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# WIOA WORDS

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## AROUND THE TRAPS

Congratulations to Toowoomba Regional Council and the operators at the Mt Kynoch WTP for winning the **Ixom, Best Tasting Tap Water in Australia** competition at the national grand final held in Launceston as part of Water Week. The winners of each of the State based Taste Test competitions were pitted against one another with the general public invited to taste the samples and cast their vote. The Toowoomba sample will now go on to represent Australia at the International Water Taste Test conducted in Berkley Springs, USA in February 2018. We encourage all water businesses to enter their respective State based competitions in 2018, and we look forward to adding even more States to next year's national competition.



**LAST CHANCE** for Victorian Water Corporations and employers to nominate operators for the **2018 Network Operator Development Program**. The closing date for applications is 20 November 2017 with the program commencing in February 2018. More details and the nomination form can be obtained from the WIOA website at <http://wioa.org.au/network-operator-development-program/>



Water Research Australia is holding a free Webinar covering the **WaterRA Research Symposium Highlights** on Thursday 30 November at 2.00pm AEDT. Claire McInnes from WaterRA will present 'hot topics' from recently completed projects showcased at the Research Symposium held earlier this year in Melbourne. They include Climate Change and Extreme Events, Catchments, Water Customers and Smarter Monitoring. To register for the webinar, visit [https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_9QRvHVUnTLeLMSzbdSQH4Q](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_9QRvHVUnTLeLMSzbdSQH4Q)



In support of the Certification scheme, a **recertification webinar** will be held on Tuesday 12 December commencing at 11.00am AEDT. The hour-long webinar will provide a brief update on the various certification processes (water/wastewater/recycled water), a discussion on recertification activities and record keeping requirements, along with some case studies from organisations who have completed the recertification process for their operators already. More information will be available shortly.



WIOA Members can choose to receive all correspondence by email or hard copy. Sending information electronically helps reduce our environmental footprint. If you currently receive WIOA information in the mail, and wish to receive it by email only, contact [sherryn@wioa.org.au](mailto:sherryn@wioa.org.au) and we will update our records.



The Technical Advisory Committee for the **Diploma review project in the National Water Training Package** has released the draft qualification and Units of Competency for feedback. The drafts are available on the Australian Industry Standards website, <http://tinyurl.com/y9pouaod>. Feedback is welcome until close of business Wednesday, **22 November 2017** and must be submitted via <https://tinyurl.com/ybkgc8y3>. If you have any questions about this project, please contact Klausch Schmidt from Australian Industry Standards via email: [klausch.schmidt@australianindustrystandards.org.au](mailto:klausch.schmidt@australianindustrystandards.org.au)

The November 2017 edition of WIOA's technical Journal **WaterWorks** will be distributed to members shortly. We are now on the lookout for technical articles for the May 2018 edition. We are always happy to help operators develop and write articles, so if you have an interesting topic that you'd be prepared to share with the industry, contact Kathy or George in the office.

## 2018 MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Individual and Corporate Members are reminded that **annual fees for 2018** are due on 1st January and renewal invoices are currently being sent to all members. For those who have previously paid for multiple years, we will also send a confirmation that you are currently financial. Membership fees for 2018 are \$30 & \$260 (including GST) for Individual and Corporate members respectively. Please pay by 1 January 2018.



A reminder to all our **Utility Corporate Members** - your employee lists have been sent out and need updating (if you have not already done so). For those who are unfamiliar with this membership category, it is a combination of both Individual and Corporate Membership. Utilities that employ operators can sign up and pay for each of their nominated staff at the individual member rate. The Utility receives free corporate membership and a number of other benefits including discounted registration fees for WIOA events. There are already 66 organisations that have taken up this opportunity. More information on Utility Corporate Membership is available at: <http://wioa.org.au/membership/>

## EVENTS

Exhibition sites for the **2018 NSW WIOA Conference and Exhibition in Tamworth** went on sale on Wednesday 8 November and all 120 sites were sold out within a couple of days. A full list of all the exhibiting companies will be placed on the WIOA conference website shortly.



The official Call for Papers for NSW has closed, but we are still looking for **more Operator Platform and Poster Papers**. If you are an operator and have an idea for a platform paper or poster, contact us in the office ASAP and we'll send you all the details. The Delegate registration forms will also be available soon.



The **South Australian Advisory Committee** is conducting an Interest Day on Thursday 23 November at the Happy Valley Water Treatment Plant in Adelaide. The day will incorporate a number of presentations highlighting innovations in technology along with a tour of the Happy Valley WTP. The **2017 SA Operator of the Year** sponsored by TAFE SA will also be announced. For more information and to register, visit <http://wioa.org.au/event/sa-water-interest-day-happy-valley/>



The **Victorian Advisory Committee** is conducting an Interest Day on Tuesday 28 November at the Aquasure Desalination WTP in Wonthaggi. The day will incorporate a number of presentations related to the operation and maintenance of membranes plus a meeting of the WIOA Victorian Advisory Committee. For more information or to register, visit <http://wioa.org.au/event/vic-water-interest-day-wonthaggi/>



The **Tasmanian Advisory Committee** is conducting a Wastewater Interest Day on Wednesday 6 December at JJ's Bakery in Longford. The day will incorporate a number of presentations highlighting innovations management of wastewater followed by a tour of the Longford STP. **The 2017 Tasmanian Operator of the Year** and **Young Operator of the Year** sponsored by TasWater will also be announced. For more information and to register, visit <http://wioa.org.au/event/tas-wastewater-interest-day-longford/>

The **2018 Queensland WIOA Operations Conference and Exhibition** will be held at the InSports complex in Logan on 6-7 June 2018. The Call for Papers will be distributed shortly. Keep in mind that we can accept abstracts for platform or poster papers at any time, so please get busy working on your potential topics.



The **Water Industry Operations Group NZ conference** will be held in Palmerston North from 8-10 May 2018. As with previous years, there will be a tour of a number of water and wastewater treatment systems from around the 4 to 11 May 2018 (dates and tour program being confirmed at present). If you or any of your staff are interested in being part of the tour, please let us know ASAP.

## WIOA AWARDS

A reminder to members that applications are being accepted for the **Problem Accepted, Solution Supplied (PASS) Award**. The winner will receive an all-expenses paid opportunity to join the WIOA tour to NZ in May 2018 to the value of over \$2,500. Sponsored by Aqualift Project Delivery, applications close at the end of February 2018. Entry forms are on the website <http://wioa.org.au/awards/national-awards/pass-award/>

**TRAINING COURSES** In order to inform Members, WIOA lists any water industry training providers on the WIOA website. For more information visit the website: <http://wioa.org.au/resources/#4>

Chisholm 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)



The **Monitoring and Optimisation of Activated Sludge and Nutrient Reduction** course presented by A/Prof Helen Stratton and Peter Griffiths will be staged in June 2018 on the Sunshine Coast. Popular presenters, Helen and Peter, have been delivering activated sludge training courses for the past 20 years. The course presents the latest research findings and developments in optimisation and troubleshooting activated sludge processes and, although intended primarily for operators, has been regularly attended by managers and process engineers from Australia and overseas. The venue and final dates are currently being finalised however, to register interest in the course and to reserve placement (numbers are strictly limited to 24 delegates), please email [peter@phwater.com.au](mailto:peter@phwater.com.au). Delegates who attend and successfully complete the assessment items for the course can receive RPL towards their Cert III or IV.



Funding of up to \$8,000 is available through Women & Leadership Australia to support **the development of female leaders across Australia's water sector**. The initiative is providing women with grants of between \$3,000 and \$8,000 to enable participation in a range of leadership development programs. The scholarship funding is provided with the specific intent of providing powerful and effective development opportunities for water sector women; however the funding is strictly limited and has to be allocated prior to the end of 2017. Find out more and register your interest by completing and returning the Expression of Interest form at <https://www.wla.edu.au/funding> prior to December 15, 2017.



The next **IWES courses** will be held in Sydney from 12-16 February 2018 with 14 different courses on a variety of water and wastewater treatment topics. The full program of courses, including venue details and speaker profiles is available at <http://iwes.com.au/index.php>

The Australian School of Applied Management has partial **scholarships of up to \$4,000** for development of mid-level managers. Scholarship applications are now open to individuals and organisations working in the Energy and Utilities Sector, to assist participation in ASAM's Executive Ready Program. Applications for 2018 close on 24 November and anyone interested should contact Nick Williams on 1300 735 904 or by email at [nwilliams@asam.edu.au](mailto:nwilliams@asam.edu.au). More information on the program is available at [www.asam.edu.au/programs/ER/ASAM-Executive-Ready-EDM.pdf](http://www.asam.edu.au/programs/ER/ASAM-Executive-Ready-EDM.pdf)



The International WaterCentre has extended the closing date for scholarship applications for the **IWC Master of Integrated Water Management (Domestic)** to 22 November. To be eligible for a Scholarship, applicants must have submitted a Scholarship application to the IWC; submitted an application for a place on the Master program to Griffith University, and; have received an offer of a place on the Master program from Griffith University. For enquiries, please contact the IWC Education Team at [admin@watercentre.org](mailto:admin@watercentre.org)

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

The positions vacant section of our website currently has a number of jobs advertised including a number of **Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant Operators & some Engineering and Fitter positions**. To utilise this FREE job advertisement service, please email your advert to [sherryn@wioa.org.au](mailto:sherryn@wioa.org.au)



**North West Qld – Relief operator** – Water and Wastewater. Expressions of interest are sought for operators willing to take a short term outback adventure. The position is based in North West Queensland and will require relief operations for both water and wastewater systems. All travel and accommodation expenses will be covered and a good salary will be paid to the right candidate subject to skills and experience. For utility managers and supervisors wishing to develop staff skills and broaden their experience short term secondments will also be considered. Terms of engagement will be 2 months, 4 months or 6 months, alternatively, short term opportunities on a 3 week on 3 week off rotation of two or more candidates is under consideration. For more information contact Mark Samblebe ([admin@mbswater.com.au](mailto:admin@mbswater.com.au) – 0400 1261 141) or Kim Dawes ([kimdawes72@gmail.com](mailto:kimdawes72@gmail.com) - 0408 181 189). Commencement is required as soon as possible.



Simmonds & Bristow offer a wide variety of **Plant Operator Support Packages** suited to the needs and budgets of organisations. Book an experienced operator to cover permanent staff on leave, away at training, or awaiting replacement. They can also provide backup to your team if you need an extra operator during events and maintenance programs. S&B programs include a Helping Hand – an operator's assistant with some experience in actual treatment plants; Valuable Relief – experienced and qualified operators; Intensive Support – designed for those times when extra support is needed in short bursts; Turn-Key Support - A qualified Operator fully kitted out with dedicated vehicle and Engineering Support included. More information is on the S&B website at: <https://tinyurl.com/yaz7m3wb>

## **PEOPLE & CORPORATE MEMBER NEWS**

Hydramet is pleased to welcome **Joel Fitzgerald** to the position of Project Engineer, Hydramet East Coast Projects Team. Joel has extensive project experience in the water industry and also holds a Diploma in Water Operations. Hydramet welcomes Joel to the growing Hydramet team which continues to deliver quality water disinfection, chemical dosing and packaged treatment plant solutions to the local water sector. He can be contacted on 0490 201 604 or by email at [joel.fitzgerald@hydramet.com.au](mailto:joel.fitzgerald@hydramet.com.au)

**Aeramix** has announced the appointment of Samantha Fullwood and Paul West. Sam has taken on the role of Office Manager based in Derrimut and can be contacted on [samanthaf@eramix.com.au](mailto:samanthaf@eramix.com.au) or by phone on 1300 667 077. Paul is the new procurement manager and can be contacted on 1300 667 077 or by email at [paulw@eramix.com.au](mailto:paulw@eramix.com.au)



**Evoqua Water Technologies** was listed on the New York Stock Exchange on 3 November with their 27.7 million shares opening at \$18.00 per share and reaching a high of \$20.88 on 14.27 million shares traded. The CEO of Evoqua also got to ring the bell at the New York stock exchange to kick off trading. The NYSE bell ringing video is available at <https://livestream.com/NYSE/evoqua>



The team at **Hach** is excited to announce that to accommodate their growing customer base, they will be moving business location to 26 Brindley St, Dandenong South, 3175. Their last day of operations at the current location is 30 November, 2017, and they will be ready to accept orders at the new location from 4 December, 2017. Please note that they will not be open on 1 December, 2017 and will endeavor to respond to inquiries as soon as possible during this time. The phone number will not change. It is still 1300 887 735 and Email: [orders@hachpacific.com](mailto:orders@hachpacific.com)



**Furphy Engineering** is the 2017 WTIA (Welding Technology Institute of Australia) Fabricator of the Year. This award recognises and applauds their performance across a comprehensive range of business metrics including demonstrated innovation, quality assurance, market success, community engagement, health and safety record, commitment to the training and development of employees. The award acknowledges Furphy's 150-year history of manufacturing in Australia and the leadership of five generations of Furphy family members. More information at <http://furphyengineering.com.au/>



A number of new companies have recently joined WIOA as Corporate Members. Details on companies including Redox, Hydro-dis, TracWater, Enviro One Services, Utilita Water Solutions and Alvi Technologies are available from the WIOA website.

## COMING EVENTS 2017

- 20 November **Victorian Network Operator Development Program**, applications close
- 23 November **South Australian Water Interest Day**, Happy Valley WTP, Adelaide
- 28 November **Victorian Operations Interest Day**, Desalination Plant, Wonthaggi
- 29 November **Queensland Water Interest Day**, Gladstone
- 6 December **Tasmanian Wastewater Interest Day**, Longford
- 12 December **Recertification Webinar**

## 2018 EVENTS

- 28 February **PASS Award** applications close
- 11 & 12 April **12<sup>th</sup> WIOA NSW Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Tamworth
- 6 & 7 June **43rd WIOA QLD Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Logan
- 20 July **Kwatye Award** applications close
- 5 & 6 Sept **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.