

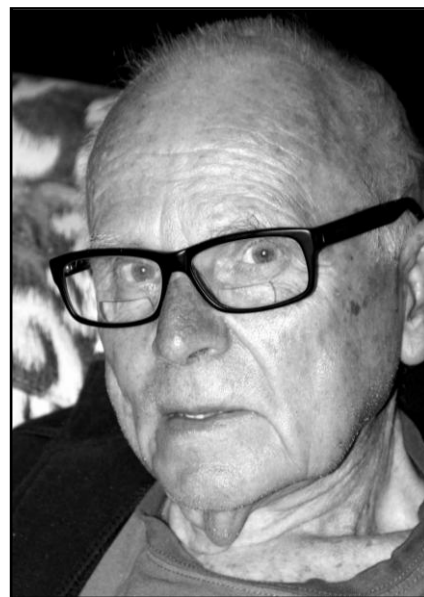
NSW ANZFSS BRANCH LIFE MEMBER PROFILE

Graham Cook BSc Dip FDA

Graham Cook studied science (Analytical Chemistry) at the University of New South Wales commencing in 1958 while concurrently employed as an Industrial Chemist.

In 1969, he joined The Division of Analytical Laboratories (DAL) at the then newly created laboratory complex in Sydney's western suburbs.

His introduction to forensic science was as an Analyst in the Divisions' Physical Evidence (PE) Laboratory which was primarily concerned with the examination of evidence from scenes of crime, motor vehicle accidents and arson investigations. At this time many scientific services relating to crime were provided by non-police government departments. This was to change dramatically over time. During this period, the laboratory examined evidence from the Graeme Thorne Kidnapping, the Qantas Bomb Hoax and the acid thrower at Wynyard Railway Station.



Mr Graham Cook, ANZFSS Life Member (NSW Branch)

Mr Cook has a strong interest in photography and introduced a number of innovations into the photographing of scientific evidence within the laboratory such as the photographic recording of the colour, thickness and sequence of motor vehicle paint layers. This evidence often proved valuable in subsequent court proceedings.

After several years in the PE laboratory, Graham moved to the Illicit Drugs Laboratory where he remained as Manager for more than 20 years before becoming a DAL Deputy Director until his retirement in 1999. During this period he not only carried out analyses on illicit drug seizures, he also attended many crime scenes such as large cannabis plantations and drug manufacturing laboratories. Graham also introduced the first mass spectrometer for routine drug identification. Many of the analyses from the Drugs Laboratory resulted in a court appearance to provide expert testimony. Graham was commended for the evidence he provided the 1978 Royal Commission into Drug Trafficking and as a result, he went on to consult in the preparation of new legislation. His career with DAL spanned over 30 years, during which Graham made significant contributions to analytical work. During his time there, Graham also helped develop a number of new techniques including X-ray diffraction and fluorescence in identifying trace evidence and polymer identification techniques.

Graham was a founding member of the NSW Branch of the ANZFSS, together with fellow scientists Allan Hodda, Norman Piper and James Gothard as well as NSW Police Scientific Section Officers Alan Clark, Jim Merritt and John Snowden. Mr Cook was Branch Secretary and Newsletter Editor for more than a decade and worked tirelessly on the Society's behalf. We salute Mr Cook for his dedication and efforts which he gave so generously. His newsletters set the professional standard we continue to maintain today. Graham was also Secretary of the Organising Committee for the 13th ANZFSS 1996 Symposium held in Sydney.

In 2000, Mr Cook was presented with the Society's national award for "Long and Meritorious Service". Graham made many friends during his forensic science career and thanks his colleagues for their support and guidance.

The NSW Branch of ANZFSS proudly presents Graham Cook as a Life Member.