



THE TEACHERS' GUILD OF NEW SOUTH WALES

130 YEARS

and

STRONGER THAN EVER

Rick Stevens FTGN

In 2022 The Teachers' Guild of NSW celebrates 130 years of impressive and honourable service, support and training for the teaching profession; always maintaining its foundation aim "to promote in all possible ways, the care of education," strengthening collegiality and standing detached from industrial issues.

Founded in December, 1891 by a group of leading practitioners as a professional association for teachers from all levels and sectors of education, The Guild, over a period of decades, embarked on and maintained a substantial influence on NSW Secondary School Syllabus Committees, produced prestigious journals - *The Australian Teacher* and *Proceedings* - set up the Teachers' Central Registry to assist independent schools to find suitable staff, arranged professionally stimulating meetings, including an annual Dorothy Knox Lecture which attracted high calibre speakers, established The Gurney-Soubeiran Trust to support retired teachers who found themselves in financial difficulties and held an annual ecumenical church service.

Perhaps The Guild's most influential endeavour was the setting up, in 1948, of a Teacher Training Committee to oversee a diploma program to train teachers for the non-government sector. Candidates were engaged as student teachers in schools, learned theory at evening lectures and obtained all their daily practical experience under the supervision of experienced practitioners over what became a three-year apprentice style scheme catering for pre-primary, primary, secondary and specialist teachers. During the 1970s the diploma became a full-time pre-service program within the Guild Teachers' College, later to

amalgamate with the Sydney College of Advanced Education and eventually The Guild Centre within the University of Sydney, which have all now passed into history.

Today, as always, The Guild continues to promote a long-established theme of deep interest in the development and encouragement of educators, providing opportunities for members to network, engage in professional learning and receive recognition through an exciting and prestigious suite of awards.

These awards identify and honour educators for World Teachers' Day, Post Graduate Research Prizes, outstanding Early Career recognition and Honorary Fellowships (HFTGN). In addition to Member postnominals (MTGN), those who have made significant contributions to The Guild may have Life Membership/ Fellowship (FTGN) bestowed.

Several professional learning events are offered throughout the year delivered by highly qualified experts in their field and members gather for an Annual Dinner at which awards are presented and an educator, who has given significant service to the profession, is honoured with the Phyllis Evans Medal. In recent years, the Annual Dinner has attracted over 200 attendees.

As the longest established professional organisation for teachers in Australia, The Guild has had an undeniably crucial influence on the teaching profession in NSW and continues its commitment to the care of education, to stand on the shoulders of past and current members who have helped to shape learning and positively enriched a countless number of students' lives.

The Guild remains very active, emboldening members to always uphold and advocate the motto *Doceo Ut Discam – I Teach That I May Learn*; seeking to be creative by embracing the new while retaining the core values on which it was founded.



Teachers' Guild of New South Wales

Established 1892



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