



# PERTH MODERNIAN SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Issue 53 August 2022 (Vol 3 No 3)

Hi

WELCOME to your **Perth Modernian e-Newsletter, Issue 53, August 2022, Vol 3 No 3** offering two way communication with all interested members, volunteers, families and friends. We bring you news, event details and articles from the Perth Modernian Society, its members and Perth Modern School. We hope you find the newsletter both interesting and informative.



PERTH MODERNIAN SOCIETY

For further information

**Telephone: (08) 6189 3690**

[www.perthmoderniansociety.org.au](http://www.perthmoderniansociety.org.au)

[info@perthmoderniansociety.org.au](mailto:info@perthmoderniansociety.org.au)

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

## DIARY DATES

### PMS CENOTAPH CENTENARY

Dedication of the War Memorial and Honour Board took place 100 years ago

**on Sunday 22 October 1922**

### REUNIONS

**2022 ANNUAL REUNION** (all years)

**Saturday 10 September 2022**

### CLASS/YEAR GROUPS

for further information visit

[www.perthmoderniansociety.org.au](http://www.perthmoderniansociety.org.au)

### Class of 1962

A group will join in with the Annual Reunion on Sat. 10th Sept.

### Class of 1992

Saturday 1 October

### Classes of 2011 and 2012

Expected late this year - refer to website for details

### 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](mailto:newsletter@perthmoderniansociety.org.au)

### Next Issues

**Copy deadlines for 2022**

20 November

for circulation by 1 December



PERTH MODERNIAN SOCIETY

Invitation to Attend

**The 2022 Perth Modernian Society**

## Annual Reunion

**Saturday 10th September 2022**

from 1.15pm for **pre-concert drinks**

in the **Sir Paul Hasluck Foyer, Cyril Tyler Auditorium**

followed by **PMS Concert** at 2.00pm

**OPEN SEATING - YOU CAN SIT ANYWHERE YOU CHOOSE**

Then at 3.00pm **High Tea** in the

**Sir Paul Hasluck Foyer**

*Museum will be open from 12.30pm - park & visit in Hamilton Street before the main event*

**COST** (includes food, beverages and concert)

\* \$35 **Contributing Member** (one who has paid membership fees for 2022)

\* \$40 **Registered Member** and guests

• \$30 **Special Offer** for recent PMS graduates (from 2015 onwards) and partners

### PAYMENT

#### OPTION 1

\* TryBooking - click on this link:

[Perth Modernian Society Annual Reunion Tickets, Cyril Tyler Auditorium, SUBIACO | TryBooking Australia](#)

#### OPTION 2

\* EFT Perth Modernian Society, **BSB 036 022** (Westpac Perth) A/c no **429304**

Include name, years at Mod and name of accompanying person (if applicable)

#### OPTION 3

\* Cheque/postal order made payable to Perth Modernian Society with booking form.

**Mail to:** Ms E D Broadley, Treasurer Perth Modernian Society,  
36A Solomon Street, Mosman Park WA 6012

**RSVP by Monday 5<sup>th</sup> Sept.**

**Queries:** Eve Broadley Tel. 0417923156 E: [broadleyeve@gmail.com](mailto:broadleyeve@gmail.com)

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OF THEIR COUNTRY

#### Contributors

Thank you to all letter writers  
and contributors:

Jennifer Bardsley  
Deb Beresford  
Eve Broadley  
Peter Farr  
Ken Fitch  
Robert Johnson  
Barbara Mallett  
Margaret Mardon  
Lesley Parker and others  
Office of WA Attorney General  
Robyn White  
Sharon Williams

#### Coordinator/Editor

Sallie Davies

#### Layout

Stuart Gould



## PERTH MODERNIAN SOCIETY MUSEUM ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED



### PMS CENOTAPH CENTENARY

Dedication of the War Memorial and Honour Board  
took place 100 years ago on Sunday 22 October 1922

A small recognition event is in the planning stages for **Saturday 22 October 2022**.

You are asked to please register your name and contact details through

[museum@perthmoderniansociety.org.au](mailto:museum@perthmoderniansociety.org.au)

if you are interested in receiving further information should our plans proceed.

Link to Perth Modernian Society Museum Association 2021-22 Annual Report:

<https://www.perthmoderniansociety.org.au/wp-content/uploads/-/Modernian-Society-Annual-Report-2021-FINAL.pdf>



PERTH MODERNIAN SOCIETY

[www.perthmoderniansociety.org.au](http://www.perthmoderniansociety.org.au)

#### 2021-2022 COUNCIL

[info@perthmoderniansociety.org.au](mailto:info@perthmoderniansociety.org.au)

The Hon Julian Grill, *President*  
Kate Lewis, *Vice President/ Webmaster*  
Deborah Beresford, *Honorary Secretary*  
Barrie Baker, *Membership/Sphinx Found.*  
Ruth Barrett, *Honour Awards*  
Eve Broadley, *Honorary Treasurer*  
Peter Farr, *Past President*  
Ed Lazarus, *Communications*  
Salena Loasby, *Member*  
Barbara Mallett, *Reunions Coordinator*  
Dr Robyn White, *Museum Rep*  
Ex-Officio, *PMS Principal*

### CONGRATULATIONS



#### Barrister appointed to the District Court

Attorney General's Office, 12 July 2022

**Linda Black, PMS student 1983-1987** has been appointed as a **Judge of the District Court** following more than 25 years as a top lawyer in the criminal courts. The position has been newly created through the WA Government's Justice Pipeline funding. Her appointment to the District Court took effect from August 1, 2022.

Linda was a State Prosecutor at the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions for almost a decade before returning to private practice to specialise in criminal, disciplinary, regulatory and human rights law. She has worked as a lawyer for more than two decades with most of that time in the criminal courts defending and prosecuting some of WA's highest profile and complex matters.

Ms Black is one of the State's leading barristers and a specialist jury trial advocate. She is an accredited advocacy teacher, one of two founding directors of Murray Chambers Perth and a former President of the Criminal Lawyers Association of WA.



**Jet Kye Chong, PMS student 2011-2016** was recently awarded the **Dr Vincent Harry Cooper Memorial Prize for 2021** for the most outstanding dissertation titled "*Predicting Marimba Stickings with Neural Networks*".

Winner of the (Perth Modernian Society) Sphinx Foundation Daniel Girling and John Down Music Scholarship for 2013 while a Year 10 student at Mod, this percussionist and composer continued Music Specialist Studies at UWA

### CONTRIBUTING MEMBERSHIP

*New members/renewals since 20 May 2022*

Kathryn Morris, student 1985  
Jan Thompson, student 1948-52  
Anne Lee, student 2012-15

#### ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

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](http://www.perthmoderniansociety.org.au)  
further information  
[info@perthmoderniansociety.org.au](mailto:info@perthmoderniansociety.org.au)

having been awarded a General Exhibition. He has performed with AYO, and Nigel Westlake and toured in France, China, Canada, Poland and Malaysia winning prizes and awards for his compositions along the way. He graduated from UWA in 2020 with a Bachelor of Philosophy in Mathematics and Statistics, and Music Specialist Studies (Composition/Percussion), with First Class Honours. His thesis has led to ongoing work under Dr Débora Correa alongside other concurrent research.





SPHINX FOUNDATION INC.



#### 2021-2022 BOARD

[sphinxfoundation@perthmoderniansociety.org.au](mailto:sphinxfoundation@perthmoderniansociety.org.au)

Nigel Hunt, *Chairman*  
Robert Gray, *Secretary*  
Barrie Baker, *Member*  
Peter Farr, *Member/Investments*  
Vivian Wang, *Hon Treasurer*  
Danielle Jeyes, *Member*  
Fiona Tholet, *Associate Principal*

#### DONORS

##### Sphinx Scholarship Fund

from 20 May 2022

Jo Aldridge  
Brian Appleyard  
Dr Bruce Armstrong AM  
Barrie Baker  
Dr Neil Bardsley (Dec'd)  
The Estate of Malcolm J Evans  
Peer Farr  
Dr Irene Froyland  
Jennifer Golding  
Gray Family  
Hon Julian Grill  
Chris & Ling Hayes  
Terry Hoffman  
Janet Holmes à Court AC  
Rodney House  
Nigel & Kate Hunt  
Emeritus Prof Philip Jennings AM  
Noel Kagi  
Ross Ledger OAM  
Malcolm Lee QC  
Wendy McCallum  
Dr Annette Mercer  
Jim Mondy  
Lyn Muir  
Kevin Parker AC RFD QC  
Rayma Pervan  
Prof Geoffrey Playford  
Pat Quiggin  
Prof. Shirley Randell AO, PhD  
E M (Margaret) Roberts  
Dr June Stephenson  
Judy Stephens  
Ray Thurloe  
Walter Turnbull  
Daryl Williams AM QC

#### Paul Burnett, PMS student 2011-15, Commonwealth Games Gold Medal

From Perth Now, August 8, 2022

"WA's **Paul Burnett** achieved a golden result on the golden sand, pairing with Chris McHugh to win the beach volleyball competition after holding their nerves in a tense three-set final. The Australian duo overcame Canadian pair Sam Schachter and Daniel Dearing to come from a set down in the gold medal match, prevailing 17-21 21-17 20-18."



Paul Burdett dives. Credit: Al Bello Getty Images

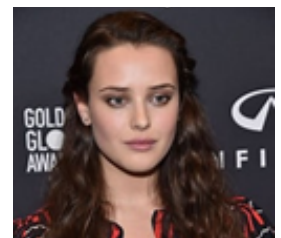


The pair celebrate. Crédit: Al Bello/Getty Images

"With Australia needing a two-point buffer to win and having saved a couple of match points themselves, McHugh forced an errant Dearing smash at 19-18 as the ball just wide of the mark amid heavy pressure from McHugh, as the Australian captain wheeled away in delight before embracing Burnett."

#### Young Modernian in the News

Perth actor Katherine Langford (PMS 2011-2013) stars in her first major role for Aussie TV in the new TV series 'Secret River' which premieres at 8:30pm on Sunday Sept. 4th on ABC Channel 2.



#### PERTH MODERNIAN SOCIETY COUNCIL WELCOMES NEWCOMERS

**Evan Kennea, PMS student 1984-88**, is an accomplished performing arts manager with proven leadership, people, public speaking, managerial and commercial skills to who will bring new ideas to the table of our alumni organisation.

**Salena Loasby, PMS student 1985-88** brings well-developed interpersonal communication skills, a willingness to accept challenges associated with change and a commitment to provide excellence in service to members. Her motivation, broad international experience and eagerness to continually learn, make her a valued team asset.

#### 2022 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Link to Perth Modernian Society 2021 Annual Report:

<https://www.perthmoderniansociety.org.au/wp-content/uploads/-Modernian-Society-Annual-Report-2021-FINAL.pdf>



PERTH MODERNIAN SOCIETY  
MUSEUM ASSOCIATION  
INCORPORATED

#### 2021-2022 BOARD

[museum@perthmoderniansociety.org.au](mailto:museum@perthmoderniansociety.org.au)

Dr Robyn White, *Hon Chair*  
Monica Brierley-Hay, *Hon Secretary*  
Sharon Williams, *Hon Treasurer*  
Alistair Paterson, *Board Member*  
Jeffrey Lai, *Board Member*  
Monica Brierley-Hay, *Board Member*  
Lois Joll, *Leave of Absence*  
Nicola Reilly, *Deputy Principal, ex-officio*  
**1 vacancy**



#### Sports Medicine Hall of Fame

##### 'REFLECTIONS ON A LONG AND FORTUNATE LIFE'

(With apologies to Albert Facey)

The following is an edited version of Guest Speaker Ken Fitch's address at the Society's 2022 AGM.

The full transcript is available on request from

[museum@perthmoderniansociety.org.au](mailto:museum@perthmoderniansociety.org.au)

I was one of 105 students who entered first year at Mod in 1945 and thus born in 1932 – not a great year. As unemployment in Australia peaked at 29% that year, a number of our fathers were unemployed - some for two years - and their pregnant

wives, had an inadequate diet. For Caucasian Australians born in 1932, life expectancy was about 67 years for males and 71 for females. In 2019 we organised a 70-year reunion for the class of '49. We estimated that approximately 20% were still living. As in cricket 87 is considered to be a perilous score, 87 years old was a lethal age for us ~20% of our class who were alive 86, left us at 87.



### MUSEUM VOLUNTEERS [History Centre and Archives]

Gay Albillos  
Deborah Beresford, *Hon Archivist*  
Jim Davies  
Sallie Davies  
Peter Dillon  
Rebecca Guy  
Frank Hedges  
Ian Hunt  
Robert (Bob) Johnson  
Bill MacPherson  
Jill Lucas  
Wendy McCallum  
Deirdre Owen  
Roger Stubbs  
Loren White  
Robyn White  
Sharon Williams  
Alison Woodman

### DONORS

#### PMS Museum Fund

*Thank you for your  
generous support*

Mr Barrie Baker  
Dr Neil Bardsley (Dec'd)  
Peter Blaxell  
Mrs Jennifer Carrick  
Mr James H Davies (Jim)  
The Estate of Malcolm J Evans  
Dr Irene Froyland  
Hon Julian Grill  
Dr Philip Jennings  
Keith Kessell  
Dr Christine Lawson-Smith  
Mrs Wendy McCallum  
Mrs Ruth Mickelson  
Ms Glenice Munro  
Mrs Margaret Pinchback  
Mrs Margaret Puzey  
Ms Joan Robins  
Dr Barry Saker  
Dr June Stephenson  
Mr John Stone  
Mr W. L Turnbull  
Dr Robyn White  
Hon Daryl Williams AM QC  
Mrs Sharon Williams  
Mr Andre Winarto  
Edna Youngman

### MODERNIAN HONOURS

[Awards@perthmoderniansociety.org.au](mailto:Awards@perthmoderniansociety.org.au)

#### Modernian Fellow

##### 2014

Sallie Davies  
Malcolm McCusker AC CVO QC  
Donald Tyler

##### 2016

Barrie Baker  
Ian Jarvis

##### 2017

Peter Farr

##### 2020

Dr Kenneth Michael AC Cit WA

#### Moderna Scola Award

##### 2016

Deborah Beresford  
Alan Porter

##### 2017

Evelyn Broadley

##### 2018

Rosemary Pratt  
Dr June Stephenson

In 1939, we turned seven and WW2 commenced. Many of us, saw very little of our servicemen fathers for 5-6 years. Although the war ended in August of our first year at PMS and our fathers resumed their usual occupation, post-war life in Australia had its challenges. Petrol and food rationing did not completely cease until 1950.

Some of our 105 left PMS after their Junior (year 10), a few even earlier, for what I consider were three reasons. Firstly, a few were unable to cope with the high educational standards demanded, some were so disillusioned that they left before their Junior and often the family was unable to afford two more years with a dependent student and needed an additional income earner. As unemployment in 1947 was historically low, work was easy to obtain.

What did I achieve in my five years at Mod? A valuable education, an excellent preparation for university, the ability to study well and how to pass exams. During my final two years, I was given responsibilities which were beneficial for me.



I am extremely grateful to PMS because as a pathologically shy teenager, I managed to ask a fellow prefect to a College dance to which I had been invited as School Captain. We were also joint captains of Sphinx faction. It was the best decision of my life because that night in 1949 changed both our lives. We are still married.

After leaving Mod, a large percentage of the class of '49 chose teaching. This was due in part to a strong promotional campaign by the Education Department and because a small weekly stipend would be paid while studying at Teachers' College. Six of them taught at Mod in the 1950s but only for one or two years. The second most favoured profession was medicine – for seven boys.

The second best decision of my life, also in 1949, was to choose medicine over pharmacy. My father, who was a pharmacist, believed that I would enter his profession but fully supported my choice of medicine. Never for one moment have I regretted this decision. Medical school necessitated studying interstate. My five years in Adelaide provided me with an excellent medical education and living at St Mark's College assisted me in acquiring some of the social and interpersonal qualities that I lacked when I matriculated. Unlike PMS, St Mark's had a personable Master, who engaged with all his students and was always available to assist or provide counsel should the occasion demand. Hence College spirit abounded and has persisted for many for decades.

Back at RPH in 1956 and with no medical school in WA and too few Resident Medical Officers (RMOs), we worked ridiculously long hours. That year, I averaged 100 hours a week working or on call and was paid the princely sum of £10 a week or 80% of the basic wage. Throughout my three and half years working at RPH, PMH and KEMH, my colleagues and I learned a great deal from our consultants who gave freely of their time and expertise to patients and staff at public hospitals unremunerated.

In mid-1959, I opted to become a Subiaco GP as this to me was the 'backbone of medicine'. Subiaco was where I was born, lived, educated and played sport.

My partner and I were on call 24/7 all year and during many nights sleep was interrupted to treat a sick patient in their home, and to deliver babies who have an unfortunate tendency to prefer to enter the world at night. After 67 years since graduating, I am glad that I practiced medicine when I did.

**2019**  
Robert Johnson

**2020**  
Anne Celia Christmass  
Neil Anthony Coy  
Roger Stubbs AM

**Honorary Members**

**2016**  
Alison Woodman

**2017**  
Tonya McCusker AM

**2019**  
Nigel Hunt  
Brendon Dawson



**PERTH MODERN SCHOOL**

Exceptional schooling. Exceptional students.

INDEPENDENT PUBLIC SCHOOL

[www.perthmodern.wa.edu.au](http://www.perthmodern.wa.edu.au)  
for School Board information

We were underpaid, worked incredibly long hours but most pleasingly, medicine then was a highly respected occupation. In my era, we did not have to compete with Dr Google or be so constantly cautious of medicolegal issues often raised by disgruntled patients. Today, medicine has lost some of its shine and doctors are not held in such high regard as I believe we were. I hasten to add that currently, clinical doctors especially consultants provide excellent, state-of-the-art management.

Since I graduated in 1955, medicine has progressed exponentially. Medical imaging in the 1950s consisted of plain X-rays. Today there are bone, CT, MRI, PET and EOS scans. Vaccines that have been developed have greatly reduced morbidity and mortality. The first organ transplant was the kidney in the mid-1960s and improved the life expectancy and the quality of life of countless Australians. Other transplants followed but not as yet the brain. Major advances have occurred in every aspect of medicine. Keyhole surgery has revolutionised this facet of medicine. Arthroscopic (in joints) commenced in Perth in 1980, followed by laparoscopic (in the abdomen) and thoracoscopic (the chest) surgery. Minimally invasive surgery can be performed on the spine and brain. Recent innovations in Australia promise more in health care. Finally, I must address my addiction to sport. For no reason that I can envisage, this commenced at primary school, continued at Mod and Med school and ever since.

Eventually, I was able to combine my two great loves – sport with medicine. Sports and exercise medicine became my vocation for the remainder of my working life. Being a sports physician has allowed me to be actively involved when my Subiaco Football club won its first premiership after a drought of 49 years, when the West Coast Eagles won their AFL flag in 1992, serve as a doctor to several Australian Olympic teams and in a medical role with the International Olympic Committee (IOC), attend many more Olympic Games.

I have had a varied and most interesting life and had the opportunity to observe many radical changes in every aspect of life, influenced by two books that were published in crucial years of my life. In 1932, Aldous Huxley released 'Brave New World' and in 1949 George Orwell published '1984'. One wonders how Huxley and Orwell would react if they could visit us today. I have retained reasonable health and intellect for a soon to be nonagenarian, I am still very happy married to my only ever girlfriend and Valerie and I have a very close-knit, loving family of seven with our five healthy children, I have truly had a long and fortunate life.

## SPHINX SCHOLARSHIP FUND UPDATE



## SPHINX FOUNDATION INC.

The Sphinx Scholarship Fund Annual Appeal for 2022 has seen \$42,700 in donations up to 23 August made by the 34 Modernians and supporters whose names are listed earlier. Their generosity is greatly appreciated by the Sphinx Foundation Board.

The following new scholarships have been enabled, with the initial awards to be made in 4th Term 2022 and tenable in 2023:

- The **Ross and Fran Ledger Equity Scholarship** (Years 7, 8, 9 or 10)
- A second **Malcolm Evans Languages Scholarships** (European and Asian)
- The **Malcolm Evans Debating Scholarship** (Funds kindly donated by the Rotary Club of Northbridge).

The makeup of Sphinx Scholarships to be awarded at the end of 2022 for the 2023 academic year will comprise:



Category	No. of Student Awards	Total Value	% Value	Sub Total %
Entry level (Year 7) Equity Scholarships & Bursaries	14	\$16,200	17%	72%
Equity scholarships renewals continuing in 2023 (Years 8,9,10)	31	\$39,920	41%	
Equity Scholarships & Bursaries for Years 7,8,9,10	9	\$12,100	12%	
Principal's Discretionary Equity Bursaries	4	\$2,000	2%	
Year 10 Academic Excellence Scholarships & Bursaries	34	\$27,700	28%	28%
<b>Total</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>\$97,920</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

In FY 2021/2022 the Sphinx Scholarship Fund had a surplus of income over expenditure of \$58,000 (unaudited). Whilst 2021/2022 FY was generally unfavourable for ASX Listed investments (dividends down and prices down esp. in the second half year), the Fund was protected somewhat by the Board's risk diversification policy whereby 45% of assets comprised unlisted property trusts, 41% in shares and 14% was held in cash at 30 June 2022.

Remarkably, an initial investment in 2013 of \$80,000 in the Charter Hall Direct Industrial Fund 2 DIF2 yielded a distribution of \$26,000 in 2021/22. As at 30 June 2022, the Fund had total assets of \$1.359M. The external audit of the Fund is now being undertaken shortly by AMW.

## YOUR SAY

### Re: Sphinx Scholarship

**From: Anna Tokarev, student, Perth Modern School**

It is an honour to be the recipient of the Jean and Jim Cundill Creative Writing Scholarship. Thank you for your generosity in providing this award.

Creative writing has been one of my passions from a very young age. Over the years I have cultivated a great love for the English language and the way it can be crafted to form poetry and stories. For me, creative writing offers the chance to bring my imagination to life. It is a way for me to express my thoughts and feelings in writing and to explore new ideas and share them with readers.

This scholarship has given me the opportunity to explore ways to further develop my creative writing skills and has inspired me to engage even more in English-related activities. I am very excited to broaden my literary horizons through attending theatrical performances, studying different texts and participating in writing competitions and workshops. Receiving this kind of scholarship from the Perth Modernian Society is very inspiring for me and I hope that one day I will be able to support future students in a similar way. Once again, thank you for your generous contribution that has made this award possible. Kind regards

*Ed: This 2021 letter was released for publication earlier this year by the Sphinx Foundation when Anna Tokarev was selected to represent WA at the National Schools Debating Championship.*

### Re: Newsletter Issue 52, Vol 3 No 2

**From: Janet Williams, nee Michaels, student 1950-53**

Thank you very much for this informative newsletter. I really value my time at Mod. Best wishes, Janet

**From: Lesley Parker-Reynolds, nee Paterson, student 1950-54**

You do an amazing job with the Newsletter and I know it is appreciated by many. The publication is a hugely valuable vehicle for keeping alive the Mod traditions and Modernians' connection with the school as it evolves into the future. Best wishes, Lesley



**From: Dr Stephen Monterosso, student 1978-82**  
**Vincent Monterosso, student 1971-75**

Just wanted to pass on the sad news that my brother Vincent passed away on the 21/5/22 aged 65. His details are as follows: Vincent Monterosso Class of 1975 PMS Student from 1971-75.  
Kind regards, **Dr Stephen Monterosso** PhD (Law) Curtin MCJ UWA B.Com, P.Grad.Dip Curtin

**From: David James, student 1953-57**

I would like to advise you of my sister's passing so it can be printed in the Mod Newsletter. **Margret (Meg) Louise Bullock (nee James)** was a student there from 1952 to 1956 and passed away on 25th May 2022 in Queenscliffe, Victoria where she has been residing for many years. I thank you. David

Editor: Meg kindly donated the funds to create a once-off **Meg Bullock Scholarship** (Academic Excellence) and tenure four years. Meg's aim was to help needy and deserving students and give them a chance to benefit from a quality secondary school education at Mod. The Meg Bullock Scholarship was awarded to incoming Year 7 (2016) student **Matilda Takacs**.

See Meg's bio and photo below under TRIBUTES.

VALE

*Thank you to the volunteers, families and friends who forwarded the following information and memories of former PMS students and staff for publication and/or inclusion in Museum records.*

NAME:	YEAR at PMS	Status	Deceased
Margaret Warren (nee Spencer)	1943-47	School Prefect	01/01/2022
Lois Courtney Fraser (nee Shiner)	1946-50	School Prefect	16/02/2021
Neville Broun Wilding	1953-57	Teacher	02/05/2022
Adrienne Walker (nee Sinclair)	1950-54	Student	19/05/2022
Vincent Monterosso	1971-75	Student	21/05/2022
Penelope (Penny) Acott (nee Brockwell)	1988-91	Student	29/05/2022
Ildiko (Ildy) Button (nee Jaworsky)	1953-54	Student	11/06/2022
Dudley Irwin Gabriel	1948-49	Student	12/07/2022
Margaret (Meg) Louise Bullock (nee James)	1952-56	Student	25/05/2022
Roberta (Bobbie) O'Sullivan	1972-74	Teacher (Social Studies)	27/07/2022
Geoffrey Robert (Bob) Appleyard	1952-56	School Prefect	21/07/2022

TRIBUTES

**Memories of Adrienne Walker (nee Sinclair)**  
**PMS student 1950-54**  
b.1937 – d.2022

**Adrienne** died peacefully on 21 May 2022. Her family arranged a celebration of her life on 7 June at which her former husband Warren and two of her four sons spoke lovingly. This tribute draws on some of the memories of those of her cohort at PMS who were able to be present that day – a small sample of the many friends on whom she made a lasting impression during her lifetime. For some of us the memories go back more than 80 years, to pre-school days and “Sunday” school. In putting this together we are acutely aware that capturing the essence of her life is no easy task.

In many ways Adrienne was a somewhat unconventional student. School uniform, rules and expectations were anathema to her. She was always ready to exercise her independence of thought, at times seeking out those whose ideas and actions expanded her horizons. In subjects and with teachers that held her interest she achieved very highly (witness the six Distinctions she gained in her Leaving Certificate subjects).

While avoiding mathematics whenever possible, Adrienne was extraordinarily talented in the humanities and the arts – sharing and bringing fun, laughter and insight to others through music, drama (including an unforgettable performance as Louka in the school production of Arms and the Man- 3rd from R in photograph below), literature (especially poetry) and artworks (her cartoons were legendary and caused much merriment).

The delight that she brought to others through her musical talent remained evident right throughout her life. Some of us have happy memories of hours and hours spent playing piano duets, spanning both our school days and later life (in the latter case with numerous energetic little boys running around the room).



Despite a lifetime of health problems, retirement meant extensive travels to Europe with Michael and a renewed commitment to academic life. Her formidable intellect saw her begin research into philosophers and educators of the 12th century as she embarked on a PhD. Unfortunately, ill health meant that this eluded her at the last hurdle.

As a member of the Post Modern Book Club for almost 60 years, Ildy kept alive friendships from schooldays with stimulating discussions resulting from thorough presentations of challenging texts. The last discussion led by Ildy in February was described by one member as “like a University tutorial”.

Ildy could inspire students of all abilities. Her devotion and tireless commitment to her family and her life’s work, her humility, gentleness and wry sense of humour were legendary. Several generations of West Australian students have had their lives enhanced by the life of Ildy, a New Australian post World War two. We mourn her loss.

**Penelope Acott (nee Brockwell)**

**PMS student 1988-**

*“Our hearts were broken when our gorgeous wife and mumma never woke on the 29th of May. Her smiling face, her heart full of love, her undying love and devotion to Will and I. The wedding ring will always be on my finger. Our love was eternal and I will do everything in my power to continue to raise our little man, and continue to instil in him good morals and values which you started. He will also remember the amazing mumma he had. You may not be here physically but you are with us, guiding us through life every day, we feel it and we feel you. Love you, my sweetheart. This isn't goodbye but see you later. All our love always. Your loving husband Gav and our beautiful son Will.”*

Published: 10 June 2022, West Australian

**From Museum Biographical Records:**

Penelope Acott (nee Brockwell) transferred into the music program from another specialist music school part way through 1988. She forwarded her own personal story for our archival record:

- “Some of the greatest days were Mufti Day where teachers and students could let down their hair and there was such a sense of camaraderie. I became friends with many of my fellow students from many of the groups that form in school. However, I ‘joined’ a group of girls who became lifelong friends. There are 15 of us in total and we still get together or catch up when we can, even if it’s years in between.
- “I truly enjoyed my home economics classes and had a real passion for dressmaking, which became my profession when I left school. I trained at Wilson’s Bridal House and built a business in hand made bridal and ball gowns. I then left this profession and moved into a new career within soft furnishings - still indulging my passion for fabrics - but now delving into dressing interiors rather than the body form.
- “In 2001 I opened my own business called Penny’s For Curtains and within a few years had grown into a business employing ten staff and branching into interior design as well as soft furnishing manufacturing. I’ve enjoyed doing projects such as the Ronald McDonald House at Princess Margaret Hospital and four Telethon Homes.
- “Perth Modern School provided an encouraging environment which allowed me to build a self confidence I had not known I could achieve. There were a number of amazing teachers that would sit down and have a chat about life, love etc. A few D&M conversations revealed a lot about what I wanted to do with my life and who I wanted to be. Even though I started in the music program I did not continue with it. However, the experience was very rewarding and prepared me to deal with situations such as public speaking, organising large groups of people and facing fears.
- “I don’t have any grand history from school. I was not a prefect and did not win any awards. The only thing I was known for at school was that I was friends with everyone. It’s not very exciting or newsworthy but I cherish that memory the most.”



**Margaret (Meg) Louise Bullock (nee James)**

**PMS student 1952-56**

*Meg Bullock (L) caught up with Joan Saleeba at Class of '56 Reunion*

In 1996, Perth Mod’s cohort of 1952-56 celebrated the 40th anniversary of leaving the school. Meg Bullock (née James) contributed to the booklet which was put together to honour the occasion. The following information comes from that publication.

Meg attended Claremont Teachers College and Perth Technical College, and taught in several WA secondary schools. She married Terry Bullock, an army sergeant.

Their homes were in Terendak (Malaysia), Parramatta, Puckapunyal, Melbourne and Queenscliff. Meg taught at Terendak, Parramatta and Puckapunyal, and was employed in administration at Queenscliff. By 1996 the Bullocks had made Queenscliff their home, their five children had all “flown the coop”, and Meg and Terry were involved in many community and charitable organisations.

In 2011 Meg attended Modern School’s annual reunion, and joined the 1952-56-ers who gathered at Matilda Bay on Sept 11th. Joan Saleeba (née Eimer), pictured here with Meg that day, remembers her as a very gentle person. Meg passed away at Queenscliff in July.

Vale Meg.

#### **From Museum Biographical Records:**

1960-78: Teacher; 1987-97: Staff Supervisor; 1987-97: Supervisor Defence Force Credit Union Co-op at Australian Army Command Staff College, Fort Queenscliff

#### **Highlights:**

- Received commendation certificate and medal from Major General M J Keating, General Officer commanding Training Command for outstanding service provided to staff, students and families at Staff College as Defcredit Supervisor, Treasurer and Public Officer of Fort Queenscliff Family Network
- Life Memberships of Fort Queenscliff Museum Foundation and Fort Queenscliff Family Network;
- Life Governor of Royal Freemasons Homes of Victoria

Editor: Meg kindly donated the funds to create a once-off **Meg Bullock Scholarship** (Academic Excellence) and tenure four years. Meg’s aim was to help needy and deserving students and give them a chance to benefit from a quality secondary school education at Mod. The Sphinx Foundation awarded the Meg Bullock Scholarship to incoming Year 7 (2016) student **Matilda Takacs**.

#### **Geoffrey Robert (Bob) Appleyard**

#### **From Museum Biographical Records:**

##### **“APPLEYARD (GEOFFREY)**

*“Bob passed away on the 21st of July in St. Helier hospital, London after a short illness. Brother of Brian, Lyn and Jan. Father of Peter and Louise and beloved grandfather of Alex, Charlie, Thomas and Abbey, and soulmate of Sue. Fondly remembered by his swimming, tennis, golfing and sailing mates. Greatly missed by friends in Australia, Spain and the UK, and by his colleagues in the mining industry.”*

The West Australian, 10 August 2022

#### **Career Highlights:**

- Participating in early-stage development of Pilbara iron ore development.
- Involvement in Canadian and USA base metal exploration
- Life in Kalgoorlie in the “nickel boom”.
- Participation in early Northern Territory uranium exploration
- The change from exploration to general management and period as CEO of Anglo American's business in Australia and the region
- Establishment of Australian business development and exploration office for a USA gold company
- Initiation of a consultancy business, its subsequent merger into AMC Consultants and working as a Director and initial Chairman of that group with assignments throughout Australia, the Pacific, Indonesia, Africa, South America and south east Asia.

#### **Lifetime Achievements:**

- Contribution to successful exploration, development and management of iron ore, base metal, nickel and gold projects
- Development of successful mining consultancies, particularly to the financial and corporate sectors
- Contribution to professional practices. and associations in seminars, publications and committee activities, particularly AusIMM
- A happy and active retirement and being able to see children and grandchildren develop their own happy and successful lifestyles



*Number 16 in a special series of articles researched and prepared for publication by  
Robert Johnson, PMS student 1961-65 and Museum Volunteer*

### **Geoffrey Robert Palmer** **PMS student 1938-1939**

Geoff Palmer was born on 23 July 1922 to parents Cecil and Valentine Palmer who at that time were living in Darlington. Cecil was an inaugural maths master at Modern School who died in 1928 at the age of 41 when Geoff was five. He had an older sister, Valery, born in 1913, and an older brother, Stanley, born in 1916 who attended Modern School in 1932 and 1933 and who later taught at Mod. After the family moved to Claremont Geoff attended Claremont High School, passing his Junior Certificate in eight subjects in 1937. He completed his fourth year at Modern School in 1938 and commenced fifth year but left school in March 1939 for a position with the Commonwealth Bank.

Geoff served in an infantry battalion and an anti-tank regiment in the Militia prior to enlisting in the RAAF on 1 February 1942 when he was 19. At 181cms he was quite tall for that period, with blue eyes and auburn hair. Geoff undertook basic air crew training in 1942 at Pearce and Cunderdin in WA and Clontarf in Queensland. In August 1942 he began specialist training at Mt Gambier in South Australia and qualified as an Astronomical Navigator on 4 February 1943. He was promoted to Pilot Officer on the same day. After further training Geoff was promoted to Flying Officer on 4 August 1943.

Geoff departed for the UK in September 1943, travelling through Halifax and New York and arriving in England on 16 October. He was posted to 224 Squadron RAF at St Eval in Cornwall on 14 December. The squadron was a part of Coastal Command and provided anti-submarine and anti-shipping patrols off the south west coast. Geoff flew in B24 Liberators on numerous patrols over the Bay of Biscay and the Atlantic Ocean in 1943 and early 1944.



*Navigator Geoff Palmer, 1943*



*B24 Liberator TT336*

On 16 May 1944 Geoff was posted to No. 111 Operational Training Unit in Nassau in the British West Indies for further training. Aircrew who trained in Nassau experienced a significantly lower accident rate than in the UK and did not have the constant threat of being shot down by German night fighters. Swimming at Wavecrest Beach and utilising the facilities of the Bahamian Club were also welcome distractions when not engaged in flying duties.

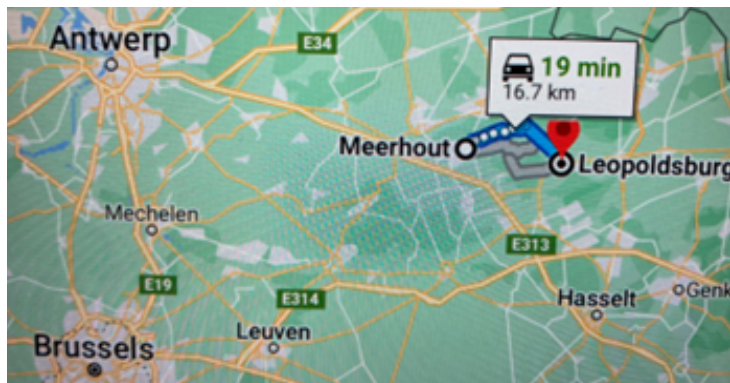
Geoff returned to England on 11 August 1944 and on 29 August was posted to No. 223 Squadron at Oulton in Norfolk. The Squadron was a special duties unit engaged on secret radar jamming and electronic intelligence "jostle" missions in support of Bomber Command's Main Force. Their B24's could carry up to 30 radar jamming sets and two special operators to work the equipment. Radar jamming adversely affected the vectoring of German night fighters and anti-aircraft artillery onto Allied aircraft. "Spoof" raids involved the use of "window", aluminium strips ejected from the aircraft that created the false impression of a bomber stream heading for a particular target.

Geoff's first flight with 223 Squadron was on 19 September 1944 and he flew on 15 successful missions over Europe over the next four months. His 16th mission, in Liberator TT336, call sign R Robert, departed Oulton at 4:06pm on 14 January 1945 on Jostle duties in support of the Main Force raid on Grevenbroich, 50kms west of Cologne in Germany. The crew of 11 consisted of navigator Geoff plus six RAF and four RCAF personnel.

Two of the crew were jamming technicians. It is believed that the aircraft, flying at 6,000 feet (1,800m), was shot down by either a German night fighter or Allied anti-aircraft fire which was seen bursting at that height. The aircraft crashed near Meerhout, a small town 50kms east of Antwerp. Eight other crew members were killed and two escaped without harm. Geoff, badly injured, died in hospital soon after being admitted.



Memorial in Meerhout



Map showing Brussels, Antwerp, Meerhout and Leopoldsburg

Flying Officer Geoffrey Palmer was 22 when he died. He and his fellow aviators are buried in Leopoldsburg War Cemetery in Belgium, a short drive from Meerhout. His mother, Valentine, arranged for the following epitaph to be placed on his headstone: "He loved life and beauty, but liberty above these things". She died in 1968 at the age of 78, 23 years after her son. His siblings had long lives; Stanley died in 1997 aged 81 and Valery died in 2006 aged 93.

## LEST WE FORGET

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PMS Archives

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