



THE TEACHERS' GUILD OF NEW SOUTH WALES
ACN 000 011 138 ABN 35 000 011 138

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
FRIDAY 1 MARCH 2013

Present: Noelene Callaghan, Leanne Claringbold, Frances Fleeton, Peter Green, Alan Harper, Irene Holt, Kenson Low, Dr Fred Osman

Apologies: Gwynneth Bowley, Robert Chandler, Jason Cheers, Mark Connellan, Milton Cujes, Melissa Gould-Drakeley, Ed Habkoux, Dr Bill Kneprath, Colin May, Nola Norris, Beverley Paskin, John Rekouniotis, Paul Stenhouse

The meeting was held at Trinity Grammar School and opened at 5:05 pm.

1 Minutes of Annual General Meeting held Friday 2 March 2012

The minutes were accepted and signed as a true and correct record of the Annual General Meeting held in 2012.

2 President's Report

The President spoke to and tabled a full report on the Guild's activities for the year 2012. The Annual Report was received. A copy is appended to these minutes.

3 Financial Accounts and Councillors' Declarations

a Accounts

The Treasurer tabled the Financial Accounts of the Guild in respect of the year ended 31 December 2012. It was noted that the accounts had been prepared as a special purpose financial report in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the accounts. It was resolved that the Guild is a non reporting entity and to the best of the knowledge and belief of the Councillors would remain so in the current financial year. It was resolved that the accounts be and hereby are adopted as tabled.

b Solvency

It was resolved after reviewing the profit and considering the ability of the Guild to realise assets that the Guild would be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

c Councillors' Report

The President tabled the Report of the Councillors and Statement by Councillors in respect of the year ended 31 December 2012. It was resolved that such Councillors' Report and Statement be approved and signed by two Councillors on behalf of the Council.

d Annual Return

It was resolved that the contents of the Annual Return be adopted and that one Councillor sign the declaration certifying that: - the information contained in the Return and any Statement of

Changes to information is correct; - the key financial data shown have been accurately extracted from accounting records in accordance with subsection 289(1); - there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Guild will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

e Altered status of the Guild in relation to ASIC

The Treasurer tabled the following advice from Mr Ian Kennedy on 18 February 2013, for noting:

On 23 July 2012 ASIC changed some rules relating to Financial Reporting Obligations – we were caught up in these changes, to our benefit, and is Section 45B. [sic.] It means that we met the new definitions and we are no longer required to lodge with ASIC a set of financial documents. We are still required to prepare the documents for auditing but not having to lodge the actual documents with ASIC. [sic.] It makes our lives a little easier.

The advice related to the status of the Guild as a “small company limited by guarantee”.

4 Appointment of Accountant and Auditor for 2013

It was resolved to appoint Mr Ian Kennedy of Strathfield Tax as the Guild’s accountant for 2013, and Mr Garry William Day of Harley, Russell & Day of Ashfield NSW, as auditor for the Guild for 2013.

5 Resignation of Councillors

It was regrettably resolved to receive the resignations of Mrs Judith McMurrich and Mrs Deryn Smyth as Councillors.

6 Election of Office-bearers for 2014

An election was held and the following people were elected to the Council:

President	Mrs Frances Fleeton (Education consultant)
Vice President	Dr Frederick Osman (Trinity Grammar School)
Secretary	Mr Alan Harper (Trinity Grammar School)
Treasurer	Mrs Irene Holt
Councillors	Mrs Noelene Callaghan (Rooty Hill High School)
	Mrs Leanne Claringbold (Kambala)
	Mr Mark Connellan (Boston University)
	Mr Peter Green (Trinity Grammar School)
	Dr Bill Kneprath
	Mr Kenson Low (Trinity Grammar School)
	Mr Colin May

The Secretary was requested to complete the ASIC documents required to reflect the change in the officers of the company.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 5:42 pm.

Accepted by 2014 AGM as a true and correct record:

President or Chair of meeting

Date



The Teachers' Guild of New South Wales

Established 1892

Doceo ut discam: I teach, that I may learn

President: Mrs Frances Fleeton
Secretary: Mr Alan Harper
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ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2012

PERSONAL STATEMENT

It is my pleasure to present my report as President of the Teachers' Guild of New South Wales. 2012 was another successful year, due largely to the continued support from a small band in our strong and capable Council, including an outstanding Secretary, Mr Alan Harper and Vice President, Dr Frederick Osman, without whom I could not have performed my role.

I am willing to be elected again to be an office bearer in the new year and I hope that I can continue to count on the support of the members of the Council during the coming year to support the newly elected Office Bearers. It is imperative that other Council members who may be willing be encouraged to consider taking on more significant roles of leadership of the Guild in 2013.

ANNUAL REPORT

In 2012, the Teachers' Guild proudly celebrated its 120th year and continued to make a significant contribution to the professional development of teachers within the Independent sector.

COUNCIL

The Guild is led by its Council. In 2012, the Council comprised

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|-----|------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. | Mrs Leanne Claringbold | Kambala | |
| 2. | Mr Mark Connellan | Boston University | |
| 3. | Miss Amanda Feeney | Nagle Catholic College | |
| 4. | Mrs Frances Fleeton | Arden Anglican School | (President) |
| 5. | Mr Peter Green | Trinity Grammar School | |
| 6. | Mr Alan Harper | Trinity Grammar School | (Secretary) |
| 7. | Mrs Irene Holt | Santa Sabina College | (Treasurer) |
| 8. | Dr William Kneprath | <i>Co-opted from August</i> | |
| 9. | Mr Colin May | Al Sadiq College | |
| 10. | Mrs Judith McMurrich | St Andrews', Marayong | |
| 11. | Dr Frederick Osman | Trinity Grammar School | (Vice-President) |
| 12. | Mrs Deryn Smyth | Presbyterian Ladies College, Sydney | (Vice-President) |

Prior to the AGM, the Guild accepted the resignation from Council from Mrs Kerrie Lesko, as she was unable to assign time to assist the Guild during the year, due to other heavy commitments in her life. At the Annual General Meeting her resignation was ratified. Mrs Lesko will be sorely

missed as her contribution throughout the years of her service has been valued, particularly in her assistance with the shortlisting and interviews for the Early Career Educators' Awards. In August, the Guild co-opted Dr Bill Kneprath back into the Council. At the 2012 AGM, the Guild also accepted the resignations of Mrs Deryn Smyth and Mrs Judith McMurrich. Deryn has been a Council member for many years and the Guild will miss her experience, wisdom, humour, enthusiasm and the early childhood and primary perspective which she ably brought to the Council. Judith has been a Council member for 10 years and will be sorely missed, especially in her role as Editor for the *Proceedings*. She has been instrumental in its production and ensuring the high quality of its publication.

As has been Council's custom in previous years, the Guild resolved to thank Mrs Rosie Stewart from Trinity Grammar School with a gift at Christmas. Mrs Stewart has continued to voluntarily maintain the Guild's website over the last six years and this has allowed us to exhibit our planned professional development opportunities through this forum to a far wider audience.

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

Our Treasurer, Mrs Irene Holt has ably undertaken the management of the Guild's accounts and they have continued to show assets that we can draw upon to enable the Guild to deliver our various programs. The Guild resolved to make no changes to our Accountant Mr Ian Kennedy nor our Auditor, Mr John F Shute for the year.

MEMBERSHIP

While the Guild continues to provide a range of opportunities for educationalists across a broad range of institutions and is strongly supported at these events, our membership is not increasing. Despite engaging in a membership drive by sending flyers to many independent schools from the beginning of the year, advertising the Guild's programmes and outlining what the Guild can offer members while engaging in joint sponsorship with the Australian College of Educators in an effort to attract more members from a wider range of institutions and interests, we have been disappointed with the response. Additionally, our Secretary wrote to each of last year's Award winners inviting them to join Council, with no positive response. We value the continued support of our members and their ability to inform others about the Guild's offerings each year, yet this has not translated into any significant increases in our membership.

In September, at the Annual Awards Dinner, the Guild bestowed on Mr Alan Harper, the current Honorary Secretary of the Guild, the honour of Life Membership, which he humbly accepted. Additionally, in January, as part of the Australia Day Honours Awards, Mr Alan Harper was honoured with a Medal of the Order of Australia for his contributions to education and we congratulate him on this prestigious and well deserved award.

The membership fee for all levels of membership remains the same for 2013. The Guild also resolved that members are entitled to use post-nominals to denote membership of the Guild.

For our functions, incentives were offered for early bird registrations and group registration in an effort to entice more corporate groups attending. The Guild also attracted corporate registration from 6 schools by the end of the year. The Guild continued to communicate more by email to our members to reduce costs and facilitate more effective communication, especially with our younger members. This proved effective and beneficial in bringing the Guild's offerings to more individuals in the educational community.

PROGRAMME FOR THE YEAR

The challenge each year for the Council is to plan a varied programme that provides professionals in Independent schools with a choice of events that reflect current educational issues. Each year the Guild evaluates what changes should be made to our current programmes to further meet the needs of our audience.

In 2012, we planned to offer two professional development seminars during the year. The first of our **Evening Seminars** was held at Trinity Grammar School on Tuesday 27 March and focussed on demystifying HSC Moderation and Scaling. Two outstanding speakers were engaged – Carol Taylor – CEO, of the Office of the BOS who spoke on Moderation of the HSC marks and Professor George Cooney, Consultant to the Universities Admission Centre, who tackled the Scaling Process. This seminar was extremely well supported with over 170 participants attending. The second Evening Seminar was planned with a focus on building leadership potential and managing staff. This was held on a date close to International Teachers' Day - Wednesday 24 October, at the same venue. The seminar was interactive and motivating, delivered by Mr Guy Williams from the Training Guys, who specialises in Human Resource topics and workshops. The attendance was deliberately limited to a smaller group to enable participants to interact together in small group settings throughout the presentation. For each seminar, dinner afterwards was provided as an option which was undertaken by a good number on each occasion. I would like to offer my thanks to the Conference Convenor, Dr Frederick Osman, who worked tirelessly, to ensure the seminars were a success.

The **Survival Guide to Teachers New to Independent Schools** continues to fulfil a niche for teachers new to independent schools. It was held on Monday 27 February at Trinity Grammar School. While many schools and other professional organisations offer related programs, the Guild's sessions have a specific focus on teachers who have recently accepted positions in independent schools and have little experience of the demands this may entail. Numbers were greatly increased from the previous year, numbering over 40, and due largely to the Guild being able to direct the flyer to PD staff in schools and holding the event much earlier in the year. We are grateful that we have been able to call upon presenters within the Council and within our membership who can offer their expertise to those new to independent schools.

On Monday 23 July, the Guild presented the **Annual Poster Presentation Lecture Evening (APPLE)** at Trinity Grammar School. The format gave presenters a chance to present their work to colleagues in the audience, allowed reflection about this research and provided the means for all who attended to liaise and confer about the work being presented. The Guild wishes to acknowledge the judging panel convened by Mrs Michele Hanwell-Short (Meriden School) and ably assisted by Dr Norman McCulla (Macquarie University), Ms Erin Mackenzie (Meriden School, Winner, 2011) and Mr Stuart Braga (Retired) who willingly gave of their time and expertise to assess the presentations on the evening. The evening was highly successful with five different research presentations being submitted for consideration. The Guild was privileged to have sponsorship from the Coop Bookshop. We owe a debt to Dr Osman for his organisation and time in developing this event and providing an excellent opportunity for new research to be demonstrated to peers for review and recognition. Dr Osman received very positive and helpful feedback subsequent to the event which will inform future planning.

The **Annual Guild Awards Dinner** was held on Saturday 1 September and was hosted by Trinity Grammar School once again. In 2012, the Awards evening honoured Mr Richard (Rick) Stevens. Rick Stevens is a graduate of the former Guild Teachers' College, and has therefore been associated with the Teachers' Guild of New South Wales throughout his professional life. His teaching career was spent at Sydney Grammar School Preparatory School (St Ives), where he

served from 1968 until his retirement in 2002. For nineteen of those years, Rick was Deputy Headmaster, as well as co-ordinating Mathematics. He is the author of a number of Mathematics textbooks. Rick has always been a committed professional, actively participating in a wide range of professional associations. He is a Life Member of the Australian College of Educators and of the Teachers' Guild, in which he served as a Councillor, newsletter editor, Honorary Secretary and Vice President. Since 1992, he has served on the Council of Loquat Valley Anglican Preparatory School, and has chaired the Council since 1996. He is a Fellow of the College of Teachers, London, and of the Royal Geographic Society, London, and an Associate Fellow of the Australian Council for Educational Leadership. Most recently, he has undertaken to collate the Guild's historical records. Those who encounter Rick professionally know him to be an energetic, generous and encouraging colleague, who gives far more than he could possibly gain from his various associations. His enthusiastic embrace of and support for new enterprises is both encouraging and inspirational. Rick is the model of a lifelong professional, for whom "retirement" is a word without meaning, and who continues to give generously of himself to education.

Prior to the Awards evening, a number of applications for each of the awards presented, had been thoroughly screened and interviews had been undertaken to determine the awardees. I wish to express my sincere thanks on behalf of the Teachers' Guild to all the people who generously gave of their time to ensure these processes were undertaken. The Junior Division winner was Olivia Peach from International Grammar School and the Senior Division winner was Erin Vassarotti from De la Salle Catholic College, Caringbah. The Guild takes pride in its ability to acknowledge the skills these early teachers have developed and wish them every success in the future.

The Guild must also acknowledge Mr Milton Cujes, Headmaster of Trinity Grammar School, for his ongoing generosity and willingness to provide Trinity Grammar School for many of the Guild's programmes this year. This is greatly appreciated.

Once again, the Teachers' Guild was supported by the University of Sydney's Master of Teaching programme in selecting a suitable candidate to award a scholarship in recognition of the high level of teacher training the University of Sydney provides. Unfortunately, the selected candidate had to withdraw from the University programme and hence was ineligible for the Guild Scholarship. Therefore, the Scholarship was not awarded in 2012.

The Research Award was presented to Noelene Callaghan of Macquarie University, whose research was entitled "*Investigating Interactions in a Student-Directed Social Networking Learning Environment*". The Guild also commends highly, Nola Norris of the University of Wollongong for her research : "*Neuroscience, Aspergers and Twice-Exceptionality : Teacher Professional Development needed !*" and Clint Sheehan from the Australian Catholic University, whose research was entitled "*Intersection : Factors affecting the formation of e-learning pedagogy by early career teachers in the History classroom*" was the recipient of the Encouragement Award.

Since last year's successful visit to the Australian Maritime Museum, the Guild resolved to continue to explore this type of event. I am indebted to Dr Fred Osman for his tireless efforts in negotiating an afterhours **visit to the Powerhouse Museum** which took place on Monday 12 November. This event was highly successful with over 20 participants, many of whom also chose to proceed to share dinner together at Darling Harbour.

As the year drew to a close, the final function was our annual **Christmas Celebration**, held on December 16. All Councillors were invited to the President's home to celebrate another successful year with good food and excellent company as they cruised the Georges River.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE TEACHERS' GUILD OF NSW

The *Proceedings* was collated throughout the year and has been the sole responsibility of Mrs Judith McMurrich. She has worked diligently to modify and prepare material for this publication which will be released early in 2013. I would like to thank Mrs McMurrich for her tireless efforts in the production of this publication, and also to acknowledge the efforts of Mrs Deryn Smyth who has spent time proof reading the documents prior to publishing.

NEW VENTURES

Dr Frederick Osman has developed a Survey which will be circulated to members early in the new year seeking information that will inform the Council in its planning activities for the future. It is hoped that the information that is provided will direct and fulfil the needs of our membership better as we continue to create opportunities where people from all levels of education can be empowered, stimulated, informed and feel valued.

As another year of challenges and change begins to become a reality, and as the Australian Curriculum becomes a greater reality for us working in schools, the Teachers' Guild must keep in touch with current issues if we are to remain in the forefront of professional associations. That is our charter and we endeavour to deliver to our membership.

“Technology is just a tool. In terms of getting the kids working together and motivating them, the teacher is the most important.”

Bill Gates

FRANCES FLEETON
President