

Ian leads a group of social researchers in Charles Sturt University's Institute for Land, Water and Society. He has written several books, including *A Future for Regional Australia*, published by Cambridge University Press in 2001 and *Politics in Place: Social Power Relations in an Australian Country Town*, also published by Cambridge University Press, in 1991. He is currently engaged in a research project on regionalism and federalism funded by the Australian Research Council. His other research projects, over the last 15 years, include a study of farm coping strategies and another on experience of drought funded by the Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation, a study of farming practice for the Land and Water Resources Research and Development Corporation, a project on structural adjustment and catchment management for the Murray-Darling Basin Commission, research on small town sustainability and environmental management funded by the Australian Research Council. He has also done research on rail transport for the NSW Local Government and Shires Association.