



Published by the Water Industry Operators Association of Australia (WIOA)

# WIOA WORDS

JANUARY 2019 Edition

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## AROUND THE TRAPS

Welcome to 2019. 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 2019.



The **WIOA Inc AGM** will be held on-line on Thursday 14 March 2019 at 2.00pm AEDT. We would like to encourage as many Members as possible to log in and be part of the meeting and have your say in the future directions of the association. The agenda and registration for the 2019 AGM is available at <https://wioa.org.au/about-wioa/agm/>



For Members interested in contributing to the association by being on the **WIOA Committee**, nomination forms have been sent out, along with the Notice of the 2019 WIOA Inc AGM. To be considered for a position, completed Committee nomination forms must be returned by COB on 14 February 2019.



Members are reminded that **annual fees for 2019 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.



**2019 Prime Sponsorship Opportunities.** WIOA has **Prime Sponsorship** opportunities available for the 2019 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 our NSW conference. For more information contact Craig Mathisen on 0457 846 008.



**WaterWorks** (WIOAs technical publication) 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 by email at [nicole.grimm@executivemedia.com.au](mailto:nicole.grimm@executivemedia.com.au)



The recently **updated Diploma of Water Industry Operations** has been approved by the Australian Industry and Skills Committee (AISC). The Diploma of Water Industry Operations now includes 20 new and 16 revised Units of Competency and specialisations for asset management, control centre operations, hydrographic survey, hydrology, irrigation, networks, source, trade waste and treatment. Completed in conjunction with the Water Industry Reference Committee, more information on the project is available on the Australian Industry Standards website at <https://tinyurl.com/y9gsfrzg>

WorkSafe has charged a Victorian civil construction company over the deaths of two Ballarat workers who were killed when the trench they were working in collapsed on 21 March 2018. The company has been charged with two breaches of the Occupational Health and Safety Act relating to its failure to use safety equipment, including trench shields and manhole cages to protect workers from engulfment during the excavation. Since the accident, relatives of those killed have been campaigning for the introduction of industrial manslaughter laws to hold employers accountable for the deaths of employees. The matter is due to be heard in the Ballarat Magistrates' Court on February 4. *Extract from ABC news article* – the full article is available at <https://tinyurl.com/y8whks3l>



The 14 January edition of the Australian Water Association's Source News contains an interesting article on the fish kill in the Darling River near Menindee resulting from poor water quality conditions. There is also a very interesting Podcast on the same page relating to research into the potential release of the carp herpes virus and the possible impact that killing massive numbers of carp could have on water quality. Access the article and the podcast at <https://tinyurl.com/y8dc2fxf>

## WIOA AWARDS

Nominations for the **2019 NSW Operator of the Year** close on 15 February 2019. 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 2019 valued at over \$2,500 is awarded to the winner. Nomination forms are available at: <http://www.waterdirectorater.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 2019. 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 Orange on 3 & 4 April 2019 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 106 companies filling the 121 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-2019/>



NSW local water utilities are invited to participate in the annual **Ixom NSW/ACT Best Tasting Tap Water competition** to find the best drop in NSW/ACT. The heats, grand final and announcement of the winner will be conducted at the NSW conference in Orange. More information on the Taste Test and how to enter is available from the WIOA conference website <http://wioaconferences.org.au/nsw-2019/nsw-water-taste-test/>



The **International Ultraviolet Association (IUVA)** is staging its 2019 World Congress at UNSW in Sydney on 10-13 February 2019. The congress will include three days of conference sessions on wastewater, UV AOP, disinfection, reuse, UV LED, and more. There will also be a special workshop on Sunday 10 February 2019 covering UV AOP. There is a special discount registration rate for utilities, operators and WIOA members. You can learn more about the event at <http://www.iuva.org/2019-World-Congress>

**Water Research Australia** (WaterRA) will deliver its annual research and innovation conference - **Next Water** at the MCG in Melbourne on 12 & 13 February 2019. Hear from leading thinkers and stimulate research ideas and solutions that will better equip utilities to get ahead of the curve. More information is available at <http://www.waterra.com.au/nextwater/>



The **Call for Papers** (platform and posters) for the **44th WIOA Queensland Water Operations Conference and Exhibition** in Bundaberg on 5 & 6 June closes on 20 February 2019. 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 8 March 2019 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 2019. 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-2019-bowls/>



The itinerary for the **2019 Operators Tour of New Zealand** from 2 to 10 May 2019, including attendance at the WIOG Operations conference in Christchurch, is currently being finalised. Based on past tours, the approximate cost will be \$1,600 AUD per person plus airfares. To allow us to book accommodation, the bus and confirm prices, registrations will close on 1 February 2019. Anyone intending to participate should register your interest with the WIOA office ASAP.

The Water Industry Operations Group NZ (**WIOG**) conference will be held in Christchurch, New Zealand from 8-10 May 2019. Further information on the conference is available at [www.wiog.org.nz](http://www.wiog.org.nz)

## TRAINING COURSES

AMS Training & Solutions is offering David H Paul **RO Specialist hands-on training** during March. Dr Graeme Pearce (Membrane Consultancy Associates, UK) will be presenting his UF/MF Membrane Short Course in WA during March. This is exceptional training for those who want to excel in their field. Contact AMS via their website at <http://www.amsts.com.au/> to discuss hosting an event during 2019, to secure your place, or to be waitlisted for an event not yet scheduled.



**IWES Sydney 2019** will take place throughout the week of 11-15 February. Early bird registrations where participants can save up to \$300 close Friday 18 January. The program incorporates 5 of the most popular courses including Wastewater Treatment; recycled Water Management; Energy Efficiency at WWTP's; Biological Nutrient Removal; and Drinking Water Quality Management. The full program, venue details and speaker profiles can be found at <https://iwes.com.au/events/iwes-sydney-2019/>



The **International Water Centre** is finalising its online training schedule for 2019. If you would like to receive updates on training and their calendar when it becomes available register your interest for 2019 at <https://watercentre.wufoo.eu/forms/ma6kqjh1oce3iu/>

The **International Centre of Excellence in Water Resource Management (ICE WaRM)** is offering a free webinar titled *Water Security - The legitimate place of water reuse and desalination in ensuring water security*. The webinar will be held at 2.00pm AEDT on Wednesday 6 February 2019. Presented by Neil Palmer, he will share his observations over the years, drawing some conclusions on the correct use of desalination and water reuse in augmenting traditional supplies so that customers get affordable water but are not subject to periodic water rationing. For more information or to register, visit <https://tinyurl.com/y7y3krv8>

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 Perth (18-21 March), Sydney (5-8 August) and Adelaide (11-14 November). More on these and other NCGRT courses is available from [www.groundwater.com.au/events/training](http://www.groundwater.com.au/events/training)

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

The free positions vacant advertising service was well supported in 2018 with **169 positions advertised** on the WIOA website and pages receiving nearly 34,000 views during the year. **Current positions vacant** include some Water & Wastewater Operators and Coordinators, a Manager Asset Delivery and Manager Asset Planning, a Graduate Engineer and a Research 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

WIOA Committee member **Sally Taylor** has taken up a new role as Account Manager NSW/ACT for Environmental Analysis and Characterisation with Thermo Fisher Scientific. Sally commences on Monday 21 January 2019, and can be contacted on 0409 800 534.

**2019 EVENTS** - Check out the events calendar online, visit <http://wioa.org.au/events/>

- 14 February **Nominations for WIOA Committee** close
- 15 February **NSW Operator of the Year Award** nominations close
- 20 February **Queensland Conference Call for Papers and Posters** close
- 1 March **PASS Award** applications close
- 7 March **qldwater Skills Forum and Certification Presentation**, Brisbane
- 8 March **WIOA - QLD Charity Bowls Day**, Yandina
- 14 March **WIOA Inc AGM**, Online
- 3 & 4 April **13<sup>th</sup> WIOA NSW Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Orange
- 2-10 May **WIOA Tour to New Zealand and WIOG conference**, Christchurch, New Zealand
- 5 & 6 June **44<sup>th</sup> WIOA QLD Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Bundaberg
- 7 & 8 August **2<sup>nd</sup> WIOA South Australian Water Industry Operations Conference & Expo**, TBC
- 4 & 5 Sept **82<sup>nd</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.