



THE PERTH MODERNIAN e-NEWSLETTER



Jan 2019 - Issue 38 (Volume 2 Extra)

This e-Newsletter EXTRA comes to you with special news which has come to hand over the 2018-19 school holiday break.

We wish to congratulate the wonderful Perth Modern School Class of 2018, and apologise for an error in the previous regular issue of the e-Newsletter. Most importantly we wish to share with you the loss of a number of valued friends and members of the Perth Modernian Society.

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

info@perthmoderniansociety.org.au

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

PERTH MOD IS ONCE AGAIN TOP OF THE CHARTS

Dear Modernian

As you are most likely aware, Perth Modern School is once again the top ranked academic school in WA, achieving a record median Australian Tertiary Admission Rank of 97. This is an increase from the past two years of 95.55 (2016) and 95.9 (2017). Carmel was second on the league table with a median ATAR of 92.6 – a significant gap between first and second place. This is an extraordinary achievement for our students and one in which we feel very proud. We knew the Year 12's would do well in their final year but this result has surpassed what we thought was possible.

I have emailed all our staff to congratulate and thank them for their support and guidance of our students all the way through their educational journey at Mod. This outcome did not just happen in Year 12, it has been a process of many years in the making. From imbuing a love of learning in the Middle Years to guiding and supporting students in the challenging and fast-paced environment of the Senior School, our staff have shown a high level of expertise and professionalism in managing their teaching and learning programs that has culminated in this incredible result. It takes not only gifted and dedicated students to achieve this result but also committed, enthusiastic and talented educators.

In some other exciting news that we were recently advised, Connor Redfern has been offered a place at Cambridge University to study Computer Science.



99.95 Club: Nicholas Doan, Pooja Ramesh and Phil Yang

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Subject Exhibitions: Robbie Glyde (French: Second Language) and Evgenija Blazeska (Italian: Second Language)

DIARY DATES

P&C CHRISTMAS CONCERT AND ART@MOD EXTRAVANGANZA

Friday 30 November 2018

Heritage Tours and Museum open 4pm

Class Reunions 2019**

Organisers please contact

Barbara Mallett through

reunions@perthmoderniansociety.org.au

Class Reunions 2019**

Cambridge University Bound: Connor Redfern.

Organisers please contact
Barbara Mallett through
reunions@perthmoderniansociety.org.au

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

For further information see
REUNIONS this issue or visit
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

Next Issues

Copy deadlines for 2019

20 February 2019
20 May 2019
20 August 2019
20 November 2019

THE PERTH MODERNIAN

Magazine for Contributing Members

Copy deadline: **31 May 2019**
for circulation in late July 2019

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

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info@perthmoderniansociety.org.au

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info@perthmoderniansociety.org.au
Ian Jarvis, *Convenor/Portal/IT*
Ed Lazarus, *Membership*



The following subject areas at Perth Modern have been listed in the Course Leaders Table: (Note: this data is compiled from the percentage of students at each school who had Year 12 ATAR course combined scores in the top 15 per cent of all students in that course.)

Accounting and Finance; Ancient History; Biology; Chemistry; Chinese: Background Language; Chinese: Second Language; Computer Science; Design; Drama; Economics; English; French: Second Language; Human Biology; Japanese: Second Language; Literature; Mathematics Applications; Mathematics Methods; Mathematics Specialist; Modern History; Music; Philosophy and Ethics; Physical Education Studies; Physics; Politics and Law; Psychology; Visual Arts.

I am sure you will be delighted to hear of these wonderful results and thank you for your continuing support of Perth Modern School and our students.

Kind regards, Lois Joll, Principal, Perth Modern School

APOLOGY FOR OUR ERROR

Thank you to Loris Buttner (nee Sawyer, Class of 1946)

Re: Class of 1946 photos

In the November 2018 Newsletter in the "Remember when" column, you printed two photographs which were identical. The identity of each person was different for each photograph. Would you please advise me if there is another Photograph and if so will this be printed in future issues?

Thank you. Loris Buttner (nee Sawyer)

Ed: A response was forwarded to Loris by return email to thank her for caring enough to advise us of the error which occurred in the final compilation of the e-Newsletter and not picked up in the proof reading at a very busy time for our volunteers. There were two different photographs in the draft copy as shown below. The promised correction appears below and we would appreciate hearing from anyone who may identify some of the missing names.



Back: Gary McBride, David Quayle, Don Smallman, Ian? Threadgold, Ross Latham, Allan Drakeford, Geoff Pearce, Ellis Brown, Bill Langdon, Phil Ibbotson, Geoff Brown, Jim Marsh

Front: Ted Wilson, Des Watson, Ray Milward, Ross Eilbeck, Geoff Baker, Dennis Wakefield, Ken Ramage

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Graeme Hunt, *Magazine Compiler*
newsletter@perthmoderniansociety.org.au

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Reunions Liaison

reunions@perthmoderniansociety.org.au
Barbara Mallett

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museum@perthmoderniansociety.org.au
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MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

Contributing 4Yr Renewed

Chris Hayes 1971- Student

e-NEWSLETTER

Thank you to all who have contributed to this issue



Back: Nedov Epsley, Ross Latham, David Quayle, Milton Sanderson, ?, Geoff Brown, Maurie Fairbrother, Terry Bradley, John Hinwood, Geoff Pearce, John Mills
Middle: Allan Drakeford, ? Rio, Harry Schwartz
Front: ?, Ray Millwood, Ted Furman, Wilf Byfield, Geoff Baker, Les Allwinton, Ellis Brown, ?, Neil ?, ? Miller, Eddie Bennett

YOUR SAY

From: Peter Quayle

Re: Newsletter

Many thanks for this newsletter. You've asked for names assistance with the Class of 46 pics. My Dad, **David Quayle**, is third from the left, back row, in that pic. Don't know any of the other guys sadly. I'll print it off and ask Dad....Cheers, Peter Quayle

Ed: We look forward to receiving any information your father may recall.

From: Norm Chosid, PMS student 1949-53

Re: PMS students

I enjoy browsing through the e-Newsletter and indulging in the occasional reminiscing. The late **Paddy Troy** featured recently and I recall several feisty political discussions I had with him at **Marg Macphail's** home in Mt Claremont. Anyone reading this who might also be in touch with Marg, please say hello for me or send me a message on 0408 246 743. You find former PMS students in the most unusual places. Back in August, I met a delightful elderly gentleman and his wife who gave me a bowls lesson on Magnetic Island Qld. **Barry Fairhead** is his name and he happens to be a **PMS student 1946-49**. I'm sure Barry would appreciate a message from any of his old class mates.

Ed: Thank you Norm. Barry's contact details have been added to our data base.

NEW MUSEUM BOARD APPOINTMENTS

At its final meeting of 2018, the Board of the **Perth Modernian Society Museum Association Incorporated** elected Dr Robyn White as its Chair as it looks forward to an exciting and interesting year ahead and invites all our readers become involved in the development of the new Association to **honour the history and share the heritage of Perth Modern School** through the Museum.

In accordance with the constitution Council has approved the following appointment to the Board of the Perth Modernian Society Museum Association Incorporated.

Prof Alistair Paterson, ARC Future Fellow (2016-2020)

Ph.D. University of Sydney (2000), BAHons, University of Melbourne (1992)
School of Social Sciences, Faculty of Arts, University of Western Australia
Academic Visitor|Institute of Archaeology|University of Oxford (2015—2016)

Alistair writes:

What I bring to Perth Modernian Society Museum Association

- Experience working with collections, archives and heritage
- Excellent contacts in the GLAM (Galleries, Library, Archives and Museum) sector
- Experience with data management and funding opportunities
- A commitment to institutional histories
- A desire to make a contribution to the School where my two daughters attend

Interest and experience

I am an ARC Future Fellow in archaeology at the University of Western Australia. My research examines the historical archaeology of colonial coastal contact and settlement in Australia's Northwest and the Indian Ocean. My key interests are Western Australia and Indian Ocean history, Aboriginal Australia, Dutch East India Company, colonialism and exploration, rock art, and the history of collecting in Western Australia.

Historian Geoffrey Bolton once stated "*Australian history is made in the West and told in the East*", perhaps this was a little facetious, however my work is heavily focused on Western Australia and tries to situate WA in bigger stories of encounter, discovery, European colonization and indigenous history. While my focus is Western Australia I am interested in the global and regional networks that Western Australia was increasingly engaged with over the last 500 years, from Macassan trepanners visiting the Kimberley, to the wrecks of unfortunate Dutch East India company ships like the *Batavia* (1629), investigated in our international maritime archaeology project *Shipwrecks of the Roaring Forties: A Maritime Archaeological Reassessment of some of Australia's Earliest Shipwrecks*. My Future Fellowship *Coastal Connections: dynamic societies of Australia's Northwest frontier* focuses in the Northwest of Australia which has a dynamic history of visitors and colonization prior to the twentieth century, yet this historical archaeological landscape has rarely been synthesized or critically analysed as a whole.

Our ARC project *Collecting the West: Reimagining Western Australia from its collections* (2016-2020) is the first to examine the State's history of collecting from pre-colonial to modern times, at a local, national and international scale, to achieve a new understanding of how it had framed WA's place in the world. During the past 400 years, many objects found in Western Australia had circulated through global, national and local collecting networks, he said. Some of the first objects and specimens which Europeans used to understand and describe Australia came from WA, such as William Dampier's 1699 plant specimens at the University of Oxford. *Collecting the West* is hosting exhibitions in Perth over the next four years at the State Library, WA Museum and Art Gallery. Our research will inform these events, including a major exhibition on WA's twentieth century art at the Art Gallery WA



PERTH MODERN SCHOOL
Exceptional schooling. Exceptional students.
INDEPENDENT PUBLIC SCHOOL

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

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

and exhibitions leading up to the opening of the new WA Museum in Perth in 2020, in collaboration with the Western Australian Museum, State Library, and Art Gallery. A key international partner is the British Museum, reflecting the global distribution of WA objects.

LIVING ON THE LINE OF CONTROL - TWELVE MONTHS IN KASHMIR

Contributed by Peter Farr

On 1 April 1973 at 40 years of age, Major Trevor Arbuckle and his wife Iris left for Rawalpindi, Pakistan, and the HQ of the United Nations Military Observer Group for India and Pakistan. The life changing move followed a short lunch briefing with the Chief Operations Officer regarding a UN peacekeeping vacancy. *"It wasn't really a selection process, the Army was just keen to send someone,"* recalled Dr Arbuckle. Keen for the opportunity, they packed up their lives, put their three children into boarding school and headed to the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

Since achieving independence from Britain in 1947, India and Pakistan have fought several declared wars over the mountainous territory. The area remains roughly divided between the two countries by the UN negotiated Line of Control, formerly known as the Cease Fire Line.

The first observers arrived in the region on 24 January 1949, forming the United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan. Their purpose was to provide an impartial view of a situation, promoting peace indirectly by monitoring adherence to ceasefires and validating reports of activity and atrocities.

Major Arbuckle was among several Australian UN representatives sent to Kashmir between 1952 and 1985. He joined a group of five other Australian military observers, most drawn from the Citizen Military Forces. Up to this time, Australia had provided a mix of retired officers and veterans from World War 2 and Korea. The 1973 group included two teachers from Queensland and a grazier from New South Wales. *"We were all majors in the citizen military force with both life experience and diplomacy skills,"* he said.

At that time, the posting was unaccompanied so they paid for his wife to join him. Unable to stay together, for five months Mrs Arbuckle lived aboard a house boat on Nagin Lake, part of the lake system fed by the Jhelum River in the picturesque valley of Kashmir.

Officers on leave stayed separately on the Royal Paradise boat. *"The boats had a bath and a flushing toilet that went straight into the lake. You couldn't swim near the boat but there was a freshwater spring nearby,"* Mrs Arbuckle said. *"We had to travel everywhere by water taxi. There was a man in a punt to paddle you. They were quite difficult to manage on your own".*

The region is known for its crafts including silver- work, silk weaving and wood carving and the wives were permitted to discover the shops in the area. *"We got to know the best places and when the officers returned on leave we'd take them to buy carpets, furniture and saris,"* said Mrs Arbuckle. *"Their designs were old but what you could get was only limited by your imagination"* Dr Arbuckle remembers.

In deference to the winter, the UN changes sides between India and Pakistan every six months. During his 12-month posting Dr Arbuckle split his time on either side of the line, staying at Baramulla, Rajouri, Kotli and Bhimber. *"India tolerated us but Pakistan really made us feel welcome. On the Indian side, it was mostly liaison but on the Pakistan side I went to visit the front line,"* he said.

Amidst the mountains of the Himalayas, transport was by jeep or air. From 1975 to 1979, Australia provided an RAAF Caribou to assist with transport and resupply of the UN observers between stations. In 1973, Canada provide a Twin Otter aircraft.

During his posting, Dr Arbuckle observed many differences in units, machinery and weapons to the Australian Army. *"On one visit the driver showed me a mule squadron, the bottom of the hierarchy. I inspected 92 mules and equipment and got a good appreciation of their difficulties,"* he said.

"It wasn't uncommon for bullets to be going overhead" he recalls. *"Our job was to confirm there had been no change in disposition or defensive arrangements and report when either side had an infraction. We were there to verify information, report facts and try to determine why it happened."*

He remembers the underlying relationships formed as a result of the Indian and Pakistan senior officers having training together. *"They all knew each other. When I got invited to dinner with one of the Generals he asked me to say hello to the one on the other side, ...and one time they set up a big tent set for a cross border meeting that we weren't supposed to know about."*

Sport and cultural events were a regular occurrence and the UN observers were often invited to attend or participate. *"There was one observer from Uruguay who was very good at the interdivision football"* said Dr Arbuckle. One particularly memorable evening was a religious ritual that included the ceremonial blessing and subsequent sacrifice of a water buffalo. The important proceedings lit only by flares.

Without air-conditioning, proper cold weather clothes or refrigeration everyone was constantly sick. *"Water would be poured from a terracotta jug and you would be handed a glass with 14 sets of fingerprints on it,"* said Dr Arbuckle, *"You can't refuse, you just have to accept it."*

Food was usually chicken, mutton and guinea fowl, often smaller and more malnourished than what they were used to. Kashmir has a temperate climate and agriculture is a big part of the economy. Fruit trees, vegetables and staple crops such as wheat, corn and oats are commonly grown in the valley and the couple fondly remembered the cherry tree and roses in their backyard.

Following their experience, the Arbuckles found it hard to settle back into normal life and have continued to travel extensively. *"We have been up the Khyber Pass three times and to the Taj Mahal twice,"* said Dr Arbuckle. *"It wasn't uncommon for bullets to be going overhead....Our job was to confirm there had been no change in disposition or defensive arrangements and report when either side had an infraction."*

They returned to Kashmir in 1978 as part of a driving holiday from London to Bombay. The trip included getting their windscreen fixed in Tehran, right around the time when civil resistance demonstrations were occurring. *"We were in Iran getting fresh water from the American embassy the day the troubles started,"* remembers Dr Arbuckle.

United Nations Observers assigned to investigate positions on both sides of the "cease-fire" line report their findings to the UN Commission for India and Pakistan which is mediating the Kashmir conflict.

They travelled to Turkey in search of the grave marker of Dr Arbuckle's great uncle who was killed in Gallipoli. Staying the night in a campervan next to a sentry post where soldiers on duty cooked them local fish. "We signed the visitors book right after Queen Elizabeth who had been there just six months before," said Mrs Arbuckle.

Used to the Islamic culture, they chose the middle silk route through China when they travelled from Beijing to St Petersburg in 2004.

Since returning to Australia, Dr Arbuckle completed his Lieutenant Colonel's course, Bachelor of Science, Master of Business Administration and Doctor of Business Administration.

His advice to those contemplating taking on a role such as a UN peacekeeper, "It is an experience you cannot quantify.... set your mind and just do it".

VALE

Name	Years at PMS	Position	Deceased
Evan Wilson Woods	1948-49	Student	16/06/2018
Douglas Raymond Candy	1952-56	Student	24/08/2018
Robin Jane May	1954-58	Student	25/08/2018
David Harry Finkelstein	1961-65 (Years 1-5)	Student	22/11/2018
Charles Peter Bennett	1944-45 (yrs 4/5)	School Prefect 1945 Teacher 1959-62	25/11/2018
Ian Hislop Murray Bain	1946-50	Student	10/12/2018
Reginald James Kidd	1935-38	Student	11/12/2018
Trevor James Arbuckle	1946-50	School Prefect 1950	13/12/2018
Keith Raymond Willison	1947-48 (Yrs 1,2)	Student	22/12/2018
Prof Alexander McBride Kerr AM	1934-36 (Yrs 1-3)	Student	30/12/2018
Judith Caroline Lyon	1951-55	Student	1/01/2019
Ross Lewis Duffield	1947-48	Student	3/01/2019

From: Robyn Kerr

Re: Emeritus Professor Alex Kerr AM (PMS student 1934-36)

It is with great sadness that I advise that my father, Professor Alexander Kerr, passed away on 30 December, aged 97.

Perth Modern School (PMS) held special memories for my father. He enrolled in 1934 and loved the school, but had to leave when his father lost his job as State Manager of the Texas Oil Company during the depression. My father subsequently joined "The West Australian" as a trainee journalist, completed his Leaving certificate at night school and then enrolled in a journalism course at UWA. The war intervened. After being shot down over Germany he resumed study in a POW camp and nearly finished a degree in economics from London University, with the help of the Red Cross. Details of his post war achievements are outlined in the PMS book "A Celebration of Contribution".

My father had a thirst for knowledge that stayed with him throughout his 97 years. In his early nineties he completed a MOOC on astronomy. In his mid-nineties he became concerned about the state of the world. He applied himself studiously to regional issues and subsequently gave talks to community groups to raise awareness about geopolitics in our region. His purpose was, as always, to encourage a rational approach that comes from knowledge. My father exemplified the PMS motto "Savoir C'est Pouvoir".

Two years ago he supported PMS when it was faced with threat of closure.

Perth Modern School has lost one of its oldest students.

Kind regards, Robyn Kerr

Extract from PMS Archives:

KERR, Alex, student 1934-36 was chosen in 2003 in a group to represent Australian Ex-Servicemen and Women at the unveiling of the Australian War Memorial in London by the Queen and the Australian Prime Minister. In 2001 he was awarded Western Australian Senior Achiever of the Year by the Australia Day Council and was made a member of the Order of Australia in 2004 for "service to industry, commerce and finance in Western Australia, to the development of the study of urban and regional economics in Australia and to the community". The Senate of the University of Western Australia conferred on him the honorary degree of Doctor of Economics in 2006. Western Australian born, Alex Kerr was educated at Perth Modern School and is a graduate of London University and the University of Western Australia. His main interests within the field of economics lay in economic development, regional and urban economics and macro-economic policy. His main interests in the field of commerce and industry were in financial management and planning.

His wife of fifty three years Joan Langridge, also a Modern School student and graduate of UWA, died in 2000. Joan is fondly remembered for her many years of volunteer service to the PMS Historical and Museum Society.

Alex began his academic career as a Lecturer in Economics at the University of Western Australia and rose to Associate Professor. He accepted an offer to become the Foundation Professor of Economics at Murdoch University in 1957 and retired as its Deputy Vice-Chancellor in 1983.

He was the Foundation Chairman for the Consumer Affairs Council of Western Australia and Co-ordinator, for OECD, of the First International Conference on Administration in Consumer Affairs held in Spain in 1975. Member of the Commonwealth Government Trade Practices Act Review Committee in 1976, and of the International Steering Committee and Discussion Co-ordinator for the International Symposium on Entrepreneurship and Enterprise Development held in the USA in 1975 and Western Australian Chairman of Enterprise Australia for several years.

A member of the Western Australian Government Committee of Inquiry into Rates and Taxes and Charges in 1981 and of the Commonwealth Government Committee of Inquiry, into Taxation Zone Allowances in 1981; Foundation Chairman and Life Member of the Australian and New Zealand section of the Regional Science Association; Life Member of the Economic Teachers' Association of Western Australia; Member of several professional societies and a Representative Member of the Council of the Perth Chamber of Commerce; Director of Perth Building Society, Deputy Chairman of Challenge Bank, a Director of the Joondalup Development Corporation, a Director of the Centre of Applied Business Research, University of Western Australia, and a Director of Universities Radio Pty Ltd; Commissioner of the Western Australian Post Secondary Education Commission.

As a member of the armed forces he served for seven years in the Citizen Military Forces with the 16th Battalion Cameron Highlanders of WA and the Werriwa regiment in Canberra, before and after WW2. During the war he

served for six years as a pilot in the RAAF four of those years as a prisoner of war in Germany. He escaped three times and was recaptured twice.

He played golf and fished when he got the chance. He was a member of several clubs and active in community organisations and community activities since 1950 when he was President of Perth YMCA. He was President of Perth Legacy, Vice President and Secretary of the RAF EX Prisoners of War Association and treasurer of a music club. In sport he was founder and subsequently a Life Member of the University of Western Australia Baseball Club. Alex worked as a consultant on aspects of economic development in 20 different countries for various governments, private companies and United Nations and other international agencies. He was visiting professor at several universities in America, Thailand, Indonesia and China and published many articles in learned journals and several books on the development of specific regions including Western Australia and the Indian Ocean Region.
<https://thewest.com.au/news/wa/the-truly-remarkable-tale-of-pow-professor-alex-kerr-ng-b881064551z>

From: Jeanette McQueen,

Re: Trevor Arbuckle, student 1946-50

To let you know for the records – my cousin Trevor Arbuckle passed away yesterday afternoon. He was 85 years old so I will let you connect the years he was at Perth Mod. He always attended the annual reunion so you may know and/or remember him. Best wishes, Jeanette



Peter Farr and Trevor Arbuckle at the 2017 Annual Reunion

From: Stuart Manolas

Re: Robin Jane May, student 1954-58

Robin Jane May passed away on the 25th August 2018. She was born in late 1941 and attended Mod in the mid 1950's. We had a couple of Mods at her Memorial service on Saturday 8th Sep as this was also the day of their reunion but the message has obviously not gotten through to the newsletter. If you could mention her passing in the Vale section next issue, much appreciated and I will unsubscribe in the new year. Thank you, Stuart Manolas (Robin's Son)

From: Robert Bennett

Sadly **Charles Peter Bennett** passed away in his sleep on Sunday the 25th November 2018. Thanks, Robert Bennett

From PMS Archives:

Charles Peter Bennett, student 1944-45, PMS teacher 1962

Charles, BA Dip Ed, was a Secondary Teacher, TAFE lecturer and administrator. Biographical Information he submitted for PMS Museum records in 2010 listed his Career Highlights as teaching Chemistry and Physics at PMS to scholarship students; Inaugural Officer in Charge at Pundulmurra Aboriginal Training Centre, South Hedland and Principal of Geraldton and Rockingham Colleges of TAFE.

From: Michelle Woods

Re: Evan Wilson Woods, student 1948-49

Thank you for your newsletter, however I must inform you that my father Evan Wilson Woods DOB 26 April 1932, died on the 16 of June this year. Please remove him from the mailing list.

With thanks, Michelle Woods

Jan 2019 - Issue 38 (Volume 2 Extra)

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