

## Historical Sub-committee report – June 2019 AGM

Over the past year, the most important progress has been the continued development of the website ([www.nbhsoba.net](http://www.nbhsoba.net)). The complete registers for NGHS are now available on the website, and the NGHS Ex Students Union have been asked to provide additional input for their section of the site.

Additional information (*eg* obituaries, eulogies, news of members) and photos continue to be added, and makes the website an interesting resource. Anecdotes, “Tales out of School”, are being added from the 1957 cohort, and we would like to see stories from other years. As Russell Cheek said in his post prandial address, Boys High had a sense of humour. The capturing of these stories makes the website more human.

For anyone supplying photos by email, please digitise to at least 500kb to ensure a quality image (or just send the photos to Dick by mail, and they will be returned after digitisation). Dick’s job is made easier if names are given in row order, with any unnamed students clearly shown (please see the photos on the nbhsoba.net web site for examples). Some of the year reunions have supplied a comprehensive set of excellent photos with names – we would like to see more of this (recently received a complete set from NGHS 1958).

Other important additions to our website are Novocastrian magazines. Some from the early period (1910s to 20s) have been added, and work is ongoing by Dick to digitise our entire collection. This has been assisted by the recent purchase by the OBA of a scanner, which is capable of scanning double pages of all Novocastrians, some of which are larger format. They make excellent reading, and are a social mirror of the times. When all magazines have been scanned, they will be placed in the Caesar Smith Collection at the Regional Library.

At a meeting with the Librarian at the current NHS in early 2019, we were given copies of the Novocastrian Magazine (December 1917, and June 1918) which were not in our Collection, as well as a program for the Official Opening of NGHS in March 1930. We also obtained a list of the Nobbys magazines for consideration at a later date (need the NGHS ESU to be involved).

In regard to the future of the website, post OBA, Sue Ryan at the Regional Library suggested that we contact the National Library who provide an archiving capability (Pandora) for websites of significance, and make the information available through Trove. We received a very favourable response from Pandora, and this will be a good repository for our legacy.

An NBHS Oldboys Facebook site is also maintained by Greg Kentish, and this has become a useful communication medium for the Oldboys (with use increasing).

We continue to collect memorabilia – a notable addition in the past year was a Dux medal from 1910.

The efforts of Greg Kentish in maintaining and enhancing the website and Facebook page are again gratefully acknowledged..

Peter Scaife/ Bill Storer/ Dick Sanders

25 June 2019