

Andrew Marshall

What inspired your interest in meteorology?

I fondly recall the way in which my father would stroll down the hallway of our Melbourne home during my youth - he would stop for a moment halfway along to tap the barometer a few times and acknowledge the developing local weather conditions before walking on. It should come as no surprise then that I ultimately decided to follow a research career in atmospheric science. It was inevitable really.



How did you reach your current job?

As part of my degree, I completed a project on changes in surface ultraviolet radiation and ozone depletion over Melbourne.

After a two year break travelling abroad I returned to Melbourne to start a PhD on "The Madden-Julian Oscillation: role of air-sea interaction and the MJO-El Niño Southern Oscillation relationship". I was based at the Australian Bureau of Meteorology and took part in field trips to the Northern Territory investigating the start of the Australian summer monsoon. I also gave weather lessons to primary schools all around Melbourne.

I then worked as a post-doc at Monash University looking at the Australian monsoon during the late Quaternary (from 700,000 years ago), which was a new and fascinating area of research for me.

What job do you do now?

I now work at the Met Office in Exeter where I am assessing how the accuracy of weather forecasts for the next season is affected by how well the stratosphere is represented in the computer model of the climate system we use to make forecasts.

In addition to my climate research I have also maintained a strong interest in weather, and can even be heard tapping on a hallway barometer from time-to-time.

Qualifications

PhD in Atmospheric Science from Monash University, Melbourne

BSc(Hons) in Applied Mathematics and Physics from Monash University

Victorian Certificate of Education in English, Latin, Chemistry, Maths and Physics