OGA President

A self-made businessman told his son that he was not just sending him to a certain school because his mum wanted him to have a more religious upbringing or because the school offered a wonderful music programme. It was because it would also give him the opportunity to mix with a diverse group of young people.

He encouraged his son to get to know his classmates and accept their differences and listen to their points of view, and advised him not to alienate anyone. Out of this school there would be a number of students who would reach a high level of achievement in business and commerce, education, science and politics, and one day he may need to work with them or ask for their help. It is easier to work with someone you know and respect and with whom you have a common link.

When we address the young school leavers who are about to embark on the next step in their personal and educational development, we remind them how important it is to nurture the friendships and contacts they made during their school years as many of them will become leaders in their fields.

The objective of the OGA is to arrange events that open up opportunities for members to meet a diverse range of women of all ages. PC Old Girls have a wealth of experience in their professional and personal lives and are only too willing to share their knowledge to help others achieve.

I encourage our newest Old Girls to take advantage of these opportunities to meet new people and reunite with old friends. To keep up-to-date with what’s coming up, check The PC Wire or visit the Perth College website.

Dot (Sommerville) Stewart (1968 Leaver)

Myalla Editor

“The best thing about memories… is making them.”

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to another colourful edition of the Myalla.

I came across the quote above from a wall decal at a friend’s place and it sang out to me like a sweet melody. We want the best things for the people we love and see, and we want the moments we share with them to last forever. But, do we ever record them?

Generations of chatter are now dulled to quick synopses and soon those memories are meshed and their relevance fades away.

By no means a sociologist, I do realise the importance of recording these important facts about ourselves and those around us. I’m so proud to be a part of Perth College’s history and I don’t want your memories from Perth College and beyond to fade. Myalla means ‘big talk’ so I want the Myalla to make your memories the best they can be, as it captures as much ‘big talk’ from all the Perth College decades and generations as possible.

As Perth College celebrates 100 years of educating girls on the Mount Lawley campus, details about the special events to celebrate this amazing occasion are in the Heritage. This year there will be nine reunions between April and November, and we look forward to receiving your memories from these happy occasions for our future Myalla editions.

Every one of you is a remarkable woman! What makes YOU remarkable is your good guidance for your life decisions and all those memorable ‘interruptions’ are the necessary pieces of your meaningful life. This is very evident in our ‘Remarkable Woman’ section with 1994 Leaver, Katherine Wray. Her incredible career pathway after graduating from Perth College to become Director of Finance at the new St John of God Midland Hospital is an amazing feat.

Send me your ‘big talk’ and it will be recorded for our Old Girls to enjoy. Emails can be sent to myalla@pc.wa.edu.au or posted to Madi James, PO Box 25, Mount Lawley WA 6929.

Ezrina (White) Fewings (1994 Leaver)

Mentor Breakfast

Seventy Old Girls joined with the Year 12 students on Wednesday 24 February to provide advice about life after PC, including further study and career paths.
Happy Birthday to all our Old Girls who are celebrating a birthday of 90 or more in the next six months:

Mrs Mary (Thomas) Davies (1935 Leaver)
Mrs Lesley (Pearce) Doust (1935 Leaver)
Mrs Geraldine (Smith) Harkness (1935 Leaver)
Mrs Audrey (Mearing) Hornby (1935 Leaver)
Mrs Betty (Roberts) Cockburn (1937 Leaver)
Mrs Sheila (Wilding) Curlewis (1937 Leaver)
Mrs Marian (Richardson) Stevens (1937 Leaver)
Mrs Bunty (Temple-Poole) West (1937 Leaver)
Mrs Kathleen (Aberdeen) Douglas-Smith (1938 Leaver)
Mrs Nancy (Lundy) Fleay (1938 Leaver)
Mrs Nan (Meagher) Grey (1938 Leaver)
Mrs Bobbie (Flight-Smith) Hardie (1938 Leaver)
Mrs Pat (Lockman) Baunton (1939 Leaver)
Mrs Wendy (Burges) Davis (1939 Leaver)
Mrs Joan (Pocklington) Howard (1939 Leaver)
Mrs Mary (Hill) Macha AM (1939 Leaver)
Mrs Patricia (Hockin) Sims (1939 Leaver)
Mrs Joan (Harrison) van Oosteron (1939 Leaver)
Mrs Alison (Fox) Davies (1941 Leaver)
Mrs Lyn (Hester) Hall (1941 Leaver)
Mrs Pat (Thomas) Williamson (1941 Leaver)
Mrs Frances (Anderson) Dodds (1942 Leaver)
Mrs Rima (Wharton) D'Raine (1942 Leaver)
Mrs Susan (Layman) Gardiner (1942 Leaver)
Mrs Jean (Lockyer) Hankey (1942 Leaver)
Mrs Pamela (Mawby) Hesling (1942 Leaver)
Mrs Vivienne (Johnston) Jackson (1942 Leaver)
Mrs June (Carey) McDowell (1942 Leaver)
Mrs Patricia (Rodgers) Nottle (1942 Leaver)
Mrs Suzanne (Hockin) Wright (1942 Leaver)
Mrs Grace (Edgar) Barrington (1943 Leaver)
Mrs Trilli (Gamba) Bobone (1943 Leaver)
Miss Pamela Gillett (1943 Leaver)
Mrs Lorraine (Shearn) Hadlow (1943 Leaver)
Mrs Tedye (Elkington) McDiven (1943 Leaver)
Mrs Geraldine (Brownell) Nainby (1943 Leaver)
Mrs June (Illingworth) Outhwaite (1943 Leaver)
Mrs Mary (Sherlock) Wilding (1943 Leaver)
Mrs Lorna (Ambuhl) Wishart (1943 Leaver)
Mrs Merle (Dyson) Exeter (1944 Leaver)
Mrs Barbara (Sinclair) Wheeler (1944 Leaver)
Mrs Joan (Bott) White (1944 Leaver)
Mrs Dawn (Dobson) Pilgrim (1945 Leaver)
Mrs Dawn (Oldfield) Woolley (1945 Leaver)

2016 marks 100 years of Perth College on the Mount Lawley campus. We found the photos above in our archives and hope you enjoy them.

Our records rely on your help to keep them up-to-date. If there are any inaccuracies contact our Relationship Manager, Madi James: madi.james@pc.wa.edu.au or 9471 2133.
Kat Wray attended Perth College from Year 7 in 1989 to Year 12 in 1994. She credits her education at Perth College for giving her the confidence to take risks and understand the connections between people. One of the values that has underpinned her life is tenacity, with hard work and humility landing her the role of Director of Finance for St John of God Midland Public and Private Hospital.

After leaving PC and enjoying a year of travel, Kat enrolled in a double degree in Chinese Studies and Politics at Murdoch University but later swapped to International Business.

In 1999, she took a hiatus from studying after losing her son, Matthew, at 10 weeks from SIDS. Until her 20-year reunion in 2014, she had not visited the Chapel since Matthew’s funeral.

Graduating with a Bachelor of International Business in 2002, Kat went from waitressing to being an Executive Assistant for a management company. The Company Secretary soon recognised Kat’s skills in accounting, which Kat developed while working for several Perth hospitality businesses, prominent hotels and nightclubs. In 2005, she graduated with a Master of Accounting from Curtin University.

During 2005, Kat hosted her friend, Robert Fassett (from Fairbanks, Alaska), and love soon blossomed. Their relationship meant she worked hard to secure a work visa to Canada and in 2006 she gained a position as a Finance Manager for a software company. Kat then applied for an E3 visa, after two companies in the USA were willing to employ her with her professional experience and degree qualifications. Upon successfully attaining a visa at the end of 2006, she moved to Anchorage, Alaska, to be closer to Robert.

Between 2007 and mid-2014, Kat worked her way up to the role of Accounting Manager. She loved the challenges involved with the management of people as well as numbers, and filtered to her team her philosophy of turning thoughts into choices and eventually developing them into personal opportunities. Kat’s personal life also blossomed with her son, Patrick Fassett, born in March 2008, and William Fassett following in December 2010.

When the family decided to move back to Perth, Kat applied for the Director of Finance position at St John of God Midland Public and Private Hospital. Her technical competencies within the healthcare system and her personable attitude and values ensured she secured the role.

Her advice for young PC girls? “Choosing a life path at 15 isn’t always possible, but choosing to give oneself options is. Don’t ever feel you have to do one thing for the rest of your life. You will change and with that brings you joy, so be flexible with yourself.”

Kat is content and very proud to have achieved a number of her dreams, from completing the recent 19.7km Rottnest Channel Swim to having a loving family consisting of her two wonderful boys and partner, Robert (whom she intends to marry in the next few years).

Can you help?

PC Women in Business Network

PC now offers girls the opportunity to study Business Management and Enterprise - General. The course empowers girls to follow their passions and consider starting their own business.

Perth College would like to call for any Old Girls who have started a business to join our PC Women in Business Network. As part of the network, you will become a source of inspiration to our students. Your level of contribution is up to you! You may like to be a guest speaker in one of our classes, connect online, mentor a girl who has an interest in a similar industry, or just let us talk about you in class!

To join the network, please contact HASS Teacher, Emily Hiley, via email: emily.hiley@pc.wa.edu.au.

Photos and memories for the Heritage Centre

As part of our centenary in Mount Lawley celebrations we are calling for stories that took place in St Michael’s Hall or the swimming pool.

If you can help, please contact our Heritage Officer, Jessica Marantelli, via email to jessica.marantelli@pc.wa.edu.au or call 9471 2163.

If you would like to become a member of the Old Girls’ Association please contact Membership Secretary, Bev Butters: thebutters@westnet.com.au or 9276 3258.
Engagements
Barbara Cumming has shared the exciting news that her daughter, Erin Cumming (2007 Leaver), was recently engaged!
Madi James (2006 Leaver) and Matt Burgess, brother of Kate (2008) and Hayley Burgess (2006), got engaged the week before Christmas.
Gemma Ridgway (2005 Leaver) was engaged to Troy Bassett on Christmas Day 2015, when Troy popped the question in a very romantic setting under the large fig tree on the Ridgway family farm.

Weddings
On Saturday 22 August 2015, Elisabeth Pember (1997 Leaver) and Ampon Seenuan were married. The ceremony was held at the Perth College Chapel with the reception at Gershwin’s in the Hyatt Regency Hotel. PC girls who helped celebrate the special day included Kirsty (Grant) Baldassar (1997 Leaver) and Kate Holtzman (2000 Leaver), with Jacqueline Dey (1997 Leaver) ably filling the Matron of Honour role.
On a beautiful day in October last year, Kate Hill (2002 Leaver) and Andrew Barclay were married in the Perth College Chapel by Father Tony Murrey-Feist. One of her bridesmaids was Katharine (Colegate) Humphrey (2002 Leaver). Also in attendance were Joanne (Harris) Bubnich, Lisa (Stevens) Symons and Emma Shaw (all 2002 Leavers) and Gemma Boyett (2000 Leaver). The photo below was taken in the back of the Jaguar that Andrew insisted on having, after the wedding.
Hollie Ridgway (2003 Leaver) married Martin Scoon on 2 October 2015 at Cable Beach in Broome. Three of her four bridesmaids also hailed from PC – her sisters, Gemma (2005 Leaver) and Ashlyn (2012 Leaver), and good school friend,
**Vanessa Walker (2003 Leaver).** Hollie and Marty enjoyed a honeymoon in Europe, watching some of the Rugby World Cup to keep Marty happy, and topped it off with a cruise in the Mediterranean.

**Katie Innes (2001 Leaver)** married Steven Neve on the 6 November 2015 at Lamont’s Bishop House. PC girls **Jessica (Dawson) Threlfall (2001 Leaver), Helen Keys (2001 Leaver) and Joanna Page (2000 Leaver)** were all in attendance and the PC Vivace Trio performed.

**Portia Ridout (2005 Leaver)** married Kye Chambers on 6 February 2016. All of Portia’s bridesmaids hailed from PC – her two sisters, **Brenna Ridout (2007 Leaver) and Courtney Ridout (2009 Leaver)** and **Gemma Ridgway (2005 Leaver)**.

**Cleo Telford (2008 Leaver)** met her now husband, Kingsley Scarce, after joining the navy. On a holiday to the United States they decided to do what you only do in Vegas, and were married at the Little White Chapel with a few songs from Elvis for good measure.

**Baptisms**

Andrew and **Shelley (Mercer) Booth (1991 Leaver)** and Alex and **Rhonda (Mercer) Leyland (1994 Leaver)** celebrated the baptism of sons Edward Booth and Drew Leyland in a joint service at the Chapel of St Michael and All Angels at Perth College on Sunday 17 January 2016. The growing clan of Mercer sisters includes Zara Booth (aged six), Greta Leyland (aged five) and Claudia Leyland (aged three). All three girls have been baptised at Perth College in the past few years. As Andrew and Shelley were visiting Perth from their home in Hong Kong, they took advantage of the Christmas holidays to celebrate with family and friends including Old Girls, **Kathryn Ball (1990 Leaver) and Kym (Sedgwick) Clements (1991 Leaver)**.
Hello from the Gold Coast!

Minella Lalloz (2011 Leaver) is in her second year of Medicine at Griffith University’s Gold Coast campus and is loving it!

This year she has had the privilege of being appointed the Wellbeing and Community Officer in the Griffith University Medicine Society (GUMS). This not-for-profit association is solely run by medical students who are dedicated to enriching all aspects of their fellow colleagues’ lives, whether it be academically, socially, or emotionally.

In her spare time, Minella can be found either in the pool playing for the water polo team (go Griffith Pirates!), jamming on the ukulele with her amigos, hanging at the beach, or discovering more of the Coast.

In the immediate future, she hopes to pursue an MD/PhD pathway, as she is highly motivated to engage in research. This will involve taking two years between her four-year Medical degree to conduct experiments. In addition, she wishes to travel to Nepal during 2016 to volunteer in disadvantaged towns, where health institutions are scarce or non-existent.

Australia Day Honours

Nancy (Doncon) Costantino (1972 Leaver) wrote in to let us know about her sister, Judy (Doncon) Guerini (1967 Leaver), who was recently awarded the Premier’s Active Citizenship Australia Day Award for the Shire of Yilgarn. Judy won the award for her contribution to the community across many areas including:

- Singing – she has been teaching and conducting the Southern Cross singers since the group’s inception
- Hospital Auxiliary – helps organise the Carols by Candlelight every year
- CWA – an active member for nearly 40 years
- Yilgarn Agricultural Show – Judy is a keen exhibitor and has served as a committee member and entries secretary for the past 10 years, as well as Section Steward and Chief Hall Steward in the past
- Sport – has been extremely active in the Yilgarn Netball Association, even though she never played netball! She has also helped out for the Southern Cross Football Club, including running the ladies’ committee
- Organist – played the organ for the Catholic Church and can be heard every ANZAC Day playing the national anthem and hymns

And that’s not even taking into account her role in the Scrapbooking Club, baking the Christmas cake for the Seniors’ Luncheon each year, and being a passionate teacher and just generally a beloved member of the community.

Congratulations, Judy!

1978 Leavers

All 1978 Leavers are encouraged to join a Facebook page set up by Marielle Sloss under the name ‘Perth College 1978 Leavers’. It is a closed page but anyone who would have left, or did leave, in 1978, may join. Some great photos are there already.

Order of Australia Celebrations

Lifelong friends, Jenny (Finkelstein) Shub (1943 Leaver) and Bas Best (1928 Leaver), are seen here celebrating their respective Order of Australia Medals (OAM). Jenny received her medal in 2015 for her services to the community, particularly through Holocaust education organisations. Bas received his OAM this year for services to the community and to veterans.

Seen celebrating with Jenny and Bas were Bas’s wife, Merle (Giese) Best (1942 Leaver), his daughter Judith (Best) Willock (1973 Leaver) and grand-daughter Rebecca.
Willock (2004 Leaver) - another three-generation PC family! Bas is also the father of Head Girl, Christine (Best) Bateman (1970 Leaver), who passed away after a battle with breast cancer in 2008. Why is Bas an ‘Old Girl?’ Bas was one of a handful of boys educated at PC in the early days. His family operated Best’s Grocery Store at the corner of Walcott and Beaufort Streets in Mount Lawley. The Sisters of the Church patronised the store and when unable to pay their bill, suggested that Bas and his older sister, Joy (Best) Bainbridge (1936 Leaver), be educated at PC in lieu of payment. This generosity was also extended to other families. When Bas realised he was the only boy in the class, he asked his parents if he could attend a school where there were other boys. He might be the shortest duration Old Girl, lasting approximately one month before moving to Inglewood Primary. Nevertheless, Bas is still considered an Old Girl, and we are very proud of his and Jenny’s achievements!

A Cappella West

Karin Alteruthemeyer (1975 Leaver) is part of the chorus group A Cappella West. They are the 2015 Australian Barbershop Champions and will represent Australia at the World Barbershop Championships in Las Vegas in October 2016. A Cappella West will perform a concert at the Judith Cottier Theatre on Friday 25 September 2016 and more information will be in your next edition of The PC Wire.

Obituaries

Gwen (Betty) (Brown) Fry (1944 Leaver) passed away on 7 July 2015 aged 87. She was the daughter of Dorothy Brown (1918 Leaver).

Beverley (Ibbs) Cook (1960 Leaver) passed away on 3 September 2015 after a short fight with cancer. She will be greatly missed by Barry, her husband of 50 years.

Mara (French) Craig (1943 Leaver) died at home in Mosman Park on 10 October 2015. She attended Perth College from 1937 to 1941 as a boarder from Cardabia Station. She passed away aged 89 and is the mother of Lyndie (Fischer) (1970 Leaver) and Vicki (O’Halloran) (1972 Leaver), and the sister of Wanda (French) Scott (1940 Leaver) (deceased).

Shirley (Gooch) Richardson (1943 Leaver), sister of Wendy (Gooch) Gillett (1951 Leaver) and Joan Gooch (1949 Leaver), passed away in January.

We were sad to hear of the passing of Savannah Whitton, the daughter of Ashleigh Krepp (2005 Leaver) and Troy Whitton. Savannah is now in heaven with her sister, Gracie.

Nan Wolozny (1938 Leaver) passed away on 2 January 2016. Her family remembers her wonderful sense of humour and quick wit. She was known for living her life to the full, with lots of lunches, shopping days, watching footy and tennis on TV, holidays and card days at Perth College. Condolences to her children Rick and Hannah (Wolozny) Gell (1971 Leaver) and her grandchildren Amanda Gell (1996 Leaver), David, Beth, Emily, Rachel and Sam.

Simon Leslie has notified Perth College that his mother, Rosemary (Wittenoom) Leslie (1947 Leaver), passed away on 3 January 2016.

Patricia (Northmore) Kennison (1938 Leaver) passed away peacefully on 13 January 2016, aged 94. She was the loving wife of Ian (deceased) and mother of Rosemary (deceased) and Jeremy. She was a beloved grandmother and great-grandmother and will be sadly missed.

Nicole Harris (1994 Leaver) lost her battle with a long-term illness in the early hours of 29 January 2016. Rebecca (Cooper) Buswell (1994 Leaver) writes she passed away peacefully, surrounded by many of her loved ones.

Condolences to Lynne (Patton) Thomson (1962 Leaver) on the loss of her mother, Norma Patton, and to Francine (Patton) Sanders (1984 Leaver) and Joanne (Patton) Jackson (1982 Leaver) on the loss of their grandmother.

Margaret Shoesmith (1943 Leaver) passed away on 4 February 2016 aged 89 years. Margaret was a loyal friend to Bet (Walker) Anderson (1943 Leaver) (deceased) and a devoted godmother to Faye (Anderson) Watervoort (1974 Leaver).

Moira (Tetterington) Park (1945 Leaver) passed away on 18 February 2016. She is the mother of Elizabeth (Park) Marsh (1977 Leaver) and Anne (Park) Slocomb (1979 Leaver). Moira was a tremendous helper to the OGA, and this was recognised in her receiving the Old Girl of the Year award in 1989. She played a crucial role in keeping track of all our Old Girls as she maintained a record, before computers, of all Old Girls and would type the names and addresses for the posting of the Myalla. Moira was also on the organising committee for the monthly bridge players, and until recently, still played cards with the small Wednesday group of ladies. She will be greatly missed.

Gordon Shearwood passed away on 26 February 2016. He is the father of Elspeth (Shearwood) Jones (1978 Leaver) and Cathy (Shearwood) Osan (1980 Leaver) and grandfather of Laura Shearwood (2005 Leaver), Claire Shearwood (2009 Leaver) and Jessica Osan (2010 Leaver).
Upcoming Events

**Vintage Reunion**
All Leavers from the class of 1955 or earlier are invited to attend.

**Date:** Friday 29 April 2016  
**Time:** 11.00 am - Chapel Service, 12.00 pm - Lunch at the Theatre Foyer  
**Venue:** Perth College Chapel and then Judith Cottier Theatre Foyer  
**Cost:** $40.00  
**RSVP:** www.trybooking.com/KQSY or Relationship Manager, Madi James, 9471 2133. Please make all cheques payable to Perth College.

**60-Year Reunion**
All 1956 Leavers are invited to attend a special day.

**Date:** Friday 20 May 2016  
**Time:** 10.00 am  
**Venue:** Perth College  
**Cost:** $40.00  
**RSVP:** www.trybooking.com/KURG  
A special invitation with more information on the day’s activities will be sent to you soon. Please email madi.james@pc.wa.edu.au to update your details.

**OGA Country Lunch**
The Country Lunch is back! All Old Girls and their partners and friends are invited to attend the Country Lunch at **Colleen Johnson’s (1988 Leaver)** property in Dandaragan.

**Date:** Thursday 15 September 2016  
**Time:** 12.00 pm  
**Venue:** Colleen Johnson’s House  
645 Wolba Road  
Dandaragan WA 6507  
**Cost:**  
$40.00 - Lunch only  
$50.00 - Lunch and bus transport to and from PC  
**RSVP:** www.trybooking.com/KTZT or Relationship Manager, Madi James, 9471 2133. Please make all cheques payable to Perth College.

**50-Year Reunion**
All 1966 Leavers are invited to attend a special day to commemorate 50 years since leaving Perth College.

**Date:** Friday 27 May 2016  
This is a free event and a special invitation will be posted to you.  
Please ensure your email address is updated with the School. Email madi.james@pc.wa.edu.au to update your details.

**18-Month Reunion**
Date: Friday 10 June 2016  
Venue: The Queens, 520 Beaufort Street, Mount Lawley  
**RSVP:** www.trybooking.com/KUCB

**Five-Year Reunion**
Date: Friday 17 June 2016  
Venue: The Queens, 520 Beaufort Street, Mount Lawley  
**RSVP:** www.trybooking.com/KUED

If this is your year group, please email Relationship Manager, Madi James, via madi.james@pc.wa.edu.au to update your details.