



PERTH MODERNIAN SOCIETY

MUSEUM ASSOCIATION

INCORPORATED



ANNUAL REPORT 2019-20



PREFACE

The Perth Modernian Society Museum Association Incorporated is a new entity that was born from necessity following many years of conversation and anxiety.

The Historical and Museum Committee has served the Perth Modern School and Perth Modernian Society Inc. communities for many years (since 1973) in preserving and conserving the original School records and artefacts and enabling researchers, community members, families and alumni access - to the extent that the School archive room and Museum are active centres.

However, over many years it has become increasingly urgent that the Museum and archives establish a consistent financial basis so that the ongoing costs of conservation and the maintenance of records and artefacts may continue effectively. For some time, the Historical and Museum Committee also supported the school in maintaining and restoring some historical artefacts in the school, collecting and collating the School art collection, developing and extending an electronic data base of past students, acquiring and accessioning multiple records, photographs and artefacts in the small museum data base, Mosaic as well as providing a focus for visiting families, alumni and researchers wishing to extend their knowledge of school participants and their activities. Such activity eventually requires ongoing and focussed oversight (a Collections Manager?) and a sound financial footing. In searching for such outcomes, Sallie Davies, Chair of the Historical and Museum Committee, worked with her committee of volunteers as well as members of the Council of the Perth Modernian Society with the intention of creating a vehicle that included the tax-deductibility of donations accepted from members of the school and wider communities.

This process was an extended one and resulted in the formation of the Perth Modernian Society Museum Association.

The Museum Association is indebted to the support of Council members and Sphinx Foundation Board members Nigel Hunt and Brendan Dawson of King & Wood Mallesons who gave their time, expertise and advice in the development of our Constitution so that it was accepted by the ATO as representing an organisation appropriate for Deductible Gift Recipient status.

Sallie Davies (Inaugural Chair) and Bob Johnson (Board Treasurer) led in guiding the new vehicle through each stage of official recognition.

27 September 2017:	Perth Modernian Society Museum Association incorporated
06 November 2017	ABN: 73 761 561 543 GST concession
28 March 2018:	ACNC accepted the Association as a Charitable organisation
27 August 2018:	Final amendment to the constitution was accepted at a special AGM The special AGM was held on 27 August 2018
14 September 2018:	Accepted by ATO for Deductible Gift Recipient status (The letter was actually received on 18 January 2019)
06 July 2019:	Registered for GST: 7110787390140



PERTH MODERNIAN SOCIETY
**MUSEUM ASSOCIATION
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REPORT FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD
Dr Robyn White

HONOUR THE HISTORY, SHARE THE HERITAGE

This statement succinctly describes the essence of what we do – the Perth Modernian Society Museum Association Incorporated is responsible for overseeing the collection, preservation, conservation and displaying of elements of Perth Modern School's past and present. This activity takes place in the School Museum, where we are able to share the past and present with our alumni, their families and the wider community. Once again we are indebted to Sallie Davies – who first tagged this assertion as a coherent representation of the work of the Museum Committee and Museum Association Incorporated.

2019-20 has been an incredible year of energy and achievement for the Perth Modernian Society Museum Association Incorporated – despite the Covid related suspension of our efforts in April and May. We are a comparatively new entity, built on the collective volunteer efforts of a multitude of alumni since the Historical and Museum Committee commenced its work in 1973. These volunteers saw value in maintaining the archival records of the students and staff of Perth Modern School since 1911, collecting and conserving the School's art work and collecting, preserving and conserving student records and the many artefacts donated to the Perth Modernian Society. More recently the volunteers have worked on developing and extending the electronic data-base of past students and staff and in digitally accessioning, conserving and preserving artefacts. And why make these efforts? Because in time, these archives and artefacts provide a rich diversity of data available for families, researchers and the public to better understand the course of society, culture and education towards the present.

Following our previous year (2018-19) of meeting the bureaucratic challenge of accreditation, the 2019- 2020 year has seen the Association focus on successful grant applications and fundraising so that the operation of the Museum and its activities might be extended.

FUNDING FOR SPECIFIC PROJECTS

Early in this financial year, the Association was focussed on re-furbishing the World War I memorial and the World War II seat. Funding for this project was via a successful grant application to the Department of Veterans Affairs, Saluting Their Service for \$4,000, plus the very generous support from the family of alumni plus \$1000 donated by Bankwest. The results of this work will stand for many years – certainly worth a look on your next visit at the school.

We were also successful in bidding for two further grants early in this financial year. A grant of \$3,750 from the Department of Community Services was used to replace our aging laptop computers with upgraded models. In addition, a successful application to Lotterywest resulted in a grant of \$8,250 that contributed towards an upgrade to our communication software.

These grants provided critical support that enhances our volunteers' ability to extend our digital data-base as well as further protect and conserve our heritage memorials and artefacts for the future.

As I write, the Museum Association Inc has three current grant applications submitted to various bodies:

- We have requested (through Bob Johnson) a further \$.... from the Department of Veterans Affairs, so that we might improve the accuracy of the Honour Boards in the Beasley Building and also develop a digital Honour Board available for visitors to the building.
- A request for funding from the National Library Association so that we might engage a professional evaluator to review our Museum collection and advise us on the most appropriate directions for the future.
- We have also applied to the Western Australian History Foundation for funds in order to research and write a History of Music at Mod that will appropriately represent the path of Music education at the School and across public education, especially the Secondary Special Placement Program of 1968 – 2007.

FUND RAISING

2020 marked the first time that the Museum Association has reached out to our wider community for extensive donations – albeit tax deductible donations now.

We have been overwhelmed by the generosity of our community – especially in the context of Covid lockdown and the anxieties that came with the pandemic threat.

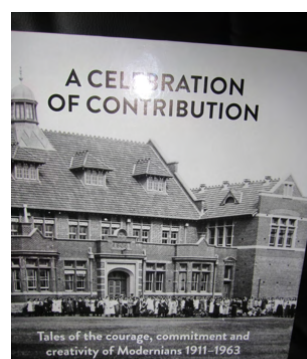
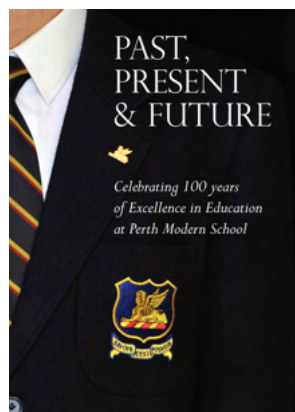
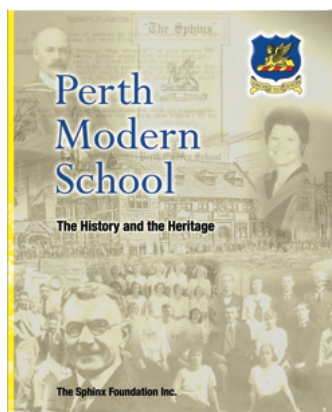
At 30 June 2020, this first fundraiser has raised \$17, 995.00 – easily surpassing our modest expectations and certainly enabling our volunteers to consider some more comprehensive developments.

From us all, a heartfelt thank you to all donors.

VISITORS

Despite our required closure while the State directed the lockdown of Museums, we have enjoyed welcoming alumni and families to the Museum while we have been open. On the occasions that families were unable to attend while our volunteers were in attendance on Monday mornings, we have been very happy to open the museum at other times. Please ask if this would better suit you and your families.

Throughout Terms 1 and 2, the Museum was also opened for Mr Isaac Kigodi's Year 10 class where students learned about augmented reality programs and particularly used artefacts in the Museum as the basis for extending information and data. Their work was a revelation for volunteers and continues to suggest possibilities for future Museum exhibits.



FINANCIAL REPORT

Mrs Sharon Williams, Hon Treasurer







PERTH MODERNIAN SOCIETY

HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2019-20

Also published in the Perth Modernian Society 2019 Annual Report

It became very apparent over the past decade that people are interested in the story of Perth Modern School and its valuable heritage. Our volunteer work now requires consistent financial support to meet the continuing costs associated with collecting, preserving and exhibiting the physical and cultural traditions of Perth Modern School.

The **Historical and Museum Committee** has met needs until now with minimal fund raising. Urgent support has been sought through grant applications to meet the current imperative for maintenance and replacement of IT equipment used by our volunteers who work in this area. The updating by the volunteers of the MOSAiC museum collection data-base and the Jarvis eXMOD data-base (JeD – Jarvis eXMod Db) for staff/student biographical information is constant in house and remotely. This Committee has now moved to become a standing committee of the Board of the **Perth Modernian Society Museum Association Incorporated** with the long term dream of raising funds to employ a CEO/Collections Manager to support our volunteers to effectively prioritise and manage 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.

The **2019 Board of the Perth Modernian Society Museum Association** is chaired by Dr Robyn White. Other Board members are Sallie Davies (Chair of the Museum [H&M] Standing Committee), Bob Johnson (Treasurer), Sharon Williams (Secretary), Professor Alistair Paterson (archaeologist and researcher), and Lois Joll (School Principal). This Board will be expanded to seven people who meet the criteria required by the ATO for responsible persons with particular interest and financial expertise for the organisation to retain this long sought for DGR status

Your help as a volunteer, memorabilia donor or financial benefactor (now with tax deductibility) can make a difference. Please contact Sallie Davies 041 9964 732 or Robyn White 0409 889 056 to discuss how you might share our dreams.

Email: museum@perthmoderniansociety.org.au



PERTH MODERNIAN SOCIETY

**MUSEUM ASSOCIATION
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Introducing Board Members

Dr Robyn White

PMS Principal 2000-2010

Board Chair from November 2018

My commitment and interest in advancing the knowledge and understanding of the history of the school commenced prior to my appointment to Perth Modern School. The early history of the school, its curriculum and leadership formed part of the research undertaken for my doctoral study. Once a member of the school community, I recognized the extensive volunteer work undertaken by the Perth Modernian Society and the Historical and Museum Committee. Since my retirement from the school, I have happily supported this work.

I believe that I am a responsible person with a clear focus to secure the financial future for



the history and the heritage of Perth Modern School - for future generations and for the benefit of the wider community. Through my activities as part of the School community, I believe I have demonstrated my belief in the value of educational experiences related to the research and development of activities relevant to heritage matters. The skills honed in my professional capacity are transferable to those practiced in the volunteer context.

In my first year as a member and Chair of the Board of the Perth Modernian Society Museum Association Incorporated, our Board has strongly focussed on successfully operating the Museum and improving our financial stability in order to benefit school and community

members. We hope to do so further in each year ahead.

Sallie Davies (née Hicks)

PMS student 1951-1955, staff 1961

Chair, Museum Standing Committee

My involvement in developing, co-ordinating and managing a local government volunteer service and as a foundation Board member in the establishment of Volunteering WA and Volunteering Australia, the state and national bodies to support volunteering, provided me with many years of unique experience and expertise in volunteer management requirements, including governance.

On retirement I became involved with the publication group led by historian David Black who was Chair of the Sphinx Foundation under its original constitution. The book *Perth Modern School: the History and the Heritage* was published in 2005. My interest in the history of the School grew with this involvement and I realised the hidden treasures which needed to be available for future study. The establishment of the History Centre highlighted the need for coordination of volunteer activities, fund development and stronger direct school liaison if this work is to be of service to the students, staff and wider community.

The Perth Modernian Society Museum Association Incorporated has become a registered charity under the auspices of the Perth Modernian Society. The Board is ready to do what it can to ensure retention of the Museum archives and displays and heritage trails, and to support technological development. Students, families, researchers and interested community members can help as we now embark on the fascinating journey of discovery of many who have gone before.

Sharon Williams

PMS Parent-2014-current

I am an inaugural board member of the Perth Modernian Society Museum Association Board and also an Executive Committee Member of the PMS Parent & Citizens Association (P & C) and former parent of a Mod graduate who appreciates Perth Modern School's well-defined role in public education. Mod is aptly referred to as the 'jewel in the crown' and is certainly a shining example of our public education system in Western Australia.

I am grateful to the many who ensured so much of Mod's history has been and continues to be conserved, preserved and shared with all. I will continue to assist and support the association's purpose, our volunteers and the school community in keeping the history (past, present and future) and heritage alive wherever I can.

Lois Joll

PMS Principal 2011-current

Dr Alistair Paterson

PMS Parent 2018-current

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.

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 my daughters attend

Jeffrey Lai

PMS Parent 2019-current

I am delighted to be a member of the Board of the Perth Modernian Society Museum Association. My son is very blessed to be admitted to PMS (Year 7 in 2019) and I would like to contribute to the school community to further build on the school's legacy.

In my 30-year professional career, I have developed experience in strategic IT management. I am currently the CEO of Vortiv Ltd, an ASX-listed cloud and cyber security specialist. Prior to this, I have held numerous leadership positions for global strategy and technology consulting firms, including Managing Director of Accenture and Arthur D. Little.

I hold a Bachelor of Engineering degree from the University of Melbourne and a Masters of Business Administration from INSEAD.

What I can offer to the Museum Association:

- Board-level experience: I am able to contribute towards the board's strategic and governance roles, by drawing on my experience having served on the boards of listed, unlisted, not-for-profit organisations and schools, including the board of the Perth Modern School.
- IT and technology knowledge: able to draw on my IT management experience to help the Museum Association upgrade and modernise its IT infrastructure cost effectively.
- Commercial skills: able to provide a commercial perspective to strengthen the financial independence of the Museum Association.



On a working day in the History Centre Robyn and other volunteers Alan Porter, PMS student 1943-47 and Frank Hedges. PMS student 1948-52 welcome a visitor from Melbourne Richard Gertzel, PMS student 1941-43

Sallie Davies (née Hicks)

PMS student 1951-1955, PMS staff 1961

Chair, Museum [H&M] Standing Committee

The desire to record and maintain the proud history and legacies of Perth Modern School has continued since its establishment in 1911. In 1973, the unincorporated Historical and Museum Society was formed to gather and display items of historical interest. In 1995 the Historical and Museum Society took the decision to become a standing committee of the Perth Modernian Society Incorporated in order to benefit from operating within an incorporated body. Legislative changes at both state and commonwealth levels, together with the evolving nature of volunteering have since brought about necessary changes to the structure of such non-profit groups. In September 2017 the **Perth Modernian Society Museum Association Incorporated** was established to seek to be a charity whose primary objective is to advance education and benefit the community as a whole by means of providing funding to the Historical and Museum Committee to enable the latter body to advance heritage and culture in the wider community.

I was a PMS student 1951-55, and a teacher at the School in 1961. Since 2003 I have been involved in researching, developing and understanding the needs for the preservation of the history and the heritage of Perth Modern School, including publications, displays and volunteer activities.

My volunteer interest and involvement in strengthening the work of the H&M Committee through the development of the History Centre has highlighted the need for coordination of fund development and stronger direct school liaison if this work is to survive. This has led to the newly incorporated Perth Modernian Society Museum Association Incorporated.

My interest now lies in helping the inaugural Board to become a well balanced fundraising governing body with strong connections to the Perth Modernian Society membership through integrated strategic planning, public interest and student engagement. My involvement in co-ordinating, developing and managing a local government volunteer service for the City of Stirling and as a foundation Board member in the establishment of Volunteering WA and Volunteering Australia, the state and national bodies to support volunteering, has provided me with many years of unique experience and expertise in volunteer management requirements, including governance.

I believe that involving interested Perth Modernian Society members in the fund development and key purpose activities of the Perth Modernian Society Museum Association can increase membership of the wider society and strengthen the resolve of the wider community to support the education and purpose of the Perth Modern School.



*Sallie (L) is pictured here with three key volunteers for the History Centre:
Ian Jarvis (Communications Manager)
PMS student 1954-58, PMS Staff 1961,
Alison Woodman, (Biographical
Researcher), and Deb Beresford (Honorary
Archivist), PMS Librarian 1974-2007*

Robert (Bob) Johnson

PMS student 1961-65

Educational Background

I have a Bachelor of Business in Accounting, a Graduate Diploma of Business in Marketing and a Master of Business Administration.

Professional Membership

I have been a member of CPA Australia since 1984. I am currently a financial member on the Retired List.

Work Experience

I have worked in both the public and private sectors in Australia and overseas. Industries include aviation, construction, television broadcasting, oil and gas exploration and production, hospitality, power generation and tourism. I have prepared numerous sets of financial statements for public and private companies, not-for-profit organisations, trusts and partnerships. The last five years of my working life consisted of teaching accounting and finance in Curtin University's Master of Business Administration programme. I currently undertake voluntary work in the homeless and asylum seeker areas.

Contribution to the success of the Perth Modernian Society Museum Association Incorporated

I have endeavoured to ensure that the Association has effective financial systems in place, provided accurate and complete financial information to the board from which sound financial decisions may be made, advised on investment strategies and participated in board activities such as the setting and review of the medium and long term objectives and strategies of the Association.



Bob (L) is at the end of this line of volunteers as they were photographed while waiting to welcome guests to the History Centre on our inaugural Heritage Day event in October 2018. Sharon Williams is 4th from left (Sharon's profile follows overleaf).

Sharon Williams

PMS Parent-2014-current

I am honoured to have become one of the inaugural Board members and willing to offer whatever I can to assist and support this association purpose and current volunteers in keeping the history (both past, present and future) and heritage alive for hopefully many future generations to come.

Being heavily involved in the Save Perth Modern campaign saw our family develop a deeper passion and understanding of Mod's well established purpose since 1911. As a parent one is grateful for our public education system and opportunities provided for all, no matter your address or background. Mod is at times aptly referred to as the 'jewel in the crown' and is certainly a shining example of what can be achieved in public education in Western Australia. Being involved in the PMS History Centre allows me to keep learning, contribute, promote and hopefully assist in ensuring our school is fortified so others can continue to be educated at Mod.

It is essential PMS History Centre carries on its valuable work of adding to, maintaining and preserving our school's history so many within Mod and the wider community can enjoy and learn from the past. I would also hope that our Mod community can be strengthened through the connections made and relationships developed.

I was born in Victoria and gained a Bachelor of Business Majoring in Accounting from Latrobe University College of Northern Victoria - studied part time 1985 to 1991 whilst working full time in the family business and the Bendigo Bank. I worked and lived at various mine sites in Western Australia and Tasmania to 1998 where my last role was the Senior Mine Site Accountant. We moved to Kununurra, Western Australia in 1999 with our first child and then PNG where it was not practical to carry on my accounting career. I have resided in Perth since 2008.

From 1999 onwards concentrated on 'Mum' role in remote towns whilst my husband held senior management roles which saw him frequently working and studying away from our home. Over many different locations I was involved in many community activities and held committee executive positions. I was heavily involved in the campaign to save Perth Modern School from the beginning and took on the leadership of the Save Perth Modern Campaign group who organised the Peaceful Public March to Parliament House and successfully lobbied various political parties for support. I hold an Executive position on Perth Modern School Parents & Citizens and help to organise fundraising and community events at school.

Lois Joll

PMS Principal 2011-current



As Principal of Perth Modern School I am delighted to be a member of the Board of the Museum Association in and to support its work. I am committed to ensuring that the rich history of the school is celebrated and continues to be valued. It is vital to ensure that the history is not lost. This can only be achieved through careful collection and archiving of material so that current and future generations of students and the broader community can access and be inspired by the educational achievements of the school and stories of Modernians past and present.

As a graduate of UWA with Honours in History and teacher of Australian History for over twenty years I have always had a commitment to valuing the past whilst looking to the future. In working as Director of Secondary Education with leadership of Gifted Education I proposed and led the initiative to re-establish a fully select academic school in WA to meet the needs of gifted students. I proposed Perth Modern as the site rather than the building on a green-field site because of its significant history in that domain.

- In my eight years as Principal I have worked to support the Perth Modernian Society to promote the history of the school through
- Membership of the Perth Modernian Society Board.
- Always acknowledging the Modernians and their contribution to the school to current students and parents
- Supporting the establishment of the annual Modernian oration
- Leading the Celebrations around the 2011 centenary with the special dinner and the installation of the history panels in the Andrews Building and subsequently renaming all the buildings to acknowledge individuals who had made a significant contribution to the school
- Working with the P and C to produce a celebratory publication of the 100 years
- Regularly featuring Modernians in our school newsletter
- Encouraging staff to interact with members the Historical and Museum Committee to create opportunities for students to become more aware of, and support the promotion of, the history of the school
- Commissioning and publishing, with the support of Alison Woodman, Roger Stubbs and Sallie Davies and the Historical and Museum Committee, *A Celebration of Contribution* which celebrates over 160 Modernians contributions to society.

As Principal of Perth Modern School I am of course accountable and responsible for a very large budget, over 130 staff and 1400 students. These skills would support the work of the Association.

In my personal life I was a member of ZONTA for many years. ZONTA is an international professional women's organisation which raises awareness of the challenges women face throughout the world and works to improve their status through advocacy and fundraising. This commitment meant that I gained significant experience in both promoting causes and fundraising initiatives.

Dr Alistair Paterson

PMS Parent 2018-current



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 trepangers 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 analyzed as a whole.

Our ARC project *Collecting the West: Reimagining Western Australia from its collections* (21016-2020) 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. 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 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.

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

Jeffrey Lai

PMS Parent 2019-current



I am keen to support the activities of the Perth Modernian Society Museum Association.

My son is very blessed to be admitted to PMS (Year 7 in 2019) and I would like to contribute to the school community to further improve the school in whichever way it sees fit.

I have the following skills that could be useful for the Museum Association:

- IT and technology knowledge – able to leverage my IT knowledge and network to help the Museum explore alternative ways to upgrade its current museum collection and alumni databases
- Management accountability and governance – based on experience in leadership and Board positions of private enterprises and not-for-profit organisations
- Strategy – extensive experience helping companies develop strategy
- Funding & finance – knowledge of fund raising for commercial organisations

Evidence of “*responsible person of good standing in the community and profession*” (as stipulated in the Constitution):

- National Criminal History Check clearance – conducted in March 2019 (available on request)
- CEO and Board member of ASX-listed company (TSN) since 2017
- Board member of five technology companies in Australia, UK, Singapore and Mauritius
- Board of Perth Modern School since 2019

Sallie Davies (née Hicks)

PMS student 1951-1955, staff 1961

Chair, Museum Standing Committee

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PMS Principal 2011-current

Photo and profile to be provided by Thalia

Dr Alistair Paterson

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