

DECEMBER 2015

This newsletter is sent to General Managers and to Water and Sewer Managers in 103 regional Councils in NSW and also to over 140 contacts in government departments and private industry across Australia.



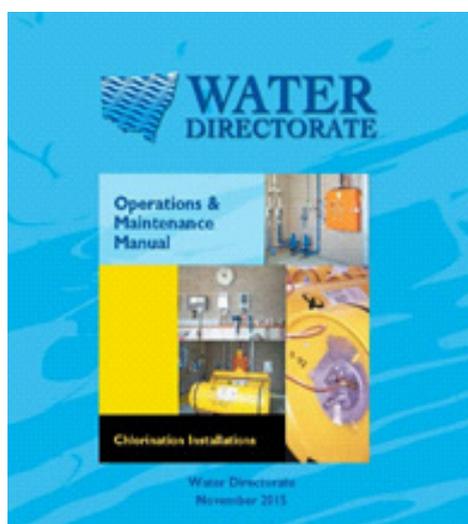
MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR READERS

On behalf of the Executive Committee, I wish a peaceful and safe festive season to all member Council staff and to all readers of this newsletter. Best wishes for a prosperous 2016.

LATEST PUBLICATION O&M MANUAL FOR CHLORINATION INSTALLATIONS

In December the updated O&M Manual for Chlorination Installations was distributed to our 97 member Councils.

In 2016 the Water Directorate plans to produce up to a dozen new or updated publications for member Councils. We look forward to this ambitious challenge.



WATER MANAGERS PLEASE NOMINATE YOUR OPERATOR FOR THE 2016 NSW OPERATOR OF THE YEAR

Managers who wish to reward their dedicated operators who do great work protecting public health are urged to nominate their staff by 19 February 2016 to be Operator of the Year.

The winner will be presented a set of trophies at the 10th Annual WIOA Conference on 7 April 2016 in Newcastle. In addition the winner will join the WIOA tour group and attend the Water Industry Operations Group (WIOG) New Zealand conference. Please go to the [website](#) for an online nomination form.

LGNSW EXCELLENCE IN THE ENVIRONMENT AWARDS

In December the Water Directorate was pleased to sponsor the Water Conservation category of LGNSW's Excellence awards again. The awards recognise outstanding achievements in managing and protecting the environment and are open to all NSW Councils. Our 97 member Councils are strongly urged to enter in 2016.

Congratulations to the City of Canada Bay Council (pictured above) for being the overall winner for their project

titled **Water for our Community.**

Stormwater harvested from St Luke's Canal in Concord, is treated on-site at Cintra Park and distributed via the 4km reticulation pipe network to 15 sports fields and two public golf courses. Each year this scheme will produce around 180ML of recycled water, meeting 95% of the irrigation needs of the end-user sites. For more details go to www.lgnsw.org.au/events-training/environment-awards.

Photo by Eventpix.

OPERATING TIMES FOR NSW HEALTH LABS OVER THE CHRISTMAS PERIOD

NSW Health laboratories that provide testing for the NSW Health Drinking Water Monitoring Program will close over Christmas from 24th December until 3rd January 2016. Full service recommences 4th January 2016. Urgent samples can be accepted during this time. Contact your local Public Health Unit to request laboratory testing in case of emergencies.

Please submit microbiology samples to reach FASS (formerly DAL) and Pathology North (Lismore) by Wednesday noon 23rd December to allow time for them to be processed

before Christmas. Please submit samples to reach Pathology West (Wagga Wagga) by Tuesday 22nd December if you would like them to be processed before Christmas.

INTERNATIONAL WATERCENTRE PARTIAL SCHOLARSHIPS FOR SELF-FUNDED STUDENTS

The International WaterCentre is offering a partial scholarship (\$7,000 for the Master of Integrated Water Management at the University of Queensland; and \$2,000 for the Graduate Certificate in Water Planning at Griffith University) to every self-funded student commencing in Semester 1, 2016.

Both programs are designed to equip participants with transdisciplinary skills in integrated water management, fast-track their career development and build their capacity to create innovative and sustainable solutions to complex water management issues.

Apply for admission through the relevant partner university by 31 January 2016. For more information go to: www.watercentre.org/iwc-scholarships or contact admin@watercentre.org or phone 07 3014 0200.

AWA WATER INNOVATION FORUM AND EXPO IS RETURNING IN 2016 – EARLY BIRD REGISTRATIONS OPEN. ROYAL RANDWICK RACECOURSE, SYDNEY, 10 – 11 MARCH 2016

Innovation is a topic everyone is talking about and the Turnbull Government has made no secret of the fact it is a top priority.

The recent announcement of the \$1.1b innovation funding package, as well as the spotlight on water innovation and its importance to industry productivity in Australia, means now is the time to support and promote innovators to

increase efficiencies, improve practices and withstand any water challenge that comes our way.

The AWA's national Water Innovation Forum and Expo is fast becoming the country's foremost platform for people working in water-using industries to meet and discuss innovation, emerging technology, and exchange fresh and ground-breaking ideas.

Back for the second year, the Water Innovation Forum and Expo is even bigger than before with speakers from BoM, AGL, ANSTO and the country's biggest utilities, as well as nearly 30 pitches from Australia's brightest sparks.

This is your opportunity to join innovators, SMEs, entrepreneurs and start-ups as they explore new thinking, new possibilities and the commercial adoption of cutting edge water technology.

Register online now!

View the program, speakers and the sessions here: http://www.awa.asn.au/Documents/Innovation_Forum_and_Expo_Program_Final.pdf

Do you have a water or wastewater technology you want to bring to market? Register to take advantage of this unique opportunity to pitch your business or technology to the right audience.

The top five pitches will receive a complimentary exhibition booth in the Innovation Hub at Ozwater'16, Australia's largest water conference and exhibition in Melbourne, 10-12 May 2016. Early-bird registrations: AWA Members \$750; AWA Non Members \$880 until 29 Jan 2016.

GOVERNMENT SKILLS AUSTRALIA CEASING BUSINESS OPERATIONS 24 DECEMBER

GSA will be ceasing business operations as of 24 December.

After nearly 10 years of working with the community safety, government, and water industries in Australia to develop workforce skills, GSA has been unable to continue to attract funding in the new industry skills and training package development landscape.

Karen Taylor, CEO GSA strongly recommends that all stakeholders continue to make their voices heard regarding the future of training and skills development in the water industry and, where possible, continue to work collaboratively.

SRIT - SUSTAINABLE RESOURCES INDUSTRY TRAINING IN 2016

- Introduction to Groundwater: Principles and Practices (Adelaide, Melbourne, New Zealand, Perth or Brisbane)
- Soil and Groundwater Pollution and Remediation Workshop – Melbourne
- Groundwater Modelling for Beginners – Sydney
- Introduction to ArcGIS - Sydney

For more information on the above courses contact 08 8277 6380, 0414 965 226, srit.com.au or info@srit.com.au

YOUR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NEEDS YOU!

There are three vacancies on the Executive Committee due to resignations and retirements.

There is a vacancy in the New England group of Councils, the Nth Coast group of Councils and the Sth West group of Councils. If you are a senior manager from the above areas and interested in making a difference then please contact me on gmitchell@waterdirectoriate.asn.au.

Gary Mitchell
Executive Officer

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