

Hilary Thompson

Executive Director
Australian Hydrographic Office

At this IWIB Networking Lunch Hilary will speak on "women in non-traditional roles - the lessons learnt, the challenges and the key to success"

Hilary Thompson began her career at the Australian Hydrographic Office (AHO) as a Trainee Technical Officer in 1991 and relocated to Wollongong when the AHO moved here from Sydney in 1994. In 2003, Hilary was promoted to the role of AHO Deputy Director Chart Production and Maintenance and subsequently became Director Maritime Data Services (2017), Director Maritime Business Capability (2019) and Director National Charting Program (2020).



In March 2023, Hilary was promoted to the position of Executive Director Australian Hydrographic Office (EDAHO). She was also elected Chair South West Pacific Hydrographic Commission and is working to support our Pacific neighbours in their hydrographic endeavours. In addition to these roles, Hilary mentors upcoming professionals for SWPHC Hydrographic Leadership and the International Hydrographic Organization's Empowering Women in Hydrography project.

Hilary has been awarded a Masters of Business Administration from the University of Wollongong (UOW), holds two Associate Diplomas in Engineering (Land Information Systems; Survey Drafting) and has undertaken further studies in GIS, Science and Information Technology.

Hilary is married and has three children. She is an active volunteer as a Venturer Scout Leader with the 1st West Wollongong Scout Unit, and in August 2023 was awarded a Special Service Award in recognition of her efforts. In her spare time, Hilary enjoys bushwalking and taking her dog to the beach.