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# WIOA WORDS

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## AROUND THE TRAPS

Members are reminded that this is the last chance to pay your **annual fees for 2017 which were due on 1st January**. A final reminder has been sent out recently and any member not financial will have their details removed from the member database and will not receive any further correspondence.



At the recent WIOA AGM and Weekend Seminar held in Eildon, **Adrian Rijnbeek** from Xylem was elected as President and after a vote, **Heidi Josipovic** from North East Water in Victoria was elected Vice President. A vote was also required for the committee positions, demonstrating the strong support and interest in the Association by passionate members. Simon Page from Cairns, and Sally Taylor from Amiad were both duly elected with Paul Gregg just missing out. The contribution of outgoing committee members Jill Busch and Neil Crossing was also recognised and we welcomed Robran Cock and Daren Lord as the Chairs of the South Australian and Tasmanian Advisory Committees respectively.



At the WIOA Annual General Meeting the resolution to change the constitution to enable all members to be able to vote for the Committee members was passed.



**Australian Industry Standards (AIS)** has released the Water Key Findings Paper for 2017. It provides water stakeholders with a summary of key findings from the 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 in the development of the Water IRC Skills Forecast and Proposed Schedule of Work for the National Water Training Package. AIS is keen to receive any feedback that confirms that all issues have been covered, or that raises any issues for consideration in the Proposed Schedule of Work (FY17/18 – FY20/21) for the National Water Training Package (to be submitted to the AISC on April 28th 2017). The paper can be downloaded from [www.australianindustrystandards.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/Water-Key-Findings-Paper-2017V1.1.pdf](http://www.australianindustrystandards.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/Water-Key-Findings-Paper-2017V1.1.pdf) Stakeholders are invited to submit their comments on the findings outlined in this paper by COB on March 17th 2017. Responses can be emailed to [enquiries@australianindustrystandards.org.au](mailto:enquiries@australianindustrystandards.org.au)



As the winner of WIOA's Australian Best Tasting Tap Water in 2016, WIOA entered the sample from the Barrington WTP in Tasmania into the International Water Tasting competition in the USA. Unfortunately, the top five samples chosen by the judges this year were provided by US based Utilities. WIOA will enter an Australian representative into the competition in 2018 with the aim of bringing home **GOLD for Australia!** To be in the running, make sure your water business enters a sample into one of the Ixom state based competition and who knows – just like the GV Water team in 2016, you could be recognised as having some of the best tasting water in the world.

The latest **CSIRO State of the Environment Report** has recently been delivered; the fifth independent, national scientific assessment since reports began in 1996. CSIRO researchers delivered four of the nine detailed thematic reports that provide a snapshot of Australia's atmosphere, built environment, heritage, biodiversity, land, inland water, coasts, marine and Antarctic environment. To find out their assessment of how the nation is tracking in these vital areas visit <https://soe.environment.gov.au/>



The **Bureau of Meteorology** has released the first three regions of its annual National Water Account. Reports for the northern Australian Burdekin, Daly and Ord regions, along with a northern Australia overview are now available at [www.bom.gov.au/water/nwa/2016](http://www.bom.gov.au/water/nwa/2016) The urban centre reports including Adelaide, Canberra, Melbourne, Perth, South East Queensland and Sydney will be available in late April, and the Murray–Darling Basin and a national overview will be published mid-year.



Unitywater is inviting market-led proposals from interested and suitably qualified parties to work with them to optimise **the beneficial re-use of struvite from** a number of **sewage treatment plants** in South East Queensland. Unitywater is inviting proposals from partners who may be interested in:

- Discussing research opportunities
- Providing proven technology solutions at a cost
- Commercialising technology solutions and developing jointly owned intellectual property
- Developing joint venture arrangements and new business opportunities with a proven, established statutory authority.

Invitations close 31 March 2017. For further information from Heather Bone, Corporate Strategy and Performance at [heather.bone@unitywater.com](mailto:heather.bone@unitywater.com) if you would like to be considered as part of this invitation.

## WIOA TIPPING COMPETITIONS

Members are invited to demonstrate their prowess over the AFL &/or the NRL season by entering the FREE WIOA tipping competitions. It is hoped that over the season we will be able to gather some corporate support for the competitions and have some great prizes to be won.

### Join WIOA AFL Tipping Competition

Register at: <http://tipping.afl.com.au/tipping>

Competition name is **WIOA** & the Comp code is: **VZZYKWZ5**

### Join WIOA NRL Tipping Competition

Register at: <http://tipping.nrl.com/tipping>

Competition name is **WIOA** & the Comp code is: **Z7JCZ7DV**

## WIOA AWARDS

Congratulations to **Daniel Partridge** from SA Water who was announced as the inaugural winner of the **South Australian Operator of the Year** at the Interest Day at Bolivar WWTP on 8 March. There was excellent support for the award with 8 very worthy operators nominated. Daniel will join the WIOA tour to New Zealand in May 2017, courtesy of funding from SA TAFE as award sponsor.



Congratulations to **Jason Hall** for being announced as the inaugural Tasmanian Operator of the Year and **Patrick Cotton** for winning the inaugural Tasmanian Young Operator of the Year award. There was excellent support for both awards with many high performing operators nominated. **Jason and Patrick** will join the WIOA tour to New Zealand in May 2017, courtesy of funding from TasWater as award sponsor.

There were six excellent entries received for the **2017 PASS Award** sponsored by Aqualift Project Delivery. The prize for the best entry submitted is an all-expenses paid invitation to join the WIOA contingent on the tour of NZ and to attend the WIOG operations conference in Queenstown in May 2017. The winner will be announced at the WIOA NSW Conference in Canberra. The most positive aspect of this award is being able to share and showcase the good ideas of members, with all entries received to be made into a booklet for distribution to all members. It is never too early to start working on your entry for next year's Award.



For Members in Queensland, please keep in mind that applications will soon be sought for the Operator of the Year awarded by AWA Queensland Branch and the Young Operator of the Year and Operator of the Year Civil/All Rounder, both sponsored by **qldwater**. We encourage all employers to nominate anyone from your work teams who you believe to be deserving of this recognition. More information & nomination forms are available at: [www.wioa.org.au/awards/queensland.htm](http://www.wioa.org.au/awards/queensland.htm)



Nominations for the **2017 NSW Operator of the Year** closed recently and the judges had a very difficult task to select the winner from those nominated. The winner will be announced at the Conference Awards Dinner on 30 March at the WIOA NSW conference in Canberra.



Applications for the 2017 **Kwatye Award** will be accepted until 20 July 2017. The award, sponsored by Thermo Fisher Scientific, took on a new look from 2016 when it changed from being purely project based to a development award. The change 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 [www.wioa.org.au/awards/kwatye.htm](http://www.wioa.org.au/awards/kwatye.htm)



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 Canberra. The winning sample will then represent NSW against Queensland in the Water of Origin taste test to be held at the WIOA Qld Conference in Logan in June. Your sample may even win Australia's Best Tasting Tap Water in a competition to be conducted during Water Week in October 2017 and then go on to represent Australia in the world championships. More information is available on the WIOA conference website [www.wioaconferences.org.au/nsw\\_tastetest.htm](http://www.wioaconferences.org.au/nsw_tastetest.htm)

## EVENTS

Last chance to register as a delegate for the **WIOA NSW Operations Conference and Exhibition** to be held in Canberra on 29 & 30 March 2017. A registration form can be downloaded from the WIOA website. 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 sold out with all 130 sites filled. Members and colleagues from Councils close to Canberra are reminded that entry to the **exhibition at the NSW Conference is FREE**.



We have now filled the platform papers program but we are still looking for **more Operator poster papers** for the **WIOA Queensland Operations Conference and Exhibition** in Logan on 7 & 8 June. If you have an idea for a poster, please contact the office ASAP. Support for the exhibition in Logan has been phenomenal with all 112 sites selling out in less than two hours from when they were released.

The **Queensland Charity Bowls Day** will be held 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. Corporate Supporters can win the **Queensland Tradies Cup** by sponsoring a team at this event. We look forward to seeing you on the greens. Register online: [www.wioa.org.au/BowlsDayQld2017.htm](http://www.wioa.org.au/BowlsDayQld2017.htm)

## TRAINING COURSES

The full program for **IWES Gold Coast 2017** which will take place throughout the week of 10-14 July is currently being developed. Anyone wishing to be added to the wait list for IWES Gold Coast 2017 should send an email to [info@iwes.com.au](mailto:info@iwes.com.au)



**Scholarships of \$4,000** are available to support leadership development in the Energy and Utilities Sector. For information on opportunities in your state please respond with the following information – Name, Position title, State, Email, telephone. A program advisor will contact you to discuss your unique situation. To view the course Prospectus visit [www.asam.edu.au/programs/ER/ASAM-Executive-Ready-EDM.pdf](http://www.asam.edu.au/programs/ER/ASAM-Executive-Ready-EDM.pdf)

## PEOPLE & CORPORATE MEMBER NEWS

Jennie Björk has joined the Control Components team full time and is available to discuss your needs relating to flow, level, pressure, process control, water/wastewater treatment and sensors. Contact Jennie on 02 9542 8977 or email [jennie@controlcomponents.com.au](mailto:jennie@controlcomponents.com.au)

**POSITIONS VACANT** - For information on these positions visit [www.wioa.org.au/positions/index.htm](http://www.wioa.org.au/positions/index.htm)

**Current positions vacant** include positions for a number of Water & Wastewater Treatment Operators, a Water Design Engineer and a General Manager of Corporate Services. To utilise this FREE job advertisement placement service, please email your advert to [sherryn@wioa.org.au](mailto:sherryn@wioa.org.au)

## COMING EVENTS

- 17 March - **Queensland Charity Bowls Day**, Yandina
- 29 & 30 March - **11<sup>th</sup> WIOA NSW Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Canberra
- 29 March - **Ixom NSW/ACT Water Taste Test grand final**, Canberra
- 20 April - **Queensland Water Interest Day**, Mt Crosby WTP
- 28 April - 6 May - **WIOA Tour to New Zealand and WIOG conference**, Queenstown
- 11 May - **NSW Wastewater Interest Day**, Yamba WWTP
- 7 & 8 June - **42<sup>nd</sup> WIOA QLD Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Logan
- 20 July - **Kwatye Applications** close
- 6 & 7 September - **80<sup>th</sup> 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.