



International Water  
Association

Newsletter

No. 1 April 1999

## Introduction

WITH THE IMMINENT MERGING OF IWSA AND IAWQ, THE representative working group of Presidents, Vice-Presidents, Directors and others believe transparent and frequent communications with members of both Associations is important as we enter the final stages of the formation of the International Water Association—IWA. As President of IWSA, I have been asked to prepare the introduction to this first of four newsletters that will be sent to both IWSA and IAWQ members before and immediately after the merger.

I have been lucky to have been involved from the start in preparing for and arranging the merger that will result in the IWA. The integrity and determination of everyone connected with the negotiations have been clear. The negotiations have been good-natured and I have observed and shared the ever-growing confidence that, by forming the IWA, we shall have a far stronger Association than were the IWSA and IAWQ on their own.

But what does this strength mean? Increasingly, the distinctions between clean water and wastewater services made by utilities, researchers, contractors or consultants have become less clear. But this is only one reason for the formation of IWA. More important is that IWA will be the resource and global support to more properly and thoroughly represent the best practices of operation, research, regulation and management of all water and and wastewater interests worldwide.

Of course, developing countries have different problems from industrialised countries. So IWA literature, seminars,

congresses, workshops and every type of water and wastewater issue must be included. IWA will be concerned to do good and share best and appropriate practice across the world. IWA should be and should deserve to be the automatic

reference point for the best practice of water and wastewater matters by all other responsible global or regional organisations like the World Bank, United Nations, ASEAN and African organisations and the European Union.

This newsletter will inform you about IWA and the actions that are being taken by your elected representatives in IWSA and IAWQ to achieve a successful merger.

Remember, it is the members of IWA who will determine how effective IWA is, so please prod your executive and participate vigorously in the IWA programme now and in the future.

Many thanks to the many who have made IWSA and IAWQ successful and my best wishes to all of you who will be able to make IWA the leading world water association representing our industry without any single political, national or financial interest.

*Nick Hood*  
President IWSA



## Welcome

We are pleased to welcome you, our members and supporters, to this first edition of IWA Newsletter. Our aim is to bring you news and information about the merger of the International Association on Water Quality (IAWQ) and the International Water Services Association (IWSA) which takes place in September of this year. We plan to publish further newsletters in June, August and October. After that, news will be carried in regular IWA publications.

## IWA takes centre stage

Buenos Aires provides the setting for some important events in the international water calendar in September. Argentina will host the last IWSA Congress and witness the birth of the International Water Association—IWA.

After many months of planning, IWSA and IAWQ will merge their activities to form a strong international organisation which reflects the professional needs of their members. The International Water Association will be publicly launched at a ceremony during the Buenos Aires Congress.

## New Image

As you will see from the masthead on this Newsletter, IWA has adopted a distinctive identity. This has been arrived at after a lengthy consultation process in which many views have been noted. The design criteria were that the identity should be based on

the initial letters, IWA, and that the image should be simple, strong, memorable and adaptable. It should also be reproducible anywhere in the world. The design commission was given to Alan Tyers, an experienced designer in the industrial and commercial

field, who took us through an evolutionary process to arrive at an identity which we believe combines simplicity and strength. We see it as part of our future credentials and a vital element in our marketing strategy.

## First IWA Board Meeting



The IWA Board, which meets for the first time in Buenos Aires, has the task of formally closing the IWSA and establishing IWA as a legal entity. To get the new organisation up and running, the Board will consider the adoption of a draft Constitution and Bye-laws which will

be the means of governing IWA's affairs.

Approval will also be sought for interim management arrangements, including the presidential succession. IWA inherits from its predecessor organisations a schedule of World Congresses to which it is contractually committed. These are Buenos Aires (1999), Paris (2000), Berlin (2001) and Melbourne (2002). Once this series is completed, World Congresses will be held biennially with the first being staged in 2004 at a venue to be decided by the Board.

## Headquarters

Tony Milburn, currently Executive Director of IAWQ, has been appointed Executive Director of IWA. He will lead a headquarters team comprising Mike Slipper as Deputy Executive Director, Michael Dunn as head of IWA Publishing and an appointment yet to be made of head of the IWA Foundation.

All the present staff of IWSA and IAWQ will be transferred into the new organisational structure and there will be no job losses. The traditional

headquarters functions will be maintained as before with the development of skills in advocacy and representation. The present office accommodation in central London is too small to house the combined staff numbers and new premises are being actively sought.

The aim is to ensure that members receive maximum value in return for their subscriptions and support. To that end, Mike Slipper will have responsibility for IWA's technical programme and

## Interim arrangements

To maintain corporate continuity, the leadership of the two associations has been formed into an Executive Committee. The current Presidents, Vice-Presidents and Past Presidents of each organisation are the core of the Executive, together with the Treasurer, the next two Congress Presidents and the Executive Director. Piet Odendaal, current IAWQ President, and Vincent Bath, current Vice-President of IWSA, will work together as Co-Presidents.

Vincent Bath will preside from Buenos Aires until Paris

(2000) when Piet Odendaal will take over until Berlin (2001). After that, the President and two Vice-Presidents will be decided by election.

There will also be a Scientific and Technical Council (STC) and a Management and Policy Council (MPC). These bodies will eventually have 4 members each but, as an interim measure, the STC will comprise 12 committee members each from IAWQ and IWSA. National Committees will be entitled to representation on the MPC up to a limit of 50 overall.



membership services. IWA Publishing and the IWA Foundation are also intended to

strengthen services to members and to promote the Association's international standing.

## IWA Publishing (IWAP)

In response to members' wishes to see a more creative and diverse approach to publishing, we have set up IWAP as a wholly owned subsidiary with all its profits being returned to the Association. Under Michael Dunn's leadership, there are plans to generate new products in the form of journals, reports, manuals of practice and reference books. These will be published in conventional form but will also be delivered electronically. We aim to be an influential force in the growing market for information in our field, serving both our own needs and also working with and for other organisations.

## IWA Foundation (IWAF)

Part of our vision is to serve the wider professional community and one of the ways in which we can be effective is to transfer management and other skills to professionals in our sector in countries with developing economies. A world in which population growth and urban development, with their inevitable pressures on water and sanitation, is a world in which IWA has a great deal to offer. This will be the role of a new IWA Foundation. We can focus members' expertise and experience on a wide range of training needs and, most importantly, help develop the next generation of professional leaders. It is an ambitious plan but we believe IWA has the skills, creativity and drive to make a contribution to a better future.

# No stranger to change

## Profile of Tony Milburn, Executive Director of IWA

Tony Milburn brings a wealth of experience and resourcefulness to his role as IWA's Executive Director. He is used to coping with the changes that have come thick and fast in a varied career. Born in Yorkshire, England, he left school at the age of 16 and became an articulated pupil to a municipal engineer—a form of professional apprenticeship. Having learned the basic skills of municipal engineering, he went on to University where he graduated as a civil engineer.

After a spell with a construction company building motorways, he set out on the career path which equipped him for his present role. In the 1960s, he worked on flood relief schemes and water resources projects for the Wye River Authority before moving on to a research post at Birmingham University. In 1972, he joined the Water Supply Industry Training Board (WSITB), now Water Training International. There he began to develop his international experience with a World Bank consultancy in which he advised the Bank on the human resource implications of Brasil's giant PLANASA national water and sanitation programme.

During his time at WSITB, Tony was also seconded for three years to the International Water Supply Association

(IWSA) as Technical Secretary and Editor of *Aqua*. He was an adviser to the Government of Indonesia and devised their National Manpower Development Programme (MDP) for the water sector there. In 1981, he was appointed Executive Director at IAWPRC (forerunner of IAWQ) and thus acquired the distinction of having worked for both of IWA's predecessor organisations.

His first task at IAWPRC was to modernise the organisation, overhauling its entire administration and operating structure. He piloted the change to charitable status which put the Association's finances on a more secure footing and then set about improving communications with members. A new magazine, *Water Quality International*, was developed, along with much improved publication of conference proceedings and improvements to the journal *Water Research*. Together with the creation of Specialist Groups drawn from the Association's membership, these activities provided a platform on which to build a strategic plan.

Between 1990 and 1995, the old IAWPRC was transformed, tripling its membership and changing its name to IAWQ. It had grown in

size and also matured in outlook and ambition, becoming an influential player on the international water scene. Asked, 'Why merge now?', Tony cites mid-1996 as a pivotal moment when IAWQ acknowledged the trend to draw together water supply and water quality under one umbrella. It was a short step from there to IAWQ and IWSA beginning merger talks in late 1996.

Since then, the pace of change has accelerated. By temperament and ambition, Tony sees the world as his work place. He believes that the water sector has a strong tradition of collaboration between nationals of different countries. He sees the IWA as a force for good in continuing that process, not least because of the vital part it can play in helping to tackle one of the greatest challenges facing the human race—providing safe water and adequate sanitation for all. As he points out, it is a staggering thought that up to half the population of the developing world is suffering from one form or other of the five main waterborne diseases.

Idealism apart, he sees the immediate task as making a success of the new structure, including setting up IWA Publishing and the Foundation. He knows that both Associations have strong traditions and a



range of activities that their members value highly. These have to be recognised and respected in the process of unifying the two Associations. The new publishing enterprise and the Foundation both offer excellent prospects for new services and member activities. At the same time, the specialist groups, committees, conferences and publications that members value so highly will be preserved and improved. 'Having worked for both of these fine organisations', says Tony, 'I have a strong commitment to both'. He clearly relishes the prospect of change and looks forward to supporting the members of IWA in developing their interests and activities as well as influencing the way the world thinks about and manages water.

## Argentina beckons...

Two thousand representatives from the water services of a hundred countries are expected to converge on Buenos Aires in September 1999. They will be attending the 22nd and last IWSA World Water Congress which is supported by the Inter-American Association of Sanitary and Environmental Engineering (AIDIS).

Global water concerns are high on the international agenda which makes this Congress particularly timely. The programme includes workshops and seminars on the socio-economic

dimensions of water services as well as the technical and operational aspects.

The exhibition running alongside the Congress reflects the importance of the Latin American and Caribbean region to suppliers of equipment and technology. The region is currently estimated to support a market for water and sanitation projects worth \$200 billion, including major plans to privatise water and wastewater systems in Brasil and Chile.

For further information, contact:

IWSA Secretariat,  
1 Queen Anne's Gate, London  
SW1H 9BT, United Kingdom,  
Tel: + 44 171 957 4567  
Fax: + 44 171 222 7243.  
E-mail: [iwsa@dial.pipex](mailto:iwsa@dial.pipex)

Sr Roberto Cusato or Sra Leticia Ceretti,  
Julia Tours SA, Suipacha 570 Piso 1º  
1008 Buenos Aires, Argentina.  
tel: + 54 1 325 0044  
Fax: + 54 1 325 6029

# Forthcoming events

8-10 April 1999

Freemantle,

Western Australia

Sludge Management for the 21st Century: a Value-Added Renewable Resource

Dr Kuruvilla Mathew, 1999 Sludge Management Conference, Secretariat Office, Environmental Science, Murdoch University, Murdoch, WA 6150 Fax: + 61 8 9310 4997; e-mail: mathew@essun.1.murdoch.edu.au

19-21 April 1999

Stratford upon Avon,

United Kingdom

Fourth Specialised Conference on Small Wastewater Treatment Plants Ms Elaine Wellingham, Conference Secretariat, Field End House, Bude Close, Nailsea, Bristol BS48 2FG. Tel/Fax: + 44 1275 853311; e-mail: confsec@dial.pipex.com

19-23 April 1999

Paris, France

Minimising the Risk from *Cryptosporidium* and other Waterborne Particles Mrs Edith Weitz, Compagnie Generale des Eaux, 52 rue d'Anjou, 75008 Paris, France Tel: + 33 1 4924 6587 Fax: + 33 1 49 24 62 17; e-mail: edith.weitz@cgeaux.com

20-23 April 1999

Marrakesh, Morocco

Waste Stabilisation Ponds:

Technology and the Environment Dr Howard Pearson, School of Biological Sciences, University of Liverpool, Life Sciences Building, Crown Street, Liverpool L69 7ZB, UK.

Tel: + 44 151 794 4110 Fax: + 44 151 794 5106 ; e-mail: H.W.Pearson@liverpool.ac.uk

16-21 May 1999

Perth, Australia

International Conference on Diffuse Pollution Dianne McLeod, Convention Link, PO Box 257, South Perth, WA 6951, Australia Tel: + 61 8 9450 1662 Fax: + 61 8 9450 2942; e-mail: convlink@wantree.com.au

1-3 June 1999

Copenhagen, Denmark

Copenhagen Waste and Water Conference '99 Finn Ørssløff, Rendan A/S, Gladsaxevej 376, DK-2860 Soborg, Denmark Tel: + 45 3966 1200 Fax: + 45 3966 1600; e-mail: enviro@rendan.dk

6-10 June 1999

Tampere, Finland

6th IAWQ Symposium on Forest Industry Wastewaters Ms Sirpa Sandelin, the 6th IAWQ Symposium on Forest Industry Wastewaters, Tampere University of Technology, Water and Environmental Engineering, PO

Box 541, FIN-33101 Tampere, Finland.

Tel: + 358 3 365 2567 Fax: + 358 3 365 2052 e-mail: forest99@cc.tut.fi

13-18 June 1999

Jerusalem, Israel

Environmental Challenges for the New Millennium Mrs Daphne Loebel, PO Box 50006, Tel Aviv, Israel. Tel: + 972 3 514 000 Fax: + 972 3 514 0077; e-mail: ecology99@kenes.com

15-18 June 1999

Barcelona, Spain

2nd International Symposium on Anaerobic Digestion of Solid Waste II-ISA-SW, Apdo. Correos 30124, E-08080 Barcelona, Spain. Tel: + 34 629 920591 Fax: + 34 619 751 180; e-mail: congres@waste.qui.ub.es, or Professor Mata-Alvarez, Department of Chemical Engineering, University of Barcelona, Mart i Franques 1, Plta. 6, E-08028 Barcelona, Spain Tel: + 34 934 021 305 Fax: + 34 934 021 291 ; e-mail: mata@mafalda.ub.es

24-26 June 1999

Trondheim, Norway

Removal of Humic Substances from Water Professor Hallvard Odegaard, Department of Hydraulic and Environmental Engineering,

Norwegian University of Science and Technology - NTNU,

N-7034 Trondheim, Norway. Tel: + 47 73 59 47 59 Fax: + 47 73 59 05 44 ; e-mail: Hallvard.Odegaard@bygg.ntnu.no

22-24 August 1999

Zurich, Switzerland

First European Seminar on Environmental Engineering Education Professor Willi Gujer, Tel: + 41 1 6333067 Fax: + 41 1 6331061 e-mail:eee99:eawag.ch

30 August - 3 September 1999

Sydney, Australia

8th International Conference on Urban Storm Drainage 8ICUSD Conference Secretariat, The Organising Group, Suite 1, 470 Sydney Road, Balgowlah, NSW 2093 Australia. Tel: + 61 2 9949 4933 Fax: + 61 2 9949 3905 e-mail: orggroup@orggroup.aust.com

18-24 September 1999

Buenos Aires, Argentina

IWSA 22nd World Congress and Exhibition IWSA Secretariat, 1 Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1H 9BT, United Kingdom. Tel: + 44 171 957 4567 Fax: + 44 171 222 7243 e-mail: iwsa@dial.pipex.com

## Who's Who at IWA

### Introducing Keith Hayward and Vicki Paredes

Keith Hayward is the Editor of IAWQ's magazine, *Water Quality International*. He joined the Association in 1995 with a background in both science and journalism: he has a degree in biological and biochemical sciences. After graduating, he worked on various coastal and estuarine sewage treatment projects in south-west England.

His career took a different turn when he joined the publishing company of the UK's Institution of Civil Engineers where he began as a staff writer on an international water industry magazine. He subsequently became Editor of the magazine published by the

Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management.

Vicki Paredes was born in Manchester and brought up in Macclesfield, Cheshire. She studied French-Italian technical translation-interpretation at Salford University and graduated in 1993. She spent the next two years at Nottingham Law School where she trained as a solicitor and, after a short spell working on medical translation for Zeneca, joined IWSA in 1996.

Initially, Vicki dealt with the French translation aspects of *Aqua* but her responsibilities soon expanded to include



Keith Hayward & Vicki Paredes

supervising the production of technical papers. As Editor of *Aqua*, she reports on water industry news and compiles *Aqua* news. She also manages the IWSA website. Vicki is currently adding Spanish to her stock of languages in anticipation of the Congress later this year in Buenos Aires.

## In the next issue...

- Editorial from Piet Odendaal
- Profile of Mike Slipper
- Regional feature: Japan

- Merger news round-up
- Buenos Aires up-date
- Who's who at IWA

Issue 3 will contain an interview with IWSA senior Vice-President Vincent Bath.