



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

# WIOA WORDS

OCTOBER 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](mailto:info@wioa.org.au)

## AROUND THE TRAPS

The WIOA Committee has confirmed that the 2020 Individual Membership fees will increase to \$35 and the Corporate Membership fee will increase to \$290 (both GST included). The Individual fee increase is the first since 2016. Invoices will be sent to all Members shortly, with payment due on 1 January 2020.



The locations for WIOA's 2020 conferences have been confirmed. The **NSW** Conference will be held at the **Tamworth** Regional Entertainment and Conference Centre in the week of **30 March to 3 April 2020**. The **Queensland** Conference will be held in Toowoomba in the week of **1 June to 5 June 2020**. The **Victorian** Conference will be held at the **Bendigo** Exhibition Centre in the week of **31 August to 4 September 2020**.



There are still some **Prime and Major Sponsorship** opportunities available for the **2020 WIOA Water Industry Operations Conference and Exhibitions**. The Prime Sponsorship options include the conference satchels and the conference lunches. The satchels are a great branding opportunity as they continue to be used long after the conferences conclude. To discuss how your business can support WIOA and gain valuable exposure to the operational staff who attend these events, contact Craig in the WIOA office.



WIOA and WaterRA have recently released a joint Occasional Publication titled **Guide to the measurement and use of Ct**. The document is authored by Andrew Lanchbery and provides detailed technical information on the importance of Ct and how to calculate it, particularly in relation to water storage reservoirs. The document and a step by step calculation spreadsheet to help determine the Ct value are available from <https://wioa.org.au/ct/>



Congratulations to the Mackay Regional Council and the operators at the Marian WTP for winning the **Ixom 2019 Best Tasting Tap Water in Australia** competition. Held in Dunkeld at the 3 Peaks Festival, it was one of the closest competitions ever staged. The winners of each of the State Taste Test competitions were pitted against one another with the Festival attendees invited to taste the samples and cast their vote. The Mackay Regional Council sample will now go on to represent Australia at the International Water Taste Test conducted in Berkley Springs, USA in February 2020. We encourage all water businesses to enter their respective state competitions in 2020.



Applications to participate in the **2020 Victorian Network Operator Development Program (NODP)** are currently being sought with applications closing on 20 November. We have received extremely positive feedback from the 2019 NODP participants and we look forward to having more Corporations and employers of network operators represented in 2020. More information and the application forms are available from <https://wioa.org.au/network-operator-development-program/>

Water Research Australia (WaterRA) has a number of events coming up including:

- A workshop - **What can we learn from each other, Opening up the Reconciliation Action Plan**. The event is for those managing and closely related to the Reconciliation Action Plans in Water Utilities. It will be held at SA Water House in Adelaide from 10am to 4pm on 22 November. Registration is free to employees of WaterRA member organisations. For details and to register visit <https://tinyurl.com/y5ugwpts>
- Due to popular demand, another **Data Science Community of Interest Workshop: R for Water Professionals**. The event is available to both members and non-members and will be held at the Portside Centre, Kent Street, Sydney from 9am to 5pm on 10 December. For information and to register, visit: <https://tinyurl.com/y42djvo8>
- The **Water Research Australia and ARC-EEsep Hub- Joint Membrane Workshop**, will be held at the Pan Pacific Hotel, Melbourne, from 9am to 1pm on 27 November. Open to operators, water treatment professionals and researchers, the event will feature a number of national and international speakers presenting on industry challenges and management strategies, as well as new and emerging technologies, all relating to membrane operations in the water industry. Registrations are just \$200 for industry and researchers and \$100 for students. For more information and to register <https://www.arc-eesep.org/ieesep2019>



At the Interest Day held in Ringarooma on 15 October, **Leigh Walton** was awarded the **2019 Tasmanian Operator of the Year** and **Brielle Gray** was awarded **Tasmanian Young Operator of the Year**. Our congratulations are extended to both for winning the awards and they will join the WIOA contingent to New Zealand in May 2020 courtesy of award sponsor in TasWater.



**Australian Industry Standards (AIS)** who oversees the development of the National Water Training Package invites your feedback about skilling issues affecting the water industry. AIS conducts an annual industry skills survey to capture any new or emerging skills issues to inform the Water IRC's discussions on skilling priorities and training packages. Feedback is requested by Friday 17 January 2020 by completing a short, 10-minute survey at [www.surveymonkey.com/r/IRCSkillsSurvey2020](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/IRCSkillsSurvey2020) Any enquiries can be directed to Australian Industry Standards at [enquiries@australianindustrystandards.org.au](mailto:enquiries@australianindustrystandards.org.au)

## EVENTS

The **Call for Papers** for the **2020 WIOA NSW Operations Conference** will close on Friday 15 November. Share your experience with other operational staff by presenting either a platform or poster paper in Tamworth. Abstract submission details are available at <http://wioaconferences.org.au/call-for-papers/>



The inaugural **Victorian Operations Interest Day** followed by an optional **ProMinent sponsored Barefoot Bowls** afternoon will be held at the Sunbury Bowls Club on Friday 25 October 2019. We encourage all Victorian WIOA members to get along to this event. The day will include a morning of technical presentations prior to the bowls commencing in the afternoon. The exciting and very diverse technical program for the day can be accessed at <https://wioa.org.au/vic-bowls-2019/> Corporate members wishing to sponsor the bowls day should contact Craig at the WIOA office ASAP.



The next **WIOA Talks webinar**, covering **Safety Issues** will be held online at 1:00pm (AEDT) on Tuesday 29 October 2019. The program will cover hazard identification, fatigue management and addressing psychological risk. For more information and to register <https://wioa.org.au/nevent/safety-2/>

The sixth annual **Far North Queensland Operations Interest Day** followed immediately by the TRILITY Charity Bowls afternoon was held in Cairns on 11 October 2019. There were just over 60 members in attendance with 39 staying on to enjoy the bowls in the afternoon. Thanks to an enormous amount of Corporate support, the \$1,500 raised on the day has been donated to the Mareeba Shire Council Mayors Christmas appeal. Thank you once again to all our very generous Corporate Members who supported the event. A write up and photos will appear in the November edition of Operator.



**The Victorian Advisory Committee** is conducting a **Distribution Network Interest Day** on Wednesday 13 November 2019 at the Gisborne Town Hall, followed by an onsite field demonstration of the safe water mains repair procedure by Western Water staff. For more information and to register, visit the WIOA website at <https://wioa.org.au/nevent/save-the-date-vic-networks-interest-day-gisborne/>



**The South Australian Advisory Committee** is conducting an **Operations Interest Day** on Thursday 21 November 2019 at the SA Water Operations Centre and Laboratory in Adelaide. Sponsored by SA Water, the day will incorporate a number of technical presentations along with the announcement of the winner of the 2019 South Australian Operator of the Year award. After lunch, a tour of the Operations Centre and Laboratory will be undertaken. For more information and to register, visit [wioa.org.au/nevent/wid-sa1-2/](https://wioa.org.au/nevent/wid-sa1-2/)



**The Queensland Advisory Committee** is conducting a **Wastewater Interest Day** on Thursday 7 November 2019 at the Aquatec Maxcon facility in Ipswich. The day will incorporate a number of technical presentations, an operator panel discussion session and a tour of the Aquatec Maxcon Electrical & Maintenance Facility. More information and register at [https://wioa.org.au/nevent/qld\\_wid\\_ipswich/](https://wioa.org.au/nevent/qld_wid_ipswich/)

## WIOA AWARDS

WIOA is calling for nominations for the **2019 South Australian Operator of the Year Award**, sponsored by TAFE SA. Applications close on 31 October 2019. More information and an application form can be downloaded from the WIOA website at: <https://wioa.org.au/awards/state-awards/sa-awards/>



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 2020 to the value of over \$2,500. Sponsored by Aqualift Project Delivery, applications close at the end of February 2020. Entry forms are on the website at <https://wioa.org.au/awards/national-awards/pass-award/>

## TRAINING COURSES

The International Water Centre's **Leadership for Executive Women in Water** course is a 3-day intensive, residential course specifically designed for busy female executives. The intent of the short course is to catalyse fresh perspectives and honest conversations about the leadership journey, and to book-end this with professional coaching sessions. Registrations are closing soon for the 2019 course which runs from 13-15 November 2019. New dates for 2020 will be announced soon. Download the course brochure from <https://tinyurl.com/yx8z84m9> and contact Belinda Pritchard on 0472 502 759 with any queries.

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 Adelaide from 11-15 November 2019 and an Introduction to Pump Test Analysis in Melbourne on 21-22 October 2019. More on these and other NCGRT courses is available from [www.groundwater.com.au/events/training](http://www.groundwater.com.au/events/training)

The **International Water Centre (IWC)** announces that applications for entry to their **Water Leadership Program** and **Graduate Certificate in Water Leadership** will close on 4 November 2019. There are some partial Scholarships available for both courses. Find out more information on the scholarships and how to apply at <https://watercentre.org/study/>

## PEOPLE & CORPORATE MEMBER NEWS

**Unitywater** has been recognised by its peers by winning two industry awards for recently completed sewerage projects. The **Caloundra Sewage Transport System** was awarded Project of the Year: New Installation by the Australasian Society for Trenchless Technology in Melbourne on 12 September. The low-tech upgrade of the **Kenilworth Sewage Treatment Plant** won the Queensland Infrastructure Project Innovation Award at the Australian Water Association awards on 13 September.



As part of the Australian Water School, ICEWaRM is staging a free one-hour webinar **Dam Safety Modelling using McBreach®**. Held on Wednesday 6 November at 11.00am (AEDT) the webinar showcases the McBreach® program which provides a more meaningful and more genuine way to communicate the potential effects from a dam or levee breach. More information and to register go to: [tinyurl.com/y4vnodjj](http://tinyurl.com/y4vnodjj)



**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 and enquiries contact [contact@roycewater.com.au](mailto:contact@roycewater.com.au)

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

The positions vacant section of our website currently has a number of positions for **Treatment Plant Operators and Technicians and a Plumber**. Positions are currently being advertised seeking applicants for jobs in NSW, Queensland and Victoria. To utilise this FREE job advertisement service, please email your advert to [sherryn@wioa.org.au](mailto:sherryn@wioa.org.au)

## COMING EVENTS 2019

- 25 October **Operations Interest & Charity Bowls Day**, Sunbury Bowling Club, Victoria
- 29 October **WIOA Talks Webinar - Safety**, Online
- 31 October **South Australian Operator of the Year**, Nominations close
- 7 November **Wastewater Interest Day**, Aquatec Maxcon facility, Ipswich, Queensland
- 15 November **NSW Call for Papers**, Applications Close
- 13 November **Networks Interest Day**, Western Water, Gisborne, Victoria
- 20 November **Victorian Network Operator Development Program**, Applications close
- 21 November **Operations Interest Day**, SA Water, Adelaide, South Australia

## 2020 EVENTS

- 29 February **PASS Award**, Applications close
- 1 & 2 April **14th WIOA NSW Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Tamworth
- 3 & 4 June **45th WIOA QLD Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Toowoomba
- 2 & 3 September **83rd WIOA VIC Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Bendigo



Become a friend of WIOA on **FACEBOOK** follow us on **TWITTER** or join us in **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](mailto:ann@wioa.org.au)) or call the office on 03 5821 6744.