriculum, work hard to improve building stock culminating in the opening of the new Gymnasium and to strengthen the place of sport and physical education in what was then a boys' school. Kevin was a junior State tennis champion in his day and achieved a Blue in tennis from the University of Melbourne. Vale Kevin!

Ex-students' Association stalwart, **Harold Mackrell**, OAM, passed away on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012. He served with the 6<sup>th</sup> Division, AIF, in New Guinea during World War 2 and was a Commonwealth Public Servant. He served as Councillor of the City of Fitzroy from 1973 and was Mayor in 1981. He was named City of Yarra Citizen of the Year in 2002. He remained actively involved in many community ventures- St. Luke's Anglican Church, Fitzroy, Friends of Merri Creek, Fitzroy Historical Society, etc. A scholarship for Indigenous students will be established at Melbourne University in his memory. He attended the School from 1936 to 1940.

Condolences are extended to both families on behalf of the School and Ex-students' Association.

## February 2012 News

Congratulations go to the Reverend Dr. Warren Bartlett on the award of the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) in the recent Australia Day honours. Warren attended the School from 1942 to 1947. He became a Methodist Church minister becoming part of the Uniting Church after the union of several churches. He holds degrees from the University of Melbourne in Arts, Science and Divinity and a Ph.D. He was Head of the University's Department of Psychology from 1978 to 1983 and Moderator of the Uniting Church of Victoria from 1994 to 1997. He was Deputy Head Prefect and Dux of School in 1947. He was pleased to receive a letter of congratulations from the Ex-Students' Association and, in reply, paid tribute to his old school and especially his Mathematics teacher, Mr. Roy Maher. His award was for services to the Church and tertiary education.

*Saturday Age* Newspaper (4/2/12) carried the story of several Australian students studying at Oxford University. Recent NHS ex-student **Alessandro (Alex) Caputo** was one of those highlighted. After his studies at Northcote, Alessandro completed a Bachelor of Science degree with Honours at Melbourne University working part time at the Walter & Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research. This work aroused his interests in structural Biology and DNA and he is now reading for a DPhil at Magdalen College, Oxford. His research there looks at how the hepatitis C virus manipulates ions in order to replicate itself. His findings may help with a cure. Well done Alex.

**Anthony Cianflone** attended NHS from 1997 to 2002. He completed a BA from RMIT and has become Electoral Assistant to Hon. K. Thompson, Federal Member for Wills. He was Moreland's Young Australian of the Year in 2011, is founder and chair of Oxygen Youth Project Committee, chair of Moreland's Youth Action Committee and Youth Advisory Group, Australian Young Labor Senior Vice-President and President of the Coburg West ALP Branch. He was School Co-Vice Captain and Captain of Soccer in 2002. A very talented soccer player this continues to be a keen interest of his. We congratulate Anthony on his many achievements and note with interest that he is keen to see a reunion of the Class of 2002 this year, ten years after the Class graduated.