

Snippets, news items or other information can be sent to info@wioa.org.au

AROUND THE TRAPS

The **WIOA South Australian Conference** in Murray Bridge has been **postponed to 1 & 2 March 2023**. The decision was made in conjunction with the WIOA SA Advisory Committee in response to the current COVID situation in South Australia where high level restrictions are still in place. At the current level, the risk that attending a conference would be deemed a non-essential activity for operators had the potential to adversely impact the success of the event. It is anticipated that the situation will improve over the summer months.



The **2022 WIOA Queensland Water Industry Operations Conference and Exhibition** was held in Logan in early August. Despite ongoing COVID issues causing attendance issues for several Councils, it was exciting that a total of 794 people attended the event. Sincere thanks are extended to our Queensland Advisory Committee members and army of volunteer helpers who did a brilliant job helping to run the event. We also thank all the event sponsors, all the exhibitors and the attendees for making it the success that it was. Our congratulations are extended to the various award winners:

- **Neil Wilcox, Suez – Queensland Operator of the Year Award** sponsored by AWA Qld Branch
- **Exavier Evile, Urban Utilities – Queensland Young Operator of the Year Award** sponsored by the Queensland Water Directorate
- **Harris Tahau, Redland City Council – Queensland Civil/All Rounder Operator of the Year Award** sponsored by the Queensland Water Directorate
- **Shaun Johnstone, North Burnett Regional Council – Brian Davis Award for Best Paper Overall** sponsored by Hanna Instruments
- **Tim Merrett, North Burnett Regional Council - Best Paper by an Operator** sponsored by ProMinent
- **Paul Campbell-Cowie and Brian Savage, Logan City Council - Best Poster by an Operator** sponsored by IWES
- **Control Components - Ron Bergmeier Award, Best Exhibition Site** sponsored by Utility magazine
- **Jarryd Casey & Hugh Wilson, City of Gold Coast – Queensland Main Tapping Competition** sponsored by Reece Civil & Viadux
- **Queensland, Mackay RC, Water of Origin winner** sponsored by Ixom

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



The **qldwater Annual Forum** will be held on 7 & 8 September and is being hosted by City of Gold Coast. On 7 September there will be tours of the Tugun desal plant and the Merrimac recycled water projects, along with the Best of the Best Queensland Water Taste Test, followed by the Forum Dinner. On 8 September, the Forum will focus on how water businesses are adapting to the new normal following the significant disruptions of the last couple of years. View the program or register at <https://ipweaq.eventsair.com/qwd-annual-forum-2022>

The November 2022 edition of **WaterWorks** is currently under development and is a great opportunity for our Corporate members to advertise and support WIOA in the production of this important technical publication. This edition is widely distributed and will be included in the South Australian and Victorian Conference satchels in 2023. Contact Ann - ann@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 November edition of WaterWorks along with November 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.



The Water Industry Reference Committee (Water IRC) has submitted the Case for Endorsement and draft Training Package materials for the **Flood Site Operations** and **Water Network Maintenance** projects to the Australian Industry and Skills Committee for their consideration. These projects will deliver several new Units of Competence into the National Water Package at Certificate III level. More information on the project is available at <https://www.australianindustrystandards.org.au/projects/nwp-water-network-maintenance/>



WaterAid has released their **2022 Annual Report**. The report highlights the important role that WaterAid plays on the world stage and their *Global Strategy 2022-2032: Ending the water, sanitation and hygiene crisis together – for everyone, everywhere*. The report provides an overview of the type of work and some of the specific projects being undertaken. You can obtain a copy of the report from <https://tinyurl.com/2p8vm4k6>

EVENTS

An **Operations Interest Day** including the **2022 Ixom Best Tasting Tap Water in Tasmania** competition will be conducted at the Xylem Depot in Spreyton on **Wednesday 24 August** for Tasmanian members and guests. The program includes presentations by Andrew Jones from Island Engineering who will cover why “valves aint valves” along with Tommy Williams from Xylem who will do a live demo of stripping down a pump. The winners of the **2022 Tasmanian Operator and Young Operator of the Year** will be announced as well as the supplier of the **Ixom Best Tasting Tap Water Competition**. For the full program and to register, visit the WIOA website at <https://wioa.org.au/wioa-events/interest-days/tas-interest-day-2022/>



Last Chance to Enter - The **McBerns Queensland Charity Bowls Day** will be conducted by the Queensland Advisory Committee on **Friday 2 September 2022** at the Yandina Bowls Club. We encourage everyone to enjoy this networking opportunity and a relaxed game of bowls. All proceeds raised from the day will be distributed to charity at the WIOA Queensland Conference in 2023. We are also seeking corporate support for this event. Corporate members wishing to sponsor the bowls day should contact George at WIOA. 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/qld-charity-bowls-2022/>



The next **WIOA Talks** webinar for 2022 will focus on **Process Control Charts and SCADA data review** issues. It will now be held via Zoom on the revised date of **Wednesday 31 August 2022** at 11.00am AEST. There will be presentations by 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/>

Following the South Australian conference postponement, WIOA will utilise the **WIOA Talks Webinar** on Wednesday **19 October 2022** to allow the Ixom Best Tasting Tap Water competitions in South Australia and Western Australia to proceed, as well as the presentation of the Team of the Year award. The technical side of the webinar will draw on some of the award winning presentations from the 2022 conferences to allow those members to share their information with a wider audience.



The 2022 **Ixom Best Tasting Tap Water in Australia** competition will be held in Casino NSW on 12 November, at the Primex Field Days. The winners of each of the State based competitions will go head-to-head to find the best tasting tap water in Australia using the field day patrons as judges. Best of luck to all the competitors.



The eighth annual **Far North Queensland Operations Interest Day** followed by the optional **TRILITY Charity Bowls** afternoon will be held at the West Cairns Bowls Club on **Friday 7 October 2022**. We encourage all WIOA members in the FNQ region to support this event. Corporate members wishing to sponsor the bowls day should contact George at WIOA - george@wioa.org.au Additional program and registration details can be accessed at <https://wioa.org.au/nevent/fnq-bowls-day-2022/>



A **Treatment Operator's Forum** is being staged by **qldwater** in conjunction with the WBBUWA in Bundaberg on Thursday 22 September 2022. The program is still being finalised, but will include several presentations on managing operational issues along with tours of the Rubyanna WWTP and the Gregory River WTP.

WIOA AWARDS 2022

Applications are being sought for the 2022 **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 on the WIOA Talks webinar on 19 October 2022. Applications close on 7 October 2022 with more information available at <https://wioa.org.au/awards/national-awards/team-year/>

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. These include Water Conservation: costs and benefits on 7 September and Drowning in Plastics on 7 October. 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**) is interested in hearing from prospective students seeking a **PhD in Groundwater**. They have 15 university partners covering most State and Territory capital cities. More information is available at <https://tinyurl.com/mryb3znm>

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

We were saddened to hear of the sudden passing of **Mark Pascoe**, Founding CEO of the International Water Centre. Mark did an enormous amount for both the Australian and International water industries over his long career, bringing people together to connect, collaborate, share and learn. He was a staunch supporter of the Operator registration scheme and was a member of the Water Industry Operator Registration Taskforce. He will be sadly missed by the water sector and our deepest sympathy is extended to his family and all his colleagues.



Our congratulations are extended to **Dave Cameron**, CEO of the Qld Water Directorate who has recently been appointed the new CEO of Irrigation Australia. Dave has been a fabulous supporter of WIOA and our activities for many years, and has been a strong advocate for improving training and opportunities for operational staff in the water industry. We wish him every success in his new role.

2022 EVENTS

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

- 24 August **Interest Day and Ixom Best Tasting Tap Water in Tasmania**, Spreyton
- 31 August **WIOA Talks Webinar – SCADA and Control Charts**, online
- 2 September **McBerns Queensland Charity Bowls Day**, Yandina
- 7 & 8 September **qldwater Annual Forum**, Gold Coast
- 22 September **qldwater Treatment Operator's Forum**, Bundaberg
- 7 October **WIOA Team of the Year Applications**, close
- 7 October **FNQ Operations Interest Day and Optional TRILITY Barefoot Bowls**, Cairns
- 19 October **Ixom 2022 Best Tasting Tap Water in South Australia**, online
- 19 October **Ixom 2022 Best Tasting Tap Water in Western Australia**, online
- 19 October **Presentation of the 2022 Team of the Year Awards**, online
- 12 November **Ixom 2022 Best Tasting Tap Water in Australia Grand Final**, Casino NSW

2023 CONFERENCE & EXHIBITIONS

- 1 & 2 March **3rd WIOA South Australian Operations Conference & Expo**, Murray Bridge
- 29 & 30 March **84th WIOA VIC Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Bendigo
- 19 & 20 July **47th WIOA QLD Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Sunshine Coast
- 25 & 26 October **15th WIOA NSW Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, TBC



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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.