

Australasian Hydrographer

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LATE NEWS:

There isn't any, really!

However, I'd like to remind you that the quarterly Newsletter is due this month.

So, of course, I need your articles (what's new?), and the Corporate Members' ads.

I'd also like a black and white photograph that we could have on the cover.

The Newsletter needs to be at the printer by Saturday 22nd. I know that doesn't give much time, but we're all busy!

Welcome to the October Newsletter

Hello once again, and welcome to our October Newsletter.

Firstly, my apologies for the tardiness of this issue. I did make a start on it at the end of last month, and have been waiting for a contributor to come good.

October was a month of sadness for us with the passing of Alex Miller.

Unfortunately this occurred between sending out the last electronic version, and while the printed version was at the printer, so I was unable to let you know properly.

Alex was buried at a private ceremony at Moss Vale on 11th October. A piper played a lament and waratahs accompanied his coffin. Amongst the treasures he was buried with was a current meter part from his work days. In his passing I'm sure he thought of his many hydrographic friends, as we remember him. Our thoughts are with his wife and family.

With Alex's passing, we of course became "leaderless". Don Alexander has offered to stand in as Chairman until our next meeting in January or February 2002. I think Don sees this as very much a stand-in role, so I urge you to think about taking on the job, and if not you, then to try to coerce someone else.

Last month, I mentioned that John Skinner had approached the AWA with the aim of establishing an affiliation between our organizations. Key points from the AWA affiliation model are re-printed on page 2. Your comments would be appreciated.

Our new, improved web site is nearly ready to go. The address is on Page 2. I still need a couple of days to finish it, and have the password removed, so don't throw your hands in the air if you can't get to it tomorrow. Just bookmark it, and come back in a couple of days. Until next time.... Les Marshall

Our Corporate Members Are:

*Hydrological Services Pty Ltd, Bureau of Meteorology,
Water Data Services, Scott Technical Instruments Ltd,
Water EcoScience Pty Ltd, ECOWISE Environmental,
Northern Territory Department of Lands, Planning and Environment*

Affiliation Model – AHA and AWA

(This is an edited version of an AWA Discussion Paper. John Skinner is our representative looking into possible affiliations. Your input to the discussion would be welcome.)

Other organisations wishing to affiliate with AWA have two basic models to follow. The first is a complete merger in which the association becomes part of AWA, its members become AWA members and it is no longer a separate entity. The second, more likely option for many organisations is that there is an affiliation but the association remains autonomous and its members are not all members of AWA. This paper considers how that second option might work in practice.

The possible benefits of an affiliation with AWA could include:

- Access to administrative support
- Access to the journal *Water*
- Improved influence, through larger aggregated numbers
- Access to services in general, such as bookshop, web site, training etc
- Ability to use conference organising skills, or to join AWA events, or both

For the affiliation to work, it must deliver value to both parties, so AWA has to receive a benefit as well. Possible benefits to AWA include:

- Income to make economies of scale better
- Increased influence through a larger constituency
- Bigger audience for journal
- Better turnover for some chargeable services
- Economy from serving common members
- Legitimate access to affiliates' members for promotion

A key to making the affiliation work is that AWA's membership database serves all affiliates, for a fee. Beyond managing the database, the level of service can be negotiated on a case-by-case basis. Each affiliate would have the right to submit papers for consideration by the Journal's Editorial Committee and to have an agreed amount of space in each issue, in the 'affiliates' section. The amount of space would have to be negotiated based on the size of the affiliate and its level of service received. Affiliates would be asked to endorse AWA's mission to be part of the group and AWA would offer observer status to someone representing the affiliate on AWA's Board.

Special deals would be offered to common members, to attract the maximum possible number to holding joint membership. The financial incentive for holding dual membership will have to be negotiated based on the relative subscription fees. Deeper discounts could be offered for larger fees. Dual members would be invoiced singly for both memberships, to minimise handling costs.

For the Hydrographers' Association, which is the first to indicate strong enthusiasm for affiliation, the arrangement struck will set a precedent for future affiliations. A suggested arrangement is thus along the lines above, with the following specifics:

- Administration fee of \$55 pa (incl. GST) for which AWA keeps member list, sends out subscription notices and deposits subscriptions. AWA provides member lists and reports to AHA on a monthly basis
- AHA is entitled to submit papers for publication, is given a half-page in *Water* for its own items and promotion
- Dual members would pay a single fee of \$165 pa to hold the double membership
- AWA takes up hydrographers' training needs as an issue and works towards effective, accredited qualification being available and maintained.
- Any other services needed by AHA can be negotiated individually
- AHA members could share in local activities by AWA branches, increasing level of service to members

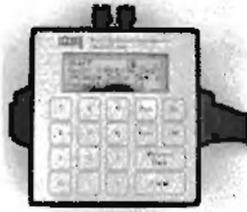
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11th Australian Hydrographers' Association Conference

This is the latest update from the Sub-Committee. The details may change, but not much. When everything is set, the Conference will be widely advertised and that will be soon. This is to keep you informed in the meantime!

The 11th Australian Hydrographers Association Conference is to be held in Sydney from Wednesday 10th to Saturday 13th of July 2002.

The conference theme is "INNOVATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL DATA COLLECTION".

Paper presentations will cover a wide range of topical issues in keeping with the theme. Industrial peers will referee submitted papers and poster paper presentations will be welcome. Delegates attending the conference will represent many professional aspects of environmental data collection and publication.

The Conference will be held at the University of NSW in conjunction with the annual HYDSYS User Group Meeting with representation from the HYDSYS/TIME STUDIO affiliated company included.

An adjoining, large trade exhibition will accompany the conference and a field trip to several local sites of environmental interest is planned for Saturday 13th July.

Environmental Data Collection Trade representatives are invited to submit an expression of interest in mounting a three day display of their products and services to a professional audience of national and international Delegates.

Electronic submission Deadline dates are:
Expressions of interest close on 17th December 2001.
Abstracts submissions close on 28th February 2002.
Final papers to be submitted by 30th April 2002.

Please send expressions of interest to: j.tilley@unsw.edu.au , or

Jim Tilley, Civil and Environmental Engineering School, The University of NSW, Sydney 2052

20 Questions with Les Marshall

When all else fails, you have to do it yourself. I was hoping for a contribution from someone else, but it didn't turn up. Here is my boring story. I started out as a Junior at the HEC in 1967, the lowest of the low. In 1972, I started at the Rivers and Water Supply Commission in Tasmania, and stayed there until 1977, when I commenced work with the E&WS in Adelaide. Then it was back to Tasmania in 1980 to the HEC, back to E&WS Adelaide in 1990. In 1992, I began with the Bureau of Meteorology flood warning in Adelaide, until in 2000, I returned to Tasmania. At the moment, I work for myself with LKM Hydrographic my main business.

What was your first job?

Junior Hydrographic Assistant with the HEC Tasmania.

Why did you pick it?

When I left school, I applied for two jobs with the HEC. I had an interview, told them I had also applied for another job. They told me to wait outside, and soon afterwards they came out and asked me which one I wanted. I figured hydrography didn't sound too bad, so went for that.

What drew you to your present position?

Lots of things. I've always been a bit independent, and wanting to sort of retire, but still be involved in hydrography. While I don't get a lot of work here, I guess I've just about managed that.

What is the favourite part of your current job?

Visiting the old places I used to work and live, reminiscing and telling the young blokes how it used to rain.

What is the strangest thing you have been asked to do for or at work?

I think the strangest thing is to turn up for your first day of work with a new employer.

Pastimes and hobbies?

Woodworking, horse racing, gardening, reading (anything), rugby union (best I can do now is watch), carving out some bush on my block where I hope to be able to develop a sort of "botanic walk". Then there's getting the firewood in for the next winter, trying to get the boat out and do some fishing...If all else fails, then I have to get stuck into the Newsletter.

What are you reading?

I'm re-reading Colleen McCullough's "Morgan's Run".

Favourite music?

John Denver, Celine Dion, "Local Hero" music by Mark Knopfler, although I don't usually like his stuff.

Favourite website?

www.nswtab.com.au

Where do you see our industry in say 5 years from now?

I think the wheel will turn once again. I feel that

following all the slashing and burning that went on in the last decade, governments will come to realize that they actually do need hydrographers and data, although it will probably be in the form of real time rather than historical data.

How can participation of younger members be encouraged in our Association?

Younger Members, older Members...the answer is the same. Members have to realize that this is their Association, and that they are entitled to have an input. I think where the difference may lie is that younger people have a more defined attitude to go out and change the world, where us old fogies have learned to live with it a bit. So, maybe we offer them this Association which may be seen as an "oldies" club, and see what they can do with it.

If you could achieve one thing in your lifetime what would it be?

I never wanted to die rich, but I have always intended to die happy.

Name three people you would like to invite to dinner.

My wife, my wife, and no children. She reads this. The children don't.

Your favourite beverage?

Cascade Draught

Your ideal weekend consists of

Lifting a pile of money from the TAB, and then working out how I did it.

How do you balance your work and private lives?

It's not too difficult. I don't get a lot of work, but when I do, I wonder how I'll fit it in.

Your greatest asset?

Persistence. My wife calls it stubborn-ness.

Your greatest liability?

Persisting with something to the point where it could become a liability. Sometimes I'm not good at finding that point.

What is the best thing about your job?

The relative freedom I get, and the challenge of nature.

What is the worst thing about your job?

Doing my BAS. In fact doing anything to do with tax.

Something to think about:

The discerning among you will have noted some inconsistency with the naming of the Association and the publications. That is, Australasian or Australian Hydrographers. Soon we will review our Constitution to get this straight with our NZ cousins. That is after we fix them up in the cricket Tests.