

# AUSTRALIAN WATER

ASSOCIATION

## MEDIA RELEASE

### WA Water Award winners announced during National Water Week

29 October 2018

The Western Australian water industry celebrated National Water Week with the announcement of the 2018 WA Water Award winners at last Friday's WA Water Awards Dinner.

Australian Water Association Chief Executive, Jonathan McKeown attended the awards dinner and congratulated all finalists and winners for their positive contribution to the sector and the wider community.

"The entire Association congratulates and recognises the professionals and organisations who are truly making a difference to the water sector in Western Australia," Mr McKeown said.

"It's important for us to come together to recognise and be inspired by the individuals and organisations who are ensuring a secure water future for all Australians."

The WA Water Awards aim to recognise the contribution of the Association's members for their leadership and their innovative programs, research or infrastructure projects.

The winners of this year's WA Water Awards will automatically be entered into the equivalent National Australian Water Awards category, which will be presented at [Ozwater'19](#) in Melbourne, 7-9 May 2019.

#### **Winners:**

##### **Program Innovation Award**

*Revitalising Geographe Waterways* – Department of Water and Environmental Regulation

The Revitalising Geographe Waterways program was delivered in partnership with the City of Busselton and Geographe Catchment Council. The program has improved water quality, waterway health, and management of Geographe waterways by establishing collaborative frameworks across government, industry, scientists, and the community to develop and deliver actions to improve water quality.

##### **Research Innovation Award**

*Self-Regulating Suspended Biogas Collector Technology* – Environmental Engineers International

Environmental Engineers International undertook a research project to review the gas capturing technology available to the market, and design and construct a new solution. The result was a unique modular design system, innovative in reactor and lagoon covering technology. The system has a wide application for effectively capturing gases for energy generation, odour prevention and operation safety.

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## **Infrastructure Project Innovation Award**

*Groundwater Replenishment Scheme – Water Corporation*

As the first water project of its kind in Australia, the Groundwater Replenishment Scheme has made a significant contribution to the country's long-term security of water supplies by creating a new climate-independent water source and increasing the capacity to safely and efficiently recycle water.

## **Grahame Heal Water Sensitive Urban Design Award**

*Rosehill Waters - Stage 1 – Coterra Environment*

Rosehill Waters is a residential development with sustainability at its heart. An innovative water management strategy has been achieved, which takes advantage of the unique existing environmental opportunities present at the site. Rosehill Waters was developed by Noahs Rosehill Waters with hydrology and environmental expertise provided by Coterra Environment.

## **Innovating for Sustainable Water and Environmental Outcomes** (Award sponsored by Water Corporation & Department of Water and Environmental Regulation)

*Self Cleaning Automatic Filter Backflush for the Greyflow Greywater Diversion System – Advanced Waste Water Systems*

Advanced Waste Water Systems' has developed an economical self-cleaning mechanism for gravity flow applications. The invention took four years to develop and provides a safe, hygienic and maintenance free means of filtering and diverting greywater for garden re-use. The system is fit for use for both household and larger commercial settings and helps to reduce overall water consumption.

## **Student Water Prize** (Award sponsored by GHD)

*Renewable Energy Reverse Osmosis Desalination in a Small Rural Village in Indonesia: Case Study – Tom Wheeler, Murdoch University*

Tom is a dedicated Environmental Engineering student at Murdoch University. Tom has completed overseas and domestic internships, and takes on multiple volunteering opportunities to share his passion for innovative solutions for environmental problems. His project aims to benefit communities that are facing a limited supply of potable water. The project provides a detailed optimisation of renewable energy, seawater reverse osmosis desalination, to enable a sustainable water supply that is viable through renewable energy.

## **Young Water Professional of the Year Award** (Award sponsored by TRILITY)

Kate Bowker, Senior Technical Advisor - Wastewater Recycling, Water Corporation

Kate is a passionate Young Water Professional whose commitment to Water Corporation for the past 8 years extends far beyond their internal walls. Kate has predominately worked in the wastewater recycling space but has also held roles in asset management and it is her ability to develop key relationships with external stakeholders across multiple spheres of influence that has driven much of her success. She has also been an active member of the AWA WA Committee since 2011 and has recently been involved in the reinvigorated local WaterAid Committee. Kate has made a significant impact to the Western Australian water sector, particularly excelling when organising networking and professional development opportunities for WA water professionals.

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## Water Professional of the Year Award

Nick Turner, Senior Principal of Strategic Programs, Water Corporation

Nick is instrumental in the assessment of innovative, alternative water supply options and the strategic development of multiple large water sources for the state. His proudest water achievement embodies his passion and zest for new ideas, exquisitely transforming the Ground Water Replenishment Scheme from an unlikely possibility to the current major drinking water source expansion for Perth. Nick's innate sense of the human psyche, brightly coloured bowties and high regard for community involvement has forged a defiant mark in the water industry and he is a very deserving recipient of the 2018 WA Water Professional of the Year.

## Interviews and photos are available. For media enquiries, please contact:

Melania Berehovy  
Marketing Coordinator  
Australian Water Association  
E: [mberehovy@awa.asn.au](mailto:mberehovy@awa.asn.au)

## 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 information, networking and recognition. [www.awa.asn.au](http://www.awa.asn.au)

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