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

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

**(Issue #214 – 22 October 2013)**

**1.   And the winner is….**

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Cook Shire Council has taken out the 2013 Orica Australia Best of the Best Queensland Water Taste Test at the LGAQ State Conference in Cairns this afternoon with the water from Cooktown being selected as the best by conference delegates through some 300 individual “tastes.”

LGAQ President Cr Margaret De Wit, ***qldwater***CEO Dave Cameron and Orica’s George Lech presented the gold Lego treatment plant trophy to an excited Mayor, Cr Peter Scott.

“This is fantastic for Cook Shire; I’d just like to thank the sponsors and ***qldwater*** and acknowledge the great work of our water crew,” Mr Scott said.

***qldwater*** CEO Dave Cameron said the LGAQ conference provided a great opportunity to show off to councillors and the community.

“While the taste test is about how good tap water tastes, it is also meant to help inform the community about how much effort goes into providing quality drinking water.  This is an essential, sustainable service provided 24/7 by the staff of your local water utility.”

“As usual in the state finals, the results were very close and Cooktown narrowly pipped Bundaberg to take the honours,” Mr Cameron said.

The taste test forms part of the ***qldwater*** on tap campaign, which aims to show our communities the benefits of safe, secure and sustainable water services, promoting tap water as a smarter choice. Through ***qldwater*** on tap we hope to assist our members to find meaningful ways to engage with their communities.  For more information visit our website at [www.qldwaterontap.com.au](http://www.qldwaterontap.com.au).

30 members competed in regional finals held during the year with six regional winners fighting out the grand final:

South East Queensland:

Bundaberg Regional Council’s Lovers Walk (Bundaberg) Scheme

South West Queensland:

Goondiwindi Regional Council’s Inglewood Scheme

Central Queensland:

Gladstone Regional Council’s Agnes Water/ 1770 Scheme

Western Queensland:

Diamantina Shire Council’s Bedourie Scheme

North Queensland:

Whitsunday Regional Council’s Cannonvale/ Airlie Beach Scheme

Far North Queensland:

Cook Shire Council’s Cooktown Scheme

Thanks all of our members who participated in this event and commiserations to the runners up.  We expect our 2014 events program to be announced within the next month.

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

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