

WATER DIRECTORATE news

JULY 2014

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.

MEMBERSHIP FEES DUE

Membership fees are now due for 2014/15 and invoices were sent out in July. The Executive Committee resolved that fees be increased by CPI in order to keep pace with inflation. At least 53 member Councils have rejoined promptly which is greatly appreciated.

The Executive Committee thank our 97 member Councils for their support over the 2013/14 financial year. We look forward to providing more newsletters, water advice, technical publications, submissions, awards, discussion forums, workshops and networking opportunities in 2014/15.

NEW PROJECT - EVALUATION OF SEWER REHABILITATION - CALL FOR CASE STUDIES FROM MEMBER COUNCILS

The Water Directorate's Sewer Subcommittee is seeking member Councils' assistance and input to a new project.

Please email info@waterdirectorate.asn.au if you can share your case studies and experiences with sewer rehabilitation.

WATER DIRECTORATE/AWA CONFERENCE ATTENDEE REPORT

As reported in the April newsletter, Luke Whitten, Water Services Engineer at Liverpool Plains Shire Council attended OzWater'14 in Brisbane as the recipient of this year's AWA/Water Directorate Conference Attendance Award.

Luke's report is now on the website at www.waterdirectorate.asn.au. Read his report to see why this award, now in its eleventh year, is such a beneficial initiative. If you are a junior water professional in the first 7 years of your

career and working for a member council water business then please note that we will be seeking nominations again next February to attend Ozwater'15 in Adelaide on 12-14 May.

SUMMARY OF REVIEW SUBMISSIONS

In recent years the Water Directorate has been increasingly involved in making submissions to various reviews. A summary of the recommendations from all of these submissions has been collated and is included in the members area of the website under submissions. Go to www.waterdirectorate.asn.au/WaterDirectorateSubmissions.aspx.

GOVERNMENT SKILLS AUSTRALIA SURVEY

The water industry, through GSA, is seeking to quantify the number of workers nationally in water industry occupations. The Australian Water Occupations Framework (AWOF) defines 28 generic water occupations and will enable water organisations to compare roles nationally and provide an opportunity for a quantifiable study.

This research aims to gain reliable data of the number workers in the 28 Occupations in the AWOF to build a case for revision of the misleading ANZSCO codes to better represent the water industry.

To undertake this survey, GSA needs to contact all the water utilities in NSW to ask for your assistance with their survey. Sue Peisley, GSA, will send the survey to the contact people in all the participating organisations.

The Water Directorate encourages all our members to participate in the GSA survey and to respond to Sue Peisley with your data. Please contact her on

S.Peisley@govskills.com.au to indicate your willingness for your LWU to participate in the survey.

LAST CALL FOR LGNSW WATER MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE, PORT MACQUARIE, 25-27 AUGUST

The Water Directorate Executive Committee recommends the upcoming LGNSW Water Management Conference and LGNSW invites you to register online at www.lgnsw.org.au/waterconference.

The Executive Committee looks forward to facilitating the Water Directorate Forum to provide the opportunity to discuss important issues of your choice with your peers.

For more information please contact Karen Rolls, Event Coordinator Administration, LGNSW on 9242 4050 or karen.rolls@lgnsw.org.au

LAST CALL FOR AWA SMALL WATER AND WASTEWATER NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2014, NEWCASTLE, 13-15 AUGUST

This year's theme is Decentralised Water and Wastewater Systems: Advances in Technology and Recycling, which will explore the re-emergence of decentralised water systems as a long term solution to water scarcity.

Conference attendees will also learn about the constraints associated with the centralised approach. To view the program or register go to www.awa.asn.au/swws2014/.

INTRODUCTION TO AUSTRALIAN GROUNDWATER, GOLD COAST, 18-20 AUGUST

SRIT's three-day Groundwater training event will be delivered by

two of Australia's most experienced groundwater practitioners and trainers - Colin Hazel from Queensland and Dr John Bradd from NSW. This training is not something to miss if you have any involvement in the groundwater profession or wish to enhance your skills.

This course is an essential element for all water staff training in this dry country of ours. Following this course will be a two-day specialist course in Groundwater pumping test analysis. Significant discounts apply if you want to attend both courses.

For more information about the course or how to register go to www.srit.com.au/courses/course_75_file1.pdf or contact Sustainable Resources Industry Training Pty Ltd on 08 8277 6380, 0414 965 226 or info@srit.com.au.

ENVIRO'14, ADELAIDE CONVENTION CENTRE, 17-19 SEPTEMBER

At the Enviro'14 Conference industry, government and the environmental sectors gather to shape policy and progress on sustainable enterprise. The program includes workshops and technical tours; concurrent streams across energy, waste, water and clean air; facilitated one-on-one meetings with keynotes and sponsors;

and networking opportunities with researchers, government, business leaders and policy makers. For more information on this event visit www.enviroconvention.com.au/.

MASTER OF INTEGRATED WATER MANAGEMENT FULL-TUITION SCHOLAR-SHIPS (\$49,920) FOR FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME DISTANCE STUDY. NOW OPEN FOR DOMESTIC STUDENTS

IWC is currently offering several scholarships for high calibre international and domestic candidates to study the Master of Integrated Water Management next year. The scholarships are available for new students who are not currently enrolled in the program. For more details see www.watercentre.org/news/education/programs/master-of-integrated-water-management.

The program is designed to equip future water leaders with the knowledge and skills they need to create innovative, 'whole-of-water-cycle' solutions to local and global water challenges. The degree is co-badged and co-taught by IWC's four founding member universities: The University of Queensland, Griffith University, Monash University and The University of Western Australia.

The next intake will be Semester 1, 2015.

Apply for an IWC Masters Scholarship by 1 August if you are an international student or 1 October if you are a domestic student.

WATER LEADERSHIP PROGRAM – FULL (\$10,000) AND HALF (\$5,000) SCHOLARSHIPS – AUSTRALIAN CITIZENS AND AUSTRALIAN PERMANENT RESIDENTS ONLY

Designed for emerging water leaders at the project to middle management level, the IWC Water Leadership Program helps participants to develop the abilities they need to manage challenging integrated water management projects.

The 2014/15 program will start in December and run for nine months with two face-to-face intensive sessions in Brisbane and various distance/online elements including coaching. Apply for this scholarship by 15 September only for Australian citizens and Australian permanent residents.

IT'S WATERAID'S 10TH ANNIVERSARY

Congratulations to WaterAid Australia for a decade of helping to improve many lives of some of the world's poorest people through access to safe water, toilets and hygiene education. WaterAid Australia's fundraising has grown to over \$10 million annually.

In the last ten years WaterAid Australia has launched national campaigns to boost public awareness and government support for their work towards a world where everyone, everywhere has access to safe water and sanitation by 2030.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

There are two remaining meeting dates for the Executive Committee in 2014. These are:

- 11 September
- 12 and 13 November

Members are welcome to forward issues for discussion or attend the AGM on 13 November 2014.

Gary Mitchell
Executive Officer
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