

Newcastle Boys' High School Old Boys' Association Incorporated

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – 2020

2020 certainly started differently to many previous years. Between droughts, bushfires and the COVID 19 virus I don't remember any other years packing so much drama into a few months. The Committee hopes that you and your families have not suffered adversely as a consequence of these events and are currently in good health.

The Committee has also decided that in the interests of keeping members safe the 2020 Annual Dinner will NOT be held. We are unsure of the restrictions which will still be in place by August, including social distancing, and we understand that making travel arrangements will be difficult for many. This is regrettable but in everyone's best interests.

We have also enclosed a survey with this year's mail re the timing of the annual dinners. We urge you to complete and return it.

As in the past six years, your Committee was again been re-elected unopposed. It would be extremely gratifying if others would put up their hands to assist as many of the Committee members have filled various positions since the inception of the OBA. We would be grateful for members from the 1970 to 1978 years to put up their hands as we need some technical expertise that they would have.

We are using more electronic contact again this year, rather than mail. As this reduces our annual mailout costs, if we don't have an email address for you (or our records need updating) please let us know.

Last year I mentioned that we were trying to find ways to increase our income as the Reserve Bank continues to cut interest rates. Consequently we have purchased some Company bonds, which provide a greater return, but with a slightly greater risk than Bank deposits. We would certainly appreciate any additional donations that you could make to assist our fundraising.

A reminder call again for any member who has items which may be of historical significance, including photos and magazines, please contact Dick Sanders at dicksanders@optusnet.com.au with a view to either providing them to the OBA or at least having their whereabouts noted. This year we had a ceremonial sword, donated by Old Boy Chaplin Hughes which had been on loan to the Army Reserve 2nd Infantry Battalions, returned to the Association. It is now in the Caesar Smith collection at the Newcastle Museum.

It is worth mentioning that our website www.nbhsoba.net contains a wealth of information about the School, notable Alumni, copies of the Novocastrian, class photos and some of our guest speakers' notes. I would encourage all to have a look at it.

We have also been adding obituaries of deceased Old Boys to our website as there appears to be some interest in them. If you know of anyone who would not have minded having theirs added please forward them to our webmaster Greg Kentish at gkentish@gmail.com.

Our membership numbers are thinning with a financial membership of 1006 as at the end of 2019. However, there are a number of non-financial members and we would appreciate them renewing their commitment to the Association. A side note, our oldest living member, Oscar Westbury, turned 100 in March this year and still attends the annual dinners!

Our lost members list presently is as follows:

Year	Name	Previous Known Address
1947	Bill Hurditch	29 Langshaw St, Castle Hill, 2154
1952	David Madew	16 Tyneside Loop, Meadow Springs, WA, 6210
1955	Graham Ryan	2/48 Nesca Pde, The Hill, 2300
1958	Bruce Chadwick	PO Box 4074, Woodrising, 2284
1958	David McDougall	11 Schneider Dr, Mystery Bay, 2546
1959	Gary Dyson	PO Box 430, Red Hill South, Vic, 3937

1961	Ian Galloway	13 Bentinick St, Ballina, 2478
1961	Peter Whitford	3839 Wilderness Dr, Union Bridge, MD 2179, USA
1964	John McLennan	PO Box 411, Glebe, 2037
1965	Michael O'Brien	61 Woodward St, Merewether, 2291
1969	Gary Norris	3 Warumbui Ave, Miranda, 2228
1971	John Butler	19 George St, Highfields, 2289
1971	Glen Henderson	PO Box 48, Hamilton, 2303
1973	Denis Kilroy	6 Barry St, Kew, Vic, 3101
1974	David Bennett	4 Canara Cl, Belmont North, 2280
1976	Graeme Chambers	20/47 Haddon St, Marks Point, 2280

It was again my pleasure to attend Presentation Day for Year 12 at Newcastle High in September 2019. Vice President, John Beach and Treasurer, David Gubbay filled in for me on the other 2 presentation days in December and I thank them for that. The prize recipients were:

Newcastle High School -

Roy Davis Prize for School Community Achievement \$200
 Lewis Keys Bursary \$500
 Keys Family Prize for Best Science Student Year 10 \$200
 Dr Allen Knott Scholarship \$1000
 Margaret Howard Bursary \$500
 Caesar Smith Prize for Creative Writing (Junior) \$200
 Caesar Smith Prize for Creative Writing (Senior) \$200
 OBA President's Prize for Legal Studies \$200
 Colin Keys Dux of the School \$1000 (2019)

Jack Sheppard
 Oscar Deegan
 Evelyn Mee
 Patrick Johansen
 Gina Blackall
 Gina Weissen
 Asha McNeill
 Noah Hailstone
 Natalie Cox

Waratah Campus of Callaghan College -

F.H. Beard Prize for School Community Achievement \$200 Shared between Cala Jones & Myra Parciany
 Brian Donegan Prize for Most Improved Mathematics Student \$200 Shared between Amielle Clifford-Ward & Abigail Casey
 Charles Goffet Prize for Creative Writing (Junior) \$200 Shared between Tesla Moore & Kiera Clifford-Ward
 Charles Goffet Prize for Creative Writing (Senior) \$200 Shared between William Rathery & Mitchell Moore
 Keys Family Prize for Best Mathematics Student \$200 Shared between Lingeswaran Vijay & Oscar Pohlman
 Dr David Stewart Scholarship \$500 Shared between Nick Matthew Casey & Samatha Howard

I think all who attended last year's dinner would agree that the after-dinner speaker, Magistrate Jeff Hogg, was very humorous and informative. Some of the stories from his first posting to Griffiths NSW were comical to say the least! The speaker chosen for this year was to be Dr David Williams from the year of 1970, however as there will be no dinner we will have to wait till 2021 to hear his words of wisdom.

The Committee extends its sincere condolences to the family and friends of Old Boys who have passed away in the past twelve months.

Please attend the AGM if possible or at least nominate for a position on the enclosed form. As an organisation we probably only have around 30 years left, and it would be disappointing if the scholarships we provide petered out before their time.

I wish all of our members good health and a remainder of 2020 incident free.

Remis Velisque
 Norm Rodgers (President)

28 May, 2020

Newcastle Boys' High School, Old Boys' Association, Incorporated.

www.nbhsoba.net

(PO Box 33, ADAMSTOWN, 2289)

Notice of Annual General Meeting

To be held in the basement of the Jewish Synagogue in Tyrell St, Newcastle.
Thursday, 16th July 2020, at 5:00 p.m.

You are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting of the Old Boys Association at the time, date and place shown above.

All Committee positions will be declared vacant on the night. The positions to be filled are:

President	Vice President	Treasurer	Secretary
Public Officer	Publicity Officer	Web Master	Committee (7 positions)

Should you wish to nominate for a position please complete your name, contact details and the position you are nominating for in the space below and return this form to the Post Office box above by 28 June 2020.

Name:

Years of Attendance at NBHS:

Address:

Contact Details: Home Phone:

Mobile Phone:

Email address:

Position nominated for:

Agenda for the Annual General Meeting

- 1 Present
- 2 Welcome from the President
- 3 School Song
- 4 Apologies
- 5 Confirmation of the Minutes of the 2019 Annual General Meeting
- 6 Business arising from the Minutes
- 7 President's Report
- 8 Treasurer's Report
- 9 Election of Committee 2020 – 2021
President Vice President Secretary Treasurer and Public Officer
Publicity Officer Web Master Seven Committeemen
- 10 Appointment of Honorary Solicitor
- 11 Expressions of interest in Sub-Committee Membership
Membership Historical Education Functions
- 12 Next Annual General Meeting

The next Annual General Meeting will be held in the Staff room of the Newcastle East Public School at 5:00 pm on Thursday, 24 June 2021 prior to the normal Committee Meeting.

Norm Rodgers

President