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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](mailto:info@wioa.org.au)

## AROUND THE TRAPS

Welcome to 2018. 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 2018.



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



For Members interested in contributing to the association by being on the **WIOA Committee**, nomination forms have been sent out already, along with the Notice of the 2018 AGM. To be considered for a position, completed Committee nomination forms must be returned by COB on 2 February 2018.



Members are reminded that **annual fees for 2018 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.



**Prime Sponsorship Opportunities.** WIOA has two **Prime Sponsorship** opportunities available for the 2018 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 information contact Craig Mathisen on 0457 846 008.



**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. 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](mailto:nicole.grimm@executivemedia.com.au)



The **Stage 2 Report** of the New Zealand government inquiry into the **Havelock North** drinking water outbreak was released in December 2017. The Inquiry Report made 51 recommendations for changes to the management and regulation of drinking water supplies to reduce the likelihood of such outbreaks recurring in the future. The key recommendations are for the treatment of all supplies, setting up of a dedicated drinking water regulator, and establishing a mandatory Licensing and Qualifications systems for Drinking Water Suppliers and Operators. The report is available at <https://www.dia.govt.nz/Government-Inquiry-into-Havelock-North-Drinking-Water>

On behalf of the Water Industry Reference Committee (IRC), Australian Industry Standards is the organisation responsible for managing the national **Water Training Package (NWP)** and advises that they are developing a case for change for a review of parts of the NWP Training Package. They are seeking feedback from stakeholders on issues relating to the qualifications and units of competence within Certificate II and III. Comments are sought on any drivers for change (eg new technology) and any specific changes required to the existing qualification rules or units of competence, as well as any new units required. Feedback is required by COB Tuesday, 30 January 2018 and the draft Case for Change document is available for review at <https://tinyurl.com/y9tmugja>



**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.



The Water Services Association of Australia (WSAA) has released its latest paper: **Workforce Skills of the Future**. WSAA and the Water Environment & Reuse Foundation (WE&RF) commissioned KPMG to help their members understand and prepare for future trends affecting the urban water industry and its workforces. The Paper includes results across three continents and provides insights on where the urban water industry is headed and the key enablers for success. Download a copy of the paper at <https://tinyurl.com/y92xc277>



Standards Australia has submitted a proposal for a new International Standard on **water efficiency labelling** with the help of Singapore, Malaysia, China and New Zealand. This aims to further reduce domestic water wastage, support the Australian government's Water Efficiency Labelling and Standards (WELS) scheme and make it easier for more countries to benefit from using water efficient products. More information is available from <https://tinyurl.com/y7z63vas>



The National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) released its **Public Statement 2017: Water Fluoridation and Human Health** (<https://www.nhmrc.gov.au/guidelines-publications/e44-0>) in Australia in November 2017. In addition to the statement the NHMRC has published a **Water Fluoridation and Human Health in Australia: Questions and Answers** (<https://tinyurl.com/ybk2rslq>) as a supporting resource to provide nationally consistent messages to the public.

## 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: <http://www.waterdirectorat.asn.au/Awards/WIOANSWOperatoroftheYearAward.aspx>



A reminder to members that the closing date for applications for the **Problem Accepted, Solution Supplied (PASS) Award** is 1 March 2018. The winner receives the opportunity to participate in the WIOA tour to New Zealand in May to the value of \$2,500, courtesy of sponsor Aqualift Project Delivery. Application details and an entry form are on the website at <http://wioa.org.au/awards/national-awards/pass-award/>

## EVENTS

The technical program for the **WIOA NSW Operations Conference and Exhibition** in Tamworth on 11 & 12 April has been finalised, but we are still looking for 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 108 companies filling the 120 sites with the latest and greatest products and solutions for the water industry. Delegate registration forms can be downloaded from: <http://wioaconferences.org.au/nsw/>



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 and the announcement of the winner will be conducted at the NSW conference in Tamworth. More information on the Taste Test and how to enter is available from the WIOA conference website <http://wioaconferences.org.au/nsw/nsw-water-taste-test/>



The **Call for Papers** (platform and posters) for the **43rd WIOA Queensland Water Operations Conference and Exhibition** in Logan on 6 & 7 June closes on 21 February 2018. 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: <http://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. 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 2018. We are also seeking corporate support for this event and look forward to seeing you on the greens. You can register online at: <http://wioa.org.au/event/queensland-2018-bowls/>



The itinerary for the **2017 Operators Tour of New Zealand** including attendance at the WIOG Operations conference in Palmerston North, 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 2018.

The Water Industry Operations Group (**WIOG**) conference will be held in Palmerston North, New Zealand from 9 to 11 May 2018. Further information on the conference is available at [www.wiog.org.nz](http://www.wiog.org.nz)



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 <https://www.waterindustry.com.au/smartwatersummit>

## TRAINING COURSES

The **International Water Centre** is finalising its online training schedule for 2018. If you would like to receive updates on training and their calendar when it becomes available register your interest for 2018 at <https://watercentre.wufoo.eu/forms/ma6kqjh1oce3iu/>

**IWES Sydney 2018** will take place throughout the week of 12-16 February. 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>



Chisholm Institute is offering its new **Dam Operations Training Course** at their National Water Centre based in Cranbourne (Vic). The 5 day course will run from 26 Feb-2 March 2018 and 16-20 April 2018. Facilitated by world renowned expert Norm Himsley, the course is aimed at developing water industry staff to inspect, monitor and report on dam operations. Participants completing the program will be awarded the nationally accredited dam operations skill set of five units from the NWP. For more information or to register, contact 1300 393 018 or email [nwc@chisholm.edu.au](mailto:nwc@chisholm.edu.au)



Simmonds and Bristow advise that they have also recently updated their **2018 Water Operations Open Industry Course Schedule**. "Open Industry" courses are designed for those who want face to face training, but don't have enough attendees to warrant a custom course at their own site. The updated schedule of is available at <https://www.simmondsbristow.com.au/events/> or email [training@simmondsbristow.com.au](mailto:training@simmondsbristow.com.au)

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

The free positions vacant advertising service was well supported in 2017 with **158 positions advertised** on the WIOA website and pages receiving over 11,500 views during the year. **Current positions vacant** include a Water Operations Teacher, a Plumbing Inspector, a Customer Services assistant and a Regional Manager. To utilise this FREE job advertisement placement service, please email your advert to [sherryn@wioa.org.au](mailto:sherryn@wioa.org.au)

## PEOPLE & CORPORATE MEMBER NEWS

Corporate member, ALVI Technologies advises the launch of the **Online Memosens Academy**. The aim of the Academy is to provide guidance on best practices and application notes on how to solve typical problems of liquid measurement, particularly in relation to the interference-free measurement of pH, ORP, conductivity and oxygen. Visit the Memosens Academy at <https://academy.knick-international.com/en/> to join, or to find out more, please email [info@alvi.com.au](mailto:info@alvi.com.au)

**2018 EVENTS** - Check out the events calendar online, visit <http://wioa.org.au/events/>

- 2 February - **Nominations for WIOA Committee** close
- 23 February - **NSW Operator of the Year Award** nominations close
- 1 March - **PASS Award** applications close
- 3 & 4 March - **WIOA Weekend Seminar & AGM**, Ballarat
- 9 March – **Charity Bowls Day**, Yandina
- 11 & 12 April - **12<sup>th</sup> WIOA NSW Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Tamworth
- 4 to 12 May - **WIOA Tour to New Zealand and WIOG conference**, Palmerston North
- 6 & 7 June - **43rd WIOA QLD Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Logan
- 5 July - **3rd Biggest Ever (Laurie Gleeson) Dinner**, MCG, Melbourne
- 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](mailto:ann@wioa.org.au)) or call the office on 03 5821 6744.