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WIOA WORDS

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AROUND THE TRAPS

CONFERENCE POSTPONEMENTS

WIOA's primary focus is the safety of our staff, members and stakeholders and doing our part in reducing the spread of COVID in the community. In light of the current COVID situation, and due to the uncertainty around being able to stage business events indoors for some time yet, WIOA has had no choice but to again postpone the **Victorian Water Industry Operations Conference**. It will now be held in Bendigo on **2 & 3 March 2022**.

Following the postponement of the Victorian conference and to allow adequate time between events, we also advise that the **NSW Conference in Tamworth will be postponed** from the week of 21 March until **6 & 7 April 2022**. As we see the date changes for both events as another postponement rather than a cancellation, we intend to maintain the same technical presentation programs, floor plan and site allocations with exhibiting companies. If any Corporate Members would like to book an exhibition site, contact sherryn@wioa.org.au



The dates and locations for WIOA's other conferences in 2022 have also been confirmed, subject of course to the ongoing situation relating to COVID-19 and any health based restrictions in each State. The **Queensland Conference** will be held at the **Logan Metro Sports Centre on 3 & 4 August 2022**. The **South Australian Conference** will be held on **20 & 21 September 2022** with the venue to be confirmed shortly.



The WIOA Committee has confirmed that both the **Individual and Corporate Membership fees** for 2022 will remain **unchanged at \$40 and \$300** respectively (both GST included). Although the financial impact of COVID-19 has been dramatic on WIOA with all but one of our conferences cancelled in 2020 and 2021, we are hopeful that events will be able to recommence from early 2022. Membership invoices will be sent to all Members shortly, with payment due on 1 January 2022.



National Water Week kicks off on 18 October with the main theme of caring for water and country. Hosted by the Australian Water Association (AWA), Water Week aims to inspire individuals, communities and organisations to build awareness around the value of water. Access to clean water is hugely important to our daily lives, and it's down to all of us to protect our water environments and resources, and use water wisely. There are wide range of resources available and activities under way for organisations, schools and individuals to participate in. The poster competitions run from 11 October to 11 November 2021. More information is available at <https://tinyurl.com/ydkvch7f>



WIOA has received requests from members with surplus equipment or pilot treatment plants that they are seeking a new home for, rather than as scrap or to a rubbish tip. WIOA is investigating the **feasibility of a buy/swap/sell platform** to allow this to occur and we'll let members know where we get to with this idea.

Applications to participate in the **2022 Victorian Network Operator Development Program (NODP)** are now open but the closing date has been delayed to 21 February 2022. The date for the first Session for the new group of operators is scheduled for 26 & 27 April 2022. More information and the application forms are available from <https://wioa.org.au/network-operator-development-program/>



The new Part 11 of the National Industry Guidelines of hydrometric monitoring is now published on the Bureau of Meteorology website at <http://www.bom.gov.au/water/standards/niGuidelinesHyd.shtml>. This guideline is an international first. It provides guidance for the Australian hydrometric industry on the application of surface velocity methods for velocity and open channel discharge measurements. WaMSTeC endorsed this guideline in August 2021.



Rural Aid has launched the **2022 Spirit of the Bush calendar** which is now being printed. There are 12 months of stunning photographs capturing life on the land across all parts of Australia. From mustering in March to fighting fire in September, each image tells a story of rural living. At only \$25 and limited in stock, you'll want to get in quick and be sure to snag a copy or two! You can order your copies at <https://shop.ruralaid.org.au/> with all proceeds used to support our Aussie farmers.



The WIOA Water Taste Test competition run in conjunction with Ixom has been named a finalist for the **2021 Association External Campaign of the Year Award** with the winner to be announced in early December. The award is managed by Associations Forum who received a large number of submissions in 2021.



Well done to Trent Barras from Central Highlands Water for winning the **WIOA AFL footy tipping competition** on 130. He got up in the last round of the year to pip Ian Mathieson who had led for the latter half of the season by just one. Third was Clinton Cruickshank on 127. In the **WIOA NRL footy tipping competition**, congratulations to Kirk Galbraith who was the runaway winner on 154 from John Nolan on 151 and Trent Geissler third on 148.

WIOA AWARDS 2021

WIOA Reconnects with Members – Special Event

In the absence of face to face events (except for in Queensland) in 2021, WIOA hasn't been able to present the various State and National Awards or run the Taste Test competitions. To fill the void, WIOA has arranged to hold an online event on Tuesday 16 November 2021 called "WIOA Reconnects". There will be a morning and afternoon session on the day with the various awards being presented as follows:

- Morning 10.00am (AEDT) on -
- **Queensland** Award winners acknowledge (Operators of the Year)
 - **Tasmania** (Operators of the Year and Taste Test)
 - **NSW** (Operator of the Year and Taste Test)
- Afternoon 2.00pm (AEDT) on -
- **South Australia** (Taste Test)
 - **Western Australia** (Taste Test)
 - **Victoria** (Operators of the Year and Taste Test)
 - **National** (Kwatye and Team of the Year awards)

The program and registration details are available at <https://wioa.org.au/wioa-reconnects-2021/>

As with 2020, WIOA is holding the **Best Tasting Tap Water competition** as part of the online awards day on 16 November. There is an open invitation for all water suppliers in NSW, South Australia, Western Australia and Victorian to send 1 litre of your finest drop to WIOA for judging. We need to receive samples by Friday 29 October 2021 with the sample sent to the WIOA office at 24 New Dookie Road, Shepparton Vic 3630. More info on the Taste test and the entry form (for plant details) to include in the box with the sample is available on our website at <https://wioa.org.au/tastetest/>

EVENTS

The seventh annual **Far North Queensland Operations Interest Day** followed by the optional **TRILITY sponsored Barefoot Bowls** afternoon was held at the West Cairns Bowls Club on Friday 8 October 2021. A big thank you is extended to all the fantastic helpers who assisted on the day, as well as all the presenters and attendees. A total of 55 members participated in the Interest Day with 33 staying on to enjoy the barefoot bowls in the afternoon. With the outstanding support of Corporate Members – TRILITY, Cairns RC, Water Treatment Services, McBerns, Reece Civil, Hach, Professional Pump Services, Amiad, Aquatec Maxcon, ProMinent, Endress + Hauser, Royce Water Technologies, *qldwater* and Xylem, a total of \$2,200 was raised. Cairns Regional Council has been requested to nominate the recipient of the charity donation for 2021.

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 including bushfire hydrology; energy losses at structures; extreme events and lake modelling to name a few. 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 National Centre for Groundwater Research and Training (NCGRT) has an on-line panel presentation discussing the issue of **Dryland salinity after the millennium drought**. With the water tables beginning to rise once more, it is possible that dryland salinity will again be an environmental issue to address soon. The event will be held on Wednesday 3 November 2021 from 3.30pm-4.30pm (AEDT). For more information or to register please visit <https://tinyurl.com/err9fe3m>



AMS Training & Solutions (<https://www.amsts.com.au/>) is excited to announce the release of their Level 2 RO Training as an online offering, via the Neptune Water Treatment Resources App. Search for 'DHP Neptune Lite' in the App Store or Google Play. Enable location services to see Australian specific content and updates. All their online training options are available through Neptune.

PEOPLE & CORPORATE MEMBER NEWS

Congratulations to the team at Queensland Water Directorate for being announced as the winner of the 2021 **Queensland Premier's Industry Collaboration Training Award** for their Queensland Water Skills Partnership. The purpose of the Queensland Water Skills Partnership is to work together on activities that support all water industry staff to achieve the skills and experience required to deliver safe, secure and sustainable water and sewerage services across Queensland. The partnership currently has 51 participating organisations. You can watch Carlie's acceptance speech on the video (around the 20min mark) at <https://tinyurl.com/ffp2ama6>

Congratulations are also extended to Dean Barnett and the **Victorian Intelligent Water Network** team for winning the People's Choice award at the Sydney Water Innovation Festival announced recently. The award was for the innovative Pyroco technology pilot trial which is being used to turn biosolids into biochar at the Melton Wastewater Treatment Plant. More info on the project is at <https://youtu.be/3bc4of2FPZI>

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, Technical Officer, Assets Officer, a Manager of Water Services and more**. Positions are currently being advertised seeking applicants for jobs in NSW, Queensland and Victoria. To utilise this FREE job advertisement service, please email your advert to sherryn@wioa.org.au

COMING EVENTS 2021

- 16 November **WIOA Reconnect with Members**, online awards (Qld, Tas & NSW from 10.00am AEDT)
- 16 November **WIOA Reconnect with Members**, online awards (SA, WA & Victoria from 2.00pm AEDT)

2022 EVENTS

- 28 February **PASS Award**, applications close
- 2 & 3 March **83rd WIOA Victorian Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Bendigo
- 23 March **SA Water Interest Day, Happy Valley WTP**, South Australia
- 6 & 7 April **14th WIOA NSW Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Tamworth
- 3 & 4 August **46th WIOA Queensland Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Logan
- 20 & 21 September **3rd WIOA SA Water Industry Operations Conference & Expo**, venue TBC



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.