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WIOA WORDS

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AROUND THE TRAPS

Members are reminded that the **annual fees for 2021 were due on 1 January 2021** and all those who have paid will have been sent their receipt. Reminders have also been sent recently and any member not financial at the end of February 2021 will be deemed to have resigned their membership and will have their details removed from the member database.



SPECIAL NOTICE TO CORPORATE MEMBERS: The 2021 WIOA Queensland, Victorian and New South Wales Conferences and Exhibitions have been included in Austrade's Approved Business Event list giving our Corporate Members an opportunity to apply for a grant to recover some costs of participating. To meet the grant program requirements, we must open registrations for delegates and exhibitors for all events by the end of February. To do this, we will alter our site allocation process for this year. A single Expression of Interest (Eoi) process will be used which will include all three events. The order in which we receive the completed Eoi forms will set the order in which we will offer access to sites in each exhibition. We will confirm site allocations with each company later, once the floor plan for each event is finalised. Even if companies wish to participate in only one event, a completed Eoi form must be sent back now.



WIOA's State Advisory Committees perform an important role on behalf of the association ensuring that our activities meet the expectations of our members. All the Advisory Committees have held meetings and we congratulate Alan Butler - NSW, Colin Haynes - Queensland, Robran Cock - South Australia, Stephen Westgate - Tasmania, and Anthony Evans - Victoria who have been elected Chair of their respective State Advisory Committees for 2021. If you would like to become more involved with the association, have ideas that you want to share, or would like to assist in the staging of any events, please contact the Chair in your State or MD George Wall - george@wioa.org.au



The NSW Government has recently announced the commencement of the **Town Water Risk Reduction Program (TWRRP)**. NSW DPIE are finalising the program's stakeholder advisory panel bringing together key sector stakeholders and trusted experts, enabling them to shape the program's design, engagement approach and strategic direction from an early stage. The panel will include Local Government NSW, the NSW Water Directorate, Joint Organisations, local water utilities, co-regulators (NSW Health, Office of Local Government and the Environment Protection Authority) and DPIE Water's Water Utilities team. A Fact Sheet has been developed which outlines the barriers to be addressed, including skills shortages and inadequate regulatory mechanisms. More info and the Fact Sheet are at <https://tinyurl.com/djm1h169>

Water Research Australia (WaterRA) has recently released a ***Good Practice Guide to Sanitary Surveys and Operational Monitoring to Support the Assessment and Management of Drinking Water Catchments (the Guide)***. The Guide has drawn together and presented current best practice, noted recent innovations, highlighted current research and development activities and predicted future research priorities. The Guide provides worked examples and recommendations of good practice source water sanitary survey methods that make appropriate use of modern technologies. The Guide helps the water sector in its conduct of catchment assessments and observational monitoring under the ADWG Framework and for establishing treatment requirements under HBT approaches. It also provides valuable support for water utilities looking for consistency in the delivery of sanitary surveys as part of their source water assessments to support HBT and other risk assessment objectives. The Guide is at <https://www.waterra.com.au/project-details/218>



The revised **Certificate IV in Water Industry Operations** has now been endorsed by the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) Skills Council and is available on [training.gov.au](https://www.training.gov.au). Updates include the amalgamation of the Certificate IV in Operations and the Certificate IV in Treatment into a single streamlined qualification to incorporate all the skills required by senior water industry operators. The revised Training Package also includes three new Units of Competency and updated core units and electives, covering contemporary industry practices, new technologies, and operator certification changes in water operations and water treatment. The qualifications have been deemed equivalent to current qualifications, meaning RTOs don't need to reapply to have the qualifications on scope.



The **UN's World Water Day** is celebrated globally on 22nd March each year. The theme for 2021 is "What does Water mean to you?". There are a range of resources available to help individual and organisations to get the message out to the community. More info at <https://www.worldwaterday.org/share>



On behalf of the Australian Industry and Skills Committee (AISC) the Department of Education, Skills and Employment (DESE) has developed new Case for Change (CfC) templates for 2021 training package update projects. The CfC development process will place greater emphasis on proactive consultation with stakeholders, particularly those in rural and remote areas. **Australian Industry Standards will deliver a webinar** on 11 March 2021 at 1.00pm AEDT to gather industry intelligence and stakeholder input for proposed Water Industry Reference Committee projects. The webinar will provide an overview of the sector as well as challenges and opportunities for skills development. It will also include a Q & A session to enable a broad range of stakeholders to contribute to discussions around future training package development. Register to attend the webinar by emailing Tricia Fidock at tricia.fidock@aistnds.org.au



Access to the **Virtual Water platform** is still available for free to all members and the broader water industry. The content which includes almost 24 hours of recorded technical presentations and access to the expo hall is available for free until April 2021. New attendees must register and set an access password and anyone else can simply login at <https://www.virtualwater.com.au/>. With no WIOA conferences until at least June, using the platform to visit the expo is an ideal way to keep up to date with new technology.



Members are invited to demonstrate their prowess over the NRL season by entering the 2021 **FREE WIOA NRL tipping competition**. Firstly, join WIOA NRL Tipping Competition at <https://tinyurl.com/18415abv> then join the WIOA competition. The name is **WIOA &** the Competition code is: **9EAJF7P5**. We will also run an AFL competition and will release competition access details once available.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

Preliminary Notice - The **WIOA Incorporated AGM** will be held online via Zoom on Wednesday 21 April 2021 at 2.00pm AEST. We would like to encourage as many Members as possible to log in and be part of the meeting and provide your input in the future direction of the association.

Members are invited to consider contributing to the success of WIOA by **nominating for the General Committee**. Along with the notice of the AGM and Annual Report, the Committee nomination form will be sent to all Members shortly. To be considered for a Committee position, completed nomination forms must be returned by COB on 23 March 2021.

MEMBER INFORMATION & EVENTS

Last Chance to Enter - A reminder to members that the closing date for applications for the **Problem Accepted, Solution Supplied (PASS) Award** is 28 February 2021. Apart from sharing all the great ideas and innovations with other members, the winner will receive the opportunity to participate in the WIOA tour to New Zealand in May 2022 to the value of \$2,500, courtesy of sponsor Aqualift Project Delivery. Application details and an entry form are on the website at: wioa.org.au/awards/national-awards/pass-award/



The May 2021 edition of **WaterWorks** is currently under development and is a great opportunity for our Corporate members to advertise and support the production of this important technical publication. This edition is widely distributed and will be included in the Queensland and Victorian Conference satchels. Contact Nicole Grimm on 0432 217 216 or nicole.grimm@executivemedia.com.au



The **Call for Papers for the Queensland Operations Conference** closed on 16 February and to date we only have a handful of abstracts. We need member support, especially from those in operational roles, to make the event a success. Presentations do not need to be highly technical to be valuable, and often the best received papers are those that describe how an operational problem has been investigated and rectified. Information on abstracts can be obtained from the website: wioaconferences.org.au/call-for-papers



Abstracts for presentations at the WIOA Conferences in South Australia, Victoria and New South Wales can be submitted at any time prior to their official closing date. We encourage potential presenters to submit your abstract early. More information is on the website: wioaconferences.org.au/call-for-papers



The **McBerns Queensland Charity Bowls Day** will be conducted by the Queensland Advisory Committee on Friday 5 March 2021 at the Yandina Bowls Club. We are encouraging everyone 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. All sponsors with a representative present on the day have the chance to win the coveted Tradies Cup. We look forward to seeing you on the greens. Register online at: <https://wioa.org.au/nevent/qldbowls-2021/>



The WIOA Talks webinar series will return in 2021 with the first event focussing on **Young women in the water industry, attract & retain**. Hosted by WIOA's Diversity and Inclusion Group, it will be held online via Zoom on Thursday 25 March 2021 at 10.30am AEDT. There will be a presentation from Shannon Thomas about her experiences in the water industry followed by some group discussions in breakout rooms. We are looking for as much support as possible, you don't have to be a WIOA member to attend and men are most welcome. Register at https://wioa.org.au/nevent/wow_conversation_coffee/

2021 Sponsorship Opportunities. WIOA has **Sponsorship** opportunities available for the 2021 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 and a COVID sponsor to provide everything we need to meet all the new COVIDsafe event requirements. A range of other options including the Lunch sponsor for both days of the conferences are also available to enable your brand to be recognised by attendees and to support WIOA. For more information contact Craig on 0457 846 008.



Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia has released its **Blue Sky Vision: Our commitment to you in 2021**, where you can find out more about their priorities for you and your family this year. This includes a game-changing new project that will help you understand how prostate cancer impacts the men in your street and town. PCFA is on track to have around 100 Prostate Cancer Specialist Nurses around Australia by December. To learn more about the Blue Sky Vision, visit <https://tinyurl.com/lrifjyt>



Beyond Blue's annual reports provide an overview of Beyond Blue's activities during each 12 month period (July-June). This includes program activity and evaluation, awareness-raising through community events, launches and campaigns, research, and the financial report for that period. Did you know there was a 42% increase from the previous year to the Beyond Blue Support Service; there were 500,000+ visitors to the Coronavirus Mental Wellbeing Support Service Website; and \$22.1M was raised through fundraising, partnerships and gifts. To find out more or to donate, visit <https://tinyurl.com/1gj50rej>

TRAINING COURSES

Funding is available through **Women & Leadership Australia** to support the development of female leaders across Australia's resources sector. The initiative is providing women with grants of between \$1,000 and \$5,000 to enable participation in one of three leadership development courses designed for emerging through to senior leaders. The scholarship funding must be allocated by the end of March 2021. Find out more and register your interest by completing the Expression of Interest form prior to 19 March at <https://www.wla.edu.au/miningresources.html>



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.



TRILITY now offers the updated **chlorine training course**: NWPTRT007 Monitor and operate liquefied chlorine gas disinfection processes. This unit of competency supersedes NWPTRT013 Operate and control liquefied chlorine gas disinfection in the National Water Training Package. It is a one-day course designed for operators with a specific responsibility for disconnecting and connecting liquefied chlorine gas containers. The unit of competency covers the skills required to monitor and operate liquefied chlorine gas disinfection processes, whilst working safely. Public course dates have been released for 2021 at our facilities in Adelaide, the Central Coast, the Gold Coast, Melbourne and Perth. We can deliver this course at your premises. More information at: <https://trility.com.au/training/nwptrt007-chlorine-training/>

The **Australian Water School (AWS)** is staging a webinar on the Future of Water Quality Modelling on 17 March at 11.00am AEDT. The free webinar will cover learning to run, animate and troubleshoot your model, providing an invaluable benchmark for novice users or update knowledge to the latest version of HECS-RAS. To register for the event, visit <https://tinyurl.com/37sp74uj>. The AWS has over 100 webinars in their on-demand area which can be freely viewed from <https://tinyurl.com/jezn3apz>

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

Current positions vacant include positions for a Water Quality Technician, a Regional Manager, a Senior Treatment Plant Operator, a Supervisor Water & Wastewater and an O&M employee. To utilise this FREE job advertisement service, please email sherryn@wioa.org.au

PEOPLE & CORPORATE MEMBER NEWS

WIOA 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 & long-term illness anywhere, anytime, any duration. Contact the team on 1800 620 690 for a solution tailored for your needs.



Kaeser Compressors Australia has launched a new **webinar program** for 2021. This program includes a remastered online version of its one-day Compressed Air Seminar, as well as a series of compressed air focused webinars in partnership with Engineers Australia. To find out more about the webinars please visit <https://tinyurl.com/oubh6ytu> or phone 1800 640 611.



Air-Met Scientific is providing a **webinar** to discuss the latest advancements in multiparameter environmental monitoring and data capture using a single webservice platform. The free webinar will be held on 23 February and will feature guest speaker Philip Hibbs. For more information contact Air-Met Scientific on 1800 000 744 or register at <https://tinyurl.com/44prqkww>



Xylem is providing a **webinar** on 3 March 2021 at 3.00pm AEDT on the importance of efficient and accurate stream flow gauging. Join Daniel Wagenaar where he discusses the features of the SonTek RS5 streamflow gauging monitoring system. For more information or to register, visit <https://tinyurl.com/lc92u24n>

2021 EVENTS - Check out the events calendar online, visit <https://wioa.org.au/wioa-events/>

- 16 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
- 23 March **Committee Nominations**, close
- 25 March **WIOA Talks – Women of Water, attract and retain young women**, on-line
- 21 April **WIOA Inc Annual General Meeting**, on-line
- 28 April **WIOA Talks – Asset Monitoring**, on-line
- 4-6 May **Ozwater**, Adelaide
- 19 May **WIOA Talks – UV Disinfection**, on-line
- 23 June **WIOA Talks – Catchment management and water quality issues**, on-line
- 21 July **WIOA Talks – Anammox**, on-line

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 Sept **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.