**Queensland Water Directorate (*qldwater*)** ***e-*flash**

**Information for Water Industry Managers and Practitioners in the Queensland Water Industry**

**(Issue #420 – 14 February 2020)**

**1. Communications Survey – Winners are Grinners**

**2.  Aqua Card Cracks 500 Completions!**

**3. Top Drop puts Mackay on the International Stage**

**4. Introducing the Sigura Best of the Best Queensland Water Taste Test 2020**

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**1. Communications Survey – Winners are Grinners**
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Many thanks to the 25 people who took the time to complete our short survey which provided mostly positive feedback.

Congratulations  to the winners of the lucky draw: Laura Shiels, Catherine Travers and Kerry Graham. Your $50 gift vouchers are on their way.

Some outcomes from the survey which we are now working through include not to flashen up our eflashes too much (it’s the information that counts), a general acceptance to allow limited advertising in our newsletters (anyone interested?), and potentially a bit more effort to communicate via Linkedin.

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**2.   Aqua Card Cracks 500 Completions!**

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We reached a milestone this week when a group training session by Townsville City Council pushed course completions over the 500 mark. Other bulk uploads by Logan and Bundaberg also made a significant impact on completion numbers, and contractors in those regions are now jumping online to get their certificates.  Thanks to the combined efforts by the industry, 500+ people now have a better understanding of their responsibility when working on or near water infrastructure.

The sewerage networks equivalent course is nearing completion of its first draft, and we expect to have it circulated to interested reviewers this month.

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**3.   Top Drop puts Mackay on the International Stage**

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Water samples from Mackay Regional Council this week departed on an important mission to represent Australia at the 30th annual [Berkeley Springs International Water Tasting competition](https://berkeleyspringswatertasting.com/) to be held on Saturday, 22 February 2020.

Council’s Water Treatment Manager Stuart Boyd and Director of Engineering and Commercial Infrastructure Jason Devitt will travel with the samples to fly the flag for Mackay as it competes with more than 100 waters from around the globe. We wish them all the best at going one better than the Hamilton (Victoria) sample which came runner up in 2019! [Read more](https://www.qldwater.com.au/qldwater-blog/top-drop-puts-mackay-on-the-map).

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**4.   Introducing the Sigura Best of the Best Queensland Water Taste Test 2020**

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We kick off the new decade by welcoming a new Queensland taste test sponsor! Sigura (previously known as Lonza) has been a long-time event supporter of the Water Directorate and we look forward to working with them to raise the profile of the water industry and the importance of the work we do.

Due to popular demand we have returned to commissioning Brisbane artist Gayle Shaw to create our trophies and are thrilled with her new design. Check it out (along with pictures of the previous designs) [on our website](http://www.qldwater.com.au/Water_Taste_Test).

The next Sigura Best of the Best Queensland Water Taste Test will take place at our annual forum on 9 September, this year hosted by Redland City Council.  We expect to have our venue booked in or around Cleveland soon…

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**This message may be passed on to interested individuals and organisations.**

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