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ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST |
MANILDRA GROUP

Joined the Institute in 1987

“ Work hard, learn from everyone, cooperate professionally as much as possible and never give up!”



Environment Institute
of Australia and
New Zealand Inc.

What was EIANZ like in the early years? Why did you decide to get involved?

I remember finally receiving a multiple readdressed snail mail letter in western NSW outlining the EIA establishment. The reason why I joined EIA was because I could see that it would be important to track the issues, people and the changes to government intra-structure and not be professionally isolated. The Soil Science Society provided a fantastic forum professionally and if the EIA(NZ) did similar then that was worth supporting.

Did you attend the first national conference in 1987? What are your memories of this event and the atmosphere in the profession at the time?

No I didn't attend but read about it in the newsletter to see if I could see people I went through Griffith University with.

Who were/are some of your career mentors? Tell us about them.

My State government colleagues and Research Directors were my first point of contact. Membership of your Brains Trust will expand as your career grows.

What are some of the most important lessons you have learned over the course of your career?

Your best research tool is the telephone. Now the internet has a major role in preliminary sifting of information. Telephone contact and emails are a great way to network.

Celebrating
30
years
1987 - 2017

Thinking about the last 30 years, what stands out to you as the highlight or most significant achievement of the Institute?

Providing a forum for professionals to contribute and report to different levels of government.

What do you think the biggest challenge facing the environment profession is today and what do you think EIANZ's role is in addressing this challenge?

I think the EIANZ has done great.

More exposure with main stream journalism will be the only way to reduce the rubbish science that is so convenient to the popular press and social media outlets.

What do you think EIANZ will be like 10 years from now?

EIANZ will evolve but I'm hoping that it will be more prominent in taking the role as the *mature voice* in environmental issues.

Why has EIANZ membership remained a priority for you over the last 30 years?

Purely the contact with other sections of the environment profession that I am not involved with. You never know what is going to happen.

What advice would you give to new members of the Institute?

Work hard, learn from everyone, cooperate professionally as much as possible and never give up!