



PERTH MODERNIAN SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



Issue 56 May 2023 (Vol 3 No 6)

Hi

WELCOME to your *Perth Modernian e-Newsletter*, Issue 56, May 2023, Vol 3 No 6 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

info@perthmoderniansociety.org.au

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

DIARY DATES

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

29 May 2023

REUNIONS

2023 ANNUAL REUNION

Saturday 2 Sept 2023

CLASS/YEAR GROUPS

for further information visit

www.perthmoderniansociety.org.au

60 YEARS

Class of 1963

Saturday October 7

(See further details in this newsletter)

70th BIRTHDAY PARTY

Saturday

28 October 2023

(see further details in this newsletter)

e-NEWSLETTER

Do you have something to say?

Memories to share?

Where are YOU now?

Send your news item, letters

and/or photographs to ...

newsletter@perthmoderniansociety.org.au

NEXT ISSUES

Copy deadlines for 2023

20th August for 31st August

20th November for 30th November

Music at Mod

Over two years in preparation - soon to be released

In seventeen chapters, this publication traces the development of the ground breaking program from the inspired vision of **Edgar Nottage** and through the dynamic leadership of **John Christmass**, **Clive Kendrick** and **Roger Hey**.

Featured are accounts of camps, concerts, overseas tours and special events, supported by anecdotes and personal stories. Included are more than 150 captivating photographs, most of which have never been previously published. The achievements many of those at the school from 1911 to 1967 who enjoyed musical success are also recognized.



Photo: Alison Gaines as a young violinist graces the early pages. Alison's three siblings, Elizabeth, Jo and Bruce were also members of the music program. Successful in business and boards, Alison has maintained a love of music and is a board member of West Australian Opera. She was awarded an Honorary Doctorate by Murdoch University in 2009.

One special event featured is the **1994 Madrigal Dinner**, an extravaganza of music, song, food and mediaeval entertainment. Performed for three nights to sell-out audiences, the show wandered between the Andrews Building and the Beasley Building. The driving force was **Prue Ashurst** who became better known for her regular appearances on Eoin Cameron's 720 breakfast program, where she promoted classical music and the West Australian Symphony Orchestra.

Two outstanding cast members were trombonist **Brett Page** and soprano **Alexandra Treweek**, both of whom enjoy careers as professional musicians.

So many wonderful stories, which bring back valuable memories of an outstanding program.

For a preview of the book and to register your interest in purchasing a copy when published, please visit:

<https://www.perthmoderniansociety.org.au/index.php/music-at-mod/>



An initiative of the



PERTH MODERNIAN SOCIETY
MUSEUM ASSOCIATION
INCORPORATED



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OF THEIR COUNTRY

Contributors

Thank you to all letter writers
and contributors:

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Barbara Mallett
Shirley Randell
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PERTH MODERNIAN SOCIETY

www.perthmoderniansociety.org.au

2023 COUNCIL

info@perthmoderniansociety.org.au

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Deborah Beresford, *Secretary*
Barrie Baker, *Sphinx Foundation*
Ruth Barrett, *Honour Awards*
Eve Broadley, *Treasurer*
Peter Farr, *Past President*
Evan Kennea
Salena Loasby
Barbara Mallett, *Reunions*
Daryl Williams
Ex-Officio, Mitchell Mackay, *PMS Principal*

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

\$40 per annum now due

CONTRIBUTING MEMBERSHIP

*New members/Contributing Member
renewals since 20 February 2023*

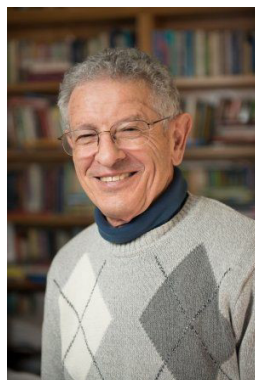
Marcelle Anderson
Ruth Barrett
Deborah Beresford
Monty Bolton
Merilyn Burbidge
Daniel Butler
Beverley Crosbie
Malcolm Crosbie
Carole Fielding
Lilian Garnett
Anne Greenhill
Bev Hartz
Jean Harvey
David James
Ross Kelly
Mary Lake

CONGRATULATIONS!

MARCUS (Marc) FELDMAN

PMS student 1955-59

2022 Lifetime Achievement Award recipient, Stanford University



Eminent Modernian, Dr Marc Feldman who is the Burnet C and Mildred Wohlford Professor of Biology, founder and director of the Morrison Institute for population and Resource Studies, and co-director of the Center for computational, evolutionary and Human Genomics at Stanford University, has received the 2022 *Society for the Study of Evolution* (SSE) Lifetime Achievement Award for research that "contributed to our understanding of the evolution of recombination and sex, human population genetics, niche construction, and cultural evolutionary theory." His innovative research has contributed to our understanding of the evolution of recombination and sex,

human population genetics, niche construction, and evolutionary theory.

With the late Dr Luca Cavakki-Shorza, Marc also developed a new field termed cultural evolution, which studies how genetic and cultural variation can interact and affect one another. Over the course of his career, he has mentored numerous trainees, from high school students to postdocs, and was awarded the Allan V Cox Medal for fostering Undergraduate Research at Stanford and the Stanford Biosciences Excellence in Mentoring and Service Award. In 1970, he co-founded the journal *Theoretical Population Biology*. He was also the Editor of *The American Naturalist* from 1984-1990. Marc was named the Dan David Laureate in Evolution in 1911 and received the Motoo Kimura Prize in Human Evolution in 2016. - Society for the Study of Evolution Council (SSE).

EDWARD LAZARUS B Eng (Hons) ADM

PMS student 1956-60

Moderna Scola Award

Ed joined the Council of the Society in 2017 and took on responsibilities in the membership area. As the JED Database was being managed by its creator Ian Jarvis and the latter's health started to deteriorate, he rendered increasing assistance to the needs of Council, Museum and the Sphinx Foundation in that area. Ed has recruited and worked with external computer consultants to extend and modernise the JED database, particularly in the area of membership recruitment and management.



His computer systems expertise and management, along with his many hours of dedicated service have been of vital assistance to the efficient management of the Society's operations. In getting out the quarterly eNewsletters, over a five-year period, a vital step always is to request from Ed the updated membership contact lists (email and postal). Ed's connection with Perth Modern School has been substantial, positive, varied, and of long duration, and he has demonstrated considerable adaptability as occasion demands. He has earned the sincere appreciation of all who have worked with him on these tasks. Also noteworthy is that his other community activities have included many years as an Army Reserve Officer in RA Signals Units, and several years as a Scout leader.

Ed Lazarus has made a significant contribution to the community of Western Australia and to Perth Modern School and its wider community. The Perth Modernian Society is therefore pleased to honour his service with the Moderna Scola Award.



John Lane
Anna Lee
Kent Logie
Jeanette McQueen
Kenneth Michael
Marylyn Muir
Margaret Nadebaum
Brenda Newbey
Lee Alison O'Dwyer
Oleg Schlitz
Colin Shilkin
Sue Taylor
Diana Waldron

Have YOU completed or updated your **MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION and/or CHANGE OF DETAILS Forms** are available on the website www.perthmoderniansociety.org.au further information info@perthmoderniansociety.org.au



PERTH MODERNIAN SOCIETY

ANNUAL REPORT

<https://www.perthmoderniansociety.org.au/wp-content/uploads/Modernian-Society-Annual-Report-2022-FINAL.pdf>
presented at the 2023 Annual General Meeting Monday 29 May

Your Membership is important...

Volunteers cannot maintain this organisation without your annual **Contributing Memberships** which are now due (\$40 per annum). These are the lifeblood for the ongoing support for all Perth Modernian Society activities, including our Registered Charities. Your membership contributions are essential to the well-being of your organisation to cover basic operational (mainly IT) costs for Council governance and essential communication with interested members. Become more involved and pay now.

<https://www.perthmoderniansociety.org.au/index.php/society/membership/>

Council's May Meeting

In the absence of Acting President **Dr Robyn White**, who was overseas, the meeting was chaired by retiring Vice President **Kate Lewis**.

With Principal **Mitchell Mackay** on study leave, Deputy Principal **Robyn Verboon** reported on some noteworthy events and concerns at the school, among them preparations by the staff for the forthcoming regular Independent Public School review (in June 2023); arrangements for long service leave for staff; resources and relationships; communication with parents, and the value of a guest speaker who talked about on-line safety, first with students, later with parents. Students entering Mod at Year 7 are traditionally welcomed to the school with a pin ceremony; and arrangements have now been made for a similar occasion for those students who have earned a place at Perth Mod but who, for a variety of reasons, enter Mod in years other than Year 7.

Ian Hunt was welcomed as a new member of the Council. He outlined some of the work he has already done on the Society's complex data base. His expertise in IT is appreciated. Ways of communicating with Mod's graduates from 2022 were canvassed. The Society would like to keep in touch with them, but there are confidentiality issues regarding contact details. Social media seems to be the best possibility.

The Society's forthcoming 2023 AGM was discussed. An important addition to Any Other Business will be the bestowal of the 'Moderna Scola' award on **Edward Lazarus**, who is retiring from Council after many years of service. His help with the data base has been particularly valuable following the illness and death of Ian Jarvis. Kate Lewis has been active with ex-students from Mod's Special Music Programme (1968-2010), and one of their number, **Dr Matt Styles**, is to be guest speaker at the AGM. The Museum Association's forthcoming book, *Music at Mod*, will document the achievements of the programme.

Eve Broadley outlined the Society's financial situation, and **Peter Farr** gave information about the Sphinx Foundation. This Foundation supports students from families that are struggling financially, perhaps making it possible for a student to buy books, or attend a conference. Also, high achievement may be rewarded with a grant from the Foundation. Particular appreciation was expressed for the generosity of Malcolm Steinberg, whose Malka Foundation has given \$50,000 to this worthy cause in 2023. Details are available in the Society's Annual Report.



SPHINX FOUNDATION INC.

2023 BOARD

sphinxfoundation@perthmoderniansociety.org.au

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Robert Gray, *Director*
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Fiona Tholet, *Associate Principal*

DONORS

Sphinx Scholarship Fund

from 1 March 2023

Thank you for your generous and regular support

Prof. Bruce Armstrong
Barrie Baker
Laurie Best
Janet Holmes à Court AC
Terry Hoffman
Rodney House
Nigel Hunt
John Barry Lane
Dr Shane Langsford
Dr Annette Mercer
Karen Wood



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2023 BOARD

museum@perthmoderniansociety.org.au

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Jeffrey Lai, *Board Member*
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Lois Joll, *Leave of Absence*
Nicola Reilly, *Deputy Principal, ex-officio*
2 vacancies
Ex officio:
President Modernian Society



MUSEUM VOLUNTEERS

[History Centre and Archives]

Gay Abillos
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 John Stone AO
Mr Barrie Baker
S Strutt
Beth Kallmeyer
Edna Youngman
Mr Geoff Grewar
Mrs Margaret Puzey
Mrs Barbara Mallet
Janelle and Chris Coates
Dr Barry Saker
Mr John Lane

MODERNIAN HONOURS

Awards@perthmoderniansociety.org.au

Modernian Fellow

Sallie Davies
Malcolm McCusker AC CVO KC
Donald Tyler
Barrie Baker
Ian Jarvis (*dec.*)
Peter Farr
Dr Kenneth Michael AC Cit WA

Moderna Scola Award

Deborah Beresford
Alan Porter (*dec.*)
Evelyn Broadley
Rosemary Pratt
Dr June Stephenson (*dec.*)
Robert Johnson
Anne Celia Christmass
Neil Anthony Coy
Roger Stubbs AM
Edward D. Lazarus

Honorary Membership

Alison Woodman
Tonya McCusker AM
Nigel Hunt
Brendon Dawson
Sharon Williams

This was the last Council meeting for **Kate Lewis** and **Ed Lazarus**, who were wished well and thanked for their very significant service. The Society, and in particular its Council, are always on the look-out for Modernians who would be willing to spend a little time giving back to this school that has given them so much.

REUNION NEWS

2023 PERTH MODERNIAN SOCIETY ANNUAL REUNION

will be held on Saturday afternoon, 2 September 2023

Reunion Class of 1973

About 65 former students, teachers and close family members attended the Class of 1973 reunion, held at the school on Saturday 6 May. The attendees were entertained in the Beasley Hall by a 13-piece music ensemble led by alumna Andrea Arnold, a clarinettist at Perth Modern in 1969-73.



Speakers recalled school experiences and the influence of these on their lives since. **Enzo Almonte** spoke of his difficulties at school as an Italian migrant with limited English; yet with perseverance he eventually qualified as a GP and today runs a successful medical practice mostly serving migrant families. **Robyne Latham**, a noted Melbourne artist, recalled two favourite teachers, **Tom Tuffin** and **Ian Ballantine**, from whom she gained the foundational skills in chemistry and maths to train and work in fine art. She remembered with humour the Corgi that howled when she practised her cello and being asked repeatedly by bus drivers if her cello case concealed a sub-machine gun. Attendees toured the school with current PMS students and enjoyed afternoon tea and conversation in the refectory.

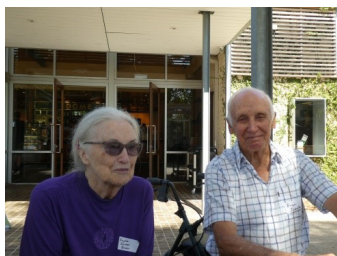


A special newsletter included a welcome message from School Principal Mitchell Mackay in honour of the event.

The reunion organisers, on behalf of the Class of 1973, are grateful for the gracious support provided by Perth Modern school staff and students, and volunteers of the Perth Modernian Society and Museum. In particular we wish to thank **Mitchell Mackay**, **Robyn Verboon** (Associate Principal), **Ed Hinder**, **Brianna Cosentino**, **Jessica Buchan**, **Barbara Mallett** and **Sharon Williams** and anyone else who assisted on the day.

Reunions Class of 1956

In recent months Laurie Terrill/Best has organised two gatherings of the cohort of 1952-56 at Dome, Mount Pleasant. Participants came for morning coffee, and most were able to stay for lunch. For some, it was the first meeting since school days. On both occasions, conviviality prevailed!



Rayma Richter/Pervan and Brian Saleeba



Diana Beck and Coral Easter/Stewart



PERTH MODERN SCHOOL

Exceptional schooling. Exceptional students.

INDEPENDENT PUBLIC SCHOOL

www.perthmodern.wa.edu.au
for School Board information



The first occasion, March 23rd, coincided with a visit from Melbourne to WA by **Heather Bowen/Spurling** with her husband Tom. Joining them were: **Rayma Richter/Pervan**, **Sian Thomas/Bailey**, **Joan (nee Eimer)** and Brian Saleeba, **Jan (nee Smith)** and Ainslie Waddell, **Kent Logie**, **Coral Easter/Stewart**, **Rhys Gray**, Laurie Terrill/Best and Ruth McWhinney/Barrett.



Heather Bowen/Spurling, Jan Waddell and Laurie Terrill/Best



John Ffarrington, Bill Burdett, and Kent Logie

On April 12th **Bill Burdett**, also from Melbourne, was able to join us. Attendees were **Brian de Garis**, **Kevin Moore**, **Kent Logie**, **Graham Cowell**, **Keith Cooke**, **John Ffarrington**, **Richard Lugg**, **Tony** and **Diana Beck**, **Coral Easter/Stewart**, Laurie and Ruth.

From his home in Sri Lanka came a photo of Denham Pole, with his greetings and an anecdote from our schooldays, so he was with us in spirit.

Currently, Laurie is in her other home, Connecticut, USA, but she'll return to WA in September. She has done a tremendous job keeping in touch with many of our cohort, and her list of contact details is growing.

Sadly, of course, numbers are lessening as we farewell some of our former schoolmates. Later this year there will be another opportunity to get together, and we hope more from our years at Mod are able to be present. - Best wishes, **Ruth McWhinney/Barrett**



Kevin Moore, Rhys Gray and Brian de Garis



Richard Lugg, Laurie Terrill/Best

More reunions later this year:

-  **Class of 1963** is having a **60th reunion** at the school on Saturday, October 7 from 3pm to 7pm. There will be a tour of the school and refreshments afterwards in the Andrews Building. For more details and to register your attendance, please contact **Mary-Jane Whitehead (nee Jolley)**, email wongadale@iinet.net.au and mobile 0429 858 016.
-  **Class of 1970** is having a **70th birthday party** at the Marmion Angling Club on Saturday 28 October 2023 contact barbara_mallett@hotmail.com
-  **Class of 1972**, Colin Sagar would like classmates to contact him, particularly **Barry Moore**, **David Brown** and **Chris** and **Godfrey Harmer**. His email is sagarcolin@yahoo.com.au

YOUR SAY

Readers appreciate the news brought to us by volunteers, families and friends. The personal memories of former PMS students and staff enrich our publication and are important for inclusion in Museum records and displays, allowing for quiet contemplation of precious bygone days for all of us to honour the history and share the heritage of Perth Modern School.

Your contributions should be sent directly to newsletter@perthmoderniansociety.org.au

From: Max Kamien, student 1949-53

Subject: Further information for Tony Wegener re his 'fab Fag Master, Tom Lang'

Tom Lang and I were members of the victorious 1953 PMS Slazenger Cup tennis team. We are permanent members of the Royal Kings Park Tennis Club and still play almost every Tuesday with a group of octogenarians known, sometimes unfairly, as 'The Statues'. ...And, hosannas to Sallie Davies and her team on producing such interesting Newsletters. The article on Benedict Widjaja and Gordon Ewers (Issue 55, February 2023) was pure gold.

Editor: Thank you Max. All items published in this newsletter or their contents are contributed by its readers and they are the people to be thanked. Benedict's article on Gordon Ewers was submitted by Marketing staff at Perth Modern School when Benedict won a National award for it. Suggestions and new contributors are always welcome.

From: Donna Mills

Subject: re: early editions of The Sphinx

Hello Perth Modern School Archive people,

I have in my possession some original Sphinx year books "*Edited and Managed by the Students*". They are in immaculate condition. They belonged to my mother, **Dorothy Mary Lernon** (married name Lancaster) (1/1/1921 – 2/2/2023), who attended Perth Modern on a scholarship during those years.



She loved Perth Modern and would never part with these reminders her life time. She used to talk about being a "fag", playing hockey, and how she couldn't do chemistry as there was limited laboratory space and only boys were permitted to do it. She later graduated in Science from the University of Western Australia (on a Hackett Bursary) and became a chemist and botanist. She died on 2nd February 2023 at the age of 102 at her home of 40 years on the Gold Coast.

Would you like me to send them to you for your historical collection? Let me know the exact address, I'm happy to pay for the postage. Kind Regards. Donna

Editor: *Chair of the Museum Committee, Dr Robyn White, has been in touch with Donna and accepted her generous offer to donate issues 60-73 of The Sphinx to add to the Museum Collection.*

From: Robert P. Lockley, student 1959-60 (V6)

Hello Team, As I have recently resumed trying to gather some family history I appreciate the 'joy' of success when a new piece of information falls into place and illuminates others ...

With respect to "Mod": I was 19 days "too old" and was therefore not permitted to sit the Qualifying Exam. So I attended Perth Boys 1956-58 to complete my 8 subject Junior Certificate before being admitted to "The Hole" at Mod along with the Mt Lawley High School mob and a few other fellow "strays" for 1959 -60. In the most part it was therefore quite difficult for us to break into the established cohort specialist streams and socially (except in sport), as we were physically separated in buildings down by the Loftus Street/railway corner.

Being above average size and strength made me a clear target in many ways but I managed to matriculate and add a ninth Junior subject before proceeding to Muresk Agricultural College. I have my School Reports and possibly some other mementos from that period as well as memories of three staff: Mr **Ron Stewart** (dec), Mr (now Prof) **Brian Hill**, and my nemesis the Deputy Head Mr **Stephen Duncan** who several times threatened me with dire consequences including "amputating my lower legs at the knee to bring me down to size", and I think it was he who suggested to my parents that buying me a shovel might be a better investment than college fees.

Living in Northam now I rarely get to Perth with spare time for a visit but suppose that sometime I will browse the website to see what you have relating to that era and as I continue unpacking will keep an eye out for my Sphinx or other oddments. Regards, Bob.

Funnily enough, I just remembered that I have on the shelf behind me some of my text books - including this one "The Use of English" by A.G. Mitchell, M.A., Ph.D. !

Editor: *Volunteers at the Museum look forward to receiving any memorabilia you wish to share with others who seek to honour the history and share the heritage of Perth Modern School through our displays and publications.*

From: Brian Crews, student 1954-58

The arrival of the latest email newsletter reminded me that I was remiss in not advising of the passing of **Terry Roberts**. I had lost contact with him over the years although he retired to live in Melbourne after a lifetime of work with BHP all around the world. ... he and I did 1st year engineering at WA and then went to Adelaide to finish with Chemical Engineering living most of the time at Lincoln College. That small group from Adelaide Uni keeps in touch exchanging greetings at least once a year. Regards, Brian Crews

From: Jennifer Bardsley

Only today I have been alerted to the death of **John Collins** - PMS 1946-1950. Head Boy. A friend had been talking to **Helen Collins**, John's sister. 1949-1953. Both Helen and John were in Sydney. John married my senior, **Kath McGucken**. Another amazing newsletter - well done!

FROM PERTH TO LONDON'S WEST END WITH LESLIE PHILLIPS

In November 2022 the entertainment world paid tribute to a real legend of British stage and screen Leslie Phillips who died aged 98. A world away here in Perth, the only West Australian to have acted with Phillips in London's West End paid her respects too.

A gifted individual with no ego

Veteran stage and screen actor Leslie Phillips CBE, starred in more than 200 films, TV and radio series over his eight-decade career and was familiar to younger fans as the voice of the "Sorting Hat" in the Harry Potter films. Although he became known for his plummy accent and exaggerated portrayals of the English upper-class, Phillips was born in Tottenham, North London, speaking fairly ordinary English. His father Frederick Phillips died from a chest illness in 1935 leaving the family devastated and mother Cecelia Phillips widowed. She happened to see an advert in a newspaper for the well-known Italia Conti Stage School and thought it would be beneficial for Leslie to attend and learn the craft which he did. He also served as a lieutenant in the Durham Light Infantry during World War II from 1942 to 1945, when he was invalided out.



For 17 years he appeared alongside Ronnie Barker and Jon Pertwee on hit BBC radio show *The Navy Lark*. The 1930s had marked his first film appearances, but it was later in his career, in 1959 and 1960, when he starred in *Carry On Nurse*, *Carry On Teacher* and *Carry On Constable* that his star began to rise. In 1963, the smash hit stage play *Boeing-Boeing* starred Leslie Phillips and Perth's very own **Diane Tilvern (nee Elliott), student 1950-51**, at the Apollo Theatre.



After attending Perth Modern School in 1951-52, Diane left for London, not knowing anyone there. Her first professional job was a contract with the Grand Theatre in Swansea. She was then awarded a scholarship to the prestigious London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art where she gained recognition from Sir Lawrence Olivier. He and Vivien Leigh later became mentors. Her lifelong ambition to perform in London's West End was achieved when she auditioned and won the lead role in the play.

Diane was the first West Australian to perform in the West End. She also rehearsed and performed at Windsor Castle and met the Queen. She performed in many theatres throughout the UK, and returned to the Perth Playhouse in the 1970s.

Now aged, 88, Diane reflected on the passing of an incredible man.

"It's generational. There would be many people living in Perth who've emigrated here from the UK who would definitely remember Leslie from various BBC TV and radio series," she said. "He was such a gifted individual with no ego, just lovely manners who treated everyone in the cast with respect. When I watch the Harry Potter movies with my grandchildren, I have a giggle that here I am all these years later and just as I enjoyed working with him in theatre, there will be future generations who will now get to know Leslie through a different medium and that is terrific.



"In the 1960s, life in London was very different- I often wish the technology available today was available back then to have been able to record performances but my memory is still as sharp as a tack and I'm so glad I hung onto the theatre photos which allow this trip down memory lane. I often get asked what my advice is for aspiring actors. The thing is the challenges facing young people today are very different from when I was in my 20s but when you want a career in the performing arts you need to have that drive and determination to get you through and realise that you're not going to be a star overnight.

"Leslie Phillips's career spanned 80 years and that doesn't happen without commitment and realism. Perhaps a tip that he gave me might stand everyone in good stead: If you are after instant fame and fortune, you'll be disappointed. Stick at it, there'll be good times, there'll be low times but being there will ensure it happens."

- **Karalee Katsambanis**, Radio 6PR Host of *Money News*, is the daughter of Diane Tilvern.



PERTH MODERNIAN SOCIETY
MUSEUM ASSOCIATION
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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
Beryl Maud Bartlett	1880s	School Nurse	21/12/2022
Kevin Albert Thompson	1946-50	Student	21/12/2022
Kenneth Ross Humphreys (Busselton)	1962-64	Student	07/12/2022
Terence (Terry) James Roberts	1954-58	Student	21/01/2023
Dr John Goldsworthy Collins	1946-50	School Captain	23/02/2023
Dorothy Mary Lancaster (nee Leron), aged 102, (Qld)	1934-38	Student	21/02/2023
Alan Ernest Randell	1951-52	School Prefect	14/02/2023
Alan Alfred Porter	1943-47	Student	08/04/2023
Vivian Ronald Paust	1950-51	Student	14/04/2023
Judyth Anne Stephens (nee Broadley)	1947-51	Student	16/04/2023
Patricia Helen Arnott (nee Reay)	1951-55	Student	19/04/2023
Colin Brynor Nicholas OAM	1946-47	Student	23/04/2023
Maxwell (Max) Bevilaqua OAM	1942-46	Student	30/04/2023
Dr Norrine Evelyn Anderson (nee Ranson)	1953-54	School Prefect	01/05/2023
Rolf Harris (UK)	1943-47	School Prefect	10/05/2023
James Merrick Hubble	1955-59	Student	21/05/2023



Alan Porter

PMS student 1943-47

Identifying, restoring and cataloguing antique science equipment was a major task for Alan and History Centre Volunteers. Sifting through about 200 pieces of mostly unidentified science equipment, restoring it where possible and then recording it in an unambiguous, comprehensive catalogue is the kind of task most people would think twice about and probably shy away from, rather than accept. But to Alan Porter B.Sc. (Chem.), Perth Modern School alumnus (1943-47), retired commissioning chemical engineer and former head of the BP Refinery at Kwinana, it was a challenge that had to be answered.

Alan occupied a corner of the History Centre, and worked his way through the collection, most of which was housed in a storeroom in the main school buildings until in 2009 a Museum space was made available to enable the Perth Modernian Society Historical and Museum Committee to honour the history and share the heritage of Perth Modern School. – Grahame Hunt

Alan contributed to the community as a scientist, businessman and volunteer. A life well lived enjoying his work as BP Refinery Manager, with his Model Railway Clubs and Perth Modern School Groups and his much-loved family. Now at peace and resting.

Wednesday, 12 April 2023 Published in The West Australian

Alan maintained his commitment to the alumni of Perth Modern School throughout his retirement - volunteering unceasingly in the History Centre and ensuring alumni news was shared. A story teller and gregarious gentleman whose presence has been missed.RIP.

Thursday, 13 April 2023 Published in The West Australia

Excerpts from his own story previously published in The Perth Modernian, 2016.



"I was an only child, born in 1930 and raised at the eastern end of Wembley. Consequently, I attended West Leederville Primary School from 1936, walking one kilometre each way to and from school each day. I had no trouble in being 'top of the class' in most subjects, just beating some of the girls in the class, but leaving the other boys well behind. So I, along with four girls from my school, managed to gain an 'Entrance' to 'Mod', basically a Scholarship but without the books being supplied. It was in fact a relief to get away from West Leederville Primary where I had been bullied by some of the boys for being a 'swat'. ... What a surprise when I started at Mod in 1943. Australia was at war with the threat of Japanese bombing - and perhaps invasion - hanging over us and an early activity was to dig our own slit trenches in the very sandy soil where the tennis courts are now.

The bigger surprise however was that I was no longer top of the class academically but very much a mid-field runner with so many brain-boxes from other schools. ... At UWA, I embarked on a chemistry orientated BSc degree - Chemistry, Physics, Maths and Geology in first year, Chemistry, Statistical Mathematics and Physics in second year and Physical Chemistry and Organic Chemistry in third year. I continued in Physical Chemistry doing an Honours project in 1951 on the rate of exchange between trivalent and pentavalent antimony!

At this stage, I felt I was well suited to a life in academia and I wanted to go on to a Masters degree and then to a Ph.D. Alas, financial grants to enable these aspirations were scarce and so I went into industry, initially at Cresco Fertilisers, a South Australian company with just the one works at Bayswater, where I had worked in three summer vacations while at UWA...

It was a satisfying period there. I was a sort of plant investigator, tackling technical problems, doing test runs on the sulphuric acid and superphosphate plants and doing some research on using WA mined iron pyrites and pyrrhotite for the production of sulphur dioxide for the sulphuric acid plant. In that area, I even convinced Professor Bayliss of the UWA Chemistry Department to allow me to do a Masters Degree part time on this topic using the facilities of his Department out-of-hours. When BP beckoned with its oil refinery being built at Kwinana in 1953-54, I saw an opportunity to be in at the beginning, so to speak, and with Cresco's blessing and at age 24 I applied for a position...

After perfecting these two infra-red pollution control techniques, I was moved into the Development Section where I became a sort of expert, making a reputation in the various caustic soda washeries of various motor gasoline components and of the catalytic cracking process. In 1959 I was moved into the Production Planning Section and later that year, to my amazement, I was asked to go to Montreal for twelve months to set up the Production Planning at the BP refinery then being built and to train the new staff. In 1962 I was sent to Aden to audit BP's production planning process there, to recommend and implement appropriate changes....

...Back to Australia in 1974 to be the Refinery Manager at BP's refinery at Westernport on the Mornington Peninsula in Victoria and there I thought I would spend the rest of my days, but no! A corporate shake-up had me sent back to Kwinana in 1976 to my old Works Manager job and after a couple of years there I was promoted to the top job, previously titled Managing Director but in 1978 down-rated to be known as Refinery Manager!



After I retired in 1985 I felt that some of my skills might be of use in the hobby clubs with which I had been involved since 1959, but to which I had not really made much of a contribution due to demands of my responsibilities with BP. At one stage early in my retirement, I was president of one model railway club, treasurer of another, editor of its bi-monthly publication and secretary of the Railway Historical Society. I was more stressed than when I was working for BP! Soon after retirement, I took on the job of treasurer of the Perth Modern School Historical and Museum Committee and I led the team undertaking the repair and restoration of the equipment in the Science Museum. For seven years or so I was a Councillor of the Perth Modernian Society. Mod taught me well and prepared me for a busy and fulfilled life!"

Maxwell (Max) Bevilqua OAM

Student 1942-46

4.6.29 - 30.4.23

It is with great sadness we mark the passing of our family patriarch. Raised by his mother and grandmother, he carved out a wonderful life, attending Perth Modern School and was at the time the youngest person to qualify as an architect in Perth. A life of art, design and music, he was well read and curious so always entertaining and interesting. With his wife of nearly 70 years, Thelma, he travelled the world, volunteered in various roles for the Red Cross, supported charities, performed in honorary posts and was a bonvivant. He was clever, kind, humble and funny. What a man, what a life!

Published 3rd May to 6th May, 2023

A wonderful partner in our Architectural practice Oldham Boas Ednie-Brown. Insightful, witty and creative, Max managed projects, clients, partners and staff with dignity and wisdom, humour and compassion. His generosity of spirit and his breadth of knowledge made him a joy to work with, challenged preconceptions and inspired innovative ways to meet architectural challenges.

Friday, 5 May 2023 Published in The West Australian

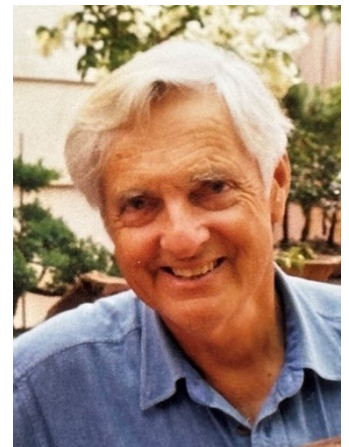
Alan Ernest Randell

Student 1950-51

Alan died after a rich life on 14 February 2023 in Canberra at the age of 88. Born in Narrogin, Western Australia in 1935, he completed his Junior Certificate at Perth Boys School and matriculated in 1952 from Perth Modern School as a PMS Prefect, Captain of the PMS Hockey Team and a WA State representative hockey player. He graduated from Claremont Teachers College in 1954, then undertook two years of National Service with the Royal Australian Navy as a gunnery rating on HMAS *Junee* and HMAS *Fremantle*. Alan completed his Bachelor of Education in 1962 and his Master of Education in 1970. He spent one year of post graduate studies in cross-cultural non-formal adult education at the University of London in 1980-81.

Alan married Shirley Izett, also a PMS graduate, in 1958 and they taught for seven years in Aboriginal primary schools in the Pilbara region and south-west WA. Alan then worked for one year in the Research Branch of the Department of Education before he and Shirley and their four children aged four, three, two and one moved to East New Britain in Papua New Guinea.

Alan worked in national teacher education in PNG from 1966 to 1974, as Principal of the Methodist Overseas Mission's Gaulim Teachers College in New Britain and then the Presbyterian Mission's Ruatoka Teachers College in Papua. When the Uniting Church of Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands was formed, Alan was appointed its National Education Secretary and then was involved with the PNG Government in a team to create a National System of Education for the whole of PNG as the country moved towards Independence. His last job there was Secretary to the Committee of Enquiry into University Development for PNG and Alan was awarded the Independence Medal in 1977 for his contribution to education in PNG.



Returning to Australia in 1975, Alan was appointed to the Commonwealth Schools Commission in Canberra and continued his work in non-formal cross-cultural education and Indigenous leadership development over the next ten years. He worked with the Commonwealth Department of Aboriginal Affairs and assisted with the establishment of the Aboriginal Training and Cultural Institute in Sydney. Alan then moved to Kintore in Central Australia with the Northern Territory Education Department. His nearly 30-year marriage with Shirley ended as she continued working in Canberra, and he married Judith Shaw in Honeymoon Gap, Alice Springs in 1988. Alan was made a Fellow of the Australian College of Education for contributions to PNG and Aboriginal education in 1981 and a Life Member in recognition of his years of membership in 2002.

Alan spent the last 25 years of his working life as National Consultant to the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress, a First Nation's movement promoting community development. He loved working with community leaders, capturing their ideas onto butcher's paper, and translating them into reports, plans and working documents to motivate and catalyse change. During that time, he was founding Principal of Shalom Christian College in Townsville.

The "Celebration of Alan's Life" ceremony was attended by his family as he had requested, in the Margaret Whitlam Pavilion at The Arboretum in Canberra on 2 April 2023. Most of Alan and Shirley's family were present: their children Douglas and Julie Randell, Andrew Randell and Vicky Spencer, Ellen Randell and Adam Griffiths and Erica Izett; grandchildren Nathan, Emelia, Isabella, Harrison, Beatrix and Matilda Randell, Jessica and Alicia Griffiths,



Inci Kelleher and Levi McLean; and great grandchildren Joash and Daniella Randell. They were joined by another 25 siblings, nieces, nephews and cousins from every state and territory in Australia except for Tasmania. A life well lived.

Dr John Goldsworthy Collins

Student 1946-50, School Captain in 1950

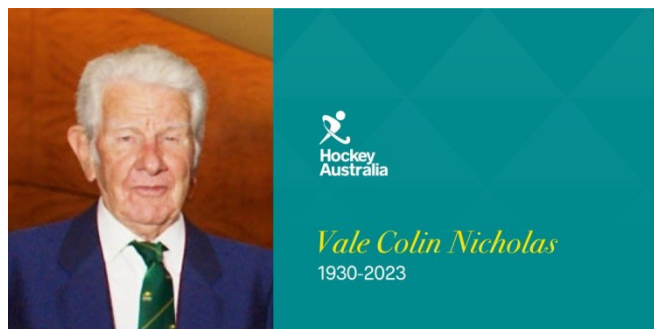
John was awarded a General Exhibition having achieved 5 distinctions in the Leaving exam. He married **Kathleen McGuckin**, student 1996-50. He married Kathleen McGuckin, student 1946-50, was father of three. Grandfather of three and brother of **Helen Collins**, student 1949-53, School Prefect 1953, and PMS staff member 1960-61, and 1964-66.

Dr John Collins completed Honours and Masters degrees in Physics at UWA, and was awarded PhD by Cambridge University. After he returned to Australia he later became chief of the Division of Applied Physics at the National Measurement Laboratory and retired in 1997. An active member of the Australian Institute of Physics and became National President in 1987-89.

Colin Brynor Nicholas OAM

Student 1946-47

Hockey Australia is saddened to hear of the passing of Life Member and former Hockey Australia President Colin Nicholas at the age of 92. Born in Perth, Colin was President of Hockey Australia and Hockey WA in the 1990's.



Awarded life membership of Hockey Australia in 1997, Colin was also a life member of Hockey WA. He was a popular figure in Australian hockey circles and contributed decades of time and service to the sport at club, state and national level.

As an architect, Colin was involved in the planning and design of the current Perth Hockey Stadium at Curtin University, ensuring it was built in time for the 1979 Esanda Tournament. Due to federal funding from former Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser, the stadium was named the Commonwealth Hockey Stadium when it was officially opened.

Colin was also instrumental in the group that established the Australian Institute of Sport hockey programme in Perth in 1984. Heavily involved with Old Modernians Hockey Club in Perth from 1948-2011, he was President of the WA Hockey Association and then President of the Australian Hockey Association (AHA) - the men's hockey association.

Colin was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia in 1991 for his services to hockey. One of the foundation members of Masters Hockey in WA, he regularly played midweek hockey and played many games against school sides for Hotspurs. He also toured overseas with the latter team, notably to London in 1986 for the Kookaburras' successful World Cup campaign.

During his time, Colin also continued to drive and promote hockey's reputation as a strong family orientated sport. We can look forward to a strong future for hockey, particularly in the 'Year of the Family' because hockey is a family-based sport. - Hockey Australia

Kevin Albert Thompson

Student 1946-50

After completing a BSc degree majoring in Chemistry, Kevin joined Cumming Smith (CSBP) as a chemist in the Albany Superphosphate works in 1955. In 1959 he was awarded a Graduate Diploma in Engineering by University College, London. Returning to CSBP as Project Engineer he remained with the company until retirement in 1991. Kevin was Managing Director of the Kwinana factory from 1983-91. He became Chairman of the Board of the Norwegian Shipping Company Jobsens from 1991-1997.

Judyth Ann Stephens, nee Broadley

Student 1947-51

Much loved sister of Eve. So many happy memories of family get togethers, holidays at Rottneest and going to Eagles' matches, especially the 1994 Grand Final Win.

Tuesday, 18 April 2023 Published in The West Australian

Vivian Ronald Paust

Student 1950-51



Viv's badge 319 was for Life Membership of the Woodturners Association of Western Australia (WAWA) who he joined in 1987. A highly influential member who trained, demonstrated, and produced wood turning of the highest quality over three decades. His humour, skill and camaraderie will be missed by all.

PAUST (Viv):
Viv badge 319 was a Life Member of WAWA who joined in 1987. A highly influential member who



The Class of 1973 Reunion ended their School Tour at the Perth Modernian Society Museum History Centre.



Visitors and Volunteers

Museum Volunteers take great pleasure in meeting with all visitors to the Perth Modernian Society History Centre especially family members. This was the case on April 11 2023 when Ralph Bilsby returned as he had previously promised in 2016. He is the son of **Margaret Isabel Johnson PMS student 1929-33**. In her final year Margaret was an editor of *The Sphinx*. In the photograph below, Ralph is holding his mother's 1933 Prefect Badge which he has donated to the Museum Collection.

When Margaret won her Scholarship, her father was the Headmaster of Esperance Primary School. She went on to gain a Bachelor of Arts at the University of Western Australia and teach at Wiluna Primary School and Highgate Infants School.

Margaret (Peg) and Harry married in 1945, lived in Collie 1946 and had three sons and nine grandchildren. They moved to Bunbury in 1961 when Harry was retrenched from the mining industry. Peg returned to her passion for teaching at St Joseph's Convent and Coinda Primary School prior to a happy retirement in 1976. Peg died in 2006 and Harry in 2008.

Older Modernians will remember Margaret's brother **Bill Johnson, PMS student 1933-37** and also a School Prefect. At the time of his death in 1999 Bill was Chair of the Perth Modern School Museum Committee and was the driving force behind the establishment of the Sphinx Foundation as a registered charity with the aim of raising funds to record the history of Perth Modern School for publication prior to the School's centenary. The book *Perth Modern School: the history and the heritage* was published in 2005 and dedicated to **Bill Johnson** alongside **Cecil Andrews**, both of whom were dedicated visionaries in regard to the value of honouring the history and sharing the heritage of PMS in their time.



L to R: Roger Stubbs, Bob Johnson, Ralph Bilsby and Dr Robyn White
Museum Volunteers Bob, and Robyn and Roger are all members of our Publications Policy Committee.

Recognising service in World War 1, World War 2, Malaya and Vietnam



Photo credit: MilesTweediePhotography

The Perth Modern School Digital Honour Roll can be accessed at <https://honour.perthmodern.wa.edu.au/>

The digital honour board view counter passed the 10,000 mark in time for ANZAC Day 2023 . It went live for the 2020 annual reunion so that's around 11.6 views a day. The reading as at 29 May 2023 reflects 11,076 views.

The Perth Modern School Honour Board and Nominal Roll are designed to provide information to students, parents, teachers, researchers, historical societies, RSL branches and members of the wider community in relation to former Perth Modern School students who served Australia in times of conflict. The Honour Board lists the 153 students who died as a result of their service and are buried or commemorated in 79 cemeteries and memorials in 25 countries around the world. The Nominal Roll lists the 1,608 students who survived their service.

The Honour Board table can be sorted on each of the 15 columns. For example, clicking on "Age at Death" will show that Frank Williamson was the youngest to die at 17 years 10 months and Reg Fenn was the oldest at 41 years 11 months. Clicking on "Date of Death" will show that **Stewart Davies** and **Harry Stapledon** died on 6 July 1941 during the battle of Damour in Lebanon and that **Tom Harper**, wounded in the battle on the 6th, died of his wounds the following day. Clicking on a student's name will open a box with seven additional attributes including the circumstances of his death. The box can be closed by clicking again on that student's name. The Nominal Roll, which has several different attributes from the Honour Board, can be sorted in a similar manner.

There is still much work to do to complete the tables. Visitors to the site are encouraged to inform the school of any additions and corrections by using the suggestion box at the bottom of each table. **People wishing to assist with the project are invited to contact the Museum by using the same box.**

In October 2022 we commemorated the Centenary of the dedication of the World War I Cenotaph and remembered in particular the boys who did not come home. We also paid tribute to the students and staff who lived through the experience in the early years of Perth Modern School during the 1914-1918 War and ensured that written records of their experiences were available for future generations.

MODERNIANS WHO DIED IN THE SERVICE OF THEIR COUNTRY

Number 19 in a special series of articles researched and prepared for publication by Robert Johnson, PMS student 1961-65 and Museum Volunteer

Tom Harper, Perth Modern School Student 1926-28
Harry Stapledon, Perth Modern School Student 1918-21

Few Australians are aware of the Battle of Damour in Lebanon in 1941 and that Australians were fighting against French forces, supposedly our allies in World War 2. Yet this is the battle in which former students Tom Harper and Harry Stapledon of the 2/16th Battalion lost their lives.

Thomas Harper

Tom Harper was born on 22 December 1912 to parents Thomas and Amy. He had a younger brother, Douglas. He commenced at Modern School on 9 February 1926 and left in December 1928 after passing his Junior Certificate.

Tom undertook an apprenticeship as a builder with A. T. Brine and Sons in Perth.

He enlisted in the Citizen Military Force in 1931 when he was 19 and served during the 1930's, rising to the rank of Sergeant. He married Elwyn Watkinson at Claremont in 1939 and enlisted in the 2/16th Battalion as a Private on 20 May 1940. Ten days later he was promoted to Corporal, two months later to Sergeant, and on 1 September 1940 he was promoted to Lieutenant.

Harry Duncan Stapledon

Harry Stapledon was born in Claremont on 8 July 1904 to parents Sophie and Henry. Harry was the eldest of four children. A nephew, Raymond Stapledon, attended the school from 1948 to 1950. Harry commenced his second year of high school at Modern School on 5 February 1918. He achieved his Junior Certificate in 1919, his Leaving Certificate in 1921 and was a championship tennis player. He studied law at UWA and during the 1930's was employed as a solicitor in Collie. He married Noreen East in Narrogin in 1934.

Harry enlisted in the 2/16th Battalion in Perth on 22 May 1940. He was 35 at the time, living in West Perth with Noreen and employed as a Barrister and Solicitor. He had been a Lieutenant in the Citizen Military Forces and resigned his commission to enlist as a Private in the 2/16th. Harry rose rapidly through the ranks, being promoted to Warrant Officer Class 1 and appointed Regimental Sergeant Major of the Battalion on 4 October 1940, five months after he enlisted.

The Battle of Damour - Background

On 7 June 1941 the British invaded Vichy France-controlled Syria and Lebanon to prevent Nazi Germany from using bases there for attacks on Egypt. Australian troops made up more than half the invasion force of 34,000 men. The 2/16th Battalion was part of the 21st Brigade of the 7th Australian Division.

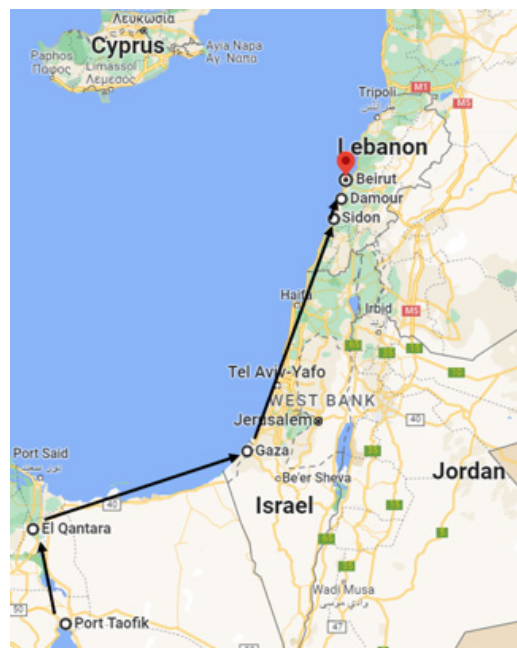
The Battalion, 946 strong, sailed from Fremantle on 25 October 1940 and arrived at Kantara (now El-Qantara) in Egypt on 25 November 1940. After a period of training in Palestine and garrison duty in Egypt the troops returned to Palestine in late May 1941. Its major battles were the crossing of the Litani River on 9 June, the unsuccessful attempt to capture Sidon on 13 June and the seizure of El Atiq Ridge, as part of the battle of Damour, on 6 July.

Middle East Journey: Port Taofik – El-Qantara – Gaza – Sidon – Damour River

Tom Harper



Harry Stapledon

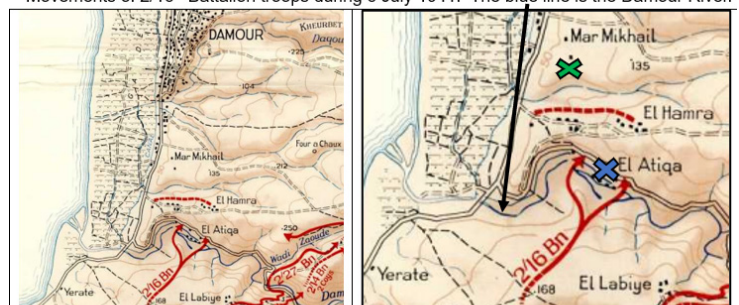


Source: Google Maps

El Atiq Ridge

On 6 July, the three infantry battalions of the 21st Brigade attacked the Vichy French positions defending Damour. On the left, the 2/16th Battalion launched a frontal assault on a force of French Foreign Legion troops defending El Atiq Ridge. Harry, promoted the previous day to Lieutenant, was in command of an infantry platoon. Tom was commanding No. 8 Platoon. At 1:30am the soldiers clambered down a steep ravine, crossed the Damour River, and climbed up the dangerously steep cliff on the north side of the river.

Movements of 2/16th Battalion troops during 6 July 1941. The blue line is the Damour River.



Tom Harper was fatally wounded at the blue cross. Harry Stapledon was killed at the green cross.

The attack up the steep, rocky ground with little cover commenced around 2:00am and quickly became a fight for survival – winking out strong points while enemy mortar shells, hand grenades and machine gun fire fell among them. Tom was badly wounded when leading his platoon in a successful attack against a strong post in the early stages of the assault on El Atiqa Ridge. He died the next day. Tom was a courageous and resourceful officer and was awarded a Mention in Despatches for his gallant service in Lebanon.

Meanwhile the remainder of the company of which Harry's platoon was a part had pushed on until they came under fire from Mar Mikhail. All efforts to find a covered approach to the enemy posts failed, and casualties mounted from the artillery and machine gun fire. Believing that some of the fire was coming from the neighbouring company of the Battalion, Harry stood up to signal to them and was fatally wounded by a burst of enemy machine-gun fire. He died soon after. The survivors withdrew to a position near El Hamra, just north of El Atiqa.

Despite this setback the 21st Brigade's attack was successful; Mar Mikhail was taken on 8 July and the next day the French requested an armistice which took effect at midnight on 11/12 July. Lebanon had been captured but the cost was high – the Brigade suffered 524 casualties, 269 of which were from the 2/16th Battalion.

Tom was 28 when he died and Harry was killed two days short of his 37th birthday. They lay in Beirut War Cemetery. The third Mod student to lose his life in the battle was Stewart Davies of the 2/4th Machine Gun Battalion. His story was told in the last newsletter.

100 YEARS AGO

From The Sphinx, May 1923 ANZAC DAY, 1923

Wednesday, April 25th, was this year rightly made a public holiday. On the preceding afternoon, the Headmaster being absent, **Mr. Sharp** addressed a few well-chosen words to the assembled school. He spoke not of the honour and glory of war, but of the devotion to duty and the ideals of men. There was no winning a war, it must of necessity be all loss. He expressed a hope that the League of Nations would be able to do something towards laying the foundation for a universal peace.

The commemoration of Anzac Day was a fitting time for another ceremony. This was the unveiling of war-pictures, bought by the school through the Sports' Fund, and chosen by the returned men, members of the staff. Two of the prefects removed the Union Jack and the Australian Flag and displayed a selection of beautifully-toned pictures, which from their arrangement on the dais could easily be seen to advantage by everyone in the hall.

Mr. Sharp closed by reminding us that these were our contributions to future ages. He hoped that many bright boys and gentle-eyed maidens would examine them with interest in the future. The assembly dispersed after the hearty singing of the National Anthem.

The pictures are enlarged copies of the actual photos, giving us good representations of various scenes of the war. One shows the 28th battery in action, while another brings home to us the loneliness of sentry duty in Palestine, where a line a hundred miles long, stretching from Heliopolis to Tel-ei Kebir, was formed by the Australian Light Horse to prevent the entry of spies and the running of guns by Arabs. A third depicts the interior of the Amiens Cathedral during the first service held after the re-capture of the town. This ceremony was held to commemorate the return of the Belgians into their city.

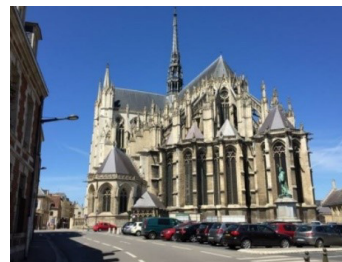
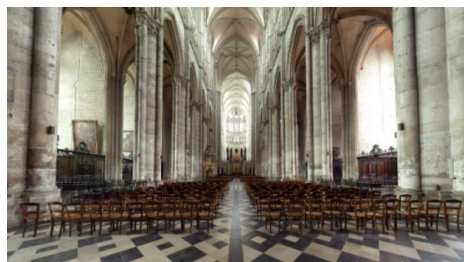
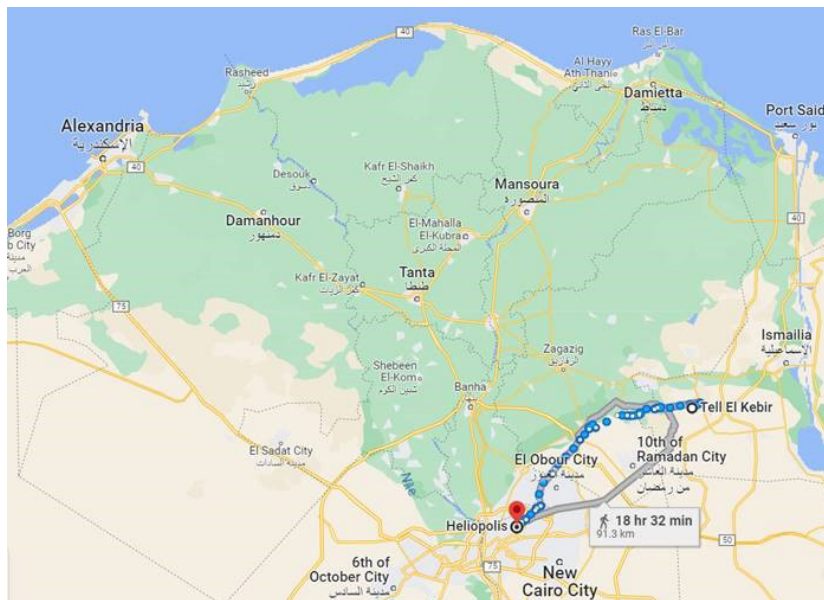
"Anzac Cove" shows the place of the landing with a dressing station in the foreground, while of the other two one portrays a body of German prisoners, wearing gas masks, being brought in by an Australian sergeant, and the other presents the entry into Damascus.

Robert Johnson writes:

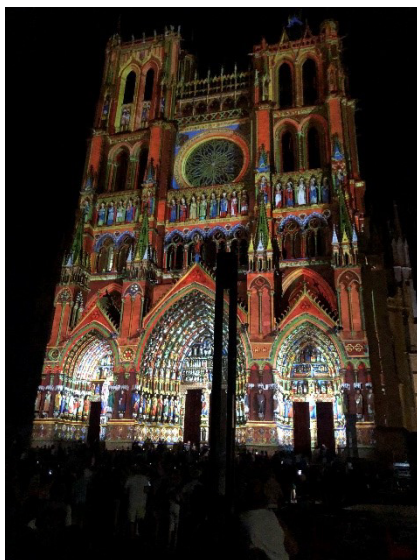
This article is of great interest indeed! Below is the sentry line and recent views of the Amiens Cathedral referred to in the text below. The fight on the night of 23-24 April 1918 that resulted in the Stokes-Sadlier Scholarship prevented the Germans from capturing it and the vital railway junction nearby. I took the external photo (not the usual tourist shot) on 3 June 2018.

Established by the Australian Government in 1989, the Sadlier Stokes Award honours the heroic actions of two Australian soldiers, Lieutenant Clifford Sadlier and Sergeant Charlie Stokes, in the decisive battle of Villers-Bretonneux on 25 April 1918 and perpetuates the historic link between France and Australia.





Indoor and outdoor views of Amiens Cathedral, 2018
 Below: *Striking son et lumière*, Aug. 2018 (Photos credit - Peter Farr)



LEST WE FORGET

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