



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

# WIOA WORDS

## FEBRUARY 2022 Edition

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## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

**Preliminary Notice** - The **WIOA Incorporated AGM** will be held online via Zoom on Thursday 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 forms are available at <https://wioa.org.au/about-wioa/agm/> and will be sent to Members shortly. To be considered for a Committee position, completed nomination forms must be returned by COB on 23 March 2022.



**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 2022. 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](mailto:george@wioa.org.au)

## AROUND THE TRAPS

WIOA has a Duty of Care to protect the health, safety and welfare of all our staff, members and event stakeholders. Following feedback from NSW Councils, sponsors and exhibitors, the WIOA Board has made the very difficult decision that attendance at the **WIOA NSW and Victorian Conference will be restricted to fully vaccinated persons only**. The Board understands that this decision may disadvantage some members and stakeholders, but delivering safe and successful events is considered a higher priority for the long term sustainability of the Association.



Members are reminded that the **annual fees for 2022 were due on 1 January 2022** and all those who have paid have been sent their receipt. Reminder invoices have also been sent recently and any member not financial at the end of February 2022 will be deemed to have resigned their membership and their details will be removed from the member database. We received some payments by EFT in December 2021 and January 2022 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, so please contact us if you think this was you.

The **UN's World Water Day** is celebrated globally on 22<sup>nd</sup> March each year. The theme for 2022 is "Groundwater – Making the Invisible Visible". There are a range of resources available to help individuals and organisations get the message out to the community at <https://www.worldwaterday.org/share-2022>



Applications to participate in the **2022 Victorian Network Operator Development Program (NODP)** are now open, noting that 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 Water Challenge is back for 2022. **Drink Water to Give Water** in support of **WaterAid Australia**. This March, its time to lose the booze and can the caffeine and replace them with water, all to help raise funds and awareness for those who don't have access to clean water. You can sign up to the Challenge or donate from the WaterAid website at <https://tinyurl.com/48wwe8ta>



The National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) has collaborated with the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA) to update sections of the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines relating to the **radiological quality of drinking water**. Sections of the Guidelines that have been updated are: Chapter 7 – Radiological quality of drinking water; Chapter 10 – Monitoring for specific characteristics in drinking water (radiological aspects); Information Sheet 2.2 – Radiological monitoring and assessment of performance; and Factsheets on radium, alpha and beta radionuclides, radon-222 and the uranium factsheet (radiological aspects only). Details of these updates, the updated Guidelines and Administrative report are available on NHMRC's website at <https://tinyurl.com/2p7cwjvw>



The Water Services Association of Australia (WSAA) has released two new codes for water and sewerage for regional New South Wales. These include:

- **WSA 02: 2014-3.1 Gravity Sewerage Code of Australia (Regional New South Wales Edition) Version 1.0**
- **WSA 03 2011-3.1 Water Supply Code of Australia (Regional New South Wales Edition) Version 1.0.**

For the past two years, WSAA has worked with members of the NSW Water Directorate to finalise the Regional NSW Editions of the WSAA Water Supply and Gravity Sewerage eBook Codes. Around 158 standard drawings have been incorporated into the codes, which have now been published and are available for purchase from the WSAA Shop at <https://www.wsaa.asn.au/>



WIOA has supported numerous charitable organisations over the years through donations from our various charity golf and bowls days or other fundraising activities. COVID has restricted the range of fundraising activities able to be undertaken, not only for WIOA, but also for various charities. It has impacted their ability to support their programs. We know the water industry is very generous and there are a number of very worthwhile charities that could use a kick along at present via a donation, large or small.

- Prostate Cancer Foundation - <https://tinyurl.com/2p94dwzn>
- MND Australia - <https://www.mndaustralia.org.au/donate/donate-to-mnd-australia>
- Rural Aid (bush calendar sale) - <https://shop.ruralaid.org.au/>

Members are invited to demonstrate their prowess over the NRL and/or AFL seasons by entering the 2022 **FREE WIOA NRL and/or AFL tipping competitions**. Firstly, join WIOA NRL Tipping Competition at <https://tipping.nrl.com/> then join the WIOA competition. The name is **WIOA** & the Competition code is: **MVH47SZY**. For the AFL, join the AFL Tipping Competition at <https://tinyurl.com/2p8f2zpx> then join the WIOA competition. The name is **WIOA** & the Competition code is: **LX6DZSLH**.

## WIOA AWARDS

Nominations are now open for the 2022 **NSW Operator of the Year Award** sponsored by the NSW Water Directorate. We encourage organisations to nominate your operational staff for consideration for this prestigious award recognising the valuable contribution of operators in the water industry. With nominations closing on 7 March 2022, more information is available at <https://tinyurl.com/mr4bvd4e>



Nominations are also open for the 2022 **Victorian Operator of the Year Award** now sponsored by VicWater and the 2022 **Victorian Young Operator of the Year Award** sponsored by the Institute of Water Administration, Victoria. Following the postponement of the Victorian conference, the application closing date has been extended to COB on 29 April 2022. We encourage as many organisations as possible to nominate your operational staff for consideration for these prestigious awards. Application forms are available on the WIOA website at <https://wioa.org.au/awards/state-awards/victorian-awards/>



**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 2022. 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 to the value of \$2,500, courtesy of sponsor Aqualift. Application details and an entry form are on the website at: [wioa.org.au/awards/national-awards/pass-award/](https://wioa.org.au/awards/national-awards/pass-award/)

## MEMBER INFORMATION & EVENTS

Delegate registrations for the **14<sup>th</sup> WIOA NSW Water Industry Operations Conference and Exhibition** to be held in Tamworth on 6 & 7 April 2022 are now open. All the information on the event including the technical program and the registration process is available on the WIOA conferences website at <https://wioaconferences.org.au/nsw-2022/>. If you intend to come along as a delegate, please use our online event registration system ASAP.

We understand that not everyone can attend the NSW conference as a delegate, so please keep in mind that entry to the exhibition is FREE. We encourage everyone to get a carload of people together and come and have a look through the exhibition, even for just an hour or so.



WIOA invites all NSW/ACT Water Suppliers to participate in the **Ixom 2022 Best Tasting Tap Water in NSW/ACT Competition** with heats to be held at the WIOA NSW conference in Tamworth on Tuesday 5 April and the Grand Final at lunch time on Wednesday 6 April 2022. More details are available on the WIOA website <https://wioaconferences.org.au/nsw-2022/nsw-water-taste-test/>



NSW water services providers are invited to enter teams of 2 competitors into the keenly contested **NSW Main Tapping Competition** (supported by Tamworth RC 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 into the perpetual trophy. Check out the WIOA website for more information - <https://wioaconferences.org.au/nsw-main-tapping-competition/>

The May 2022 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. Contact Craig - [craig@wioa.org.au](mailto:craig@wioa.org.au) for more information on advertising or visit the WIOA website to download the 2022 Media Kit at <https://wioa.org.au/publications/water-works/>

We are seeking **articles, stories or information** from Members suitable for publication in the May edition of WaterWorks along with May edition 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](mailto:george@wioa.org.au).



The WIOA Talks webinar series will return in 2022 with the first event focussing on **the most important job in the world – experiences in the water industry**. Hosted by WIOA's Diversity and Inclusion Group, it will be held online via Zoom on Wednesday 23 March 2022 at 11.00am AEDT. The program will be finalised shortly and for more information or to register, visit <https://wioa.org.au/wioa-best-job/>

## TRAINING COURSES

The operator training course **Monitoring and Optimisation of Activated Sludge and Nutrient Reduction** presented by A/Prof Helen Stratton and Peter Griffiths is returning this year. The course will be held over the week of 24 June to 1 July 2022. The venue is being finalised with the Gold Coast the most likely region. The updated course presents the latest research findings and developments in optimisation and troubleshooting activated sludge processes. Registration will open shortly through Griffith University.



Water Research Australia's (WaterRA) Research Leadership Program will continue to deliver their **Data Science for Water Professionals** online training course throughout 2022. Presented by Peter Prevos, the course will cover the basics of data science using the R language to analyse water management problems. Participants will use practical examples of water quality, customer experience and smart metering from the water industry to help develop skills to undertake complex data analysis and visualisation. Available in two stages, **Level 1** is designed for beginners who want to understand the foundations of practical data science. **Level 2** will build upon and expand your skills to create value from data. All sessions of this workshop consist of some theory, examples and a realistic water utility case study. **Level 3** and beyond will launch in May 2022. Registrations for Level 1 and Level 2 are now open at <https://tinyurl.com/49dd77fd>



**AMS Training & Solutions** offers online, virtual, classroom and hands-on Reverse Osmosis and a suite of high tech water treatment training options. Visit their website to see confirmed training events or to register for the Neptune App to see all the online training options. Contact them to be waitlisted for future events near you or to discuss hosting an event at your site. Visit [www.amsts.com.au](http://www.amsts.com.au) - for more details.



The **Australian Water School (AWS)** is staging a Live Training Series: **Hydrology and Hydraulics Essentials** commencing in May 2022. Kicking-off with two free webinars **Froude, Dude!** and **From Courant to Saint Venant**, the H&H Essentials training series comprises 8 individual intensive 3-hour courses, with each course in the series focusing on a key principle of H&H. You can register for individual courses or for the entire series and more information is at <https://awschool.talentlms.com/catalog/index/cat:14>

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

**Current positions vacant** include positions for a Reticulation System Specialist, a Manager Customer Experience, several Treatment Plant and Networks Operator positions, a HSEQ Manager and Communications Officer – Digital & Projects. To utilise this FREE job advertisement service, please email [sherryn@wioa.org.au](mailto:sherryn@wioa.org.au)

## PEOPLE & CORPORATE MEMBER NEWS

**Kaeser Compressors Australia** has just announced the launch of its latest generation of compressed air filters that provide highly efficient filtration for flow rates from 0.6 to 32.0 m<sup>3</sup>/min. Thanks to a number of sophisticated design features, Kaeser filters can create significant reductions in costs and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. More info on the filters is available at <https://tinyurl.com/2p8bn9e9>

Working in hot and humid weather can lead to serious health issues if steps are not in place to prevent the condition. Working indoors or out, it is important to remain proactive in managing heat stress. **Air-Met Scientific's** range of **heat stress monitors**, available for sale and rental, can help you track, monitor, and log conditions - keeping your workers safe. For more information contact Air-Met Scientific on 1800 000 744.



**Xylem** has produced Issue #8 of their complimentary **Mission: Water Magazine**. This edition features fascinating stories from across four continents, focussed on nutrient pollution, climate science, and the water footprint of our food. You can download this edition at <https://tinyurl.com/mr2abzez>

## 2022 EVENTS

- 28 February **PASS Award**, applications close
- 7 March **NSW Operator of the Year Award** nominations close
- 23 March **Committee nominations** close
- 23 March **WIOA Talks - The most important job in the world**, on line
- 6 & 7 April **14<sup>th</sup> WIOA NSW Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Tamworth
- 29 April **Victorian Operator of the Year and Young Operator of the Year Awards** close
- 22 & 23 June **83<sup>rd</sup> WIOA Victorian Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Bendigo
- 3 & 4 August **46<sup>th</sup> WIOA Queensland Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Logan
- 20 & 21 September **3<sup>rd</sup> WIOA SA Water Industry Operations Conference & Expo**, venue TBC



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](mailto:sherryn@wioa.org.au)) or call the office on 03 5821 6744.