

**INQUIRY INTO VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND  
TRAINING IN NEW SOUTH WALES**

**Name:** Mr Vince Vandyke

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## MY TAFE STORY

1951 OBTAINED INTERMEDIATE CERTIFICATE  
AT MANLY BOYS HIGH SCHOOL.  
I HAD 2 CHOICES: GO ON TO LEAVING CERTIFICATE  
OR  
PRE-APPRENTICESHIP COURSE.

1952 ENROLLED IN PRE-APPRENTICESHIP  
FITTING AND MACHINING.  
A 12 MONTH COURSE HELD AT NORTH SYDNEY BOYS  
HIGH AND NORTH SYDNEY TECH. COLLEGE-GORE HILL.  
PROGRAMME: MON - N. SYD TECH ALL DAY  
TUES - N. SYD. BOY HIGH - A.M.  
N. SYD TECH - P.M.  
WED - N. SYD BOYS HIGH - A.M.  
- N. SYD BOYS HIGH - P.M. - SCHOOL SPORT.  
THURS - N. SYD BOYS HIGH - A.M.  
- N. SYD TECH - P.M.  
FRI - N. SYD TECH - ALL DAY.

AFTER SPENDING 3 YEARS IN THE METAL TRADE  
I CHANGED TO THE TIMBER INDUSTRY.  
(SOME PEOPLE MAY SAY THAT THE FITTING AND  
MACHINING TRAINING WAS A WASTE. FAR FROM  
IT, THE TOOLROOM EXPERIENCE GAINED WAS  
MOST USEFUL IN GRINDING MOULDING CUTTERS,  
SHARPENING CIRCULARS, CUTTER HEADS ETC.)



1955 I ENROLLED IN THE WOODMACHINING COURSE AT SYDNEY TECHNICAL COLLEGE ULTIMO.

A 5 YEAR COURSE.

1960 I ENROLLED IN THE WOODTURNING COURSE AT S.T.C. ULTIMO, A 3 YEAR TRADE COURSE.

1963 I ENROLLED IN A SUPERVISION COURSE AT SEAFORTH TECH. COLLEGE, A 1 YEAR COURSE.

1967 TAFE ADVERTISED A POSITION OF TEACHER OF WOODMACHINING.

I WAS SUCCESSFUL IN OBTAINING THE POSITION.

CRITERIA: "AT LEAST 5 YEARS INDUSTRIAL

EXPERIENCE IN YOUR TRADE AFTER YOUR APPRENTICESHIP.

• SIT FOR - PRACTICAL TEST.

- THEORY TEST

- TRADE DRAWING

- TRADE MATHS.

IF SUCCESSFUL WITH ALL TESTS.

- INTERVIEW

- MEDICAL.

I STARTED AT SYDNEY TECH SEPT 1967 (SER. NO. 67/1455)

1968 TEACHER TRAINING COURSE IN CONJUNCTION WITH TEACHING DUTIES

1970's I DID A NUMBER OF SUBJECTS OF THE BUILDING CERTIFICATE COURSE.

1978 TRANSFERRED TO GRANVILLE TECH. AS ACTING HEAD TEACHER OF WOODMACHINING.

1979 TRANSFERRED TO NEWCASTLE AS TEACHER OF WOODMACHINING.

1980's I COMPLETED COURSES ON NUMERICAL CONTROL MACHINES WITH THE FITTING AND MACHINING SECTION AT NEWCASTLE TECH.

THIS WAS IN PREPARATION FOR THE

WOODMACHINING SECTION PROGRESSING  
TO THIS MACHINE TECHNOLOGY.

1986 APPOINTED AS HEAD TEACHER OF WOODMACHINING  
AT NEWCASTLE TECH.

1994 RETIRED FROM TAFE.

AS YOU CAN SEE TAFE. HAS BEEN  
A SIGNIFICANT PART OF MY LIFE.

I WAS ABLE TO FURTHER MY  
EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT PROSPECTS VIA  
MANY COURSES IN TAFE.

VINCE VANDYKE