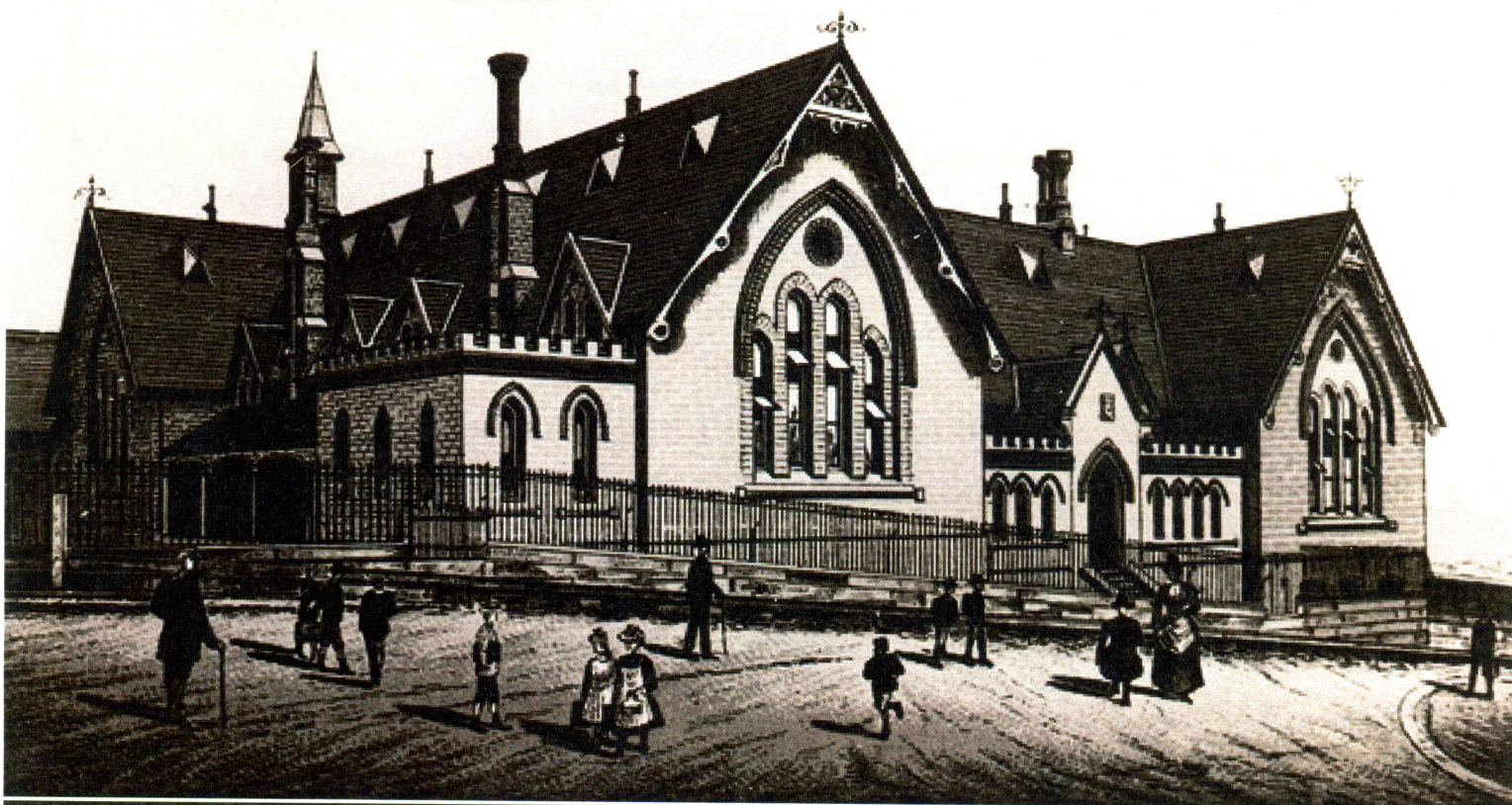


NEWCASTLE EAST
PUBLIC SCHOOL

200
YEARS

1816-2016



A CELEBRATION FOR ALL OF NEWCASTLE!



NEPS 200 Year Anniversary

February 5th, 6th & 7th 2016

Established in 1816, as a school for the children of free settlers and convicts in the Sand Hills district of Newcastle, NEPS is **Australia's oldest school** still operating.

This claim has been tested and proved to be valid, by Professor Eddie Braggett, Professor of Education, University of Sydney, in his Doctoral thesis. NEPS predates the Kings School (Parramatta) by sixteen years, Largs Public School and Sydney Grammar by thirty eighty years.

NEPS has provided an uninterrupted two centuries of service to the children of inner city Newcastle, without reference to the economic circumstances, religion, or ethnicity of students, through war, Depression and natural disasters.

The Bicentennial Celebration will be a national event, attracting wide publicity, and planning for it is well under way.

In 2016 all of Newcastle is invited to join us for a "first for Australia".... A school, celebrating 200 years of continuous education.

To mark 200 years of education, we will be organising a number of events and projects for both the school and the Newcastle community.

We will travel back in time to capture what life was like for the school students and their teacher at the first Newcastle East Public School. The milestone will also be a celebration of the contemporary school and its teachers and pupils.



SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES.

Australia's oldest school turns 200 in February 2016.

To celebrate, and to lend this occasion the significance it deserves, you can help by becoming a friend to the school, or a major sponsor.

Major Events in 2016 include: -

The commissioning of a major sculpture, celebrating the school's ancient bell tower, and its symbolic role of calling the children to lessons.

Creation of a living history of the school, researching and re-creating significant periods in our school's two centuries of history.

A Bicentenary Dinner, bringing together the school's former and current students and staff.

The creation of a NEPS 200 website, featuring on line access to the school's vast collection of archival material, including historic documents, class photos and lists and records, reflecting social and school history.

How can you become involved?

Commemorative Garden Sculpture.

Commemorative sculptures are part of the artistic language of Australia, and are normally figurative works celebrating statesman and explorers.

However, they can reflect upon special events. As an appropriate recognition of the contribution made to education by NEPS over 200 years, it is proposed to erect a memorial structure in the front area of the school, accessible to both the pupils and the general public.

The sculpture will be the subject of a national competition to ensure that its artistic quality matches the educational pedigree of the school. The work will be a twenty first century contribution to the school's evolution, and hopefully a vision for the future.

Nothing illustrates more clearly the egalitarian nature of our country than the opportunity for all to participate in free education.

Competitors are required to evoke this universal education system. And to recognise the efforts made by teachers, parents, government ministers, and pupils.

In days of yore the school bell summoned children to their lessons, and was part of the schools Fabric. AT NEPS it was regally located on the apex of the Gothic roof and it served a role not dissimilar o the town campanile or the church belfry, calling the people to worship or celebration; hence the idea for a memorial sculpture to evoke this spirit, together with the celebration of universal education.

Competitors are encouraged to evoke the spirit of the arcane school belfry.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES.

By becoming a "DUX" level sponsor, you will have naming rights for the National Sculpture Competition.

Donation \$10000

The School Album – Bicentenary Celebration of Newcastle East Public School

Most families revere their family album, a treasure trove of memories, reflecting family, friends and special events. A random collection of nostalgia; images of varying quality but nevertheless imbued with meaning and pride. The school album, through images and text, will evoke similar sentiments about the life of the school over two hundred years.

The structure of the school album will be built upon selected pupils from each of the recognised historical educational periods. This equates to approximately fifteen periods, such as the Convict Period (the so-called “dame schools”)1810 to 1830, the Great Depression 1930 to 1939, and the Karmel Report period 1972 to 1984. It is envisaged that four pupils would be selected from each period, and due to the diversity of social structure of Newcastle East, the portrait of the pupils would reflect this heterogeneity. A combination of socio-economic factors, combined with the educational streams, promises to produce a distinctive portrait of “a school”.

By way of example, the Great Depression will include a pupil whose father was a cobbler, the family living above the humble shop; another’s father was a sign-writer working for Newcastle Council, his family living in Bolton Street next to the Grand Hotel.

Families range from sea-men to judges. Homes vary from small apartments, terrace homes to substantial mansions.

The assembly of the material, and its presentation, will be carried out by a creative team, which includes Allan Chawner (art photographer) and John Ramsland (writer and educator). The final product will be in book form, with the images also forming the basis of an exhibition.

The NEPS School Album will become a permanent record of a special school in a special city.

The Album will be published in both hard copy and digital format.

SPONSORSHIP FOR OUR ALBUM \$20,000.

PLUS: You will be invited to be an important part of the school album. Nominate your own family or another family with a close association of the school and have an exclusive section of the album devoted to them. Family stories, history and photographs will become part of the historical album. You will leave a lasting legacy of your family, proudly in association with Australia’s oldest school.

A copy of the album will be presented to you during the 200 years celebration dinner

Other Sponsorship Opportunities.



Dux Level

\$10000

Naming rights for the National Sculpture Competition.

Honorary School Council Seat.

Advertisement on NEPS 200 website

Newsletter promotion

Honour Board placement in Benson Library

Presentation of Anniversary Medallion

Captain Level

\$2500

Naming rights and speaking role at Bicentennial Diner

Be listed on our honour board as being a 200 year sponsor.

Be listed on our website honour board.

Presentation of Anniversary Medallion.

Vice Captain Level

\$200

Naming rights for dramatised re-enactment of the school's First School assembly 1816.

Be listed on our honour board as being a 200 year sponsor

Be listed on our website honour board.

Prefect Level \$500.

Recognition in Foreword of published school history.

Listed on our honour board.

Friend to NEPS. \$100

Acknowledgement on honour board

And school Newsletter.