

# Newcastle Boys' High School Old Boys' Association Incorporated

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT – 2024

I hope that the past year has been an easy one for you all and you and your families are in good health. No doubt we are all affected in some way by increases in the cost of living but I trust none are suffering unduly from it.

Please be sure you note the change in venue and time for this Year's event. We have also had to change from the second Saturday in August to the third Saturday due to the unavailability of the event room at South's Leagues Club on our preferred date. It would appear that if we stay with this venue and time this date change will be permanent.

As always, my thanks to all the Committee members for their hard work during the last year. I would especially mention Greg Kentish for the tremendous amount of work he has done on the Old Boy's website. The site now includes a list of all who served in the armed forces. It really is a very good source of information about the original NHS, NBHS, NGHS and as well as Old Boys activities.

We continue to push for email contact with members to reduce our costs and for easier maintenance of records. Hence no paper copies of the dinner invitation and reports are being sent by mail to any non-financial members. Where an email address is available, we will continue to send the annual documentation to them by this method but we cannot put any effort into locating them if the emails bounce. The documents will always be available on our website. Please ensure we have your current email address and that it is kept up to date whether you are financial or not.

The guest speaker last year, Associate Professor Ross Kerridge, was by all reports well received and suitably entertaining. This year's speaker from the Year of '74 has also had a very interesting life since finishing his HSC at Boys High and promises to be just as entertaining.

A reminder call again for any members who have items which may be of historical significance, including photos and magazines, please contact Dick Sanders at [dicksanders@optusnet.com.au](mailto:dicksanders@optusnet.com.au) with a view to either providing them to the OBA or at least having their whereabouts noted. The cataloguing of memorabilia at Newcastle Library is continuing and a significant amount has been completed. We would appreciate members assistance to provide missing names on Class photos, additional Staff or Group photos, as well as any relevant memorabilia (e.g. programs for Sports' Days, Speech Nights Plays etc). Our webmaster, Greg Kentish, is also constantly updating our website and all of the Novocastrian Magazines that were produced are available there. In fact, this is a very good site for anybody interested in events and stories etc related to the School.

We have added more obituaries of deceased Old Boys to our website which are quite interesting. If you know of anyone whose family would not mind having theirs added please forward them to our webmaster to [gkentish@gmail.com](mailto:gkentish@gmail.com).

Our financial Membership has decreased slightly to 952 due to the passing of Old Boys. However, there is still a significant number of non-financial members and we would appreciate their renewing their commitment to the Association. We are still hoping that some "champions" will come forward for each year to encourage attendance at the dinners and/or to obtain memorabilia. If there are it would be appreciated if they could make themselves known to me during the night of the Dinner.

We get nearer to the time when there will be no further years to draw membership, or year specific Guest Speakers, from when the Year of '78 is reached in 4 years. It is therefore important that we look to increasing our membership from the 'younger brigade' of former students and we seek your assistance in this regard.

A lack of other commitments meant that I was able to attend the School Presentations, in tandem with John Beach at Waratah High, last year. It is always interesting hearing about the achievements of many of the students we award prizes to. We have reinstated a prize at Newcastle East primary school as recorded below. The prize recipients were:

<i>Newcastle High School -</i>	
Roy Davis Prize for School Community Achievement \$200	Lachlan Burns
Lewis Keys Bursary \$1000	George Allman
Keys Family Prize for Best Science Student Year 10 \$200	Rodrigo Raya
Dr Allen Knott Scholarship \$1000	Annika
Sommer	
Margaret Howard Bursary \$1000	Alexander Walker
Caesar Smith Prize for Creative Writing (Junior) \$200	Poppy Fenning
Caesar Smith Prize for Creative Writing (Senior) \$200	Kite Stephen
OBA President's Prize for Legal Studies \$200	Ruby Crane
Colin Keys Dux of the School(2022) \$1000	Lara White
<i>Waratah Campus of Callaghan College -</i>	
F.H. Beard Prize for School Community Achievement \$200	Zanetta Hanwright
Brian Donegan Prize for Most Improved Mathematics Student Yr 7 \$100	Oliver Diamond
Brian Donegan Prize for Most Improved Mathematics Student Yr 8 \$100	Charlotte Smith
Brian Donegan Prize for Most Improved Mathematics Student Yr 9 \$100	Noah Rounce
Brian Donegan Prize for Most Improved Mathematics Student Yr 10 \$100	Mee Lee
Charles Goffet Prize for Creative Writing Yr 7 \$50	Peter Geluk
Charles Goffet Prize for Creative Writing Yr 8 \$50	Zoe Andrean
Charles Goffet Prize for Creative Writing Yr 9 \$50	Anne Christina
Charles Goffet Prize for Creative Writing Yr 10 \$50	Baseera Khalil
Keys Family Prize for Best Mathematics Student Yr 10 \$100	Daniel Nikic
Dr David Stewart Scholarship \$500	Jemima Kellett
<i>Newcastle East Public School</i>	
Dux of School \$100	Sachin Kana

A note on the prizes above. As we sadly lost a major prize donor with the passing of Old Boy Professor Lewis Keys, and our funds are dwindling as more members unfortunately also pass, we are regularly reviewing the value of them. Your donations largely go to this part of the reason for our existence so we are always grateful for any you make. We would also be very grateful for any bequests you may wish to leave in your Wills no matter how small.

The Committee extends its sincere condolences to the family and friends of Old Boys who have passed away since our last Dinner. We are always appreciative of any information you can pass on about any of your cohorts that have passed away so we can keep our records up to date. It can be distressful for the families if we unknowingly attempt to contact a deceased member about the dinners. Please supply our Membership Officer, Greg Wilson via email to [gawilson@bigpond.com](mailto:gawilson@bigpond.com) with any information.

Please attend the AGM if possible and note it will be held in the Fredman Hall below the Newcastle Synagogue, 122 Tyrrell St, Newcastle. We would more than welcome some new blood.

I wish all of our members good health for the remainder of 2024 and on.

Remis Velisque  
Norm Rodgers (President)

1 May, 2024

**Newcastle Boys' High School, Old Boys' Association, Incorporated.**

([www.nbhsoba.net](http://www.nbhsoba.net))

(PO Box 727, The JUNCTION, 2291)

**Notice of Annual General Meeting**

**To be held in the Fredman Hall, below the Newcastle Synagogue, 122 Tyrrell Street, Newcastle.**

**Thursday, 20th June 2024, at 5:00 p.m.**

You are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting of the Old Boys Association at the time, date and place shown above and your attendance would be most welcome.

All Committee positions will be declared vacant on the night. The positions to be filled are:

President	Vice President	Treasurer/Public Officer	Secretary
Publicity Officer	Ordinary Committee Members (7 positions including Webmaster)		

Should you wish to nominate for a position please complete your name, contact details and the position you are nominating for in the space below and return this form to the Post Office box above by 10 June 2024.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Years of Attendance at NBHS \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Details: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Position nominated for: \_\_\_\_\_

**Agenda for the Annual General Meeting**

- |  |                                      |                      |                                     |
|--|--------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>1 Present</b>   | <b>2 Welcome from the President.</b> | <b>3 School Song</b> | <b>4 Apologies.</b>                 |
| <b>5 Confirmation of the Minutes of the 2023 Annual General Meeting.</b> |                                      |                      |                                     |
| <b>6 Business arising from the Minutes.</b>                              |                                      |                      |                                     |
| <b>7 President's Report.</b>   |                                      |                      |                                     |
| <b>8 Treasurer's Report.</b>   |                                      |                      |                                     |
| <b>9 Election of Committee 2024 – 2025.</b>                              |                                      |                      |                                     |
| <b>President</b>   | <b>Vice President</b>                | <b>Secretary</b>     | <b>Treasurer and Public Officer</b> |
| <b>Seven Ordinary Committeemen (including Webmaster)</b>                 |                                      |                      |                                     |
| <b>10 Appointment of Honorary Solicitor</b>                              |                                      |                      |                                     |
| <b>11 Expressions of interest in Sub-Committee Membership.</b>           |                                      |                      |                                     |
| <b>Membership</b>  | <b>Historical</b>                    | <b>Education</b>     | <b>Functions</b>                    |
| <b>12 Next Annual General Meeting.</b>                                   |                                      |                      |                                     |

The next Annual General Meeting will be held in a venue to be advised at 5:00 pm on Thursday, 26th June 2025 prior to the normal Committee Meeting.

Norm Rodgers,  
President