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WIOA WORDS

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24 New Dookie Road
Shepparton, Victoria
PO Box 6012
Shepparton, Victoria 3632

+61 3 5821 6744



+61 3 5821 6033



info@wioa.org.au



www.wioa.org.au



Snippets, news items or other information can be sent to info@wioa.org.au

AROUND THE TRAPS

Members are reminded that the **annual fees for 2018 were due on 1 January 2018** and all those who have paid will have received their receipt in the mail. Reminders have also been sent this week and any member not financial at the end of February 2018 will be deemed to have resigned their membership and will have their details removed from the member database.



As the winner of the **Australia's Best Tasting Tap Water** in 2017, WIOA has worked with the team from Toowoomba Regional Council and entered the sample from the Mt Kynoch WTP into the Annual Berkeley Springs International Water Tasting competition to be held in the USA in late February. We wish them all the best and hopefully they will bring home gold for Australia.



The **Australian Stockholm Junior Water Prize (ASJWP)** is accepting entries for 2018 with a closing date of 11 March 2018. The ASJWP is an annual water science competition for high school students aged 15 - 20. The winner of the Australian competition, announced at Ozwater'18, goes on to compete internationally at the Stockholm Junior Water Prize during World Water Week in August. The student is awarded a fully-funded trip to Stockholm to participate in a week-long cultural exchange program with national winners from over 33 other nations. WIOA members can assist by promoting this fantastic award program to high schools in our local area, or teachers and students you may work with. More details and resources, including a flyer and information kit can be found at www.awa.asn.au/asjwp



Without rain, Cape Town in South Africa, a city of some 4 million people is on the countdown to "day zero" in mid April 2018 where the water supply could be turned off to around 75% of the city. In place of piped water, it is proposed to establish water collection points around the city to ensure the supply of the legally guaranteed minimum of 25 litres per person per day. The social and economic consequences of this action would be enormous. The impact of climate change has hit sooner than anticipated with plans to diversify the water supply with boreholes and desalination plants not due to kick in until after 2020. This case highlights the need for appropriate water supply regulation, planning, security and management. WIOA joins with other Australian water bodies calling for a recommitment to, and renewal of, the National Water Initiative. More information on the Cape Town situation is available at tinyurl.com/yb3pnp2u



Last chance to register for the 2018 Operators Tour of New Zealand including attending the WIOG NZ Conference to be held in Palmerston North on 9-11 May 2018. Based on past tours, the cost will be approximately \$1,500 pp twin share plus airfares and will run from 4-12 May 2018. Registrations for anyone intending to participate will close with the WIOA office on 16 February 2018, more information is available on the WIOA website: wioa.org.au/event/wioa-tour-of-new-zealand-2018/

Australian Industry Standards (AIS) has released their **Water Key Findings Discussion Paper** outlining the challenges, opportunities and skills issues facing the water industry for feedback. The paper aims to provide industry stakeholders a summary of the key findings from recent industry intelligence gathering activities overseen by the Water Industry Reference Committee (IRC) including industry consultations, a survey, and other research activities. The key findings will be used by the IRC to develop the Water IRC Skills Forecast and Proposed Schedule of Work for the National Water Training Package. AIS has been tasked by the IRC to collect feedback to validate and confirm the findings, which will inform the advice the IRC will provide to the Australian Industry and Skills Committee on 30 April 2018. It is acknowledged that the information provided about issues in the paper (tinyurl.com/y84ykknb) is deliberately brief. Stakeholders are invited to submit their comments on the findings outlined in the paper by COB on 20 February 2018. Responses can be emailed to enquiries@australianindustrystandards.org.au .



The Bureau of Meteorology recently released their **February-April 2018 Climate and Water Outlook**. The BOM monthly Climate and Water Outlook video covers rainfall, streamflow and temperature for the next three months. You can access the video at www.bom.gov.au/climate/outlooks/#/overview/video

WIOA AWARDS

Nominations for the **2018 NSW Operator of the Year** close on 23 February. Sponsored by the NSW Water Directorate, this award recognises commitment to the job, innovation, initiative and achievements. If you know someone within NSW who fits the bill, then nominate them today. An all-expenses paid position on the tour to NZ in May 2018 valued at over \$2,500 is awarded to the winner. Nomination forms are available at: www.waterdirectorate.asn.au/Awards/WIOANSWOperatoroftheYearAward.aspx



Last chance to share your **in-the-field innovations & fixes to problems** by entering the **PASS Award**. Applications close on 1 March 2018 with the winner announced at the NSW Conference in Tamworth. The winner receives an all-expenses paid opportunity to join the WIOA tour of NZ, sponsored by Aqualift Project Delivery. More details from wioa.org.au/awards/national-awards/pass-award/



NSW water utilities are invited to enter the annual **Ixom NSW/ACT Water Taste Test** to find the **Best Tasting Water in NSW/ACT**. The heats, grand final judging and announcement of the winner will take place at the WIOA conference in Tamworth in April. The winning sample will then represent NSW against Queensland in the Water of Origin taste test to be held at the WIOA Conference in Logan. It may even go on to win Australia's Best Tasting Tap Water in a competition to be conducted later in 2018. More information is on the WIOA conference website wioaconferences.org.au/nsw/nsw-water-taste-test/

MEMBER INFORMATION & EVENTS

The 2018 **WIOA AGM and Weekend Seminar** will be held at the Bell Tower Inn, Ballarat on 3 & 4 March 2018. All financial members are welcome to attend this free event with spaces limited to the first 50 who register for this fun event. You can register at wioa.org.au/event/wioa-agm-weekend-seminar/



The program for the **WIOA NSW Operations Conference and Exhibition** in Tamworth on 11 & 12 April has been set. There is an excellent mix of topics in the platform and poster sections from a wide cross section of authors and the trade exhibition has sold out with 120 sites filled. Delegate registration forms are also now available and can be downloaded from wioaconferences.org.au/nsw/nsw-delegates/

A reminder that the **Call for Papers for the Queensland Operations Conference** closes on 21 February and to date we only have a handful of abstracts. We need member support, especially from those in operational roles, to make this event a success. Presentations do not need to be highly technical to be valuable, and often the best received papers are those that communicate how an operational problem has been investigated and rectified. Submission of abstracts can be obtained from the website:

wioaconferences.org.au/call-for-papers



A **Charity Bowls Day** will be conducted by the Queensland Advisory Committee on Friday 9 March 2018 at the Yandina Bowls Club. We are encouraging everyone to enjoy this networking opportunity and a relaxed game of bowls. All funds raised from the day will be distributed to charity at the WIOA Queensland conference in 2018. We are also seeking corporate support for this event. All sponsors with a representative present on the day have the chance to win the coveted Tradies Cup, we look forward to seeing you on the greens. Register online at: wioa.org.au/event/queensland-2018-bowls



WIOA Talks allow members from all over the country to get together to hear the latest updates and share knowledge and experiences, all from the comfort of their own desk! The first webinar will be held on 6 March 2018 on **operational risks, mitigation and management strategies during algal bloom events**. We have put together speakers with practical operational knowledge and experience in addressing the challenges of algal bloom events, including the impacts to drinking water sources, treated water quality and operations. More information and to register go to: wioa.org.au/event/algal-blooms-webinar



The May edition of **WaterWorks** is currently under development and is a great opportunity for our Corporate members to advertise and support the production of this important technical journal. This edition is widely distributed and will be included in the Queensland and Victorian conference satchels. Contact Nicole Grimm on 0432 217 216 or nicole.grimm@executivemedia.com.au



Date Saver 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 event organising committee and will provide more information in the coming months.



To coincide with World Water Day, the Water Industry Alliance and ICE WaRM are staging **Adelaide's Smart Water Summit**. To be held at the Adelaide Convention Centre from 22-23 March, the summit is an opportunity for the water industry to get inspired, contribute ideas and make important connections. More information on the Summit is available from www.waterindustry.com.au/smartwatersummit

TRAINING COURSES

AMS Training & Solutions is offering their RO Specialist hands-on training during March in WA and QLD; and UF/MF Membrane Filtration hands-on training in NSW at the Evoqua Manufacturing Facility (Windsor). Visit their website (www.amsts.com.au) for dates, venues and course specifics. Email them at warren@amsts.com.au to be put onto the waiting list for future events near you.



Last chance to enrol in the International Water Centre's **Master of Integrated Water Management** course in 2018. There's still time to apply for the program and commence study in mid-February. Apply now at tinyurl.com/y738ytdq and receive a partial scholarship towards your tuition.

POSITIONS VACANT - For information on these positions visit <http://wioa.org.au/positions-vacant/>

Current positions vacant include Supervisor Treatment Technology, Manager Operational Monitoring and Reporting, Techer Water Operations and a number of Plumbing and Water Treatment and Sewerage Plant Operator positions. To utilise this FREE job advertisement service, please email sherryn@wioa.org.au

PEOPLE & CORPORATE MEMBER NEWS

ALVI Technologies has released a new **Knick BasicLine series of isolation amplifiers**. It includes all standard equipment in the control cabinet. As sophisticated as their well-known high-end products, the BasicLine series signal isolators are ideal for electrical equipment suppliers, engineering firms and other industries where simply good is simply good enough. For further information contact: info@alvi.com.au



Congratualtions to Calix for winning an **Australian Business Award - New Product Innovation** for their **Aqua-Cal+** aquaculture water conditioner. They are also in the running for the NSW Premier's Export Awards, having reached the finals for the third year running.



The **Victorian Water Industry Association (VicWater)** has recently changed addresses. They are now located at Level 2, 466 Little Lonsdale Street, Melbourne. Entry to the building is via Brights Place. Their telephone number stays the same: 03 9639 8868.



Hach announces that the availability status of products can now be viewed on their website. Customers can buy products online and check whether it is available or needs to be ordered in. The product availability online is indicative only, and will be confirmed once an order is placed. Visit the product page at tinyurl.com/yb8mw9en and check the availability and shipment time, below the product price.



Corporate member **Pensar** advise that they have recently unveiled a fresh identity to reflect the wide range of services and solutions they provides throughout Australia. Besides a new name and logo, Pensar has created an Advisory Board consisting of its leadership team to give clients the ability to draw on one or many of the company's solutions without a divisional structure. Visit their new website at pensar.com.au

2018 EVENTS - Check out the events calendar online, visit wioa.org.au/events/

- 23 February - **NSW Operator of the Year Award** nominations close
- 1 March - **PASS Award** applications close
- 3 & 4 March - **WIOA AGM and Weekend Seminar**, Ballarat
- 6 March - **WIOA Talks Webinar** - Risks, mitigation and management during algal bloom events, Online
- 9 March - **Queensland Charity Bowls Day**, Yandina
- 11 & 12 April - **12th WIOA NSW Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Tamworth
- 4 - 12 May - **WIOA Tour to New Zealand and WIOG conference**, Palmerston North
- 6 & 7 June - **43rd WIOA Queensland Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Logan
- 20 July - **Kwatye Applications** close
- 5 & 6 September - **81st WIOA VIC Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Bendigo



Become a friend of WIOA on **FACEBOOK** and follow us on **TWITTER**

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.