THE PERTH MODERNIAN e-NEWSLETTER



Nov 2018 - Issue 37 (Volume 2 No 12)

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, 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.

CONGRATULATIONS

UWA MUSIC AWARDS

Two former PMS music students featured in the University of WA "New Century Campaign Thankyou" booklet in Sept 2018. Jonty Coy, student 2009-13, and Jet Kye Chong, student 2011-15, were each awarded a David Tunley Music Scholarship.





While studying at Perth Modern School each was a beneficiary of the Sphinx Foundation Scholarship program.

Jonty Coy won The Daniel Girling and John Down Music Scholarship in 2011 and the inaugural Don Tyler Musical Instrument Scholarship in 2013, and Jet Kye Chong won The Daniel Girling and John Down Music Bursary in 2013, as well as many other academic awards.

In this issue

- **WELCOME**
- **DIARY DATES**
- **CONGRATULATIONS**
- A MODERN DAY HERO
- 2018-19 COUNCILPERTH MODE...
- MEMBERSHIP CHANGES
- e-NEWSLETTER
- The Perth ...
- REMEMBERING THE PAST
- YOUR SAY ..
- THE ARMISTICE PROJECT
- PERTH MODERN SCHOOL BOARD...
- News and info..
- **CENTENARY OF ARMISTICE** DA
- **A TRIBUTE**
- **CLASS REUNIONS**
- REMEMBER WHEN.

P&C CHRISTMAS CONCERT AND ART@MOD EXTRAVANGANZA Friday 30 November 2018

Heritage Tours and Museum open 4pm

- VALE

DIARY DATES

A MODERN DAY HERO

PETER RUDLAND PMS student 1985-87



The ex SAS and Co-Captain of the 2018 Australian team for the Invictus Games Peter Rudland competed in cycling and wheelchair rugby. He joined the Australian Army in 1989, was deployed to Cambodia in 1993, Iraq in 1997 and 2003, Timor Leste in 2001 and 2006 and Afghanistan in 2010. He was in a Black Hawk helicopter crash in Afghanistan in 2010 that left him with multiple musculoskeletal injuries. He was discharged in 2017. Born in York, Western Australia in 1971, Peter is now living in Tweed Heads, New South Wales.

His story appeared in the West Australian on Saturday 13 October 2018. You can read it at https://thewest.com.au/.../invictus-games-the-amazing-story-of-sas-trooper-peterrudla...

"Sport has provided the platform for me to redevelop my competitive attitude and has given me positive role models. I am very proud of my rehabilitation and selection into the 2016 and 2017 Australian Invictus Games teams. I was also lucky enough to be a Co-

Captain of the 2017 team and I won Gold in the recumbent cycling Time Trial and Criterium." Source: www.defence.gov.au > Events > Invictus Games > Australian Team

REMEMBERING THE PAST

PMS HERITAGE DAY 20 October 2018





Perth Modern School and the Perth Modernian Society Museum opened to the public as part of the Heritage Perth weekend for the second year running. Students from year 9 and 10 were trained as guides and conducted free guided tours for over 100 attendees. Many positive comments were heard about the knowledge and very professional manner of the Student Volunteer Guides. Mr Rick McMahon and Dr Raymond Driehus co-ordinated

"Great tour, thanks to all the helpful guides and volunteers"

the students, their training and overseeing the event on Saturday 20 October 2018.

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

reunions@perthmoderniansociety.org.au

For further information see **REUNIONS** this issue or visit

Class Reunions 2019**

Barbara Mallett through

Organisers please contact

Friends of Music provided refreshments in the Andrews Building. A special thanks to the Museum volunteers who greeted and assisted visitors and invited them to sign the Visitors' Book. Many left encouraging messages of support such as the two quotes included here.

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

further information info@perthmoderniansociety.org.au

2018-19 COUNCIL PERTH MODERNIAN SOCIETY

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

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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 "This museum is a most pleasant surprise"



CENTENARY OF ARMISTICE DAY COMMEMORATION

11 November 2018

Displays and Museum records have been greatly enhanced by volunteer and family history researchers who have visited over the past few years in the course of their efforts to learn more about family members who went to war. We thank them for their contributions which will continue to be incorporated into our activities in the coming year. PMS Museum Archives provided a special display in the Parsons Building to commemorate this occasion.

In an interview for the 2005 publication Perth Modern School: the History and the Heritage, Basil Baker, student 1917-21 recalled how the Armistice Day news was recognised at PMS in 1918.

I remember very well. Mr Parsons said, 'Everyone out on the oval,' and we formed a huge crocodile round and round the oval. And we had a drummer at the school who was very good, he beat the kettle drum while we went round and round the oval. Even the teachers joined in at the end of the crocodile. It was a great relief to come to the end of the war because losses were very very severe. I can recollect the whole front page of the Daily News with casualties in West Australia alone... at every assembly during 1914-18 War he would always call out names of any of our Modern School ex-students that had died. There were quite a lot of them

Albert Goldsmith McKenna was a PMS student in 1913-16. His daughter Alberta Everard (nee McKenna), student 1940-42 believed from reading her father's first year diary that he was expected to get an exhibition to the university. He didn't because all he thought about was going to the war but he probably did very well at school. He left school in 1916 and as recorded history tells us became one of the many to put his age up ... all his thoughts were of finishing the year and going overseas to the war. On returning home he went on to graduate in dentistry.

Frederick (Fred) Clayton, foundation student in 2011 enlisted in the AIF (Australian Imperial Force) in 1916 (noted in The Sphinx in April 1916 Roll of Honour) and attended a school for non-commissioned officers in Blackboy Hill where he gained his Corporal's stripes, securing 4th place but being under 23, was unable to secure his 'star'. In August 1916 he was appointed Sergeant, attended Officers School in Duntroon and in May 1917 became a Lieutenant. Fred was posted to the 44th Regiment (raised in WA) which had fought in the Battle of Hamel prior to his arrival.

On 13 March 1918 he left Blackboy Hill and embarked at Fremantle on the troopship TOS Ormonde. disembarking on 4 April to join the Australian camp. He was transferred to Fort Tewfik for embarkation overseas on the TOS Ellenga on 30 April, and disembarked at Southampton on 15 May. As 2/Lieutenant he proceeded overseas to France on 14 August and marched to Rouelles to join his unit on 19 August and was in action in the field by 24 August.

In December 1918 he wrote of the Battle of San Quentin Canal, one of the final battles of the war, in a letter from France to Mr Athol McGregor who was the legendary headmaster of Highgate State School. The 5 page letter outlines in gripping detail his experiences in France during this time. Despite the strained tone of the letter, one senses the tremendous price the regiment paid for victory.

"However we moved off next morning, passing through a wood, packed with batteries, until we emerged onto a plain. Things had been comparatively quiet until this, but as soon as Fritz saw the first section advancing he sent down an artillery barrage across the front. It was necessary to pass through this and as these shells were bursting every three or four yards along, I wondered what was going to happen to me and my platoon. The word to advance was given and the whole Batt moved forward.

"There is a natural inclination to funk a thing like this when you meet it for the first time but when you see mere boys walking into practically the jaws of death with a cigarette between their lips, as unconcernedly as if they were in Hay Street you seem to be attracted in the same direction and go in with them. It was so with me and we passed through I did not have a man hit although others around were being smashed and killed. This gave me confidence and always after this my attention was given to the men instead of Fritz's ironmongery. It is essential as nothing is easier than to get mixed in an advance. We spent the next two days under intermittent shellfire and then went out for a days 'rest'. Thus ended my 'baptism of fire'." ...

... "Although only three months in action I have seen enough to last me for three centuries and although the going was heavy and every minute probably your last, I am glad I have been through it. It is the finest experience one could possibly have. And now I had better come down to earth again. Winter has set in with a vengeance. No snow as yet, but a miserable drizzling rain with bitterly cold winds, mud and water everywhere, blue noses and ears and nearly everywhere blue language.

A TRIBUTE

BRETON DOUGLAS NORMAN LANGRIDGE PMS student 1934-35

Bret Langridge was born in 1919 and raised in Maylands, WA. He attended Perth Boys High School in 1931, 1932 and 1933 where he completed his Junior Certificate. He transferred to Perth Modern School in 1934 and took his Leaving Certificate exams at the end of 1935. A very good student, he sat for and passed English, French, Maths A, Maths B, Applied Maths and Physics. He was a school prefect in 1935.

His three younger sisters, Joan, Lorelei and Wendy attended Perth Modern School and all were school prefects.

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reunions@perthmoderniansociety.org.au Barbara Mallett

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Vacancy, 2 Board Members

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

Contributing4Yr

Deborah Beresford Staff 1974-2007 Robyn Brown 1984-88 Student Sharon Williams (dna) Family of Student Yuqing Lu 2016-18 Student

Renewed

Laurie BEST (Terrill) 1952-56 Student Colin Ross 1949-53 Student Diane Graham 1957-61 Student Jan BEISSEL (Peters) 1957-58 Student Ken Fitch 1945-49 Student Phil Best 1951-55 Student Shirley WYBURN (Pekin) 1948-50 Student Val FITCH (Philpot) 1945-49 Student

Registered

Lucinda Grey 2009-13 Student Paul Ward 1984-88 Student

e-NEWSLETTER

Principal Contributors to this issue Deb Beresford Wilf Byfield Thalia Cole



Bret excelled at sports and was in the school's football, cricket and athletics teams. He earned a Sports and Physical Education Award for both cricket and football and was the captain of Gold faction.

On leaving school in 1935 Bret obtained a position with the Commonwealth Bank and joined 16 Battalion Cameron Highlanders, a Citizen Military Forces unit, with the rank of



Lieutenant. He transferred to the regular army on 1 May 1940 as one of the original lieutenants in the newly formed 2nd 16th Battalion, Australian Imperial Force, and soon rose to the rank of captain.

Bret saw active service with the Battalion in Syria and Lebanon as a platoon

commander and then as a company commander, and experienced some tough fighting at the Litani River, Sidon and El Atiga Ridge. During this time he was shot in the right hand and was awarded the nickname of "Lefty" Langridge. He also became engaged to Betty Dettman, a nurse with the 2/9th Australian General Hospital.

The 2/16th returned to Australia on 12 March 1942 and was sent to Papua in August as part of the 21st Brigade of the 7th Division. Its objective was to stop the Japanese invasion of Papua and to prevent the Japanese Army from capturing Port Moresby.

On the evening of 7 September 1942 the three battalions of the 21st Brigade together with Brigade Headquarters were stretched out along Mission Ridge on the Kokoda Track near the village of Efogi, a location that became known as Brigade Hill.

During that night, the battle-hardened 2nd Battalion of the Japanese 144th Regiment inserted itself in thick jungle on Mission Ridge between Brigade Headquarters and its three battalions, an astonishing feat involving a nearvertical climb while carrying rifles, machine guns, ammunition and equipment.

The next day, Brigadier Arnold Potts ordered several attacks to dislodge the Japanese blocking force. All were unsuccessful and resulted in heavy casualties. One of these attacks consisted of two platoons led by Captain Langridge. Realising it was a suicide mission, Bret handed his Army pay-book to a friend and, waving to his men to follow him, commenced the assault over open ground towards the hidden enemy positions. Minutes later, shot through the chest, he lay dead in front of the Japanese positions.

Brigadier Potts recommended that Bret be awarded a posthumous Mentioned in Despatches for his courage and sacrifice at Brigade Hill. The award was announced in the Government Gazette on 23 December 1943.

Bret was one of 62 Australians who fell in the Battle of Brigade Hill. His body is buried in the Bomana War Cemetery near Port Moresby. He was 23 when he died.

Bret was a popular officer in the Battalion and four of his Army comrades named their first-born boys Breton in his honour. One of those sons is Bret Christian, the managing editor of Post Newspapers in Perth. His father is Ron Christian, MC and Bar, who was a captain in the 2/16th and Bret's best friend.

Lest we forget.

THE ARMISTICE PROJECT

The Perth Modernian Society Museum contributed selected photographs from its collection for inclusion in The Armistice Project curated by Holly Langford Smith, an exhibition of University Senate, Convocation, staff and students involved in the Great War. This Exhibition runs until 25 April 2019 in the University Colonnade, Monday-Friday 7.30am-8pm, Saturday 10am-8pm at UWA.

REMEMBER WHEN...?

CLASS PHOTOGRAPHS Class of 1946

Can you help with the missing (or perhaps incorrect) names? memorabilia received 29 October 2018



Sallie Davies Robert (Bob) Johnson

Coordinator/Editor Sallie Davies

Compiler lan 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)
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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.

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



Back: Nadov Ensley, Ross Latham, David Quayle, Milton Sanderson, ?, Geoff Brown, Maurie Fairbrother, Terry

Brealey, 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

1954 Form 3Zii, April 1954



Left to Right:

Back Row: Carol Quarry, Mignonne Wineberg, Patricia Foote, Ruth Levy, Heather Bowen

Centre Row: Wendy Walton, Joy Harvey, Margaret Hicks. Sian Thomas, Jill Hansen, Doris Parker, Pamela

Jackson, Hazel Mather

Front Row: Maxine Stooke, Jill Stuart, Jennifer Green, Jill Berryman, Gail Kelly, Janice Smith, Josephine Murdoch, Carol Smith, Elsie Wilson, Joan Ainsworth.

CLASS REUNIONS

Class of 1969 is looking to hold a 50th reunion at Perth Modern School sometime in July 2019. Five students are on the organizing committee. Please contact Eugene [Gene] Koltasz to register your interest: gene.k@coronada.com.au

Class of 1970 is keen to have a 50th reunion in Perth in 2020. Please contact Barbara Culpeper to register your interest: reunions@perthmoderniansociety.org.au

Several students from **Class of 1971** would like to hold a 50th reunion in 2021. An organizing committee is required.? Please contact <u>reunions@perthmoderniansociety.org.au</u> if you would like to put your hand up.





From: Jerzy (Yurek) Kulski, student 1959-65

Re: Culpeper's Newsagency

Yes, nice entry by Barbara Mallett. Was that opposite Hamilton St? I'm more familiar with the News Agency further down Hay St, near Coghlan Rd, and now opposite Officeworks. I used to do the after-school *Daily News* home deliveries for them at Wandana Flats. Yurek

Ed: What other school day memories are lodged in the minds of our readers about this area which is soon to change forever? We would like to hear from you.

From: Bob Crowe, student 1953-57

Re: Corrections

Thanks for the regular supplies of the e-newsletter. Occasionally I allow myself the luxury of reading non-essential mail and I appreciate news of the ongoing work at Mod. May even get to a 60th reunion for the '59-60 "Hole" cohort in a couple of years if that eventuates...

However my stimulus for writing now is this supposed quotation from right near the end: "The auditorium will be a hub for innovation, knowledge, creativity and for enjoyment and I encourage the whole school community to get behind this wonderful project that will benefit out students and the entire community." It has obviously been mangled in the editorial/production process and I hope it can be corrected

The figure at the lower left corner of Gary Glover's photo of the class of '53-'55 is myself, Bob Crowe , (middle name Courthope). My cousin Jon did not go to Mod. Cheers. Bob

Ed: Thank you Bob, for your interest in forwarding these corrections. It is encouraging to receive your feedback and we apologise for the occasional errors which do occur from time to time. Our sincerest apology to Ken for the error. Such support also helps us to know who is reading the e-Newsletters and what is of interest to them. The quote should read:

"The auditorium will be a **student** hub for innovation, knowledge, creativity and for enjoyment and I encourage the whole school community to get behind this wonderful project that will benefit our students and the entire community." Dr Ken Michael AC.

From: Brian Savvas, student 1953-57 Re: Class photo from Garry Glover

In your most recent newsletter you have responded "Thank you, Garry for responding to our request and sending these photographs which are now included in our electronic photographic collection.

Perhaps I did not put sufficient effort into trying to locate the *electronic photographic collection* but I failed.

Please help! Thanks, Brian Savvas

Ed: We replied to Brian and apologised for referring to the electronic photographic collection. We are still in the ongoing process of digitising the collection for internal use only. Many photographs are undated and often unidentified and our volunteers are endeavouring to address this as the entries are made.

Thank you again to Brian for his further response (see below) to our reply to him. We aim to please.

Thanks for your prompt reply to my email – and on a Sunday – I am most grateful and impressed.

I was hoping to see that class photo in a larger format because I was thinking that I would be in it. However on closer reading, it was 2C and I was in 2D so my year but not my class. I have the corresponding 2D photo as attached I am on the extreme left in the second row, in long trousers. Kind regards, Brian



Perth Modern School 2D April 1954

From: Elizabeth Compston (nee Blair), student 1943-47

Re: Catching up with friends

I was at PMS from 1943–47. Several of my friends are still alive. We turn 88 this year and who knows we may not reach 90. I thought that it would be a good idea to get others still alive from those years to write a bit about their lives. How long should this be? Our year was the first year in which girls were allowed to take both Physics and Chemistry. Anyway, the ones that I know are Lois Mathieson (HULME), Helen Rubinstein (SILBERMAN), Dawn Gardiner (HEDGES), Meryl Manoy (BAGGERIDGE), Alan Porter.

My mother Erlstoun Arnup went to PMS 1919–21, as did my sister Marion, 1953–57. I think my granddaughter Madeline Compston. 2010-14. Elizabeth Compston Ed: Elizabeth's email was circulated to those for whom an email address was available and at east two have responded as a result. Our Museum volunteers always welcome your brief biographies which are recorded in JED (the Jarvis exMod Database) with hard copies filed in the George Burvill Index for access by researchers and families who visit the History Centre. Your permission to publish is requested for all information and photographs shared with us. Helen has sent us a brief biography which is now in our records and shared below with our readers. Well done Helen, and thank you.

Helen Rubenstein (nee Silberman) PMS student 1944-47

I was born in Perth in 1931.

When I won a scholarship to Mod my dream had come true. As I had done 2 years at Perth Girls my mother asked Sammy the headmaster if I could go into 3rd year. When he refused I sat and passed an exam to go into 2nd year but as he refused to set another exam my mother said I would not accept the scholarship. I started to cry. A friend suggested I change from arts and go into 2nd year science. This advice was brilliant as I loved science and would have been a hopeless arts student. I loved my time at Mod and was thrilled to be chosen a prefect. Nobody thought I would be one as I was always being sent out for talking. Mr Greenhill our singing teacher was so frustrated with me that he said "can you play the piano? well get up here" and that's how I became the school pianist.

After Mod I went to WA Uni, my major was organic chem. After I graduated at 19 with a BSc I began a career in clinical biochemistry. I was incredibly lucky with both my bosses - Prof David Curnow at RPH and Dr John Owen at Melbourne Uni. They gave me lots of opportunity and encouragement to do research in serum proteins. I published several papers and did some lecturing in WA and Melbourne Universities. I continued this work until 1963 when I had a break for several years. From 1987 to1992 I worked in the diabetes unit under Prof Zimmet. I did a project on the decrease in communicable diseases and the rise in non-communicable diseases in Nauru. The findings were published in a booklet.

I am married since 1959 and have 3 children and 6 grandchildren.

VALE			
Name	Years at PMS	Position	Deceased
Hazel Dawn Hodgson (Vic)	1933-37	Student	14/04/2018

Seasons Greetings

Thank you to all our members who have volunteered, supported, encouraged and contributed to the continuing work of the Perth Modernian Society, the Museum Association and the Sphinx Foundation during 2018.

We wish you an enjoyable holiday season and look forward to a successful new year.

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