

RSWA Water for the Next Century Forums

The University Club, UWA

Forum 1: Tuesday 9th September, 6.00 pm for 6.30 pm

Forum 2: Tuesday 16th September, 6.00 pm for 6.30 pm

Water is vital to life. Early in the last Century we saw large dams built. In the last 50 years there has been an increasing reliance on groundwater, and most recently we have seen supplementation of our water supply by the desalination of seawater. Over the next Century there will be emphasis on water quality and what price society will pay for pure water.

In the two *Water for the next Century* seminars we will seek comment from experts and the public on related topics including the sustainability of groundwater reserves and their use for agriculture as well as city water supplies. We will examine the value of waste water and question if it is a valuable commodity. Importantly, as most major Australian cities are associated with rivers and estuaries on low coastal plains and floodplains, we address issues ranging from a decrease in the use of our recreational water courses to the need to adapt for possible sea level rise and periodic floods from major storm events if cyclonic systems move further south.

PROGRAMME

6.00 pm: *Registration and refreshments (canapés and drinks)*

6.30 pm: *Forum*

8.10 pm: *Q and A Panel Session*

Forum 1:

Drought and flooding rains – water resources in 21st Century Western Australia. Adj. Assoc. Professor Philip Commander (School of Earth and Environment, The University of Western Australia).

Growing the North and sustaining the South – Land and water for Irrigation. Dr Richard George (Principal Research Scientist, Department of Agriculture and Food, Western Australia).

Our Changing Bushland: Impacts of Groundwater use and Climate Change. Professor Ray Froend (Professor of Applied Ecology, Director, Centre for Ecosystem Management, School of Natural Sciences, Edith Cowan University).

Water Recycling in Western Australia: Past Research and Future Opportunities. Dr Kathryn Linge (Acting Deputy Director, Curtin Water Quality Research Centre, Curtin University).

Forum 2:

The Swan River. W/Professor Jörg Imberger (Director, Centre for Water Research, University of Western Australia).

Opportunities for Desalination in Agriculture. Dr Olga Barron (Principal Research Scientist, CSIRO Land and Water).

Fresh Water Thinking: Water Solutions for a Thirsty World. Meredith Blais (Manager Water Industry Policy, Water Corporation, Western Australia).

Register for ONE or BOTH at Eventbrite (queries secretary@rswa.org.au)

One forum: \$36 (Members \$26, Students \$22)

Both forums: \$66 (Members \$46, Students \$40)