



This Library
is dedicated to
the memory of

Lila Beryl Reece McKenna

It is the gift of
Newcastle Girls' High School

Ex-Students Union

and was presented on

October 13, 1967

The Union gratefully
acknowledges the assistance
of the Newcastle
Cathedral Women's Guild,
whose members so generously
supported the appeal.

A TRIBUTE

Lila "Sue" Mc Kenna will be remembered as an integral part of Newcastle Girls' High School.

She was educated here, taught here for more than two decades and contributed greatly towards re-formation of the ex-students' union.

It is for her role as Vice-president of the union that we honour her. Her dedication to the union and her love of its members will be remembered by all of those who worked with her.

She was both teacher and friend to those she taught - always

ready to give guidance and understanding.

Her example has been a challenge to those privileged enough to be her pupils. Her great love of the English language has challenged many young women to search deeper for the beauty and truth she found in it.

Her life will be perpetuated for us in the words of the song, which she composed as an anthem for the school she loved.

SCHOOL SONG

To us the School holds out the torch;
Of learning keen and clear;

She lights the golden way that leads
To where achievement crowns the deeds
of industry sincere.

In knowledge she would make us strong,
To her we dedicate our song (Repeat,

In fields of sport she trains us well,
To play with might and main,
To set the team above renown
To win ourselves a better crown.

True fellowship to gain.

In service she would make us strong,
To her we dedicate our song (Repeat,

With courtesy, and kindness
She paves the path we tread;
And in our hearts her light will shine
With understanding's grace divine

When days of youth have fled.

In wisdom she would make us strong,
To her we dedicate our song (Repeat
twice)

BIOGRAPHY

Lila Beryl Reece M^c Kenna was born at Wellington, New South Wales, on September 2nd, 1903. She was the youngest child of Henry Edwin Montefiores and Ellen M^c Kenna.

She came to Newcastle in 1917 and was enrolled at the High School on the Hill. She completed her schooling in 1921 and studied Arts at the University of Sydney. She graduated in Arts, majoring in English, Latin and Physiology.

Her teaching appointments, prior to coming back to Newcastle Girls' High School in 1943, were at Forbes, Grafton, Kempsey and Maitland.

She produced Shakesperian plays for 13 years at Newcastle Girls' High School in an effort to make Shakesperian drama live in the minds of schoolchildren.

Outside her school her interests were centered round her family, her music and reading, and her church.

For her Church - Christchurch Cathedral - she presented several pageants of literary beauty including "My Lady's Dress" and "The Pageant of Flowers." She also produced several Biblical plays and reading which were performed in the Cathedral and on radio.

Of the family of nine children, only three sisters survive her - May, Doris and Nell. Those who pre-deceased her were

her only brother, William, and sisters Pauline, Gladys, Hilda, Kathleen.

She was due to retire in 1967 from the teaching service.

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