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WIOA WORDS

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REGISTER NOW www.virtualwater.com.au

WIOA's new virtual conference and exhibition platform **Virtual Water** is up and running with the first 4 Live Days now completed. If you have missed any of the live presentations, don't worry, you can still go back and view them in your own time in the On-Demand section in the auditorium. The technical program up to Day 9 can be viewed at <https://wioaconferences.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Virtual-Water-Program.pdf> with the program for the remaining Live Days to be released shortly.

The exhibition hall looks amazing with 50 Corporate Members taking the opportunity to showcase their latest in products and services to the water industry in the interactive 3D environment. We know that not all WIOA Members have taken up the opportunity to login and visit the platform just yet. Feedback from many first time users is that they are amazed at how interactive the platform is and how much useful information and content is available. Members can register at <https://www.virtualwater.com.au/en/registration> using your email to gain access. You then set your own password and you are good to login whenever it suits you.

WIOA non-members can still access the platform, just not the auditorium where the presentations are staged. Non-Members wanting access to the auditorium will need to join WIOA (\$35) or pay a delegate registration fee (\$110). It is vitally important that all our Members login and support our Corporate members participating in the expo, as well as encouraging all your water industry colleagues to login and participate as well.

AROUND THE TRAPS

The Water Industry Reference Committee (IRC) at its meeting on 11 August received and accepted the final report and all the proposed amendments from the **review of the qualification rules and units of Competence in Certificate IV** in the National Water Training Package. The amendments will now be forwarded to the various State Training Authorities for their review. It is anticipated that the updated material will be forwarded to the Australian Industry and Skills Committee for their final endorsement in October.



The **International WaterCentre** is staging monthly webinars to stay connected with the water community and to encourage the water sector to continue leading towards more sustainable solutions. The next event entitled **Gender Equity and Social Inclusion facilitates successful community projects: How is it most effectively done?** will be held on Thursday 17 September 2020 (10.00-11.00am AEST). For more information or register visit <https://tinyurl.com/y2okv94m>

On 28 July, to celebrate the 10 years since the United Nations recognised the **human right to water and sanitation**, **WaterAid** commissioned 10 visual artists from across the world to interpret the far-reaching impact access to clean water and decent sanitation has on people's lives and the role these vital basics play in the realisation of other human rights. Photographers explore 10 years of the human right to water and sanitation in the striking WaterAid gallery that can be viewed at <https://tinyurl.com/y6lhaeg>



The **Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia** is staging **The LONG Run** fundraising initiative during September. You can run, walk or wheel your way to 72km anytime over the month of September. By participating, you will help raise much-needed funds to support men through their cancer diagnosis and help fund research so that fewer fathers, husbands, sons and mates have to face the challenges of prostate cancer. Registration is free and open now. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/yxkycewy> to find out more and register.

WIOA AWARDS 2020

Congratulations to the team from Port Macquarie Hastings Council's **Wauchope WTP** for winning the **Ixom 2020 NSW/ACT Best Tasting Tap Water Competition**. The taste test competition was held as part of Day 3 on the Virtual Water platform with the WIOA staff acting as the independent judges.



Our congratulations are extended to **Matty Agnew** from MidCoast Council who was announced as winner of the **2020 NSW Operator of the Year** by Brendan Guiney, CEO of the NSW Water Directorate. The announcement was also made on Day 3 on the Virtual Water platform with the winner receiving an all expenses paid opportunity to join the WIOA contingent on their tour of New Zealand courtesy of sponsor, NSW Water Directorate. Here's hoping the borders open soon so that Matty can go on the trip in May 2021.



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/>



Applications for the **2020 Kwatye Award & Spirit of Australia Awards**, both sponsored by TRILITY closed on 20 August 2020. The winner of the Kwatye Award will be announced on Live Day 7 on the Virtual Water platform on 9 September 2020. The winners of the Spirit of Australia Awards in each State will be announced on Live Day 8 on the Virtual Water platform on 16 September 2020. Good luck to all of the entrants this year.

EVENTS

The winners of the **Tasmanian Operator of the Year** and **Tasmanian Young Operator of the Year** will be announced on Live Day 6 on the Virtual Water platform on 2 September 2020. Also on Day 6 will be the **Ixom Tasmanian Best Tasting Tap Water** competition. Live Day 7 on 9 September will host the **Ixom Western Australian Best Tasting Tap Water** competition. Good luck to all those in the running for these awards.

TRAINING COURSES

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. There are a number of webinars, on-demand and live training courses coming up in the next couple of months focusing on significant, innovative or critical advances in water science, technology and management.

Simmonds & Bristow are excited to offer an expanded **Water Industry 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. Register now as the next courses start on Tuesday 15th September 2020. More information at <https://www.simmondsbristow.com.au/our-services/virtual-training/>



The **IWES Short Courses** rescheduled to 23-27 November 2020 have now gone completely online. The new digital schedule is spread over 3 hour sessions instead of full days, so you can get your training in and still keep on top of your regular work. Early bird prices are still available until September 21, and you'll be pleased to note the new digital pricing is even lower! For more information on the range of courses or to register, visit <https://iwes.com.au/events/iwes-gold-coast-2020/>

PEOPLE & CORPORATE MEMBER NEWS

Australian wastewater treatment company **Aerofloat Australia** has met International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO) standards for its integrated management systems. The company undertook the rigorous certification process and was successfully certified by the JAS-ANZ accredited group, CPG, in three key areas: environmental, quality and occupational health and safety. More details at <https://www.aerofloat.com.au/>



Simmonds and Bristow offers a relief water & wastewater operator service – anywhere; anytime; any duration. All staff are skilled and experienced, are a minimum of Certificate III qualified, and can be deployed to your site with 24 hours notice. Visit the S&B website at <https://tinyurl.com/y68h4535> for more details.



Detection Services is offering support packages to essential services covering valve operations, pump optimisation and pressure demands. For more information on the services offered and some potential trial opportunities email chrise@detectionservices.com.au with a subject line that you “want to find out more about the range of Detection Services Support Packages”.

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

Current positions vacant exist in Queensland and NSW including a Water Reclamation Facility Operator, and two Team Leader positions. To utilise this FREE job placement service, email your job ad to sherryn@wioa.org.au

COMING EVENTS

- 26 August **Ixom South Australia Best Tasting Tap Water Competition** online - Virtual Water Day 5
- 28 August **Victorian Operator of the Year & Young Operator of the Year** nominations close
- 2 September **Ixom Tasmanian Best Tasting Tap Water Competition**, online - Virtual Water Day 6
- 2 September **Tas Operator of the Year & Young Operator of the Year**, announced on Virtual Water Day 6
- 9 September **Kwatye Award**, winner announcement online Virtual Water Day 7
- 9 September **Ixom Western Australia Best Tasting Tap Water Competition**, online - Virtual Water Day 7
- 16 September **Spirit of Australia (Mateship) Award**, winner announcement online Virtual Water Day 8
- 14 October **Ixom Victorian Best Tasting Tap Water Competition**, online - Virtual Water Day 9
- 14 October **Vic Operator of the Year & Young Operator of the Year**, announced on Virtual Water Day 9



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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.