

FLOWERS, Edward ('Ted') - Year of '43 Prefect

University of Newcastle Librarian

<https://nbhsoba.net/images/Photos%201940s/NBHS%201943%20Prefects.jpg>

On Thursday, January 18, 2023, the University of Newcastle Special Collections announced the passing of Ted Flowers via an announcement shared on Facebook.

"It is with great sadness that we hear of the recent passing of Ted Flowers, the inaugural university librarian." the statement reads, "In 1961, Ted became librarian at Newcastle University College and became university librarian on his own in 1965." "He made a huge contribution to the library and the library profession." condolences to his family and friends."

Biography

Edward [Ted] Flowers became a staff member at the Newcastle Technical College Library in 1948, where he met his wife Pat. He worked as a shire librarian for both Newcastle and Lake Macquarie Libraries before returning in 1961 to the Newcastle University College as Head Librarian.

Ted continued in this role as the University became autonomous in 1965, making Ted the first University Librarian. He remained in the position until 1988, seeing the library through many milestones including the acquisition of the Library's 500,000th book.

"I do believe, that this University is the best thing that has ever happened to this region."
- Ted Flowers





From University of Newcastle Living Histories

Mr Flowers became a staff member of Newcastle Technical College Library in 1948. He moved to Newcastle Region Library in 1952 as Deputy City Librarian and to Lake Macquarie Shire Library in 1956 as Shire Librarian.

Mr Flowers took up duty at the former Newcastle University College as Librarian in 1961. When the University became autonomous in 1965 his position was changed to University Librarian. He retired at the end of 1988.

Whilst at the University Ted also worked in South East Asia as library consultant for Australian Government development agencies and acted as advisor on library development and library education.