



Mr John Brennan

CEO of Surf Life Saving QLD

What year did you graduate?

1985

Memory of High School?

The friends and mateship.

What was your favourite subject?

Maths and physical education.

Family?

Married to Sharon for 19 years; three sons: 11, 9 and 7.

Did you know what you wanted to be during High School - if yes, did you get there – if no what happened to stop you from going that way?

I went into management with RACQ insurance, and then studied internally while working.

What did you do on your first year out of school?

Half way through the first year, I started with RACQ and also commenced studies.

What are you doing now career wise?

I am the Chief Executive Officer of Surf Life Saving Queensland.

How did you get to where you are now in your career?

After six years with RACQ, I came across to Surf Life Saving Queensland as Sports Manager and worked my way up through the organisation to become Executive Manager, and then CEO.

What is the favourite thing of doing your job?

No two days are ever the same, and I get to work for one of the largest volunteer organisations in Queensland.

How would you advise students to plan for the future?

You can plan for the future, but you have to also have a flexible outlook on life. To get to the final goal, you may need to take some crossroads or diversions to get to where you want to get to. And everyone will have a different plan.

Any tips on being successful?

You have to believe in yourself and have a crack at everything. Think outside the square and challenge yourself and be aware it won't happen overnight.

