

Ecolibrium

**The art
of smart**
Buildings that think and adapt.

AIRAH

PART OF AIRAH'S BROAD CHURCH

Victoria Totten, M.AIRAH, is a project engineer for PJM Engineering Services, based in the firm's Melbourne office. She's also a member of the newly formed Women in AIRAH group.



Victoria Totten, M.AIRAH

Responsibilities

I assist project managers with all equipment selections, schedules, ordering and engineering checks of all contracts. I also liaise with subcontractors and all site personnel to ensure they have all project information required, as well as consultants/builders regarding RFIs.

I complete production of all operations and maintenance manuals at a project's completion.

Passions

I am passionate about helping others.

Finest professional hour

I can't pick out one, but just being involved in some of Melbourne's biggest building services projects. Going in to the city and being able to say "I worked on that building".

I have also been selected to be on the Women of AIRAH committee. I am very much looking forward to seeing what impacts we can have on women in engineering.

Important lessons

Never stop asking questions. I learn something new every day.

Whom do you most admire?

There are a lot of people in the world who I admire, especially those within the hospital/emergency services and volunteers.

Professionally I have had the good fortune to work under a number of leaders who I have admired and who have helped mentor me through different stages of my career.

Dream sabbatical

I would love to go to South America someday to visit Machu Picchu or a relaxing Mediterranean cruise with plenty of food and wine.

What is your motto?

"Great things never come from comfort zones."

Greatest personal achievement

I would have to say coming to Australia by myself when I was 20, from Northern Ireland, and setting up a new life so far away from friends and family. Who knew at the time I would

end up living here for good. I am now married, have two dogs and a beautiful son, with another bub on the way.

Favourite book

I like a good thriller. Anything by Lee Child, Ian Rankin or Stieg Larsson.

Favourite film

Again there are too many to choose from. I watch more series than movies. I really enjoy thrillers/crime series such as *Broadchurch*, *Luther*, *Stranger Things* and *Peaky Blinders*.

Favourite website

Probably the *BBC news* and *Daily Mail* websites to catch up on news back home in the UK.

Describe yourself

Easy-going, positive and hard-working.

Define success

I believe success is being healthy, happy and getting the work/life balance right between career, family, friends and hobbies. Also, making a positive contribution to the world.

What does AIRAH membership mean to you?

Being given the opportunity to expand my knowledge, and meeting like-minded people in the industry. ■



From left to right: AIRAH national membership manager Bettina May and the AIRAH membership services officers – Liisa Hill (Qld and NT), Judy Armstrong (SA, Vic and Tas), Mel Sabraa (NSW, ACT), and Alison Mattes (WA) – pose with the Women of AIRAH banner. The Women of AIRAH has been formed to help promote the role of women within the Institute and the building services/HVAC&R industry.