



## Newsletter of Water Quality Research Australia Limited

### Issue 5 – July 2008

Welcome to the fifth issue of Water Quality Research Australia News, the newsletter of Water Quality Research Australia Limited (WQRA Limited).

WQRA Limited is a not-for-profit scientific research institution, established to provide strategic knowledge for the Australian urban water industry. Incorporated in October 2007, its registered office is at Level 13, 77 Grenfell Street, Adelaide.

Issues 1 - 4 of Water Quality Research Australia News can be downloaded from the website of WQRA Limited [www.waterquality.org.au](http://www.waterquality.org.au)

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### CEO's Report

The last fortnight has seen significant progress on the development and planning of the research agenda for WQRA including:

- A node meeting in Melbourne, hosted by RMIT, which continued preliminary discussions on the R&D issues and priorities for the Research Programs. Many thanks to Felicity Roddick for organising this. An update to members will be provided on the outcomes of this meeting at the upcoming Members Meeting in August.
- Discussions with Greg Allen and his team at Sydney Water on the approaches used by Sydney Water in the Research Program planning process.
- Consultation and engagement of Michael du Plessis to help facilitate the planning process for the workshops
- Discussions regarding the planning for the Wastewater and Recycled Water Program Workshops with Heather Chapman, Judy Blackbeard and myself.

**NOTE: The dates of the workshops are being amended**

Recruitment of key staff, Chief Operating Officer and Program Managers, has occupied a significant amount of time to ensure that the correct team members are recruited. I would like to thank John Howard, Chris Davis and Michael Moore for contributing their time to be part of the interviewing panel. In summary:

- Last interviews with potential candidates for the Chief Operating Officer's position have been completed and referee checking is underway. It is anticipated that an appointment of the COO will occur within the next fortnight.
- Program Manager positions have been readvertised on [www.seek.com.au](http://www.seek.com.au), the AWA website and of course the WQRA website. The location of these position has been made more flexible to attract the best candidates for the roles. So far there has been a high calibre of candidates apply. Shortlisting will occur at the end of this week and interviewing will be conducted over the next 2 – 3 weeks.

The proposed Education Program for 2008/09 has been approved by the WQRA Board and will fund 3 post-graduate top-up scholarships and 10 summer scholarships. Many thanks to Dennis Mulcahy, Caroline Bellamy and Felicity Roddick, for preparing the submission to the WQRA Board and for finalising all the details surrounding the Education Program.

I look forward to seeing you at the Members Meeting and WQRA Launch on the 7th August. (Don't forget to RSVP so we can finalise the numbers)

Best wishes,

**Jodieann**

### **Forthcoming Dates**

Important Dates for your diaries in the next few months:

7 <sup>th</sup> August	<b>Adelaide</b>	Members Meeting 3 – 4.30pm Board Meeting 4.30 – 5.30pm <b>Launch of WQRA (Ayers House) 7 pm</b>
17 <sup>th</sup> September	<b>Teleconf</b>	Board meeting 9 – 11am (Adelaide Time–CST)
26 <sup>th</sup> September	<b>Sydney</b>	Wastewater Systems Program and Recycled water/other sources Program Workshop
2 <sup>nd</sup> October	<b>TBC</b>	Drinking Water Quality Program Workshop
8 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>Teleconf</b>	Board meeting 10am – 12pm (Adelaide Time–CST)
18 <sup>th</sup> November	<b>Adelaide</b>	Board meeting 9 – 11am <b>AGM</b> 11.30am – 1pm
10 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>Teleconf</b>	Board meeting 9 – 11am (Adelaide Time–CST)

### **WQRA Launch**

**August 7<sup>th</sup> Ballroom, Ayers House, 228 North Terrace, Adelaide 7pm-9pm**

Mr Ken Matthews, CEO of the National Water Commission has kindly agreed to be our guest speaker. It will be a great opportunity to mix and celebrate together and we will be ready to welcome you at the Ballroom in Ayers House from 6.30 onwards, ready for a 7pm start. Business attire is fine.

A friendly reminder to all members who have not yet responded to confirm their attendance please RSVP to [susan.spragg@sawater.com.au](mailto:susan.spragg@sawater.com.au) at your earliest convenience so catering can be confirmed. We look forward to seeing a representative from all of our members at this special event, which follows our Members meeting at 3pm in the Australia Asia Centre, Level 4, SA Water House, 77 Grenfell Street. If you require additional information please contact Susan on 08 8259 0351.

### **Program Workshops**

There has been an amalgamation of the Wastewater Program and Recycled Water Program workshops, to try to capture the synergies between these two programs as well as to minimise the attendance time at workshops. However, to ensure that the Program Planning workshops provide constructive outputs, some pre-workshop discussions and input from members will be needed. Information about what input is required will be provided in the next newsletter and via email. Therefore, please note – to ensure that members have an opportunity to have significant input prior to the workshops – that there have been changes to date and location.

### **Education Program – call for projects**

Please note the next two items and ensure that all interested parties are aware of the time frame. You are welcome to forward this newsletter to anyone who may not already be on the distribution list.

### **Call for Summer Scholarship Projects for 2008 – 2009**

Please follow the link below to access the proforma to submit a project for the first WQRA Summer Scholarships Program. 10 Scholarships of value \$5,000 for a 10 week period. Details of the selection process are posted on the website. (Please contact Carolyn Bellamy should you require further clarification on 08 8302 5771 or [carolyn.bellamy@unisa.edu.au](mailto:carolyn.bellamy@unisa.edu.au))

[http://www.waterquality.org.au/WQRA\\_education.htm](http://www.waterquality.org.au/WQRA_education.htm)

### **Call for PhD Projects commencing 2009**

Please follow the link below to access the proforma to submit a WQRA PhD project to commence in March 2009. Three projects will be selected for top-up scholarships to the value of \$5,000 x 3.5 years. In addition there will be a consumables budget of up to \$15,000 overall. (Please contact Carolyn Bellamy should you require further clarification on 08 8302 5771 or [carolyn.bellamy@unisa.edu.au](mailto:carolyn.bellamy@unisa.edu.au))

[http://www.waterquality.org.au/WQRA\\_education.htm](http://www.waterquality.org.au/WQRA_education.htm)

### **Nominations for WQRA Education Committee**

WQRA wishes to establish an Education Committee which will deal with Summer Scholarships, PhD Top-up Scholarships and other pertinent educational matters. This will be a working Committee and will meet three times annually. Membership of the Committee will be limited. There will be representatives from Industry, Universities and other Research Providers.

If you are interested in involvement as a member it is essential that you nominate. Please forward your nomination to [carolyn.bellamy@unisa.edu.au](mailto:carolyn.bellamy@unisa.edu.au) by **COB Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> August** at the latest. Please note there will be a one day Planning Day on Friday, **15 August** to be held in Melbourne. This will conclude with a dinner in the evening. Should you require further clarification please contact Carolyn on 08 8302 5771.

### **Member News**

#### **Management of Cyanobacteria (Blue-green algae) in inland waters**

Victoria University is running a couple of one day workshops on the management of cyanobacteria in inland waters. The workshops will cover the conditions that promote blue-green algae blooms and management of waters to prevent blooms occurring. The workshops are scheduled for 15<sup>th</sup> September, 2008 in Ballarat, Victoria and 6<sup>th</sup> October in Wangaratta, Victoria. Details on the workshops can be found at: <http://isi.vu.edu.au/events>

#### **Industrial Use of Recycled**

A literature review covering issues relating to use of recycled water - such as water quality, corrosion, health risks and public perceptions is available from the Victoria University website. The review considers specific water uses such as cooling towers, boilers, wash water etc. and provides many case studies where recycled water is being used by industry. Copies of the literature review can be downloaded from:

<http://isi.vu.edu.au/sitebuilder/projects/knowledge/asset/files/31/guidancefortheuseofrecycledwaterbyindustry.pdf>

### **Contributing to Water Quality Research Australia News**

This issue of Water Quality Research Australia News is sent to all nominated people associated with the members of WQRA Limited. If you would like to be added to the mailing list or submit a newsworthy item for the next newsletter, send an email to [Angela.Gackle@sawater.com.au](mailto:Angela.Gackle@sawater.com.au)

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**Founding Industry Members:**

Australian Water Association Ltd  
Barwon Region Water Corporation (Barwon Water)  
Central Gippsland Region Water Corporation (Gippsland Water)  
Central Highlands Region Water Corporation (Central Highlands Water)  
City West Water Ltd  
Coliban Region Water Corporation (Coliban Water)  
Degremont Pty Ltd  
Goulburn Valley Region Water Corporation (Goulburn Valley Water)  
Hunter Water Corporation  
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Power and Water Corporation  
South Australian Water Corporation  
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**Founding Research Members:**

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Curtin University of Technology  
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Monash University  
RMIT University  
The University of Queensland  
University of Adelaide  
University of NSW  
University of SA  
University of Wollongong, Faculty of Engineering,  
University of Technology, Sydney  
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Esk Water Authority  
Grampians Wimmera Mallee Water Corporation (GMMWater)  
Lower Murray Urban and Rural Water Corporation (Lower Murray Water)  
NSW Department of Commerce (NSW Water Solutions)  
NSW Department of Health  
Orica Australia Pty Ltd  
WA Department of Water

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