

AUSTRALIAN WATER

ASSOCIATION

MEDIA RELEASE

WA Water Awards winners announced

23 October 2017

Australian Water Association Chief Executive Jonathan McKeown congratulates the winners of the 2017 WA Water Awards as they were announced last Friday evening at the WA Water Awards & 45th Anniversary Dinner.

“The awards recognise the outstanding contribution of individuals and organisations in the water industry across innovation, research, infrastructure and delivery of water projects,” Mr McKeown said.

“This year saw a range of award submissions from a number of water utilities, universities, research institutes and councils. This is testament to the great work being carried out across all areas of the water sector in Western Australia.

“As an industry we congratulate the dedication, passion and enthusiasm shown by our Western Australian members who are genuinely making a difference to the sector and to our communities as a whole.”

The winners of the WA Water Awards will automatically be entered into the equivalent National Australian Water Awards category, which will be presented at Ozwater’18 in Brisbane next year.

Winners:

Program Innovation Award

Kimberley Projects – Water Corporation

Water Corporation has established partnerships with the Lions Club of Broome, Wunan Foundation and Mamabulanjin Aboriginal Corporation to deliver a number of projects that have resulted in economic and social benefits for people in the remote Kimberley region. These projects stem from the innovative disposal of recycled water at the Broome North Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Research Innovation Award

Implementation of the Anammox Process at Dardanup Butchering Company – Environmental Engineers International

This research project demonstrated the viability of implementing the Anammox process to existing infrastructure in the Australian water industry. The Anammox system is currently still operational at the DBC WWTP. It was found that the Anammox nitrogen removal performed better than the conventional process, while significantly reducing the operating and maintenance cost of the system.

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Infrastructure Project Innovation Award

Rottnest Island Water Treatment Plant Upgrade – Guidera O'Connor & Permeate Partners

Over the past 18 months Guidera O'Connor with partner organisation Permeate Partners have worked collaboratively with the Rottnest Island Authority to deliver a comprehensive upgrade of the waste water management infrastructure on the Island. The finished project has reduced the potable water consumption on the Island by ~50% and enabled ~100% re-use of treated effluent.

Water Sensitive Urban Design (Grahame Heal) Award

WGV in White Gum Valley – Water Corporation

The WGV Waterwise Development is setting mains water efficiency targets beyond those considered industry best practice. Key stakeholders are Water Corporation, Josh Byrne & Associates, LandCorp, Department of Water and Environmental Regulation and the CRC for Water Sensitive Cities. WGV aims to reduce mains water use by 60% across the site.

Innovating for Sustainability Award

(Proudly sponsored by Water Corporation and Department of Water and Environmental Regulation)

Hartfield Park Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR) Project – City of Kalamunda

The Hartfield Park Managed Aquifer Recharge project is a unique project for WA, developed by the City of Kalamunda to ensure sustainability of the Hartfield Park Sporting Reserve into the future. This innovation is being shared with other local municipalities looking to deliver similar solutions to the water management challenges we face as Western Australians.

Student Water Prize

(Proudly sponsored by GHD)

Investigation of Bore Condition Assessment Methodologies and Determination of Remaining Service Life – Sean Ding, University of Western Australia & Water Corporation

Sean is a graduate mechanical engineer working in the field services branch at Water Corporation. He studied engineering and physics as an undergraduate and completed his masters of professional engineering degree in 2015. Sean's project has provided Water Corporation with a set of tools to quantify the remaining service life of bores and prioritise their replacement based on certain criteria.

Young Water Professional of the Year Award

Renee Blandin, Environmental Hydrologist, Hyd2o

Renee specialises in water sensitive urban design and environmental monitoring. Through her work, Renee has been integral in the implementation of best practice water management in a number of new communities in WA. She is passionate about encouraging young professionals in their careers and has contributed generously as a committee member of the Australian Water Association WA Young Water Professionals, being a key member of the 2016 Conference Organising Committee and the YWP National Reconciliation Week Event as well as her time as chair of the WA WaterAid Committee.

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Water Professional of the Year Award

Dr Raj Kurup, Environmental Engineers International

For over 25 years Raj has made tremendous contributions within the water sector as an engineer and researcher. He has authored over 60 publications, and has a vision for innovation and sustainability. Raj is not afraid to try new things, and take risks while developing new technology. This was particularly prominent through his leadership of the anammox technology development. At a personal level, Raj has always found time to mentor young water professionals, from supervising over 30 university students' theses, to offering internships within his own business.

Interviews and photos available.

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About the Australian Water Association

With a membership of over 5,000 individual and corporate members, the Australian Water Association is Australia's biggest water network promoting sustainable water management and connecting members through three core principles of information, networking and recognition.

www.awa.asn.au