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WIOA WORDS

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AROUND THE TRAPS

Welcome to 2017. The Committee, Board and Staff of WIOA trust that everyone had a pleasant, safe and relaxing holiday period and we look forward to delivering an action packed calendar of events in 2017.



Prime Sponsorship Opportunities. WIOA has two Prime Sponsorship opportunities available for the 2017 Water Industry Operations Conferences and Exhibitions to be conducted in NSW, QLD and VIC. Have your company branding on the conference bags that are presented to all delegates at these events, or host the 'Meet the Exhibitors Dinners' conducted on the Wednesday evening of each conference. For more information about the benefits organisations receive for supporting WIOA as a sponsor, contact WIOA's COO, Craig Mathisen on 0457 846 008.



The 2017 **WIOA AGM and Weekend Seminar** will be held at Holmesglen at Eildon on Saturday 25 & Sunday 26 February 2017. All financial members are welcome to attend this free event with spaces limited to the first 50 who register. You can register at www.wioa.org.au/seminars/WeekendSeminar.htm



For Members interested in contributing to the association by being on the **WIOA Committee**, nomination forms will be sent out in late January, along with the Notice of the AGM and 2016 Annual Review. To be considered for a position, completed nomination forms must be returned by COB on 10 February 2017.



The Committee has endorsed some **proposed modifications to the WIOA Inc. Constitution** to be dealt with at the 2017 Annual General Meeting (AGM). The Committee believes it is important for all members to have their say in the management of the Association by voting for candidates for Officer or Committee positions. In recognition that not all Members are able to attend the AGM in person, it is proposed to amend Rule 53 to allow eligible members to cast their vote by ballot. A member briefing document can be viewed at www.wioa.org.au/aboutus/constitution.htm. Members are invited to review the draft document and contact the office with any comments or issues ASAP. If the resolutions are endorsed by members, they would not come into effect until the 2018 AGM.



Members are reminded that **annual fees for 2017 were due on 1 January**. If you haven't paid your fee, please do so as soon as possible, or alternatively, please let us know if you don't intend to renew your membership and we will remove you from the Membership register.



We need your contributions for our various publications. If anyone has anything to contribute to the **February edition of Operator**, we'd love to hear from you in the next couple of weeks. Maybe some holiday stories and/or photos, or even "what Santa brought you".

At the end of 2016 the **WIOA membership ticked over the magical 4,000 mark**. Our best marketing comes from word of mouth of our members who enjoy the benefits that a WIOA membership provides. When talking to colleagues and other water industry practitioners, suggest (if they are not already) they too join the leading industry association working and advocating for the operational employees in the industry.



WaterWorks (WIOAs technical journal) is published on behalf of the association by Executive Media in May and November each year with copies distributed to all members, as well as to conference delegates and exhibitors. Data from our member survey showed that above **85% of members read WaterWorks** and are particularly interested in the technical content. We rely on advertising sales to offset the cost of providing this valuable member benefit. We invite our Corporate members to consider advertising by contacting Nicole Grimm from Executive Media on 0432 217 216 or email nicole.grimm@executivemedia.com.au



Congratulations to Paul Gregg from Cowra who was selected as the winner of the **Show Us Ya Bag** competition. Glenn Jeffrey from Wannon Water and Mike Sahayam from Palmerston North City Council NZ were both highly commended for their entries. We received 30+ novel entries depicting the 2016 conference bag in all parts of the world. The Automation Group put up an iPad for the winner that we are sure Paul will put to good use. All the entries are at wioa.smugmug.com/National-Awards/ShowUsYaBag/



In November 2016, NHMRC released a minor update to the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines. The ADWG undergo rolling revision to ensure they represent the latest scientific evidence on good quality drinking water. As sections of the Guidelines continue to be reviewed, the Table of Updates is updated to provide the latest information. More details on the update, and the revised version of the ADWG can be found at: www.nhmrc.gov.au/guidelines-publications/eh52



Water Research Australia has collated a significant amount of **research material relating to cyanobacteria** including information from international and collaborating agencies. Having access to some of this information may be very important as the warmer months arrive when blooms are more common. More information at <http://www.waterra.com.au/research/knowledge-transfer/cyanobacteria-information-page/>

WIOA AWARDS

Nominations close on 10 February for the **2017 NSW Operator of the Year**. Sponsored by 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 2017 valued at over \$2,000 is awarded to the winner. Nomination forms available at: www.waterdirectorate.asn.au/News/CallingforNSWWaterOperatoroftheYearNominations.aspx



Nominations are now open for the inaugural **South Australian Operator of the Year**. Sponsored by TAFE SA, this award recognises commitment to the job, innovation, initiative and achievement. Nominations close on 24 February 2017 and the winner will be announced at a WIOA Interest day to be held at Bolivar WWTP on 8 March 2017. Nomination forms can be downloaded from: www.wioa.org.au/awards/sa_ooty.htm



Nominations are also open for the inaugural **Tasmanian Operator of the Year** and **Tasmanian Young Operator of the Year**. Sponsored by TasWater, these awards recognise commitment to the job, innovation, initiative and achievement. Nominations close on 24 February 2017 and the winner will be announced at a WIOA Interest day to be held at Longford WWTP on 15 March 2017. Nomination forms can be downloaded from www.wioa.org.au/awards/tas_ooty.htm & www.wioa.org.au/awards/tas_yooty.htm

A reminder to members that applications are being accepted for the **Problem Accepted, Solution Supplied (PASS) Award** with a closing date of 1 March 2017. The winner receives the opportunity to participate in the WIOA tour to New Zealand in May to the value of \$2,000, courtesy of sponsor Aqualift Project Delivery. Application details and an entry form are on the website at www.wioa.org.au/awards/pass.htm

WIOA EVENTS

The technical program for the **WIOA NSW Operations Conference and Exhibition** in Canberra on 29 & 30 March has been finalised, but we can still accept some more poster papers from Operators. If you have an idea for a poster, please contact the WIOA office ASAP. The program includes an excellent mix of topics from a wide cross section of authors, and the exhibition will see 110 companies filling the 130 sites with the latest and greatest products and solutions for the water industry. Delegate registration forms can be downloaded from: www.wioaconferences.org.au/nsw_delegates.htm



NSW local water utilities are invited to participate in the annual **Ixom NSW/ACT Water Taste Test** to find the **Best Tasting Water in NSW/ACT**. The heats, grand final judging and the announcement of the winner will be conducted at the NSW conference in Canberra. More information on the Taste Test and how to enter is available from the WIOA conference website www.wioaconferences.org.au/nsw_tastetest.htm



The **Call for Papers** (platform and posters) for the **42nd WIOA Queensland Water Operations Conference and Exhibition** in Logan on 7 & 8 June closes on 22 February 2017. We need the support of members, and particularly 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. Details on submission of abstracts can be obtained from the website: www.wioaconferences.org.au/callforpapers.htm



A **Charity Bowls Day** will be conducted by the Queensland Advisory Committee on Friday 17 March 2017 at the Yandina Bowls Club. WIOA members and their guests are invited 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 2017. We are also seeking corporate support for this event and look forward to seeing you on the greens. You can register online at: www.wioa.org.au/BowlsDayQld2017.htm



The itinerary for the **2017 Operators Tour of New Zealand** including attendance at the WIOG Operations conference in Queenstown, is currently being finalised. Based on past tours, the anticipated total cost will be \$1500 AUD per person plus airfares. Anyone intending to participate should register your interest with the WIOA office ASAP. So that we can confirm prices and book accommodation, registrations will close on 5 February 2017.

The Water Industry Operations Group (**WIOG**) conference will be held in Queenstown, New Zealand from 3 to 5 May 2017. Further information on the conference is available at www.wiog.org.nz

TRAINING COURSES

IWES Sydney 2017 will take place throughout the week of 13-17 February. Early bird discounts end on 23 January 2017. The program incorporates a wide range of course offerings for professionals to choose from. The full program, including venue details and speaker profiles can be found at <http://iwes.com.au>

The popular Simmonds and Bristow **3 day workshop on lagoon (oxidation pond) operation** is being held in Brisbane from 7-9 February 2017 with enrolments closing on 24 January 2017. The workshop is designed for Operational staff with a responsibility for wastewater lagoons treating wastewater and/or effluent. For more information or to register, email training@simmondsbristow.com.au. Simmonds and Bristow have also recently updated their **2017 Water Operations Open Industry Course Schedule** and it is available at www.simmondsbristow.com.au/training-calendar/

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

The free positions vacant advertising service was well supported in 2016 with 147 positions advertised on the WIOA website and pages receiving almost 13,000 views during the year. **Current positions vacant** include Water and Wastewater Operators, an Operations Engineer and Senior Mech/Elec Engineer, a Technical Customer Services Officer and a Senior Technical Assistant Assets position. To utilise this FREE job advertisement placement service, please email your advert to sherryn@wioa.org.au

A WIOA member council is looking for a recruitment company to assist in attracting Water Treatment Operators, if you can help contact Craig at the WIOA office and he will pass on your details.

PEOPLE & CORPORATE MEMBER NEWS

Furphy Engineering has launched their new website which includes a number of new features including industry case studies and videos, industry image gallery where you can browse the range of tanks they have manufactured and a comprehensive FAQ's section where your tank questions are answered. If your question isn't there, drop the team at Furphy's a line: www.furphyengineering.com.au



As of the 1 February 2017, the business operations of AVK Australia Pty Ltd will be transferred to a new company called AVK Valves Pty Ltd.

2017 EVENTS - Check out the events calendar online, visit www.wioa.org.au/seminars/calendar.htm

- 10 February - **Nominations for WIOA Committee** close
- 19 February - **NSW Operator of the Year Award** nominations close
- 24 February - **South Australian Operator of the Year Award** nominations close
- 24 February - **Tasmanian Operator of the Year and Young Operator of the Year** nominations close
- 25 & 26 February - **WIOA Weekend Seminar & AGM**, Eildon
- 1 March - **PASS Award** applications close
- 8 March - **South Australian Wastewater Interest Day**, Bolivar WWTP
- 15 March - **Tasmanian Wastewater Interest Day**, Longford WWTP
- 29 & 30 March - **11th WIOA NSW Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Canberra
- 28 April - 6 May - **WIOA Tour to New Zealand and WIOG conference**, Queenstown
- 11 May - **NSW Wastewater Interest Day**, Yamba WWTP
- 7 & 8 June - **42nd WIOA QLD Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Logan
- 20 July - **Kwatye Applications** close
- 6 & 7 September - **80th 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.