Canley Vale High's 50th Anniversary Unveiled We Care

Bonham
Horsley
Lennox
Parkes
It is with great pleasure that I write this introduction to the 50th Anniversary Edition of Unvaled. Although this edition is a larger publication than previous editions, we felt that the 50th Anniversary deserved this extra effort. It would be remiss of me not to make special mention of the students who have dedicated their time to this high quality production.

We have celebrated 50 years of Canley Vale High School with school tours, an anniversary dinner, the unveiling of the 1988 time capsule, the restoration of the bell tower and the establishment of an alumni.

As such, it certainly has been a busy and rewarding time. This will be the final edition of Unvaled for 2015 and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff, students and community for your efforts this year.

Enjoy the time with friends and family over the Christmas period and I look forward to sitting back reading this edition.

Kind Regards,
Peter Rouse
BFA, BArtEd(UNSW)
MSpecEd(NiCas) AAMC
What was your first impression of Canley Vale High School?

I found the students extremely polite and respectful at this school. The office staff were also very welcoming. Overall, I thought that it was an exceptionally positive environment.

What grades are you responsible for supervising?

I looked after Year 8, 10 and 12 until Ms Santucci’s arrival. I now only look after Year 8 as Year 12s have just finished their HSC exam.

How many years of experience have you had in the teaching profession?

I have been a teacher for 20 years.

What are your expectations and goals for Canley Vale students?

I expect all students to achieve their very best at all times. I always say people can take away your material possessions but no one can take away an education. Having the best possible education is a gateway to a good future.
**Mrs Santucci**

**What is your first impression of Canley Vale High School?**

The commitment of staff and students to learning is outstanding. The school motto “We Care” is evident wherever you look. I have been made to feel welcome by everyone, so thank you!

**Is it different from your last school? How?**

There isn’t much difference from my previous school. The staff, students and parents caring about learning success is obvious in both schools.

**What are your expectations and goals for the students?**

I have high expectations of uniform, attendance, which includes being on time to school and to every lesson, and behaviour.

I believe that if students and teachers work together to continually look for and work on improvement, every student can be happy at school and achieve success.

**Is there anything you would like to add?**

I’m really honoured and excited to be here at Canley Vale.

I believe we have great times ahead.

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**Mr Trumble**

**How long have you been working in a school environment?**

21 years

**What grades are you responsible for?**

7, 9, 11 are my defined year groups but as a deputy principal, I share responsibility for all students. Next year I will be in charge of 10 and 12.

**What are your expectations and goals for the grades you are responsible for?**

- To support their well-being and mental happiness.
- To assist them in setting realistic goals and achieving them.
- That student have a voice and will seek assistance.

**What vision do you have for Canley Vale High School in the next five years?**

- To have built Trade Training Centre (TTC) – in construction
- School will have a gym where the table tennis tables are kept
- Greater use of technology by staff

**Is there anything you would like to add?**

This is a wonderful school that will continue to be a centre for excellence. The head teachers and senior management have many positive plans for the future. I can’t wait!
My name is Marwa Abedine and I am your 2016 female Canley Vale High School Captain. To be honest, I wasn’t expecting to be voted as your female school captain, but here I am!

I am very honoured that the students and teachers have trusted me to represent the school and “lead the school to greatness” as I quote from my captaincy speech.

Being captain is not all about wearing a badge and having that title within the school. It also isn’t about including it as an achievement in my resume. It is more about leadership; enhancing my skills and encouraging others to be the best they can.

Being captain holds many responsibilities; expectations are high and being constantly watched for consistent good behaviour and attitude, when you are the leader of the school. Although, I do all the time, I still like to have fun and enjoy the activities that I am doing. Humour is one of the many aspects of my personality that I openly express. And for those who already know me, know that I can be goofy at times. But, I am hard-working and that is why I have achieved what I have up until now. Through this experience of being captain, I want people to understand that it is alright to have fun and goof off sometimes, but achievement is the result of hard work. And that is what I want everybody to take away from my time in leadership.
Hi, I’m Julie Chia the female vice-captain of Canley Vale High School for 2016. I recently rolled over into Year 12, starting the last chapter of my high school life. (The idea of graduating in a year’s time is very daunting). A little bit about myself, I tend to tie a red ribbon in my hair and have a relatively loud voice. I fear many things and can stress about almost anything and everything. I successfully entered the SRC in Year 11 and continued to elect myself as a candidate for Year 12. Being vice-captain does require spending some extra time and being more flexible to fulfil duties. The leadership team attends meetings with Mr Rouse where we discuss about issues raised by the student body or information about developments around the school. We also work alongside the SRC to gather ideas and propose them to Mr Rouse. Tiger (my fellow vice-captain) and I also assist the captains with some of their tasks when their workload is overwhelming so that they don’t overwork themselves. In general, we work as a team to project the voice of the student body so that their ideas can be implemented into the school (if possible). Don’t be afraid to approach us or any other SRC representative if you have an idea to discuss. (We’re not scary and we don’t bite)

Hi school! I’m Xavier Vo and I am your 2016 male captain. First of all, I just want to thank all the teachers and students that have voted for me and have give me this opportunity to run as the leader of the student body.

Secondly, let me tell you a little about myself. I am a weird, not so funny, opinionated person. Though I am very easy to talk to and am willing to listen and speak to anyone. So if there are any issues or you’d just like speak to me in general then I’m all ears.

As I settle down in my role as the new school captain, I do feel the pressure and expectations that appear occasionally. I have also realised that this role does require great responsibility and proactivity. However, I do believe that it is all apart of what I’ve signed up for and I am willing to strive for my very best. I hope that in the next 12 months, the captaincy team and I will be able to really fulfil our roles and work productively and effectively in order to do the school proud. Also one more thing, if any of you guys have any issues you would like to speak to me about, you can easily find me in the library/canteen/basketball courts. Alternatively, you can just find the walking orange. See you guys around!
Salutations fellow friends and teachers of Canley Vale High School, I’d like to start off by introducing myself to you all as Tiger Le, the current Vice-Captain and representative member of the student body. I am incredibly humbled and thankful to be provided with such an opportunity to set examples and socialize with other like-minded peers.

Furthermore, I would like to take this opportunity to tell you all a little bit about myself as a fellow student at Canley Vale. I am an outgoing individual who has always enjoyed meeting and mingling with new people as well as experiencing new things through opportunities offered by the school. As a result of this, I have been able to develop as a creative, social and reliable individual which I have since incorporated into my role as Vice-Captain in an attempt to be an effective leader and role model.

I’d also like to address the way in which I perceive my duty and goals as Vice-Captain of Canley Vale High School. As a primary function of an effective leader, I have noticed the level of commitment and dedication which is required from any member of the leadership team to be considered a sufficient role model. In saying so, by the end of my time as Vice-Captain, I hope to have exercised and maintained such ideals of an effective leader in order to have fulfilled my role. However, these expectations have allowed me to better myself as a leader and have inspired me to influence others into becoming more active in the community and in the school.

Hopefully, with the collaborative work of the school’s leaders and I, by the end of our era we would have left a legacy on Canley Vale High School which will inspire future generations to come.

On the other hand, don’t ever be afraid to stop and say g’day or sit and have a chat about any issues regarding the school or just mere banter. This is as you can easily find me wandering around the school during lunch or recess and between periods as well.

Tiger Le, signing out!
What a wonderful evening! It was, indeed, a great night to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Canley Vale High School on Friday, the 9th of October 2015. Over 120 current and former teachers, SASS staff and students enjoyed great food, meeting old friends going as far back as 50 years as well as meeting new friends of the school.

On arrival everyone received a lanyard, attached to which was a USB filled with picture memorabilia of the last 50 years. The photos had either been sent in by various past members of the school or found in our school archives. The photos were then put together by a Year Ten student, Michael Tran, with his loyal team of helpers, creating a lovely memento to take away from the evening.

Each person on arrival was also given a raffle ticket with the winner of the ticket cutting the beautiful celebration cake. That honour went to Carmella Bugge/Canceri, a present Canley Vale High School teacher for over twenty years, who was helped by Peter Rouse, our Principal.

Much to the delight of the guests, they had the opportunity to view the contents of the time capsule, that had been put into the ground in 1988, and had been dug up late on that very afternoon. Also, on display were photos of past and present memorable events.

On each table were pads of writing paper to write down thoughts and memories of the past. These pieces of paper were put onto boards at the back of the room for everyone to read and reminisce. Those stories and anecdotes have now been typed onto paper and will be put onto our school website.

An open microphone was made available and guests were given the chance to share with everyone their particular experiences as a teacher, an administration staff or student. Mr Perch, who has been a teacher at the school since its opening, regaled everyone with stories across the many years of his teaching life at Canley Vale, and many followed him to share their experiences with everyone. I am a very proud member of the SASS staff at Canley Vale High School and these are my thoughts on a wonderful evening celebrating 50 years of Canley Vale High School.
My Awesome experience at CVHS

When I started in 2000, the heroin epidemic plagued our local area and our school’s enrolments began to fall. I remember we even had open nights to encourage prospective students. Who would have believed that we would become a popular school with a waiting list?

Our teachers are exceptional because they ensure our school life is not just defined by academic achievement and sport ranking but also about social and emotional development. I noticed this difference because at university, my classmates regularly discussed their good and bad school memories. It always involved academic and sporting rivalries, and friendships came into the picture to help with corporate careers.

I remember the days when sugar was not bad and we had vending machines. We would buy drinks on the way to our next class. During the Internet’s infancy, CVHS proudly won the inaugural state Web Design Competition in 2000 and again for three consecutive years, even though many of us did not have an Internet connection at home, let alone a computer!

I want to use this opportunity to pay tribute to our year adviser, Vivien Lister Revel who sadly passed away in 2011. It is with fond memories and appreciation, that I congratulate everyone who attended and worked at the school during the last 50 years. I wish another wonderful 50 years of success to future students and staff passing through CVHS.

Adrian Wong, Class of 2005
Campaign Manager, Parliament of Australia
Company Secretary, Cabramatta Community Centre
Board Chairperson, South West Connect
Former Student Returns to CVHS As A Teacher

I find myself in the uncommonly lucky position of attending Canley Vale High School twice – initially as a student and now as a teacher. While I did not know it then, Canley Vale exposed me to the world outside. Every piece of literature read, every historical era studied, every mathematical formula seemingly magically derived – every nugget of knowledge attained was made possible by the school’s support for effort and achievement.

While the school’s ethos pushed me to consider the world around me, it was my teachers who encouraged me to look within. They were kind, patient and dedicated. I learnt from them, time and time again, that I am capable of more than I believed. Seven years on from my high school graduation, I still see this determination in the teaching staff at Canley Vale. I can only hope to have the same effect on my students as my teachers have had on me.

It has been a successful fifty years for the school and, I know, there can only be more success to come.
2015 SCHOOL CAPTAINS

Canley Vale High School has been our home, our place of belonging, for six years. It is on this journey that we have encountered wild, crazy and emotional experiences that have, no doubt, shaped us to be the strong, confident and independent individuals we are today.

We walked through the gates in 2010 as naive and little students, enthusiastic about the prospects of growing up to be a teenager, recognised as mature individuals and having the power to make our own decisions. But we wouldn’t have guessed that on this journey, the discoveries we have made about ourselves and the world around us would impact us so positively. We are extremely grateful and thankful to the school in providing us with vast opportunities that have enabled us to challenge ourselves and reach our potential. Also, we are appreciative of the supportive staff and teachers who not only work consistently to create an inviting and comfortable learning environment for us but who also make time and have the patience to help in all ways possible. And finally, our peers, with whom we have been privileged enough to share this experience has created lifelong friendships and relationships.

However, this journey can only be made whole by the hectic and quickly evolving playground gaming trends that we have witnessed over the years—playing Handball in the area in front of the bell tower, groups of boys and even girls scattered across the school duelling in the game of Yugioh, controlled banters in the playground between groups that play LoL or Dota and finally the infamous game of Tazos which washed over the school like the plague, with the 3 outdoor basketball courts infested with students at recess and lunch.

These activities in the playground not only involved a grade, but the whole school, depicting the diverse and accommodating environment that Canley Vale High School has created, allowing students to interact with one another and become a harmonious unit. It is with no doubt that we can say that our experience at Canley Vale High School has significantly impacted us as we have learnt many life skills, gained knowledge and created friendships that will aid us in the future. We have learnt the lessons of success and failure, allowing us to become more aware of our surroundings and finally we have definitely learnt the true essence of our school motto "We Care" which we will continue to carry and utilise.

-Bridget Ea, Justin Oudomlith
I have lots of vivid memories of my six years at Canley Vale High. Handball in the playground. Throwing tennis balls at the bell tower. Falling in the creek out the back during a science prac. School discos in the new hall. My first fight. My first kiss.

I can’t imagine my life without Canley Vale High School. It has given me my best friends and so many incredible opportunities.

I am the first person in my family to finish high school. It’s the education I received at Cabramatta Public School and Canley Vale High School that has given me - a kid from Cabramatta - the opportunity to go to university, to become a lawyer, a Federal Member of Parliament and a Minister.

The Canley Vale High I remember is not just handball games and school discos. I also remember the incredibly smart kids I sat next to in class - from all around the world. I remember feeling so privileged and lucky when I was at school.

I had a mum and dad. They both had jobs and they always had enough money to pay for me to go on school excursions. Not all the kids in my class were that lucky. A lot were refugees. They came to Australia at the age of four or five and had to learn English when they got here. Some couldn’t go on excursions. A lot didn’t have both a mum and a dad.

I also remember the teachers I had. One in particular. Peter Valenti, my History teacher. He is still my friend today. We catch up a couple of times a year. He is one of my most inspirational people I have ever met. He taught me more than just the stories of dead generals and politicians. He taught me to think critically. He taught me to believe in myself. And he taught me to believe that kids from Canley Vale are as smart and talented as kids from anywhere else, and if we believe that, we can achieve anything. That’s what Canley Vale has given me.

Happy Anniversary CVHS!
It has been seventeen years since I left Canley Vale High School and looking back, it would certainly be one of the best times of my life. It was a time when computers were a new thing; the internet did not exist and spellcheck involved using the physical dictionary. There was no Facebook and mobile phones were still brick-like devices which only wealthy business people owned. Also, at the time, the School was known for its proximity to Cabramatta, the then notorious drug capital of Australia.

We were often described as a multicultural school because of the large number of students from Asian and Eastern European backgrounds during the time. However, for the most part, it did not seem like that was such a big deal; in fact, it seemed normal for students to hang out with people from different backgrounds and our differences were respected and embraced.

I joined Canley Vale High in 1993 as the only person from my primary school to do so, but it did not take long to make friends and fit in within the school community. My parents, like many were refugees who came to Australia in the Seventies and they ran the local Asian grocery store which I begrudgingly worked at after school and weekends. So I really felt attached to the community. I joined the SRC, which back then was not the coolest thing to do (not sure if that has changed since). Six years later, I was proud to be elected School Captain, but even prouder of how my classmates had changed during that time as we matured and supported each other through our high school years.

Back then, the School was relatively unknown and student numbers were only around 800-1,000, some housed in the occasional demountable. However, leaving the school, I knew it would not last long for the popularity of the school to rise as a result of the academic reputation, which has since led to the student population almost doubling.

Whilst many of the School community were from non-English speaking and disadvantaged families, what I remember, is the passionate teachers that really made students feel that they could do anything with their lives. It was never a question that we could not go on to become doctors, lawyers, accountants, psychologists or computer programmers. It was the confidence that had been fostered by the School that really shaped who I am now and what I have achieved in life. I am sure it has done so for many of my classmates and many students past, present and to follow.

It was these teachers, to name a few: Mr Perch, the late Ms Lister, Ms Sulfaro, Mr Georgiou, Ms Papageorgiou, Mr Nguyen, Ms O'Dea, Mr Rule, Mr Spark and Mr Williams, the true heroes of the school, who have shaped the lives of so many and taught us so much more than just English, Maths and Science. This is made obvious, as I drive through Canley Vale and the surrounding suburbs, I can see the effect of education on the growth and prosperity of the community.

Finally, I must make a special mention to our Principal of the day, Mr Garland, whose leadership had helped the school become what it is today. The school motto, which we occasionally mocked for its simplicity back in the day, underpins what I believe made and makes Canley Vale that special place, 50 years on from its inception and seventeen years on from when I left. It summarises the School ethos perfectly, ‘We Care’.

Albert Thai, CVHS School Captain 1998
I have fond memories of Canley Vale High School. It took a few years for me to settle in but once I did, I had a ball. Our grade was a nice bunch, the teachers had the patience of monks and our poor Drama teacher, Ms Kenna let our imagination run wild. It was only when I went to Uni that I gained some perspective about my own high school experience. I thought everyone had a great time like me! I heard stories of girls going to posh private schools who were mercilessly bullied and the teachers did nothing about it. We had a great Anti-Harassment Officer named Mr Nguyen and he made not bullying our peers cool. It was a safe place where we could grow up away from the big bad world outside. Canley Vale is quite a small school so it felt somewhat cosy (squeezing through corridors between periods is something that springs to mind).

When I first started there back in 2002 there were only about 700 students all up. By the time I left in 2007 there were close to a 1000 students, I hear that it is now closer to 1500 – the numbers speak for themselves. The waiting lists are long and most of the teachers who stay have been at the school for most of their teaching career. It’s a great school, with great teachers and a strong focus on academic excellence. At school I was challenged to do my best and also encouraged to pursue my interests outside of academia. For a public school in an area once known for having quite a reputation, Canley Vale has punched above its weight and I know it will continue to do so.

Here’s to 50 years of academic excellence and fun memories and 50 years more!

Cheers,

Roxie Vuong
Canley Vale High School
Captain of Year 2007