



PERTH MODERNIAN SOCIETY

THE PERTH MODERNIAN e-NEWSLETTER

May 2018 - Issue 35 (Volume 2 No 10)

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.auinfo@perthmoderniansociety.org.au

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

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DIARY DATES

**ANNUAL REUNION
and Orchestral Concert**
Sunday 9 September

PMS Heritage Day
Saturday 20 October
Open to the public 1-3pm

Class Reunions 2018**
Organisers please contact
reunions@perthmoderniansociety.org.au

Class of 1968
50 Year Reunion
Saturday October 13
6pm till late
(see REUNIONS item this issue)

PERTH MODERNIAN SOCIETY

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

The Perth Modernian Society's Annual General Meeting was held on Monday evening 21st May in the Perth Mod staff room and went off very well, about 30 members and guests being present – great to see some new faces this year.

A [PowerPoint presentation](#) of the President's Report included an Overview of 2017, a rundown on New Initiatives in 2017, Membership Trend over the Last 8 Years, Historical and Museum (H&M) Committee, the Society Finances, Sphinx Foundation and Sphinx Scholarship Fund Finances, Sphinx Scholarship Awards Summary 2009-2018, and the Save Perth Mod campaign Finale.



The following speakers comprised the School Principal **Lois Joll**, the Chairman of the School Board, **Dr Ken Michael AC**, and the President of the PMS P&C Association, **Phil Marshall** (son of Modernian Dr Mary Marshall). Naturally, the successful Save Perth Mod campaign received a lot of mentions.

We are collectively relieved to have seen the survival 'as is' announced by Premier McGowan in June 2017 of Perth Modern School and hence also the Perth Modernian Society, the History Centre, the Sphinx Foundation, and the Sphinx Scholarship Fund. Accordingly, the Society is making a contribution towards a futuristic new Sphinx sculpture that will face Roberts Road Subiaco. It will symbolise Perth Mod going forward and ever upward. Prospective donors are asked to please contact me ASAP so we can finalise the gift.

Council elections resulted in the re-appointment of **Deb Beresford**, and the election of **Ruth Barrett** (student 1952-56) and **Hon Julian Grill** (student 1956-57).



I expressed thanks on behalf of all members to the Society's Councillors, the H&M Committee, the Sphinx Foundation Board, many other volunteers, and special contributors for the enormous amount of work and goodwill that they put in to so many projects and causes during 2017.

After 5 years as President I informed the meeting that I am retiring from that role and handing over at the next Council meeting in June to

Professor Geoffrey Soutar. It has been my privilege to work alongside the awesome PMS community – Modernians all over the world, the Society's hard-working Councillors, the Sphinx Board Directors, H&M Committee members, volunteers, PMS Board, P&C Association, the School Executive and admin staff, teachers, parents and students.

Guest Speakers

Following the formal AGM, **Sallie Davies** presented an overview of the evolution of the Perth Modernian Society History Centre (which is located in the old Metalwork/Woodwork Centre) and Archives and the potential way forward for the new Museum Association. Sallie then introduced guest speaker, **Dr Ian Melville**, who highlighted the very important role of school museums (for those schools lucky enough to have one) in reminding students of the heritage that they are fortunate to inherit. [Click for speech](#).

Ian believes school museums have an important role to play in preserving cultural inheritance as a reflection and expression of their constantly evolving values, beliefs, knowledge and traditions. Given Perth Modern School's demonstrated commitment to the continuing stewardship of its archives and enhancement of associated activities, which are already substantial, he believes the formation of the Perth Modernian Society Museum Association (Inc.) will no doubt contribute substantially to the ongoing growth and development of the school and its museum.

PERTH MODERNIAN SOCIETY MUSEUM ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

ABN: 73 761 561 543

raising funds for Perth Modernian Society History Centre and Archives
to honour the history and share the heritage of Perth Modern School



For current and future projects to be viable we need volunteers who are interested, have a common vision and the capacity to build on what we have in hand. Good management is dependent on coordination of volunteer responsibilities and the equipment we have to work with. This adds up to funding being available to meet identified needs . . . hence the Perth Modernian Society Museum Association was created.

Class of 1958
60 year Reunion
Saturday 8 September

Class of 1955
Celebrate turning 80
at the Annual Reunion on
Sunday 9 September

****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 2018
20 September to publish by Oct 1
20 Nov to publish by Dec 1

THE PERTH MODERNIAN

Magazine for Contributing Members
Copy deadline: **31 May 2018**
for circulation in late July 2018

Register **your Contributing Membership**
and **email address now** in time 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

further information
info@perthmoderniansociety.org.au

2018-19 COUNCIL

PERTH MODERNIAN SOCIETY

www.perthmoderniansociety.org.au
Peter Farr, *President*
Geoff Soutar, *V/President*
Barrie Baker, *V/President*
Deborah Beresford, *Hon Secretary*
Eve Broadley, *Hon Treasurer*
Sallie Davies, *H&M Committee*
Ian Jarvis, *Communications*
Ed Lazarus, *Membership*
Barbara Mallett, *Member*
Ruth Barrett, *Member*
Julian Grill, *Member*
Lois Joll, *PMS Principal*

Finance

Barrie Baker, *Convenor*
Honorary Treasurers
Eve Broadley, *Council*
Peter Farr, *Sphinx Foundation*
Alan Porter, *H&M Committee*

Sphinx Foundation Board

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

- Incorporated in 27 September 2017
- granted ABN and recognised as a Registered Charity, with income tax and GST exemption
- DGR status is pending
- six Inaugural Members have been appointed to the Board providing a broad spectrum of skills
- Inaugural PMS Museum Association Board Members are:

Chair - Sallie Davies, student 1951-55, PMS staff 1961
Deputy Chair - Dr Robyn White, PMS staff 2000-10
Hon Treasurer - Robert (Bob) Johnson, CPA, student 1961-63
Hon Secretary - Sharon Williams, current parent
Historian - Lois Joll, PMS staff 2011-current
Consultant - Dr Ian Melville, ANME

- and now seeking to complete the Board with a volunteer with investment expertise

Meet DR WILLIAM IAN MELVILLE

BA (UWA), DipEd (UWA), THC (EDWA), GradDipBus&Admin (Curtin),
MEd (Deakin), PhD (UWA), FSA Scot



Ian's interest in history stems from his earliest years in Scotland and he regards Paisley Abbey, where he was a chorister in the 1950s, as the place which stimulated his future interests. The architecture, monuments, sights and sounds inspired him then, and still do.

He graduated from Claremont Teachers' College in 1964, his first appointment being to Eastern Goldfields Senior High School in 1965 as a teacher of Music, Mathematics and English. His final appointment was as Deputy Principal of Padbury Senior High School in 1994, retiring in 2004 to complete a PhD in the history of education at the Graduate School of Education within the University of Western Australia, which he completed in 2006 under the supervision of Professor Tom O'Donoghue. The title of the thesis is: *An Historical Analysis of the Structures for the Provision of Anglican Schools in the Diocese of Perth, Western Australia between 1917 and 1992*. Apart from his initial teaching

qualifications, he successfully completed postgraduate studies in administration, business and educational management. He is also a published author.

In 2008, on the recommendation of Professor O'Donoghue, Ian was appointed as the Western Australian representative of the Australian National Museum of Education (ANME), <http://anme.org.au/>. The museum, located at the University of Canberra, is sponsored by the university's Faculty of Education, Science, Technology and Mathematics and the Australian and New Zealand History of Education Society.

As the Museum's representative in Western Australia, it is Ian's responsibility to promote its mission and objectives. Currently, he is engaged in identifying both schools and private organisations which have museums and encourage them to register with the ANME. To date, there has been considerable success in augmenting the ANME's collection from discarded items from significant sources. On a regular basis, he provides information and advice to schools, both public and private, regarding the establishment of school museums.

Ian's current interests include genealogical research and the writing of biographical sketches of Scottish relatives who served in World War I and/or II. By invitation in 2016, he addressed the Scottish interest group of the Western Australian Genealogical Society on his research, which was well-received. Further, he has an interest in the study of Scotland's Pre-Reformation history and palaeography of the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries. Currently, Ian is a member of the Royal Western Australian Historical Society; and a fellow of the Scottish Society of Antiquaries.

REUNIONS

Phil Hancock
Class of 1968

Hi everyone,

Well who can believe it was 50 years ago that we were in our final year at Perth Modern School. So much has happened since then and in 2017 the future of the school was threatened but Perth Mod survived and so 2018 is a great year to hold a reunion of the Class of 1968!!



When? Saturday October 13
Where? Leederville Oval
Time? 6pm till late
More details to follow. Phil

For further information please contact reunions@perthmoderniansociety.org.au

YOUR SAY

Responses to February eNewsletter

From: Garry Glover, PMS student 1953-55

Re: e-Newsletter

Hello. I am at present sitting in my study in a suburb of outer London looking out at the snow, and wind with outside temperatures of -3C and open the e-NEWSLETTER. I then see a photo from 1955, the year I left to finish my last two school years at Sydney Boys High School; a photo and an article of the 1955 Slazenger Cup winning team. Every face was familiar to me as were the names, both boys and masters. I could then see the grass courts of PMS, recall **Mr Strauss** teaching cricket and my playing tennis against **Felix Spittell**. Sixty three years have passed and I remain forever grateful to PMS for a major contribution to what my life became. I remained in touch with the late **Theo Bredmeyer** and am still in touch with his widow Audrey. Theo and I were at North Perth State School together and he was my oldest school friend now sadly no longer.

I appreciated the 1952 photo of the then prefects with the headmaster, **Mr Sampson**. I shall always remember Mr Sampson and recount a story frequently of an encounter we had in the grounds: "Glover, don't you ever clean your shoes?" I think of the episode each time I do so, even now, I was so traumatised. Felix, if you should read this, or **Cameron Bracks** et al, I have our class photo from 2F and we are all frozen in time, so greetings old mates from one who has lived over 50 years in the UK but my spiritual home remains on the playing fields of PMS, Moderna Scola, scola armus.... I last visited in 2004.

By the way, I became a consultant head and neck cancer surgeon in London, now retired. Not bad amidst those PMS boys far cleverer than I. You were bright boys and how fortunate we were, many of us from modest working class backgrounds.

Ed: Thank you, Garry for your memories and congratulations on your career. We would be delighted if you could send us a copy of the class photograph mentioned in your email for our photographic collection held in the Archives. We have found very few class photographs exist in the collection. They are always popular items for



Communications

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

Functions Committee

Barrie Baker, *Convenor*

Deb Beresford, *Catering*

Eve Broadley, *Catering*

Barbara Mallett, *Photography*

Ian Jarvis, *Communications*

Reunions Liaison

reunions@perthmoderniansociety.org.au

Historical & Museum Committee

museum@perthmoderniansociety.org.au

Sallie Davies, *Acting Chair*

Deb Beresford, *Hon Archivist/Curator*

Robyn White, *Hon Secretary*

Alan Porter, *Hon Treasurer*

Ian Jarvis, *Hon IT Manager*

Gay Albillos, *Member*

Frank Hedges, *Member*

Robert Johnson, *Member*

Rod Smith, *Member*

Sharon Williams, *Parent*

VOLUNTEERS

History Centre and Archives

Gay Albillos, *Conservation*

Deb Beresford, *Hon Archivist*

David Black, *Hon Consultant*

Jim Davies, *Bio Index*

Sallie Davies, *Coordinator*

Frank Hedges, *Bio Index*

Robert Johnson, *Research*

Angela Jones, *Archives*

Sue King, *Research*

Ian Lindsay, *Research*

Bill MacPherson, *Photo Scanner*

Deirdre Owen, *Archives*

Alan Porter, *Science Restoration*

Rod Smith, *Science Data Entry*

Roger Stubbs, *Research*

Robyn White, *Archives*

Sharyn Williams, *Parent*

Alison Woodman, *Research*

Board of the Perth Modernian Society Museum Association Incorporated

museum@perthmoderniansociety.org.au

Sallie Davies, *Chair*

Robyn White, *Deputy Chair*

Sharon Williams, *Secretary*

Robert (Bob) Johnson, *Treasurer*

Lois Joll, *Historian*

Dr Ian Melville, *Consultant*

Vacancy, Board Member

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

Contributing4Yr

New

Amulya Nallanchakravartula 2013-17 Student

Danielle Spicer 2013-17 Student

Ken Watson 1948-52 Student

Kevin Tran 2013-17 Student

Logan Frost 2013-17 Student

Lucy Skeldon 2013-17 Student

Michael McDermott 2013-17 Student

Naomi Cha 2013-17 Student

Sebastian Hasleby 2013-17 Student

Shami Mohdar 2013-17 Student

Xuan Zhu 2013-17 Student

Renewed

Bill MacPherson 1951-53 Student

Brian Appleyard 1949-52 Student

Colin Shilkin 1954-58 Student

viewing at class reunions and we can share them through the Perth Modernian e-Newsletters and Annual Magazine for Contributing Members.

From: Norman Rich, PMS student 1934-38

Re: e-Newsletter

Thank you for the latest [February] e-Newsletter. Even though I turned 97 last Saturday and rarely see a name that I can place, except for those attached to the old photographs which appear in the Newsletter from time to time, I still find interest in reading how those who followed me have made their PMS education a springboard from which they have contributed to the advancement of our country and our region.

Even now, as more or less an old layabout, I have enough vanity to feel proud that I was a traveller along the same track as these brilliant young people are travelling and that, just as in my day, it is all underpinned by fine teachers, a supportive community, development of innate skills and a work ethic. **The nation needs schools like PMS more than ever!** Norman Rich, Sydney

Ed: *Norman, your responses are always encouraging and congratulations on reaching the 97 milestone.*

From: Shirley Randell (nee Izett, PMS student 1953-57)

Re: e-Newsletter

Great newsletter as usual. John Greenway was one of favourite cousins and he taught me science at PMS in 1953 when I was a first year student. It was embarrassing for me to call him **Mr Greenway** and he called me **Miss Izett**. How times have changed. Kindest regards, Shirley

Ed: *Extract from Shirley's regular e-Newsletter received by the Perth Modernian Society, reads:*

"My cousin **John Greenway**, aged 87 died peacefully on 9 March 2018 in Perth. His widow Diane and his children said he was 'passionate about learning, would celebrate understanding, colourful, cheeky, fair, proud of our achievements, inspiring, head strong, encouraging, wise and incredibly brave'. He won entrance to my alma mater, Perth Modern School and returned as a science teacher. John was passionate about teaching maths but unhappy about the 'rote learning' approach under which the student learned many methods and only had to decide which one to apply to each problem. He was admitted as the first 'alien' to the National Science Foundation Course at Princeton in the USA where he examined new approaches to the teaching of maths, and on his return to Australia was appointed Superintendent of Mathematics. *The Maths Revolution* began as teachers were retrained, the syllabus was updated, new texts were prepared, and the exam system was modified. Students had to analyse, think, understand and apply. John made a real difference to education in WA."

From: Jeanette McQueen, PMS student 1957-61

Re: e-Newsletter

Thank you for an interesting newsletter. With reference to the request for "language assistants" I will encourage a friend from Perth Mod days to help – she taught in France for nine years so is fluent. Regards, Jeanette

Ed: *Thank you Jeanette. We hope your encouragement succeeded in finding another volunteer for PMS.*

From: Tyko Kirsner, PMS student 2009-12

Re: Sustainability

My name is Tyko Kirsner and I graduated from Perth Modern with the class of 2012. Since then I have completed a Bachelor of Arts degree (majoring in Philosophy and Classics & Ancient History) and I am now one semester shy of completing a Masters of Sustainable Development. I noticed in the most recent newsletter that **Rosemary Burton** was seeking a sponsor for the Sustainability Leadership Year 12 Prize. I am interested to know what level of sponsorship is being sought. I am also interested to know if there is any way that I could lend my assistance to the Sustainability program at Perth Modern. Could you please pass this message on to Rosemary Burton? Kind regards, Tyko

Ed: *Thank you Tyko and congratulations on your academic achievements. Your response was forwarded to Rosemary as soon as it was received.*

From: Colin Sagar, PMS student 1968-72

Re: Feb 2018 Modernian eNewsletter

Dear Editor Perth Modernian, Thanks for your splendid newsletter. I noted Rosemary Burton was looking for a likely sponsor for the Year 12 Sustainability Leadership yearly award. I or my family (all old Modernians) are likely to be interested...perhaps you would be good enough to pass on my contact details to Rosemary. My Sister is **Elyse Bourgault, nee Sagar** and brother **Donald Sagar**. With thanks, Colin Sagar

Ed: *Thank you for your genuine interest, Colin. Your response was forwarded to the Rosemary as soon as it was received.*

From: Bill Macpherson, Busselton, PMS student 1951-53

Re: School uniform

A thing that has puzzled me over the last 67 years: Why did we boys have to always wear the school tie, while we were allowed to wear our school socks around our ankles? In those financially tight years after World War II, when I wore out the heels and toes of my socks, my mother knitted new feet onto the striped tops. They didn't come above my ankles, so my mother (and I) always hoped that I was never told to "pull my socks up".

Ed: *We hope someone out there may have an interesting response to your question, Bill.*

From: Keith Trotman, student 1950-54

Re: Hugh Davies AO

Please extend my congratulations to **Hugh Davies** when you next speak with him .He has been a busy guy since our paths crossed at Stanford in 1965. And thank you for your work for 'Old Modernians'.

Ed: *Your email was forwarded on to Hugh. Thank you for your words of appreciation.*

From: Don Cook, PMS student 1957-61, Deputy Principal 1999-2009

Re: Success for former student

Radheya Jegatheva's short film iRony, a hand-drawn narrative about the intrusion of technology and social media in people's lives, has won 74 awards and been picked for 168 film festivals around the globe — and his next stop could be the Academy Awards. Regards, Don

From: Elizabeth Smith

Re: VALE: Robert (Rob) Marshall Nunn (Geraldton), PMS student 1955-59, d.11/02/2018

Thank you for sending the newsletters. I noticed in the February issue under the Vale section a listing for **Robert Nunn** is mentioned, without a specific DoD. Rob was a long standing and valued friend of ours and we attended his funeral on 23 February 2018. I mentioned to his widow Dee that Rob's passing was listed in the newsletter and if she was happy for me to do so, I would provide some further information to you. Dee is pleased for me to provide this information and I have cc'd her on this email.

Attached is an Obituary which formed part of the Order of Service of the Celebration of Life for Rob. His DOB 3 March 1942 and his DOD 12 February 2018. If the opportunity arises to share Rob's obituary with school mates, I'm sure the family would be very pleased. Many thanks and kind regards, Elizabeth

Dawn GARDINER (Hedges) 1943-47 Student
 Dianne MOXHAM (Briggs) 1955-58 Student
 Ed Lazarus 1956-60 Student
 Hugh Pritchard 1958-62 Student
 Ian Jarvis 1954-58 Student
 Irene Froyland 1955-59 Student
 Jeanette McQueen 1957-61 Student
 Jill THOMPSON (Farr) 1952-56 Student
 Jim Davies 1948-52 Student, Staff 1961, Deputy Principal 1982-92
 John Cochrane 1948-52 Student
 John WILLIAMS (Vivian-Williams) 1950-51 Student
 Joy HARDY (Mounsey) 1938-42 Student
 June STEPHENSON (McLeod) 1948-52 Student
 Marc Adonis 1955-59 Student
 Margaret Nadebaum 1958-59 Student
 Pamela HALL (Wheare) 1941-45 Student
 Paul Campbell 1940-42 Student
 Robin Silsbury 1948-52 Student
 Ross Kelly 1951-55 Student
 Ross Ledger 1950-53 Student
 Sallie DAVIES (Hicks) 1951-55 Student & Staff 1961
 Valda PITMAN (Brodie) 1956-60 Student
 Valerie CRAIG (Harry) 1947-48 Student

Registered

Antony Marian 1984-1988 Student
 Chern Ng 1985-1987 Student
 Ian dna (Melville) Friend of PMS
 Krys Jury Staff 1987-2008
 Sharon Williams Family of Student
 Stefan Raovic 2008-12 Student

e-NEWSLETTER

Principal Contributors to this issue

Don Cook
 Peter Farr
 Garry Glover
 Phil Hancock
 Norm Hoffman
 Tyko Kirsner
 Bill Macpherson
 Jeanette McQueen
 Ian Melville
 Shirley Randell
 Norman Rich
 Coiin Sagar
 Elizabeth Smith
 Keith Trotman

Coordinator/Editor

Sallie Davies

Compiler

Ian Jarvis



News and information available at
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*

Ed: *Thank you to Dee for your permission to publish and also to Elizabeth for forwarding the following Obituary to us. It has been incorporated into our historical records and is shared below with all his school mates.*

Robert Nunn

PMS student 1955-59

Rob leaves behind his wife of 47 years, Dee (Trezier) Nunn, his children Crcyra and Samuel ; his seven grandsons; and many close friends.

Born in Wyalkatchem to Walley (Bob) and Margaret (Nancy) Nunn he was joined three years later by his sister Judy. Their childhood was spent in Claremont, where they lived on the same street as their cousins, the Browns and the Harveys. Together the children of the three families grew up swimming, fishing, sailing on the Swan River and at Rottnest Island.

Rob attended Perth Modern School and went on to study Veterinary Sciences at UWA. After a break in Kambalda Rob transferred his university studies to Zoology and then later qualified as a Geologist.

In 1967 he was introduced to Dee by his cousin Max and they began dating. After Dee returned from Nursing in England they resumed their relationship and were married in 1971. Two years on, they welcomed their son into the world and two years later their daughter arrived.

He worked as an exploration geologist in the Pilbara, as an officer in the Environmental Protection Authority and later became the Environmental Manager of Woodside Offshore Petroleum. His career in oil, gas and minerals took him to many places including Holland, America and a three year posting to Oman.

His incredibly social personality led him to membership in many groups and clubs in the fields of his personal hobbies including tennis (Pignarelli TC), rugby (Irish Expats), game fishing (Perth GFC), boating (Claremont Yacht Club, swimming (The Silver Shags), Volunteer marine rescue (Geraldton).

He loved good food, wine, whisky, company, song and achieved many lifelong friendships all over the world.

VALE

Name	Years at PMS	Position	Deceased
Malcolm James Hood	1944-48	School Prefect 1948	10/11/2017
John Edward Airey (Melbourne)	1950-54		17/02/2018
Denis Rae Cook	1941-43 (Yrs 1-3)		20/02/2018
Dudley Stuart Bastian	1955-56		26/02/2018
John Greenway	1943-45 (Yrs 1-3)	Staff 1953-56	9/03/2018
Dr Peter Alfred Staer	1948-52		12/03/2018
Joan Constance Curwood (nee Smythe)	1948-52		19/04/2018
Stephen John Stitt	1954-58		6/05/2018

Malcolm Hood

PMS student 1944-48

School Prefect 1948

Malcolm Hood was a remarkable man. He was a much-loved husband, father and brother, a loyal friend and a respected UWA lecturer. He was an eminent academic, a champion of applied mathematics, a skilled woodworker, a lover of classical music, an avid reader and a lively raconteur, to name just a few of his pursuits and passions.

Born with both great intelligence and a capacity for hard work, Malcolm forged a diverse career, beginning in aerodynamic research and moving into the emerging field of computing, before finally transitioning into lecturing and teaching.

Throughout his career Malcolm was supported by his wife Mirlwyn (1926-2015), together they raised their son Lindsay (1964-2011) and supported each other's endeavours and aspirations. They were a wonderful team. Even after the deaths of Lindsay and his beloved Mirlwyn, he showed an amazing resilience and positivity for life.

In a life that spanned 86 years, Malcolm remained active and engaged in all his personal, professional and civic responsibilities until his death from leukaemia, which he lived with for 5 years but ultimately defeated him.

Malcolm's generosity of spirit is evident in the number of amateur organisations which he helped steer through the shoals of membership fees and other jobs which most of us were intimidated by. Thus, he was on the committees of the Friends of the University Library, the Nedlands branch of the Australian Seniors Association, and the WA Theatre organ Society.

Malcolm will remain in the hearts of the many who knew him. He was warm and generous, compassionate, humble, and devoted to those he loved. He was a man of learning and giving but he gave more to this world than he took from it. He was the ultimate 'good man'.

Peter Staer

PMS student 1948-52

Dr Peter Staer enjoyed 45 years in medicine having made a strong commitment to faith in Christ in 1957. After graduating he worked as a medical missionary in Nigeria for 2½ years from 1966-68. In subsequent years he did 22 short-term spells (of duration 1-6 months) for interdenominational evangelical groups, one being in Saudi Arabia. His primary emphasis was in obstetrics and gynaecology especially on surgical correction of fistulas. Peter was married to a wonderful wife, Merle, for 46 years, five great sons, 17 grandchildren. The Perth Modernian Society received the following message on the day he died:

Hello, this is just to let you know that Peter Staer changed his address to heaven at 8 am this morning.

Thanks, Shalom, Merle & family

John Greenway

PMS student 1943-45, teacher 1953-56

In our previous e-Newsletter you read of John Greenway's passion for tennis "All he wanted to do was play tennis". At his funeral in March, John's friend and colleague Norm Hoffman, PMS student 1947-48, delivered the following eulogy:

JG, the Mathematician, and his contribution to mathematics education in WA

John achieved so much in his life that it's hard for me to know where to stop in talking about him. My task has been made easier in that I've been asked to speak mainly about his contributions to mathematics education.

Obituary

Rob leaves behind his wife of 47 years, Dee (Trezier) Nunn, his children, Crcyra and Samuel, his seven grandsons, and many close friends.

Born in Wyalkatchem to Walley (Bob) and Margaret (Nancy) Nunn he was joined three years later by his sister Judy. Their childhood was spent in Claremont, where they lived on the same street as their cousins the Browns and Harveys. Together the children of the three families grew up swimming, fishing, sailing on the Swan River and at Rottnest Island.

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He loved good food, wine, whisky, company, song and achieved many lifelong friendships all over the world.

Meredith Eddington, *Community Representative*
Phil Marshall, *President, Perth Modern School P&C*
Chris Rapley, *Staff Representative*
Jarrad Strain, *Staff Representative*



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



It's also been made easier because I was fortunate to be involved with John in most of the areas.

In essence I'll be outlining John's contributions as the Superintendent of Mathematics, his contributions to the development of school mathematics curriculum, K to 12, and his contributions to the development of The Mathematical Association of WA.

When I came to know him, in 1963, he had been Superintendent of Mathematics for about a year. At the time he was the youngest person ever appointed as a superintendent. Not only was he young, but he looked young. His youthful appearance generated some animosity among 'the old brigade' of mathematics teachers and senior people in schools. This was particularly so when he tried to point out that the old methods of 'drill and practice' and 'text book mathematics' might need to give way to innovative methods that stressed problem solving and learning by doing. Despite grudging acceptance of his outstanding abilities, they found his visions for the future hard to accept.

In March, 1963 I was Senior Master of Mathematics at Northam SHS. John phoned me to offer me a secondment to the Curriculum Branch in Perth. I accepted and thus began a close working relationship that lasted for 25 years, and a friendship that lasted 55 years.

In the Curriculum Branch I would write drafts of the books that were to be used by students and teachers in Years 8 to 10. John would pick up the drafts on a Friday and read them through during the week, when he was busy in schools being a superintendent. He'd then return them to me, with hand-written comments, on the following Friday. During this time I became quite expert in deciphering his scrawly writing.

At the same time John was also involved in the revision of upper secondary school mathematics. In fact, during the decade in which he was Superintendent of Mathematics John was heavily involved in the restructuring of all mathematics courses from K to 12.

Probably John's strongest ally in his efforts to improve school mathematics was **Larry Blakers**, Professor of Mathematics at UWA. They were close friends and colleagues and had great respect for each other. They made a great team. When Larry had the idea of running a summer school for very able Year 11 mathematics students, he turned to John for assistance. For a number of summers John looked after the 60 students who came into residence for two weeks at UWA. Bear in mind that that was the time of the year when superintendents would normally take their annual leave. For John, looking after the summer school students was truly a labour of love.

John's main responsibility as Superintendent of Mathematics was the placement and supervision of all mathematics teachers in WA secondary schools. This in itself was a full-time job, but John combined this with his substantial curriculum responsibilities. And as if this wasn't enough, John devoted much time and energy to the development and the Mathematical Association of WA. He was a founding member of the Association in 1958, a member of the foundation committee, and in later times Secretary and then President. In 1976 he was made a life member of the Association.

As a person and as a friend, John was fun to be with. He was always looking for the challenge in life. Being with John was never dull. He enjoyed sharing his knowledge and expertise. I remember the time and care he took when he guided me in buying a second-hand surfcat from the fleet that used to be available for hire on the South Perth foreshore. We also shared a liking for drinkable, inexpensive red wines.

In all that John did, he was a compassionate human being and a faithful, caring friend. One can only marvel at the combination of remarkable talent and drive that John used so effectively for the benefit of our society. I'll miss you John.

Joan Curwood (nee Smythe) **PMS student 1948-52**

While a student at Mod, Joan won sports awards for Netball, Slazenger Cup Tennis 1951-52, and Athletics as u/14, u/15 and Open Champion Girl. She also achieved a Bronze Medal for Life Saving. It was not surprising that Joan went on to become a teacher, a Class III School Principal and a farmer. Among the highlights in her life she included helping children develop positive attitudes towards learning and to see them reach their full potential with the right encouragement, receiving the Education Department of WA Silver Medallion on retirement, being Secretary of the South West Games Inc Management Committee, winning an Acquisitive Prize for Oil Painting at the Brunswick Show Art Exhibition, becoming Claremont Teachers College Champion in 1954 and Claremont Teachers College vs Adelaide Teachers College Champion in the same year, playing in softball, volleyball and golf competitions and being in charge of School Swimming Classes and Vacation Swimming Classes.

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