

## Chairman's message

Greetings fellow WIOGians

If there's one thing I've learnt this year it is that life's a funny old thing.

One day you are going about your normal business and 'nek minnit' you are having open heart surgery. I'm all fixed now and getting back into the fray, and what a fray it is. The silly season is upon us once again.

The Committee has been busy organising next year's conference in Wellington and most of the hard yards have been done. What we need now are lots of operator papers and they have been slow in coming. To ensure our ongoing conference success we need to provide a great paper line-up, so please get them in now.

I also urge you to think about the award nominations. Please visit our website for information about these. [www.wiog.org.nz](http://www.wiog.org.nz). Becoming an award winner can be life changing and invaluable to gaining further water industry experiences. Nick Knight who won Operator of the Year at our Queenstown conference this year showed me his treatment plant photos from the OZ Tour after he attended the WIOA Bendigo conference as part of his prize. He said the experience was marvellous and he really enjoyed learning about other treatment processes.

Since the last newsletter two regional workshops have been completed and well attended in the North Island and we will organise two in the South Island early next year. Also another Waikato Water & Wastewater Treatment Plant Operators Forum has been completed and well attended. These events are becoming popular and will also gain you Current Professional Development (CPD) units as part of the Water Operators Professionals (WOP) registration scheme. Many other water industry related things can gain you CEU's. Stu Craib outlines where we are with the scheme later in this newsletter.

On behalf of the committee I wish you all and your families the very best for the festive season. Have a fantastic and safe Christmas and a happy New Year.

Cheers,

Martyn Simpson, *Chair/President*



# Kiwi Clarifier

## In this issue

- Chairman's Message
- From the EO
- 2012 WIOG Conference
- North Island Pump workshop
- WOP Registration
- Safety Alert

December 2011

1

Issue 15



## From the EO

Another huge year is about to come to an end - a year that saw challenges never faced by our industry before. 2011, included earthquakes, floods and economic uncertainty. But as our industry continually does, it rose to face these challenges. With support from each other and from our friends from around the world we overcame some trying times. And really, that's why being part of the water industry is so attractive to many of us. Our industry will always be challenged, and we will always meet these challenges with diligent effort and positive attitudes, and because of the nature of our industry we can always count on others to help. All this is why our industry is held in the highest esteem.

The Group has again gone from strength to strength. We have strong foundations that have been built by our Committee and members. We still require more members to get involved in WIOG's future. I would like to encourage you to look into how you could participate in developing our future in the coming year. Feel free to contact myself or any Committee Member. For your information our postal address has changed to:

P O Box 50-760, Porirua 5240

Lastly, in October this year and with much regret and sadness, I presented my resignation letter to the Committee. I will leave my post as the Executive Officer at the end of our AGM in May. Being part of

# Kiwi Clarifier

continued from page 1

December 2011

2

Issue 15

the foundations and set up of WIOG has been one of the proudest achievements in all things I have done. It has also been an honour to have worked with you all in making WIOG what it is today.

I wish you and yours all the best over the holiday season. Keep safe and I look forward to seeing you all at our conference in Wellington.

Cheers

Dave Neru, Executive Officer

## 2012 WIOG Conference

9 – 11 May 2012 Wellington

2012 is coming up pretty fast!

So it's time to get your thoughts together about presenting a paper at our 2012 Conference.

Presenting a paper at our conference provides you an opportunity to share your success, lessons or experiences you may have had – and it is a chance for others to learn from you.

To submit a paper for consideration, please download and complete the paper presentation form.

Or contact John Clemens  
[johnc@timdc.govt.nz](mailto:johnc@timdc.govt.nz)

*Paper submissions close 1 March 2012*



## North Island Pump Workshop

On 30 November and 1 December the North Island Industrial Pump School was held in Matamata with the support of Grundfos, Matamata-Piako District Council, WIOG and local Matamata Grundfos agent AG-Works.

Operational staff come from all around the Waikato, Thames-Valley and Bay of Plenty. There was great support with 20 attending each day.

A great range of topics was covered during the day that included:

- Pump types
- Different pump seals
- Cost ownership of pumps
- Pumping in series
- Total dynamic head
- Dosing pumps

Throughout the sessions questions were asked and a lot of solutions discussed.

After a great lunch supplied by AG –Works, we visited the Matamata Tawari Street Water Treatment Plant, comprising two bores that pump into a 4500m<sup>3</sup> raw water reservoir, in ground with floating cover. The raw water is pumped into a contact tank where CL2 and 30% NaOH is dosed. The water then is pumped into the reticulation using two Grundfos CR64-3 pumps that run to a pressure set point.

Then to the Matamata Waste Water Treatment Plant that had a major up grade last year.

It is a pond system with aqua mat's with membrane filtration to polish the final effluent before entering the Mangawhero Stream.

Back to the training at the Matamata-Piako District Council for a final last session and a coffee.

WIOG would like to thank the following for their support.

- Matamata – Piako District Council
- AG-Works
- Grundfos



## WOP Registration

The Registration Committee met early November to finalise some details on the scheme. The good news is that it is now fully up and running – so keep an eye out for happenings that will count towards gaining those Continued Education Units (CEU) that are required to maintain your registration status.

Check out Water Industry Training's website for details:

<http://www.waterit.ac.nz/water-operations-professionals>

For those people who signed up at the WIOG conference in Queenstown this year, CEU can be claimed for attending, as can attendance at the Water NZ Conference, and the pump workshops recently held in partnership with Grundfos.

In 2012 there will be a number of regional workshops which will all count towards the number required to maintain registration.

Please note that for people attending these and future events, training or other ways of achieving CEU's, it is your responsibility to maintain your CEU list and to submit it to WIT when the CEU target has been met.

For those operations and reticulation people waiting to sign up, and who meet the required criteria:

visit the WIT website and "Git er done"



## Safety Alert

### Background

*This Safety Alert is current due to information coming to light about the use of AC pipe as electrical cable ducting.*

On 11 November, a Tauranga City Council (TCC) Contractor was cutting through an asbestos concrete (AC) pipe. While cutting into the pipe that they intended to connect to, it was discovered that the pipe was actually a duct, used to carry a 400 V power cable. No one was harmed.

The contractor was first made aware that something was amiss by an adjacent business coming over and commenting that power was flickering in their premises.

This *near miss* requires immediate communication to all utility workers to caution and alert people about hazards of this nature.

### Action Required

- Up until the mid 1970's, AC pipe was used as power cable ducting within Tauranga City. Workers need to understand that an AC pipe could well contain a power cables.
- Ensure all pipes and services are positively identified. Do not assume surveys and as-builts fully reflect the actual service type and location.
- Power Co offer a free cable location service; ring them on 0800 769 372.
- Before Udig is another useful service ([www.beforeudig.co.nz](http://www.beforeudig.co.nz))
- If the service location or type is not as expected, conduct further checking and testing.

Have a Deal is having a sale on Council Recliners. I got curious as to this item, so went to find out what a Council Recliner was.

Guess what? I have had one for years! I have just figured out I have been using mine incorrectly.

