



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

WIOA WORDS

MARCH 2019 Edition

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

AROUND THE TRAPS

Members are reminded that this is the last chance to pay your **annual fees for 2019 which were due on 1st January**. A 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 WIOA AGM held online for the first time, **Heidi Josipovic** was announced as President and George Wall will continue in the Secretary/Treasurer role for his 25th consecutive term. More than 440 members participated in the online voting process, which saw **Mark Samblebe** elected as Vice President. Ryan McGowan, Simon Page and Sally Taylor were re-elected and they are joined as Committee Members by Elise O'Keefe and Grant Waite. Heidi thanked immediate past President Adrian Rijnbeek, who after serving WIOA for 7 years, decided not to nominate for the 2019 Committee.



The first technical webinar in the **WIOA Talks** series for 2019 will be held on 22 March. The webinar titled **Nano, Micro, Macro - Understanding the risks and challenges of new and emerging contaminants** will cover issues related to contaminants in the water and wastewater industry. Speakers will take us from the miniscule world of nanoparticles, through to the global impacts of microplastics in our environment, and includes an incident of macro-level pollution. To register, visit wioa.org.au/nevent/wioatalkscontaminants/



Congratulations to the team from **Wannon Water**, Winner of Australia's Best Tasting Tap Water in 2018. The sample from their Hamilton WTP was entered in the **International Water Tasting competition** held in the USA in February. They matched the effort of Goulburn Valley Water in 2016 and came away with the Silver Medal in the hotly contested Municipal Water category. To be in the running to represent Australia in 2020, make sure your water business enters a sample into one of the Ixom State based competition and who knows, just like them, you could be recognised as having some of the best tasting water in the world.

WIOA AWARDS

NSW water utilities are invited to enter the annual **Ixom Best Tasting Tap Water in NSW/ACT** competition. The heats, grand final judging and announcement of the winner will take place at the WIOA conference in Orange. 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 Bundaberg in June. For more information go to wioaconferences.org.au/nsw-2019/nsw-water-taste-test/



For members in Queensland, applications are being sought for the **Operator of the Year** awarded by AWA and the **Young Operator of the Year** and **Operator of the Year Civil/All Rounder**, both sponsored by **qldwater**. Employers are encouraged to nominate staff you believe to be deserving of this recognition. More information and forms are available at: wioa.org.au/awards/state-awards/queensland-awards

After extending the application period by a week due to low entry numbers, we were excited to receive 8 excellent entries for the **2019 PASS Award** generously sponsored by Aqualift Project Delivery. The prize for the best entry submitted is an all-expenses paid opportunity to join the WIOA tour of NZ and to attend the WIOG conference in Christchurch in May 2019. The winner will be announced at the WIOA Conference in NSW. The award shares and showcases the good ideas of members, with all entries made into a booklet for distribution to members. It is never too early to start working on your entry for next year's Award.

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 at: <https://tipping.afl.com.au>

Competition name is **WIOA** & the Competition code is: **ZJETC4HV**

Join WIOA NRL Tipping Competition at: <https://tipping.nrl.com>

Competition name is **WIOA** & the Competition code is: **YFCXE65L**

EVENTS

Last chance to register as a delegate for the **WIOA NSW Operations Conference and Exhibition** to be held in Orange on 3 & 4 April 2019. There is an excellent mix of topics in the platform section from a wide cross section of authors and the exhibition has all 120 sites filled. Members and colleagues from Councils close to Orange are reminded that entry to the **exhibition at the NSW Conference is FREE**. Register now from the WIOA website at wioaconferences.org.au/nsw/nsw-delegates



We are seeking abstracts for presentations to be delivered at our conferences to be held in South Australia and Victoria. We are also seeking presentations for the Water Industry Safety Event – WISE that is again being hosted by Melbourne Water and will be held in Coburg on 9 October. Further information and a pro-forma to complete is available on the conference website: wioaconferences.org.au/call-for-papers/



We have filled the platform papers program but we are still looking for a couple **more Operator poster papers** for the **WIOA Queensland Operations Conference and Exhibition** in Bundaberg on 5 & 6 June. If you have an idea for a poster, please contact the office ASAP. Support for the exhibition in Bundaberg has been phenomenal with all 112 sites selling out very quickly.



World Water Day on 22 March 2019 is an annual United Nations observance day that highlights the importance of fresh water. The theme for World Water Day 2019 is 'Leaving no one behind'. The UN's Sustainable Development Goal 6 is crystal clear: water for all by 2030. More information is available at www.worldwaterday.org/

TRAINING COURSES

The **International Centre of Excellence in Water Resource Management (ICE WaRM)** is offering a free webinar *Powering towards a zero-cost energy future*. The webinar will be held at 2pm AEDT on Wednesday 10 April. Roch Cheroux, CEO of SA Water, will provide an update on SA Water's goal of achieving zero net electricity costs from 2020. By increasing its renewable energy generation and storage, driving efficiencies and making smart decisions around its electricity usage and procurement, these investments will help deliver low and stable prices for its customers. More information and to register: tinyurl.com/y2p7fbj2

Last chance to register for the **AMS Training & Solutions** RO Specialist hands-on training during March in WA and QLD; and UF/MF Membrane Filtration hands-on training in NSW at the Evoqua Manufacturing Facility (Windsor). Visit their website (www.amsts.com.au) for dates, venues and course specifics. Email them at warren@amsts.com.au to be put onto the waiting list for future events near you.



pH Water Consultants once again brings the course **Monitoring and Optimisation of Activated Sludge and Nutrient Reduction** presented by A/Prof Helen Stratton and Peter Griffiths. The course will be held 24-29 June 2019 on the Sunshine Coast. 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 trouble-shooting activated sludge processes. Numbers are limited to 25 delegates and the course is likely to book out rapidly. Delegates who attend and successfully complete the assessment items for the course can receive RPL towards their Certificate III or IV. Registration is now open at www.pHwater.com.au



The National Centre for Groundwater Research and Training (NCGRT) is running their **Field Methods Training: Groundwater and Aquifer Testing Techniques** in Adelaide from 9-11 April. Bookings are limited for this 3-day intensive field training course where participants will be provided with practical experience in designing and executing aquifer pumping tests, groundwater sampling campaigns and techniques to obtain groundwater samples for a range of routine and novel analyses. For more information, email enquiries@groundwater.com.au or visit www.groundwater.com.au/events/72 for course details.

PEOPLE & CORPORATE MEMBER NEWS

Operator newsletter is going PINK. We are looking for contributions for the May edition of the WIOA Operator newsletter from women in the water industry. Items can be a technical piece, case study or just a story or anecdote that is worth sharing with all WIOA members. Please send any ideas for articles to be included to Craig at the office by the middle of April.

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

Current positions vacant include positions for a number of Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant Operators, an Operations IT/Electrical Engineer and a Drinking Water Compliance Administrator. To utilise this FREE job advertisement placement service, please email your advert to sherryn@wioa.org.au

COMING EVENTS

- 22 March **WIOA Talks Webinar** - Contaminants in the water and wastewater industry
- 3 & 4 April **13th WIOA NSW Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Orange
- 11 April **Networks Interest Day & Tapping Competition**, Tonsley, South Australia
- 11 April **Residuals Interest Day**, QUU Innovations Centre - Luggage Point, Queensland
- 16 April **Wastewater Interest Day**, Gippsland Water Factory, Traralgon, Victoria
- 2-10 May **WIOA Tour to New Zealand and WIOG conference**, Christchurch, New Zealand
- 23 May **Water Interest Day**, Hobart,(Venue TBC), Tasmania
- 5 & 6 June **44th WIOA QLD Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Bundaberg
- 7 & 8 August **2nd WIOA SA Water Industry Operations Conference & Expo**, Murray Bridge
- 4 & 5 Sept **82nd WIOA VIC Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Bendigo
- 9 October **Water Industry Safety Event - WISE**, Coburg



Become a friend of WIOA on **FACEBOOK** and follow us on **TWITTER & LinkedIn**

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.