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WIOA WORDS

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AROUND THE TRAPS

The WIOA Committee has confirmed that the 2018 Individual and Corporate Membership fees will remain at the 2017 levels of \$30 and \$260 respectively (both GST included). Invoices will be sent to all Members soon, with payment due on 1st January 2018.



The **80th Annual Victorian Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition** held recently in Bendigo attracted a record number of 1,455 attendees. Congratulations to all the award winners and a big thank you to our volunteers, exhibitors, delegates and visitors for making the event such a resounding success. A full report on the conference and all the award winners will appear in the November edition of 'Operator'. A link to the photos from the event is now available from: www.wioaconferences.org.au/vic.htm



WIOA's updated website was officially launched at the Bendigo conference. It has a fresh new look, more functionality and is now in a more mobile device friendly format. Well done to the WIOA staff for updating and migrating all the content to the new site, whilst keeping up with all the work for the Bendigo conference. As usual, there may be a few glitches as part of the transition process, so if any Members find any content or links that don't work, please give us a call or send us an email so we can fix things up.



The Victorian Water Taste Test including a photo of George Lech from Ixom made the front page of the Melbourne Age on Thursday 7 September. There was a great article by Carolyn Webb highlighting the excellent work undertaken by very devoted operators in providing safe drinking water to our communities. The article is available at wioa.org.au/uncategorized/water-industry-in-the-news-carolyn-webb/



Applications to participate in the **2018 Victorian Network Operator Development Program (NODP)** are currently being sought with applications closing on 20 November. We have received extremely positive feedback from the 2017 NODP participants and we look forward to having more Corporations and employers of network operators represented in 2018. More information and the application forms are available from wioa.org.au/network-operator-development-program/



The team from Lutra (formerly H2Ope) have made available (free) a number of calculators and convertors through the the Apple app store and Google play store. Just go to the store and search for "Lutra – Water Treatment App". The four they have made available at present include:

- Pipe calcs – velocities/volumes/detention time
- Tank calcs – volume/surface area/contact time
- Converter - UVT to UVA and vice versa
- Converter – Coag dose rates in different units

With the recent conclusion of the last of our three WIOA conferences for 2017, it is timely to thank all our volunteers, hosts and sponsors of these events. Our appreciation is extended to all our sponsors, but in particular to our Prime sponsors in Aeramix, Calix, Fusion, Hach, Hayward, Ixom and Xylem. Their support allows us to keep our events affordable for delegates and other exhibitors. If you would like information on sponsorship opportunities for our 2018 events, contact Craig at the WIOA office.



Well done to WIOA Vice President Heidi Josipovic (aka: Heidilee) for winning the **WIOA AFL footy tipping competition** on 132, just pipping her partner Jamie Rossato (aka: Jamesonn) on 131. In the **WIOA NRL footy tipping competition**, Kirk Buckley (aka: For Earth) on 134 was a runaway winner over Linda Cox (aka: Lilly's Choice) on 127, with Dion Sleep (aka: Armchairanarchists) a close third on 126. We look forward to even more members participating in 2018.

WIOA AWARDS 2017

Well done to the team at **Goulburn Valley Water** with the sample from Merrijig judged the winner of the **Ixom 2017 Victorian Water Taste Test** at the Bendigo Conference. They were victorious over Coliban Water, Yarra Valley Water/Melbourne and Falls Creek Resort Management Board in the grand final and can now brag that they have the best tasting water in Victoria, at least until next year. It was pleasing to receive a sample from the majority of Victoria's Water Corporations for the heats, and our thanks are extended to everyone who participated as a heat or grand final judge.



Congratulations to **Max Gray** from Trility, South Australia who was announced as the **2017 Kwatye Award** winner at the WIOA conference in Bendigo. Max's R&D project will investigate the applications and use of Remote Operated Vehicles in conjunction with high resolution and thermal imaging cameras in the water industry. User guides/checklists will be developed covering the selection of technology and what to look for regarding a variety of applications; and the legal requirements for the operation of ROV's in all States.



Also at the Bendigo Conference, **Glenn Taggart** from Central Highlands Water was announced as the winner of the **AWA Wal Whiteside Victorian Operator of the Year** award. The Institute of Water Administration (IWA Vic) announced **Mae Jobson** from Gippsland Water as the **IWA Young Victorian Operator of the Year**. The inaugural winner of the **Networks Operator of the Year** was **Russell Sunderland** from Goulburn Valley Water. Our congratulations are extended to all these very worthy winners.



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 at www.wioa.org.au/awards/pass.htm



WIOA announces that we are finalising arrangements for the **2018 conferences**, to be held in **NSW** from 11-12 April, **Queensland** from 6-7 June and **Bendigo** from 5-6 September 2018. More info to follow.



The inaugural **WIOA Victorian Mains Tapping Competition**, sponsored by Reece Civil and Coliban Water was staged at the morning tea breaks of the Victorian Conference. Well done to the eight participating teams and our congratulations are extended to the winning team of Denny Anderson and Heath Matheson - the Central Highland Cobras. They chose Water Aid as the recipient of the \$1000 donation, provided by sponsor Reece Civil. We look forward to even more teams participating in 2018.

EVENTS

Launceston City Council will provide access to the Launceston Mall on 18 October 2017 to allow us to stage the **Best Tasting Tap Water in Australia** competition. To be held during Water Week, the public will be invited to taste a sample from each of the State based Taste Test winners to help determine which one is Australia's Best. Good luck to each of the finalists including Icon Water (ACT/NSW), Toowoomba RC (Qld), Morgan (SA); Fenton/New Norfolk (Tas) & Goulburn Valley Water's Merrijig (Vic). The winner will then go on to represent Australia at the International Taste Test in the USA in February 2018.



The **Victorian, New South Wales, South Australian, Tasmanian and Queensland Advisory Committees** all have Water or Wastewater Interest Days coming up in their respective States in the next couple of months. We encourage all WIOA members to support your State based committees and get along to these events. The dates are included in the calendar below and more information will be available from the WIOA website in due course.



The **Dial Before You Dig - WIOA Victorian Charity Golf Day** is being held at the Hill Top Golf and Country Club, Tatura on Sunday 22nd October. We are looking for a strong turnout of operational people to help make the day a success. The charity golf day is always a great way to network with others in the water industry, stretch the legs and have some fun at the same time. It is only \$35 for members to participate which includes green fees, sausage sizzle lunch, a few drinks and after golf BBQ. Corporate members wishing to sponsor the day, please contact George at the office. Get a car load together and register at www.wioa.org.au/GolfDay.htm



The fourth annual **Far North Queensland Operations Interest Day** followed by an optional afternoon of **social bowls** will be held in Cairns on Friday 6th October 2017. We encourage all WIOA members in the FNQ region to get along to this event. The exciting and very diverse technical program for the day can be accessed at www.wioa.org.au/BowlsDayFNQ2017.htm. Any Corporate members wishing to sponsor the bowls day should contact George at the WIOA office.

TRAINING COURSES In order to inform Members, WIOA can list any water industry training providers on the WIOA website. For more information visit the website: www.wioa.org.au/operator_resources/TrainingCourses.htm

The **International Water Centre (IWC)** announces that applications for their **2017 Water Leadership Program Scholarships** are now open. The (IWC) in partnership with Clearwater; the Victorian Department of Environment, Land, Water & Planning; Melbourne Water; and the NSW Water Directorate, are pleased to offer **five full scholarships** and **four half scholarships** for emerging water leaders. Scholarships close 30 September 2017, more information on the scholarships and how to apply is available at www.watercentre.org/education/leadership/Scholarships



AMS Training & Solutions is offering **RO Specialist** hands-on training during October in TAS, WA and QLD; and **UF/MF Membrane Filtration** hands-on training in QLD. A wait list is available for future courses. For more information or to register, send an email to training@amsts.com.au

IWES is accepting registrations for their 3-day **Principles of Hydraulic Engineering and Open Channel Flow** course which will be held from 8-10 November, 2017 at the University of Queensland, St Lucia Campus. More information or to register at http://cdn-au.mailssnd.com/56335/CFVFIInac9ankBgES_BthJQsNwaYdJ-Yn0gMpcgU5AHO/2482813.pdf

The **National Centre for Groundwater Research and Training (NCGRT)** has a number of training related opportunities coming up including the Australian Groundwater School to be held in Canberra from 6-9 November and Perth from 4-7 December 2017. Get in early to avoid disappointment. More on these and other NCGRT courses is available from www.groundwater.com.au/events/training



The **International Centre of Excellence in Water Resource Management (ICE WaRM)** in conjunction with NCGRT is offering a **Workshop: MAR Essentials** in Perth on 26-27 October 2017. This is for anyone who is thinking about how to begin, design and maintain a viable Managed Aquifer Recharge project. Presented by the nation's top MAR practitioners and scientists, you will have access to professionals experienced in the planning, feasibility, economic, environmental and scientific aspects of establishing a MAR scheme. More info at www.icewarm.com.au/australian-water-school/short-courses/course/mar-essentials/

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

The positions vacant section of our website currently has positions for **Water and Wastewater Operators, an Operations Technical Officer, a Water & Sewerage Coordinator, a Water Sampling Technician** and more. To utilise this FREE job advertisement service, please email your advert to sherryn@wioa.org.au

PEOPLE & CORPORATE MEMBER NEWS

Congratulations to **Peter Tolsher** from North East Water in Victoria for being announced as WIOA's seventh **Life Member** at the recent Bendigo conference. Congratulations also to **David Sheehan** from Coliban Water for being the 34th WIOA Member to be Inducted as a Delegate of the Inextricably Obstructed Tap Society (for short IDIOTS). A full outline of both Peter and David's substantial contributions to WIOA will be provided in the November edition of 'Operator'.



A green energy food manufacturing project using Global Water Engineering technology available throughout Australasia from **CST Wastewater Solutions** has won the Best Water and Wastewater Solutions Provider honour at the Asian Manufacturing Awards. More information at www.cstwastewater.com

2017 EVENTS

- 6 October **FNQ Operations Interest Day and optional barefoot bowls**, Cairns
- 18 October **Ixom 2017 Australia's Best Tasting Tap Water Competition**, Launceston
- 22 October **Victorian - Dial Before You Dig - Charity Golf Day**, Hill Top Golf & Country Club, Tatura
- 26 October **Queensland Wastewater Interest Day**, Kingaroy
- 26 October **New South Wales Operations Interest Day**, Quirindi
- Oct/Nov **Tasmanian Wastewater Interest Day**, Longford (date TBC)
- Oct/Nov **Victorian Operations Interest Day**, (date and venue TBC)
- Nov **South Australian Water Interest Day**, (date and venue TBC)
- 14 November **New South Wales Water Interest Day**, Jugiong



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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.