



PSCIA Inc.

## 2018 PSCIA Inc. 32<sup>nd</sup> Albury Conference

Over a three day period (Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> to Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> June) the Plumbing Sheetmetal Coppersmithing Instructors Association (PSCIA) held our annual conference at the Albury Commercial Club. This is the 32<sup>nd</sup> consecutive year we have had the conference at the Commercial Club.

The Association was formed in 1956 in an era when the plumbing trade was taught in tertiary colleges, particularly in regional areas and also in many technical schools. In these institutions, most teachers taught both junior classes and apprentices. As a result, the Association dealt with a wide range of issues, including the teaching of the secondary and apprenticeship curriculum.

The Association brought teachers together for social activities, industrial visits, excursions and in-service programs both in the metropolitan and regional centres, covering topics of interest to secondary and apprenticeship teachers. It also became a valuable source of general information, materials and equipment.

Since these early days plumbing training has needed to change to meet the training requirements of the now National Training Package. The Albury conference helps the current trainers meet and maintain a constant training standard across Victoria.

The 2018 Albury conference saw 115 plumbing trainers from Victoria, Queensland, New South Wales and South Australia, government departments and industry supporters.



Fred Dvoracek and Peter Wenning

The speakers Included:

- Paul Harris. Head of Gas Operations Energy Safe Victoria
- Glenn Graham. Chisholm Tafe (Certificate II in Plumbing Training)
- Paul Naylor. CEO NSW Master Plumbers Association
- Peter Wenning. Hydraulic Services Consultant
- Glen Doory and Jennifer Mason. Representing Susan Gaylor Victorian Building Authority
- Dr. Geethani Nair. "Head of SkillsPoint, Technology and Business Services Tafe NSW
- Dr. Mike Brown. School of Education La Trobe University
- Declan Mc Creesh. Water and Sewer Maintenance Manager South East Water
- Glenn Doorey. Team Leader – Knowledge and Experience Assessment Victorian Building Authority Registration and Examination Reports
- Robert Gilman. Chair National Plumbing Service Training Advisory Group and Jennifer Mason. Senior Policy Advisor, Education and Training from the Victorian Building Authority
- Andrew Ulbrick. from the Victorian PTMGA
- Brendan Gould. from the Victorian VPTMC
- Teresa Signorello. Victorian Curriculum Maintenance Manager
- Troy Volkmann. Certificate III and IV Gas Fitting Co-ordinator South Australian Tafe
- Gary Bath. Member Liaison and Technical Adviser Victorian Master Plumbers Association
- Glenn Menzies. from the PPTEU and Greg Tink from PICAC
- John Palfery. Rheem Product Innovations Gas Regulations
- Chris Hoare. from Incolink

A copy of all the conference power point presentations may be found on our website <https://www.dropbox.com/home/cam/swinburne/PSCIA%20Conference%20%23PSCIA18/Albury%20Presentations%202018>



Faulty plumbing Installation

One of the most thought provoking presentations was by Peter Wenning on "Plumbing Defects Implications for the plumbing industry and consumers".

Peter's presentation highlighted the relationship between faulty plumbing and insurance claims.

One of the main activities at all our conferences is to validate training support material. This year we were asked by the Victorian Building Authority to spend some of our validation time to work with them on their trade assessment material as well as our usual validating of some of the Victorian support material. The conference is hard at work in the picture to the right.



Peter Rice receiving his award from the President Gary Cook

At our 32<sup>nd</sup> Albury Conference eight of the committee members were recognised for their service to the committee, receiving the President's Award. Between them they have given over 150 years of service to the PSCIA. This year's recipients were, Peter Rice, John Pullen, Bob Hill, Graham Williams, John Doodt, Russell Masterton, Brian Trotter and Edward Williamson.

Each Year Energy Safe Victoria (ESV) gives out an award to the gas trainer of the year. This year it was won by Garry Waters from the Victorian Master Plumbers Association Training.



As part of the Reece Road Show we were lucky to have Patrick Keating and his trainer Phil Langley from Bendigo Tafe this year's (2018) winner of the WorldSkills Plumbing Competition. The trade show highlighted some of the latest products within the plumbing industry. They are pictured to the left.

You can find out more information on the PSCIA and the 2018 Albury conference at:

Web site: <http://www.pscia.org.au/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PSCIAALBURY/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/PSCIAAlbury>

Gary Cook

President of PSCIA

This year we were very fortunate our call for assistance was heard by the supporters below, therefore we can keep our costings down.

