

CAV ROAD WELCOME

Thanks Rob for that introduction: It is both an honour and a pleasure to welcome everyone back to Cav Road today.

2 score and 10 years ago, we, the senior class of 1964, stood in almost this exact location and said "farewell"

- to our class mates,*
- our teachers,*
- and to this school*

and

we stepped from childhood, which in the sixties was a pretty good place, into the wider world where hopefully we had acquired the skills and determination to become responsible adults.

4 years earlier we had been very different.very young and very unsure of ourselves we had arrived "en masse" at Cav. Road High.....

- in our pristine panama hats, bottle green gloves and heavy stockings for the girls*
- and for the boys long grey trousers, for some, their first ever long trousers, and their perfectly rounded felt hats.*

But 4 years later we were very different. We had grown in confidence:

- The girls' hats were old and mostly out of shape, our gloves were well mended and our stockings faded and often somewhat laddered.....*

and as

- *the boys shoved their flattened or triangular shaped hats into their bags for the last time--
We went out to meet the world.*

For some it was an absolute joy to escape ...for others it was incredibly sad.

Personally I clearly remember experiencing a very strange feeling for the first time. One minute I belonged with full commitment to this school community and the next I felt adrift....because I no longer “belonged”.

Later in life I experienced that feeling many times as we were transferred from one location to another and even one State to another. By then I had learnt to “close the door and go forward”but experiencing that for the very first time as I left my school days behind, was a very strange, unwelcome feeling.

I do not hold with the philosophy that the “school maketh the man”....or the woman either for that matterbut I do believe that the strong discipline and responsibility we learnt here, the influence of our friends and classmates and of our teachers (the great, the good and sometimes even the not so good) stayed with us all and helped to shape the adults we became and the lives we chose to lead.

If we didn't learn it here, then we soon learnt it very quickly out there, that our school motto (nil sine pulvere) was absolutely 100% correct..... there is little worthwhile that we have achieved in our lives without hard work, commitment and effort.

It was very exciting to hear from Ron Hall and Laurie Palmer a few months ago to tell me that a committee had been formed to arrange a 50 year reunion.

For myself, and on your behalf also, I thank the committee for organizing this reunion.

Laurie and Sonja (Co-Chairs),

Miriam (Secretary),

Rob (Treasurer),

Dan (Webmaster) and

all of the terrific team as listed in our programmes have done a fabulous job in bringing us together.

Please join me in showing our appreciation to everyone on the "Reunion Committee."

- It is great to see old friends,*
- to relive memories*
- and to recall those fantastic feelings of being youthful again.*

Deep down we have changed so very little.... inside us lurk the enthusiastic teenagers that we were 50 years ago.

"Welcome" to the class of 1964.....And in some cases to our friends and partners, including the friends from the senior class of 65.

A huge "Welcome" to the Cav Road Staff of the Sixties.... who have honoured us with their presence.

Together lets welcome them for making the effort to be here with us.

“Welcome” also to the current staff of Cav Road who have assisted with the research into the school history etc needed for the presentations.

Have a fantastic day!

And again sincere and absolute thanks to the committee for their efforts that have allowed us all

“TO MEET AGAIN.”.....thank you!

And in the true spirit of meeting again, I would like to introduce one of our truly great teachers. Many of us remember fondly the Marg Godfrey who “bounced” into our classroom with confidence and enthusiasm. She taught mathematics with a genuine love of the subject and a desire to pass on both understanding and knowledge to her students.

She ensured that we faced our final senior exams armed with the skills to “ace it”.

From speaking to many of those gathered here today, she obviously inspired the next generation of teachers especially the maths teachers who hopefully inspired -

the next generation -

and the generation after that-

and probably the one after that.....and on that scary note please all give a very warm Cav. Road “Welcome” to one of our most respected and well liked teachers, “Marg Godfrey”.