



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

# WIOA WORDS

## APRIL 2022 Edition

24 New Dookie Road  
Shepparton, Victoria  
PO Box 6012  
Shepparton, Victoria 3632

+61 3 5821 6744



+61 3 5821 6033



info@wioa.org.au



www.wioa.org.au



Snippets, news items or other information can be sent to [info@wioa.org.au](mailto:info@wioa.org.au)

## AROUND THE TRAPS

The **2022 WIOA Annual General Meeting** will be held online on Thursday 21 April 2022 commencing at 2.00pm AEST. We need a quorum of 30 Members online for the meeting to be able to commence. Members are encouraged to attend the AGM where you can find out more about your association. Register by 20 April 2022 at <https://wioa.org.au/about-wioa/agm/>



The **2022 WIOA NSW Water Industry Operations Conference and Exhibition** was held in **Tamworth** in early April. This is the first face to face event that WIOA has been able to stage in NSW since July 2019. It was great that more than 500 people attended the event despite the floods and ongoing COVID issues affecting staff numbers with several Councils. We thank our NSW members and volunteers who helped us to deliver the event and it is onwards and upwards from here. Our sincere thanks are also extended to our event sponsors, all the exhibitors and attendees and in particular, our army of helpers who did a brilliant job helping to run the event. Our congratulations are extended to the various award winners:

- **David Miller**, Parkes Shire Council – **NSW Operator of the Year Award** sponsored by the NSW Water Directorate
- **Lucy Parsons**, Atom Consulting - **Best Paper Overall** sponsored by Hanna Instruments
- **Shawn Charlton**, Albury City Council - **Best Paper by an Operator** sponsored by ProMinent
- **Zach Eyers**, Albury City Council - **Best Poster by an Operator** sponsored by IWES
- **Thermo Fisher Scientific - Ron Bergmeier Award, Best Exhibition Site** sponsored by Utility magazine
- **Shoalhaven Water, Ixom Best Tasting Tap Water in NSW/ACT**
- **Matthew Holz**, Taswater – **PASS Award** sponsored by Aqualift
- **76ers, Anthony Everett and Duane Donnelly**, Narromine Shire Council – **NSW Main Tapping Competition** sponsored by Reece Civil & Viadux

For more information on the conference and winners visit - <https://wioaconferences.org.au/nsw-2022/>



On behalf of the Water Industry Reference Committee (IRC), its Technical Advisory Committee has considered all stakeholder feedback and revised draft **Training Package materials** for the **Flood Site Operations** project, including a new Unit of Competency and Skill Set. The draft materials provide a national standard for operational practices in flood management and flood warning sites. The new unit will be an elective in the Certificate III in Operations. The IRC is seeking industry feedback by Tuesday 3 May 2022. The draft materials can be viewed, and feedback submitted from <https://tinyurl.com/ythfbc4v>

WIOA is managing the production and distribution of **WaterWorks** internally. Corporate Members still have time to advertise in the May or November editions this year. Advertising sales offset the cost of providing this valuable publication to members and the broader water industry. Please contact Ann - [ann@wioa.org.au](mailto:ann@wioa.org.au) or download the 2022 Media Kit at <https://wioa.org.au/publications/water-works/>

## EVENTS

The **Call for Papers** for the **WIOA Queensland Conference** in Logan has been extended with the closing date now Friday 29 April 2022. We encourage all potential presenters to submit your abstracts ASAP, please visit <https://wioaconferences.org.au/call-for-papers/> for more information.



The second WIOA Talks webinar for 2022 will focus on **Process Control Charts and SCADA Data review** issues. It will be held via Zoom on Thursday 28 April 2022 at 11.00am AEST. There will be presentations from David Bartley from Atom Consulting, looking at statistical process control for improved water quality; and Darrell Ralph from Wannon Water on using SCADA in a water/wastewater treatment setting to monitor and control. Registration for members is now open at <https://wioa.org.au/process-scada/>



The platform paper program for the **WIOA Victorian Operations Conference and Exhibition** to be held in Bendigo on 22 & 23 June has been set but we are still looking for **more Operator poster papers**. If you have an idea for a poster, please contact the office urgently. There is an excellent mix of paper and poster topics from a wide cross section of authors and organisations. Registrations are now being accepted. Registration information and the program is now available from the WIOA website at <http://wioaconferences.org.au/vic-2022/>. Support for the exhibition in Bendigo has already been phenomenal with all 150 available sites allocated and a long list of companies on the waiting list.



The keenly contested **Victorian Main Tapping Competition** will also be held again at the Bendigo conference and we are currently seeking teams to compete. Will 2022 be the year that sees the trophy head somewhere other than to Wannon Water? Enter your teams via email with Sherryn at the office.



WIOA invites all Victorian Water Suppliers to participate in the **Ixom 2022 Best Tasting Tap Water in Victoria Competition** with heats to be held at the WIOA Victorian conference in Bendigo on Tuesday 21 June and the Grand Final at lunch time on Wednesday 22 June 2022. More details are available on the WIOA website <https://wioaconferences.org.au/vic-2022/vic-water-taste-test/>

## WIOA AWARDS 2022

At the close of applications, WIOA received 6 entries for the **2022 PASS Award** generously sponsored by Aqualift. The award winner, Matthew Holz from TasWater was announced at the Meet the Exhibitors Dinner at the Queensland conference in Tamworth on 5 April 2022. The award shares and showcases the good ideas of members, with all entries made into a booklet to be distributed to members shortly.



Nominations for the **2022 Victorian Operator of the Year** are now being accepted. This prestigious award sponsored by VicWater recognises commitment to the job, safety, innovation, initiative and achievements. The prize for the winner includes a plaque and an all-expenses paid opportunity to join the WIOA operator tour to New Zealand in 2023. Applications close on Friday 29 April 2022 and a form is available from <https://wioa.org.au/awards/state-awards/victorian-awards/>

Nominations are also being accepted for the **2022 Victorian Young Operator of the Year**, proudly sponsored by the Institute of Water Administration, Victoria. This prestigious award recognises commitment to the job, safety, innovation, initiative and achievements from young people in the Victorian water industry. The prize for the winner includes a plaque and an all-expenses paid opportunity to join the WIOA operator tour to New Zealand in 2023. Applications close on Friday 29 April 2022 and a form is available from <https://wioa.org.au/awards/state-awards/victorian-awards/>



Applications are being sought for the **Kwatye Award**, sponsored by **TRILITY**. 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. Applications close on 3 June 2022 with more information available at <https://wioa.org.au/awards/national-awards/kwatye-award/>

## 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 at the Mantra on the Sunshine Coast. The updated course presents the latest research findings and developments in optimisation and trouble-shooting activated sludge processes. Registration of interest is open through Griffith University- <https://tinyurl.com/y63pwtzz> By registering, you will be notified once full registration is available. Numbers are limited to 25 delegates and, those that missed out over the past few years due to COVID, are reminded the course books out rapidly.



Water Research Australia's **Research Leadership Program** has developed an **introduction to Health-Based Targets (HBTs)** for industry professionals. This series will enable participants to gain a better understanding surrounding the use of HBTs, what industry has learned, key barriers, pitfalls, benefits, and how HBTs can be applied to your organisation. Starting with two online sessions and ending with an in-person workshop, it is designed for water industry professionals not currently using HBTs in their systems. This could include operations, decision makers, risk assessors, councils, and new employees in the field of catchment management. The In-person workshop will be held on 9 May in Brisbane preceding OzWater'22. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/yd8kxesn> to find out more or to register.



The **Australian Water School (AWS)** is staging a Live Course: **Infiltration and losses, #2 H&H Essentials**. Experts will guide attendees through a 3-hour intensive course showing the importance of characterising and quantifying infiltration and other losses for application to hydrologic and hydraulic models. The course will be held from 9.00am (Sydney time) on 12 May 2022. For more information or to register, visit <https://awschool.talentlms.com/catalog/info/id:239,cat:14>



The annual **IWES event** on the Gold Coast is back in 2022 and will be in person. The IWES Gold Coast program is scheduled for 18 to 22 July 2022 at the Mercure Gold Coast Resort and will feature an exclusive IWES industry meet-up on Tuesday 19 July 2022. There have been three new courses added in 2022 – Wastewater Treatment Design; Process Modelling for Water Treatment Professional; and Best Practice Drinking Water Quality Management. Early Bird registrations end on 13 May, so make sure you lock in your discounted price before then to save up to \$1000 via <https://iwes.com.au/events/iwes-gc-2022/>

**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 at [www.amsts.com.au](http://www.amsts.com.au) to see confirmed training events or to register for the Neptune App and 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.

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

There are several vacant positions in NSW, Queensland and Victoria currently advertised on the WIOA website. **Current vacancies** include positions for Water and Wastewater Treatment Operators, Environmental Sustainability Officer, and a Manager Operations and Maintenance. To utilise this FREE job advertisement placement service, please email your advert to [sherryn@wioa.org.au](mailto:sherryn@wioa.org.au)

**2022 EVENTS** Check out the events calendar online, visit <https://wioa.org.au/wioa-events/>

- 28 April **WIOA Talks – Process Control Charts and SCADA Data review**, online
- 29 April **Victorian Operator of the Year and Young Operator of the Year Awards** close
- 29 April **Queensland Call for Papers**, close
- 18 May **WIOA Talks – Towards Zero Carbon**, online
- 3 June **Kwtaye Award**, applications 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
- 7 October **Team of the Year Award**, nominations close
- 8 & 9 November **3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto:ann@wioa.org.au)) or call the office on 03 5821 6744.