As 2016 is an Olympic year, I’ve been comparing the attributes and behaviours of the athletes with how Perth College prepares its girls for the ‘real world’. How empowered we are to challenge ideas, how daring we are no matter our ability, and how persistent we are to succeed beyond criticism. Rarely do we have a clear purpose and vision of what our life will be, so we permit ourselves to reprogramme and recondition our attitude and behaviours to grow into independent, confident and determined women of the world.

We all have our ‘support team’, just like the Olympic athletes. Our coaches, who are usually the people leading us towards self-awareness, encouraging us to improve our personal strengths and form a bond of understanding by accepting our decisions. Or people like the health care professionals who dedicate their knowledge, time and effort to care about our wellbeing and ‘show the best versions of ourselves’.

In this edition, there are updates from our talented Old Girls who have displayed their artworks at a gallery, presented a short paper to an international board, and received an overseas scholarship. Why not register your attendance at this year’s Corporate Breakfast in October featuring 2016 Western Australian of the Year, Rishelle Hume (1992 Leaver)? Don’t forget to also check the dates for this year’s reunions and the Christmas Fair and Carols event in November as well.

Finally, I’d like to thank the amazing support team at Perth College, Madi James, Lauren Underhill and Hayley Hall. These hardworking heroes from the Community Development Office have designed and constructed this beautiful artefact which you are reading. I hope you are as impressed as I am for their dedication in making this Myalla ‘the best version’ it can be.

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)
Happy Birthday to all our Old Girls who are celebrating a birthday of 90 or more in the next six months:

Mrs Kathleen (Yvonne) (Blood) East (1929 Leaver)
Mrs Isobel (Fraser) Day (1930 Leaver)
Mrs Sheila (Gill) Kimpton (1934 Leaver)
Mrs Betty (Ellis) Ahern (1934 Leaver)
Mrs Joy (Biddles) Halbert (1935 Leaver)
Mrs Lorraine (Barden) Puddey (1936 Leaver)
Mrs Frances (Russell) Nicholls (1936 Leaver)
Mrs Bertha (Joan) (Clarke) Filmer (1937 Leaver)
Mrs Carol (Harper) Ferguson (1937 Leaver)
Mrs Dorothy (Dale) Redman (1938 Leaver)
Mrs Dorothy (Gardiner) Allen (1938 Leaver)
Mrs Colin (Crowther) Edwards (1938 Leaver)
Mrs Lynette (Henning) Gillam (1938 Leaver)
Mrs Marion (Fyle) Wood (1939 Leaver)
Mrs Shirley (Wright) Willcock (1939 Leaver)
Mrs Joy (Cowper) Palmer (1940 Leaver)
Mrs Mary (Dempster) Colero (1940 Leaver)
Mr Basil Best (1940 Leaver)
Mrs Joan (Chapman) Cerny (1941 Leaver)
Mrs Merle (Bailey) Packham (1941 Leaver)
Mrs Audrey (Payne) Craddock (1941 Leaver)
Mrs Mary (Stokes) Evans (1941 Leaver)
Mrs Kathleen (Smith) Metcalfe (1941 Leaver)
Mrs Beryl (Fowler) Haneman (1941 Leaver)
Mrs Eve (Atkinson) Prinsen (1941 Leaver)
Mrs Audrey (Davis) Fairchild (1941 Leaver)
Mrs Merle (Arundale) Fellowes-Gordon (1942 Leaver)
Mrs Rosemary (Nicholls) Higham (1942 Leaver)
Mrs Lillian (Chipper) Lambert (1942 Leaver)
Mrs Elsie (Dale) Fairthorn (1942 Leaver)
Mrs Rachel (Carey) Rosenthal (1942 Leaver)
Mrs Doris (Roberts) Mossenson (1942 Leaver)
Mrs Allison (Stone) Shanahan (1942 Leaver)
Mrs Pat (Winning) Keech (1942 Leaver)
Mrs Lyle (Broad) Hopkinson (1942 Leaver)
Miss Marion George (1942 Leaver)
Miss Sonia Grant (1942 Leaver)
Mrs Jenny (Finkelstein) Shub (OAM) (1943 Leaver)
Mrs Barbara (Cooke) Bushell (1943 Leaver)
Mrs Lesley (Wall) Greagg (1943 Leaver)
Mrs Hazel (Broad) McPherson (1943 Leaver)
Mrs Elizabeth (Lukin) Ogston (1943 Leaver)
Mrs Merle (Giese) Best (1944 Leaver)
Mrs Beth (Webb) Bradbury (1944 Leaver)
Mrs Shirley (Robin) Jose (1944 Leaver)
Mrs Gwen (Hall) Morflew (1944 Leaver)
Mrs Pam (Nelthorpe) Holywell (1944 Leaver)
Mrs Betty (Overheu) Wells (1945 Leaver)
Mrs Rona (Taylor) France (1945 Leaver)

The photos above are from our heritage collection. If you would like to visit our archives or donate mementoes, please contact our Heritage Officer, Jessica Marantelli: 9471 2163 or jessica.marantelli@pc.wa.edu.au.

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.
When Wendy Hine graduated from Perth College in 1989, running her own business and managing staff was the furthest thing from her mind.

“I can remember Year 12 like it was yesterday,” she said.

“My memories are still extremely vivid – including burning my notes and my books after my Human Biology exam.

“Back in those days I absolutely adored dancing and was very good at it; I aspired to finish school and study musical theatre as I was artistic and easily bored, except if I was dancing.”

Wendy had high hopes of studying in London, but a visit there with her mum – who showed Wendy the realities of life in the big city on a limited budget – gave her food for thought.

“I was very young and naïve; I decided to instead pursue Musical Theatre at the WA Academy of Performing Arts but the minimum entry age was 21 and I was told to come back in four years – so I did,” Wendy said.

“However, I soon realised musical theatre wouldn’t provide a steady income and I desperately craved stability after working in hospitality.

“I looked into theatrical make-up artistry and began studying beauty therapy, and that led me to becoming an entrepreneur.”

Wendy now runs Museo Salon and Spa in Mount Lawley with her husband, Adam Michetti. The couple’s daughters, Sage and Anais, both attend Perth College.

The hairdressing salon and day spa was established in 1999 and Wendy has become an expert in skin nutrition, designing, styling and small business.

“If you’ve got the right attitude and the desire and the passion, you can achieve anything,” she said.

“As long as you put enough effort in, anything can happen and is achievable; I’ve never been okay with ‘just so’ no matter how tired I’ve been but I’m not a perfectionist – it’s just about trying your best.”

Wendy relishes start-up projects and strongly believes in giving back; she is one of the founding members of a charity named Families Building Bold Futures Inc, which aims to relieve the ongoing poverty of destitute children in Nepal.

A board member for Australia’s leading hair and beauty association, Hair and Beauty Australia, Wendy recently completed the Curtin Growth Program for Entrepreneurs and has also earned a Certificate IV in Small Business.

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.
Alana Jennings (2006 Leaver), daughter of Noelene (Beckwith) Jennings (1977 Leaver), was engaged to partner Jack Cost-Russell on 17 February 2016.

The proposal occurred during a wonderful week of birthday celebrations in Yallingup over a romantic dinner at Smiths Beach.

The engagement was celebrated with family and friends including Alana’s sister Simone Jennings (2013 Leaver), Stephanie Boam (2006), Noeline (Beckwith) Jennings (1977), Philippa (Mace) Lindsay (1977) and Karen (Middleton) Whittred (1976).

Alana and Jack’s wedding is planned for November 2017.

Brooke Mills (2006 Leaver) said ‘yes’ to her best friend, Chris Jacobs, on 26 June 2016.

He popped the question on the dog beach with the help of ‘Izzy’, a puppy they rescued together in 2015.

Taya Van Nellestijn (2006 Leaver) was married to Adam Hamilton on 23 April 2016. The ceremony was held at St Michael’s Archangel Chapel in West Leederville followed by a reception at Acqua Viva on the Swan on a gorgeous sunny autumn day.

Taya’s sister, Duska (Van Nellestijn) Rosario (2004 Leaver), was her maid of honour.

Seven other PC girls attended their special day including 2006 Leavers Madi James, Amy (Klemm) Tonkin, Kirsten Reidy-Crofts, Sarah Lewis, Hannah Garnaut and Adriana Armstrong, Fleur (Carter) Holland (2004) and current PC teacher Julie (McDonald) Klemm (1980).

Taya and Adam had a magical day celebrating with family and friends, and have now moved to Boston in the USA to begin their married life.

Sarah Lyon (2004 Leaver) married her partner Josh Chambers on 4 June 2016.

Josh and Sarah were married at the Gantheaume Point lighthouse in Broome and were joined by family and friends to celebrate the wedding over the long weekend.

Lots of PC girls travelled up to Broome to enjoy the occasion, and Tiff Genders (2004 Leaver) was one of Sarah’s bridesmaids.

The perfect weather and great band ensured everyone partied long into the night.
Engagements, Weddings and Births

Jessica (Dillon) Patil (1999 Leaver) and her husband, Sam, were blessed with twins on 24 January 2016. They twins are named Emma Rose Patil and Shlok Samvid Patil. Shlok (rhymes with bloke) is a Sanskrit name, meaning ‘sing hymns of praise to God’ while Emma means ‘complete’. Jessica and Sam chose these names because of the journey they went on to become parents. They said their prayers to have a family one day, and were fortunate to be blessed with both a son and a daughter so their family is now complete.

Updates

Grania (McGillicuddy) Fawcett (1999 Leaver) has returned home to Perth after living and working in London for 10 years. She is now married with two children.

1954 Leaver, Jenni (Frost) Woodroffe, has presented a short paper on the Make Your Own Story Book Competition (MYOSB) at the 35th International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY) Congress held in Auckland, New Zealand, in August. Perth College has regularly participated in this competition with place getters since it began in 1977. This free competition has been organised by volunteers of the WA branch of the Children’s Book Council of Australia (CBCA) and is unique to WA. The current Secretary of the WA branch is Elizabeth (Freiberg) Allen (1971 Leaver) and Trish Montgomery (former PC Archivist and Honorary Old Girl) is among the many volunteers who have assisted with organising the competition. Children have been encouraged to create an original story book in a format that is sturdy enough to be added to the school library and so this competition differs from the various writing competitions that are conducted both statewide and nationally. In 2004, Kirra Somerville (2012 Leaver) won third place in the Year 4-5 category with Lizard Gang which was published in 2005 by Magabala Books. Jenni now has the opportunity to present the story of WA’s MYOSB to an international audience and encourage other countries to provide similar activities for their children. Jenni is currently Vice-President/Secretary of the Australian section of IBBY.

Roberta (Bourne) Holland (1954 Leaver) has written in of another strange meeting between Perth College Old Girls, this time in the Netherlands. Roberta was there to attend a meeting of the Women’s International Lyceum Clubs when she heard someone introduce ‘Judith White of Sydney Club’. Of course, Roberta thought the name sounded familiar, and when she introduced herself she asked whether Mrs Judith White had ever worked at or attended Perth College. Of course, the answer was ‘Yes!’ Judith (Richardson) White (1960 Leaver) is held in high regard by many generations of PC girls not only as a school friend but for her time as Deputy Principal (1989 to 2007).

Miriam Stannage (1956 Leaver), an accomplished artist and State living treasure, has recently had her works displayed in an exhibition at Lawrence Wilson Art Gallery, UWA. To coincide with the exhibition, a published monograph on Miriam, titled Miriam Stannage: Time Framed, was launched at the exhibition. It was published by UWA Publishing and edited by the curator of the exhibition, Lee Kinsella. For monograph enquiries contact Charlotte Guest, Publishing Officer, at UWA Publishing, on (08) 6499 3670 or email charlotte.guest@uwa.edu.au.

Congratulations to Jenae Carpenter (2009 Leaver) who received the Cambridge Australia - Charles Allen Masters Scholarship to study Criminology Research at Cambridge University in England.

Amy (Klemm) Tonkin (2006 Leaver) and her husband, Kai, welcomed their first baby, Charlotte Rose Tonkin, on 9 May 2016. Her sister Melissa (Klemm) Jones (2003 Leaver), and husband, Sean, welcomed their first baby, Amelia May Jones, on 21 July 2016. Charlotte and Amelia are the grand-daughters of Julie (McDonald) Klemm (1980 Leaver and current staff member), and the great-granddaughters of Shirley (Pole) McDonald (1948 Leaver). We look forward to seeing the next generation of girls coming to PC in the future!

Stephanie Boam (2006 Leaver) and her fiancee, Roland Waters, have welcomed their first baby, Eliana Christine Waters, who was born on 24 February 2016. Amy (Klemm) Tonkin (2006 Leaver) and her husband, Kai, welcomed their first baby, Charlotte Rose Tonkin, on 9 May 2016. Her sister Melissa (Klemm) Jones (2003 Leaver), and husband, Sean, welcomed their first baby, Amelia May Jones, on 21 July 2016. Charlotte and Amelia are the grand-daughters of Julie (McDonald) Klemm (1980 Leaver and current staff member), and the great-granddaughters of Shirley (Pole) McDonald (1948 Leaver). We look forward to seeing the next generation of girls coming to PC in the future!

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Can you help?

Calling all Dunsborough PC girls
Karen Martin (1962 Leaver) is moving to Dunsborough from Kingsley so she can concentrate on her art. She is hoping to connect with some other Old Girls who live in the Busselton, Dunsborough and Yallingup areas. Her contact details are karenjmartin9@hotmail.com or 0419 041 171.

Volunteers for the Heritage Centre
Perth College Heritage Officer, Jessica Marantelli, is seeking some help transcribing oral histories that have been donated to the School. The oral histories are recorded on cassette tapes and due to their age and fragility they need to be transcribed to preserve them for the future.

If you have a few hours to spare and would like to be involved, please contact Jessica Marantelli via 9471 2163 or jessica.marantelli@pc.wa.edu.au.

A special thank you to the Old Girls who have volunteered their time so far. Remember, morning tea will be provided!

Boarding photo albums from the 1990s and 2000s
Karina House has recently had a big spring clean and has photo albums which need to find a new home. If you boarded in Karina House in 1992, 1995 or 1998 please contact Jessica Marantelli via 9471 2163 or jessica.marantelli@pc.wa.edu.au to be reunited with pictures from your school balls, socials and boarding life!

Obituaries

Adeline (Addie) (Cowcher) Medlen (1960 Leaver) passed away on 1 September 2014 at Lake Grace Hospital. Addie was the sister of Dorothy (Cowcher) Greenham (1970 Leaver). Addie is survived by Jamie and Rebecca and their families.

Dorothy Cowcher deceased

Yvonne Bruce (Lefroy) McGuigan (1954 Leaver) passed away at home on 7 January 2016. She is now reunited with her husband Dennis. She is survived by Jamie and Rebecca and their families.

Dennis Nott has informed us his wife Evelyn (Lyn) Willmott (Hester) Hall (1941 Leaver) passed away on Christmas Day 2015. She was the sister of Madge (Hester) Meares (1950 Leaver) and Edith (Hall) Whittell (1940 Leaver) (deceased).

Our condolences are with Cherelle Witney (1985 Leaver), Pauline (Witney) Monaghan (1988 Leaver), Shay Witney (1996 Leaver) and Ellen Witney (2000 Leaver) on the death of their mother, Margaret, in May.

Dennis Nott has informed us his wife Astrid (Green) Nott (1958 Leaver) passed away peacefully at home on 19 October 2015. He writes that his wife was a beautiful lady, and everybody who became her friend loved her as a sister.

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Yvonne Bruce (Lefroy) McGuigan (1954 Leaver) passed away at home on 7 January 2016. She is now reunited with her husband Dennis. She is survived by Jamie and Rebecca and their families.

Patricia (Ashton) Keightley (1940 Leaver) passed away on 20 January 2016.

Marianne (Toni) (Glesinger) Ganderton (1946 Leaver) passed away on 19 February 2016. She was the Dux at PC in 1946.

Our condolences are with Roslyn (Johnson) Heath (1955 Leaver) on the death of her husband, James Heath, in March 2016.

The Perth College community was saddened to hear of the passing of Glen Jones, former Headmistress of the Junior School, on 29 March 2016 aged 87 years. Our thoughts are with her family, particularly her daughters, Leslie (Jones) Healy (1975 Leaver) and Helen (Canavan) Jones (1976 Leaver).

Pauline (Dunstan) Roe (1953 Leaver) died on 31 March 2016. Pauline and her two sisters both attended the School; Beverley (Dunstan) Singleton (1955 Leaver) and Lesley (Dunstan) Keen (1958 Leaver) along with her daughters Cathy (Roe) Muir (1987 Leaver) and Elizabeth (Roe) Strapp (1983 Leaver) and her nieces Alison (Keen) Quinlivan (1986 Leaver) and Helen (Keen) Yu (1990 Leaver). Her grand-daughters Georgia (Year 9) and Lucy (Year 12) are current students at Perth College.

Hilda (Pearce) Salom (1935 Leaver) attended Perth College from 1931 to 1934. She passed away at home on 19 October 2016.

Barbara (Whitfield) King (1945 Leaver) died on 24 April 2016. She was the sister of Helen (Whitfield) Jones (1948 Leaver) and Sonia (Whitfield) Vernon (1943 Leaver). She will be missed at future Vintage Reunions.

Elizabeth (Libby) (Peirce) Birk (1962 Leaver) passed away on 31 March 2016. She was the sister of Jenny (Peirce) McGeachie (1960 Leaver) and Margaret (Peirce) Nichol (1957 Leaver). Her family feels ever blessed in the knowledge it was a quick passing, leaving them with treasured memories to cherish.

Our condolences are with Kerrie (Carson) Roberts (1961 Leaver) and her daughters Alexandra (Roberts) Hart (1986 Leaver), Louise (Roberts) Parkinson (1987 Leaver) and Vanda (Roberts) Jarrett (1990 Leaver) on the passing of her husband Bert Roberts. Mr Roberts is the brother of former School Council member, the late David Roberts, who was married to Annette (Lefroy) Rowlands (1953 Leaver). They had three daughters who both attended Perth College, as did their grand-daughter.

Valerie (Doust) Beus (1961 Leaver) passed away peacefully on 11 August 2016. Our condolences to her mother, Lesley (Pearce) Doust (1935 Leaver) and sisters, Janice (Doust) Arscott (1966 Leaver) and Pamela (Doust) Souness (1963 Leaver).
Remembering our Old Girls

Olive Patricia (Pat) (Thomas) Williamson (1941 Leaver)
Remembered by her daughter Wendy (Williamson) Whitwell (1969 Leaver)

Pat lived a full and happy life in Beverley. In fact, the only length of time she wasn’t part of the Beverley community was during her six years as a boarder at Perth College (1935 to 1940).

She and her sister Gweneth Mary (Thomas) Shaw (1939 Leaver) (deceased) were the second generation of Thomas girls to attend Perth College. Their aunts, Mary Elizabeth (May) Thomas (1910 Leaver) (deceased), Gwen (Thomas) Collins (1913 Leaver) (deceased) and Anne (Thomas) Smith (1919 Leaver) (deceased), were the first generation. May, Gwen and Anne attended in the earliest days of the School and were Hawkesbury boarders. When the School moved campus to Mount Lawley, Anne was in the group of first boarders to start at the new premises.

Pat’s first cousins, Dorothea (Dora) (Weaver) Barrett-Lennard (1944 Leaver) (deceased), Margaret (Weaver) Kerr (1939 Leaver), Mary (Weaver) McKellar (1942 Leaver), Gwen Weaver (1937 Leaver), Olive (Mollie) (Weaver) House (1932 Leaver) (deceased), Ruth Weaver (1934 Leaver) and Elizabeth (Smith) Anthony (1952 Leaver) were also at Perth College with Pat in the 1930s and 1940s. Pat recalled sharing with Dorothea and Mary in the junior dormitory with Sister Zoe sleeping in a bed alongside them. Matrons in those days were obviously very close to the girls.

She always spoke fondly and with huge respect for Sister Rosalie. During Pat’s time at school she received book awards for English, Music and Home Economics and was made a Prefect in her final year.

On graduating with a Leaving Certificate, Pat returned home to work as a land girl at Spring Dell (her parent’s farm) with her sister Mary. Their help was much appreciated as labour was very scarce during the war years. Pat’s 21st birthday in the Beverley Town Hall was a huge celebration for the whole district as it coincided with VE Day at the end of World War II.

After she married the love of her life, Bill Williamson, in 1948, Pat shifted 20 miles to live on the farm at West Dale. It was her home for 60 years. She raised three children, was a major help on the farm and managed to be actively involved in the Dale community.

Pat was on the local guild, fulfilled all committee roles, was a Pony Club instructor for Gilgering and Beverley clubs, played the organ at church and in her later years, playing bridge twice a week became essential as well. She was still playing the organ at church just days before her passing.

Meanwhile the Perth College connection continued on, with the third generation of Thomas family members attending in the 1960s. Sally (Shaw) Lumsden (1968 Leaver), Sian (Thomas) Evans (1968 Leaver), Wendy (Williamson) Whitwell (1969 Leaver) and our sister-in-law Cherry (Coyle) Williamson (1969 Leaver) continued in the family's footsteps.

In the 1990s and 2000s, the next generation of Perth College girls attended. Anna (1995 Leaver) and Fiona Lumsden (1997 Leaver) and Gemma (Williamson) Hay (2005 Leaver) make it more than a 100 years of Thomas ancestors attending Perth College.

All of the family will miss our fabulous, caring, supportive, creative and committed mum, gran and great-gran, who always had time to listen and provide words of encouragement. We understand her time had come, she was growing tired and she had given her best to her family, the farm and, of course... the Bridge Club.

Pat passed away after a brief illness on Christmas Day 2015.
Upcoming Events

10-Year Reunion
All 2006 Leavers are invited to attend a school tour, followed by canapes and drinks at Perth College.
Date: Saturday 19 November 2016
Time: 5.00 pm
Venue: Perth College
Cost: $50.00
RSVP: www.trybooking.com/LYBC

20-Year Reunion
All 1996 Leavers are invited to attend a school tour, followed by canapes and drinks at Perth College.
Date: Saturday 29 October 2016
Time: 5.00 pm
Venue: Perth College
Cost: $50.00
RSVP: www.trybooking.com/LYSX

30-Year Reunion
All 1986 Leavers are invited to attend a school tour, followed by canapes and drinks at Perth College.
Date: Saturday 5 November 2016
Time: 5.00 pm
Venue: Perth College
Cost: $50.00
RSVP: www.trybooking.com/LWLR

40-Year Reunion
All 1976 Leavers are invited to attend a school tour, followed by canapes and drinks at Perth College.
Date: Saturday 12 November 2016
Time: 5.00 pm
Venue: Perth College
Cost: $50.00
RSVP: www.trybooking.com/LZAZ

Christmas Fair and Carols
Date: Sunday 27 November 2016
Fair from 3.00 pm to 6.30 pm
Carols from 6.30 pm to 8.00 pm
Celebrate the joy of Christmas as we bring the community together for the Mount Lawley Christmas Festival. The free festivities will stretch along Beaufort Street between Perth College and Second Avenue from 3.00 pm with Santa, fun activities for the children, market stalls, food vans, wine bar and plenty of live entertainment. We’ll round off the day by singing Carols by Candlelight on the St Patrick’s lawn before lighting up the iconic Mount Lawley Christmas tree. See you there!

Please email Madi James: madi.james@pc.wa.edu.au to update your details if you haven’t received information about your reunion yet!