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WIOA WORDS

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AROUND THE TRAPS

Last chance to register as a delegate for the **WIOA NSW Operations Conference and Exhibition** to be held in Tamworth on 11 & 12 April 2018. There is an excellent mix of topics in both the platform and poster sections from a wide cross section of authors and the exhibition has 120 sites filled. Members and colleagues from Councils close to Tamworth are reminded that **entry to the exhibition** at the NSW Conference is **FREE**. Register now from the WIOA website at wioaconferences.org.au/nsw/nsw-delegates



The Inaugural **WIOA South Australian Conference and Expo** will be held in Murray Bridge on 1 & 2 August 2018. Although it will be smaller and with a different format to WIOA's East Coast conferences, the technical program and expo will be aimed directly at staff in operational roles in the South Australian water industry. Opportunities to participate as a sponsor or exhibitor will be provided exclusively to WIOA Corporate Members later in April. A short explanatory video for potential sponsors and exhibitors is available at wioaconferences.org.au/sa/sa-exhibitors/

The Call for Papers for the SA Conference closes on 11 May. More information on the event, including the call for papers is available at wioaconferences.org.au/sa/



The second technical webinar in the **WIOA Talks** series was held on 27 March covering issues related to **Water in Antarctica**. There were over 25 attendees from across Australia logged in, and once again the feedback received following the webinar was very positive. Our thanks are extended to the presenters, Kathy Northcott, Tim Spedding, Kathryn Mumford, Gavin Allen and David Waterhouse.



The next **WIOA Talks** webinar will be focused on People and Culture and will be held on Friday 27 April covering **Women in Water**. Three speakers will share their experiences and insights into what makes an inclusive team and workplace, making the most of professional development opportunities, leadership and industry engagement initiatives. The program log in detail is at wioa.org.au/nevent/women-in-water/



Thank you to our members who recently completed the **WIOA market survey** on awareness of our current products, experiences with the products used, and recommendations for new products and services. To date we received 329 responses and the information received will be used to review existing offerings and consider options to expand our range of products & services. The survey will be left open for one more week so if you would like to participate, it can be accessed at goo.gl/forms/9apA4fQqFrkm7Xgv1

The final report from WaterRA Research Project 1091 – “Management of potential contamination risks from pipeline repair or renewal works” has recently been released. WaterRA members can download a copy from the WaterRA website. A project fact sheet will be released shortly for non-members. Natalie Crawford will be presenting on the project findings at the WIOA NSW conference on 11 April.

WIOA AWARDS 2018

Applications for the 2018 **Kwatye Award** will be accepted until 20 July 2018. The award, sponsored by Thermo Fisher Scientific gives members the opportunity to nominate to undertake a development activity, program or training course. The award recipient will receive \$6,000 in funding to undertake their activity or project. More information is available at wioa.org.au/awards/national-awards/kwatye-award



Nominations for the **2018 Queensland Operator of the Year** are now being accepted. This prestigious award sponsored by AWA Queensland Branch recognises commitment to the job, safety, innovation, initiative and achievements. The prize for the winner includes a plaque and an all expenses paid opportunity to join the WIOA operator tour to New Zealand in 2019. Applications close on 4 May 2018 and a form is available from wioa.org.au/awards/state-awards/queensland-awards/



Similarly, the Queensland Water Directorate (*qldwater*) is accepting nominations for the **Young Operator of the Year** as well as for the **Operator of the Year – (Civil/All-rounder)**. The Young Operator of the Year will also receive a fully funded opportunity to join the WIOA New Zealand tour in 2019.

The Civil/All Rounder will receive “up to” \$1500 towards professional development. This could be used for opportunities such as attendance at conferences, *qldwater* training or for funding expenses for exchange opportunities at neighbouring or other councils. If you know someone within the Queensland water industry that fits the bill for either of these awards, make sure you nominate them today. Also closing on 4 May 2018, nomination forms are available from wioa.org.au/awards/state-awards/queensland-awards/

EVENTS

The **Call for Papers** for the **81st Annual WIOA Victorian Conference** is now open with abstracts being sought for both platform and poster presentations. The Call for Papers closes on 11 May. More information and an abstract submission template can be obtained from wioaconferences.org.au/vic/



The papers program for the **WIOA Queensland Operations Conference and Exhibition** to be held in Logan on 6 & 7 June has been set. There is an excellent mix of paper topics from a wide cross section of authors and organisations. A registration form containing the program will be loaded to the WIOA website soon.



A reminder to Queensland organisations that with the support of *qldwater*, Ixom, Logan Council and Gold Coast Water & Waste, a **Mains Tapping Competition** is now an integral part of the WIOA Queensland conference program. We’d love to see more teams enter in 2018 to challenge the Gold Coast Tapping Tubbies, winners of the past 2 competitions. More information will be available on the website soon.



The **South Australian Advisory Committee** is conducting a Networks Interest Day with the support of TAFE SA at the Tonsley Campus on 16 May. The program will include a number of presentations specifically covering distribution system operational issues and will include the inaugural South Australian mains tapping competition. More information and the program for the day will be released shortly.

The third **Biggest Ever (Laurie Gleeson) Dinner** to raise funds for the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia will be held at the MCG, Melbourne on the evening of Thursday 5 July 2018. WIOA is again part of the organising committee for this very important event which has raised more than \$100,000 for prostate cancer research and awareness campaigns. More information on the program for the night, some of the raffles and other fundraising opportunities on offer, and how to purchase an individual spot at a table will be released shortly. Anyone interested in purchasing a table of 10 seats can register via the IWA Vic website at iwa.org.au/events/the-biggest-ever-laurie-gleeson-dinner-2018

TRAINING COURSES

The popular "**Monitoring and Optimisation of Activated Sludge and Nutrient Reduction**" course presented by A/Prof Helen Stratton and Peter Griffiths is being offered again this year through pH Water Consultants. The course will be held from 2-6 July 2018 on the Sunshine Coast. Regular presenters, Helen and Peter, have been delivering activated sludge training courses for the past 21 years. The course presents the latest research findings and developments in optimisation and trouble-shooting of activated sludge processes. Registration is now open at www.pHwater.com.au. Delegates who attend and successfully complete the assessment items can receive RPL towards their Cert III or IV.



The **International Water Centre** is offering their **Introduction to WASH for Development**, eight week online training course commencing 4 June 2018. It is designed to empower participants with the fundamentals of WASH enabling them to plan, design and implement activities to improve sustainable and equitable access to water supply, sanitation facilities and improve hygiene behaviours. More information at watercentre.org/training/tab/online-training/

POSITIONS VACANT - For information on these positions visit www.wioa.org.au/positions/index.htm

Current positions vacant include a number of Water and Wastewater Operator positions, a Water Quality Officer, a Water Technical Officer and 3 Engineering positions. To utilise this FREE job advertisement placement service, please email your advert to sherryn@wioa.org.au

COMING EVENTS

- 11 & 12 April - **12th WIOA NSW Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Tamworth
- 27 April - **WIOA Talks Webinar** - Women in Water, Online
- 4 - 12 May - **WIOA Tour to New Zealand and WIOG conference**, Palmerston North
- 11 May - **Call for Papers** for WIOA South Australian Conference closes
- 11 May - **Call for Papers and Posters** for WIOA Victorian Conference closes
- 16 May - **Networks Interest Day**, TAFE SA, Tonsley
- 24 May - **WIOA Talks Webinar** – Health Based Targets, Online
- 6 & 7 June - **43rd WIOA Queensland Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Logan
- 20 July - **Kwatye Applications** close
- 25 July - **Water Interest Day & Ixom Best Tasting Tap Water in Tasmania**, Launceston
- 1 & 2 August - **1st WIOA South Australian Operations Conference & Expo**, Murray Bridge
- 5 & 6 September - **81st WIOA Victorian Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Bendigo



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KEEP YOUR CONTACT DETAILS UP TO DATE. If your phone number, mailing address or email address has changed please email Ann your new details (ann@wioa.org.au) or call the office on 03 5821 6744.