



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

WIOA WORDS

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AROUND THE TRAPS

Welcome to 2021. The Committee, Board and Staff of WIOA hope that the trials and tribulations of 2020 are now well behind us and we look forward to delivering another exciting and operationally important calendar of events this year. The Advisory Committees in all States will be meeting in early February and will look to schedule interest days in the coming months, ahead of our conference schedule which now commences in June in Queensland.



Members are reminded that **annual fees for 2021 were due on 1 January**. If you have not paid your fees, please do so as soon as possible, or alternatively, please let us know if you do not intend to renew your membership and we will remove you from the Membership register.

We received some payments by EFT in December 2020 where the invoice number or the name of the payee was not provided. Our staff are unable to correctly allocate the payments without this information. Receipts have now been issued and sent to everyone by email. If you have not received a receipt for your payment, can you please contact the office staff with the date and amount of your payment, as it may be one of the missing ones.



WaterWorks (WIOA's technical publication) is published on behalf of the association by Executive Media in May and November each year. Copies are distributed to all members, as well as to conference delegates and exhibitors. We rely on advertising sales to offset the cost of providing this valuable publication for the benefit of members. Corporate members are invited to consider advertising in the May edition - contact Nicole Grimm from Executive Media on 0432 217 216 or email nicole.grimm@executivemedia.com.au



We are seeking **articles, stories or information** from Members suitable for publication in the May edition of WaterWorks along with the February and May editions of Operator. If you can contribute, or know of anything that would be interesting to our Members, please contact George at george@wioa.org.au.



2021 Sponsorship Opportunities. WIOA has **Sponsorship** opportunities available for the 2021 Water Industry Operations Conferences and Exhibitions to be conducted in Queensland, Victoria and NSW. Prime Sponsorship opportunities include the conference bags that are presented to all delegates at these events, or the Lunch sponsor for both days of the conferences. A range of other options are also available to have your brand recognised by attendees and support WIOA. Contact Craig for more information, 0457 846 008.



Water Research Australia (WaterRA) has recently released the report from Project 3043 addressing **PFAS exposure modelling and trigger points for investigation in recycled water irrigation applications** focusing on three PFAS - PFOS, PFOA and PFHxS (collectively termed PFAS3). A copy of the report is available from the <https://www.waterra.com.au/project-details/269>

A number of developments relating to Vocational Education and Training (VET) system reforms have recently been released. The Federal and State Governments have jointly agreed to progress a number of key skills reforms relating to: Strengthening the role of industry and employers; Improving VET qualifications; and Raising the quality of training. To receive automatic updates as they are released, you can register your email at <https://tinyurl.com/y2z3mwnw>

To facilitate consultation, an Engagement Hub has been set up at: www.skillsreform.gov.au. This hub will share discussion papers, surveys, details of webinars and digital workshops, and updates on key decisions made throughout the reform process. There are currently several surveys seeking responses including:

- **RTO Training Experience Survey** – seeking feedback on RTOs from those who have undertaken training in the VET system in the last five years.
- **Supporting VET Workforce Quality Survey** – seeking views of anyone who engages with the VET sector to help identify the strengths of the VET workforce, and areas for improvement and further support.

WIOA AWARDS

The closing date for applications for the **Problem Accepted, Solution Supplied (PASS) Award** is 28 February 2021. The winner receives the opportunity to participate in the WIOA tour to New Zealand in May 2021 to the value of \$2,500, courtesy of sponsor Aqualift Project Delivery. Application details and an entry form are on the website at <http://wioa.org.au/awards/national-awards/pass-award/>

EVENTS

The **Call for Papers** (papers and posters) for the **45th WIOA Queensland Water Operations Conference and Exhibition** in Toowoomba on 2 & 3 June closes on 5 February 2021. We need the support of members, and particularly from those in operational roles, to make this event a success. Presentations do not need to be highly technical to be valuable, and often the best received papers are those that communicate how an operational problem has been investigated and rectified. Details on submission of abstracts can be obtained from the website: <http://wioaconferences.org.au/call-for-papers/>



The itinerary for the **2021 Operators Tour of New Zealand** from 21 to 29 May 2021, including attendance at the WIOG Operations Conference in Napier, is currently being finalised. The tour will only proceed if a travel bubble is created and mandatory quarantine restrictions are not in force on either side of the Tasman. Based on past tours, the approximate cost will be \$1,800 AUD per person plus airfares. To allow us to book accommodation, the bus and confirm prices, registrations will close on 1 February 2021. Anyone interested in participating should register your interest with the WIOA office ASAP.

The Water Industry Operations Group NZ (**WIOG**) **Conference** will be held in Napier, New Zealand from 26-28 May 2021. Further information on the conference is available at www.wiog.org.nz



A **Charity Bowls Day** will be conducted by the Queensland Advisory Committee on Friday 5 March 2021 at the Yandina Bowls Club. WIOA members and their guests are invited to enjoy this networking opportunity and a relaxed game of bowls. All funds raised from the day will be distributed to charity at the WIOA Queensland Conference in 2021. We are also seeking corporate support for this event and look forward to seeing you on the greens. You can register online at: <https://wioa.org.au/nevent/qldbowl-2021/>

TRAINING COURSES

AMS Training & Solutions is excited to welcome Paul Roginson as a certified and accredited DHPaul trainer. Paul's inclusion adds flexibility to the training schedule and expressions of interest are invited from potential hosts and/or attendees for 2021. AMS offers online, virtual, classroom and hands-on David H Paul RO Specialist Training, recognised by the IDA Academy and the most comprehensive RO training worldwide. Email them to be waitlisted for future events. Visit www.amsts.com.au - for more details.

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, O&M Staff, Supervisors and Team Leaders and a number of Engineering roles**. Positions are currently being advertised seeking applicants for jobs in NSW, Tasmanian, Queensland and Victoria. To utilise this FREE job advertisement service, please email your advert to sherryn@wioa.org.au

PEOPLE & CORPORATE MEMBER NEWS

WIOA was saddened to learn of the recent passing of **Julie-Ann Smith**. Julie was a long-standing member and supporter of WIOA and a former Queensland Operator of the Year. Julie-Ann will be sadly missed by everyone, but particularly by her colleagues at Isaac Regional Council.



Congratulations to **Emerson** for winning the "IoT Analytics Platform of the Year" award for its Plantweb Optics™ Analytics software. The honour, part of the 5th annual IoT Breakthrough Awards, recognises Emerson's analytics software that uses artificial intelligence and machine learning to improve reliability, safety and sustainability while optimizing production for industrial manufacturers. More information is at <https://www.emerson.com/en-us/news/automation/21-01-iot-breakthrough-award>



Smart water network management services company **Aqua Analytics** has partnered with Idrica for the Australian and New Zealand markets to bring technological solution GoAigua to the Asia Pacific water sector. Using advanced Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, GoAigua can help water utilities to unlock value from their distributed data generated by the digital components of the water utility infrastructure. For more information visit www.AquaAnalytics.com.au



Corporate Member **Simmonds and Bristow** offers a **relief operator service** where skilled relief or permanent operators for your STP, WWTP, TWTP and WTP can be provided. They can be used to provide cover for staff shortages, holiday leave, training, resignations, waiting for replacements and long-term illness anywhere, anytime, any duration. Contact 1800 620 690 for a tailored solution for your needs.



Corporate Member **Treadwell** is offering free Virtual Lunch & Learn sessions for your team in 2021. Learn about the benefits and cost savings from using Fibreglass Reinforced Plastics in your next project. Or discuss a topic of interest with product specialists who are standing by and eager to answer your questions. Send a request to hello@treadwellgroup.com.au and their team will get back to you.

2021 EVENTS - Check out the events calendar online, visit www.wioa.org.au/seminars/calendar.htm

- 5 February **Queensland Conference Call for Papers and Posters** close
- 28 February **PASS Award**, applications close
- 4 March **qldwater - Queensland Water Skills Partnership Forum**, Brisbane
- 5 March **Queensland Charity Bowls Day**, Yandina
- 21 to 29 May **WIOA Tour of New Zealand**, North Island, (TBC)

2021 Conference & Exhibition Schedule

- 2 & 3 June **45th WIOA QLD Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Toowoomba
- 4 & 5 August **3rd WIOA SA Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Murray Bridge
- 1 & 2 September **83rd WIOA VIC Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Bendigo
- 27 & 28 October **14th WIOA NSW Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Tamworth



Become a friend of WIOA on **FACEBOOK** and follow us on **TWITTER** or **Linked In**

KEEP YOUR CONTACT DETAILS UP TO DATE. If your phone number, mailing address or email address has changed please email Sherryn your new details (sherryn@wioa.org.au) or call the office on 03 5821 6744.