



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

# WIOA WORDS

JULY 2020 Edition

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**Launches 22 July 2020 - Expo Sites Available**

**LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER** for the first of the Live Days on WIOA's new virtual conference and exhibition platform **Virtual Water**. Virtual Water will launch at 10.30am on Wednesday, 22 July 2020 with a Keynote presentation from internationally renowned researcher, educator, communicator, author and a tireless advocate for scientific excellence and safe drinking water, Dr Steve Hrudehy. Also on Day 1 will be the announcement of the 2020 PASS Award winner, along with other operationally focussed presentations by Dr Dan Deere, Cameron Ansell and Rod Morton. The exhibition hall looks amazing with almost 50 Corporate Members taking the opportunity to showcase their latest in products and services to the water industry.

All Members need to register at <https://www.virtualwater.com.au/en/registration> to gain access to the platform. The technical program for the first few days has been completed and can be viewed at <https://wioaconferences.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Virtual-Water-Program.pdf> with the remainder of the program to be released shortly. Please let all your water industry colleagues know that entry to the first two days is free for everyone, and encourage them to log in and participate.

## AROUND THE TRAPS

The Australian Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment has confirmed that the Water Quality Australia website now includes **eight new or revised draft default guideline values (DGVs)** and associated technical briefs for the following toxicants: Boron in freshwater; Chromium III in freshwater; Glyphosate in freshwater; Iron in freshwater; Iron in marine water; Metolochlor in freshwater; Metsulfuron-methyl in freshwater; and Zinc in marine water. The DGVs will be published as a draft for a period of four months until 29 October 2020, at which point they will become final unless new peer-reviewed scientific or technical information justifies a re-examination. To access the eight DGV technical briefs and associated documents, please refer to Table 1 at the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/y2ojw5b>



The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) project to **review the qualification rules and units of Competence in Certificate IV** in the National Water Training Package is nearing completion. The TAC has undertaken the work on behalf of Australian Industry Standards (AIS). The final report and all the proposed amendments will be considered by the Water Industry Reference Committee (IRC) at their meeting on 11 August.

The **National Health and Medical Research Council** (NHMRC) is seeking feedback on updated guidance on the radiological quality of drinking water. Sections of the **Australian Drinking Water Guidelines** (ADWG 2011) that have been updated are Chapters 7 and 10, Information Sheet 2.2 and fact sheets on radium, alpha and beta radionuclides, radon-222 and a subsection of the uranium fact sheet. Public consultation is open until **Wednesday 12 August 2020, 4pm (AEST)**. You are invited under section 13(d) of the NHMRC Act 1992 to make a submission to NHMRC through the public consultation website at <https://tinyurl.com/y6afkc98>



The **International Ultraviolet Association** has released a white paper titled "**SARS-CoV-2 UV Dose-Response Behaviour**," which discusses if UV is effective for inactivation of SARS-CoV-2. A copy of the whitepaper can be downloaded at <https://tinyurl.com/y4vytbaq> In the next few weeks IUVA will also release white papers on UV 101, Safety in the deep UV (222nm) range, and UV surface disinfection validation.



The **International WaterCentre** is staging **monthly webinars** to stay connected with the water community. In coming months they will discuss a range of complex topics and encouraging the water sector to continue leading towards more sustainable solutions. The first webinar on Friday 24 July 2020 (9.50-11.00am AEST) will be presented by Dr André Taylor, the IWC Leadership Specialist, on **Using adaptive leadership to address complex challenges in the water sector**. More information or register at <https://tinyurl.com/y4yyg4mw>



The Water Services Association of Australia (WSAA) has recently launched the **National Good Practice Operational Guidelines for Bushfire Management** for the Australian Water Industry. These Guidelines represent a significant whole of industry effort and aim to build on current knowledge and experience to provide practical guidance on bushfire and water quality management. In particular, the Guidelines will provide support to planning and operational staff within a water utility so that they can plan, respond and recover from a bushfire emergency based on sound practical experience. The Guidelines are underpinned by practical case studies from Australian water utilities and can be accessed at <https://tinyurl.com/y236ywpb>

## **WIOA AWARDS 2020**

Applications are being sought for the **Kwatye Award**, sponsored by **TRILITY**. The award recognises 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. Applications have been extended until 20 August 2020 with more information available at <https://wioa.org.au/awards/national-awards/kwatye-award/>



Applications are being sought for the new **Spirit of Australia (Mateship) Awards**, also sponsored by **TRILITY**. Australians are renowned for coming together and supporting each other during times of need. It is this compassion and kindness that we want to recognise. We encourage you all to share your stories and submit nominations so that we can acknowledge those who have supported others during challenging times. This could include initiatives to show kindness to neighbours, promoting physical and mental wellbeing in a community, helping those less able, creating virtual communities, supporting remote workers, keeping them engaged, motivated and recognised or adapting work practices to enable remote working. There will be one winner from each State and courtesy of award sponsor TRILITY, a donation will be made to the winner's nominated charity of choice. Applications close on 20 August 2020 and more information is on the WIOA website at <https://wioa.org.au/awards/national-awards/spirit-of-aus/>

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 28 August 2020. More information and an application form can be downloaded from the WIOA website at <https://wioa.org.au/awards/state-awards/victorian-awards/>

## EVENTS

WIOA has made a very difficult decision and **cancelled the WIOA Victorian Conference** in Bendigo on 25 & 26 November 2020 due to the escalation in the spread of COVID-19 in Victoria. We are hopeful that the 2021 conferences will be able to proceed as planned. We will continue to monitor the COVID-19 situation in all States in the coming weeks and months and will make further announcements on each event in due course.



WIOA invites all NSW/ACT water suppliers to participate in the **2020 Ixom NSW/ACT Best Tasting Tap Water competition** to be held on Live Day 3 on the Virtual Water platform on 12 August 2020. To participate, we ask that all NSW/ACT water suppliers send a 1 litre sample of your finest drop along with a completed entry form to the WIOA office (24 New Dookie Road, Shepparton, Vic 3630) by Wednesday 5 August 2020. The entry form is at <https://wioa.org.au/awards/national-awards/australias-best-tap-water/> Just like at a face to face event, WIOA will arrange a number of independent judges who will taste each sample and determine the grand finalists and ultimately, the winner. The winner will be announced at the end of Live Day 3 and will have bragging rights for the next 12 months.

## TRAINING COURSES

**AMS Training & Solutions** invites enquiries about online training opportunities and instructor led live seminars during 2020. These live seminars give participants the opportunity to engage with the trainer in a small virtual classroom. Visit [www.amsts.com.au](http://www.amsts.com.au) for more details. AMS is planning to offer David H Paul RO Specialist hands-on and classroom training in October 2020. Email them to be waitlisted for future events.



The **IWES Short Courses** originally proposed to be staged in July have been rescheduled to 23-27 November 2020. Along with the usual course topics, a new course on applied statistics for water and wastewater has been added to the line up. The early bird discount for attendees where you can save up to \$1,000 has been extended through to 21 September 2020. For more information on the range of courses or to register, visit <https://iwes.com.au/events/iwes-gold-coast-2020/>



The **Australian Water School** has launched a new website at <https://tinyurl.com/y6xfjke6> allowing everyone to browse their wide-ranging portfolio of live and on-demand courses, including past webinars, with ease. The AWS team has developed an exciting line-up of upcoming high-calibre webinars, on-demand and live training focusing on significant, innovative or critical advances in water science, technology and management.



Simmonds & Bristow are excited to offer their new **Virtual Training platform**. Participating in online training by joining the virtual classroom provides a number of benefits including studying in a group instead of alone, fast tracking assignments with coaching and completion of final work ready assessments remotely via phone or virtual meeting. Alternatively, you might like to try a workshop option. More information on both is at <https://www.simmondsbristow.com.au/our-services/virtual-training/>

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

**Current positions vacant** include: a number of Water & Wastewater Operators or Process Controllers; a Senior Business Customer Service Officer; a Business Manager; a Contract Manager and a range of other positions. To utilise this FREE job placement service, email your job ad to [sherryn@wioa.org.au](mailto:sherryn@wioa.org.au)

## PEOPLE & CORPORATE MEMBER NEWS

We understand that long term Member **Lester Little** from TasWater is about to retire after a long and distinguished career in the water industry. Lester has been an amazing supporter of WIOA in Tasmania and was one of the inaugural Tasmanian Advisory Committee members, a regular contributor to our publications and a PASS award winner. All the best in your retirement Lester from everyone at WIOA.

## COMING EVENTS

- 22 July **WIOA Virtual Water – Launch day and presentations**, online
- 29 July **Intelligent Water Network, Asset Management Session** online - Virtual Water Day 2
- 12 August **Ixom NSW/ACT Best Tasting Tap Water Competition** online - Virtual Water Day 3
- 20 August **Kwatye Award** applications close
- 20 August **Spirit of Australia (Mateship) Award** applications close
- 28 August **Victorian Operators of the Year** nominations close



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.