

RODNEY BRUNT, TEACHER OF PLUMBING, GYMEA COLLEGE OF TAFE

Career

I have been in the plumbing industry for 40 years. As a top student at Newcastle TAFE two years in a row I built the foundations for acquiring high quality workmanship, skill and knowledge. My employer, John Lysaghts, acknowledged my ability by placing me in the product research and development section where I gained skills and knowledge in materials, and design and testing. After completion of my apprenticeship I moved into commercial and domestic plumbing industry to broaden my skills and experience. My employers soon gave me the challenging tasks and specialized projects.

After a number of years running my own plumbing business, in 1978 I took on the job of teaching. In 25 years many hundreds of plumbing apprentices have learned their trade from me. A love of design saw me return to industry in 1989 and 1991 when I worked as a Senior Hydraulics Design Consultant. I still do the occasional consulting project but my main focus is teaching and resource development involving drawings and designs to be used by the Plumbing students throughout state.

Personal highs

- Working as a hydraulics consultant providing design solutions to clients.
- Designing and constructing the Studor test rig and liaising with members of WS14 committee.
- Producing the drawings for the Trade waste text book authored by John Tessoriro.
- Producing drawing packages and lesson materials used throughout the State
- Prepared details drawings use by competitors and Instructor for plumbing at Workskills Australia
- Examiner of plumbing

Specialised knowledge

Roof plumbing, sanitary and drainage design, hot and cold water design, fire hydrant and hose reel services design, gas services design, CAD packages.

Future directions

Maintaining knowledge base and developing resources that further extend the teaching of plumbing students.

Memberships

The Association of Hydraulic Services Consultants Australia (NSW) Inc.
Institute of Plumbing