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# WIOA WORDS

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## AROUND THE TRAPS

The dates and venues for all of WIOA's conferences in 2023 have now been confirmed. The **South Australian** conference will be at the Murray Bridge Race Club on **1 & 2 March 2023**; the **Victorian** conference will be at the Bendigo Showgrounds on **29 & 30 March 2023**; the **Queensland** conference will be held at the USC Stadium at Sippy Downs on the Sunshine Coast on **19 & 20 July 2023**; and the **NSW** conference will be held at Exhibition Park in Canberra on **1 & 2 November 2023**.



We have received applications from some outstanding candidates for our Executive Officer and Events Coordinator positions. The Board is currently working through the interviews and selection process and we look forward to advising Members of the new staff appointments in early November.



Congratulations to the **TRILITY** team from Murray Bridge who were announced as the winner of the **Ixom Best Tasting Tap Water in South Australia** at the WIOA Reconnects webinar. Our congratulations are also extended to the Water Corporation operators at the **Wyndham WTP** for winning the **Ixom Best Tasting Tap Water in Western Australia** for the second consecutive year. They will both go on to represent their respective States at the Ixom Best Tasting Tap Water in Australia competition in Casino, NSW on 12 November



The **Call for Papers and Posters for the Victorian conference** in Bendigo in March has been **extended** to COB on 8 November 2022. In particular, we are looking for more abstracts from operators. If you have an idea for a presentation, please send an abstract to [info@wioa.org.au](mailto:info@wioa.org.au) ASAP. There are more details available from the conference website at <https://wioaconferences.org.au/call-for-papers/>



Applications to participate in the **2023 Victorian Network Operator Development Program (NODP)** are now open with the closing date of 21 February 2023. The first Session for the new cohort of operators will be staged in April 2023. More information and the application forms are available from <https://wioa.org.au/network-operator-development-program/>



Rural Aid has launched the **2023 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 bonfires in March to harvesting in August, 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 with all proceeds used to support our Aussie farmers at <https://shop.ruralaid.org.au/shop-calendar/>

The runaway winner of the **WIOA NRL footy tipping competition** was Kirk Galbraith on 167 from Tom Nash on 160. There was daylight to the third place getter with Wayne Temby and John Nolan tied on 155. The **WIOA AFL footy tipping competition** was decided at the final siren of the last home and away game of the year. Mark Rees was the winner on 139 just one winner ahead of a fast finishing Andrew Povey on 138. Tied in third place on 137 were George Wall and Luke W.

## EVENTS

The eighth 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 7 October 2022. 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 52 members participated in the Interest Day with 36 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, Coogee, Aquatec Maxcon, ProMinent, Endress + Hauser, Royce Water Technologies, Remtron, **qldwater** and Xylem, a total of \$2,400 was raised. Cassowary Coast Regional Council has nominated Cassowary Coast Paws and Claws as the recipient of the charity donation.



The WIOA NSW Advisory Committee is organising an **Network Operations Interest Day in Albury** on 30 November focussing predominately on issues relating to the management and operation of distribution networks. More information and the program for the day is available from the WIOA website at <https://wioa.org.au/nevent/nsw-networks-interest-day-2022/>



The **Treatment Operator's Forum** organised by **qldwater** in conjunction with the WBBUWA in Bundaberg was postponed to 24 November 2022 due to the Public Holiday being called following the death of the Queen. The program will include several presentations on managing operational issues, along with tours of the Rubyanna WWTP and the Gregory River WTP.

## TRAINING COURSES

Some of the **IWES Short Courses** are being offered in their first round of online events for 2023. Early bird sale ends on 13 November, so get in now to save \$1,000 off the registration price. The courses offered online in this round include the Principles of Wastewater Treatment Course; Regional Wastewater Treatment; Applied Statistics for Water and Wastewater; and Integrated Urban Water Assessment and Management Course. For more information or to register, visit <https://iwes.com.au/events/iwes-online-2023/>



The **Australian Water School** is offering a Live Course – **MODFLOW 6 & FloPy**. Attendees will learn how to create numerical groundwater models in Python using FloPy at the beginner's level. The course dates are 10, 17 & 24 November from 4.00-6.00pm AEDT. To obtain more information or to register, visit the website at <https://awschool.talentlms.com/catalog/info/id:265>. The **AWS** also has a range of free webinars coming up in November and December. More information on the on-demand and live training courses coming up in the next couple of months is at <https://tinyurl.com/y6xfjke6>



The National Centre for Groundwater Research and Training (NCGRT) will offer the **Australian Groundwater School 2023** in an online format with courses in February and August. The Australian Groundwater School is vital for professionals working with groundwater and provides participants with a broad but rigorous introduction to groundwater. For more information or to register please visit <https://tinyurl.com/5n877j7k>

## PEOPLE & CORPORATE MEMBER NEWS

We were saddened to hear of the recent passing of **Nigel Hesford** in New Zealand. Nigel was one of the NZ WIOG founding Members and a long term Committee member. Nigel has also been a WIOA member since 2004 and attended several tours to Australia, along with joining the Kiwi delegation at the Victorian conference. His passion for training operators was unsurpassed and he will be missed.



One of WIOA's Corporate Members has reached out to see if anyone with Treatment experience would be interested in a 6-12 month contract to work in Queensland. They are looking for someone to spend some one-on-one time training, assisting with operators as they work towards their Certificate III and WIOA registration as well as to review and update documentation. Drop us a line at [info@wioa.org.au](mailto:info@wioa.org.au) for more information.



On 6 September, **Envirosuite** hosted with Smart Water Magazine a webinar discussing “**How water utilities apply digital innovation to drive growth strategy**”. The webinar brought together three industry experts: Daniel Lambert at Unitywater as well as Chaim Kolominskas and Jide Fadero at Envirosuite, to offer a detailed conversation on digitalisation. Watch the recording at <https://tinyurl.com/28u9pjfn>

**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, Operations Supervisors, Distribution Operators 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](mailto:sherryn@wioa.org.au)

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

- 12 November **Ixom 2022 Best Tasting Tap Water in Australia Grand Final**, Casino NSW
- 30 November **Network Operations Interest Day**, Albury

## 2023 CONFERENCE & EXHIBITIONS

- 1 & 2 March **3<sup>rd</sup> WIOA South Australian Operations Conference & Expo**, Murray Bridge
- 29 & 30 March **84<sup>th</sup> WIOA VIC Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Bendigo
- 19 & 20 July **47<sup>th</sup> WIOA QLD Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Sunshine Coast
- 1 & 2 November **15<sup>th</sup> WIOA NSW Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Canberra



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