

PROFILES OF LIFE MEMBERS

PEG AYRES, LIFE MEMBER OF NGALA

Mrs Peg Ayres first started her commitment to Ngala in 1960 when she joined the Sewing Committee which assisted Ngala with sewing baby clothes. In 1975, Peg joined the Committee of Management for Ngala and was President of the Committee of Management from 1985-88. Peg Ayres was very involved with the planning of the new building complex for Ngala completed in 1995. Since then, Peg has been a member of the inaugural Board of Management of Ngala, a member of the Executive Committee of Ngala and a delegate for Ngala on the National Council of Women where she is also a Life Member. Mrs Peg Ayres retired from the Executive Committee of Ngala in 2005 and was conferred Life Membership in September 2004.

SYD CORSER, OBE, OAM, LIFE MEMBER OF NGALA

Syd Corser was made Life Member to Ngala in September 2007. Syd Corser was recruited by Sir Eric Sandover in the 1980s to the Ngala Business Advisory Committee and became the first male Chairman of the Board of Ngala Inc from 1989-1995. Syd well remembers growing investment to build the new complex and guiding the building of it. In 1992 Syd and Danae Corser awarded the inaugural Danae Corser Award which recognizes the contribution by staff to Ngala by providing opportunities to further their knowledge by undertaking a study program or project. This award continues be awarded to the staff to the present day. In 2006 Syd Corser commissioned a Roll of Honour to be painted by Ross Shardlow which has on it 275 names of volunteers and staff who have made a significant contribution to Ngala from 1890-2006. This Roll of Honour hangs in the Boardroom and Volunteers Meeting Room at Ngala Kensington.

CURNOW KNUCKEY, OAM, LIFE MEMBER OF NGALA

Curnow Knuckey was conferred Life Membership of Ngala in September 1999. Curnow has given 20 years of voluntary time to Ngala assisting with administration for up to four days a week since reduced to two. During that time he has been a valuable member of the Committee of Management, an inaugural member of the Board of Management and a member of the Executive Committee of the Friends of Ngala. Curnow worked as the Accountant, Assistant Administrator, Deputy Administrator and Administrator of Princess Margaret Hospital for Children from 1951 until his retirement in 1983. He was also a member of the Hospital Benefit Fund of WA Board of Directors from 1951-1953, 1973-1993. He gave of his time voluntarily to Fairbridge Western Australia (Inc) from 1993-2001 as a Member of the Board of Directors and Chairman of the Finance Committee. Curnow retired from the Executive Committee of the Friends of Ngala in 2007.

BERYL GRANT, AO, OBE, LIFE MEMBER OF NGALA

Beryl Grant was conferred Life Membership of Ngala in 1976. Beryl was the first Matron of Ngala from 1959-1980. As Matron of Ngala, Beryl made a distinguished and unique contribution to the community. Her capable and untiring efforts steered the Home through its initial stages, including the opening of the Day Care Centre in 1971 and the training of Mothercraft Nurses. In 1968, Beryl was awarded a Winston Churchill Fellowship, the first West Australian nurse to receive this award. She was also State President of the Royal Australian Nursing Federation and in 1974 was elected National President of the College of Nursing, Australia. Beryl has been State President of the Florence Nightingale Committee and in 1971, gave the National Florence Nightingale Oration. In 1973, she was appointed to the National Board of the Australian Inland Mission. Her work at Ngala earned her the honour of the award of Officer of the Order of the British Empire. From 1990-1997, Beryl was the inaugural Chairperson of the Child Care Services Board.

ALTHAEA MCTAGGART, OBE, LIFE MEMBER OF NGALA

Althaea McTaggart, OBE, was made a Life Member of Ngala in November 2003 after 30 years of involvement and dedicated service to Ngala. Althaea became a member of the Management Committee of Ngala in 1975 as a delegate of the Liberal Party. Althaea was National President of the Women's Organisation of the Liberal Party. She was also a member of the Board of the Hospital Benefit Fund of WA from 1979-1991. Althaea worked diligently with the planning of Murdoch University and was a member of the Senate from 1973-1982. Despite her dedicated community involvement in all these areas, she was also Secretary and Vice President of the Dyslexia Society over this time. Althaea was President of Ngala from 1990 to 1996, was a member of the inaugural Board of Management of Ngala in 1989 and Vice Chairman of the Board from 1992-96. Althaea continues to be a member of the Executive Committee of the Friends of Ngala.

LEONÉ SCOTT, LIFE MEMBER OF NGALA

Leoné Scott was made a Life Member of Ngala in 1998 after many dedicated years of service. Leoné has been involved with Ngala since 1975 when she joined the General Committee. In 1977, she was elected to the Executive Committee and served as Vice President from 1977-81. Leoné became President from 1981-84 and was re-elected in 1988. In 1989, a Professional Advisory Committee was established and Leoné chaired this committee and is still a member. As a physiotherapist, Leoné brought her professional knowledge to Ngala and during her time, the Constitution was changed and Ngala evolved from a home to the parenting resource centre it is today. Leoné continues to be a member of the Executive Committee of the Friends of Ngala.