



PERTH MODERNIAN SOCIETY

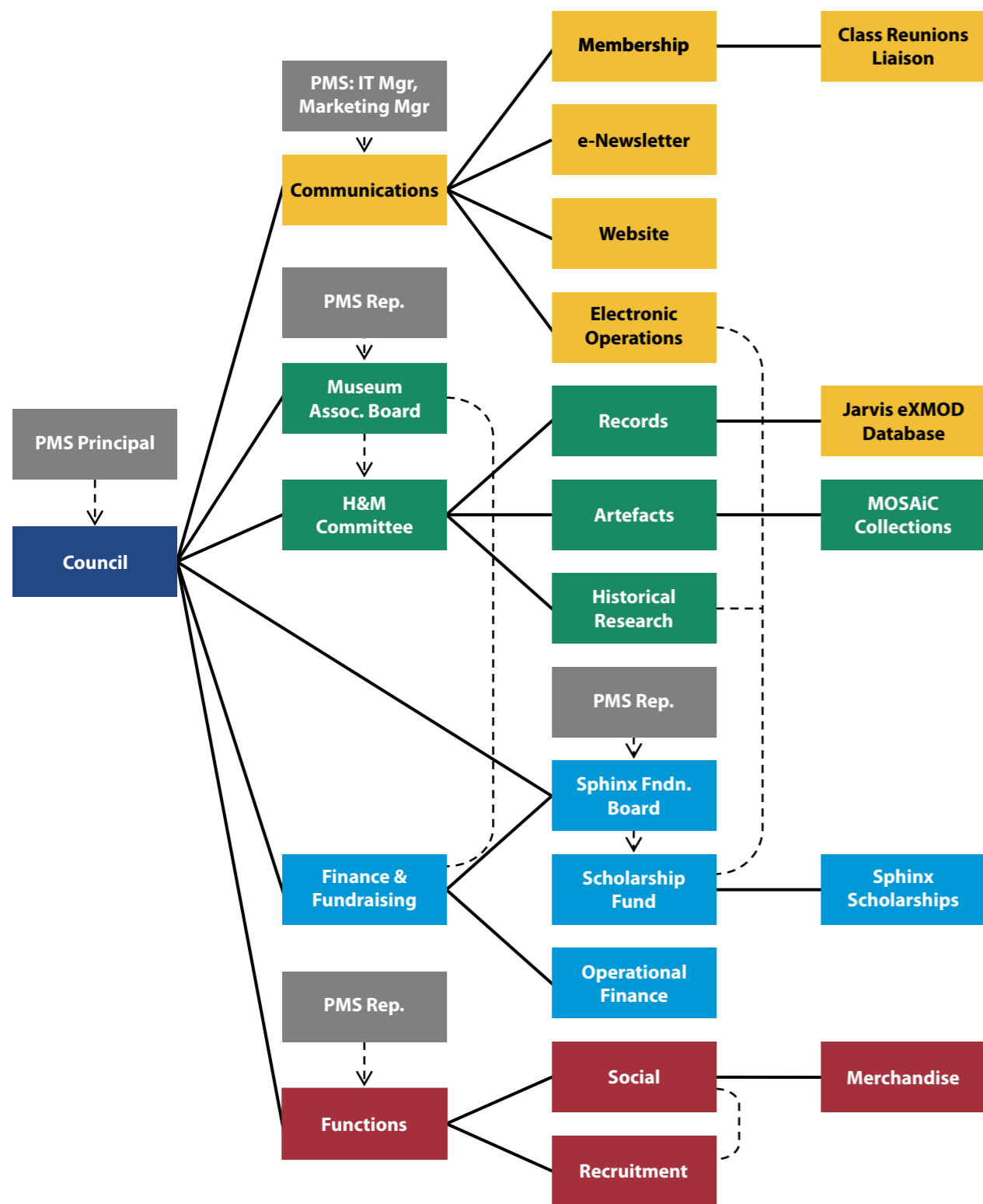


ANNUAL REPORT 2025





ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE



Front Cover Main Photo - Secretary and Honorary Archivist Deb Beresford with Head of Health and Physical Education Mark Muir at the launch of the Perth Modern School Business Plan 2025-2029



PERTH MODERNIAN SOCIETY

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ANNUAL REPORT 2025

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The **primary object** of the Perth Modernian Society (Inc) is the advancement of education for the benefit of the community as a whole. In undertaking the primary object this Society of former staff and students (alumni) must have regard to the educational principles and practices of Perth Modern School from its inception to the present and which may guide the School in the future.

Vision
 To be a vibrant, respected and valued alumni organisation that values inclusiveness, educational excellence and collegiality.

Mission
 To provide opportunities to connect Modernians; preserve history and traditions of Perth Modern School; and to support and encourage current students and staff to achieve their personal best.

Values
 Modernians share the core values of Perth Modern School in addition to ensuring inclusiveness and relevance for past, present and future members of the Perth Modernian Society.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



INTRODUCTION

The Perth Modernian Society, representing the alumni of Perth Modern School (students and staff), continued to provide strong support to members, the School and the wider community in 2025. A highlight of the year was the celebration of the Society's 30th anniversary, marking three decades of sustained contribution to Perth Mod's heritage and future.

E-NEWSLETTER

Four quarterly eNewsletters were distributed to approximately 1,800 alumni across Australia and overseas. Edited by Stuart Gould, Dr Robyn White and Peter Farr, the publication remains a vital link for Modernians, sharing Society news, alumni achievements and developments within the School.

GOVERNANCE AND COMPLIANCE

Following the AGM on 19 May 2025, Council members comprised Hon Daryl Williams (President), Dr Robyn White (Vice-President), Peter Farr, Eve Broadley (Hon Treasurer), Deborah Beresford (Hon Secretary), Barbara Mallett, Ruth Barrett and Ian Hunt, together with Mitchell Mackay (Ex-Officio, Principal). The Society thanks all Councillors for their ongoing service.

Principals Mitchell Mackay and Robyn Verboon regularly attended meetings, ensuring open communication between the School and Council. Peter Farr continued to serve as the Society's community representative on the Perth Modern School Board, a role held since 2018.

The Society remains compliant under the *WA Associations Incorporation Act (2015)*.

COUNCIL NEWS

The 2025 AGM was preceded by a celebratory high tea marking the Society's 30th anniversary. A photographic display highlighted significant milestones over three decades.

Membership uptake and renewal remain a key focus. Challenges include encouraging renewals, attracting Year 12 graduates, and strengthening engagement with staff. Council clarified in 2025 that all staff are Modernians under the Constitution and warmly invited to join the Society. Sustaining paid membership is essential to the Society's long-term impact.

PERTH MODERNIAN SOCIETY MUSEUM ASSOCIATION INC.

The Museum Association continues to integrate the Perth Mod Museum into the curriculum, connecting current students with the School's traditions and history. Volunteers maintain and extend the collection, conservation and display of an ever-growing number of artefacts, biographies and anecdotes related to Perth Mod's 114 years history and heritage. Sales of the *Music at Mod* book continued during 2025, the fourth history publication since 2005 – evidence of enduring interest in the School's ever evolving story.

In late 2025, the WA Heritage Council announced a WA Community Heritage Grant to fund a QR-coded digital Heritage Trail at Perth Mod. The grant will meet half the project cost and will allow visitors to access accurate historical information about key sites across the campus.



Secretary Deb Beresford, Vice President Dr Robyn White, and School Board Vice Chair Prof Charlie Bloom at the 2025 Annual General Meeting



Deputy Principal Philippa Roy with volunteers at the 2025 end of year morning tea

MODERNIAN FELLOW AWARD

At the 2025 Volunteers Morning Tea, Council conferred the honour of Modernian Fellow upon **Dr Robyn White**. The award recognises her outstanding service as Principal (2000-2010), Board Chair, Chair of the Museum Association (since 2018) and Vice-President of the Perth Modernian Society. Robyn has contributed significantly to Museum initiatives, including the production of *Music at Mod* and research for the centenary of the School's World War I cenotaph. Robyn's leadership and advocacy over a quarter of a century have strengthened the Society and the School, and her name is now permanently recorded on the Modernian Fellows Honour Board in the McCusker Room.

ANNUAL ORATION

Now in its fifteenth year, the Annual Oration was held on 11 November 2025. **Ms Sandy Anghie**, distinguished architect and civic leader, spoke on "*Designing a Life and Career with Purpose*." Drawing ten lessons from her professional journey, she linked architectural principles with broader reflections on leadership, resilience and purpose.



Sandy Anghie delivering the 2025 Annual Oration

The audience included Year 11 students, Sphinx Society members, parents, staff and Modernians. Following the Oration, Sandy attended the School's Remembrance Day Service at the World War I Memorial. As she departed, Sandy told Ms Verboon, "*Thank you all for the opportunity to talk to your students – it was an absolute pleasure and privilege.*"

In her subsequent thankyou letter to Council, she reflected on the profound connection between environment and wellbeing, noting that Perth Modern's blend of heritage and contemporary buildings provides an inspiring setting for learning.

SPHINX FOUNDATION AND SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Sphinx Foundation via the Scholarship Fund continues to provide vital financial support and scholarships for Perth Mod students. Since the Fund's establishment in 2008, following Jim Cundill's gift creating the Cundill Creative Writing Scholarship, the Fund has grown substantially. Now managing \$1.5 million in investments, the Fund has enabled 650 scholarships and bursaries over 18 years. In December 2025 alone, 103 awards were made or renewed, totalling \$111,350. In January 2026, the cumulative value of scholarships awarded surpassed **\$1 million**. Amongst public schools in WA, this fund is without equal and stands as one of the Perth Modernian Society's several outstanding legacies.

The Foundation collaborates with philanthropic partners including the Fogarty, Mannkal, McCusker Charitable and Malka Foundations. In 2025, Malka Foundation support enabled a record 45 students to participate in the **Future Leaders** and **Future Founders** programs. Over six years, 175 students have completed BLOOM leadership and entrepreneurship training.

"The Future Leaders and Future Founders programs offer our students the opportunity to develop the critical skills they need to thrive in a rapidly changing world. These programs not only prepare students for success beyond school but also strengthen their ability to collaborate, communicate and lead with confidence."

– **Philippa Roy, Deputy Principal**



2025 graduates from the PMS programs, with Bloom trainers, Sphinx Foundation Directors and Ms Jan Stewart (Malka Foundation)



Administering a scholarship program of this scale requires significant expertise and careful stewardship. Therefore, at the end of 2025, the Sphinx Foundation Board appointed its first part-time salaried Executive Officer, Mrs Jordan Moro (Modernian 2003-2007), marking a significant governance milestone for the organisation, as to date all work for the Foundation and the Sphinx Scholarship Fund has been undertaken voluntarily by the Directors.

VALE

Amongst the deaths of some 32 of the Society's members in 2025, the Society particularly mourned the passing of two highly esteemed Modernian Fellows: **Sallie Davies** (1952-56) and **Barrie Baker** (1954-58). Sallie and Barrie, who was made a Life Member of the Sphinx Foundation in 2024, each left lasting legacies of inspiring service and leadership.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

The Perth Modernian Society continues to play an integral role within the School community through its alumni engagement, Museum stewardship, Annual Oration and Scholarship Fund. These initiatives rely heavily on volunteers and donor generosity.

The engagement of younger alumni is essential to sustain and strengthen this work for future generations of Modernians.

Hon Daryl Williams

President
Perth Modernian Society Inc.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Year ending 31 December 2025



PERTH MODERNIAN SOCIETY (INC)

ABN 26 086 852 570

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS

Statement of Accounting Method

This is not a general purpose financial report. It is a special purpose report prepared for the Members of the Society to enable compliance with the Corporations Act and the Income Tax Assessment Act 1936.

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Prepared by Eve Broadley, Hon. Treasurer.



Sandy Anghie with Peter Farr and Year 11 girl students at morning tea



Year 10 and 11 boy students conversing with Peter Farr at morning tea

BALANCE SHEET

As at 31 December 2025

| | 2025 | 2024 |
|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Current Assets | | |
| Bank | 19,063 | 18,976 |
| Sundry Debtors | 0 | 987 |
| Total Assets | 19,063 | 19,963 |
| Liabilities | 0 | 0 |
| Accrued Expenses | 0 | 0 |
| Net Assets | 19,063 | 19,963 |
| Member Funds | 19,063 | 19,963 |

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

For the year ended 31 December 2025

| Income | 2025 | 2024 |
|--|--------------|---------------|
| Functions | 0 | 1,006 |
| Interest | 432 | 419 |
| Subscriptions | 4,854 | 4,347 |
| Donations | 10 | 0 |
| Refund Museum Association expenses | 532 | 0 |
| Expenses to be refunded Sphinx/Museum Association | 0 | 766 |
| Miscellaneous | 0 | 0 |
| Total Income | 5,828 | 6,538 |
| Expenses | 2025 | 2024 |
| Donations | 0 | 0 |
| Function catering and labour | 472 | 853 |
| Function equipment hire | 0 | 0 |
| Silver badges | 0 | 0 |
| Printing, stationery and postage | 0 | 0 |
| Computer & communication costs | 4,451 | 6,050 |
| Insurance | 340 | 1,066 |
| Trophies | 0 | 162 |
| Sundry | 479 | 145 |
| Total Expenses | 5,742 | 8,276 |
| Operating Profit (Loss) | 87 | -1,738 |

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the year ended 31 December 2025

| Cash Flows From Function Activities | 2025 | 2024 |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| Receipts from function activities | 0 | 1,006 |
| Payment to suppliers | -479 | -853 |
| Net function cash inflows | -479 | 153 |
| Cash Flows From Other Operating Activities | 2025 | 2024 |
| Receipts from members | 4,854 | 4,347 |
| Payments to suppliers | -5,263 | -8,432 |
| Donations received | 10 | 0 |
| Donations made | 0 | 0 |
| Interest received | 432 | 419 |
| Refund Museum Association expenses | 533 | 484 |
| Miscellaneous | 0 | 0 |
| Net operating cash inflows | 566 | -3,182 |
| Net increase / (decrease) in cash held | 87 | -3,029 |
| Cash at beginning of year | 18,976 | 22,005 |
| Cash at end of year | 19,063 | 18,976 |

PERTH MODERNIAN SOCIETY
STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

The Council has determined that the Society is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in the notes to the financial report.

In the opinion of the Council:

1. The financial report presents a true and fair view of the financial position of Perth Modernian Society (inc) as at 31 December 2025 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Perth Modernian Society (Inc) will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Council and is signed for and on behalf of the Council by:

Hon Daryl Williams
President

Date: 27 March 2026



Eve Broadley
Treasurer

Date: 27 March 2026



SPHINX FOUNDATION Annual Report



OVERVIEW

The Foundation had another successful year. A highlight was the continued strong partnership with the MALKA Foundation, in particular, their contribution of \$38,000 to underwrite the Sphinx Foundation's Entrepreneurship and Leadership Program for 45 Year 9 and Year 10 students. The leadership programme has run successfully for six years and is well regarded by participants, offering an ideal extension for PMS students that make up the PMS cohort. In addition, the MALKA Foundation provided \$22,000 towards scholarships.

In July 2025, the Sphinx Foundation Board of Directors and the School Executive had a positive meeting with MALKA Foundation representatives Derek Gerrard and Jan Stewart where they confirmed MALKA's ongoing commitment. The Sphinx Foundation is very grateful for the tremendous support from the MALKA Foundation and the strong relationship that has been built. As shown in the accompanying graphic, the Sphinx Foundation is in an exclusive Entrepreneurial Grant Cohort along with the WA Universities and just one other school.

Now managing over \$1.5 million in investments, the Sphinx Scholarship Fund has enabled 650 scholarships and bursaries over the past 18 years. In December 2025, 104 awards were made or renewed, totalling \$112,500. In January 2026, the cumulative value of scholarships awarded surpassed **\$1,012,000** – a significant achievement for the Foundation.

Administering a scholarship program of this scale requires considerable expertise and careful stewardship. Therefore, in December 2025, the Sphinx Foundation Board appointed its first part-time salaried Executive Officer, Mrs Jordan Moro (Modernian 2003-07). This appointment marked a significant governance and administration milestone, as to date all work for the Foundation and the Sphinx Scholarship Fund has been undertaken voluntarily by the Directors.

The Board was pleased that the Annual Appeal in May 2025 brought in **\$24,340** from 31 donors (excluding the \$60,000 from MALKA Foundation), an excellent result given ongoing cost of living impacts. To diversify the Foundation's donor database into the future, the Board aims to engage corporate organisations, charitable foundations and recent PMS graduates in addition to current ongoing supporters.

The Management Expense Ratio for the funds invested by the Foundation for financial year 2024-2025 remained very low at 0.17%. This outstanding result reflects the voluntary contributions of time by the Board and careful management of expenses.

SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT

The 2025 Future Founders programme culminated in a 'Shark Tank' style forum where 10 student teams pitched their business ideas to a judging panel of experts. Three winning concepts were recognised with small prizes donated by the Sphinx Scholarship Fund. As a result of the 2025 Future Founders programme, a team of two Perth Modern students went on to be finalists in the WA Young Innovator of the Year awards.

The continued success of the Future Leaders and Future Founders Programmes is testament to the strong collaboration between Perth Modern School, the Sphinx Foundation, Bloom and the MALKA Foundation. The programmes provide exceptional young people with the skills, mindset and networks to grow as the next generation of Western Australian leaders and entrepreneurs.



Representatives at the meeting of MALKA Foundation, Perth Modern School and Sphinx Foundation Board



Future Founders Shark Tank competitors getting feedback from the judging panel (July 2025)

The Sphinx Foundation was represented by one or more Directors at a number of key events at the School across 2025, including the Year 10 Scholarships Assembly, Year 7 Sphinx Scholarship Awards, Leadership and Entrepreneurship graduation, Entrepreneurship (Future Founders) 'pitches', the Perth Modernian Society Annual Oration, Remembrance Day ceremony, and the Year 12 Graduation Ceremony.

GOVERNANCE AND COMPLIANCE

The Directors during 2025 were:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Peter Farr | Member |
| Robert Gray | Secretary |
| Nigel Hunt | Chairman |
| Danielle Jeyes | Member (retired in December 2025) |
| Vivian Wang | Treasurer |
| Dr M. Annette Mercer | Member |
| Mitchell McKay or Robyn Verboon | Observer, PMS Principal |
| Philippa Roy | Observer, PMS Deputy Principal |

The Board thanks Danielle Jeyes for her four years' service.

MEETINGS

The Board met on the following occasions in 2025:

- 12 May 2025 - Ordinary Meeting
- 31 July 2025 - Special Meeting involving MALKA Foundation, Perth Modern School and Sphinx Foundation Board
- 16 December 2025 - Annual General Meeting
- 16 December 2025 - Ordinary Meeting

Between meetings, considerable business was conducted by email or telephone.

ASSISTANCE FROM THE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

The Board would like to acknowledge the cooperation of the School in the administration of the Foundation, especially with the allocation of clerical assistance, principally for the Sphinx Scholarship scheme, and Helen Lydon's supervision of the Entrepreneurship and Leadership programmes.

As the number and complexity of Scholarships and Bursaries has increased over the years, so too has the work required by staff at the School. The additional efforts made to make possible student selection and manage associated financial and clerical tasks is no small task and that work is gratefully acknowledged.

Principals Mitchell Mackay and Robyn Verboon, Associate Principal Philippa Roy, and Marketing Manager Thalia Cole, all enthusiastically supported the activities of the Sphinx Foundation again across 2025. Their participation and support are greatly appreciated - a real team effort.

SPHINX SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES - AS AT 1 FEBRUARY 2026

Year 7 Equity Awards

With the assistance of Roger Stubbs and Dr Annette Mercer, the Board instrumented the annual process of advertising for and selecting scholarship and bursary winners. Scholarships/Bursaries selected in Term 4 of 2025 to be taken up in February 2026 were as follows:

Incoming Year 7 Students - Equity Awards (17) totalling \$18,850

- The McCusker (Academic Excellence) Scholarship
- 3 x The MALKA Foundation Year 7 Equity Scholarship
- 5 x Don Tyler (Equity) Scholarships
- 4 x Perth Modernian Society (Equity) Scholarships
- The Raymond Dingle and Gai Harris (Equity) Scholarship
- The Ling and Chris Hayes (Equity) 3 Year Scholarship
- 2 x Perth Modernian Society Year 7 (Equity) Bursaries.

Post Year 7 Students - Equity Awards (6) totalling \$8,350

- The TLC 'Be Inspired' Scholarship
- Jim Leslie Equity Scholarship and Bursary
- 2 x The MALKA Equity Scholarship (Senior School) Scholarships
- The Ross and Fran Ledger Scholarship

Most disappointingly, there were insufficient applications for three other equity scholarships.



Sphinx Foundation Board Directors Peter Farr, Dr Annette Mercer and Nigel Hunt with the 2025 upper school Sphinx Scholarship awardees (December 2025)

Post Year 7 Students - Academic Excellence Awards (38) totalling \$32,850

- The Jean and Jim Cundill Creative Writing Scholarship and Bursary
- The Daniel Girling and John Down Music Scholarship and Bursary
- The Don Tyler Physics Scholarship and bursaries; Don Tyler Biological Sciences Scholarship and bursaries; Don Tyler Chemistry Scholarship and Bursary; Don Tyler Computer Science Scholarship; Don Tyler Innovations, Entrepreneur and Independent Research Scholarship and Bursary
- The Barrie Baker Mathematics Methods Scholarship; The Barrie Baker Mathematics Specialist Scholarship; The Barrie Baker Mathematics Scholarship, and Mathematics Bursary
- The Perth Modernian Society Visual and Performing Arts Scholarship and Bursary
- The Perth Modernian Society Elite Physical Education Scholarship and Bursary
- The Fortescue Metals Group Mechatronics Engineering (Upper School) Scholarship
- The Fortescue Metals Group Mechatronics Engineering (Upper School) Bursary
- The Shirley Randell Social Sciences Scholarship
- The Malcolm Evans European Languages Scholarship, The Malcolm Evans Asian Languages Scholarship, and The Malcolm Evans Languages Bursary
- The Ling and Chris Hayes Economics-Accounting Scholarship

- The John Christmass Choral Music Scholarship
- 3 x The Dr Philip E Best Science Bursaries
- The Hunt Family Politics and Law Scholarship
- The Peter Farr Psychology Scholarship and Bursary
- The Malcolm Evans Debating Scholarship

General

- Principal's Discretionary Bursaries (\$3,000 per annum)

Renewals

- Year 8, Year 9 and Year 10 - 43 awards totalling **\$49,450**.

Sphinx scholarships and bursaries paid out on 1 February 2026 totalled **\$112,500** (cf the total paid out on 1 February 2025 was \$108,000).

ANNUAL FUNDRAISING APPEAL – 2025

The 2025 annual Sphinx Scholarship Fund appeal letters resulted in donations totalling \$24,340.

In addition, \$22,000 was donated by the MALKA Foundation for scholarships and bursaries, as well \$38,000 to support expenses of the Leadership and Entrepreneurship Programmes for selected Perth Modern School Year 9 and 10 students.

The number of donors in 2025 was 31, of whom 28 (90%) were repeat donors, meaning that 10 per cent were new donors. This successful year brought the number of people who have donated to the Scholarship Fund over time to approximately 688. Their involvement since the inception of the Fund in 2009 is greatly appreciated by the Board and helps to keep the Directors enthused to contribute even more to public education.

As noted above, expanding the donor base is high on the Board's strategic agenda.

SF INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

The SF Investment Committee, comprising four Directors, was in place across 2025 and provided advice to the Board on a number of investment related matters. Its overall function is to provide selection and management advice to the Treasurer and the Board on the diversification, risk, and return performance on the SF portfolio of investments. The Investment Committee has engaged informally through email and videoconference discussions on specific investments and has been active in both reinvigorating its existing share trading relationship with Shaw & Partners, along with exploring whether the Fund could obtain better service from an alternative paid advisor. The Investment Committee remains satisfied with the Fund's performance, in what proved to be a challenging investment environment over the course of FY2024/2025 due principally to interest rates and impact of the Trump Administration's tariffs.

FINANCIAL REPORTS – SUMMARY

Sphinx Foundation Inc.

The Net Cash at bank as at 31 December 2025 was \$7,890 (cf 31 December 2024 \$8,577).

Sphinx Scholarship Fund

Income and Expenditure

In calendar year 2025, the Sphinx Scholarship Fund income (after allowing for the change in market value of investments and unrealised capital gains/losses) amounted to \$233,682 and expenses totalled \$147,000 giving a net surplus of \$86,680 (cf calendar year 2024 – net (paper) loss of \$16,600).

Balance Sheet

As at 31 December 2025, the Sphinx Scholarship Fund comprised:

- Current Assets = \$170,456
- Current Liability = \$1,993
- Long Term Assets = \$1,358,170
- Total Assets = \$1,528,627
- Net Cash at Bank included in Current Assets = \$172,450.

Without exception, all “in perpetuity” and long-life funded scholarships are adequately covered by their respective corpus (asset). (Refer Note 6 to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2025).

Notes: The Sphinx Scholarship Fund is presently supporting many different groups of awards, and the Fund holds shares in 22 ASX listed companies as well as 10 unlisted trusts, and cash at bank. As a consequence, management of the Fund is necessarily quite complex and very time consuming.

COMPLIANCE

In 2025, BAS statements were submitted quarterly to the ATO by the Treasurer. The Sphinx Scholarship Fund is independently audited by AMW Audit. The audit was completed in December 2025 with no adverse findings.

Due to changes in prices of the Fund’s ASX Investments versus Unlisted Property Investments, shares at 30 June 2025 were above the 50 per cent permitted range as per the Scholarship Fund’s Investment Policy.

Following the 2025 AGM, the Sphinx Foundation completed and lodged the 2024 Annual Information Statement, on time and as required, to the ACNC (Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission).

VALE - MODERNIAN FELLOW BARRIE BRENTNALL BAKER

Barrie was there at the very beginning of the Sphinx Foundation and on behalf of the Board, I would like to again formally express our thanks and acknowledge Barrie’s significant contribution in his role as Chair and member of the Board of the Sphinx Foundation from 2000 to 2023, as well as being a driving force of the Sphinx Scholarship Fund.

Barrie continued to assist with the Year 7 scholarship selection process in 2024, showing once again his spirit of community service and dedication to make a positive difference to many talented young people’s lives. At the 2024 AGM, the Board unanimously voted to appoint Barrie Brentnall Baker as a Life Member of the Sphinx Foundation Inc. by reason of his distinguished service to Perth Modern School, the Perth Modernian Society, the Sphinx Foundation, or the public or any section of it. Most sadly Barrie passed away on 6 February 2025, and a Life Membership certificate was presented posthumously to Barrie’s widow Zoe and daughters, Mirriam and Ruth.

CHALLENGES AHEAD

- Applications issues: Disappointingly, there were again insufficient applications for three of the Year 10 equity scholarships in 2025. Also, there were too many applications for the Year 7 awards that clearly did not meet the “financial or other pressing need” criterion. The School is aware that changes need to be made to processes.
- Several tasks that the late Barrie Baker previously routinely handled over many years were transitioned to other Board Members and Volunteers.
- Contributions from the traditional donor base of Modernians has fallen since its peak level of donors in 2017. Expanding the donor base is high on the Board’s agenda.
- Managing partnerships with outside organisations/funders, including MALKA and Fortescue remains a priority.
- Investment values and returns continue to be adversely affected by interest rates and global economic uncertainty.
- Investment management: management of the Sphinx Scholarship Fund is necessarily quite complex and time consuming.
- The Sphinx Scholarship Fund’s inaugural part-time salaried Executive Officer, Mrs Jordan Moro commenced at the end of January 2026, marking a significant governance and administration milestone.



Nigel Hunt
Chairman
Sphinx Foundation Inc.
13 April 2026

MUSEUM ASSOCIATION

Annual Report



ABN 73 761 561 543

Continuing to Honour the History, Share the Heritage



Loren White with the library display



Data entry with Wendy McCallum and Jill Lucas

INTRODUCTION

Throughout the past year the Museum and History Centre volunteers again focussed on collecting, cataloguing and conserving artefacts and records relating to the history and culture of Perth Modern School. As in recent years, volunteers balanced their time in the museum with time spent with international and domestic travel commitments. Extending our digital records to accurately display student and staff records continued to engage us as did the cataloguing of new acquisitions into our digital database. Researching further stories of alumni involved in military conflicts on behalf of our country is a never-ending quest as is research requested by the children, grandchildren etc of past students. Another stream of research undertaken by our volunteers included that of identifying changes to the built environment of the school over its lifetime and with that, delving more deeply into the stories associated with the Heritage Trail around the school. Fortunately, we’ve enjoyed contact with many visitors (often donating artefacts) over this year – and collected even more family stories and information about the exploits of past students after they’d completed their secondary education. As we each learn new skills, we’ve been able to do so in a lively and cheerful environment. The Board of the Perth Modernian Society Museum Association wishes to thank all of our volunteers for their dedication and enthusiasm!

GRANTS AND FUNDRAISING

While the activity in and related to the Museum is undertaken solely by volunteers, the use of digital technology and physical materials in conserving, cataloguing and displaying artefacts means that the Museum continually requires funding. We consistently apply for grant funding for the completion of special projects but otherwise rely on our annual fundraising appeal in order to meet our recurrent costs.

For some people, the annual appeal is not an appropriate time to donate but there is a real intent to support the Museum activities at some time in the future or to donate for a particular project. A Bequest strategy has been developed and details can be found on our website: www.perthmoderniansociety.org.au/index.php/museum.

2024-25 Donors

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| Sheila Robinson | Mrs Wendy McCallum |
| Mr Ross W Kelly AM | Dr Robyn White |
| Edna Youngman | Mr Greg Calcutt |
| RL Matthews | Mrs Margaret Puzey |
| Laurie Best | Mrs Sallie Davies |
| Dr Brian Hewitt | Dr Mary J Marshall |
| Sharon Williams | Dr Roger Atkinson |
| Mrs Glenice Munro | Hon Daryl Williams AM KC |
| Dr Neil Bardsley | Mr Walter L Turnbull |
| Mr Ross Ledger AM | Jeanette McQueen |

Thank you sincerely for your donation for Museum projects and activities which will enhance the work of our volunteers to preserve and conserve our collections, bring stories and information to more families and friends electronically and to honour and share the heritage of Perth Modern School.

GOVERNANCE AND COMPLIANCE

Throughout the 2024-25 Financial year, the Board of the Perth Modernian Society Museum Association Inc., included:

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| Dr Robyn White | Chair |
| Mrs Sharon Williams | Hon Treasurer |
| Ms Monica Brierley-Hay | Hon Secretary |
| Mr Jeff Lai | Board Member |
| Ms Ashleigh Blechynden | Board Member |
| Ms Thalia Cole | Board Member (reserve Hon Secretary) |
| Ms Robyn Verboon | Associate Principal, Perth Modern School, ex-officio |
| Mr Evan Kennea | President, Perth Modernian Society (until Feb 2025), ex-officio |

Throughout the year, the Board met four times (once per term) and all meetings were available through Microsoft teams as well as face-to-face.

Over the course of the year BAS statements have been submitted quarterly to the ATO (Australian taxation office). Following the 2023-24 Annual General Meeting, the Annual Information Statement required by Consumer Protection (WA) and the ACNC was uploaded in October 2024.

COLLABORATION

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

- The Museum has maintained its membership of the Australian Museums and Galleries Association (AMAGA). Our updating of our digital entry on the Collections WA website is a long-held ambition.
- Our connection with the Kentian Society (Alumni from Kent Street Senior High School) and other schools has continued.
- Through Bob Johnson's research on military history we continue to form connections with other entities. These include UWA Historical Society, RSL Clubs and the National Military Museum.
- Over 2024-25 the Museum Association participated in a new partnership with the City of Subiaco as part of the City's "See Subi on Sunday" free guided walk program. The School and Museum were showcased on Sunday 9 March 2025.

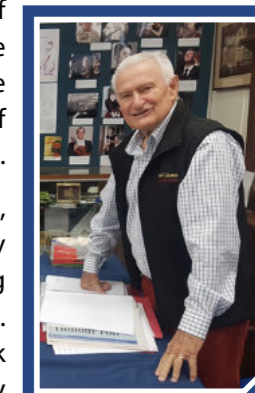


Marion Gathercole speaking to visitors in the museum on 9 March 2025

RETIREMENT

Frank Hedges

Over many years, Frank Hedges has arrived on Monday mornings to support the work of the Museum. Frank was a student of Perth Modern School, 1948-52, served with the Australian Federal Government Diplomatic Service and later in the office of the State Ombudsman. On retirement, being resident in Perth and still in contact with a number of school mates (including Jim Davies), Frank was persuaded to join the museum volunteers.



As a volunteer, Frank is respected and his presence valued. Always with a smile and laugh, Frank can lighten any room – and has done so frequently in his consistent Monday morning visits to the museum! He is a man of many stories and extensive and interesting fields of conversation. Between these, Frank has been busy updating the Burvill Files. These are the "hard copy" artefacts kept in the museum – letters, newspaper articles, book references and other articles from magazines etc. Over the years Frank has carefully updated the organisation of each file as well as maintaining and expanding the collection. As donations of articles occurs every week, there has always been much to be achieved and Frank has been diligent in his focus.

Frank's recent lack of transport has restricted his capacity to volunteer in the museum. However, his efforts for so many years have been wonderfully effective and we thank him – and hope that he will be able to "drop in" and join us when able.

Roger Stubbs

Roger Stubbs has enjoyed an extensive association with Perth Modern School – so we were disappointed but not surprised when he announced that he must retire to devote more time to the needs of the independent retirement village in Bunbury that he and Pam are now members.



When Roger and Pam (nee Breeze, student at Mod 1955-59) married, Roger was immediately a part of Pam's alumni group. However, as a very successful English teacher and Head of Department, he later became even more connected to the school. Following his relief teacher duties at Mod having retired from full time teaching, when the school building program commenced in 2006 (in preparation for the new selected students), Roger applied and was accepted as the school's coordinator for that programme. Roger's experience as Mayor of Armadale (thirteen years) and his knowledge of town planning and building codes, ensured his credentials for this role. Since that time, Roger has committed to roles associated with the school – researching, writing and editing the 2018 book *A Celebration of Contribution: Tales of Courage, Commitment and Creativity of Modernians 1911-1963*, researching and writing the *Music at Mod* book in 2023 and most recently undertaking the editing of the Modernian e-Newsletter. Roger's presence (even from Bunbury) is already missed by volunteers – although every now and then he continues to enrich the e-Newsletter with articles about past students and their achievements.

VALE - MODERNIAN FELLOW SALLIE ELIZABETH DAVIES

On 27 September 2025, the Perth Modernian Society lost an alumna who lived and breathed Perth Modern School and its history - someone respected by us all with an incredible depth of knowledge of all things "Mod".

After retiring from Volunteering WA in 2002, Sallie first joined the Board of the Sphinx Foundation and worked with the late Prof. David Black to coordinate the production of *Perth Modern School: The History and the Heritage*. Following the successful book launch, Sallie and her husband Jim (also a Modernian) worked with the Museum to conserve records, research and document trends and people, contribute to the late Ian Jarvis' alumni database (JED), and respond to email queries from fellow alumni and their families. Sallie also served as a Council member and Vice President of the Perth Modernian Society, and edited and co-ordinated the Society's quarterly eNewsletter for its first 15 years.

Sallie's participation was consistently marked by her hard work, willingness and persistence when others might have flagged. It's no understatement to say that Sallie's vision and determination for such a long period drove the Society, so leaving a lasting legacy. It is fitting then that in 2014, Sallie was honoured as one of the three inaugural Modernian Fellows. As Modernians, we miss her.

THANK YOU

Throughout the year, the Museum has again benefitted from absolute support by the School staff and administration. Led by Principal Mitch Mackay, school staff members have been thoroughly committed to our needs and our volunteers have welcomed all student visits and queries from staff members. Ms Robyn Verboon, Associate Principal and Principal (term four), has attended our Board meetings and provides us with excellent insight into the school activities while contributing further innovative ideas to our discussions. We are most fortunate to enjoy such collaboration.

The members of the Council of the Perth Modernian Society have continued to encourage us and provided additional connections. Our IT/web master Stuart Gould is a wonder who consistently reminds us of important improvements in our digital presence.

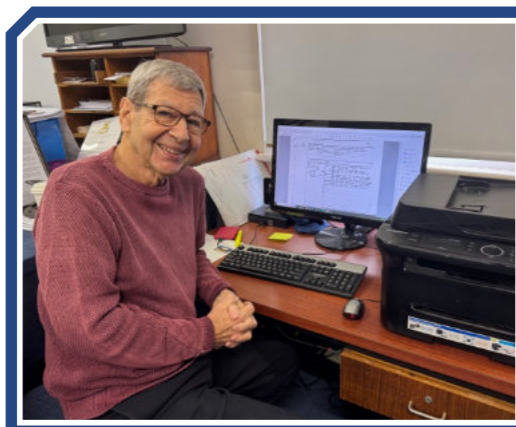
Our Board members continue to provide enthusiasm and essential expertise throughout our deliberations. Each ensures that our decisions are well founded: Jeff Lai with his focussed understanding and advice about networking and software, Monica Brierley-Hay for her legal understanding, Ashleigh Blechynden for her understanding of administration and extending our research capabilities, Sharon Williams and her energy and comprehensive financial advice and social media presence and Thalia Cole for her understanding of communications and marketing. The year was especially demanding for several of our Board members. Sharon was been in Bendigo from February until December, supporting her parents and their farming activities as her father faced a major health battle. Monica was in London until September 2025 whilst completing her post graduate studies and Ashleigh delivered her gorgeous daughter Eleanor mid-year. Despite such diverse circumstances, no one has missed a meeting nor missed providing reports as required for each meeting. Thank you all!

Special thanks to our volunteers, without whom the museum and archives could not function. Deb Beresford is our honorary archivist who ensures new donations are properly accessioned and conserved – with Deirdre Owen working alongside maintaining the archives. Alison Woodman spends Monday mornings with Deb and Deirdre in the archive room adding photographs to the digital catalogue. Ian Hunt spent his time between the archive room and museum – ensuring that the digital network was always operational. He continued to work on continuous improvements to our network and digital operations. In the museum, Wendy McCallum and Jill Lucas update the student database, steadily adding the details of past students. Gay Albillos mastered the MOSAiC cataloguing system and ensured that new book donations are accessioned, conserved and easily located. Loren White oversights the science collection as well as attending to the new display area outside the Parsons Library. Bob Johnson meanwhile, spent endless hours continuing his military service research – now having identified over thirty Vietnam veterans of the school. The generosity of our volunteers in committing their energy, skills and friendship on every Monday morning, is absolutely appreciated!

Robyn White

Dr Robyn White

Chair
Perth Modernian Society Museum Association Inc.



Bob Johnson at his desk



Gay Albillos managing two screens

2024-25 ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

The Perth Modernian Society Museum Association (PMSMA) Incorporated uses cash accounting which records revenue when money is received and expenses when money is paid. The Association is a registered small charity having annual revenue under \$500,000. The financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the PMSMA as at 30 June 2025. At the date of this statement there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Association is able to pay all of its debts, as and when they become due and payable. The 2024/2025 financial year was the fifth full financial year of the Association and our fifth fundraising campaign in May/June of 2025.

Cash Receipts and Payments for the year 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025

| Cash Receipts | | \$ |
|--|--|------------------|
| Donations from former students/parents | | 5,295.05 |
| Interest | | 3,656.19 |
| ATO - refund of GST | | 341.00 |
| Music at Mod sales (including postage) | | 1,261.35 |
| Total Cash Receipts | | 10,553.59 |
| Cash Payments | | \$ |
| Printing, postage and stationery | | 90.78 |
| IT software, licenses, upgrades & AMaGA membership | | 692.69 |
| Training & admin costs – MOSAiC | | 183.00 |
| Grants – volunteer grants | | 526.19 |
| Music at Mod book | | 33.00 |
| Bank fees | | 129.97 |
| Insurance | | 532.80 |
| Total Cash Payments | | 2,188.43 |
| Surplus / Deficit | | 8,365.16 |

Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2025

| Current Assets | | \$ |
|-----------------------------------|--|------------------|
| BOQ operating account | | 18,529.92 |
| BOQ term deposits | | 76,445.76 |
| Total Assets | | 94,975.68 |
| Liabilities | | 0 |
| Net Assets | | 94,975.68 |
| Members' Funds | | \$ |
| Opening balance as at 1 July 2024 | | 86,610.52 |
| Surplus for the period | | 8,365.16 |
| Net Assets | | 94,975.68 |

MUSEUM COMMITTEE REPORT

Museum Volunteers at Work

OVERVIEW

The Museum Standing Committee continued to operate in accordance with the requirements set out in the updated 2022-24 Forward Plan reviewed and adjusted by this Committee and approved by the Board at the February 2022 meeting. Throughout the year, the Museum Committee and Board recognised that their responsibility was to document and approve the new forward plan for 2025-2028.

2025 REUNIONS

While the work in the Museum was uninterrupted over this year, the number of reunions and community activities has diversified.

On 9 March 2025, the Museum volunteers were pleased to host a "See Subi on Sunday" walk around Perth Modern School. Led by Marion Gathercole, a group of about fifty people assembled on the oval. Visitors visited the gym, Andrews building and Beasley building as well as viewing other school buildings before finally arriving at the museum. Guests remained talking to Museum volunteers Bob, Robyn and Loren for some time as they examined the displays.



Class of 1975 alumni visiting the museum

On 26 March a small group of eleven members of the class of 1955 met for a very convivial lunch. A few members who had been in contact with the group were unable to attend, but the day provided another opportunity to reestablish connections.

To celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Perth Modernian Society establishment as well as the AGM, about thirty members covering many decades at PMS enjoyed the High Tea and had a very good celebration in the Staff Room at Mod on the afternoon of Monday 19 May. Barbara Mallett and Ian Hunt had composed a continuous loop slide show covering the social side of the Society's history as well as the Save PMS campaign in 2017, and as no one present had seen all those images previously, this held attention like a magnet.

We are continued to support year groups who wished to conduct their reunions off-site from the school. 2025 saw reunions of the 1955, 1959, 1965, 1975, 1985, and 2005 year groups. Several requested for the Museum to be opened during the same afternoon so that alumni could review photographs and articles in the Sphinx's and other artefacts – enjoying the comprehensive reminder of their days at Mod.

ONGOING VOLUNTEER PROJECTS

IT Delivery, Networking etc

Ian Hunt has worked to provide us with a stable platform for the remote network, ensured that digital software is backed up weekly, is always available for queries and continues to research the most effective ways in which we might convert paper records into digital records that will save them from damage by overhandling. There are so many different hard copy records to digitise, we can see no end to our need for Ian's support!

Archives

The Museum archives are curated by Honorary Archivist Deb Beresford alongside her able assistant Deirdre Owen. As new donations are received by the Museum, Deb and Deirdre catalogue and accession (into our software MOSAiC) these before appropriately conserving and storing them.

Photographs

The digitising and cataloguing of photographs is undertaken by Alison Woodman. This is an incredibly time-consuming activity and we are grateful for Alison's persistence! Being able to find photographs via MOSAiC saves enormous time when displays are being created or family members request information about their forebears.

Book and Sphinx Collections

Over the past two years, Gay Albillos has undertaken a massive reorganisation of the books and Sphinx magazines donated to the Museum. Books are now catalogued and easily found while the Museum and Archive rooms now share three complete sets of Sphinx magazines. Gay has become extremely adept at accessioning new books into MOSAiC as well as updating our database with new information.

Military Commemorative History

Bob Johnson continues his research into all military history related to alumni of Perth Modern School. Bob's work extends far beyond the Monday mornings in the Museum. The Nominal and Honour Roll found on the school website, details the 153 former students who have lost their lives in the service of their country as well as the Nominal Roll including 1,614 students who served and returned home.

George Burvill Biographical Index

The old Pound cupboard in the Museum holds a multitude of files of the George Burvill Index. Here, hard copy information (letters, newspaper articles etc) is filed under alumnus names through the efforts of Frank Hedges and sometimes Loren White.

Data Entry into JED

Wendy McCallum and Jill Lucas make up an exceptional team volunteering and effectively updating files. The digital student data base lacks much information for the years post 1961 – which is gradually being rectified.

Science Collection

Loren White is continuing to refurbish the science collection. Identifying, cataloguing and making usable various pieces of equipment is requiring some research and innovation.

Publication and Social Media Presence

The Museum members contribute articles and check on historical facts for the Perth Modernian Society e-Newsletter and Perth Modern School Newsletter.

Sharon Williams and Robyn White manage and create content for the Museum's social media presence.

Heritage Trail

Originally researched and devised by Sallie Davies, this trail is valued by the school community. We submitted a grant application to the WA Community Heritage Grants in early August, requesting support to install metal QR coded signage at locations along the trail, linked to the appropriate digital site, so that visitors might self-guide across the campus. In mid-December, we were overjoyed to receive communication that we had been successful!

MUSEUM VISITORS AND DATES

The Museum is open to the public on all Monday mornings during school term time. When visitors are unable to attend on a school Monday, emails to the museum can provide a negotiated time to visit. And as always, the museum welcomes every visitor who wishes to join our volunteer group!



*2025 Museum visitors:
Gill and Sylvia Westera (left)
David Newing and Karen McDonough with Loren and Robyn White (right)*

WHO MADE IT ALL HAPPEN IN 2025

2025 Council

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Daryl Williams | President |
| Dr Robyn White | Vice President |
| Deborah Beresford | Hon Secretary |
| Eve Broadley | Hon Treasurer |
| Barrie Baker | Membership (until Feb 2025) |
| Ed Lazarus | Membership |
| Peter Farr | Sphinx Foundation |
| Barbara Mallett | Reunion Liaison |
| Ian Hunt | Information & Communication Technology |
| Ruth Barrett | Honours Awards |
| Mitchell Mackay | Principal (Ex-Officio) |

Finance Committee

| | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Treasurers: | |
| Eve Broadley | Council |
| Vivian Wang | Sphinx Foundation |
| Sharon Williams | Museum Association |

Communications

| | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| info@perthmoderniansociety.org.au | |
| Peter Farr | e-Newsletters |
| Roger Stubbs | e-Newsletters (Feb 2025) |
| Robyn White | e-Newsletters (From May 2025) |
| Stuart Gould | e-Newsletters and Website |

Reunions

| | |
|--|------------------|
| reunions@perthmoderniansociety.org.au | |
| Barbara Mallett | Reunions Officer |

Sphinx Foundation Board

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Nigel Hunt | Chair |
| Vivian Wang | Hon. Treasurer |
| Peter Farr | Director |
| Robert Gray | Director |
| Danielle Jeyes | Director |
| Annette Mercer | Director |
| Mitchell Mackay | School Representative |

Perth Modernian Society Museum Association Inc.

museum@perthmoderniansociety.org.au

Board

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Dr Robyn White | Chair |
| Sharon Williams | Hon Treasurer |
| Monica Brierley-Hay | Hon Secretary |
| Thalia Cole | Board Member |
| Jeff Lai | Board Member |
| Ashleigh Blechynden | Board member |
| Matthew Healy | Deputy Principal |
| Daryl Williams | Perth Modernian Society President (Ex-Officio) |

Volunteers

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Gay Albillos | Conservation |
| Deb Beresford | Hon Archivist |
| Frank Hedges | Biographical Index |
| Ian Hunt | Information & Communication Technology |
| Robert Johnson | Research |
| Jill Lucas | General |
| Wendy McCallum | Data Entry |
| Deirdre Owen | Archives |
| Roger Stubbs | Research, Music Book Writer |
| Dr Robyn White | Archives, Research |
| Loren White | Science Collection |
| Sharon Williams | Displays |
| Alison Woodman | Research, Archives, Photographs |

Modernian Fellows

| |
|----------------------------|
| Barrie Baker |
| Sallie Davies |
| Peter Farr |
| Ian Jarvis |
| Malcolm McCusker AC CVO KC |
| Dr Ken Michael AC CitWA |
| Donald Tyler |
| Dr Robyn White |

Moderna Scola Awards

| |
|-----------------------|
| Deborah Beresford |
| Eve Broadley |
| Anne Celia Christmass |
| Neil Coy |
| Alan Porter |
| Rosemary Pratt |
| Dr June Stephenson |
| Roger Stubbs AM |
| Nigel Hunt |
| Brendan Dawson |
| Ed Lazarus |
| Barbara Mallett |

Honorary Modernians

| |
|-------------------|
| Tonya McCusker AM |
| Alison Woodman |
| Sharon Williams |

2025 Perth Modern School Board Members



PERTH MODERN SCHOOL
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| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Dr Bronwyn Rasmussen | Chair Community Representative |
| Charlie Bond | Deputy Chair Parent Representative |
| Cathryn Trott | Secretary Parent Representative |
| Peter Farr | Community Representative and Alumni |
| Mitchell Mackay | Principal |
| Dr Kati Tonkin | Parent Representative |
| Ray Loh | Parent Representative |
| Sandra Song | Parent Representative |
| Monojeet Ghosh | P & C Representative |
| Grant Staffe | Staff Representative |
| Monica Franz | Staff Representative |
| Rick McMahon | Staff Representative |
| Mahek Aribenchi | Head Prefect |
| Thevindu Karunarathne | Head Prefect |



COUNCILLORS' PROFILES

The Council comprised these members in 2025:

BARRIE BAKER BA(HONS), DIP ED, DIP COMP, DIP THEOL, DIP ED ADMIN Finance Committee Chair, Membership Secretary (until February 2025)

Barrie was a PMS student 1954-1958, and after graduating at UWA, like many PMS students from the scholarship era, he followed a teaching vocation starting in 1964 at Mount Lawley Senior High School. Barrie spent his whole working career in the field of education, the last 33 years of which were in Technical Education. He was a pioneer in computer education in Western Australia, both in TAFE and for three years at the WA Treasury in charge of State Government computer training. He held positions in TAFE ranging from lecturer to Assistant Director. Whilst there he was seconded part time to the Public Service Commission Doig Management Centre to set up computer training there. He was also in charge of the development of the East Perth TAFE campus.



Barrie has an interest in urban heritage and won the 2011 WA Heritage Council Award for the individual making the greatest contribution to heritage in Western Australia. He is patron of the Mount Lawley Society and a volunteer music teacher at his local primary school. Barrie has other extensive community involvements including the Australian Student Christian Movement and is a Lay Pastoral Minister in the Anglican Church. He is active in the Australian Shareholders' Association and was convener of its North of the River group for 14 years until 2015.

Barrie has served on the Council of the Perth Modernian Society (Inc) since its formation in 1995. He served as president for seven years (2006 to 2013), and he became a Vice President in 2017. He has been the Functions Coordinator since 1996 and Convenor of the Finance and Fundraising Committee since 2011

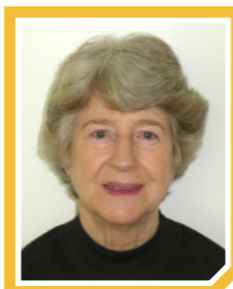
Barrie has been a Director of the board of the Sphinx Foundation since 2000, serving also as secretary and chairman. His interests in these positions have been steering the Foundation to more effectively serve the educational needs of PMS students, especially in providing scholarship incentives for worthy students. He was elected its Chairman in 2017.

At the 2016 Annual Reunion, Barrie was named as a **Modernian Fellow** for his distinguished contribution to the Perth Modernian Society and thereby the advancement of education at Perth Modern School.

At the 2024 Sphinx Foundation AGM (12 November 2024) the Board unanimously voted to appoint Barrie Brentnall Baker, as a Life Member of the Sphinx Foundation Inc. by reason of his distinguished service to Perth Modern School, the Perth Modernian Society, the Sphinx Foundation, or the public or any section of it. Regrettably, Barrie passed away on 6th February 2025, and was still active as the Society's Membership Secretary. Barrie's passing is a very great loss to the Society, the Sphinx Foundation and Perth Modern School.

RUTH BARRETT BA (NÉE MCWHINNEY) BA, DIP ED, GRAD DIP ED Honours Awards

Ruth attended Perth Modern School from 1952 to 1956, being one of five Mod Bods from the McWhinney family. Ruth studied at UWA and Claremont Teachers College, and went on to teach Junior Primary classes at what was then South Terrace Primary School (now re-named Fremantle Primary). Among the 54 children in her first class, there was only one that spoke English. In 1964 she undertook a pilot program for the Education Department, teaching English to older children: they figured the younger ones would quickly pick up the language by themselves. Ruth completed a BA, majoring in English, later a Diploma of Education, and Graduate Diploma (Reading Education).



In 1965, with husband George (who had an exchange teaching position) Ruth went to England, and taught there for most of that year. On their return they started a family. Then in 1970 Ruth was asked to lecture in English Literature at Claremont Teachers College, just for a term. George and Ruth had a long holiday in Europe in 1971, and came back to WA to continue their family. In 1975 she was asked to fill in again at CTC, this time in Junior Primary Method. That was followed by a semester in the Music Department. After that she began to lecture in the Graduate Diploma in Reading Education at CTC, Claremont. Over the next few years Ruth lectured in Language Education at the Graylands and Mount Lawley Campuses as they were amalgamated into WACAE then Edith Cowan University respectively. She lectured at the Churchlands Campus until around 1996, and continued to supervise students on teaching practice until 2000.

Ruth has had a long connection with the Claremont Museum, and for many years has been a Friend of the WA Museum. She is also a member of the Royal Western Australian Historical Society. When she gets time, she pursues family history – including the family's ANZAC links to Gallipoli.

Since joining the Council, Ruth has assumed responsibility for the Society's Honours Awards program.

EVELYN (EVE) BROADLEY Hon Treasurer

Eve attended Perth Modern School as a scholarship student in 1958-60. Eve has served on the Council of the Perth Modernian Society since its formation in 1995. She served as president for two terms and has been the honorary treasurer for ten years. She was the editor of the magazine for twelve years. She has been a Director of the board of the Sphinx Foundation Inc. since 2006.



Eve has a Graduate Diploma in Applied Finance and a Graduate Diploma in Corporate Management.

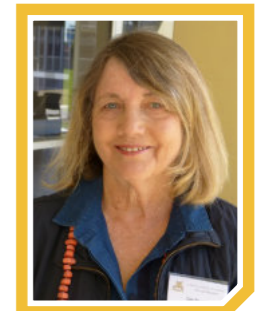
Eve has spent her whole working career in Stockbroking. Currently working as a private and institution client adviser at DJ Carmichael & Co. Prior to that she was a director in her own broking firm, Hogan & Partners, and prior to that as a director of Paterson Securities. She was also employed by the Perth Stock Exchange as the manager of the trading floor, being the first female in Australia to hold that position. She was also the first female in Western Australia to be appointed as a Member of the Australian Stock Exchange, and was appointed by the State Government to serve as a member of the Finance Brokers Board from 1994 to 1999.

Eve has been a member of Royal Kings Park Tennis Club for over forty years with several years serving on the committee. She is a member of Mosman Park Golf Club, serving as the Convenor of the business ladies for many years and represents the club at the WA Business Ladies Golf Association.

At the 2017 AGM, Eve was named as a **Moderna Scola** - the award recognises her distinguished contribution to the Perth Modernian Society and Perth Modern School.

DEBORAH BERESFORD BAPPSCI(LIBRARY STUDIES) Hon Secretary

Deborah graduated as a teacher from Graylands Teachers College in 1962 and then taught at Metropolitan primary schools before marriage. In 1974 she was appointed to Perth Modern School as a Teacher Librarian where she taught until her retirement in 2007.



In 1995 she joined the Perth Modernian Society (Inc.) and has been on the Council since 2006 and has served as the Secretary since 2008. In 2009 she joined the Historical and Museum Committee taking on the role of Honorary Archivist for the Perth Modernian Society, an appointment she still holds. She has also been involved on the Functions Committee since 2006, and during that time she has organised and helped with the Annual Reunions.

Deborah was on the Perth Modern School Council for many years and then became an inaugural member of the School Board as the Perth Modernian Society's nominee. During her teaching career she was a member of the West Australian School Library Association of which she was Secretary for 3 years.

She has had a variety of community involvement in the past with Junior sporting clubs. (Surf Life Saving, Junior Australian Rules Football, and Claremont Amateur Swimming Club), and was a member of the Waratah Red Cross Branch.

At the 2016 Annual Reunion, Deborah was named as an inaugural **Moderna Scola**, recognising her distinguished contribution to the Perth Modernian Society and Perth Modern School.

PETER FARR BE(HONS), BEC, MASC, C.ENG, FAICD, FAIM

Past President

Peter was a Perth Modern School scholarship student 1954-1958. After graduating in Canada in 1966 with a Masters degree, Peter has followed careers totalling over 50 years in engineering and management consulting. He has board experience with private companies, and as a Fellow of both the Australian Institute of Company Directors and the Australian Institute of Management, he has a strong background in Corporate Governance best practice. He has had community involvement with appointments on the Council and Treasurer of St Catherine's College (UWA), Convocation (UWA), Parents and Citizens Committees, the Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club Offshore Committee, St John of God Subiaco Hospital Consumer Advisory Group and Policy Sub-Committee.



Peter has made a large commitment to the Perth Modernian Society (Inc) having been a Councillor for over ten years and he has served as its Vice President or President since 2006. New initiatives he has played a role in are the Portal, corporate Style Manual, the Sphinx Scholarship Fund, the Annual Oration, Perth Modernian Society Awards scheme, the Society's inaugural Strategic Plan, Annual Report in 'best practice' format, Constitutions revision, and Governance standards. He has also been Treasurer and on the organising committee for all the 1954-58 class reunions.

He was appointed as a Director of the Sphinx Foundation Inc. in 2008 and as Hon. Treasurer in 2009. He has been involved with the Sphinx Scholarship Fund as its Treasurer and investment manager since its inception in 2009 during which time the fund has grown to over \$900,000. The Fund has had the notable achievement to date of awarding almost 200 scholarships and bursaries worth \$250,000 thereby helping many PMS students to aim high and achieve their potential.

At the Society's 2017 AGM, Peter was named as a **Modernian Fellow** for his distinguished contribution to the Society and thereby the advancement of education at Perth Modern School. Peter played major roles in the successful Save PMS Campaign. In 2018 the Council nominated him to represent Modernians on the PMS School Board, and he was elected Deputy Chair again in 2020, 2021 and 2024.

IAN HUNT

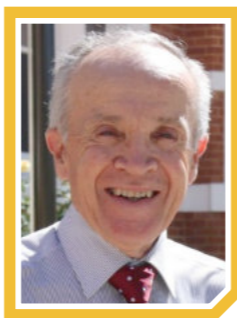
Information and Communication Technology

Ian and his wife live in suburban Perth, and they have one son and two grandchildren. Ian enjoys reading (particularly modern military history biographies and science fiction), photography and model boat building.

After graduating from Secondary school in Perth, Ian went on to complete studies in Chemistry (at Curtin University). Whilst teaching, he completed studies in Computing (Edith Cowan University) and Gifted Education (University of New England).

During his career of over forty years in both government and independent schools (including 25 years at Perth Modern School), Ian taught Science, Computing, Chemistry and Physics. He was also involved with Student Services and administration in several schools.

After retiring, Ian has enjoyed volunteering in Information Technology-related roles at a Perth community radio station and as the IT coordinator at the Perth Modernian Society Museum.



ED LAZARUS B ENG (HONS) ADM

Membership

Ed attended Perth Modern School from 1956 to 1960 and was selected as a prefect. He continued to UWA to study Electrical Engineering with a cadetship from the State Electricity Commission.

He graduated with Honours in 1965, and left WA to pursue a career in electronics. He spent 4 years at AWA involved in electronic design before joining IBM in 1969. Ed's IBM career spanned 27 years and his roles in the Systems Engineering area included installing software systems in many industries in Australia and Asia. He spent 2 years in an IBM research and Development Centre in Florida, responsible for teaching new software to IBM and customer personnel throughout many countries. He represented IBM on Standards, and Industry Telecommunications related Committees. His last assignment in IBM was as Wireless Solutions Manager for Asia Pacific at the time when wireless applications were in their infancy.

Ed left IBM in 1995 to return to Perth, where he joined Murdoch University. His role was to develop and teach undergraduate and postgraduate courses in Telecommunications for Business and E-Commerce. He acted as coordinator for these programmes, and the offshore MBA programmes in Asia. He then joined Central Institute of Technology to teach Computer Networking courses, gradually reducing working hours to retirement.

Community activities included many years as an Army Reserve Officer in RA Signals Units, and several years as a Scout leader. Since retirement, he does voluntary work for Seniors, teaching and technical support.

At the 2023 AGM, Ed was named as a **Moderna Scola** – the award recognises his distinguished contribution to Perth Modern School, the Perth Modernian Society and the community.

BARBARA MALLET BA, DIP ED, M APP LING

Reunions

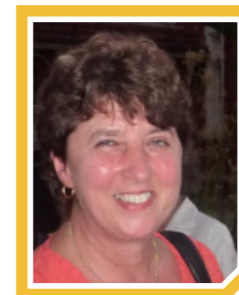
Barbara attended Perth Modern School in the Music School era and graduated in 1970, as a recipient of a Commonwealth University Scholarship. After completing a BA at UWA, she commenced her first graduate position in 1973 as the Statistical Research Officer of West Australian Newspapers.

Claremont Teachers College (now ECU) pioneered the Dip Ed (Primary) in the late 1970s and Barbara was one of the first graduates. Barbara taught for a brief period as well as spending some time in the business world of Telstra, before "retiring" to life as a mother and hobby farmer when the family moved to the Perth hills a few years later.

During this time Barbara was very active in the P&C at Parkerville PS, which led to her accepting the position of State Councillor for the WA Council of State Schools Organisation for the Northam District. In 1990 she returned to teaching, and pioneered a German language programme in a metropolitan school. Later she switched to Italian and enjoyed being part of a primary school Italian programme for about 6 years. This led her to move out of the classroom into an administrative role as Schools Officer at the Italo-Australian Welfare & Cultural Centre Inc. where she has been since 2004.

Barbara completed a Master of Applied Linguistics through Monash University and has pursued her interest in the development of language from infancy and also the structure of related and unrelated languages. She is a member of the Hills Choir where she assists with pronunciation and intonation when the choir sings in languages other than English. She loves to travel and to explore the lands of her heritage.

In 2010, after assisting in organising a 40th reunion for her graduating year, Barbara was invited to join the Society as a Councillor. She led a group on the School Centennial planning day, and since 2015, her commitments have allowed her to take a more active role in the Society (esp. Reunions Liaison) and the continuing life of PMS. At the 2024 AGM, Barbara was named as a **Moderna Scola** – the award recognises her distinguished contribution to Perth Modern School, the Perth Modernian Society and the community.



DR ROBYN WHITE**PMS Principal 2000-2010****Vice-President (Perth Modernian Society), Chair (Perth Modernian Society Museum Association)**

My commitment and interest in advancing the knowledge and understanding of the history of the school commenced prior to my appointment to Perth Modern School. The early history of the school, its curriculum and leadership formed part of the research undertaken for my doctoral study.



Once a member of the school community, I recognised the extensive volunteer work undertaken by the Perth Modernian Society and the Historical and Museum Committee. Since my retirement from the school, I have happily supported this work.

I believe that I am a responsible person with a clear focus to secure the financial future for the history and the heritage of Perth Modern School - for future generations and for the benefit of the wider community. Through my activities as part of the school community, I believe I have demonstrated my belief in the value of educational experiences related to the research and development of activities relevant to heritage matters.

In my professional capacity, I was consistently accountable for a large budget and workforce for which I understood relevant statutory requirements (financial and HR), legal aspects, financial management and governance. Then and more recently working with UWA, I have demonstrated the capacity to be inclusive in extensive community consultation. These skills are transferable to those practiced in the volunteer context and I believe will enable me to be a valued and informed member of the Board of the Perth Modernian Society Museum Association.

HON DARYL WILLIAMS AM KC LLB(UWA) BCL(OXON) AMUSA**President**

While attending Richmond State School in East Fremantle, Daryl won a scholarship to Perth Modern School. He attended the School from 1955 to 1959, and was School Captain in his final year. After completing a law degree at the University of Western Australia in 1963, Daryl attended Oxford University between 1965 and 1967 as a WA Rhodes Scholar. Admitted as a legal practitioner in 1968, Daryl practised as a partner in a Perth firm for 3 years. From 1971 to 1975, he was employed by the Asian Development Bank, based in Manila, Philippines, first as a counsel and then as an operations officer. Returning to Perth, Daryl practised as a barrister at the Perth independent bar until 1993, being appointed a Queen's Counsel in 1982. He returned to practice as a barrister between 2004 and 2017.



*Photo: Joe Wheeler
WA Newspapers*

In 1993, Daryl was elected to the House of Representatives for the seat of Tangney. He served four terms until the 2004 election, when he stood down. For more than 7 years from 1996, Daryl served as Attorney-General. He also served shorter terms as Minister for Justice and Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts. An achievement of which he is proud was the negotiation in 1996 of the Australia-wide firearms buy-back agreement.

Daryl was instrumental in the establishment of the Perth Modernian Society Planning Committee, which he chaired. This Committee was responsible for the incorporation of the Society and of the Sphinx Foundation in 1995.

2025 REUNION PHOTOS

Top - classes of 1965 and 1970

Middle - class of 1975

Bottom - classes of 1985 and 2005



30TH ANNIVERSARY PHOTOS

The Perth Modernian Society celebrated its 30th anniversary with a celebratory High Tea preceding the Annual General Meeting on 19 May 2025.

These two pages feature some of the photos that were displayed during the event, highlighting significant milestones over three decades.





MILESTONES

for Perth Modern School ex-staff/students

| | |
|---------|---|
| 1913 | Annual Reunion held August 1913. Reg Williams (PMS student 1911-13) became joint Hon Secretary for the Perth Modern School Ex-Students Association. |
| 1914 | The Perth Modern School Ex-Students Association Incorporated held Ex-Students Day. All members joining in the first year to be known as Foundation Members , with badges available. |
| 1918 | Constitution was reviewed and Old Modernians Association Incorporated came into being. |
| 1922 | Unveiling of War Memorial - funds were raised by former students and to be managed by the Old Modernians Trust Fund appointed in perpetuity. |
| 1926-58 | <i>The Sphinx</i> reported Old Modernians Association activities for each calendar year's social events and Ex-Students Days. |
| 1960 | Keith Graham , PMS student 1928-29, became the inaugural president of the Parents and Citizens Association at Perth Modern School. |
| 1969 | Deed of Trust established under patronage of the Hon Mr Justice Wolff , PMS student 1913-14, to establish a legally constituted Board of Trustees to administer the Library in perpetuity . Old Modernians asked to contribute. |
| 1970 | Joseph Parsons Memorial Library officially opened by Governor General Sir Paul Hasluck , student 1918-22, as part of the Commonwealth Secondary Schools Library Programme. |
| 1973 | Launch of a Foundation Committee in December to prepare a proposal for recording, preservation and display of information and objects associated with Perth Modern School. Principal Mr Joe Stokes originated the proposal for the historical record and sought the help of ex-students for the physical and financial requirements of the task. |
| 1974 | Perth Modern School Historical Society established its Museum Collections . |
| 1995 | Perth Modernian Society Planning Committee formed to establish Perth Modernian Society . Perth Modernian Society (Inc) Registered No. 1004735, 11th July 1995. Sphinx Foundation (Inc) , established to secure funds and future publication of a School history. Historical and Museum Society became a standing Committee of the Society. |
| 2005 | Launch of Perth Modern School: The History and the Heritage - researched and published by the Sphinx Foundation. 5,000 copies printed. |
| 2008 | Sphinx Foundation Constitution revised to empower establishment of the Sphinx Scholarship Fund . |
| 2009 | Accommodation available for establishment of Perth Modernian Society History Centre . The Society entered the electronic age by launching a portal and databases for (i) ex-Student/staff records and (ii) artefacts. |
| 2010 | Official launch of the Sphinx Scholarship Fund at the home of Malcolm and Tonya McCusker. |
| 2011 | Perth Modern School Centenary Year celebrations. |
| 2013 | Revision of Perth Modernian Society Constitution to accommodate new organisational structure completed. |

| | |
|------|--|
| 2014 | Celebrating 40th anniversary of the establishment of the PMS Museum Collections and 100 Years of The Sphinx at Perth Modern School. Launch of Perth Modernian Society inaugural Strategic Plan 2014-2017 . Confirmation of three inaugural Modernian Fellows - Sallie Davies, Malcolm McCusker and Donald Tyler - for their outstanding contributions to the Society and PMS. |
| 2015 | Celebrated establishment of Perth Modern School's first orchestra 100 years ago . Council self-assessment survey - completed by all Councillors; collated and analysed by Bruce McCallum. Revision of Perth Modernian Society Constitution completed in preparation for DGR application for a proposed Museum Fund. |
| 2016 | Modernian Awards made to Barrie Baker, Deborah Beresford, Ian Jarvis, Alan Porter and Alison Woodman for their outstanding contributions to the Society and PMS. |
| 2017 | Save Perth Mod Campaign – successful . Inaugural PMS Heritage Day 14 October 2017. Modernian Awards made to Peter Farr, Eve Broadley and Tonya McCusker for their outstanding contributions to the Society and PMS. Perth Modernian Society Museum Association Incorporated with Charitable Status from 6 November 2017. |
| 2018 | Celebration: 50 years of the Special Music Program at Perth Modern School |
| 2020 | Successful fundraising campaign which started in 2016, enabled construction to commence of a 700-seat multi-purpose auditorium . Modernian Awards made to Dr Ken Michael AC CitWA, Roger Stubbs AM, Anne Celia Christmass and Neil Coy . Graduate College of Dance relocates to a new location in West Leederville after 21 years at PMS. |
| 2021 | Opening of Cyril Tyler Auditorium on 11 September 2021. |
| 2022 | Centenary of the unveiling of the PMS Cenotaph on 22 October 2022. Modernian Award made to Sharon Williams as Honorary Modernian . |
| 2023 | Moderna Scola Award made to Ed Lazarus . Launch of Music at Mod - researched by Roger Stubbs and published by the Perth Modernian Society Museum Association. |
| 2024 | Moderna Scola Award made to Barbara Mallett . |
| 2025 | Modernian Fellow Award made to Dr Robyn White . |

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

| Name | Years at PMS | Position | Deceased |
|---|--------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| Merle Bignell née Fleming | 1944 - 1945 | Student | 21 October 2024 |
| Lyle Bowden | 1949 - 1953 | Student | 10 January 2025 |
| Ronald Naylor | 1950 - 1954 | Student | 22 December 2024 |
| Dorothea Margaret Bennie née James | 1949 - 1953 | Student | 17 December 2024 |
| Alan Fletcher | 1955 - 1959 | Student | 7 December 2024 |
| Marion Blair | 1953 - 1957 | Student | 19 November 2024 |
| Sydney Denis Wakefield | 1945 - 1946 | Student | 1 December 2024 |
| Barrie Baker | 1954 - 1958 | Student | 6 February 2025 |
| Barbara Tobin (née Limb) | 1957 - 1961 | Student | 5 January 2025 |
| Maureen (Mandy) Dunk previously Oehlers (née Leach) | 1957 - 1961 | Student | 23 September 2024 |
| Elizabeth (Beth) Henry | 1951 - 1955 | Student | 2 April 2025 |
| Rod (Gus) MacLeod | 1951 - 1955 | Student | 20 March 2025 |
| Adrian Egginton | 1951 - 1955 | Student | 28 March 2025 |
| Douglas Bridge | 1959 - 1963 | Student | 15 December 2024 |
| Denis Wylks | 1954 - 1958 | Student | 24 December 2024 |
| Frances Barnes (née Waters) | 1945 - 1949 | Student | 17 December 2024 |
| Edwin Dewar | 1954 - 1958 | Student | 28 February 2025 |
| Annemie McAuliffe (née Davies) | 1955 - 1959 | Student | 7 May 2025 |
| Clive Kendrick | 1982 - 1994 | Senior Master of Music | 12 May 2025 |
| Brian Stitt | 1946 - 1947 | Student | |
| Dr Rosemary Vivienne Cant (née Nevile) | 1951 - 1955 | Student | 9 June 2025 |
| Patricia Birchmore (née Fitzgerald) | 1953 - 1957 | Student | 26 January 2025 |
| John Owen Stone | 1942 - 1946 | Student | 17 July 2025 |
| Michael Rogers | 1998 - 2025 | Staff (Teacher) | 25 July 2025 |
| Kent Miller Logie | 1952 - 1956 | Student | 2 August 2025 |
| Jill Marie Thomson | 1959 - 1963 | Student | 17 July 2025 |
| Noreen Merle Campbell (née Ogilby) | 1947 - 1948 | Student | September 2025 |
| Shirley McWhirter (née Whitman) | 1947 - 1948 | Student | 26 November 2024 |
| Sallie Elizabeth Davies (née Hicks) | 1951 - 1955 | Student | 27 September 2025 |
| | 1961 | Staff (Teacher) | |
| Zoe Elizabeth Baker (née Matthews) | 1954 - 1958 | Student | 28 September 2025 |
| | 1967 | Staff (Teacher) | |
| Albert Henry Tognolini | 1940 - 1944 | Student | 25 October 2025 |
| Howard William Olney | 1947 - 1951 | Student | 26 October 2025 |