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# WIOA WORDS

MARCH 2023 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

**Would you like to play an important role on WIOA's Diversity and Inclusion Group?** We are looking for nominations from active members, to help us continually evolve diversity and inclusion across all of WIOA's activities. Nominations are requested by COB on Monday 17 April. To nominate please complete this electronic form on our website <https://wioa.org.au/di/>. If you have any queries or would like to know more, please contact us at [info@wioa.org.au](mailto:info@wioa.org.au)



WIOA in partnership with WSAA, has launched a new initiative - **the Water Industry Operator Exchange Program**. The aim of the Operator Exchange Program is to provide water treatment, wastewater treatment and network operators with the opportunity to spend time at another organisation and share ideas, processes, technologies, and experiences. The Expression of Interest for both individuals and host organisations closes on 31 March. Nominate at <https://wioa.org.au/operator-exchange-program/>



The **2023 WIOA Annual General Meeting** will be held online on Wednesday 24 May commencing at 2.00pm AEST. We would like to encourage as many Members as possible to log in, be part of the meeting and provide your input in the future direction of the association. If you wish to attend, please register by COB 23 May at <https://wioa.org.au/about-wioa/agm/>



Members are invited to contribute to the success of WIOA by **nominating for the General Committee**. To be considered for a Committee position, a completed nomination form must be returned by COB on Wednesday 26 April <https://wioa.org.au/about-wioa/agm/>



**Do you have a story you would like to share?** WIOA will support turning our Members' story into an article for the May edition of WaterWorks and/or the May edition of Operator. If you would like to share your story please contact us at [info@wioa.org.au](mailto:info@wioa.org.au)

## EVENTS

**WIOA Talks** webinars allow members from all over the country to get together to hear the latest updates and share knowledge and experiences – all from the comfort of their own desk! They run from 12.00pm-1.00pm AEST. The topics for the next WIOA Talks are:

- Thursday 27 April – **WaterAble** - a network of people with disability and their allies in the Victorian water industry
- Tuesday 23 May – **Biosolids** - a new way of managing Biosolids.

More information and how to register will be available soon <https://wioa.org.au/wioa-events/wioatalks/>

If any Members have suggestions for future webinar topics or you have something you would like to present, please let us know via email at [info@wioa.org.au](mailto:info@wioa.org.au)



**Last chance** to register for the **84th WIOA Victorian Water Industry Operations Conference and Exhibition** to be held in Bendigo on **29 & 30 March 2023**. All the information on the event including the technical program and the registration process is available at <https://wioaconferences.org.au/vic-2023/>. If you will be attending as a delegate, please use our online event registration system and make sure you access the 25% member discount using the promo code. Visitors are welcome to check out the exhibition on Wednesday or Thursday. Pre-register online or register on the day.



WIOA invites all Victorian water suppliers to participate in the **2023 Ixom Best Tasting Tap Water in Victoria** competition with heats on Tuesday 28 March and the grand final on Wednesday 29 March at the WIOA conference in Bendigo. More details including the Taste Test entry form are available at <https://wioa.org.au/awards/state-awards/victorian-awards/#7>



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 2023 be the year that sees the trophy head somewhere other than to Goulburn Valley Water? Enter your teams via email with Sherryn at the office ASAP [sherryn@wioa.org.au](mailto:sherryn@wioa.org.au)



The **47th WIOA Queensland Water Industry Operations Conference and Exhibition** will be held in the Sunshine Coast on 19 & 20 July 2023. The technical program is being finalised at present, we are still looking for more Operator Poster Papers. If you are interested, send an email to [info@wioa.org.au](mailto:info@wioa.org.au) More information on the conference can be found at <https://wioaconferences.org.au/qlid-2023/>



The **15th WIOA NSW Water Industry Operations Conference and Exhibition** will be held in Mitchell, ACT on 1 & 2 November 2023. We are looking for operators to share their story as part of the conference program. Abstracts for consideration must be in by Friday 26 May 2023 at <https://wioaconferences.org.au/nsw-2023>



The preliminary program for the Australian Water Association's **Ozwater'23 Conference** to be held in Sydney on 10-12 May 2023 has been released. The preliminary program is at <https://tinyurl.com/35jxcxyv>

## WIOA AWARDS

In partnership with TRILITY, WIOA is seeking nominations for the following two awards:

**Kwatye - Cultural Recognition Award** - Recognising an initiative involving cultural or diversity and inclusion-based activities within a project and/or community in which WIOA members serve. Nominations close 1 July annually <https://wioa.org.au/awards/national-awards/kwatye-award/>. The winner will receive \$2,000 donation to their cultural or diverse charity of choice.

**WIOA Team of the Year Award** – Recognises teams of employees working in any part of the water industry that have made an outstanding contribution to their workplace or community. Nominations close 1 October annually <https://wioa.org.au/awards/national-awards/team-year/>. The WIOA Team of the Year Winner will receive copies of the WIOA Practical Guides for the use of the winning business, to the value of \$2,000 and the Runner up Team of the Year will receive copies of the WIOA Practical Guides for the use of the winning business, to the value of \$1,000.

We look forward with interest to the announcement of the VicWater sponsored **2023 Victorian Operator of the Year Award** and the IWA Victoria sponsored **2023 Young Victorian Operator of the Year Award**. The winners will be announced at the Conference Awards Dinner on Thursday 30 March in Bendigo.



Nominations for the **2023 Queensland Operator of the Year** are being accepted. This prestigious award sponsored by AWA Queensland Branch 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 2024. Applications close on Monday 19 June 2023 and an application is available from <https://wioa.org.au/awards/state-awards/queensland-awards/>



Similarly, the Queensland Water Directorate (*qldwater*) is accepting nominations for the **Young Operator of the Year** as well as for the **Operator of the Year – (Civil/All-rounder)**. The Young Operator of the Year will also receive a fully funded opportunity to join the WIOA New Zealand tour in 2024. The Civil/All Rounder will receive up to \$1,500 towards professional development. This could be used for opportunities such as attendance at conferences, *qldwater* training or for funding expenses for exchange opportunities at neighbouring or other councils. If you know someone within the Queensland water industry that fits the bill for either of these awards, make sure you nominate them today. Also closing on Monday 19 June 2023, nomination forms are available from <https://wioa.org.au/awards/state-awards/queensland-awards/>

## TRAINING COURSES

**Monitor and Optimise Activated Sludge and Biological Nutrient Reduction Course** for operators, engineers, and managers. This course is aimed at people responsible for AS/BNR systems operation, assessment, control, and optimisation. The course also provides micro credentials for training recognition and post graduate studies. The June 2023 Activated Sludge and Biological Nutrient Reduction micro-credential course is now open for registration through the link below. This year the course will be held at Southbank Campus, Griffith University, Brisbane. Monday June 26 from 8:00am through to Friday June 30 2:00pm, more information <https://tinyurl.com/yu7snw56>

**TRILITY** is launching its Registered Training Organisation (RTO) Business Unit in 2023. They are planning to deliver Certificate II, III and IV in Water Industry Operations in all states except WA. To ensure you receive updates from their Training Services Division, and to register your interest in courses under the National Water Training Package for 2023, email them at [training@trility.com.au](mailto:training@trility.com.au)



**AMS Training & Solutions** offers online, virtual, classroom and hands-on **David H Paul RO Specialist Training**, recognised by the IDA Academy as the most comprehensive RO training worldwide. Visit their website - [www.amsts.com.au](http://www.amsts.com.au) - for more details, or contact them to discuss your training needs and be waitlisted for future events. AMS is seeking host sites for their training later in 2023.



**The Australian Water School** has a range of free webinars in 2023. More information on the on-demand and live training courses can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/y6xfjke6>

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

There are approximately 30 vacant positions in NSW, Queensland and Victoria currently advertised on the WIOA website. Current vacancies include positions for several **Water Treatment Operators, Water Treatment Team Leaders, Network or Maintenance Operators, Communications and Management** positions. To utilise this FREE job advertisement placement service, please email your advert to [sherryn@wioa.org.au](mailto:sherryn@wioa.org.au)

## PEOPLE & CORPORATE MEMBER NEWS

**Airmet** has a webinar on Detecting VOCs in the workplace presented by Alex Baburamani on Tuesday 28 March 2023 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM AEDT. The webinar will cover the foundations of Volatile Organic Compounds, an overview of sensor technology, common detection challenges, and user pain points. More information or register at <https://tinyurl.com/yckms6je>



A WIOA Member has an **older style auger** located at one of their treatment plants. They are looking for someone with experience in repairing this piece of equipment. If you think you can help, please contact [info@wioa.org.au](mailto:info@wioa.org.au) and we will pass your details on to the Member.



**Busselton Water** has recently updated their Chlorination facilities, and has an Expression of Interest open to re-home parts that are no longer suitable to their system. They have existing new stock and also serviceable, lightly used parts. For details email: [craig.francis@busseltonwater.wa.au](mailto:craig.francis@busseltonwater.wa.au)

## 2023 CONFERENCES & EVENTS

- 29 & 30 March **84th Victorian Water Industry Operations Conference and Exhibition, Bendigo**
- 26 April **WIOA Inc Committee Nominations close**
- 27 April **WIOA Talks - WaterAble, online**
- 4 May **Distribution Seminar, Bendigo, Details TBC**
- 10 -12 May **AWA's OzWater conference, Sydney**
- 23 May **WIOA Talks - Biosolids, online**
- 24 May **WIOA Inc Annual General Meeting, online**
- 21 June **SA Interest Day - Glenelg WWTP**
- 19 & 20 July **47th QLD Water Industry Operations Conference and Exhibition, Sippy Downs**
- 1 & 2 November **15th NSW Water Industry Operations Conference and Exhibition, Canberra**



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 Ella your new details ([admin@wioa.org.au](mailto:admin@wioa.org.au)) or call the office on 03 5821 6744.