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Eco librium

Under the dome

High finance in downtown Sydney.



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THE PREMIER ENGINEER

In a previous life Grant Holman, M.AIRAH, won a grand final with Aussie rules club East Perth in the WAFL. These days he's a director with Wood & Grieve Engineers (WGE) and manager of the firm's Melbourne office.

Responsibilities

I manage the Melbourne business for WGE, which has around 90 staff. My role includes project work, client interface, internal management, strategy, mentoring and staff development.

Passions

Creating meaningful careers for our current and future staff. To enable others to experience the career opportunities that I have been fortunate to have been given is a big driver for me.

Finest professional hour

Becoming an owner of WGE in 2005. It was fantastic to know that the other owners of the business valued me and what I had to offer.

Important lessons

Always be prepared to take on a challenge; have a go rather than talk in "what ifs". Your career is your responsibility – be willing to invest in it. Not all businesses suit everyone – find the one that you "fit" with. After that it becomes less work and more fun. It doesn't have to be too serious all the time – have a bit of fun!

Whom do you most admire?

No individual stands out, and I think I have admired many for different reasons. If I was to narrow it down it would probably be my grandfather – so many lessons learnt in my early years and a wonderful person. These are fond memories.

Dream sabbatical

Too many to list. Probably two laps of Australia, one via four wheel drive, the other in a yacht.

Greatest personal achievement

Becoming a father – a never-ending source of happiness – and challenges.



Being part of the 2000 premiership with East Perth in the WAFL – Dad had always barracked for them and I realised the impact my actions can have on the happiness of others.

Favourite book

I'm very interested in Australian war history, so anything related to that by Les Carlyon or Peter Fitzsimmons would probably be top of the list.

Favourite film

Any of the Guy Ritchie classics – *Snatch* or *Lock Stock and Two Smoking Barrels*.

How would you describe yourself?

Hopefully someone who's made the most of their (limited) ability.

Define success

Creating opportunities for others to achieve their goals and seeing their success. Being a good role model and father and seeing my children grow up well-adjusted and capable people who contribute to society.

What does AIRAH membership mean to you?

It's important to be part of and play an active role in the industry in which you work. A strong and vibrant industry needs good representation, and AIRAH offers a great deal to people in our industry. ■

AIRAH BUILT THIS

Grant Holman, M.AIRAH, is part of AIRAH's new membership campaign.

Mechanical engineers, and in particular AIRAH members, are essential members of the teams that deliver Australia's high-performing buildings.

That's the message behind the "AIRAH built this" campaign, which rolled out in last month's *Ecolibrium*.

Look for the advert featuring Grant Holman, M.AIRAH, in a coming issue.