

INTERESTED IN A CAREER IN ENGINEERING?

Meet Tamara Bull – Wannon Water’s Asset Creation Engineer

Engineering wasn’t Tamara Bull’s first choice of career, but securing a gap-year traineeship with Wannon Water changed her focus.

“Engineering was always a passion of mine when I was at school, but took second place to my preferred career path of teaching,” Tamara explains. “When I completed VCE, I was accepted into two teaching courses in Victoria and South Australia, but deferred both to take a gap year and work. In 2008, I was lucky enough to obtain a traineeship with Wannon Water in their assets department, where I was exposed to various aspects of civil engineering.

“When I was offered the chance to study at Deakin, after receiving an Engineering Scholarship from Wannon Water, I jumped at the opportunity. I haven’t looked back.”

Tamara completed her Bachelor of Engineering - Civil (Honours) at Deakin’s Waurn Ponds campus.

She says the highlight of her career to date is getting the job she wanted at Wannon Water – that of an Asset Creation Engineer. “This job became a goal of mine back in 2009 at the beginning of my course.”

Juggling both off-campus study and work has been her greatest challenge. “The support from Wannon Water to allow me to spend one to two days on campus or studying while working three days a week gave me the right balance to achieve good results.”

So what has Tamara gained by working with Wannon Water that she couldn’t get from study alone?

“Amazing support and the ability to be a graduate with a great deal of practical ‘on the ground’ knowledge that you can only get from working in the industry,” Tamara says.

She has some sage advice for people starting out in their careers: “Never say no to an experience or an opportunity that you are given. You never know what you will learn about yourself and what future opportunities that it will assist with.”

Tamara says that without Wannon Water she would be in a totally different career and would have missed out on some great opportunities.

What does the future hold? “A successful and motivating career that I can look back on with enjoyment and satisfaction.”

