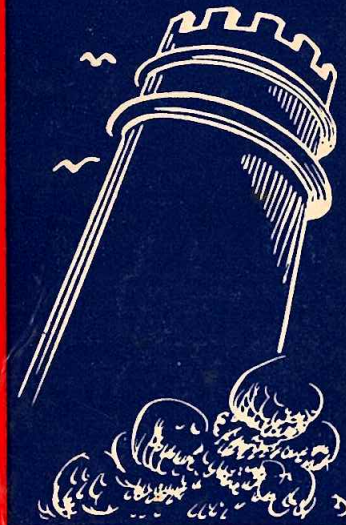
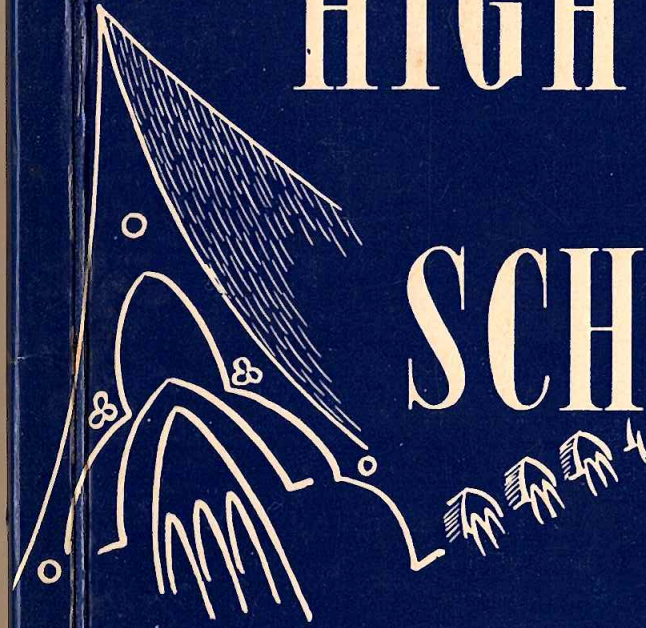


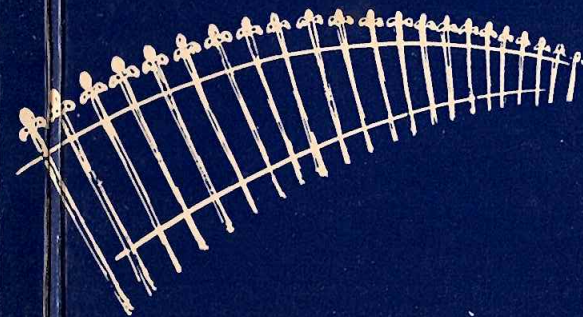
NEWCASTLE

HIGH

SCHOOL



JUBILEE BOOK



1906

1956

Preface

I WELCOME THIS OPPORTUNITY to convey to you my very sincere congratulations on this, the Jubilee Year of public secondary education in Newcastle. Prior to 1906, Newcastle children had to travel to Maitland if they wished to attend a secondary school, although primary education had been available in the city for many years.

The first State high schools were opened in 1883, but, although quite a number were established within a few years, all but four—two in Sydney and two in Maitland—were soon closed for want of local support. Therefore, the establishment in June 1906, of a high school for girls and boys at Newcastle really marked the beginning of the State's fifth high school.

In the intervening fifty years the overcrowded conditions of the first school building—portion of a primary school—have been overcome. In 1930, the girls were provided with new accommodation at Hamilton while, four years later, a fine new school was provided for the boys at Waratah.

Over the years, the two schools have had many distinguished principals. For instance, Elizabeth Read guided the fortunes of Newcastle Girls' High School from 1931 to 1942, while, of the headmasters, many—McMullen, Harvey, Mearns, Saxby, Smith and others—made their names equally famous while at Newcastle.

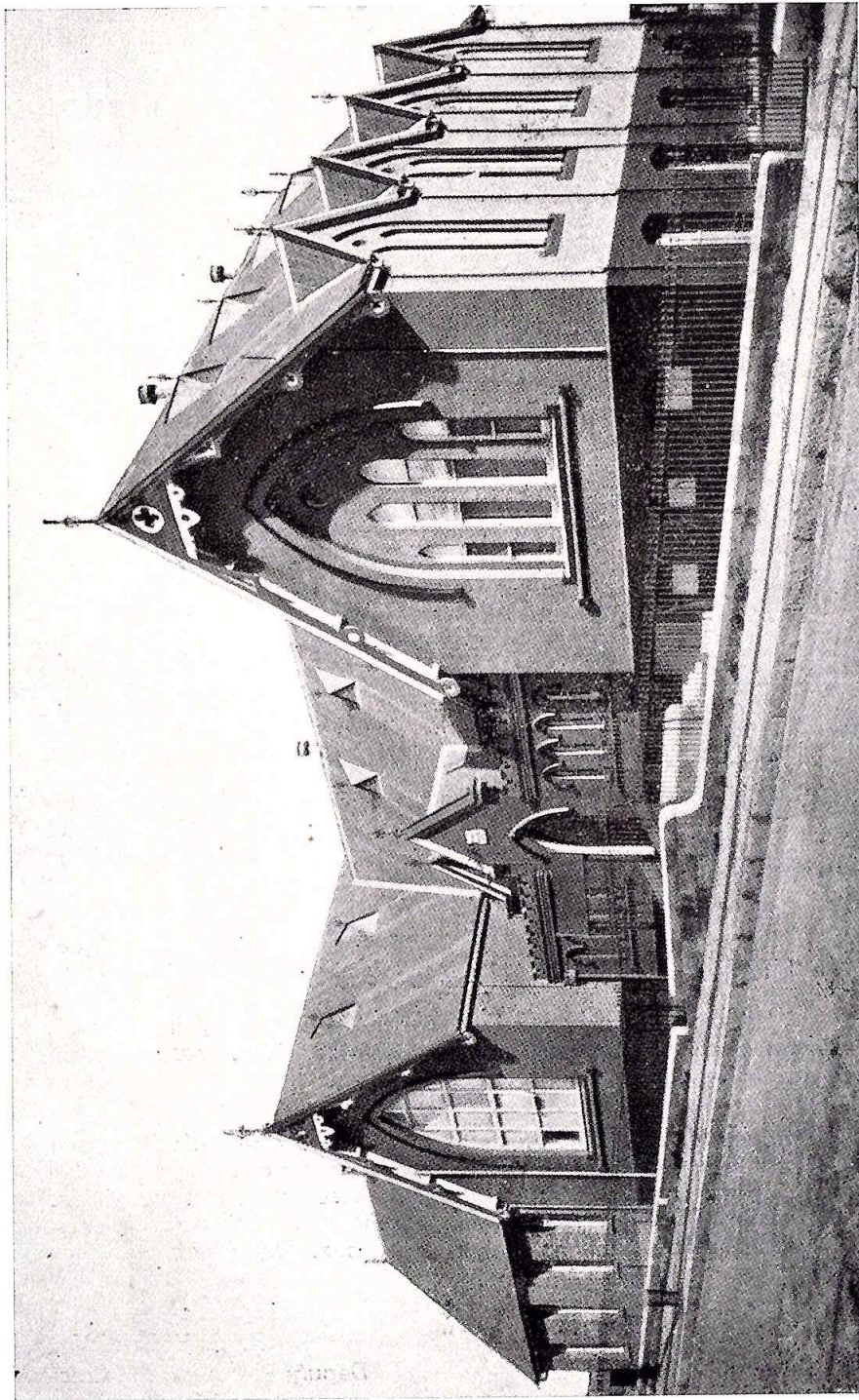
The sterling work over the years by many hundreds of public-spirited parents and citizens has also helped to secure better education for the children and has reaped a rich reward in the goodwill accorded the two schools in the City of Newcastle and surrounding districts.

The increase in enrolments from twenty-eight in the original Newcastle High School to some 1,400 pupils in the two schools today reflects, of course, the huge growth in secondary education throughout New South Wales. Today there are 109,000 pupils in some three hundred secondary schools. In the Hunter River District alone, there are now more than 10,000 students attending a wide variety of courses at secondary schools.

The production of this Jubilee Book is therefore a singularly appropriate gesture to mark the conclusion of the first fifty years of secondary education in Newcastle and I commend this attractive publication to you. Of course, at the same time as you look back upon the past with pride, you should also look to the future and resolve that the next fifty years will see even greater progress.

R. J. HEFFRON,
Deputy Premier and Minister for
Education.

May, 1956.



THE OLD SCHOOL ON THE HILL

Newcastle High School 1906 - 1929



Few of those who agitated for a high school for Newcastle in the early days could have visualised the extent to which it would expand in the first 50 years of its existence. From humble beginnings in three classrooms of the "Hill" Infants School on the 5th June, 1906, with an enrolment of only 28 pupils, developed a school which, at the beginning of 1907, had 107 pupils, and by 1927 had 504 pupils. Today the two schools, Newcastle Girls' High and Newcastle Boys' High have a combined enrolment of some 1,400 pupils.

Mr. Charles R. Smith, M.A., was the first headmaster and he was assisted by Mr. T. Roberts, B.A., L.C.P., and Miss Louisa Cole, B.A.

By December 1911, the high school had grown to such proportions, and the primary school dwindled accordingly as families moved westward from the City, that the primary school closed and the High School took over the whole of the building, which even then proved inadequate. Temporary relief from overcrowding was obtained by the building of portable rooms, which limited playground space and led the headmaster to say at Speech Night on 3rd June, 1925, "It might be well again to draw attention to the unsatisfactory state of the buildings. They are, as my predecessor has frequently pointed out, quite unworthy of so important a City."

It is interesting to record that the school assemblies were held in the "top" playground, the verandah of Third Year rooms acting as a rostrum for the headmaster.

The school became so overcrowded that in 1930 the girls moved to a new school in Hamilton South. The boys remained at the Hill school until early in 1934 when they too moved to new school buildings at Waratah and the old Hill school was taken over by Newcastle Junior High School.

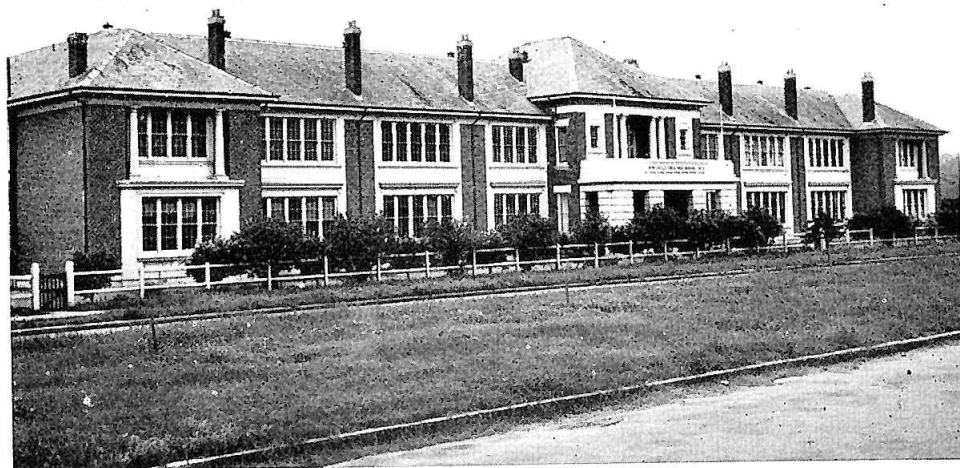
The school motto "Remis Velisque" was adopted on the suggestion of Bishop Stretch. Literally interpreted it means "with oars and sails" i.e., with all one's might—a very suitable motto for a seaport school. When "The Novocastrian"—the magazine of the school—was first published in October 1911, it was again Bishop Stretch who suggested the apt title.

Naturally the subjects in the school have changed. Until 1923 Greek was taught to a limited number and German, which lost favour during the 1914-1918 War, was resumed later. Science subjects were limited and Geology was a popular subject for a wealth of material was to be found in the district. Art and music or commercial subjects were taught as alternatives to Latin, and in Fourth year, economics was introduced to those taking the commercial course.

Entertainments were few for school pupils. Beach teas were held at Newcastle beach, when Second year pupils entertained Third years and Fourth years farewelled Fifth years. School dances to farewell Fifth years began in 1925.

In spite of the lack of amenities and the poor accommodation, noble traditions, high aspirations and worthy ideals were inculcated into the minds of the pupils and such an "esprit de corps" built up that loyalty to the old school and fellow ex-pupils is an outstanding trait in the character of those who were privileged to attend.

MARY CLEARY.



NEWCASTLE GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL, HAMILTON

Newcastle Girls' High School 1930 - 1956

N.G.H.S. began on 4th February 1930, with the official opening by the Minister for Education on 8th March. Miss A. A. Brewster was the Principal. The colours of the combined school were retained and after a short period the new motto "Courage and Hope" gave place to "Remis Velisque." The school song written by Mrs. Birtles (nee Dora Toll) was replaced by one written in 1944 by Miss L. McKenna, another ex-student. The tradition of scholarship and service to the community, carried on from the school on the Hill by Miss Brewster, has been the ideal of succeeding Principals.

In 1930, 42 girls sat for the Leaving Certificate examination. The number has grown with increasing successes to 79 in Fifth year 1956. Many scholarships, bursaries and prizes have been won. The school has also been successful in essay, public speaking and debating competitions.

In 1945 the House system was introduced, Houses being named after men important in the history of Newcastle. This scheme has stimulated sport and debating in the school. The school has always held its own in all fields of sport.

The school has supported the League of Nations, the Red Cross, U.N. and U.N.R.R.A. Social work has not been neglected. Miss S. Leslie is well remembered for her organising work in this respect.

A feature of school life has been the inviting of important visitors to speak at Assembly. Lady Wakehurst, Consuls of various countries, overseas visitors, and lecturers expert in their own field have helped to enlarge the students' outlook.

The school has joined in with all local celebrations and public occasions.

The first issue of "Nobbys," the school magazine, was in 1930 and there has been a publication, however small, each year except 1942, 1943.

The Ex-Students' Union, started in 1941, was revived in 1952.

In every way there is ample evidence that the school grows on its past and builds a foundation for the future.



NEWCASTLE BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL, WARATAH

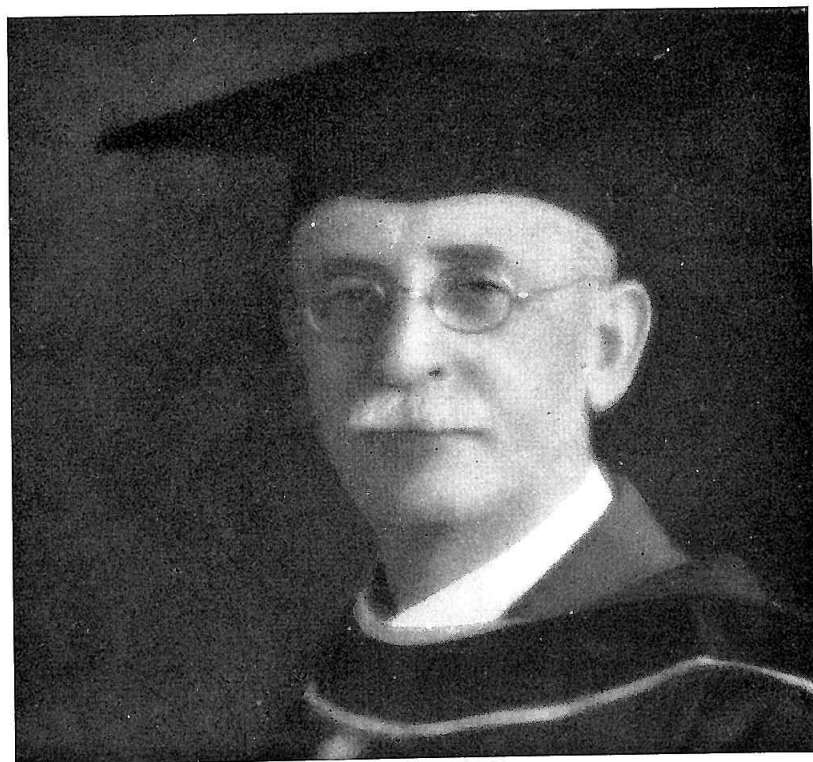
Newcastle Boys' High School 1934 - 1956

The school came into being when the girls went to Hamilton in 1930 and the boys remained in possession on "the Hill." The Headmaster was R. F. Harvey, noted French scholar and cricketer, who gave the school a continuing impetus towards personal and community progress. He was succeeded, in 1933, by C. H. Christmas—affectionately known, of course as "Daddy"—and he was in charge when the school moved to Waratah in 1934. The following year N. R. Mearns took charge—a returned soldier of distinguished service, who had the record term of ten years in charge. The unique feature of his regime was his invariably calling the boys "gentlemen," in the idealistic belief that they would live up to the appellation. The great majority of them did, and still remember him with affection. W. Pillans, capable Head and likeable personality, was in charge from 1945 to 1947, and the present Headmaster has held office since 1948—the second longest term. Each of these principals has contributed to the school's traditions.

The present school was born in a depression and spent its infancy during a war. Thus it could not progress very rapidly in material things, although it set very high academic standards from the very beginning. In 1950 a £2,000 Appeal was launched among the pupils of the day, former students and the community. It succeeded and a big change came over the building. Rubber flooring was provided for the lower corridor, a public address system was installed throughout the school, the Memorial Entrance was dedicated to the memory of the 94 students who fell in World War II, and handsome stage furniture was bought as a memorial to two loved teachers who died in harness in 1948—Mr. Vince Walker, Old Boy and Sportsmaster, and Mr. "Clarrie" Jacobs, School Treasurer and O.C. of the Cadets for many years.

The boys of today have a fine tradition to live up to. By their keenness, loyalty and co-operative spirit—as well as their outstanding academic and sporting prowess—they seem likely to enhance that tradition during the next half century.

Mr. C. R. Smith — An Appreciation



The Jubilee of secondary education in the Newcastle District is inevitably associated with thoughts of Mr. Charles Rattray Smith, the first Headmaster of Newcastle High School.

Standing in any of the present establishments which are lineal descendants of the "School upon the Hill," one might well say of him, in the words of Sir Christopher Wren's immortal epitaph, "If you seek his monument, look about you." For Mr. Smith was the "fons et origo" of the traditions of work, service, and citizenship inherited by the present-day secondary schools of the district. Like a loving parent he guided the destinies of Newcastle High School for 9 years from its puny infancy in 1906, to its vigorous and promising youth in 1915. It was his privilege to mould its future in its formative period, and his work was crowned with a success which most men would envy.

Not only did his scholars, under his inspiration, achieve outstanding results in the realms of scholarship and sport, but they imbibed the spirit of responsibility and good citizenship which enabled many of them to play notable and worthy parts in the public life of the community, and on the battlefields of our history.

A fine scholar, especially in the classics, his devotion to which earned him the nickname of "Caesar" affectionately bestowed on him by his pupils, Mr. Smith was also a wise and gifted administrator, and a firm but just disciplinarian, with a saving sense of humour. Discipline throughout his regime was preserved without resort to corporal punishment. His administration was

not rendered easier by the fact that the school was a co-educational establishment which gave rise to such unexpected problems as that of a youthful master discovered by the Head at a school beach tea, with an attractive female student on his knee! Many of his old pupils will recall with a smile his succinct and sage advice, "Boys, keep away from the gels," and will, perhaps, wish they had followed it in after life!

Above all he enjoyed the affection and respect of his staff and his pupils alike.

A firm believer in the virtues of hard work, Mr. Smith never spared himself. His administrative duties as principal were combined with the active teaching of several subjects, and the successes achieved by his students in public examinations in those subjects may, in no small measure, be attributed to the constant and tireless efforts involved in the setting and correcting of exercises, a duty which he never shirked.

Although modern languages were not his special subject, and his accent was tinged with a distinct Scottish burr, one who had been drilled by him in French grammar and irregular verbs, started his study of the French tongue with a solid foundation calculated to stand him in good stead for a lifetime.

His kindly practical advice and encouragement were always available to his adolescent charges.

Mr. Smith was born in the Orkney Islands on 29th December, 1859, almost 100 years ago. He was a Master of Arts of Aberdeen University, and, after teaching in Britain for three years, he came to Australia and joined the education service of New South Wales on 5th November 1883, as assistant teacher at Bathurst High School. From there he was transferred to Sydney Boys' High School in 1885 and in March of that year, at the unusually early age of 26, he was temporary Headmaster of Goulburn High School. After various appointments in primary and secondary schools in this State, he was made first assistant at Leichhardt Public School on 1st February, 1897, a position he held until his appointment as Headmaster of the new Newcastle High School on 5th June, 1906. He remained there until 21st June, 1915, when he was made Headmaster of North Sydney High School, and on 5th December, 1918, he reached the summit of his profession as Headmaster of Sydney Boys' High School—which position he retained until his retirement on 1st October, 1924. He died at Willoughby at the age of 81 on 10th June, 1941. Despite his later promotions Mr. Smith's heart was always with Newcastle High School which, in a very real sense, was his personal masterpiece.

One of his sons, Adolphus, a very brilliant boy, died whilst a pupil at Newcastle High School during his father's regime as Headmaster. Two grandsons, sons of Mr. Gordon Smith, the well-known Mayfield dental surgeon, attended Newcastle Boys' High School, and a great-grandson is at present a pupil at Cook's Hill Intermediate High School. Thus has the family connection with secondary education in Newcastle District been preserved.

Many of "Caesar's" old pupils retain vivid and affectionate mental pictures of his spare figure, with academic gown fluttering in the breeze, standing at the gate of the "School on the Hill" to interrogate late comers as to their excuses.

With such mental pictures, the name of the school verily does "arise from the dead with memories of many a morning"—aye, and with memories, too, of a beloved personality who was guide, philosopher, and friend to all, a noteworthy citizen of Newcastle, a scholar and a gentleman.

B. A. HELMORE.

Mayoral Message



The Rt. Wor. The Lord Mayor of Newcastle (Alderman D. G. McDOUGALL)

It is very fitting that the citizens of this City and all ex-students should celebrate the Jubilee of the Newcastle High School.

The school has always enjoyed an excellent reputation and it would be interesting to go through the old rolls and trace the scholars to the various parts of the country and the world, where many have made great names for themselves. No doubt they think back with deep gratitude to the school which set them firmly on the ladder of success.

On behalf of the City, I would like to convey sincere thanks to the teachers (both past and present) for the wonderful work they have done, not only in imparting academic knowledge to the pupils but by precept and example teaching them the finer things of life and moulding them into the type of citizen of which this City will always be justifiably proud.

The Education Department, its Area Director and Inspectorial Staff must also share in the praise and thanks of the students and citizens for the work they have done over the years to assist as much as funds and time available would permit them to do.

I also pay tribute to the work done voluntarily and so spontaneously by the Parents and Citizens' Association.

It has been my privilege to be associated closely with the present principals and their staffs and many of the students during the last few years and I have been particularly impressed by the zeal, confidence and talent shown by those students.

It is my earnest wish that the splendid work that has characterised the Newcastle Girls' and Newcastle Boys' High School and its pupils will continue, and that its tradition will be handed on as a flaming torch burning ever brighter in the hearts and minds of the students.

They are leaders of tomorrow, well trained and well fitted for their task.

Newcastle High School

PRINCIPALS AND DEPUTIES

YEAR	PRINCIPAL	DEPUTY
1906	C. R. SMITH	—
1907	"	—
1908	"	—
1909	"	—
1910	"	—
1911	"	—
1912	"	J. W. HAYES
1913	"	"
1914	"	"
1915	"	"
1916	W. WILLIAMS	"
1917	"	"
1918	"	"
1919	"	W. L. HAMMOND
1920	G. C. SAXBY	A. L. NAIRN
1921	"	"
1922	"	"
1923	"	"
1924	"	"
1925	F. McMULLEN	"
1926	F. McMULLEN and R. F. HARVEY	W. HATFIELD
1927	R. F. HARVEY	"
1928	"	R. A. PAGE
1929	"	J. GIBSON

BOYS' SCHOOL

YEAR	PRINCIPAL	DEPUTY	PRINCIPAL	DEPUTY
1930	R. F. HARVEY	W. NOAKES	Miss A. A. BREWSTER	Miss L. GILES
1931	"	"	Miss E. J. READ	Miss L. McMAHON
1932	"	"	"	"
1933	C. H. CHRISMAS	"	"	Miss A. E. CAMPBELL
1934	"	F. WOOTTEN	"	"
1935	N. R. MEARNES	"	"	"
1936	"	H. WOODWARD	"	"
1937	"	"	"	"
1938	"	R. SCOTT	"	"
1939	"	"	"	"
1940	"	"	"	"
1941	"	F. H. BEARD	"	Miss A. R. WEDDELL
1942	"	"	"	Miss C. R. BUCKLEY
			Miss C. R. BUCKLEY (Acting Third Term)	with Miss M. LEWIS (Acting Third Term)
1943	"	P. ANDERSON	Miss M. B. HENSON	Miss E. BOOTH
1944	"	D. SHORT	"	Miss L. WHITEOAK
1945	W. PILLANS	"	Miss A. R. WEDDELL	Miss O. MALCOLM
1946	"	I. ORME	"	Miss B. SMITH
1947	"	"	"	"
1948	F. H. BEARD	H. McGREGOR	Miss E. BOOTH	Miss M. LEWIS
1949	"	A. W. MILNE	"	Miss S. D. PAYN and Miss G. SIMONS
			"	Miss G. SIMONS
1950	"	"	"	"
1951	"	"	Miss P. SMITH	"
1952	"	"	Miss S. D. PAYN	Miss M. TILSE
1953	"	"	"	"
1954	"	R. J. COCHRANE	Miss D. WALLENT	Mrs. E. SHUTTLEWORTH
1955	"	"	"	"
1956	"	T. P. O'CONNOR	"	Miss E. KNODLER

*Message from Miss D. Wallent, Headmistress,
Newcastle Girls' High School*



At the close of the first half century, it is surely appropriate to look back over our achievements and to appreciate how the school has gained its reputation in the community. Those of you who have helped in the making, will live again the joys, and perhaps some sorrows, of your school days as you read this book. Those still at school, in whose hands lie its present and its future, will be inspired to maintain its traditions.

Like everything in this world, a tradition must live and grow or it will grow old and die. When the Girls' High School was opened, it was called an ideal school. Since bricks do deteriorate I prefer to translate this as "a school with an ideal." In searching old records recently, I realised how clearly defined at all stages this ideal is. It is an ideal of service, by the school to the community and to its individual members, and by each member to the school. The outward form of its accomplishment varies, as the school adapts itself to changed conditions, to World Wars, to disaster and distress, to victory and successes, and to all aspects of the life of Newcastle, civic, cultural and sporting.

Academic successes shine brightly, but they alone cannot explain the high esteem in which our schools are held. Remember, moreover, that if you are not able to excel in the academic field, you may do so on the fields of sport, in debates or in dramatic work, while the little courtesies of life, your behaviour and bearing at all times, your co-operation in the common task and the daily round, are vitally important to your community, your school and yourself.

To the older ones, I would say, "Well done, and thank you;" to the younger ones, "Carry on; we have faith in you!"

DORIS WALLENT, B.A., Dip.Ed.

*Message from F. H. Beard, Headmaster,
Newcastle Boys' High School*

Fifty years ago, Newcastle was comparatively small and unimportant. The half-century which we are celebrating has been one in which both the City itself and our secondary schools have gone through tremendous change and development. It is good to think, as we look back through the years, that, while Newcastle industrially was playing a magnificent part in national life, particularly during two world wars, the torch which was lit on 5th June, 1906, with the establishment of Newcastle High School, has burned bright and testified to the importance of the things of the mind.

The "Old School on the Hill," and Girls' High and Boys' High which stem from it, have a proud record of achievement. Their sons and daughters have left their mark in the life of this City and far beyond it. Some of them are spoken of briefly in the Jubilee Book, but they are merely representative of the many who cannot be recorded.

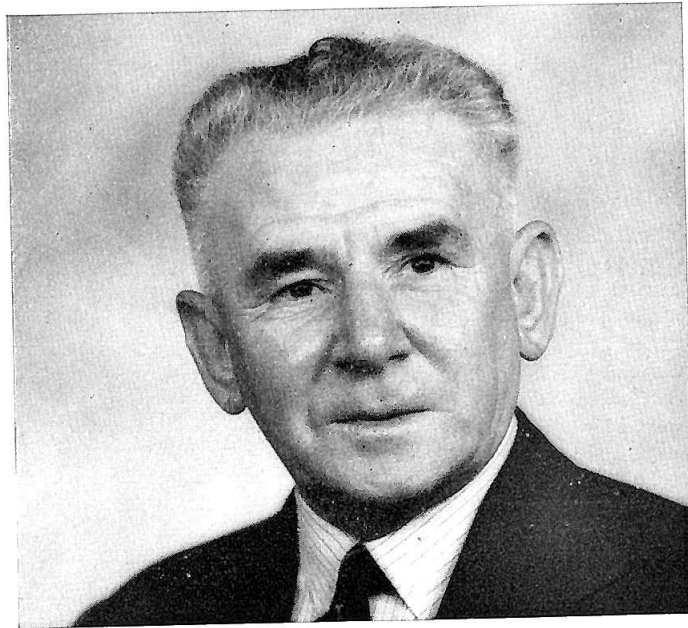
I believe that the secret of the impact the school has had on the community is to be found in the devoted service of the teachers who have laboured in it through the years, in the friendly, co-operative attitude that seems always to have pervaded it, in the ambition of the pupils that has led so many of them far afield to gain fame and fortune, and in the high value that Newcastle as a whole has placed on education.



It is inevitable that the next fifty years will see many more changes than have the last, for progress is an accelerating movement. But the really important things do not change. If our pupils go on in the spirit of their fathers, learning at school to work together with their fellows, developing a sense of community responsibility, above all growing to realise that character counts most of all, we can confidently leave the future in their hands, whatever problems it may bring them to solve.

F. H. BEARD, M.A.

Message from
A. W. Milne,
Headmaster,
Newcastle
Junior High
School



My first appointment to Newcastle Boys' High was in 1942 as Classics Master for three years. Having returned in 1949 as Deputy-Headmaster for five years, and transferred to Newcastle Junior High as Headmaster in 1954, I write as one closely interested in Boys' High for the past fifteen years, and as present custodian of the building which housed the original school.

Of my predecessors, Mr. G. Saxby was my Headmaster of Sydney High at Ultimo and Moore Park.

Before Mr. R. F. Harvey came to Newcastle I worked with him at Lismore, and admire the honesty of the School Captain of 1932, who praised that Headmaster's work in the school, achieved "with all that energy of which we are only too well aware."

Mr. R. K. Scott, Headmaster of Junior High for ten years from 1941, was my colleague thirty years ago when he was a fine teacher of English.

These associations and contacts with many old boys mean for me a real interest in the old place, where as part of the Jubilee Celebrations a plaque will be unveiled. It will bear the inscription: "To commemorate fifty years of Secondary Education on the Hill at Newcastle, this tablet was unveiled by the Hon. R. J. Heffron, M.L.A., Minister for Education. 2nd June, 1956. VITAI LAMPADA TRADUNT."

The poet, Lucretius, had in mind the ancient torch race, not unlike that which this year will usher in Australia's first Olympic Games. Each man runs his course and hands on Life's torch to his successor from generation to generation.

Ex-students will be interested to know that the land behind this school, once planned as its Sports Oval, is now being terraced for residences, and that recent material improvements to our old building make possible a further span of service to students who will continue to climb up the hill and "will still do their best, night and morning."

A. W. MILNE, B.A., Dip.Ed.

From the President, Newcastle Girls' High
School Ex-Students' Union



The aims of the Ex-Students' Union are to provide means for social intercourse between ex-students, to foster and preserve the school tradition and to maintain an interest in its progress and activities.

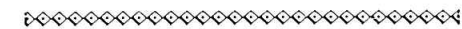
A wise man once said that though we may leave school the school never leaves us. This is true, for on everyone of us the school has left its mark and to it each of us is linked. We owe the school something for success, for knowledge, for friendships or for knowing how to live happily in the community.

Some ex-students have achieved much in the academic world, others have excelled in the field of sport or realms of art and music, but the great majority have taken their places in this and other cities as citizens of whom Newcastle Girls' High School must indeed be proud.

At functions arranged by the Ex-students' Union there is always a very happy atmosphere when reminiscences are exchanged and pleasure is expressed at the continued success of the school and its students.

An invitation is extended to all ex-students to join the association and share its interests so that we can truly live up to our old motto, "Remis Velisque."

MARY CLEARY.



From the President, Newcastle Boys' High
School Ex-Students' Union



It is indeed an honour and a privilege to be given this opportunity to offer congratulations to the school—our school—on the celebration of its Golden Jubilee.

As president of the flourishing O.B.U., I am grateful to all those "old boys" who have linked up with us in our endeavour to maintain interest in the affairs of the school. We realise that many things were missing when we attended. By a little effort on our part many of these could be obtained. At present we award a scholarship and prize each year, and with more support from the thousands of "old boys" scattered throughout the Newcastle District we could probably treble our contributions.

Social activities to augment our funds have included a Ball, golf days and barbecues.

O.B.U. badges are available to all financial members. I take this opportunity of extending an invitation to all "old boys" to join the Union.

Congratulations Newcastle High!

A. W. HANNAFORD.

Newcastle Boys' High School



YEAR	DUX
1907	A. CHALMERS
1908	D. M. SMITH
1909	D. C. HOWELL
1910	C. L. FIRKIN
	R. J. HOWIE
1911	G. JONES

YEAR	CAPTAIN	DUX
1912	K. GARRETT	J. HERBERT
1913	R. HOWARD	B. HELMORE
1914	D. SHEARMAN	N. GOLDSWORTHY
1915	J. NICHOLSON	S. CARVER
1916	J. HENERY	W. BROADFOOT
1917	R. NEWTON	F. PEARSON
1918	C. MASSEY	E. MILLER
1919	E. J. EGAN	W. COOKSEY
1920	J. ESTELL	F. VIZZARD
1921	R. COCHRANE	R. COCHRANE
		H. WILLIAMS
		D. CORNWELL
1922	J. HOWARD	C. DRAKE
1923	S. NEAVES	E. DUNCANSON
1924	E. GILBERT	J. SPARKE
1925	L. CLACK	F. RUNDLE
1926	H. CLAYTON	T. KITLEY
1927	T. KITLEY	E. McGANN
1928	K. WILLIAMS	E. G. AKERMAN
1929	J. BRITTON	W. KABLE
1930	A. W. BISHOP	A. EDGAR
1931	T. BROWN	F. LEARMOUTH
1932	L. DEED	R. C. WILSON
1933	L. CANE	K. SHELLSHEAR
1934	A. ROACH	R. G. OUTTEN
1935	J. ANDERSON	C. H. HUGHES
1936	K. CLARK	G. SOLOMON
1937	J. A. LEE	A. G. SWAN
1938	K. CROESE	D. STEWART
1939	J. W. CORNISH	J. BEATH
1940	J. DAVIS	G. KEYS
1941	F. FIELD	B. HUNTER
1942	W. CLARK	A. BEATTIE
1943	A. HILTON	K. GOOLD
1944	D. STOVE	R. K. POUNTNEY
1945	R. CARRUTHERS	A. D. KNOTT
1946	A. HANNAFORD	
	B. MORLEY	T. WORSLEY
1947	W. HURDITCH	W. E. QUINN
1948	L. FAIRBAIRN	R. GRAY
1949	G. GLEGHORN	D. DOUGLAS
1950	G. HENRY	D. BARNES
1951	D. WILLIS	D. BARNES
1952	K. SCOTT	P. COLE
1953	J. McKENZIE	A. W. FINDLAY
1954	D. W. BEACH	J. CARDENZANA
1955	T. DUNN	
1956	J. ANDERSON	

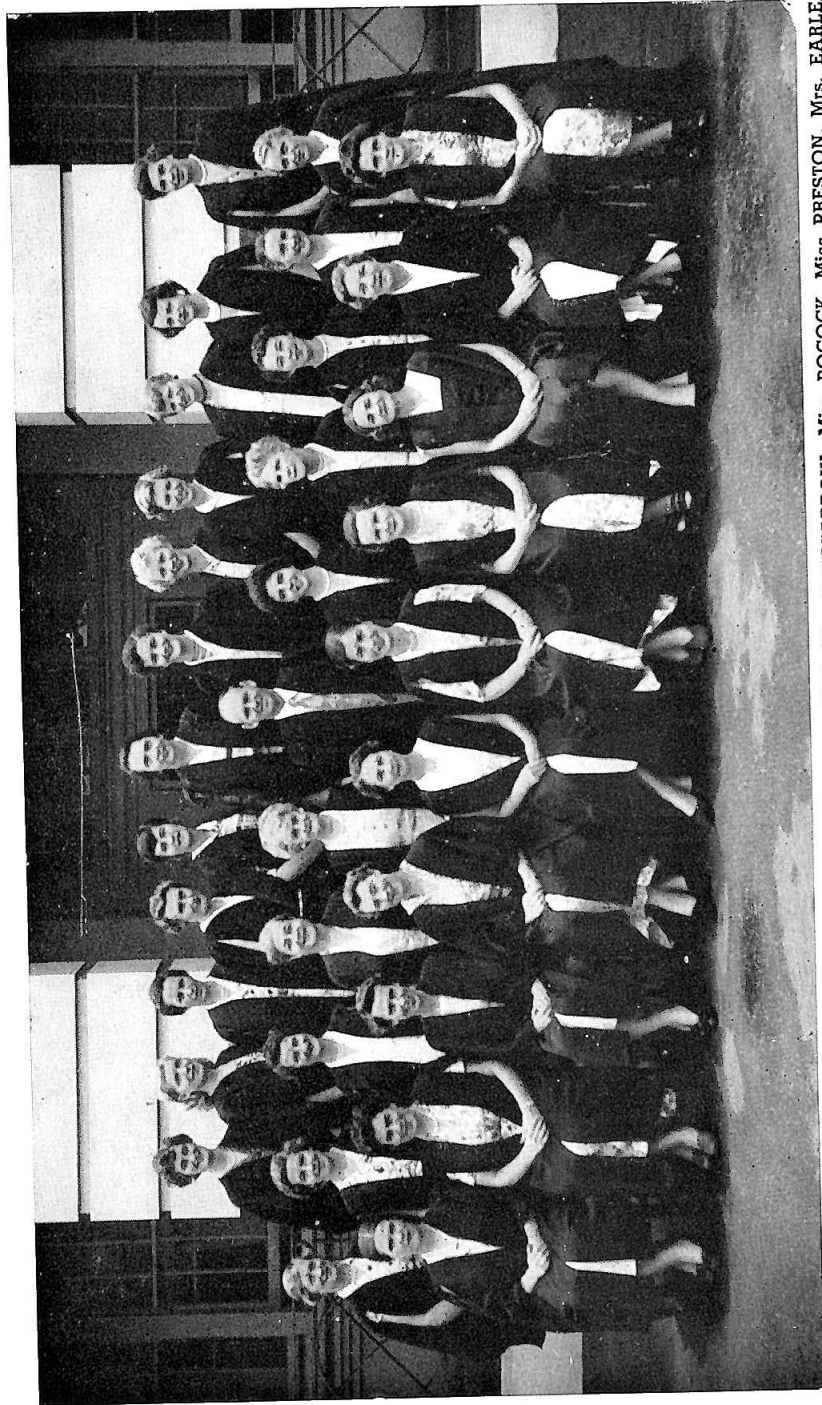
Newcastle Girls' High School



YEAR	CAPTAIN
1912	NELLIE SAUNDERS
1913	AILEEN MITCHELL
1914	RUTH SAUNDERS
1915	RUTH SAUNDERS
1916	DORIS CHADWICK
1917	GLADYS CORRIGAN
1918	LEMMIE JAMES
1919	MOLLY WALKER
1920	MARY HUNT
1921	MARGARET TELFER
1922	ALEXA GRADY
1923	MARJORIE MULVEY
1924	IRIS FALLON
1925	MARY HINDMARSH
1926	DAISY MOTUM
1927	LEONORE SULLIVAN
1928	LILY HEERY
1929	ELVIE HOLT

YEAR	CAPTAIN	DUX
1930	JOYCE JONES	JOYCE COATES
1931	ELVA MARTIN	CLAIRE CHALMERS
1932	MARJORIE ROUSE	NISCA BRAMLEY
1933	IRIS WILSON	EDNA RICHARDS
1934	BETTY McCARRON	BETTY SPINKS
1935	BESSIE INGRAM	LILA JAMES
1936	CATHERINE DOWNIE	JOYCE ROBINSON
1937	JOAN MOORE	JOAN MOORE
1938	MARGARET WALSH	JOAN MENZIES
1939	ZITA POTTER	PATRICIA EVANS
1940	JEAN IZATT	MARJORIE REEDMAN
1941	MAVIS HARVEY	LEXIE RENFREW
1942	ELAINE WALKER	RAIE GUBBAY
1943	MARGARET CAMFIELD	PATRICIA CONRICK
1944	MARGARET MACARA	MARIE HUNTER
1945	NITA ONIONS	JOYCE FORD
1946	ENID WALLWORK	AUDREY SCHUEMAKER
1947	IRENE HODGINS	ESME NICHOLSON
1948	CLAIRE FARRELL	MARGARET FRITH
1949	BETTY REDMAN	BARBARA WHITE
1950	BARBARA THOMAS	MARIAN LANESBURY
1951	JANE CAMPBELL	JOCELYN MORRIS
1952	ALISON HUNT	JOAN McKENZIE
1953	JULIE GOFFET	ANN RENWICK
1954	JOAN ELVIN	BARBARA MORRIS
1955	JULIE KIERATH	ROSEMARY GRAY
1956	ROBIN HAMILTON	

STAFF — NEWCASTLE GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL, 1956



Back Row: Mrs. RUSHTON, Miss LAMBERT, Miss FAVALORO, Mrs. REAY, Miss NANCARROW, Miss POCOCK, Miss PRESTON, Mrs. EARLE, Mrs. BRUCE, Mrs. TOMS, Miss SCOBIE, Mrs. LEES.
 Middle Row: Mrs. McFARLANE, Miss MOULDEN, Miss McGILCHRIST, Miss McKENNA, Mrs. FAIRLEY, Mr. FLOWERS, Miss GRANT, Mrs. CASTLEDEN, Miss NICHOLSON, Mrs. OLIVE, Miss LOGAN.
 Front Row: Mrs. ROBERTS, Mrs. BROWN, Miss McEWAN, Miss SIMPSON, Miss KNODLER, Miss WALLENT, Miss WISHART, Mrs. WHILEY, Miss PAYNE, Mrs. DAVIDSON.

Newcastle Girls' High School Staff, 1956

Principal: Miss D. WALLENT, B.A., Dip.Ed.
 Deputy Principal: Miss E. KNODLER, B.A., Dip.Ed.

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH AND HISTORY

Mistress: Miss I. WISHART, B.A., Dip.Ed.
 Mrs. P. BRUCE, B.A., Dip.Ed.
 Mrs. H. DAVIDSON, B.A.
 Mrs. M. FAIRLEY, M.A., Dip.Ed.
 Miss E. KNODLER, B.A., Dip.Ed.
 Mrs. L. McFARLANE, B.A.
 Miss L. McKENNA, B.A.
 Miss J. PRESTON
 Miss M. SCOBIE, B.A.
 Mrs. P. TOMS, B.A.

DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS

Mrs. R. BROWN, B.A., Dip.Ed.
 Mrs. L. McFARLANE, B.A.

DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES

Mistress: Miss M. SIMPSON, B.A., Dip.Ed.
 Mrs. N. EARLE, B.A., Dip.Ed.
 Mrs. M. FAIRLEY, M.A., Dip.Ed.
 Miss E. NICHOLSON, B.A., Dip.Ed.
 Miss J. POCOCK, B.A., Dip.Ed.
 Mrs. D. REAY, B.A., Dip.Ed.

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

Mistress: Miss E. McEWAN, B.A., Dip.Ed.
 Mrs. B. CASTLEDEN, B.A.
 Miss M. GRANT, B.Sc., Dip.Ed.
 Miss R. LOGAN, B.Sc., Dip.Ed.
 Miss R. MOULDEN, B.Sc., Dip.Ed.
 Miss P. B. NANCARROW, B.Sc., Dip.Ed.
 Miss J. PRESTON

DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE

Mistress: Mrs. M. WHILEY, B.Sc., Dip. Ed.
 Miss G. FAVALORO, B.A., Dip.Ed.
 Mr. F. FLOWERS, A.S.T.C. (Sc.)
 Miss J. MORRIS, B.A.
 Mrs. K. OLIVE, B.Sc.
 Mrs. R. ROBERTS, B.Sc., Dip.Ed.
 Mrs. M. RUSHTON, B.A., Dip.Ed.

NEEDLEWORK

Mrs. I. N. LEES
 Mrs. H. M. PATRICK

ART

Miss J. McGILCHRIST, A.T.D., C.C.A. (London)
 Miss C. TAYLOR, A.S.T.C.

MUSIC

Miss W. LAMBERT, L.Mus., D.S.C.M.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Miss M. PAYNE
 Miss M. MADDOCKS

School Counsellor: Miss M. JURD, B.A. Careers Adviser: Miss L. McKENNA, B.A.
 Librarian: Mrs. H. DAVIDSON, B.A.

STAFF — NEWCASTLE BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL, 1956



Front Row: Messrs. RUSHTON, JUDD, GRAY, MCKENZIE, PLUMMER, BEARD, O'CONNOR, ADAMTHWAITE, C. McFARLANE, GRIERSON.
 Second Row: Messrs. WELLHAM, JUDGE, OSBORNE, JAMES, DAVIES, MUDFORD, SIMPSON, GILSHENAN, HAINES, BAILEY, PERCY, WATERS.
 Third Row: Messrs. MILNE, KERR, HODGE, BURROWS, MURPHY, DENHAM, R. McFARLANE, LAWS, RIGBY.
 Back Row: Messrs. ANDERBERG, WHALEN, QUILL, BARBOUR, HUNTER, ABRAHAMS, DAVIS, GOFFET, STORER, McRAE.

Newcastle Boys' High School Staff, 1956

Headmaster: F. H. BEARD, M.A.

Deputy Headmaster: T. P. O'CONNOR, B.Sc.

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

Master: A. R. JUDD, B.A.
 J. E. BURROWS, B.A.
 L. HUNTER, B.A.
 G. A. KERR, B.A.
 L. LAWS, B.A.
 R. C. McFARLANE, B.A.
 L. McNABB
 A. C. MURPHY, B.A.
 S. RIGBY, B.A.
 F. S. SMITH, B.A. (Died 14th February)

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

Master: M. E. ADAMTHWAITE, B.Sc.
 D. L. H. BAILEY, B.A.
 D. DAVIES, B.Sc.
 J. DAVIS, B.Sc.
 R. E. HAINES, B.Sc.
 J. W. HILL, A.S.T.C.
 J. W. HODGE, B.Sc.
 T. P. O'CONNOR, B.Sc.

DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES

Master: T. PLUMMER, B.A.
 H. B. ABRAHAMS, B.A.
 A. E. DENHAM, B.A.
 C. R. GOFFET, B.A.
 L. F. McRAE, B.A.
 B. L. MILNE, B.A.

DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS

G. BARBOUR, B.A.
 L. F. McRAE, B.A.
 R. QUILL, B.A.

DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE

Master: F. W. GRAY, B.Sc.
 O. ANDERBERG, A.S.T.C.
 S. M. MUDFORD, B.Sc., Ag.
 C. OSBORNE, A.S.T.C.
 J. T. SIMPSON, B.Sc.
 W. I. STORER, M.Sc.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, SOCIAL STUDIES and GEOGRAPHY

Master: C. E. McFARLANE, B.Ec.
 R. J. GRIERSON, B.A., B.Ec.
 W. JAMES, B.Sc.
 G. WHALEN, B.Sc.

DEPARTMENT OF MANUAL ARTS

Master: C. MCKENZIE, A.S.T.C.
 T. E. PERCY, A.S.T.C.
 J. WATERS, A.S.T.C.
 K. J. WELLHAM, A.S.T.C.

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

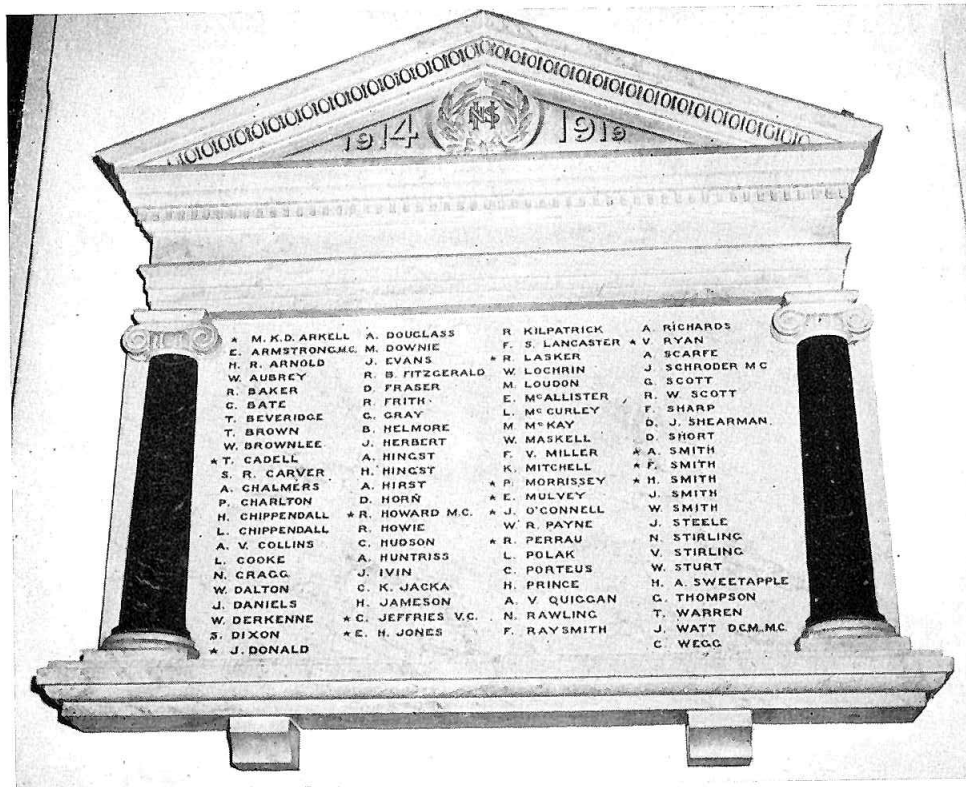
J. M. RUSHTON, B.A., A.Mus.A.

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION

R. G. JUDGE, D. P.E.
 P. GILSHENAN, D. P.E.

LIBRARIAN

S. RIGBY, B.A.



MEMORIAL WORLD WAR I

I know many ex-students will remember the occasion of the unveiling of the Honour Roll to those who served in the 1914-1918 War, but to me it is an event which even to this day stands out clearly as one of the occasions when one was made to feel that one belonged to a high school which had established a great tradition, even in the first sixteen years of its existence.

The occasion was Anzac Day, 1922, when Mrs. J. Jeffries, wearing the decoration won by her son, the late Captain C. Jeffries, V.C., whose name was on the Honour Roll, unveiled the Memorial. There were also present Mr. C. R. Smith, M.A., the first Headmaster of the school; Mr. and Mrs. Howard, whose son, the late Captain R. W. Howard, M.C., was a former Captain of the school, and whose other son was the then Captain of the school; my own father and mother, whose youngest son had been killed at the Dardanelles in 1915; and Mr. Cadell, whose son Tom was one of the first ex-students to make the supreme sacrifice. Many ex-students were present at the ceremony at the school.

The Roll of Honour, which is now in the Assembly Hall of the Boys' High School, is of the Ionic order in design. The plinth is of white Carrara marble, as are also the bases and capitals of the columns. On the pediment, richly carved, is the monogram of the school, set in a laurel wreath. Mr. Scoular, who is well remembered as the Classics Master at that time, in co-operation with Messrs. Meldrum and Markey, was responsible for the design, and in its technical excellence and artistic effect it is a work of which the school may well be proud.

MARJORIE MULVEY.



CAPTAIN C. S. JEFFRIES, V.C.

The School in the Two Wars

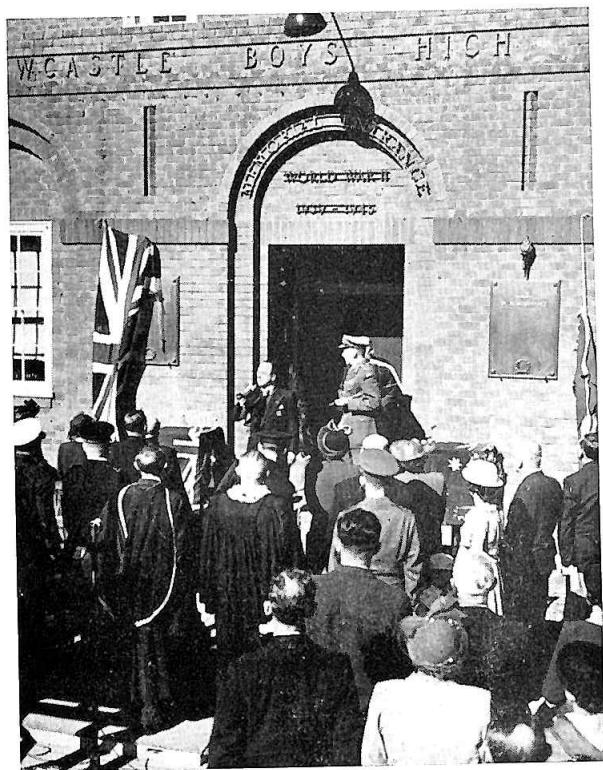
Proud possessions of Boys' High School are the Honour Rolls for the two World Wars. The first, of marble, bears the names of all Old Boys who enlisted, and stars indicate those who gave their lives. The list contains many names that are today known far and wide. The Honour Roll for World War II, bronze plaques forming part of the Memorial Entrance to the school, has the names of the ninety-four young men who died in that conflict. Cut off in the flower of their young manhood, they had had little chance to become widely known in the professional, commercial and industrial world, although many of them had shown great promise, but they are "on Fame's eternal beadroll worthy to be filed."

Enshrined firmly in the traditions of the school are the exploits of Captain Clarence S. Jeffries, V.C. Answering the call of duty very promptly, he was a Captain at the age of twenty. On 12th November, 1917, he was killed at Passchendaele in a particularly heroic action that gained him the V.C. His citation reads:

"For most conspicuous bravery in attack, when his company was held up by enemy machine-gunfire from concrete emplacements. Organising a party, he rushed one emplacement, capturing four machine-guns and thirty-five prisoners. He then led his company forward under extremely heavy enemy artillery barrage and enfilade machine-gun fire to the objective. Later, he again organised a successful attack on a machine-gun emplacement, capturing two machine-guns and thirty more prisoners. This gallant officer was killed during the attack, but it was entirely due to his bravery and initiative that the centre of the attack was not held up for a lengthy period. His example had a most inspiring influence."

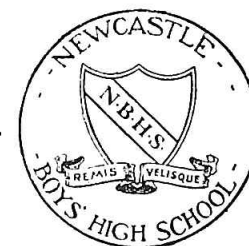
In 1914, it was not long before lads leaving school were in khaki. Already by the end of 1915 a sad ceremony took place at the school, presided over by Alderman Kilgour, Mayor of Newcastle, when photographs were unveiled of the first men to fall. They were Lieut. T. Cadell, Lieut. F. G. Smith, Lance-Corporal Eric Mulvey and Corporal Pierce Morrisby.

Among the many others who rendered notable service were two brothers, both former Captains of the school: Capt. Richard W. Howard, M.C., and Lieut.-Colonel John F. Howard, O.B.E., E.D. Richard Howard left school in 1914 and went to Sydney University, but in October, 1915, he sailed with the 7th Field Engineers, helped to defend the Canal Zone, and in 1916 was in France, where he was selected to join the 2nd Squadron of the Army Flying Corps—thus probably becoming our first airman. On 22nd March, 1918, he was reported missing while on an operational flight, and it was later evident that he had been killed. John Howard was School Captain in 1922, and was already a Major when he went to the Middle East in January, 1940, with the second 1st Field Regiment. For very distinguished service there, he gained the O.B.E.



Unveiling of Memorial Entrance, World War II

The unveiling of the Memorial Entrance and Plaques honouring those who fell in World War II was the most impressive ceremony held at the present school. It was performed by Major-General Ivan Dougherty, C.B.E., D.S.O. and Bar, E.D., in the presence of the Lord Mayor, Alderman Armstrong, a large number of visitors, including the relatives of the fallen, and the teachers and boys of the school. Wreaths were placed on the Memorial by senior officers of the three services and by the School Captain, Ken Scott. Commemorative trees were planted, for the Fallen in World War I by Mrs. J. Jeffries, and for the Fallen in World War II by Mr. G. T. Crossman.



In Remembrance

OF THE FALLEN IN WORLD WAR II

Aird, F. S.	Edmunds, R. W.	Murchison, D.
Ansoul, K. J.	Erwin, J.	Needs, K. L.
Armstrong, J. W.	Evans, W.	Nolan, C. J.
Baker, A. R.	Forden, H. H.	Ollis, J. N.
Banfield, K.	Frith, E. F.	Percy, F. M.
Barklay, H. E.	Frith, R. H.	Prince, F. G.
Barnes, N. E.	Frost, R. R.	Randall, J. M.
Barrett, R. W.	Geddes, A.	Rees, S. L.
Bath, R. W.	Gilbert, R. D.	Ringland, A. H.
Bernard, C. S.	Gomm, N.	Robinson, F. K.
Brown, A. J.	Gray, J. W.	Roxby, A. C.
Brown, L. J.	Grimwood, J. R.	Saunders, C. W.
Burgess, C.	Harivel, J. A.	Scott, R. V. R.
Camps, E. G.	Harrison, F.	Sharp, G. C.
Carrall, N. B.	Hawke, A.	Shepherd, G. A.
Casey, J. N.	Hingst, H.	Sidney, K.
Caston, S.	Howard, R.	Smith, B. H.
Chandler, B. K.	Jackson, F. P.	Smith, F.
Charters, A.	Kay, T. L. H.	Taylor, T. C.
Clarke, A. A.	Kibble, C. J.	Thomas, A. B.
Clayton, C. H.	King, L.	Thomas, R. G.
Colman, S. F.	Mackie, J. S.	Toomey, L.
Connors, L. J.	McLellan, D.	Turner, J.
Coughlin, C. J.	McLeod, F. D.	Uhrig, R. J.
Crossman, J.	MacRae, D. G.	Verdon, R.
Dalton, R.	Mathieson, M. A.	Vidal, R.
Daniel, W. N.	Menzies, A. R.	Watson, D. J.
Dann, W.	Menzies, W. E.	Whyte, C. H.
Declerck, A. G.	Miller, B. E.	Wilkinson, H.
Deed, L.	Mitchell, J.	Young, H. N.
Dyer, B. D.	Montgomery, L. J.	
Edmunds, I. G.	Morshead, L. E.	
	Moss, F.	

Newcastle Girls' High School in World War II



The school generally functioned normally during the war years, but "Nobbys" was not published at all in 1942 or 1943 and appeared only as a sheet in 1940 and 1941, the money being donated to war efforts. Money was naturally the principal way in which the girls could help, and very liberal contributions were made to all appeals, including:— The Prisoner of War Adoption Scheme, A. C. F. Schemes, Food for Britain, Aid for Greece, Ambulances, Red Cross, and Lord Mayor's Fund. Many War Savings Certificates were taken by girls and staff, and the School still holds £200 in War Bonds.

On the lighter side, many girls will have humorous memories of Air Raid practices, the ubiquitous "dilly bags," and the "wartime" vegetable gardens. First year pupils enjoyed tying each other up as part of First Aid instruction.

A plaque in the Assembly Hall at N.G.H.S. commemorates the help given by schools in the establishment of a canteen during World War II.

In 1941, the R.A.A.F. Comforts Fund Committee was given the use of the N.G.H.S. Assembly Hall for farewell parties to the Newcastle and Hunter Valley boys about to go overseas. Gifts were made to each man.

In 1942 the tiny R.A.A.F. Canteen at the old Technical College in Hunter Street West was enlarged to cater for all the services, with two large rooms upstairs, so the parties were held there. The Canteen closed in 1946.

Groups of Fourth and Third year girls accompanied a staff member every Thursday for kitchen service. Ex-pupils were amongst those rostered and many found friendships and romance through their voluntary service.

Fifty-four ex-pupils are known to have joined various branches of the Women's Services. Dr. H. Braye was on the staff at Concord Military Hospital.

SISTERS

GLADYS MERRION
HAZEL GORMAN
MARJORIE ROBBINS
URSULA GOLDEN
JOAN TRUSCOTT
VIDA DRYSDALE
LORNA CRAGG
CLAIRE CHALMERS
DOREEN MCGREGOR

A.A.M.W.S.

BETTY McMORRINE
NERALIE SMITH
ELIZABETH DUNN

W.R.A.A.F.

JEAN KABLE
HELEN HUBY
PEGGY MORGAN
JUNE KENNING
DOROTHY IRELAND

PRISCILLA HUGHES
PATRICIA PEEBLES
BESSIE BRENT
JOAN WALKER
GWLADYS HEPBURN
ETHIE SADLER
HEATHER DODDS
DOROTHY GERARD
DOREEN FRASER
IVY MERRITT
OLIVE SWIFT
DOROTHY ROBINSON
STELLA LITTLER
PATRICIA CLIFT
MURIEL DAWSON

ANTI-AIRCRAFT

SYBIL BORHAM
EILEEN HASLAM
ENID HASLAM
IVY OWEN
BETH CRAGG

W.R.A.N.S.

MAUREEN FELL
NANCY HOGAN
KATH CRAGG

A.W.L.A.

BETTY GARDINER
SHIRLEY HOOKER
GEORGIA WHYTE
S. WILLIAMS

A.W.A.S.

IRIS COOK
DAPHNE BAILEY
ENID JOHNSON
BETTY LINTON
BERYL ALDERSON
SHIRLEY WILSON
NERYL SCOFIELD
BERYL BEVERIDGE
JOYCE DUNN
MURIEL PRYOR

The Queen's Visit to Newcastle



Miss Joan Elvin presenting bouquet to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II—
February, 1954 at the Showground

Second only to the thrill of seeing Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth, and the Duke of Edinburgh, was the thrill, for every girl from N.G.H.S., of seeing the School Captain, Joan Elvin, present the bouquet to Her Majesty. Excitement mounted as the Duke obviously asked Joan where her schoolmates were standing and she turned to point in their direction.

Boys' High, too, felt that it had a special link with the visit of Her Majesty. Two Old Boys were closely associated with her party throughout the whole time she was in Australia. Wing-Commander Cornish, a former Captain of the school, was Captain of the Queen's Flight, and personally piloted her plane on nearly all its flights. He was one of the last to be bidden good-bye by Her Majesty, when she honoured him with Membership of the Victorian Order. Mr. Oliver Hogue was Press Liaison Officer. He was personally responsible for all news and statements from the Royal party. He, too, was honoured by the Queen just before the end of the tour, when she made him a Commander of the Victorian Order.

In Which We Serve

To present students, references to World War I—and even, indeed, World War II—may seem like echoes of “old, unhappy, far-off things, and battles long ago.” But to those who were in the old school between 1914 and 1918, they will bring back memories of strong patriotic fervour and national unity. The words that Captain Jeffries, V.C., wrote to his father not long before his heroic death deserve to be recorded in this Jubilee Book. He wrote:

“This war, if we win, will be regarded not so much as a sacrifice as a triumph, and the races yet unborn will in years to come be inspired by the feeling that they are descendants of a race of people who, in the darkest hour of this world’s history, saw fit to go forth and die in order that the great principles of equity might remain unchanged. We can hope, if success attends our arms, we will be able to live in the future untrammelled and unfettered by the menace of militarism—that the nations will be allowed to work out their own destiny—that the supreme result will be, men will be drawn nearer to one another, nearer to God, and better understood.”

Extracts from a letter sent by another “old boy,” Douglas B. Fraser, now a prominent Sydney solicitor, are also interesting:

“After short stays at Suez, Port Said and Lemnos, we came on to our advanced base for our final tuning-up, well within sound of our battleships’ guns at the Peninsula. On the morning of the 7th August, in the grey dawn, we were right on the spot, at Suvla Bay, where the great new landing was in progress. I doubt if you have read any details of this landing as it was carried out almost wholly by Imperial troops, we being the only Colonials at Suvla Bay, but I can assure you that some of the examples of pure British pluck and doggedness made me feel proud of being a Britisher. Many a mother lost a son during those few days of desperate fighting. Some of the sights were grand, others pitiful, but the courage of the wounded is great to see . . . The news we are receiving of the great recruiting boom in Australia is fine. I sincerely hope that your next “Novocastrian” will need a supplement for the names of additional pupils and ex-pupils who have decided to serve their King and Country at the front.”

Do You Remember?

End of the War

One of the happiest days at N.G.H.S. was 15th August, 1945, when all the bells in Newcastle rang to announce the end of the war. Every class broke into wild cheering before being taken to the Hall for thanksgiving. Tears of joy relieved the tension for some girls and staff; others wept for their own loss. To still the tumult before the short addresses, the Assembly sang “God Save the King,” “There’ll Always Be An England,” and “Recessional,” and, after the service, dispersed.

Miss I. PARADISE

Shark Heroes

Old Boys have played a very prominent part in the various lifesaving clubs and have, of course, been associated with thousands of rescues over the years. Two of them, R. Trew and A. Linich, figured in very heroic attempted rescues of shark victims. Reg. Trew received the greatest honour that rewards such heroism, the gold medal of Lloyds of London.

Extension of Secondary Education 1906

(By F. S. TYLER)

Over fifty years have elapsed since Mr. Peter Board, M.A., returned from his epoch-making visit to Europe, a visit during which he investigated secondary education, and after which he formulated a new scheme for New South Wales. His scheme was adopted by the government, and soon, as in Newcastle in 1906, High Schools were to be found in many towns throughout the State.

During that year another far-reaching change was effected in our education system, as a result of which students intending to enter the teaching profession no longer started as pupil-teachers, but commenced a secondary course as probationary students. If, after a two years’ course, they won full or half-scholarships at the new Teachers’ Training College in Sydney, they were granted courses at the termination of which they could gain Teachers’ Certificates.

Among those who in the earliest days of Newcastle High became teachers under such conditions one can recall such names as Duncan M. Smith, M.A., later Inspector of Schools, Dorothy Henson, ex-Headmistress of Newcastle Home Science High School, Madge Henson, B.A., ex-Headmistress of Newcastle Girls’ High School, John Collins, B.A., ex-Headmaster of Wollongong High School, Herb. Musgrave, ex-Headmaster of Hurstville Secondary Technical School, and V. Cummings, B.A. The writer retired from the Headmastership of Wollongong Public School in 1951.

Happy Memories

Writing about some of her experiences at Newcastle High School in 1908, Dr. Helen Braye states:

“The teachers were Mr. C. R. Smith, Headmaster, with Mr. C. Christmas and Miss Cole. Later, Mlle. Josephine Niau and Mr. Hayes joined the staff.

“We had no library, no sports afternoon, and no amenities, but we did have delightful teachers. Looking back, I think how lucky we were—I never remember being bored at school—every lesson was interesting. I think we worked longer hours than present-day scholars and in the senior year we all voluntarily stayed back in school for an extra hour each day. In addition there was homework of course and this meant working till 11 p.m. and rising at 5 a.m. to work on special subjects. Our masters never seemed to be irritable and the classes were always happy.

“Although we had no decent playground and no organised sport there was ‘one joy on us bestowed’—daily we saw the lovely sailing ships coming in and out of the harbour or tied up there. From Church Street it looked almost as if, by leaning over, we could touch the masts.

“We of the older generation of the school on the Hill can never forget the exciting beauty of the slender ships sailing away.”

Do You Recall?

The singing of “Come into the Garden, Maud” by Mr. H——, in full evening dress, at Speech Night 1921.

“Digger” Fraser’s little joke that somewhere in France was a street called “Roo de Kanga.”

From Forty Years On

The surprising thing is not that we remember so much of our schooldays but that everyone recalls different happenings.

The war years coloured my period at Newcastle High School—1915-1919. We were to see many of our teachers and senior stalwarts leave for the front, some to be killed in action.

From the beginning of October to the end of March, I rose at 5.30 each morning to get to school on time. I walked nearly two miles before catching a bus from Raymond Terrace to Hexham, then the train to Newcastle. At the end of this there was the Hill to climb, and the bell was always on time. One dear old lady was very concerned about this daily trip to school, and wanted to know where I got a cup of tea when I arrived.

I wonder if Jimmy Hayes knew how often I had ten minutes sleep, with my head propped between my hands, during his history period after lunch?

We travelled at times through fire and flood to get to Hexham, and on one occasion our bus slid down the punt approach into the river, after the punt had left the shore. The culminating point of our daily journey was the climb up Perkin Street, and we paused quite often to look behind us at the changing scene.

One morning, in 1915, the Hustlers' had a bargain sale of Gladstone collars, very wide in the peak, very high in the neck. As they were selling at about a penny a dozen, a number of high school boys bought several lots each and distributed them among the others. With wide pussy bows made from the girls' hair ribbons or their own ties, and the black Alpaca coats then in fashion, the tout ensemble was very striking. It is not very often that mere boys can contribute in such a manner to the gaiety of nations.

The school took part in various Belgian and France's Day Appeals, and, on one such occasion, Doris Cox and I paraded Hunter Street in Red Indian head-dress selling samples and recipes of a Canadian war cake, reputed to be both butterless and eggless. We sold one recipe to Mr. John Brown outside his house in Hunter Street.

When the French troops from New Caledonia passed through Newcastle, the school assembled to converse with the men in front of the Post Office. Once, when a French sailing ship berthed at King's wharf, the Intermediate French classes were taken on board to practise their French with the crew, which included a very attractive cabin boy named Maurice. We were intrigued with the cleanliness of three pink and white pigs in very trim deck quarters. The next afternoon, while we were waiting for the 5.5. train, some of the girls, in all innocence, went across to the ship again to interview Maurice and collect autographs. You can imagine the nature of the lecture our headmaster delivered next day when we visited the office, by request.

The anti-cription campaign was fought with great vigour in 2AC, although Albert McCann stood manfully alone for the "No's". Jimmy Purcell did some wonderful blackboard caricatures of Kaiser Bill and Crown Prince Willie, and the piano-playing technique of Jim Cassidy was greatly enjoyed on rainy days. Jim Purcell was saved from an untimely death by sliding along a form to speak to Albert McCann just before a long glass windowpane fell in pieces on the seat beside him.

Among those who brightened school life for us were our players and singers. Who could forget Danny Blakemore's "ruby lips and cherry nose" as Thisbe? Dora Toll and Lorna Keene, John Dick and Eric Solomon enjoyed playing their parts as much as we did watching them.

The school quartette, which consisted of the Headmaster Mr. Williams, Miss Whiteoak, Lemmie James and Mollie Ross, won our whole-hearted approval singing "Home to Our Mountains" and "The Kerry Dance." When Mr. Williams left us, he sang "How Can I Leave Thee?" very feelingly.

After forty years, the voices of Jack Donald and Alec Ostringa still echo in the well-remembered lines of Sheridan's "Critic," heard on the wireless a year or two ago. How the phrases sparkle!

An exciting departure from normal routine occurred on the day that the very first aeroplane was to arrive at Newcastle. During scripture period, when the ministers were in charge of their classes, the headmaster put his head in through the window opening and shouted excitedly "He's coming!" Without waiting for further orders the scripture classes tore out into the playground, and teachers, ministers and children streamed across to the nearest vantage point—the top of the reservoir. But we waited in vain. No small speck appeared in the sky that day.

The highlights of the war years were the 1917 railway strike and the influenza epidemic. When the strike began, volunteers were called to man the trains, and some of our heftiest members responded nobly. We were very impressed by the polish and decorations on the engines serviced by them. The rest of us had up to three weeks' holiday.

During the 'flu epidemic we were forced to wear thick gauze masks over nose and mouth whilst at school and on the trains. Some were more comical than useful, and a class must have presented a strange sight to the teacher. When we arrived at school, we were sprayed with some special disinfectant in the lab. by Kem Yee, one of our ex-students doing Medicine.

My sole claim to distinction lies in the fact that I was the only girl with short hair until Dora Toll had hers cut after an illness. This was a year or two before the craze for bobbed hair reached us from America.

There are several questions I would like to have answered. Do the small classes still sit in hat-rooms or on forms in the playground? Do the ventilators on the roof still moan and shriek like the proverbial banshee on windy days? And do men with black hair always grow red moustaches like "Johnny" Gibson and "Jimmy" Hayes?

There is so much to remember.

Mrs. C. WALKER, nee Grace Dawson.

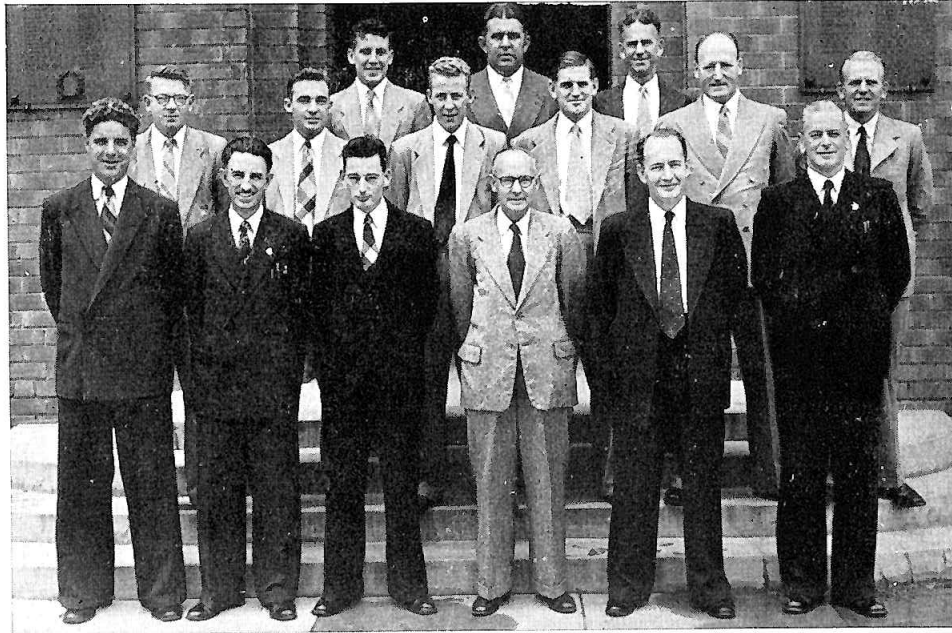
Unusual Achievements

Only three people have the distinction of having been both Captain and Dux of the school. They are R. Cochrane, who was Deputy Headmaster of Boys' High last year and is now Headmaster of Singleton High, Reverend T. Kitley, who is Chaplain of The Armidale School, and Joan Moore, M.A. (now Mrs. Rule).

The Meikle prize is awarded annually to the Dux of both Girls' and Boys' High but it can only be won by the same person once. D. Barnes repeated in 1952 and became Dux for the second year in succession. The prize in 1952 was therefore awarded to the runner-up, Trefor Morgan, who thus became the only holder of the Meikle prize who was not Dux of N.B.H.S.

Three Flanagan brothers have a unique record. Jack, Fred and Dick all won Intermediate bursaries, and all became chemists, the third one passing his finals this year.

MEMBERS OF STAFF, 1956 — FORMER STUDENTS



Front Row: Messrs. ANDERBERG, JAMES, MUDFORD, GRAY, GRIERSON, WATERS.
 Second Row: Messrs. OSBORNE, QUILL, MURPHY, DAVIS, McRAE, PERCY.
 Back Row: Messrs. MILNE, HUNTER, GOFFET.



Back Row: Miss NICHOLSON, Mrs. TOMS, Mr. FLOWERS, Miss MORRISS, Miss SCOBIE.
 Front Row: Mrs. CASTLEDEN, Miss McKENNA, Mrs. McFARLANE, Mrs. BROWN,
 Mrs. FAIRLEY, Mrs. WHILEY.

NEWCASTLE GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL

Drama in the School 1930 - 1956

No study of the drama is complete without participation in performance of some kind, either as actor or as audience.

A review of Newcastle Girls' High School's record of dramatic work shows a wide and comprehensive application of this principle, from improvisations in the class-room to well rehearsed and finished productions of full length drama on the stage.

A Dramatic Society was formed in 1930, the year the school opened, and ever since, dramatic production has been part of the school's history, even though there has not always been an official dramatic club. Every form of dramatic activity has been represented in that history. Presentations have taken the form of class plays, school play days, which in latter years have extended over two days, lunch-hour concerts and public performances, both day and night for parents, friends and the public generally. In addition, as part of their training, the girls have been taken to local and Sydney theatres to see professional performances of great plays.

Almost every dramatic form has been studied and produced. The plays here named are chosen in illustration and do not represent the full programme attempted.

As an example of morality plays, "Punch and Judy" of perennial attraction was produced for Drama Week of 1945 and the 15th century morality "The World and the Child" was produced in 1951.

In 1932 "Sharing the Cake," a pageant vividly portraying the evils of war, was performed, followed by other pageants—"The League of Nations" in 1933 and "Education and Travel" in 1938.

Period plays are typified in "Quality Street," 1930, the first full length play produced by the school, and "The Spinsters of Lushe" in 1950.

The comedy is always popular. The first production of the Dramatic Club in 1930 was "Between the Soup and the Savoury." A three-act play, "The Rising Generation," in 1931 brought fame to the school and was later repeated. Another comedy was "Mr. Pim Passes By" in 1935.

Numerous one-act plays have also been performed.

As an example of the comedy of manners, Fourth year girls in 1934 produced "The Rivals."

"The Rehearsal" in 1945, "Old Moore's Almanac," 1945, and "The Spartan Girl" in 1950 were examples of the farce and burlesque.

The mime, "The Tall, Tall Castle," was performed in 1948 at a P. & C. concert and repeated for the children of the Deaf and Dumb Institute at Waratah. Another mime produced was the "The Letter Box." "Fairy Blessing," a verse play, was produced in 1945 and, for the Drama Festival of 1949 came "Pandora's Box."

The radio play has also had its place. From 1945 to 1951 the school took part in the annual school broadcast from Station 2KO Newcastle. Plays adapted for radio were played and read. These included "The Cloak" in 1945 and "X=O" in 1951. During 1950 an exhibition of television and its possibilities was held at the City Hall, and for this the girls of the High School again prepared and presented the verse-mime "Pandora's Box."

The school now owns a tape recorder, the gift of the P. & C., and the Fifth year girls of 1955 have recorded a reading of Douglas Stewart's radio play "The Fire on the Snow."