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WIOA WORDS

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AROUND THE TRAPS

We have received numerous enquiries about the **WIOA NSW Conference** planned for Tamworth on 27 & 28 October 2021. We are continually monitoring the COVID situation and the NSW Government health advice and restrictions on events and gatherings. At this stage, we are still hopeful that the event will be able to go ahead in October. We will keep all our stakeholders informed of any developments in the coming weeks.



In late July, the **WIOA Victorian Conference** originally planned for 1 & 2 September in Bendigo was postponed to 24 & 25 November 2021. As with NSW, we are continually monitoring the COVID situation and all the Victorian Government health advice and restrictions on events and gatherings. We will keep all stakeholders informed of any developments in the coming weeks.



The NSW Government in partnership with Local Water Utilities and the wider water sector are collaborating on the **Town Water Risk Reduction Program (TWRRP)** to identify long-term solutions to the challenges and risks to providing water supply and sewerage services in regional towns. The program provides opportunities for stakeholders to design and refine better solutions in collaboration with the department. The program has five key areas including improving the regulatory and support framework; encouraging greater collaboration; facilitating greater government support; a review of skills shortages; and investigating alternative funding models. WIOA is involved in the stakeholder working group looking at skills issues. More information on the program is available at <https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water/plans-programs/risk-reduction>



The **qldwater** Annual Forum will be held on 8 & 9 September with an additional 'Automated Metering' workshop on 7 September. The 2021 forum is kindly hosted by Redland City Council and includes a North Stradbroke Island tour visiting Seqwater's Dunwich WTP & Redland City Council's Point Lookout STP. Workshop sessions will focus on industry strategy (building on the highly successful 2019 event) and asset management, with speakers from across Queensland and Australia providing case studies on how AM is improving. View the program or register on line at <https://ipweaq.eventsair.com/annual-forum-2021/> or contact Naomi Carragher on 07 3632 6850 or enquiry@qldwater.com.au.



WIOA is aware that some Members have again been contacted by data list providers who claim to have access to our event attendee lists. We want to assure all our members, visitors, delegates and exhibitors that we take data protection seriously. We confirm that these companies are never provided access to the data they are claiming to possess, and we urge everyone to take extreme caution when dealing with them. For further details on how your personal data is processed, please visit our Privacy Policy at <https://wioa.org.au/privacy/>

The recently released Practical Guide to the Operation & Optimisation of Microfiltration & Ultrafiltration Membrane Processes is now available as a Kindle e-book. You can purchase the e-book from [amazon.com.au](https://www.amazon.com.au)



The Water Services Association of Australia (WSAA) has announced the release of three new documents related to the **lining of water mains** for public comment. The documents include:

- Manual for selection and application of cured-in-place pipe (CIPP) and spray liners for use in water pipe
- Water Industry Standard for Cured-in-place pipes (CIPP) used for the renovation of drinking water pipes
- Water Industry Standard for polymeric spray lining materials used for the renovation of drinking water pipes

The documents are available from the WSAA website at <https://tinyurl.com/7327vaku> with the public consultation period closing on 2 September 2021. Comments are welcome by manufacturers, suppliers, designers, installers and asset owners and can be emailed to linings@wsaa.asn.au

WIOA AWARDS 2021

Applications for the **Kwatye Award**, sponsored by **TRILITY** have recently closed. 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. The winner will be announced at the Victorian Conference in Bendigo on 24 November.



The Victorian Branch of AWA has extended the closing date for nominations for the 2021 **Wal Whiteside Memorial, Victorian Operator of the Year Award** to 27 August 2021. We encourage as many organisations as possible to nominate your operational staff for consideration for this most prestigious award. Application forms are available at <https://wioa.org.au/awards/state-awards/victorian-awards/>



Applications are being sought for the new **WIOA Team of the Year Award**, sponsored by **TRILITY**. The award will recognise teams of employees working in any part of the water industry that have made an outstanding contribution to their workplace or community. Teams may be recognised for a range of activities like; implementation of new infrastructure and solutions; maintaining services through difficult times such as weather events, fires, and the pandemic; providing support to their communities, other employees, other businesses, or the water industry; or development of innovative programs or initiatives as examples. The winner will be announced at the WIOA NSW Conference in Tamworth in October. Applications close on 10 September 2021 with more information available at <https://wioa.org.au/awards/national-awards/team-year/>



The NSW Water Directorate is now calling for nominations for the **2021 NSW Operator of the Year Award**. We encourage all NSW organisations to nominate their operational staff for consideration for this very prestigious award. Nominations close on 24 September with the winner receiving an all expenses paid opportunity to join the WIOA contingent on their tour of New Zealand courtesy of sponsor, the NSW Water Directorate. Here's hoping the borders open soon so that they can go on the trip in May 2022. More information and an application form can be downloaded from the NSW Water Directorate website at <https://tinyurl.com/44dszt8s>

EVENTS

The program for the **14th NSW Water Operations Conference and Exhibition** has now been finalised and delegate registrations are now being accepted via the WIOA conference website. The conference will open with a presentation by Erin Cini, Director Town Water Risk Reduction Program for NSW DPIE Water talking about the work being undertaken as part of the project. The Keynote address by Brendan Guiney from the NSW Water Directorate will focus on training issues and why NSW Local Water Utilities need to invest more into operator training. The program and information about delegate registrations is available from the WIOA website <https://wioaconferences.org.au/nsw-2021/nsw-delegates/>



Water Utilities in NSW are invited to enter teams of 2 competitors into the **NSW Main Tapping Competition** supported by Tamworth Regional Council and Reece Civil that will be conducted as part of the NSW Conference in Tamworth. The fastest team will have \$1,000 donated to a charity of their choice, as well as having their names engraved onto the perpetual trophy. Check out the WIOA website for more information - <https://wioaconferences.org.au/nsw-main-tapping-competition/>



WIOA also invites all NSW Water Suppliers to participate in the **2021 Ixom NSW Best Tasting Tap Water Competition** with heats to be held at the WIOA NSW conference in Tamworth on 26 October and the Grand Final at lunch time on 27 October 2021. More details are available on the WIOA website <https://wioaconferences.org.au/nsw-2021/nsw-water-taste-test/>



The next **WIOA Talks** webinar will focus on **the use of UV in water treatment** and will be held on Thursday 19 August at 11am (AEST). There will be a presentation by Oskar Donnelly from TasWater looking at TasWater's state-wide UV installation program, the goals and drivers. Also presenting will be Philipp Raichle and Simon Flanagan from Xylem who will talk about a range of operational issues including design, selection of units, along with service and maintenance requirements for UV systems. Register for the webinar by visiting <https://wioa.org.au/nevent/uv-disinfection/>



The delegate registration form for the **83rd Victorian Water Industry Operations Conference and Exhibition** on 24 & 25 November in Bendigo is available from <https://wioaconferences.org.au/vic-2021/vic-delegates/> There will be a host of important and informative platform and poster papers presented. The Best Tasting Tap Water and the Mains Tapping Competition will also be hotly contested events. The exhibition is huge with all 172 sites occupied by companies supplying some of the best and most innovative products and technology available to the water industry.



The seventh annual **Far North Queensland Operations Interest Day** followed by an optional **TRILITY sponsored Barefoot Bowls** afternoon will be held at the West Cairns Bowls Club on Friday 8 October 2021. We encourage all WIOA members in the FNQ region to support this event. Corporate members wishing to sponsor the bowls day should contact George or Craig at WIOA. The exciting and very diverse technical program for the day, as well as registration details can be accessed at <https://wioa.org.au/fnqbowl>

TRAINING COURSES

The **Australian Water School** has a suite 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. Their updated website at <https://tinyurl.com/y6xfjke6> allows everyone to browse their wide-ranging portfolio of live and on-demand courses, including free copies of past webinars, with ease.

The **IWES Gold Coast program** originally scheduled from 12-16 July 2021 has been postponed until 27 September to 8 October 2021 and has now gone completely online. Even though the event is not subject to physical seating limitations, they are still limiting places in each course to ensure that each participant receives adequate teaching and question time. For more information on the range of courses or to register, visit <https://iwes.com.au/events/iwes-gold-coast-12-16-july-2021/>

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

Current positions vacant exist in Victoria, NSW and Queensland including spots for several Operators, Engineers along with Projects and other Manager roles. To utilise this FREE job placement service, email your job ad to sherryn@wioa.org.au

PEOPLE & CORPORATE MEMBER NEWS

Congratulations to **Dona Tantirimudalige** for recently being appointed the Managing Director of Westernport Water in Victoria. Formerly the General Manager of Distribution Services at Yarra Valley Water, Dona will take on the new role in September.



Detection Services has been awarded a 3 year contract with Yarra Valley Water to deliver high resolution Condition Assessment Services. Detection Services will provide project management and value-add solutions for a number of its technologies including the p-Cat™ and Smart Cat™ assessment solutions. Visit the Detection Services website at <https://www.detectionservices.com.au> for more details.

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

- 19 August **WIOA Talks Webinar - UV Disinfection**, online
- 27 August **Victorian Operator of the Year**, nominations close
- 8 & 9 September **qldwater Annual Forum**, Redland
- 10 September **WIOA Team of the Year Applications**, close
- 22 September **WIOA Talks Webinar - Extreme Events**, online
- 24 September **NSW Operator of the Year**, nominations close
- 6 October **WIOA Talks Safety Webinar (WISE)**, online
- 8 October **FNQ Operations Interest Day and Optional Barefoot Bowls**, Cairns
- 27 October **Ixom 2021 Best Tasting Tap Water in NSW competition**, Tamworth
- 24 November **Ixom 2021 Best Tasting Tap Water in Victoria competition**, Bendigo

2021 CONFERENCE & EXHIBITIONS

- 27 & 28 October **14th WIOA NSW Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Tamworth
- 24 & 25 November **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) or call the office on 03 5821 6744.