

# Science alumni in the world

## Love of topic makes for fine career forecast



### Jane Bunn

**Course graduated from:** BSc majoring in mathematics and atmospheric science

**Year of graduation:** 2005

**Job:** Weather presenter, WIN TV news

**Career:** Casual jobs, Bureau of Meteorology forecaster

**Reflection:** “From weather stations to satellite and radar, to how that data is processed and applied, meteorology is a very fascinating field with huge potential for growth.”

“I thought ‘I can turn my hobby – the thing I’m really interested in – into a job’.”

Weather presenter Jane Bunn was four years old when she first became interested in meteorology.

She remembers watching Christmas specials on television made in the northern hemisphere and asking her mother why it didn’t snow in Melbourne.

Bunn decided to pursue meteorology as a profession in her early twenties after quitting an IT course and taking time out to work in casual jobs.

#### Fascinated by weather patterns

She would look at weather patterns and radar scans on the internet in her spare time, fascinated. She decided to turn her hobby and passion into a career.

Now she’s a meteorologist with WIN TV, a popular presenter on the regional station known for her accurate reports and enthusiastic style, and is an in-demand speaker.

Bunn enrolled at Monash University at twenty-two as a mature-age student and graduated in 2005 with a Bachelor of Science, majoring in Mathematics and Atmospheric Science.

#### Monash Abroad study in US

She spent a semester through Monash Abroad studying at Pennsylvania State University, one of the leading meteorology schools in America, revelling in it.

After training with the Bureau of Meteorology in its Melbourne office, Bunn was posted to New South Wales as a forecaster.

The move to television came after she approached the chief-of-staff at WIN News offering her services as a meteorologist.

It was perfect timing – the previous presenter had just left and a survey commissioned by the station showed that viewers were asking for more “credibility” in the weather bulletin.

That was more than four years ago. Since then Bunn has presented six bulletins a day for regions across the state, recorded in Ballarat. The ratings in the 6.55pm timeslot went up in her first year and she has a devoted following. Farmers, whose livelihoods depend on the weather, particularly appreciate the bulletins.

#### Pride in knowledge and work

Bunn prides herself on delivering more detail and interpretation than is given by non-meteorologists presenting the weather elsewhere who read out what they are given.

She is as excited by the science involved in weather forecasting as ever, including the algorithms used to predict patterns globally and improvements in weather models.

“There’s a new version coming out tomorrow,” she says, “I can’t wait!”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UrOJ2hAGYjA>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VM1jsaJ3pRY>

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Science external engagement office  
Enrica Longo +61 3 9903-4855 | [sci-alumni@monash.edu](mailto:sci-alumni@monash.edu)

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