

# INTERNATIONAL WATER ASSOCIATION HEALTH-RELATED WATER MICROBIOLOGY

## NEWSLETTER

May 2002

This issue includes:

Final comments on the HRWM Melbourne Symposium  
First announcement for Cape Town 2003  
2005 symposium proposals  
Other meetings of interest  
IWA Water KnowHow  
HRWM web page

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### **MELBOURNE SYMPOSIUM – FINAL ROUND-UP**

By all accounts, the Melbourne Symposium continued our successful run of meetings. I have received no adverse comments since the meeting so I assume that everybody who attended was quite happy! All that remains is to process the received manuscripts through to publication and, as this is written, papers are being sent to referees. It is hoped to have the Proceedings finalised by August although, at this time, we do not have a proposed publication date from IWA (they apparently have a back-log resulting in some delay).

The Group thanks our Australian colleagues for their efforts in making the Symposium successful!

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### **CAPE TOWN 2003 – FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT**

After discussion at Melbourne it was decided that future HRWM symposia would be held in odd-numbered years so as to avoid clashing with the main IWA Congress. The advantages seen from such an arrangement are many but the main points are (1) total control of the meeting by the Group (this gives greater flexibility in venue, dates, timings, format etc), (2) minimisation of cost and (3) greater freedom to seek meeting/individual sponsorship.

At Melbourne the offer for an IWA International Symposium on Health-Related Water Microbiology from our South African colleagues was accepted. Details are:

# Cape Town

## Sunday 14 – Friday 19 September 2003

This message from local organiser Willie Grabow:

We wish to initiate every effort to make this a special event with major benefits for all associated with health-related water microbiology. The strategy for organising the symposium is based very much on a team effort in which anybody interested is invited to make contributions. This implies that we await suggestions for a programme that will best serve the interests of health-related water microbiology and related disciplines.

Initial proposals include:

1. Focus on challenges of the developing world
2. Workshops or dedicated technical sessions to address selected topics of particular importance. These events could be introduced by international experts, followed by technical presentations, demonstrations where possible, and open floor discussions. The following topics have been suggested.
  - Intervention strategies to control the transmission of infectious diseases by drinking water stored in households without piped supplies
  - Infectious diseases associated with recreational waters
  - Application of HACCP principles in the production of drinking water: experiences and challenges
  - Plan of action when drinking water supplies exceed quality specifications
  - Environmental monitoring for polio- and other enteroviruses
  - Enteric pathogens in shellfish
3. Session in which authors of posters introduce their work by three-minute platform presentations
4. Oral papers are presented in four 90-minute sessions per day, two in the morning and two in the afternoon. Four papers are presented in each session. Each paper has 15min for presentation and 5min for discussion with a final 10min for discussion of all four papers at the end of the session
5. Open business meeting of the IWA Specialist Group on Health-Related Water Microbiology
6. Technical excursion
7. The usual social events

Details of deadlines for the submission of abstracts and manuscripts, registration and accommodation will follow in due course.

At this point in time we wish you to mark the event in bold in your 2003 diary, start working on a top class presentation, and start saving for Cape Town. Every effort will be made to keep costs at an absolute minimum.

A major goal of these endeavours is to encourage as many students, junior researchers and colleagues from developing communities to attend the symposium as is possible. Suggestions on possible financial support and sponsorships will therefore be highly appreciated.

**PLEASE NOTE:** the sooner we hear from you, the better we can accommodate your best personal interests, as well as those of everybody else concerned. Even an indication of possible participation, with a tentative title of a presentation that may be submitted, will be most valuable. Once your name is in the system, we can keep you posted on the latest details as they unfold.

At this time please address general communications to:

Ms L Heidi Olivier (Secretary)  
Organising Committee  
2003 Cape Town Symposium on Health-Related Water Microbiology  
Department of Virology  
University of Pretoria  
Tel: (+2712) 319-2351  
Email: [lolivier@med.up.ac.za](mailto:lolivier@med.up.ac.za)

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**INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON WATERBORNE  
PATHOGENS**  
**Lisbon, Portugal September 22-25, 2002**

The final programme has now been decided. but as of now there are no details of registration etc having been made available by either AWWA or co-sponsors IWA.

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**7<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON AEROMONAS AND  
PLEISOMONAS**  
**Alicante, Spain 8-10 September 2002**

See [www.aeromonas2002.oriuela.org](http://www.aeromonas2002.oriuela.org) for further information.

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# **INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABILITY OF WATER RESOURCES IN ARID REGIONS**

**Murdoch University, Australia 13-14 November 2002**

A whole range of topics will be discussed relating to this most important issue. Further details can be obtained from: [Mathew@essun1.murdoch.edu.au](mailto:Mathew@essun1.murdoch.edu.au)

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# **INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON WATER AND WASTEWATER: PERSPECTIVES OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (WAPDEC)**

**New Delhi, India 11-13 December 2002**

The protection of scarce water resources in developing countries is of global importance. For further details contact: [wapdec2002@yahoo.com](mailto:wapdec2002@yahoo.com)

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## **IWA WATER KNOWHOW**

IWA Foundation would like to hear from you! They are seeking volunteers who are willing to help answer technical queries that reach the IWA London office from many parts of the world. This is to be offered as a service to water professionals in lower income countries who frequently are unable to subscribe to the Association's journals or attend its conferences but who still seek help in dealing with their own regional technical problems. This service will be known as "*IWA Water KnowHow*".

Where particular issues arise, which are both important and of wide-spread concern, the Foundation would set up Task Forces to address the issue and produce a report or statement of best practice on the issue. *IWA KnowHow* will not be a consultancy service. Time-consuming questions will be declined or referred to consultants who have expressed an interest in supporting the service. All answers will carry a caveat that they are given in good faith with the end recipient being solely responsible for the use of the information in the local context.

If you wish to volunteer or to find out more about this IWA initiative please visit <http://www.IWAFoundation.org> or contact the Director of the Foundation (Nick King) at [nick.king@iwahq.org.uk](mailto:nick.king@iwahq.org.uk)

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## GROUP WEB PAGE

The url is: [www.iwa-microbiology.org](http://www.iwa-microbiology.org)

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Please send any comments, queries, notices of meetings (or reviews), notes etc for the Newsletter to:

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**Next issue: July 2002**  
**Deadline for contributions is June 25th!**