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WIOA WORDS

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AROUND THE TRAPS

The **Victorian Department of Health and Human Services** has communicated with all Victorian Water Corporations confirming that from 1 July 2019, the *Water Industry Operator Certification Framework 2018: Drinking Water, Wastewater, Recycled Water* will be adopted in Victoria and will replace the *Victorian framework for water treatment operator competencies – Best practice guidelines*. There are currently 67 operators certified under the Victorian Guidelines and they will be progressively transferred to the National Certification Scheme as they apply for recertification. The DHHS letter has provided very strong endorsement of the benefits of Certification and we are sure that this will be the catalyst for an increase in participation in the near future.



The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) project to **review the qualification rules and units of Competence in Certificate II and Certificate III** in the National Water Training Package is nearing completion. The TAC has undertaken the work on behalf of Australian Industry Standards (AIS) and feedback is invited on the draft materials available at <https://www.australianindustrystandards.org.au/projects/nwp-qualifications-review/> Please submit your feedback by close of business **Thursday, 25 July 2019** via the AIS portal.



The consumer watchdog, the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) has **lost its Federal Court battle** against the makers of so-called "**flushable**" **wipes** after accusing the company of misleading Australians. The ACCC took Kimberly-Clark Australia to court claiming it broke the law with its marketing of Kleenex Cottonelle Flushable Cleansing Cloths over a three-year period. The wipes were advertised as "flushable" in contrast to other products which warned consumers against flushing them. Justice Jacqueline Gleeson said there was not enough evidence to show that the Cottonelle wipes had specifically caused harm. More information is available on the ABC News website at <https://tinyurl.com/y597pgfc>



RedR Australia will be staging their next week-long **Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in Emergencies Training** course, to prepare people for humanitarian response in developing countries. It is residential and held at Dookie College, near Shepparton and will run from 12-18 October 2019. This course introduces participants to the WASH sector in emergencies and the international SPHERE standards that apply, as well as how the sector is impacted and supported by other sectors in an international emergency operation. More information or to register for the course is available from <https://tinyurl.com/y37slc5d>



Researchers at Monash University, CSIRO, The University of Melbourne and The University of Texas at Austin have established a new method to filter contaminants from groundwater and industrial wastewater, opening up new options to provide safe, clean drinking water in the developing world, and to protect the natural environment from industrial water pollution. Their method uses Metal-Organic Frameworks (MOFs) to separate negatively-charged ions from water. Read more at <https://www.medianet.com.au/releases/176230/>

WIOA AWARDS 2019

Last chance to apply for the rebranded **Kwatye Award** with the support of new sponsor **TRILITY**. The Award will 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 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/



The Victorian Branch of AWA is calling for nominations for the **Wal Whiteside Memorial, Victorian Operator of the Year Award**. The IWA (Victoria) is also calling for nominations for the **Young Victorian Operator of the Year Award**. We encourage all organisations to nominate their operational staff for consideration for these two prestigious awards. Nominations close on 2 August 2019. More information and an application form can be downloaded from the WIOA website at wioa.org.au/awards/state-awards/victorian-awards/

EVENTS

An **Operations Interest Day** including the **2019 Ixom Best Tasting Tap Water in Tasmania** competition will be conducted at the Mowbray Race Club in Launceston on Wednesday 24 July for Tasmanian members and guests. The program includes the Keynote Address by Michael Chapman from North East Water who will present an encore of his Best Paper from the 2018 WIOA Victorian Conference on the spot market influences and power shedding principles, along with a number of other interesting presentations. For catering purposes, registrations close at COB on Friday 19 July 2019 by email to Ann at WIOA – ann@wioa.org.au



The NSW Advisory Committee is conducting a **Water Interest Day & NSW Royce Water Technologies Charity Bowls Afternoon** in Port Macquarie on Friday 26 July. The day includes 4 technical presentations including an encore of the Best Paper from the 2019 NSW Conference. We are also looking for a strong turnout of operational employees in the region to help make the day a success. For more information or to register, visit the WIOA website: wioa.org.au/nevent/nsw-wid-bowls/



The next **WIOA Talks Webinar** will focus on **Water Nasties, In Nature and Industry** and will be held on Friday 2 August from 2.00pm. Three speakers will share their experiences and insights on blue-green algae, blackwater and industrial spill controls and management, all which have an effect on water and potentially the environment. For more information or to register visit wioa.org.au/nevent/wioatalks-waternasties/



Last Chance to Register for the 2nd WIOA **South Australian Operations Conference and Expo** which is being held on 7 & 8 August 2019 at the new Murray Bridge Racing Club. The conference runs from lunch time Wednesday until lunch time Thursday including a dinner on the Wednesday evening. The technical program has been finalised and will include a Keynote Address each day, as well as 10 operationally focussed papers.

The event will also include the **Ixom 2019 Best Tasting Tap Water in South Australia** competition on the Wednesday. We invite all our South Australian members and supporters to come along as either a delegate or visitor and bring along a sample of your water for the Taste Test. The program and other event information is available at: wioaconferences.org.au/sa-2019/

All Victorian Water Corporations are invited to enter the **Ixom 2019 Victorian Best Tasting Tap Water** competition heats to be held as part of the Victorian conference in Bendigo on 3 September. We know many organisations will be keen to knock off the reigning title holder Wannon Water, allowing them to boast that they have the best tasting water in Victoria. Check out the WIOA website for more information.



The program and delegate registration form for the **82nd Victorian Water Industry Operations Conference and Exhibition** is available from the WIOA website wioaconferences.org.au/vic-2019/vic-delegates/. The conference will open with a presentation by Simon Derrick, General Manager Commercial Operations at the Richmond Football Club on the role sport plays in promoting diversity and inclusion in communities. The keynote address will look at some inclusive stories from the water industry perspective by the Goulburn Valley Water team including Christina Bassani, Elise O'Keeffe & Simon Walsh. The conference program includes over 25 high-quality technical papers and posters.



Victorian Water Corporations are invited to enter teams of 2 competitors into the **3rd Victorian Main Tapping Competition** (supported by Coliban Water, Lend Lease and Reece Civil) that will be conducted as part of the Victorian conference in Bendigo. The fastest team will have \$1,000 donated to a charity of their choice, as well as having their names engraved into the perpetual trophy. Check out the WIOA website for more information - wioaconferences.org.au/vic-2019/vic-main-tapping/



The WIOA Victorian Advisory Committee is providing everyone a heads up that the **21st WIOA Victorian Charity Golf Day** will be held at the Camperdown Golf Club, on Sunday 20 October. We are looking for a strong turnout of operational people to help make the day a success and sponsorship opportunities exist for companies that would like a chance to win the Tradies Cup. Please place the date into your diary now.



The Australian Corrosion Association will be hosting an **International Symposium: Advances in Corrosion Science and Corrosion Engineering**. Held on 24-25 July 2019 at the Melbourne Marriott Hotel, 14 Australian and international speakers will present and there will be a panel discussion and open forum at the end of each day. See the program or register via the Corrosion Association website at <https://tinyurl.com/y44jf5zo>



The annual **Local Government NSW (LGNSW) Water Management Conference** is being held from 2-4 September in Albury. The conference presents local government attendees with a broad range of information on water policy, water management and issues associated with water supply and sewerage services provided by council-owned and operated local water utilities. For the program, accommodation options or to register visit the LG NSW website at <https://tinyurl.com/y5za6ard>



The **Membrane Operators Association (MOA)** of Australia and New Zealand is holding its third national membranes conference in Geelong, Victoria from 15-17 October 2019. The conference will be held at Barwon Water and includes presentations, multiple site visits, networking drinks and conference dinner. For more information on MOA and the conference program, visit their website at <http://www.moa.org.au/>

TRAINING COURSES

The National Centre for Groundwater Research and Training (NCGRT) is staging their **Australian Groundwater School 2019** in Sydney from 5-8 August. The schools provide participants with a broad but rigorous introduction to groundwater. Introducing hydrogeology, assessment methods, modelling, managed aquifer recharge, management, governance and more, it covers the fundamentals of groundwater. More details at <http://www.groundwater.com.au/events/47>

Women and Leadership Australia has just released funding to support the development of female leaders across Australia's water sector. The initiative is providing women with grants of between \$3,000 and \$7,000 to enable participation in one of three programs that cover such things as Presence and Presentation Skills, Leading Innovation and Change, and Emotional Intelligence and Conflict. The scholarship funding is provided with the specific intent of providing powerful and effective development opportunities for water sector women. Find out more at www.wla.edu.au/register prior to 13th September.

PEOPLE & CORPORATE MEMBER NEWS

WIOA Life Member, past President, Committee & Board member, **John Harris retired** from Wannon Water in early July after a long and distinguished career in the water industry spanning more than 45 years. Wannon Water has produced an excellent tribute video which includes details of a lot of his involvement with WIOA. It can be viewed on the Wannon Water Facebook page.



Royce Water Technologies announce the introduction of **DNA NGS Reporting** service for wastewater and water samples. GeneCount Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) providing users the ability to see what's happening inside their process by identifying nearly all of the types of microbes present along with insight into what good, or harm, they may be causing to empower users to apply targeted solutions for better microbial management. For further details contact Royce Water Technologies at contact@roycewater.com.au



After 17 Rounds of the season, David Cook and Manfred Glombowski on 96 lead the **WIOA AFL Footy Tipping Competition** followed closely by John Harris, Rodd O'Donnell and Andrew Nyholm on 95. In the **WIOA NRL Tipping Competition** David Binello and Brett Elsaesser are tied in the lead on 81, with Colin Haynes and Peter McDowell two behind on 79.

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

Current positions vacant include: a number of Water & Wastewater Operators including one at a snow resort, a Water Treatment Technician and a host of other positions. To utilise this FREE job placement service, email your job ad to sherryn@wioa.org.au

COMING EVENTS

- 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
- 2 August **Water Nasties, In Nature and Industry**, online webinar
- 7 August **Ixom 2019 Best Tasting Tap Water in South Australia competition**, Murray Bridge
- 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
- 4 Sept **Ixom 2019 Best Tasting Tap Water in Victoria competition**, Bendigo
- 9 October **2nd Water Industry Safety Event - WISE**, Coburg
- 11 October **FNQ Operations Interest Day and optional Charity Barefoot Bowls**, Cairns
- 19 October **Ixom 2019 Best Tasting Tap Water in Australia competition**, Dunkeld, Victoria
- 20 October **Victorian Charity Golf Day**, Camperdown Golf Club



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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.