



PERTH MODERNIAN SOCIETY  
MUSEUM ASSOCIATION  
INCORPORATED

ABN: 73 761 561 543



## 2022-23 ANNUAL REPORT



*One of the many Museum open days which include reunions and events*



## REPORT FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD

Dr Robyn White

### CONTINUING TO HONOUR THE HISTORY, SHARE THE HERITAGE



Some of our Superb Volunteers - Gay, Loren, Wendy, Bob, Chair Dr Robyn White & Jill

### Introduction

Finally, 2022-23 has seen our Museum and volunteers return to an uninterrupted year where the focus has remained on our collection, including new donations of artefacts. Their preservation and conservation while creating new displays for visitors has ensured that volunteers were kept well occupied. Less visible but similarly continuing unabated, was the research conducted by some volunteers – such as alumni associated with Australian military history and alumni participating in the specialist music program at Perth Modern School. Although many of our volunteers also renewed their enjoyment of international travel, the work of the museum has been able to continue. The Board of the Perth Modernian Society Museum Association Incorporated wishes to thank all of the volunteers and the Museum Committee for their focus and unrelenting commitment to the work of the museum.

### Grants and Fundraising

The funding required for the Perth Modernian Society Museum Association Incorporated to operate the Museum and maintain its collection and capacity to undertake research, is derived from only two sources. Our primary funding source remains the annual fundraising appeal including emailed and mailed brochures to alumni and friends of the museum. Additional funds are found through our volunteers applying for appropriate grant opportunities. These are generally made available by government, business or other entities with specific interests. Throughout the 2022-23 financial year, the Association was unsuccessful in accessing any grant funding.

### 2022-2023 Donors

Dr June Stephenson Mrs Laurie Best Mr John Stone AO Mr Barrie Baker Sue Strutt Beth Kallmeyer Edna Youngman Mr Geoff Grewar Mrs Margaret Puzey Ms Barbara Mallet Janelle and Chris Coates Dr Barry Saker Mr John Lane M.P.S.P.H.CH.J.P	Mr Kai Wu Mr Ralph Bilsby Sharon Williams Class of 1950-1954 Hon Daryl Williams AM QC Mrs & Dr Valerie & Ken Fitch Mrs E.M. Roberts Ms Jennifer Carrick Mrs Ruth Mickelson Dr Robyn White Roger Atkinson Mr W. L Turnbull Dr Mary J Marshall
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Although the Association was unsuccessful in winning any additional grant income in this financial year, volunteers have already submitted one request for this next financial year and have discussed submitting several more grant requests for the 2023-24 year.

Previously mentioned in Annual Reports, is the cost-recovery policy for services delivered to the wider community who seek information from our Museum records. This policy has been utilised once in this year. For readers, this policy is not intended to restrict alumni and their families from accessing information, but is only invoked when members of the wider community request a quantity of public information or photographs of past students. A copy of this policy is available on [www.perthmoderniansociety.org.au/museum](http://www.perthmoderniansociety.org.au/museum)

For some people, this is not an appropriate time to donate but there is a real intent to support the Museum activities at some time in the future or to donate for a particular project. A Bequest strategy has been developed and details can be found on the above website.

## Projects Completed and Continuing in 2022-23

Centenary of the unveiling of the PMS Cenotaph - Saturday 22 October 2022 from 11am

Early in 2022 Bob Johnson reminded volunteers that the School cenotaph was unveiled on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 1922 – so that this year would be the centenary of its installation. The School cenotaph is unique in that it was funded solely through donations made by the school staff, students and alumni. It holds a very special place in the memories of alumni since 1922, despite being moved several times to its current position between the Beasley and Andrews buildings.

The commemoration ceremony was very well attended. Visitors included the families of some of the fallen alumni, the President and Chairman of the National Trust of Western Australia, former Mayors and Freeman of the City of Subiaco, the local RSL President, executive members and other members, alumni and current students and their families as well as other visitors with links to the Western Australian historical societies. The event was live streamed to the Museum's Facebook page with the broadcast remaining there to view.

The organising volunteers were very fortunate in Mr Neil Coy and Ms Celia Christmass volunteering the Senior Wind Orchestra (newly reformed) to provide excellent and very appropriate music while several Year 11 students provided the speaking roles – as past students and as the MCs. Mrs Sallie Davies worked from home to collect the letters, poems and articles from Sphinx magazines that reflected the thoughts and understandings of the local population of the day. These she collated into a very moving account of those war years, “The Voices” created by students at the school. The keynote speaker was the school Principal Mr Mitchell Mackay – whose address literally brought tears to the eyes of at least one parent attendee – very moving and heartfelt.



#MilesTweediePhotography



#MilesTweediePhotography

Following the ceremony – conducted in spring sun in front of the cenotaph, all visitors were invited to morning tea in the Museum. Many visitors accepted this invitation and the Museum was packed with enthusiastic people enjoying their refreshments while examining the displays. Hon Bob Kucera, Chair, National Trust of Western Australia, was especially impressed by the extent of displays about a government school and its alumni. Former student Hon Dr Ken Michael AC, President of the



National Trust of Western Australia enjoyed the new exhibits, while our RSL visitors (in particular Mr Peter Hopper, former teacher, and Mr Richard Diggins OAM), expressed their sincere thanks for such an appropriate recognition of the sacrifice of so many alumni. A number of relatives of World War I alumni took that opportunity for photographs alongside the cenotaph and Museum displays. The Museum was also gifted a very impressive journal created on the life of Ivor Rhys (Head Boy 1915) by his descendants. Ivor was one of the students killed in WWI.



#MilesTweediePhotography



#MilesTweediePhotography

### Military Service Commemoration

During the year the digital commemoration website was enhanced by the addition of a nominal roll. The website now consists of the Honour Board which has details in relation to the 153 former students who lost their lives as a result of their service, and the Nominal Roll which has details regarding the 1,614 students who served and returned home. The website is located at <http://honour.perthmodern.wa.edu.au>. It received 6,760 views during the year, averaging 18 a day. The total number of views since it was established in September 2020 is 11,805.

Four articles were published in the Society's quarterly newsletters regarding five former students who died as a result of their service during World War 2.

An article was published in The Post Newspaper in November 2022 commemorating the loss of Engineer Sub-Lieutenant Fred Schoch and Signaller Eric Redmond, the only two students who died while serving in the Royal Australian Navy. By a remarkable coincidence they were both serving on HMAS *Sydney* when she was sunk in the battle against the German auxiliary cruiser *Kormoran* on 19 November 1941 near Shark Bay. Their stories are on the digital Honour Board.

A notice was placed in the *Can You Help* section of *The West Australian* on 15 May 2023 informing the public of the creation of the Nominal Roll and inviting additions and corrections. This resulted in the names of seven Vietnam veterans being added to the Nominal Roll, increasing their number from 10 to 17. Another four students who died as a result of their service in Vietnam are listed on the Honour Board.

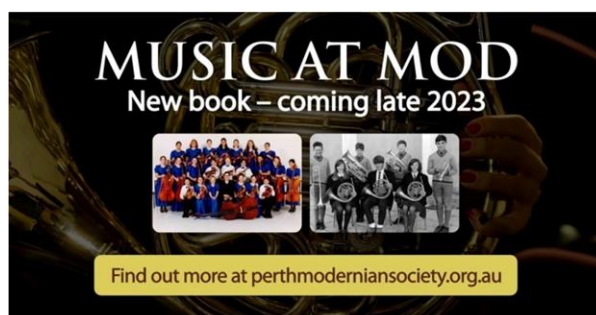
The identification last year of Robert Max Hayes for inclusion on the Malaya-Vietnam Honour Board required the purchase of a new Honour Board as the current one had no additional space. It was decided that the new Honour Board would include those who died since World War

ON THIS HONOUR BOARD ARE RECORDED THE NAMES OF STUDENTS OF PERTH MODERN SCHOOL WHO DIED WHILE SERVING AUSTRALIA IN CONFLICTS SINCE WORLD WAR TWO	
RONALD OFFORD	MALAYA
ALAN DUNCUFF	VIETNAM
EDWARD HARDS	VIETNAM
ROBERT HAYES	VIETNAM
BRIAN JONES	VIETNAM

### Music at Mod book

It has been three years in the making during COVID restrictions and beyond, written by Roger Stubbs resident in Bunbury. At the outset, our volunteers had little understanding of the lack of accumulated artefacts held by the Museum or the School that related to the Specialist Music Program. With Alison Woodman and Roger undertaking most of the research via a few face-to-face conversations, but emails, websites, social media, Museum records and the Battye Library, data

about the program and the students and teachers was gradually accumulated. To bring this project to the design phase has required dedicated perseverance on the part of Roger and Alison – and their efforts are applauded. The *Music at Mod* script was submitted for design in late April 2023. We hope that we will be ready to print the book during term 3 (about 350 pages, 175 photos and 1500 identified students and teachers) with a proposed launch date in term 4 2023. Of course, the Board has now recognised the cost of printing and will rely on the “*intent to purchase*” count on the website [www.perthmoderniansociety.org.au](http://www.perthmoderniansociety.org.au) in determining the number of books to be printed. Please make sure that your intentions are identified on this website.



### Network and Communication

As for many charities in this digital age, the Perth Modernian Society Museum Association Incorporated is continually reminded of the need to retain a digital presence as well as capacity. Five years ago, with the Perth Modernian Society, we were able to access a Lotterywest grant to upgrade our software and some associated hardware. However, as many younger people (who upgrade mobile phones every two years) might understand, software changes rapidly. Over recent years, since the retirement of Ian Jarvis, we’ve benefitted from the knowledge and support of Ed Lazarus – who has upgraded and enabled our network to function more effectively. With Ed’s recent decision to gradually retire from the Council of the Perth Modernian Society and to reduce his time commitment, we have been fortunate that Ian Hunt has found the time to volunteer with us. Ian was a very highly regarded teacher at the school for over twenty five years, where he filled positions including physical science teacher, computer science teacher and Manager of the school IT network. As with Ed, Ian is highly skilled when it comes to ICT capacity. Already, Ian and Ed have managed to rearrange our network hardware – even finding an IT cabinet to house the server etc. Following quotes from providers, we are greatly indebted to the school administration for undertaking a rewiring of the Museum electrical circuit so that the computer network might be better stabilised. Most recently, another means by which remote access can occur has been identified and installed (connection to the archive room is “*remote*” since there is no school network or other connection between the school and the buildings on Hamilton Road). When these networking solutions are stable, there are more challenges ahead in ensuring appropriate backing-up of all software as well as further updating of the JED (Jarvis ex Mod Database) software (perhaps to be much later!). We have been very fortunate to have two very capable individuals comfortable in volunteering their time and expertise to support us in ensuring that our digital data-bases are able to function appropriately. They have been further supported with additional information and knowledge from Jeff Lai, our Board member.

In addition to ICT providing us with the ability to create and store data about alumni and artefacts donated to the Museum, we have begun to use the digital environment to better communicate with alumni and other interested people. The Perth Modernian Society website has been active for many years and is consistently updated by our webmaster Stuart Gould. Similarly, the *Perth Modernian* e-newsletter is accessed via email with news about the School, its alumni, and the two registered charities the Museum Association and Sphinx Foundation. More recently, Sharon Williams responded to suggestions and has established a Museum Facebook page that has now been active for over a year – communicating events, research and alumni information. Sharon has now added Instagram to our communication suite. Each of these communication entities requires someone to

maintain, create information and respond as appropriate, and Sharon's initiative (and skill) is very much appreciated!

### Science displays

It was only just over a year ago that Peter Dillon and Loren White commenced reorganising the science exhibits in the Museum. That initial focus has widened to include the layout of much of the Museum – supported by the school administration enabling our access to two additional store rooms in the building. Peter and Loren have been able to move many storage items away from the Museum floor and into storage – and say they still have more to accomplish. The result to date has created more space within the Museum for displays as well as a rearrangement of science instrument displays. Peter and Loren have a plan for the new location of furniture and science equipment – and gradually it is happening. Returning visitors will recognise changes already. When the relocation of furniture has been completed and new displays created, Peter and Loren are planning to QR code all instruments to better enable visitors to understand the uses of each.

### Book organisation and accessioning

Over recent years, the Museum has been in receipt of many text books previously held by alumni as well as books written by alumni. The number of books received quickly surpassed the capacity of our Hon Archivist Deb Beresford, to accession each one. Over the past year, Gay Albillos has undertaken the process of managing the books held by the Museum. Gay has sorted books by alumnus author



versus text books and is ensuring that each is accessioned on our Collections Management System (MOSAiC), with an “*ex-Libris*” sticker in the front and then appropriately stored in our bookcases. This is a huge job! However, we can gradually see the large pile of books dwindling and the bookcases filling. Our next challenge is to find another larger bookcase!

### Reunion displays

2022 was a major year for reunion meetings at Perth Modern School – creating the need for our volunteers to create multiple year specific displays for visiting alumni. Sharon Williams has undertaken leadership in this role throughout the past year and has thoughtfully created extensive displays. Over the past year, class reunions for the final years 1962, 1972, 1973, 1982, 2011 and 2012 were successfully undertaken. Inevitably the photos create great interest and discussion!

### Family and alumni research

Over the past year, as in previous years, the Museum volunteers have been able to provide new information, photos and support to families researching members who had attended Perth Modern School. This continues to be incredibly rewarding work for volunteers as we also learn more about each alumnus and their lives as seen through family eyes.

### Collaboration

The Perth Modernian Society Museum Association Incorporated recognises that our Museum is a part of a wider community of both alumni and local community. As such we continue to welcome connection to organisations and individuals with similar focus.

- The Museum has maintained its membership of the Australian Museums and Galleries Association (AMaGA). Our updating of our digital entry on the Collections WA website is commencing.
- Our connection with the Kentian Society (alumni from Kent Street Senior High School) has continued.
- Over the past year, members of the Museum have visited the Newman College archivist and Perth Museum.

- Through Bob Johnson’s research on military history we continue to form connections with other entities. These include the UWA Historical Society, RSL Clubs and the National Military Museum.

## Governance and Compliance

Throughout the 2022-23 year, the Board of the Perth Modernian Society Museum Association Inc., included:

Dr Robyn White Mrs Sharon Williams Ms Monica Brierley-Hay Mr Jeff Lai Professor Alistair Paterson Ms Lois Joll Ms Nicola Reilly Hon Julian Grill	Chair Hon Treasurer Hon Secretary Board member Board Member (until March 2023) Approved leave of absence from February 2022 Deputy Principal, Perth Modern School: ex officio President, Perth Modernian Society: ex-officio (until he retired in November 2022)
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Throughout the year, the Board met four times (once per term) and all meetings were available through Microsoft Teams as well as face-to-face.

Over the course of this year, BAS statements have been submitted quarterly to the ATO (Australian Tax Office). Following the 2021-22 Annual General Meeting, the Annual Information Statement required by Consumer Protection (WA) and the ACNC was uploaded in January 2023.

## Vale

In this recent year, we have lost two alumni who were very long standing volunteers of the Historical and Museum Committee and Perth Modernian Society. Throughout their time volunteering in various capacities for what became the Perth Modernian Society Museum Association (PMSocMA), both men provided specific, valuable support and leadership.

### Ian Jarvis

Ian’s many volunteering achievements across all entities of the Perth Modernian Society have been documented in the e-newsletter of 2022. His volunteering commitment commenced with the Historical and Museum Committee (H&M Committee) and as he used his expertise and creativity with available digital technology for the benefit of the H&M Committee and Perth Modernian Society, his support became indispensable. The Jarvis e-Data-base (JED data-base) continually reminds volunteers in the Museum of his diligence. Ian’s quiet good humour, his eagerness to help solve problems, his interest in history and the people in it as well as his ingrained commitment to volunteer work (his work with Kids are Kids was similarly extraordinary), meant that when he retired from his weekly Monday mornings in the Museum, he was deeply missed.

### Alan Porter

Alan spent much of his retirement continuing to build and maintain links with alumni throughout Perth and beyond. As the vehicle from which to access many past students and *“support good works around the School”*, Alan accepted the role of Treasurer of the H&M Committee of the Perth Modernian Society. He was one of the earlier H&M Committee members who worked to establish the physical museum in 2010-11, and continued to attend the museum on most Monday mornings until 2019. Alan’s preferred area of volunteering lay with restoring and maintaining science equipment. However, while this might have been his focus in the museum, in more recent years he spent more time around the city visiting alumni who could no longer do so themselves, then relating their stories to others. In this way, he connected many Modernian alumni with each other – and kept us enthralled. Alan’s presence was much missed when he decided to retire from volunteering.



## Thank you

Recent years have been challenging for the general population, our school community and particularly in maintaining activities in the Museum. We are fortunate in sharing values, commitment and goals with our volunteers and the wider school and local community. The ongoing support by our School Principal **Mr Mitchell Mackay** has been vital and his nomination of **Ms Nikki Reilly** (Deputy Principal) as the school nominee on the Board has been critical in ensuring that we work collaboratively and effectively. Similarly we thank the Perth Modernian Society and their now retired President **Julian Grill** as well as other Council members who have been active in supporting the Museum Association.

Our Board members have been long standing volunteers who ensure that our governance is effective and appropriate. We were incredibly disappointed that **Professor Alistair Paterson** retired from the Board earlier this year. Professor Paterson has been an inaugural Board member and provided excellent advice throughout his years on the Board. With his election to the Perth Modern School Board at the end of 2022, and the additional school-related focus, he regretfully retired from our Board. We especially thank him for all of his efforts over the past three years. As our Museum activities have developed, we are grateful to our Board member **Mr Jeffrey Lai** for his informed advice regarding ICT networking and software and to **Ms Monica Brierley-Hay** for her legal advice, as well as her focus as an alumnus. **Ms Sharon Williams**, a former parent and now the Museum Association Hon Treasurer, is tireless in her total support for the school and for the Museum – an incredibly energetic and effective volunteer across so many fields. Thank you all.

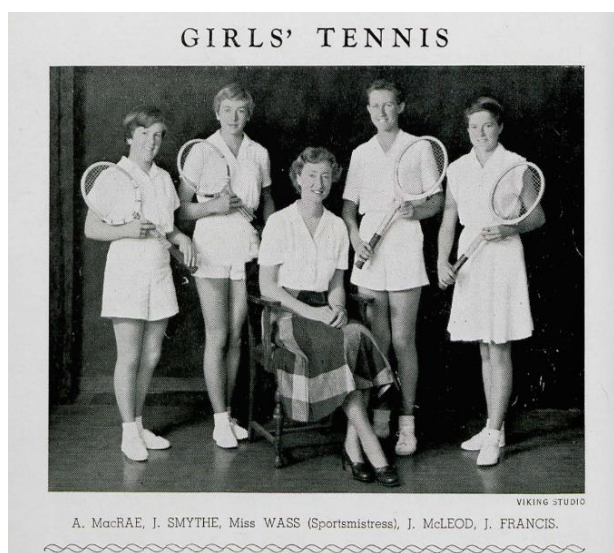
Finally, thank you to our weekly volunteer crew! Our **Hon Archivist, Deb Beresford** and her able assistant **Dierdre Owen. Gay Albillos** who has mastered our cataloguing system MOSAiC to support Deb in accessioning and displaying our book collection. **Frank Hedges** and **Jim Davies** who maintain the hard copy George Burvill Biographical Index files of publicly available information about alumni. Peter Dillon and Loren White who oversight the science collection, **Wendy McCallum** and **Jill Lucas** who enter further data into JED (Jarvis e-data-base), **Roger Stubbs** who researches and has written the “*Music at Mod*” publication, **Alison Woodman** who catalogues photographs and researches and edits for the “*Music at Mod*” book, **Sharon Williams** who oversees displays and our social media presence, **Ian Hunt** and **Ed Lazarus** who maintain and update our IT connectivity and **Bob Johnson** our military historian extraordinaire. Off site, we are fortunate in having **Sallie Davies** continuing in her commitment to support the updating of JED. We are incredibly fortunate to be enjoying the friendships, skills and understandings of such generous people.

## Vale – Special Supporter and Friend of the Museum

Dr June Stephenson (nee McLeod), student 1948-52

June Stephenson “*A proud Perth Modernian who lived her life on her own terms. June was a determined and effective educator, forthright in her commentary on people and events and a wonderful friend. She is already missed. Robyn, Loren and Perth Modernian Society Museum volunteers.*” - The West Australian, Saturday February 11, 2023.

As well as an educator June was also a talented tennis player and sports woman. June was a very significant supporter and friend of the Museum and the Society. In 2018 June received a Moderna Scola for her “*long and significant contribution to Perth Modern School and to the community.*” Very much an inspiration and someone we will never forget. Thank you June.



The Sphinx November 1952





PERTH MODERNIAN SOCIETY  
MUSEUM ASSOCIATION  
INCORPORATED

## 2022-23 ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Sharon Williams, Hon Treasurer

The Perth Modernian Society Museum Association (PMSocMA) Incorporated uses cash accounting which records revenue when money is received and expenses when money is paid. The Association is a registered small charity having annual revenue under \$500,000. The financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the PMSocMA as at 30 June 2023. At the date of this statement there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Association is able to pay all of its debts, as and when they become due and payable. The 2022/2023 financial year was the fourth full financial year of the Association and included a successful grant application and our fourth fundraising campaign in May/June of 2023.

### FINANCIAL REPORT AS AT 30 JUNE 2023

#### Cash Receipts and Payments for the year 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023

<u>Cash Receipts</u>	\$
Donations from former students/parents	21,605.11
Entertainment book commission	66.00
Interest	1,064.81
ATO - Refund of GST	630.00
Other	100.00
<b><u>Total Cash Receipts</u></b>	<b>23,465.92</b>
 <u>Cash Payments</u>	
Printing, Postage and Stationery	27.25
IT Software & Licenses & Upgrade & AMaGA Membership	864.49
Grant DVA Digital Honour Board Stage 2 - Jan 21	1,947.00
New Jarrah Honour Board - Conflicts after WWII	455.40
Music @ Mod Book	6,354.19
Bank Fees	120.78
Insurance	1,489.00
Honour Board/Frame - Ralph Honner	384.50
Other - includes Oct 22 Associated Costs	723.39
<b><u>Total Cash Payments</u></b>	<b>12,366.00</b>
 <u>Surplus</u>	<b><u>11,099.92</u></b>

### BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 JUNE 2023

<u>Current Assets</u>	
Bankwest operating account	23,046.36
Bank of Queensland term deposits	66,034.40
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>89,080.76</b>
Liabilities	-
<b><u>Net Assets</u></b>	<b>89,080.76</b>
 <u>Members' Funds</u>	
Opening balance as at 1 July 2021	77,980.84
Add surplus for the period	11,099.92
 <b><u>Closing balance as at 30 June 2023 PMSocMA Accounts</u></b>	<b>89,080.76</b>



PERTH MODERNIAN SOCIETY  
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## MUSEUM COMMITTEE REPORT

### MUSEUM VOLUNTEERS AT WORK

#### Overview

The Museum Standing Committee has continued to work in accordance with the requirements set out on the updated 2022-24 Forward Plan reviewed and adjusted by this Committee and approved by the Board at the February 2022 meeting.

#### 2022-23 Year

Following several years of occasional restrictions as determined by State and Federal Government requirements, this past year has seen the Museum activities continue without hindrance. The high incidence of virus infections across our population has occasionally led to individual volunteers absenting themselves, as would have happened in previous years. Consequently, throughout this year all meetings have taken place and volunteers continued to meet student and staff requests through personal and online communication.

#### 2022 Annual Reunion and Year Group Reunions

The Annual Reunion for the Perth Modernian Society was held on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2022. Following on from the very successful 2021 format, the Reunion comprised a wonderful final concert from the senior students leading to high tea. The Museum volunteers were especially pleased at the number of people visiting the Museum on the day.



Class of 1992 – 30 year Reunion



Class of 1982 – 40 year reunion

The second half of 2022 kept Sharon Williams and others busily engaged in preparing for student year reunions. On 1st October the Class of 1992 students met at school for their afternoon reunion. Students visited the Museum and were highly amused by the photographs, *The Sphinx* magazines and other artefacts available. At the end of October (31<sup>st</sup>), the Class of 1957 students celebrated their special year with a very well attended afternoon at the Claremont Tennis Club. The school principal Mitch McKay, Modernian Society President Julian Grill and Museum Chair, Robyn White addressed the group. The Class of 1982 students held their reunion in mid-November, off-site from the school but borrowed various artefacts for their celebration. The Class of 2011 students organised their ten year celebration (overdue as a result of Covid restrictions) on 11<sup>th</sup> November. This was well attended by very enthusiastic young alumni who enjoyed visiting the Museum to review their photographs and comments from high school years. The Class of 2012 students met following the end of the school year on 18<sup>th</sup> December. This was again a well-attended evening that included extended time in the museum reviewing photographs, *The Sphinx* magazines and other artefacts.

Already in 2023, Sharon and her support volunteers have provided displays for the May Class of 1973 reunion of alumni. This was a busy and very happy group of people renewing friendships and memories. Meanwhile, Mary Jane Whitehead has visited the Museum in preparation for the 1963 reunion on 7<sup>th</sup> October later in this year.

### **On-going Volunteer Projects**

#### IT delivery, networking etc

The past year has seen a gradual transition from Ed Lazarus and his superb work in maintaining the Museum/Modernian ICT, to Ian Hunt, who has now effectively taken the lead as Ed happily enjoys more time in retirement. Ian has ensured an informed support group in Ed and our Board member Jeff Lai, as he identifies further improvements. We are indebted to the school administration for their rapid support in undertaking electrical rewiring of the Museum once Ian had accessed two quotes for the work. This rewiring has enabled the computer switches, router etc to be housed in an appropriate cabinet in the “office” space adjacent to the main display room. No more double adaptors! Continued challenges in enabling cost effective remote connections (including to the Archive Room), appropriate backing up and the updating of hardware and some software continue to keep Ian occupied in his research. We are very appreciative of Ian’s active support.

#### Archives

The Museum archives are curated by Honorary Archivist Deb Beresford alongside her able assistant Deirdre Owen. Their work is ongoing as artefacts are donated to the Museum. These are properly catalogued (on our digital cataloguing software, MOSAiC) and then stored appropriately. More recently, Deb’s expertise with MOSAiC has been shared with Gay Albillos and Sharon Williams.

#### Book Collection

The Museum holds an extensive collection of books – authored by alumni, or about the lives of alumni, or text books from school days. To catalogue each is a mammoth venture and in order to accomplish this, Gay Albillos agreed to support Deb and Deirdre in this. Effectively, this role has now taken over Gay’s volunteer time and she is making great headway in finally creating organisation and logic in our accessioning and storage of books.

#### Photographs and Displays

The digitisation and cataloguing of photographs by Alison Woodman is continuing. This is a time consuming process and Alison has also edited the Music at Mod book – contributing massive volunteer hours. However, being able to find photographs on MOSAiC is incredibly time saving as displays are being created or when family members request information about their alumnus forebears. Sharon Williams has been kept very busy with reunion displays as well as that for the centenary celebration of the cenotaph.

#### George Burvill Biographical Index

The old Pound cupboard in the Museum houses a multitude of files of the George Burvill Biographical Index. Here hard copy information (newspaper articles, letters, email copies, documents) is filed under alumnus names through the efforts of Jim Davies and Frank Hedges.



### Data Entry into JED

This is another on-going task and Wendy McCallum and Jill Lucas are a very focussed team! While they volunteer and effectively update files on Monday mornings, we also appreciate the efforts of Sallie Davies who continues to be committed to improving the data held on the JED data-base – so that her knowledge of people and stories remains unsurpassed!

### Science Collection

In the past year, Peter Dillon and Loren White have continued to refurbish the science collection. Peter had earlier developed a three point plan to streamline the Science



Collection and identify and catalogue further items in the collection. With Loren, they are continuing to complete this massive endeavour. Alongside this refurbishing, Peter and Loren have identified other ways in which some of the furniture in the Museum might be moved to create a more effective display area. This is underway already and we can appreciate the spaces created (further improved as another storeroom has been gifted to the museum by the school administration). As an additional role, Peter's excellent photographic

skills have been utilised in the Society newsletter and to create additional interest in the *Music at Mod* book.

### War Service and Honour Boards

Bob Johnson has made an enormous contribution to our understanding of the place of alumni in Australian military conflicts. He has continued in this work and continues to share his updated knowledge with the Australian National War Museum as well as local military historians. The new Honour Board celebrating alumni who have fallen in military conflicts since World War II is now in the Beasley auditorium alongside other Honour Boards. Thank you to the school principal and administration for their support in enabling this to happen. Bob also continues to upload new data to the digital Honour Board and Nominal Roll on the School website. His work was critical in providing data for the display honouring the centenary of the unveiling of the school cenotaph.

### Publications

The Museum Publications Committee led by Sallie Davies has continued to contribute items and checks on historical facts in accordance with its Publications Policy to the:

- Perth Modernian Society e-Newsletter
- Perth Modern School Newsletter
- *Music at Mod*

The extensive task of researching and writing the history of the Specialist Music Program at Perth Modern School has been well supported by alumnus and volunteers. Roger Stubbs has led this process and contributed enormous hours in an effort to access artefacts and people where there has been a real absence of physical artefacts held in the Museum and School. The Publications Committee looks forward to the imminent publication of this book.

### Heritage Trail

The Heritage Trail originally researched and devised by Sallie Davies, continues to be valued by the School. Volunteer student guides trained by school teacher Ms Thalia Cole's, conduct tours for new students and their families, alumni groups and visitors to the School. The Museum volunteers are now looking for appropriate grants that might enable us to install metal QR codes at locations along the Trail so that individuals might conduct self-guided digital tours.



## MUSEUM VISITORS AND DATES

The Museum is opened to the public each Monday morning during term time and/or by arrangement subject to the availability of Museum Committee volunteers.

Visitors Included:

### 2022

15 <sup>th</sup> August	Ken and Helen Manson
22 <sup>nd</sup> August	Kevan and Tricia Ross (grandparents of a staff member) Daryl Sexton – alumnus
12 <sup>th</sup> September	Kim Forrest (son of Gretchen Forrest (nee Loaring)) Brett Wright and Julia Moody – preparing for the 1973 reunion in May
22 <sup>nd</sup> October	Wide variety of visitors following the celebration of the centenary of the unveiling of the cenotaph. These included Hon Bob Kucera (new Chairman, National Trust of WA), the relatives of many of the World War I alumni recognised on the cenotaph, Alumnus Dr Ken Michael AC.
24 <sup>th</sup> October	Brett Wright – 1973 reunion
14 <sup>th</sup> November	Karen Jones (nee Reid) and Arvil Sue and Mick Coffey
5 <sup>th</sup> December	Jo Forward and her parents
9 <sup>th</sup> December	Delivery of a pedal organ (in working order) donated by Mrs Barbara Pellican – played by her sister who attended the School
12 <sup>th</sup> December	Bill Edgar – WA historian and military historian MaryJane Whitehead visited preparing for 1962 Reunion later 2023.



### 2023

30 <sup>th</sup> January	Brenda Newbey (nee Barr) 1957, sister in 1965, Donating a Prac book from 1921-22 from Jean Johnson whose husband attended in 1928
2 <sup>nd</sup> February	MaryJane Whitehead and Tony Tate: 1963 preparation
13 <sup>th</sup> February	Bill Edgar visited to discuss military history with Bob Johnson
20 <sup>th</sup> February	Jason Callaghan (school IT) visited to review ICT
13 <sup>th</sup> March	Ralph Bilsby: son of Margaret Isabel Johnson 1929-33, donating her prefect badge. Bill Edgar: author of the book about Ralph Honner with a montage
20 <sup>th</sup> March	Returned Sue King's wonderful book about the 1968 music students
27 <sup>th</sup> March	Brett Wright and Andrea Brittan organising the 1973 reunion for May
29 <sup>th</sup> May	Brett Wright with photos from the 1973 reunion
19 <sup>th</sup> June	Bobbi Evans (the wife of the late Malcolm Evans - alumnus) visited – future artefacts to donate.



Dr Robyn White with Kim Forrest



Roger Stubbs, Bob Johnson, Ralph Bilsby, Dr Robyn White