

Biographies

Chris Bigham; Operations Officer, Country Fire Authority.

Chris Bigham commenced as an operational firefighter with CFA as a 16-year-old volunteer in rural Victoria (Yarra Valley) in 1981. He has attend many of the fires that have shaped our history: Ash Wednesday, The Dandenong Ranges in the mid 90's, Black Saturday in 2009 and the Hazelwood mine fire. In 1993, he was successful in gaining a career role with CFA as a firefighter and has progressed through the ranks to the rank of Operations Officer. This role which encompasses the Management of Human and Physical resources in combating and controlling Fires and Incidents in an All Hazards, all Agencies Environment.



Fiona Armstrong; Executive Director, Climate & Health Alliance.

Fiona Armstrong's expertise lies in policy, advocacy and communications, particularly in relation to climate change and health. She is the founder and a director of the national coalition of health groups, the Climate and Health Alliance (CAHA) and the architect of the *Framework for a National Strategy on Climate, Health and Well-being for Australia*, released in 2017. She is the lead author of many of CAHA's reports, including *Coal and Health in the Hunter: Lessons from One Valley for the World* and *Our Uncashed Dividend: The Health Benefits of Climate Action*. Fiona is the recipient of the prestigious Tony McMichael Ecology and Environment Award from the Public Health Association of Australia. Fiona is also the co-founder and a director of CLIMARTE: Arts for a Safe Climate, an independent not-for-profit organisation that harnesses the creative power of the arts to inform, engage and inspire action on climate change.



Dr Sue Cook; Glaciologist, Antarctic Climate and Ecosystems Cooperative Research Centre

Dr. Sue Cook is a glaciologist studying the Antarctic ice sheet. Her work investigates how the ice sheet will respond to a changing climate, and how quickly it will contribute to global sea levels. She has performed fieldwork in both the Arctic and the Antarctic, using geophysical equipment to monitor changes in ice sheet thickness. She also uses satellite imagery and computer modelling to advance our understanding of how icebergs form – one of the major unsolved problems in predicting future ice sheet change.



Craig McGrogan; Marine Scientist, Reef HQ Great Barrier Reef Aquarium.

Born in the Bahamas, Craig was introduced to the marine environment at an early age, before completing his schooling and initial tertiary studies (BSc. [Zoology], PGDipSci [Marine Sci.] in NZ. Further post-graduate studies in the UK saw Craig complete his MSc (Behavioural Ecology), before working on phytoplankton at Sherkin Island Marine Station off the coast of Cork, Ireland. His interest in tropical marine ecology brought him to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, after a spell with the Cook Islands Ministry of Marine Resources. Over the last 15 years, Craig has been part of the Education and Interpretation team at Reef HQ Great Barrier Reef Aquarium. Coupled with his love of diving, Craig delights in delivering underwater presentations globally through the aquarium's unique Reef Videoconferencing programme. This internationally recognised programme not only engages with schools and universities, but is often used to promote the Great Barrier Reef and Queensland as a premier tourism destination. If you would like to know more about this programme, email Craig at education@gbrmpa.gov.au



Blair Trewin; Senior Research Climate Scientist, Bureau of Meteorology.

Blair Trewin is a Senior Research Scientist in the Climate Monitoring group at the Bureau of Meteorology. His main areas of expertise are in the development of long-term instrumental data sets to support climate change analyses, including as lead developer of the ACORN-SAT data set used to monitor long-term Australian temperature changes, and in the assessment of extreme events. He is a Lead Author for the forthcoming IPCC Sixth Assessment Report and has led the World Meteorological Organization's global State of the Climate reports for 2016 and 2017. He was President of the Australian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society in 2012-13 and is a Fellow of the Society.

