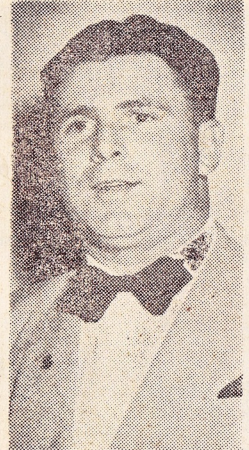


Ex-Students' Union Almost As Old As School

IT ALL BEGAN OVER COFFEE



Miss Mary Cleary.



Mr. A. W. Hannaford.

A school's traditions are built on its past associations and achievements, and an ex-students' body is usually the link between past and present. This has been the case with Newcastle High School almost from its establishment.

The first step towards a reunion of "High" ex-students was taken by Alick Chalmers, of Wallend, in 1910 and the first group to meet with the object of forming a permanent club had coffee together at a Perkin-st. cafe one Saturday afternoon.

BUT the arduous work of pupil-teaching and the long hours of public servants allowed little time for social gatherings. Also the earliest students, those with the Maitland background, were very soon scattered over N.S.W., at schools or Land Offices. Soon came the 1914-1918 War and a cessation of such festivities. Afterwards there were many gaps. In 1924, two ex-students

were on the staff of Cook's Hill Intermediate High School. One was the late Vince Walker, who also taught at Waratah. They and Mr. A. Osborne formed the Ex-Students' Union for that school. This was highly successful and many big functions were held. There was a club-room, a mothers' auxiliary to help

with dances and other functions. Partly because of the success of Cook's Hill, the N.H.S. ex-students formed a union in 1926 and this was still effective when the schools separated. Prizes, brooches, badges and other gifts were made to both schools. Active members were Mrs. M. Hughes, Miss M. Mulvey, Messrs. Tom

Hughes and Dr. Basil Helmore. World War II caused a break in interest, as naturally members were busy in other ways. However, one ex-student, Miss Midge Henson, who was Principal of N.G.H.S., suggested to the school's historical society that it commemorate the fifteenth year of the school's life by inviting ex-students to a party with the object of forming a union. Membership varied from 60-90 and a fee of 2s was paid. There were

invited to join in debates and plays and this inspired them to form a union for themselves. Miss S. Payne re-formed the almost defunct ex-students' union of Girls' High and added ex-students from The Hill. This was in 1953, and is the present live association. The aim of the present Newcastle Girls' High School Ex-Students' Union is to provide means of social intercourse between ex-students and to foster and preserve the school tradition, while maintaining an interest in its progress and activities.

The 1956 president is Miss Mary Cleary, who has always had very close associations with the school. The Old Boys' Union, reorganised a few years ago, is now flourishing with social activities, including an annual ball, golf days, and barbecues. Mr. A. W. Hannaford is president of the union this year.

Former Students In Royal Party

Two former students from Newcastle Boys' High travelled Australia in the Royal party during the Queen's visit.

A former captain of the school, Wing-Commander J. Cornish, A.F.C., was captain of the Queen's Flight and personally piloted

her plane on nearly every flight. She honored him with the M.V.O. Mr. Oliver Hogue, another former student, was

Press Liaison Officer. He was personally responsible for all news and statements from the Royal party. Before the end of the tour Queen Elizabeth



dances, parties and music at private homes, play-reading, entertainment of examinees and a start was made to endow a scholarship. Ray Gubbay was the first secretary.

Senior boys and ex-students of N.B.H.S. were in-

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.

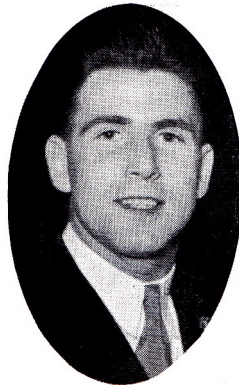
At functions arranged by the Ex-students' Union there is always a very happy atmosphere when reminiscences are exchanged and pleasure is expressed at the continued success of the school and its students.

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.