



Getting to know George Mavroyeni

George Mavroyeni joined VicRoads in 1978, and is currently Project Manager of the Western Ring Road. George revealed the following information to our fearless investigator.

How did you come to join VicRoads?

On graduating as a civil engineer from Victoria University, I applied for jobs far and wide, and was among 400 plus applicants for 20 positions with the (then) Country Roads Board. At first I missed out, but I received a second round offer. I feel I was very fortunate to be able to join a reputable organisation, which has been a tremendous place to be.

What does your present job involve?

My team and I are involved in the design and construction of the section of the Western Ring Road between Hume Highway and Dalton Road, which should take just over two years to open to traffic and cost about \$150 million. We are also involved in planning for two major tentacles of the Ring Road, the Hume Freeway Link and the Western Freeway Link.

Where else have you worked in VicRoads?

I began in the metropolitan area, then moved on to Project Materials Engineer on the Hume Freeway at Wodonga. I was Manager, Construction for Western Ring Road and Eastern Projects, Project Manager on the Ballarat Bypass for about 14 months, and

Project Manager South Eastern Arterial for the past two years. I also fitted in a couple of years' experience in the Pavements section.

Is your career turning out the way you expected?

It's been better! When I first joined, I thought it would be fantastic if I could become a team leader by the time I retired. I've been privileged to take on higher levels of responsibility and management, and I've had excellent tutors to get me where I am.

What is your long-term ambition?

I'd like to continue making a significant contribution to infrastructure in Victoria and Australia, and not necessarily only roads. I'd like to travel round Australia in a working capacity, and even to work overseas. I like variety.

What are your personal interests?

Mostly sports. I used to play cricket, football, baseball and basketball, but now I'm mainly a spectator, particularly AFL and test cricket. I do jog and I like skiing, and I spend time at Anglesea, fishing, swimming and bushwalking. I was forced to take up home renovations, but now I really enjoy being in a home that requires little maintenance.

Can you tell us a little bit about your family?

I am married to Helen, and we have four daughters - Crystal, 17, Michelle, 13, Zara, 5, and Ebony, nearly 4. They all play cricket and football, and Michelle played in the Ballarat District Little League football when I was working in that region.

Do you have any pets?

We have a female rabbit and a female cat, and I'm afraid to ask the sex of the budgie. We're negotiating about a dog, preferably a Golden Retriever, and I'm hoping for a male. We used to have a male cat, but it didn't last.

What is your favourite food?

Seafood, and lots of it. I really like Japanese barbecue style cooking.

What football code do you follow?

AFL - and of course, the only team to follow is the black and white.

What makes you laugh?

Mr Bean, Jerry Lewis, but especially the kids getting up to (limited) mischief.

What one thing would you change about the world?

If I could wave a magic wand, I would have a golden rule - that it's OK to argue amongst each other, but not to take up arms.