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DIRECTOR | ARDENT GROUP
HONORARY LIFE MEMBER
Joined the Institute in 1995

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Environment Institute
of Australia and
New Zealand Inc.

Celebrating
30
years
1987 - 2017

What was EIANZ like in the early years?

When I joined the EIANZ over 20 years ago, it was then and still is today, a friendly, collegiate group. More importantly a group of like-minded people from a very wide range of environmental professions, all seeking good outcomes for the environment.

Thinking about the early years of the Institute and what you set out to achieve, has EIANZ lived up to your expectations?

Yes and no. The energy and enthusiasm of the members and the vast number of those who contribute on the various committees, advisory boards and executive has always amazed me and is epitomises a volunteer organisation.

I am disappointed that we have still not truly developed to the prominent position we should be as a leading professional body. We are yet to properly influence society in matters of the profession as other long-term professional bodies do such as the Australian Medical Association (AMA).

When you reflect on your involvement with EIANZ, what are you most proud of?

Helping to create and initiate the CEnvP, annual merit awards and the STEPs programs. But I am also extremely proud of a few other colleagues' work. Simon Molesworth and Peter Skelton in uniting Australia and New Zealand professionals into one body, and Jon Womersley for restructuring the long overdue governance structures of the EIANZ.

What have you found most rewarding about your involvement with EIANZ?

In addition to the comradeship and the conferences, I am constantly amazed at how much I learnt at every conference from so many members in such a wide array of environmental practices.

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

I would like to think we achieve our position as the preeminent professional body, connecting the profession from tertiary education to professional practice. Where the EIANZ accredits tertiary institutions environmental courses, provides STEPs for graduates and early careers to certification and expands specialist certification to a wide range of environmental practices.

Ultimately, a body that is called upon to lead and discuss environmental management best practice.