



# THE PERTH MODERNIAN e-NEWSLETTER

Feb 2019 - Issue 39 (Volume 2 14)

## WELCOME

Hi

WELCOME to *The Perth Modernian e-Newsletter* offering two way communication with members and potential members. We bring to you news, event details and articles from the Society, its members and Perth Modern School. We hope you find the newsletter both interesting and informative.



PERTH MODERNIAN SOCIETY

For further information

Telephone: (08) 6189 3690

[www.perthmoderniansociety.org.au](http://www.perthmoderniansociety.org.au)[info@perthmoderniansociety.org.au](mailto:info@perthmoderniansociety.org.au)

All messages received either by phone or email are promptly forwarded electronically for further action.

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## DIARY DATES

**Perth Modernian Society Inc**  
**2018-19 Annual General Meeting**  
 Monday evening 27 May 2019  
 guest speaker: Modernian,  
**Professor Bruce Armstrong AM**  
 PMS student 1957-61  
 Refreshments served

## REUNIONS

**Perth Modernian Society**  
**2019 Annual Reunion**  
 Date to be announced

[Class Reunions in the pipeline](#)

## CONGRATULATIONS



### 2018 BEAZLEY MEDAL

**Pooja Ramesh, PMS student 2014-18**

*"I think I owe this award to all of my friends and teachers," Pooja told Bethany Hiatt, reporter for The West Australian newspaper. "People say it's competitive, but I think it's competitive in a good way because everyone just buzzes off each other and it just drives you to be the best you can be."*

The Medal is named after **Kim Edward Beazley, Perth Modern School student 1933-34**, the father of WA Governor Kim Beazley.

## AT LAST! DGR (tax exemption) STATUS FOR MUSEUM DONATIONS

A collective sigh of relief came from each of the Board members of the Perth Modernian Society Museum Association as we commenced our first planning meeting for the year and received written confirmation that the Association had achieved Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status. This means that any donation (above \$2) made to the Perth Modernian Society Museum Association Inc, is now tax deductible.

It became very apparent over the past decade that our volunteer work required consistent financial support to meet the continuing costs associated with collecting, preserving and exhibiting the physical and cultural traditions of Perth Modern School. We have applied for grants to provide urgent support for the current imperative to update our IT equipment used for the MOSA/C museum collection data-base as well as the Jarvis eXMOD data-base (JeD) for staff/student biographical information.

Over the past two years as the Museum Association achieved incorporation, charitable status (with GST exemption), and now DGR status, Sallie Davies has been focused in understanding and leading this direction following recent legislative changes. Bob Johnson successfully negotiated with the tax office (ATO). We are extremely appreciative of the generous support of Sphinx Foundation Board Members, and particularly value and acknowledge the pro bono advice from Nigel Hunt and Brendan Dawson of King & Wood Mallesons.



## You can help us to honour the history and share the heritage of Perth Modern School

The 2019 Perth Modernian Society Museum Association Board consists of Dr Robyn White (Chair), Mrs Sallie Davies (Deputy Chair), Mr Bob Johnson (Treasurer), Mrs Sharon Williams (Secretary), Prof Alistair Paterson (archaeologist and researcher), Ms Lois Joll (School Principal). This Board may be expanded to seven people in time.

At the 2019 planning meeting, the Board focused on ways in which the Museum Association might support the Museum (History Centre) to be even more accessible and relevant to students and staff (current and former) and the wider community. Projects commenced in 2017/18 will continue and include restoration of the war memorial with five names to be added, and documentation of the history of music at PMS. We are very excited at the prospect of volunteer collaboration to record collected data (including IT based artifacts) from the present (soon to be the past) and to update the Perth Modern School Heritage Trail documentation to make it more accessible for Volunteer Student Guides (perhaps using Q codes).

Then **our longer term dream** – to employ a CEO/Collections Manager to support our volunteers and effectively prioritise museum activities. Such a person might also open the Museum more frequently for volunteer activities, private and public viewing, and thus provide support for communication between all Modernians, past and present, the School, the Society, and the wider community.

For the moment one of our volunteer focuses will be to exhibit more World War II artifacts, including biographies. Our current school students will be studying World War II during this year – and these will support their research and studies. If you have any World War II memorabilia at home which relates to former PMS staff and/or students, we would very much appreciate a loan to our museum. Please contact the school office, or Sallie Davies or Robyn White 0409 889 056 for further information.

2019 will be a very busy year!

*The profile below is the second in a series to honour Modernians who died in the service of their country.*

**Arthur Bacon**  
**PMS student 1912**

*Edited from "Forgotten Anzac – Arthur Bacon" by Neil Coy with material from the ADFA website*  
<https://www.aif.adfa.edu.au/showPerson?pid=10014>

Without any doubt the saddest omission from the School's war memorial, and one of Perth Modern School's most tragic personal stories of the Great War, is that of Arthur Bacon.

\*\*Refers to Year 5(12) as core final year

**2019**

**Class of 1949\*\***

70 year reunion

To coincide with Annual Reunion

Watch for details

**Class of 1969\*\***

50 year reunion

Register your interest at

[gene.k@coronada.com.au](mailto:gene.k@coronada.com.au)

**Class of 1978\*\***

Belated 40 year reunion

Details to come

**Class of 2009\*\***

10 year reunion

See Facebook page

**2020**

**Class of 1970\*\***

50 year reunion

Almost ready to advertise details

**2021**

**Class of 1971\*\***

50 year reunion

Watch for details

Organisers please contact

Barbara Mallett through

[reunions@perthmoderniansociety.org.au](mailto:reunions@perthmoderniansociety.org.au)

For further information visit

[www.perthmoderniansociety.org.au](http://www.perthmoderniansociety.org.au)

## PUBLICATIONS

### e-NEWSLETTER

Do you have something to say?

Memories to share?

**Where are YOU now?**

Send your news item, letters

and/or photographs to ...

[newsletter@perthmoderniansociety.org.au](mailto:newsletter@perthmoderniansociety.org.au)

### Next Issues

**Copy deadlines for 2019**

20 May 2019

20 August 2019

20 November 2019

## THE PERTH MODERNIAN

**Magazine for Contributing Members**

TBA

Register **your Contributing Membership**

by **regular post** or

include your **email address**

to receive your copy via **e-Link**

## MEMBERSHIP NOTICE

### PLEASE CHECK

Have you completed or updated your

**MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION**

**BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION**

**and/or CHANGE OF DETAILS**

**Forms** are available on the website

[www.perthmoderniansociety.org.au](http://www.perthmoderniansociety.org.au)

further information

[info@perthmoderniansociety.org.au](mailto:info@perthmoderniansociety.org.au)



Arthur Bacon was born on 24 September 1896. His family lived in a town site called Darling Range Quarries and his father operated a bluestone granite quarry at Gooseberry Hill. The School's war memorial is built from granite from a nearby quarry. Arthur was educated initially at Midland Junction State School and then Guildford Grammar, where he passed the Senior Certificate. He enrolled in Perth Modern School on 7 February 1912. Arthur's academic success at Modern School enabled him to study electrical engineering at UWA, at that time a fairly new and exciting field.

Arthur enlisted in the Australian Imperial Forces on 7 June 1915 and was assigned to the 16<sup>th</sup> Battalion. The Battalion had suffered 70% casualties by the end of the first week at Gallipoli and Arthur was to be one of the reinforcements. He was given less than six weeks' training before he arrived at Gallipoli during the last phase of preparation for the August, 1915 offensive.

The 16<sup>th</sup> Battalion was set the most demanding of objectives, the capture of Hill 971, which was the highest point on Sari Bair Ridge. The attack failed with Arthur being wounded in the face. He was evacuated to a military hospital on Lemnos Island and then to Reading Hospital near London, England. He returned to the Battalion on 27 December, 1916.

In the spring of 1917, Australian troops on the Western Front were brought to the Hindenberg Line for the first time for a planned breakthrough at Bullecourt. The battle began on 11 April 1917 and the 16<sup>th</sup> Battalion was involved in another disaster as the British tanks, key to the attack plan, broke down before reaching the front lines. The Australian 4<sup>th</sup> Brigade, comprising the 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> battalions, suffered 2,339 casualties (80%) of the 3,000 men committed to the action. Arthur received a second gunshot wound to the face on the first day, this time causing temporary damage to an eye. After recovering at Le Havre in France, Arthur returned to his unit on 11 June 1917.

He was wounded for a third time near Ypres in Belgium on 6 August 1917, on this occasion sustaining a gunshot wound to his left foot. As a surviving Gallipoli campaign veteran, Arthur had the right to wear an embroidered capital letter "A" over his unit colour patch, signifying that he was an original ANZAC. By this stage of the war, few were left who were eligible for this honour and those who did commanded significant respect. Arthur rejoined the 16<sup>th</sup> Battalion from England on 31 December 1917, survived his second winter on the Western Front, and was promoted to Lance Corporal on 10 April 1918. He was killed in a minor action at Bellenglise, 60kms east of Villers Bretonneux, on 18 September, 1918. His body lies nearby in the Jeancourt Communal Cemetery Extension.

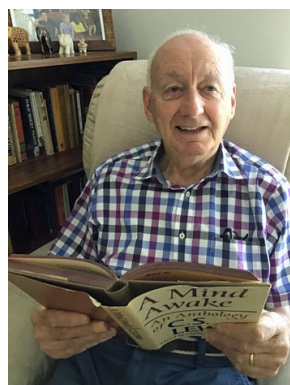
There are several sad ironies in Arthur Bacon's fate. Having survived through so many failed attacks, he died in the midst of a victorious action by his unit. He is buried at a site that few would bother to stop to investigate, let alone pay their respects. The cruellest irony of all is that Bellenglise was the 16<sup>th</sup> Battalion's last action. Arthur was killed on what would have been his last day in combat. He was also the last Modern School boy to be killed in action in the Great War.

Lest we forget

## 2019 AUSTRALIA DAY HONOURS

Recipients of the **Order of Australia Medal (OAM)**

- Paul Duhig, former PMS music staff, *for service to performing arts*
- Heather Henderson, former PMS staff, *for service to local government of Subiaco*
- Ian Lindsay, PMS student 1951-55, former staff 1961-63, *for service to education*
- Dr Harry Pearson, former PMS staff 1962-63 and 1964, *for service to the community*
- Diana Waldron (nee Robinson), PMS student 1949-51, *for service to dance*



*"Receiving the award was a big surprise. I have had the privilege of working with cc the best interests of their students at heart, and are very good at their job. I became a teacher because of the example set by a number of my teachers at Mod. My early years as a teacher were at Mod, but for 55 years I was on the staff at Scotch College - my first retirement was when I was Deputy Headmaster, and there have been two subsequent retirements. It's been rewarding to be involved in educational bodies at the local, state and national levels; I'm a Life Member of the Australian College of Educators, and currently on the council of Carey Baptist College."* – Ian Lindsay OAM

In 2017, Ian compiled a draft history of Music at Mod 1911-1967 from *Sphinx* magazines and other sources at the request of the Historical and Museum Committee. With a view to future publication this forms the basis for future research by interested volunteers to provide an overview of the history of music at the School and a compilation of biographies held in the George Burvill Index of former students and staff who went on to excel in this field of endeavour.

## PERTH MODERNIAN SOCIETY HONOURS

All students and ex-students, and all current and past staff members, are eligible to be members of Perth Modernian Society. The Society has three awards.

Two of the awards may be bestowed only upon members of the Society. They are:

**Modernian Fellow:** for distinguished service to the advancement of education at Perth Modern School.

**Moderna Scola:** for significant service to the advancement of education at Perth Modern School.

**Honorary Member:** this third award is for those who are not eligible to be members of the Society, but who have given significant service to the advancement of education at Perth Modern School.

Nominations for Perth Modernian Awards can be made by members, and are encouraged. If you know of someone you believe should be honoured in this way, please go to the Perth Modernian Society website

[www.perthmoderniansociety.org.au](http://www.perthmoderniansociety.org.au) and look for the information about Honours, and download a nomination form.

When completed, this can be sent to:

The Awards Committee  
Perth Modernian Society Inc.  
c/o Perth Modern School  
90 Roberts Road,  
Subiaco WA 6008

or you could email [awards@perthmoderniansociety.org.au](mailto:awards@perthmoderniansociety.org.au)

You should state why you believe the nominated person is eligible. It is helpful if you are able to suggest referees. If you are nominating someone, you are asked not to let that person know. The Committee will keep all nominations in strict confidence. – Ruth Barrett, Chair, Awards Committee

## 2018-19 COUNCIL

## PERTH MODERNIAN SOCIETY

[www.perthmoderniansociety.org.au](http://www.perthmoderniansociety.org.au)

Professor Geoff Soutar, *President*

Barrie Baker, *V/President*

Deborah Beresford, *Hon Secretary*

Eve Broadley, *Hon Treasurer*

Sallie Davies, *Museum Association*

Peter Farr, *Immediate Past President*

Ian Jarvis, *Communications*

Ed Lazarus, *Membership*

Barbara Mallett, *Reunions Coordinator*

Jeanette McQueen, *Sphinx Foundation*



Ruth Barrett, *Member*  
Julian Grill, *Member*  
Lois Joll, *PMS Principal*

#### Finance

Barrie Baker, *Convenor*  
*Honorary Treasurers*  
Eve Broadley, *Council*  
Peter Farr, *Sphinx Foundation*  
Robert Johnson, *Museum*

#### Sphinx Foundation Board

Barrie Baker, *Chairman*  
Peter Farr, *Hon Treasurer*  
Eve Broadley, *Member*  
Val Furphy, *Associate Principal*  
Jeanette McQueen, *Member*  
Nigel Hunt, *Member*

#### Communications

[info@perthmoderniansociety.org.au](mailto:info@perthmoderniansociety.org.au)  
Ian Jarvis, *Convenor/Portal/IT*  
Ed Lazarus, *Membership*  
Peter Farr, *Member*  
Reece Harley, *Facebook*  
**Vacancy/IT support person/portal**  
Sallie Davies, *Newsletters*  
Graeme Hunt, *Magazine Compiler*  
[newsletter@perthmoderniansociety.org.au](mailto:newsletter@perthmoderniansociety.org.au)

#### Functions Committee

Barrie Baker, *Convenor*  
Deb Beresford, *Catering*  
Eve Broadley, *Catering*  
Barbara Mallett, *Photography*  
Ian Jarvis, *Communications*

#### Reunions Liaison

[reunions@perthmoderniansociety.org.au](mailto:reunions@perthmoderniansociety.org.au)  
Barbara Mallett

#### Board of the Perth Modernian Society Museum Association Incorporated

[museum@perthmoderniansociety.org.au](mailto:museum@perthmoderniansociety.org.au)  
Robyn White, *Chair*  
Sharon Williams, *Hon Secretary*  
Robert (Bob) Johnson, *Hon Treasurer*  
Lois Joll, *Board Member*  
Sallie Davies, *Board Member*  
Alistair Paterson, *Board Member*  
**Vacancy, Board Member**

#### Museum (H&M) Committee

[museum@perthmoderniansociety.org.au](mailto:museum@perthmoderniansociety.org.au)  
Sallie Davies, *Chair*  
Deb Beresford, *Hon Archivist/Curator*  
Robyn White, *Hon Secretary*  
Ian Jarvis, *Hon IT Manager*  
Gay Albillos, *Member*  
Frank Hedges, *Member*  
Robert Johnson, *Member*  
Sharon Williams, *Member*

#### VOLUNTEERS

##### History Centre and Archives

Gay Albillos, *Conservation*  
Deb Beresford, *Hon Archivist*  
Jim Davies, *Bio Index*  
Sallie Davies, *Coordinator*  
Frank Hedges, *Bio Index*  
Robert Johnson, *Research*  
Angela Jones, *Archives*  
Bill MacPherson, *Photo Scanner*  
Deirdre Owen, *Archives*  
Alan Porter, *Science Restoration*  
Roger Stubbs, *Research*  
Robyn White, *Archives*  
Sharyn Williams, *Parent*  
Alison Woodman, *Research*

#### MODERNIAN HONOURS

[Awards@perthmoderniansociety.org.au](mailto:Awards@perthmoderniansociety.org.au)

#### 2014

##### Modernian Fellow

Sallie DAVIES  
Donald TYLER  
Malcolm MCCUSKER

## SPHINX FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

The Sphinx Scholarship Fund is a great success story. Most notably, the Sphinx Scholarship Fund reached \$975,000 at end of 2018. Thereby, from its earnings from investments, **41** new scholarships and bursaries, (plus **26** renewals from previous years) were awarded to deserving students from Years 7 to 12, the value of which came to **\$63,000**. The total payout figure in the 10 years since the Fund's inaugural awards in 2009 is remarkably just over \$300,000.

The upper school awards were presented at an all-School assembly on 8<sup>th</sup> Feb. The 29 awardees are pictured below.



2019 Sphinx Foundation Scholarship recipients

In 2018, the Sphinx Foundation Board was most pleased to be able to establish several new Sphinx academic excellence scholarships at the Year 10 level in 2018, in these subject areas:

- IT and Computer Science
- Innovations, Entrepreneur and Independent Research
- Visual Arts or Performing Arts
- Engineering (courtesy of Fortescue Metals Group).

Courtesy of the generosity of **Mr Tony Chong and family** a new **TLC "Be Inspired" Scholarship** was funded and applicants sought from existing students in Years 7, 8 or 9. The **Fortescue Metals Group Mechatronics Engineering Scholarship and three bursaries** are an innovation in that they will include a visit to, and inspection of, Fortescue's massive iron ore operations in the Pilbara region of WA, accompanied by a PMS teacher.

The Sphinx Foundation Board is enormously grateful to the several hundred Modernians and other friends of the School who have since 2009 made the Sphinx Scholarship Fund possible, and thereby to have so far helped over **300 students** make progress in their education without so much financial stress.

## PMS SUSTAINABILITY WORKSHOP

Perth Modern School, together with members of the wider School community including the Society of course share, model and promote three core values: **Respect Yourself, Respect Others and Respect the Space**. The latter specifies the importance of **'Care of the environment, Care of the facilities, Sustainable practices, Conservation, and Conduct appropriate to the environment'**.



Appropriately then, following the November 2018 **PMS Board** meeting, a "Sustainability Workshop" was held with School community input, and it was facilitated by Board member and P&C President Phil Marshall. The format included a joint presentation by students relating to Sustainability initiatives that have been happening at PMS; syndicate groups brainstormed ideas for a Sustainability Vision and Sustainability Strategies and reported back to the whole group. It was noted that Sustainability projects/activities often require funding support, which in future could involve the corporate sector and interested **Modernians**. Integration of Sustainability topics into the curriculum was also stressed.

## YOUR SAY

**Re: Alex Kerr, student 1934-36**

**From: Norman Rich, student 1934-38**

As a member of the 1934-38 platoon of students it is rare for me to see Newsletter mention of any of my contemporaries because any still alive would be, like me, well into the nineties. So sadly, when I do see a mention, it is usually news of their demise. But even after 80 years the name Alex Kerr rings a bell so we must have spent a little time together although I cannot now put a face to the name. I have a grandson doing a double degree in IT and Economics and will be showing him this Newsletter to set him thinking of the potential for a dedicated, disciplined professional to serve the community. Well done Alex. RIP - Norman Rich, Sydney

**Re: Suggestion for Newsletter**

**From: Richard Ammon, student 1950-54**

I discovered by chance a reference to Peter Hughes Drive in Fremantle. Peter was in my class at Mod until Junior. He then went to work at the Fremantle Port Authority and stayed on for fifty years. Google Peter Hughes Drive and you can find out all about him. I thought you might like to tell his story in *The Modernian* as there can't be too many ex-scholars who have had not only a street, but a very important one, named after them. He comes to all of our year reunions but is obviously too modest to have mentioned his honour. Regards, Richard

**Ed: Peter Robert Hughes** was a long standing and respected member of Fremantle Ports for over fifty years. He retired in 2004. A **PMS student 1950-52**, Peter received the Public Service Medal (PSM) awarded in 2004 for outstanding public service and contribution to Fremantle Ports corporate governance processes and the ability to meet legislative functions and objectives.

2016

**Modernian Fellow**

Ian JARVIS

Barrie BAKER

**Moderna Scola**

Alan PORTER

Deborah BERESFORD

**Honorary Member**

Alison WOODMAN

2017

**Modernian Fellow**

Peter FARR

**Moderna Scola**

Evelyn BROADLEY

2018

**Moderna Scola**

Rosemary Pratt

Dr June Stephenson

**MEMBERSHIP CHANGES**

Nil



News and information available at  
[www.perthmodern.wa.edu.au](http://www.perthmodern.wa.edu.au)

**PERTH MODERN SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS**

(Source: as listed on the above website 24/02/2018)

Ken Michael AC, *Chair*

Community Representative and Alumni

Peter Farr, *Deputy Chair*

Community Representative and Alumni

Craig Donovan, *Secretary*

Parent Representative

Lois Joll, *Principal*

Val Furphy, *Associate Principal*

Dr Nicholas Waldron, *Parent*

*Representative*

Ishtar Barranco, *Parent Representative*

Professor Dale Pinto, *Parent*

*Representative*

Meredith Eddington, *Community*

*Representative*

Phil Marshall, *President, Perth Modern*

*School P&C*

Chris Rapley, *Staff Representative*

Jarrad Strain, *Staff Representative*

**e-NEWSLETTER**

Thank you to all contributors including:

Ruth Barrett

Neil Coy

Peter Farr

Bob Johnson

Robyn White

**Coordinator/Editor**

Sallie Davies

**Compiler**

Ian Jarvis



The Perth Modernian Society (Inc) gratefully acknowledges the support of Lotterywest for strategic planning and computer hardware.

**Re: Newsletter Responses**

**From: Bruce McCallum, student 1954-58**

Great news and a great credit to all concerned. Thanks very much for the heartening update. The whole issue of saving the School and its aftermath would make a good "happy time" movie! The script would, however, be too good to be true! Very good news also about Connor Redfern's opportunity to study at Cambridge. A most commendable achievement. Kindest regards, Bruce

**Ed:** Readers may be interested in the following information from Museum records of another student who also had the opportunity to study at Newnham College, Cambridge.

**Olive Jean Maxwell Drummond BA(Hons)(Camb&UWA)** was a foundation PMS Student and School Prefect in 1911. Born to the family of a Cottesloe merchant in 1895, she attended Cottesloe High School and was admitted to PMS on Adelaide Primary results. In a reference dated 8 March 2012 PMS Headmaster F G Brown BA BSc wrote "Miss Olive Jean Maxwell Drummond was a student at Perth Modern School during 1911. I cannot speak too highly of her influence in the School. She was one of the Prefects, and her work in that connection was of the greatest value in the delicate task of establishing a good tone in a new school. As a student her record is a very fine one. She sat for both the Adelaide Senior (Matric) and Higher Public Examinations, and acquitted herself most creditably. I'm confident that Miss Drummond has a great future before her and I am sure she will fulfil the highest expectations of myself and my staff." (Signed)

On her return to Perth in 1917 she was appointed to PMS staff and taught French, English, and as Sports Mistress was Hockey Coach. In 1922 Olive resigned to marry Mr Cusack but continued to coach English.

**From "The Sphinx", December 1921**

"Miss O Drummond, BA severs her connection with the School at the close of this term, a fact which is regretted not more by her colleagues than by every student on the School roll. Miss Drummond is one of that distinguished group of students who entered the School at its inception in 1911. She afterwards proceeded to England, and entered Newnham College, Cambridge where she remained till 1916, when she returned to Western Australia and joined the Staff of the School as Mistress in 1917. From that time she has taught with very marked success in both the French and the English side, and during the past year or two she has acted as Sports Mistress, and has had full control of the Girls' Gymnasium. Her enthusiasm in this direction and her affection and sympathy with the girls have had a wonderful influence in creating a fine, healthy spirit in sport, resulting in the enviable position the girls have held for several years as premiers in the Girls' Secondary Schools' Sports Competitions. Miss Drummond has always been as popular on the boys' side as among the girls. She leaves the School to be married, and she carries with the warmest affection of her old students and their best wishes for her future welfare and happiness." She died in Kellerberrin in August 1985.

**From: Colin Binns, student 1956-60**

Thank you for sending the latest newsletter. I enjoy keeping up with news from my old school. I appreciate all of the hard work that goes into preparing a newsletter. I graduated in 1960 from PMS and then went on to study medicine at UWA. I still remember the annual lecture given to our chemistry class by Prof Noel Bayliss (later Sir Noel). He was prophetic about the future and in 1959 gave us a lecture in which he speculated on the effect of CO<sub>2</sub> accumulating in the atmosphere and producing the greenhouse effect and climate change. Unfortunately his speculation is now scientific fact.

I am still working (part time) and recently received a new research grant to continue work on promoting breastfeeding in Vietnam. I have had an interesting life in public health and recently my biography was published in the European Journal of Clinical Nutrition. I am attaching a copy which could be added to the Society archive. Best wishes, Colin

Colin Binns MBBS MPH PhD FRACGP FAFOEM FAFPHM

John Curtin Distinguished Emeritus Professor

School of Public Health, Curtin University, Perth, Western Australia

Editor Asia Pacific Journal of Public Health

**Ed:** Thank you Colin. Your biography is currently being listed in JED (the Jarvis eXMod Database) and file in hard copy in the George Burvill Biographical Index held in the Museum. We welcome photographs and biographical profiles from all Modernians, with permission to publish. They can then be made available to interested researchers. They also serve to demonstrate the extent of the legacy of Perth Modern School.

**From: Barry Fairhead, student 1946-49**

I write concerning the latest copy of e-Newsletter which was the result of a chance meeting with an obliging and enthusiastic member. It was good to discover that "Moderna Schola" (not sure about my Latin spelling although an old "sphinx" lad) had risen from the grave - however since I saw no familiar faces or names from my 1940's stint I think it best to discontinue our correspondence. With every good wish, sincerely - Barry

**Ed:** As requested, Barry's contact details have been removed from the mailing list.

**From: Ann Brennan (nee Halnan), student 1952- 56**

Lance and I enjoyed reading the last newsletter. It's good to receive it, and thanks to whoever does the work of sending it out. Regards, Anne

**From: Ian Lindsay, student 1951-55, staff 1961-63**

Congratulations on the recent Mod newsletter. It's always interesting to read. Ian

**From: Hugh Davies, student 1948-52**

Thank you for another excellent newsletter (Jan 2019). Best wishes, Hugh

**From: Malcolm Crosbie, student 1951-55**

Thank you for this newsletter. Bev and I like to keep up-to-date on what is happening. - Malcolm

**From: Maxine Croot (nee Prosser), student 1954-58**

I enjoy catching up with all the news from Mod. Thankyou for all your hard work.

Would you please send further newsletters to my new email address? Many thanks, Maxine

**From: Bill Macpherson, student 1951-53**

Thanks for the newsletter - informative and to the point as always. - Bill

**VALE**

Name	Years at PMS	Position	Deceased
Ethel Rose Hodgson (nee Daymond)	1939-41 (Yrs 1-3)	Student	2/01/2019
Margaret Ann Clark (nee Hutchinson)	1951-55	Student	7/01/2019

Hon Geoffrey Peter Miller QC	1955-59	Student	8/02/2019
Dr Nerida Margaret Dilworth AM	1940-44	Student	8/02/2019
Mary-Lou Draber (nee Cottle)	1953-54	Student	11/02/2019
Raymond Trevor Preston	1938-42	School Prefect	12/02/2019
Alan Desmond Treloar	1950-51	Student	14/02/2019

#### **Hon Geoffrey Peter Miller QC**

Born in Perth in 1942, attended various metropolitan Primary Schools and gained a Secondary School Scholarship while at Forrest Street School in South Perth. He graduated LLB (1st Class Honours) at University of Western Australia

Geoffrey Peter Miller was articled at the firm of Boulton Godfrey & Virtue before being admitted to the bar in December 1965. He remained a member of the firm with which he had been articled until 1974 when he began practice on his own account. He was appointed Queen's Counsel in 1980 at which time he elected to practice solely as a barrister

Miller's practice at the bar encompassed all courts from the Court of Petty Sessions to the High Court of Australia, including an appearance before the Privy Council in England in 1976. During the period 1979-80, he was one of the Counsel Assisting the Commonwealth Royal Commission into Drugs conducted Australia-wide by Sir Edward Williams. He was involved in numerous other Royal Commissions. He was President of the Law Society of Western Australia in 1980-81.

After holding the Office of Queen's Counsel for some eighteen years, Geoffrey Miller was appointed to the Supreme Court of Western Australia in 1998. At his welcome to the Court in August 1998 the Solicitor General, Mr R.J. Meadows QC said of him:

*"There is no doubt that your Honour was ripe for appointment. You had had a distinguished career at the Bar with a practice that spanned the whole spectrum of legal work. You are perhaps best known for your work in the criminal jurisdiction but there is no doubt that you could turn your hand to any area of the law and acquit yourself with distinction. I would describe you as a true generalist and therefore ideally suited to tackling the full diversity of cases which come before this Court."* He retired from The Court of Appeal 11/12/2009

#### **DR NERIDA DILWORTH AM**

Born in 1927 in Lane Cove, Sydney, NSW, Nerida attended Claremont Primary School where she gained a Secondary School Scholarship and the Shell Scholarship for topping the State. Matriculating with a General Exhibition in 1944, Nerida proceeded to the University of Adelaide to study medicine graduating from there in 1950. She returned to Western Australia to work at Royal Perth Hospital, first as Medical registrar and then as Anaesthetic Registrar in 1954. This position was interrupted from 1955-59 to gain further experience in the United Kingdom where she became a Fellow of the Faculty of the Royal College of Surgeons and the Royal College of Anaesthetists in 1959. She returned to Royal Perth Hospital for a further year before transferring to Princess Margaret Hospital for Children.

At Princess Margaret Hospital Nerida became the Director of Anaesthesia in 1960 and remained so until her retirement in 1992. In 1993 she became Emeritus Consultant Anaesthetist. In 1966 she was elected a Fellow of the Faculty of Anaesthetists of the Royal College of Surgeons and at the same time a Fellow of the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists.

During her years at PMH Dr Dilworth was tireless in her involvement with her profession, both within the Hospital and on a national level with the Faculty of Anaesthetists (RACS) as a Member of Court of Examiners 1968-80, Member of Board 1976-84, Assessor on Board 1979-84, and Member of WA Regional Committee (including Chairman) 1972-84. At PMH she chaired the Division of Surgical Services 1981-87, and was also on the Physiotherapists Board of Western Australia from 1977. Another interest was in the field of Education as a Member of the Australian Council on Awards in Advanced Education 1982-85, Member of WA Council on Tertiary Awards 1986-88. Publications in the Journal of paediatric Surgery included Pain Relief for the Paediatric Surgical Patient in 1987 and Children in Pain, an Underprivileged Group in 1988.

Dr Nerida Dilworth through her direction and co-operation with all concerned established a very smooth-running Anaesthesia Division at Princess Margaret Hospital and inaugurated many important principles in paediatric anaesthesia. For this she was awarded an AM in the Order of Australia in 1993.

#### **TREVOR PRESTON BA Dip Ed**

Born in 1924, Trevor entered PMS on a Scholarship and attended 1938-42 and was a School Prefect in his final year. He won the Ambrose Cummins Cup for best athlete and was also awarded for cricket and swimming. He undertook a Pt Cook Telegraphists Course.

War Service

1944 Took part in landing at Aitape; unit moved to Morotai to prepare for invasion of Borneo

1945 Took part in landing at Tarakan; returned to Perth on leave soon after VP Day; sent to Potshot (Exmouth)

1946 On discharge entered a teacher training course

1948 He began his teaching career taking swimming classes and then was appointed to a one teacher school at Tuckanurra in the Murchison. He moved to Mount Helena, then transferred to the secondary Division as Sports master at Bunbury High School. After 15 years in the Secondary teaching, Trevor finished up as Senior master (English) at Applecross Senior High School. He transferred to the Technical Education Division (now TAFE), as principal of the Applecross Evening Technical Centre. After 11 years he went to Technical Education Service as deputy principal and retired from there in 1985.

On retirement he joined the WA Genealogical Society to continue an interest in family history and organised the Education programme for the Society; also a member of the Willetton Probus Club, played golf, tennis and bowls having given up competitive sport when too old for football, hockey and cricket in addition to interest in square dancing and travelling. His memoirs are filed in the George Burvill Index held in the Perth Modernian Society Museum.

### **LATE NEWS**

#### **MULTIPURPOSE AUDITORIUM APPEAL**

As was the case just a few years ago with the funding appeal for the School's magnificent new Tyler-McCusker Sports Centre, the Perth Modernian Society has enthusiastically supported the cause of obtaining a new auditorium from the outset and many Modernians, along with so many other members of the School community, have contributed financially or pledged to do so in 2019. When it happens, this will be an asset for the wider community not just Perth Mod.





*John Harris, Deputy Principal  
Manager of Student Services*



*Malcolm McCusker, Dr Ken Michael  
and Lois Joll, PMS Principal*



*Some of the guests  
listening to speeches*

Some 90 people gathered in the lovely garden at School Patron Malcolm McCusker and Tonya's Dalkeith home on Thursday evening 21<sup>st</sup> Feb. to help raise additional funds towards the Multi-purpose Auditorium for PMS. Background music was provided by Perth Mod students and short speeches about the project followed by Tonya, Malcolm, PMS Board Chair Dr Ken Michael AC and Principal Lois Joll. The entire gathering sang ***Moderna Scola***, led by a school choir conducted by Celia Christmass.



*Lois Joll, Celia Christmass and the PMS choir*

The delicious finger food was all made and served by staff and students in the Food Technology courses, whilst several handsome male staff members showed admirable skills as drink waiters. Amongst the many Modernians present were Dr Ken Fitch AM, John Rodgers, Ross Kelly AM, Malcolm Evans, Donald Tyler, Hon Julian Grill, Dr Robyn White, Ross Ledger, Vivian Wang, Peter Farr, Barrie Baker, and Prof Ross Garnaut AC who earlier that day had given a spell-binding talk about climate change to a full house of upper school students in the Beasley Auditorium. Lois Joll used this example to highlight the School's pressing need for a larger, multi-purpose auditorium. The event was judged a big success as regards raising the profile of this challenging project, and huge thanks were extended by Ken Michael and Lois Joll to Modernian Fellow Malcolm McCusker AC and Honorary Member Tonya McCusker AM for providing such an inspirational setting for the School's guests. Modernians who are yet to contribute are strongly encouraged to get behind the appeal soon by making a tax deductible donation; just telephone 08 9380 0555 or email [PerthModernSchool@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:PerthModernSchool@education.wa.edu.au) for details on how to donate. – Peter Farr