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# WIOA WORDS

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## AROUND THE TRAPS

WIOA's **Technical Competency Handbook** was launched at OzWater in Melbourne recently. Utilising the experience of Kathy Northcott as the primary author, the project came about through collaboration with a number of organisations across Australia. The Technical Competency Handbook, including a number of case studies, has been developed to assist water utilities to develop processes and practices designed to deliver a technically competent water industry operational workforce. The Handbook and Case Studies are available from [wioa.org.au/technicalcompetency/](http://wioa.org.au/technicalcompetency/)



We look forward with interest to the announcement of the AWA sponsored **Leon Henry Memorial, Queensland Operator of the Year Award**, the *qldwater* sponsored **Young Queensland Operator of the Year Award** and the **Queensland Operator of the Year (Civil/All Rounder) Awards**. The winners will be announced at the WIOA Conference and Exhibition Awards Dinner on Thursday 6 June in Bundaberg.



The Australian contingent of 14 Operators has just returned from the **NZ study tour** and the **WIOG Building Resilience conference** held in Christchurch. It was a fantastic experience, with the New Zealand operators showing off their sites and sharing their in-depth knowledge of water and wastewater issues.



The next **WIOA Talks** webinar will focus on **Training and Development** and will be held on Friday 5 July. Three speakers will share their experiences and insights into training and development and competency development in water industry operations. More information will be published on the WIOA website soon.

## EVENTS

Time is running out to register for the **44th WIOA Queensland Water Industry Operations Conference and Exhibition** to be held in Bundaberg on 5 & 6 June. If you intend to come along as a delegate, please send through your registration form ASAP.

We understand that not everyone can attend as a delegate, so please keep in mind that entry to the exhibition is FREE. We encourage everyone to get a carload of people together and come and have a look through the exhibition, even for just an hour or so. For more information including the papers program and updates on the event, please visit: [wioaconferences.org.au/qld-2019/](http://wioaconferences.org.au/qld-2019/)



The call for platform papers has closed for the **82nd Victorian Water Operations Conference and Exhibition** but we are still looking for **a few more Operator Posters**. If you have an idea or topic that could be presented, please contact Dale in the WIOA office ASAP: [dale@wioa.org.au](mailto:dale@wioa.org.au)

Expressions of Interest for presentations at the second **Water Industry Safety Event (WISE)** in Melbourne is now open and will close on 28 June 2019. If you have an idea or a topic that could be presented, please send through an EOI. This event is a fantastic opportunity for the water industry to share experiences and learn from one another to improve the safety in our industry. More information on the event and the EOI is available from [wioaconferences.org.au/wise2019/](http://wioaconferences.org.au/wise2019/)



The **Tasmanian Advisory Committee** has organised an **Interest Day in Kingborough** on Thursday 23 May 2019. The program will include a number of technical and general interest presentations followed by a tour of the Blackmans Bay STP. For more details on the program content or to register to attend, please visit [wioa.org.au/nevent/tasmanian-wid-blackmans-bay/](http://wioa.org.au/nevent/tasmanian-wid-blackmans-bay/)



The **NSW Advisory Committee** has organised an **Interest Day & Charity Bowls** afternoon on Friday 26 July 2019 in Port Macquarie. The program will include some technical interest presentations in the morning followed by an afternoon of barefoot bowls. Proceeds from the day will be donated to charity and we are seeking the support of corporate members as sponsors of the event. For more details on the program, sponsorship options or to register to attend, please visit [wioa.org.au/nevent/nsw-wid-bowls/](http://wioa.org.au/nevent/nsw-wid-bowls/)



A reminder to all South Australian water service suppliers that the **Ixom 2019 Best Tasting Tap Water in South Australia** competition will be held again at the WIOA conference in August. We encourage all water suppliers in the state to submit a sample for the chance to win bragging rights of the best tasting water in South Australia.

## WIOA AWARDS

The **Kwatye Award** has been rebranded from 2019 with the support of new sponsor **TRILITY**. The Award will now recognise an initiative involving any cultural or diversity and inclusion-based activities within a project or community in which our members serve. The award focuses on those who have gone above and beyond to further inclusion, connection and belonging for co-workers, members of the community and people from disadvantaged and marginalised groups. The winner each year will be provided a fully funded opportunity to participate in a cultural exchange trip to China. Applications close on 20 July 2019 with more information available at [wioa.org.au/awards/national-awards/kwatye-award/](http://wioa.org.au/awards/national-awards/kwatye-award/)

## TRAINING COURSES

**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](http://www.pHwater.com.au)

The **International Water Centre** is offering their **Introduction to Integrated Water Management**, four week online training course commencing 3 June 2019. This course will introduce participants to the theory and principles of Integrated Water Management (IWM). It will investigate conceptual frameworks used to critically analyse water management problems and drive sustainable solutions. More information is available at [watercentre.org/training/tab/online-training/](http://watercentre.org/training/tab/online-training/)

**ICE WaRM** through their Australian Water School is conducting a range of webinars and short courses in the coming months. More information on the webinar program, topics and presenters is available at [www.icewarm.com.au/australian-water-school/webinars/](http://www.icewarm.com.au/australian-water-school/webinars/) and more information on the short courses is at [www.icewarm.com.au/australian-water-school/short-courses/](http://www.icewarm.com.au/australian-water-school/short-courses/)

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

**Current positions vacant** include a Regional Operations Manager, a number of Treatment Plant Operator roles, a Treatment Optimisation Engineer and more. To utilise this FREE job placement service, email your job ad to [sherryn@wioa.org.au](mailto:sherryn@wioa.org.au)

## COMING EVENTS

- 23 May **Wastewater Interest Day**, Kingborough, Tasmania
- 5 & 6 June **44<sup>th</sup> WIOA QLD Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Bundaberg
- 28 June **EOI for presentations at WISE** close
- 5 July **WIOA Talks Webinar** – Training and development, Online
- 20 July **Kwatye Applications** close
- 24 July **Water Interest Day & Ixom Best Tasting Tap Water in Tasmania**, Launceston
- 26 July **NSW Interest Day & Charity Bowls**, Port Macquarie
- 7 & 8 August **2<sup>nd</sup> WIOA SA Water Industry Operations Conference & Expo**, Murray Bridge
- 4 & 5 Sept **82<sup>nd</sup> WIOA VIC Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Bendigo
- 9 October **Water Industry Safety Event - WISE**, Coburg



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**KEEP YOUR CONTACT DETAILS UP TO DATE.** If your phone number, mailing address or email address has changed please email Abbey your new details ([abbey@wioa.org.au](mailto:abbey@wioa.org.au)) or call the office on 03 5821 6744.