



Australasian Hydrographer

Inside this issue:

Welcome	1
2002 Deadlines	1
What is AUSRIVAS?	2
2002 Conference	3
River Health and Stakeholder Profiling	
Study Release	4
AHA Office Bearers, Contact Information	4
Want a Job?	4
TimeStudio	
International User Group Conference	4

Welcome to the January Newsletter

Hello once again, and welcome to our January Newsletter.

Please accept my apologies for the tardiness of this Newsletter. However, guess what? It's not all my own fault!! The fact is that I have not received even one item of news, nor any ads either. So, I have had to search far and wide for something to bring you. I have also re-cycled the old ads.

The deadlines for this year have been re-printed on this page, and with the February (Quarterly) edition rapidly approaching, I'm almost at my wit's end finding stuff for you.

Some-time this month, I'll be on my way back to South Australia. Doing what, I don't know! No doubt my wife has something up her sleeve. I've been told that that's their purpose, and being of the compliant nature that I am... All the contact details, web site, e-mail and so on will remain the same. You can't imagine how much I'm looking forward to some input from you. I'm certainly hoping that I'll have the February Newsletter out before I leave.

Well, do we have a 20 Questions volunteer for February?? I still need a black and white photo for the front cover as well.

Our Conference Committee is still working feverishly. This issue contains a reminder for the upcoming event. Please remember that to organize a Conference such as we plan takes an enormous amount of work, and the organizers are doing it in their "spare" time. Keep up the good work fellas.

We have already received a stack of Membership renewals, as well as some new Members. With this Newsletter is a copy of a Membership Form in case you lost yours.

Until next month then...

Les Marshall

Handwritten notes on the right margin: "LMA", "STUDY", "A BIT", "CONSIDERED".

2002 DEADLINES

For your information, and particularly for our Corporate Members' Advertisements, following are the dates I would like to have copy in my hands (or on my computer!)

ISSUE	DATE
February (Q)	09/02/02
March (M)	23/03/02
April (M)	19/04/02
May (Q)	17/05/02
June (M)	21/06/02
July (M)	19/07/02
August (Q)	16/08/02
September (M)	20/09/02
October (M)	18/10/02
November (Q)	15/11/02
December (M)	20/12/02

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 Davidson Measurement Pty. Ltd., Mclean Automation Pty. Ltd., Water and Rivers Commission of WA

What is AUSRIVAS?

AUSRIVAS (Australian River Assessment System) is a prediction system used to assess the biological health of Australian rivers. AUSRIVAS was developed under the National River Health Program (NRHP) by the Federal Government in 1994, in response to growing concern in Australia for maintaining ecological values. The NRHP involves the major environmental agency in each state and territory and is centrally administered by Environment Australia (EA) and the Land and Water Resources Research and Development Corporation (LWRRDC). The AUSRIVAS predictive software was developed at the Co-operative Research Centre for Freshwater Ecology (CRCFE).

Fundamental to AUSRIVAS are predictive models, based on the British RIVPACS models (River InVertebrate Prediction And Classification System, Wright 1995). These models predict the aquatic macroinvertebrate fauna expected to occur at a site in the absence of environmental stress, such as pollution or habitat degradation, to which the fauna collected at a site can be compared. Thus, AUSRIVAS produces a biological assessment that can be used to indicate the overall ecological health of the site. AUSRIVAS predictive models have been developed for each state and territory for the main habitat types found in Australian river systems, including riffle, edge, pool and bed habitats.

Each state/territory has models constructed from single season data in addition to models with data combined from several seasons. The AUSRIVAS predictive system and associated sampling methods offer a number of advantages over traditional assessment techniques. The sampling methods are rapid and standardized within each state/territory, fast turn around of results is possible and the outputs from the AUSRIVAS models are tailored for a range of users including community groups, managers and ecologists.

For more information, visit <http://ausrivas.canberra.edu.au> from where this article was sourced.

Alex Springall was in an internet chat room recently and got talking to an American Hydrographer named...wait for it...Wade.

STIL GAUGING LOGGER

- Records and Stores Whole Gaugings.
- No Paper, Pencils, Calculators needed.
- Instant Discharge.
- Wiping Contact Meters
- Submersible.
- Incl flexible software with graphics
- Direct Import to Time Series manager software.



In addition to improving gauging accuracy and presentation quality, up to 20 minutes can be saved per gauging. Cost recovery in a busy hydrology department approximately 1 to 2 years.

Now available direct from manufacturer.
www.scottech.net or info@scottech.net.

Ph +64 7 8470646

Wireless Alternatives to Cabling

Short haul radio links for:

- * Tipping bucket rain gauges
 - * 4 -20 mA current loop
- * thermistor string alternatives

Mclean Automation

Ph 0245796365 Fax 0245796942

Web www.acay.com.au/~kmclean

WATER ECOscience

*“Where Price matters and
Quality counts.”*

Comprehensive range of Environmental & Technical Services

Environmental Flows/Measurements
EPA approved Analysts
NATA, DHS & ISO Accredited Facilities
Water Quality Centres
Environmental & Public Health focussed outcomes
Engineering & Design services

Tel: (03) 9550 1000

68 Ricketts Rd, Mt Waverley

Email: qualitycounts@wes.com.au

HYDROLOGICAL SERVICES P/L



SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

Based in Sydney Australia, Hydrological Services is owned and staffed by hydrographers and engineers with over 100 years experience in hydrographical measurements. It is this expertise which sets Hydrological Services apart from other suppliers.

Founded in 1968, Hydrological Services has grown from a single person operation to a company which employs 20 qualified engineers, scientists and manufacturing personnel.

Postal Address: PO Box 332, Liverpool, NSW,
1871, Australia

Phone: (61) 2 9601 2022, Fax: (61) 2 9602 6971

<http://www.hydroserv.com.au>

2002 HYDROGRAPHIC CONFERENCE

The Conference will be held from 10th to 13th July 2002 at the Novotel complex, Olympic Park in Sydney.

The theme for the conference is '*Innovative Environmental Data Collection*'.

The conference will consist of formal technical presentations, trade display, HYDSTRA Users Group and a field day. Incorporated with the conference will be a formal dinner, reunion dinner, Australasian Hydrographers Association meeting and tour of the Sydney 2000 Olympic venue at Homebush.

Accommodation is available at the Novotel (4 star) and adjacent IBIS hotel (3 star).

The following fees apply for the 2002 conference.

Full Participant: \$ 585.00

(NB: Is not inclusive of accommodation, breakfast, evening meals or travel expenses).

This fee includes:

- morning/afternoon teas and buffet lunch each day
- formal dinner
- conference folder
- field trip
- technical presentation documents

Day Participant: \$ 205.00 per day

(NB: Is not inclusive of accommodation or travel expenses).

This fee includes:

- morning/afternoon teas and buffet lunch each day
- conference folder
- technical presentation documents (for the particular day).

Trade Displays

A limited number of trade display booths will be available for the period 10th to 12th July 2001. The organising committee recommends a prompt commitment from companies to confirm bookings. Prices will be confirmed when a firm response is received from companies, however it is envisaged an upper limiting fee of \$ 2,000.00 will apply.

The fee will include the 'Full Participant' items as detailed above for one company representative and rental of trade display area and booths. The fee does not include accommodation, which must be arranged directly with the Novotel by each company.

A firm indication from prospective exhibitors and sponsorships is required by close of business Friday 15th February 2002.

Contact:

Jim Tilley j.tilley@unsw.edu.au

Paul Langshaw paul.langshaw@sydneywater.com.au

Michael Lysaght michael.lysaght@sydneywater.com.au

River Health Report and Stakeholder Profiling Study Released

Two major reports relating to the health of the rivers in the Murray-Darling Basin have been released by the President of the Murray-Darling Basin Commission, Dr Roy Green.

The reports are part of a comprehensive program being undertaken by the Murray-Darling Basin Commission to improve river health.

The first report, *Snapshot of Murray-Darling Basin River Condition* found that overall biological and environmental condition of the River Murray and lower Darling is degraded throughout those river systems, with an increasing trend in degradation towards the river mouth.

The report has been prepared to inform discussion on matters affecting river health in the Basin. It presents an interim picture of river health at two scales - the first a broad view of river health across all rivers in the Basin, the second a more detailed assessment of the health of the River Murray and lower Darling.

"It does not pretend to be more than a glimpse of river health, but the picture is clear - rivers in the Basin are generally in poor ecological condition.," said Dr Green.

Views on the health of the River Murray have also been collated in a second report released today by the Murray-Darling Basin Commission. This report titled *Stakeholder Profiling Study* was commissioned by the Project Board of the River Murray Environmental Flows and Water Quality Project.

The report indicates that communities do accept the need for change in the management of the River Murray. Communities are concerned about the health of the Murray, they believe the time to act is now and they do want to be involved in decisions that affect the way the river is managed. Understandably, there is divided opinion on issues relating to water allocation, water rights and priority uses. This Stakeholder Profiling Study will help to shape the future community engagement processes that need to be undertaken to address environmental flows and water quality of the River Murray.

For full details of these reports and more, please visit

<http://www.mdbc.gov.au/whatson/mdb-reportcard.html>

While you are there, check out the rest of the MDBC site...it's very good.

Need a Job?

You could try our web site

<http://www.austhydro.tascom.net>,

OR

Subscribe to 'NRMjobs' by sending a blank email to:

nrmjobs-subscribe@emailmedia.com.au

AHA Office Bearers and Contact Information

Acting Chairman, Don Alexander
don.alexander@dnr.qld.gov.au

Secretary, Jim Tilley
Jim_Tilley@excite.com.au

Treasurer, Max Hayes
gipps-hydro@i-o.net.au

Publicity Officer, Les Marshall
hydrographer1@optusnet.com.au

Public Officer, John Skinner
jskinner@ecowise.com.au

Web Site: <http://www.austhydro.tascom.net>

Preliminary Notice

The second bi-annual TimeStudio International User Group Conference to be held in Edmonton, Canada on July 28th to August 1st 2002.

If you are a new user or potential user of TimeStudio, you may be interested in the one-day TimeStudio Introductory Workshop, which will provide an excellent opportunity for you to become quickly acquainted with the capabilities of the system.

Please note that the conference web site (www.timestudio-conf.com) is currently under construction and should be available from mid-February.



DAVIDSON

Leaders in the field of measurement
technology ...since 1973

Since its formation in 1973, Davidson Measurement has always strived to be a company with a difference. That difference being a dedication to quality, service, reliability and most importantly, its customers.

Davidson Measurement Pty. Ltd.
ABN 29 005 031 961 ACN 005 031 961
Phone: 03 9580 4366 (International +613 9580 4366)
Fax: 03 9580 6499 (International +613 9580 6499)
Email: info@davidson.com.au

Address: 1-3 Lakewood Boulevard
Braeside, Victoria, 3195
AUSTRALIA

www.davidson.com.au

AUSTRALIAN HYDROGRAPHERS ASSOCIATION

*Application For-Renewal of
Membership*

The Secretary,
Australian Hydrographers Association,
C/- 14 Kosciusko Street,
TRARALGON,
VICTORIA 3844

Dear Sir

I wish to **Become a Member/Renew my Membership** of the Australian Hydrographers Association.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

e-mail: _____

Employer: _____

Title: _____

Address: _____

Membership Grade: **Member (\$100 to end of Year 2002)**
Retired/Student/Cadet (\$50 to end of Year 2002)
Corporate (\$500 to end of Year 2002)

I enclose \$ _____ .

I wish to receive my monthly Newsletters by **e-mail/post/I will down-load from the web site.**
I wish to receive my Quarterly Newsletter at my **Home/Work** Address.

Signed: _____

Date Received _____ *Member Number* _____