

World Plumbing Day a Smashing Hit! 11 March, Every Year, Everywhere

This year MPAQ once again celebrated World Plumbing Day by hosting the industry's biggest breakfast and golf day on Friday 10 March at Hillstone St Lucia. The breakfast had over 340 attendees from the plumbing and gas industry, there to show their support and appreciation for an industry they love. The golf day had a massive 29 teams playing on the day, that's over 115 attendees!

These events also received a massive show of support from the Government, special guests on the day included the Honourable Cameron Dick, Minister for Health, the Honourable Grace Grace, Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations and the Honourable Mark Bailey, Minister for Energy, Biofuels and Water Supply. Though the Honourable Mick de Brenni, Minister for Housing and Public Works and Minister for Sport wasn't able to make it on the day, he provided a video for attendees, thanking them for all that they do and also acknowledging the important role plumbers and gasfitters play in modern society.

2017 Female Ambassador

Carlie Low was appointed as MPAQ's new Female Plumbing Ambassador for 2017 at the World Plumbing Day celebration. The purpose of the female plumbing ambassadorship is to promote the trade to women and encourage them to consider it as a future career path. The ambassadorship will play an important role with MPAQ throughout 2017. Carlie is passionate about attracting more women to learn a trade and enjoys speaking at schools and colleges to encourage students to consider an apprenticeship.

MPAQ Executive Director, Penny Cornah, said, "We are very excited to announce the second MPAQ Female Plumbing Ambassador in what will be a significant step forward for an industry in which female participation has historically been low, but we see that changing for the better!"

Carlie is a licensed plumber, drainer and gasfitter. After several years working in this field, Carlie turned her attention to further developing her experience and was appointed as a Brisbane City Council Plumbing Inspector in 2004. In this position, she has built a sound knowledge base and industry network as she has rotated through a series of compliance functions, which include commercial application assessment, domestic and commercial plumbing inspectors and investigating plumbing complaints.

MPAQ are looking forward to collaborating with Carlie in 2017 to help raise awareness to students about studying an apprenticeship and explaining where a trade can take them, no matter their gender.

MPAQ would like to thank Rebecca Senyard, our first female ambassador, for all her efforts in 2016 and for passing this important role over to Carlie.

Guest Speaker: Orange Sky Laundry

Our guest speakers at the breakfast were the amazing David and Tony from Orange Sky Laundry. For those of you who don't know, Orange Sky Laundry is the world's first free mobile laundry service for the homeless. Starting on the streets of Brisbane, Orange Sky has grown rapidly and expanded to 11 vans in Melbourne South East, Perth, Gold Coast, Sydney, Sunshine Coast, Melbourne CBD, Adelaide, Canberra, Hobart, Wollongong; 2 shower vans and an Orange Sky Digital vehicle.

Run by 800 volunteers across the country, the custom-fitted vans with two commercial washing machines and two dryers service 96 locations and wash more than 7.04 tonnes of laundry a week. A catalyst for conversation, Orange Sky facilitates over 1,388 hours of volunteering and conversation each week. The organisation has also responded to natural disasters, helping cyclone-affected communities in North Queensland, residents of the Great Ocean Road Bushfires, and Adelaide flood victims. Orange Sky Laundry to date has washed over 414,316 kgs of free laundry, but most importantly, fostered over 98,830 hours of positive, genuine and non-judgmental conversation.

There was a silent auction and many raffle tickets sold throughout breakfast, which raised **over \$2,900, all of which will be donated to Orange Sky Laundry!**

Visit the Events Page on the MPAQ website (www.mpaq.com.au) for more information about Orange Sky Laundry or to learn how to donate.

A Hole in One!

With 29 teams and 14 fantastic sponsors, the World Plumbing Day golf day was a massive success.

Winning Team: Rinnai

Second Place: Xylem Water Solutions

Third Place: Reliable Plumbing Gas Solar Pty Ltd

Wooden Spoon: Arup

Events like these are not possible without the generous support of all partners and sponsors.

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- The Service Trades College
- Plumbing and Pipe Trades Employees Union Qld, and
- Queensland Building and Construction Commission

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Golf Food Sponsor

- **BUSSQ**

Thank you to everyone who attended these special events, we should be thankful for plumbers every day, but in particular World Plumbing Day!

For further information contact:

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