NHS 1911 Dux Badge: Thomas Jones

Thomas Gilbert Henry Jones completed his Leaving Certificate at Newcastle High, the "school on The Hill," at the tender age of just sixteen, qualifying for Division One, and went on to a glittering academic career, first at University of Sydney, then at Queensland University. His Dux medallion, pictured, was presented to him by Headmaster Charles Rattray ("Caesar") Smith.

T G H Jones had attended the tiny primary school at Owen's Gap, in the upper Hunter Valley, where his father was the only teacher, and he studied with the support of a bursary. At Sydney, he won the University Medals for both Mathematics and Chemistry, and his career culminated with his appointment as Dean of Science, at UQ. He was a proud defender of the traditions and autonomy of universities, until his death in 1970. Each year at UQ, a Memorial Lecture, on the sciences, is delivered in his honour.

Sincere thanks to Thomas' grandson, who donated this medallion to the NBHS OBA April 2019.