

FEBRUARY 2016

This newsletter is sent to General Managers and to Water and Sewer Managers in 102 regional Councils in NSW and also to over 140 contacts in government departments and private industry across Australia.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- **10th Annual WIOA NSW Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition**, Newcastle, 6-7 April - see further information in this newsletter
- **ANCOLD Dam Operators Forum**, Wodonga, 27-28 April - see further information in this newsletter
- **AWA Ozwater'16**, International Water Conference and Trade Exhibition, Melbourne, 10-12 May
- **IPWEA CivEnEx**, Civil works, open space management, construction & infrastructure exhibition, Hawkesbury Showground, 18-19 May
- **LGNSW Water Management Conference**, Broken Hill, 28-30 August
- **IPWEA (NSW Div), Annual Conference and Excellence Awards**, Hunter Valley, 26-28 October

WIOA CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION, NEWCASTLE, 6 – 7 APRIL

The 10th Annual WIOA NSW Water Industry Engineers & Operators Conference will be held in Newcastle at the Jockey Club. Contact George Wall for the details on 03 5821 6744 or go to http://www.wioaconferences.org.au/documents/NSW2016_DelegateRegistration.pdf.

A flyer has been mailed out with the hardcopy version of this newsletter. If you're an operator, manager, engineer,

consultant, professional, someone who is working in the water industry or just has an interest in water, then this is a must attend event.



Who will win the Operator of the Year Award for 2016? Who will win the best tasting tap water competition in 2016? See next item.

WHO PRODUCES THE BEST TASTING TAP WATER IN NSW?

Water providers in NSW are invited to enter the Ixom 2016 NSW Water Taste Test to find out who has the best tasting tap water in NSW. Please send your water samples to the conference with your delegates.

The next NSW Water Taste Test will take place at the WIOA NSW Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition to be held at the Newcastle Jockey Club on Wednesday 6 April and

Thursday 7 April 2016.

Samples need to be at the Jockey Club by 4.00pm on Tuesday 5 April 2016, and providers are required to have at least one delegate at the conference who can provide information about the sample and accept the award as NSW Best Tasting Tap Water if successful.

The winner of the NSW Water Taste Test will represent NSW in the Water of Origin competition to be held at the WIOA Queensland Conference in Rockhampton in June and also will represent NSW in the national competition to find Australia's Best Tasting Tap Water.

As the winner of WIOA's Australian Best Tasting Tap Water in 2015, WIOA entered the sample from the Marysville WTP into the International Water Tasting competition in the USA and it won a Silver medal in the Best Municipal Water in the World competition. WIOA will enter the winning Australian sample into the competition in 2017 with the aim of bringing home GOLD for Australia!

To be in it, make sure your water enters the Ixom2016 NSW Water Taste Test, and who knows, just like the Goulburn Valley Water, your team could be recognised as having some of the best tasting water in the world. More information including eligibility and requirements is available at: http://www.wioaconferences.org.au/nsw_tastetest.htm.

**NOMINATIONS FOR THE
2016 WATER
DIRECTORATE/AWA
CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE
AWARD CLOSE 8 APRIL**

The winner of this award will attend Ozwater'16 in Melbourne from 10-12 May. The award comprises one full registration to Ozwater'16 valued at \$1,745 courtesy of AWA as well as travel and accommodation expenses to \$2,000 excl. GST provided by the Water Directorate.

The aim of this award is to promote young water industry professionals with less than 7 year's work experience since gaining their first degree. Nominees must also be first time attendees to OzWater. Nominations from final year graduates who are working in the local government water industry are also welcome. A nomination form is enclosed with the hardcopy version of this newsletter mailed to LWUs or go to the website at www.waterdirectorate.asn.au.

**UPDATED AUSTRALIAN
DRINKING WATER
GUIDELINES (2011) NOW
AVAILABLE**

The National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) has released an update to the 2011 Australian Drinking Water Guidelines (AWDG) as part of its rolling revision of the guidelines.

The recent update includes amendments to Chapter 6 (how to determine interim guideline values for chemicals detected in drinking water which do not have a guideline value), and Chapter 8 (modifications to inconsistencies in section 8.5 to 8.8, and updated information to table 8.2). Further information is available on the NHMRC website.

**CELEBRATE WORLD WATER
DAY ON 22 MARCH**

22 March each year is International World Water Day. It is a means of focusing attention on the importance of freshwater and advocating for the sustainable management of freshwater resources. The theme in 2016 is Water and jobs.

The UN International World Water Day tries to remind people about the significance of fresh water and to promote sustainability for fresh water resources' management. It's a day to celebrate water. It's a day to prepare for how we manage water in the future.

Each year World Water Day highlights a specific aspect of freshwater. For 2016 this will be water and jobs. Today, almost half of the world's workers, 1.5 billion people, work in water related sectors and nearly all jobs depend on water and those that ensure its safe delivery. Yet the millions of people who work in water are often not recognised or protected by basic labour rights.

The theme, water and jobs, shows how enough quantity and quality of water can change workers' lives and livelihoods and even transform societies and economies.

World Water Day was officially assigned to 22 March in 1993 by the United Nations General Assembly. The event includes official and milestone events as well as many other events organised by various stakeholders around the world. The official World Water Day event 2016 will be celebrated at the headquarters of the International Labour Organization (ILO) in Geneva, Switzerland.

**ANCOLD DAM OPERATORS
FORUM, WODONGA, 27-28
APRIL**

Registration is now open. Don't miss this exciting opportunity to network and share knowledge in the areas of small and large dam operations and management.

The full day program on **27 April** includes a line-up of national speakers including topics on:

- Managing Water Resources
- Maintenance of Dams Assets
- Optimising Dam Operations
- Planning & Preparing Dams for Unusual
- Operations & Maintenance

The forum on 27 April is followed by a forum dinner, and a full day tour of Hume and Dartmouth Dams on 28 April. Visit <http://ancolddamowners.com.au/>.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

In January I wrote to the GMs of 42 member Councils seeking nominations for 3 new Executive Committee members to fill vacancies from resignations. I'm very pleased to welcome David Wolfenden from Moree Plains Shire Council representing the New England group of Councils; Graham Kennett from Kyogle Council representing the North Coast group of Councils and Mark Dalzell from Deniliquin Shire Council representing the South West group of Councils.

Meeting dates for 2016 are:

- 10 March
- 5 May
- 14 July
- 8 September
- 9, 10 November

Gary Mitchell
Executive Officer

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