



Australasian Hydrographer

Welcome to the March Newsletter

Hello once again, and welcome to our March Newsletter.

This Newsletter comes from sunny South Australia, as distinct from sunny God's Country (Tasmania). Things one has to do...For those interested in my comings and goings (probably no-one), I've now ensconced myself in what was, until today the Department of Water Resources. Lucky I didn't finish this Newsletter last night, because I can now report that we have become Department of Water, Land and Biodiversity Conservation. Try telling that to your mates when they ask where you work. However, as always, we can take comfort in the knowledge that there will inevitably be a name change. There's sure to be another crank around who will take a funny substance before going to bed and wake up with a bad case of (in this case, verbal) diarrhea.

Well, as usual, I have to ask you to please accept my apologies for the tardiness of this Newsletter. As you may have gathered, there's been a lot going on for me, but now I'm in action.

There has also been lots going on in your Association, too. There's quite a bit to report, as you will find. I think the important ones are with the AWA agreement that John Skinner has negotiated, and of course, the Conference. You won't believe the work that the Sub-Committee has to put in to make that a success.

The other issue we need to deal with is the election of Office Bearers. Since Alex Miller died, now some time ago, we have had an acting Chairman in Don Alexander. However, this is very much an interim arrangement, and we have to thank Don for taking up the reins. Leaving aside the position of Chairman, all positions are up for grabs, and the logical time to do that is at the Conference. Here's your big chance!

Again, I have re-cycled some of the old ads. This is a plea to our Corporate Members to get them in. Until next month then.....Les Marshall

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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
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*

AHA – AWA Alignment

John Skinner has been working to complete an agreement with the AWA on a joint membership proposal which was discussed at our Meeting in February 2001.

The final recommendations from his discussion were distributed to the State Delegates in March, and were approved. The final details are now to go to AWA board for approval. These are the terms of the agreement:

1. AHA pays AWA an annual fee of \$1,750 to AWA.
2. AHA members are not members of AWA as such, but they will receive 'Water' journal.
3. AHA will be given access to up to half a page of content in 'Water' to report on AHA activities. AHA members will be able to submit papers and articles to 'Water', but on the same footing as any other intending authors.
4. AHA provides an up-to-date list of its members to AWA for use in posting Water to them. AWA will maintain that database, based on input from AHA members and its committee. AWA will provide reports and lists of members to the AHA committee.
5. In all other respects, AHA will carry out its own administration and management and will remain as fully independent and autonomous.
6. In maintaining the AHA membership database, AWA will have the right to communicate its own information to AHA members and to promote AWA membership as an option.
7. AWA will treat dual AHA-AWA members no differently than those who hold only one membership.
8. AWA will, from a training policy perspective, include the needs of hydrographers.
9. This agreement will be reviewed annually for its adequacy to meet the needs of both parties, and to assess if closer affiliation is warranted.
10. AHA can access administrative and/or bookkeeping support services from AWA, at agreed rates that will include overheads and salaries.
11. This agreement can be terminated on one month's notice in writing by either party.

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Recent Survey of the River Murray Mouth by DWR Hydrographic Unit

The South Australian Department for Water Resources Hydrographic Unit provides a range of specialist technical services for a range of government and non-government organizations. A good example of these activities is the bathymetric surveying of the River Murray Mouth. DWR monitors the sand movements in the vicinity of the Murray Mouth by conducting monthly surveys for the Murray-Darling Division. This information is important from an environmental perspective but is also of great value for navigation and tourism.

Five control cross sections are taken across the Mouth, Goolwa and Coorong channels (the longest over 1km in length) so that channel movements, sand deposition and scouring can be recorded over time.

The siltation adjacent to the Mouth is now so bad that tourism operators cannot get their boats from Goolwa to the Coorong side of the Mouth. This required that the most recent work include detailed longitudinal and cross section surveys along Scabs Channel from Sugars Boat Ramp to the Mundoo Channel, in addition to the normal measurements. The aerial photograph on Page 4 taken on 28/11/2001 shows the current situation. It is now possible to walk from Sugars Beach on Hindmarsh Island to the Sir Richard Peninsula at the Murray Mouth.

2002 HYDROGRAPHIC CONFERENCE

The Conference will be held from 3rd to 5th 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 3rd to 5th 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:

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The Murray River Mouth – 28th November 2001

AHA Office Bearers and Contact Information

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Publicity Officer, Les Marshall
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Public Officer, John Skinner
jskinner@ecowise.com.au

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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* _____