

## A Word From the Secretary General

Christian Wolkersdorfer

© Springer-Verlag 2010

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

By the time you receive this issue of “Mine Water and the Environment”, IMWA’s 2010 Symposium in Sydney, Nova Scotia, Canada will be history. Yet, at the moment, I am still 5 weeks away from welcoming you to this beautiful part of the world. It is the 2nd Conference that I have organized for IMWA and I suspect that it is also the last one. Not that I didn’t like organising it, but almost as soon as I arrived here in Canada, I had to focus on the conference, in a country and at a University that I was not familiar with—which means that I have not had enough time to properly conduct my research. And I do like researching problems related to mine water. So, it is time for *you* to think about organising one of the next IMWA conferences.

I thank all our sponsors for supporting IMWA 2010. Without their help and support we would not have been able to organise our meeting the way we did. And I thank all the authors, reviewers, chairpersons, and committee members for their kind assistance in the months preceding the conference. It was great to work together with all of you, and I hope to stay in touch.

I will slowly move back to conducting research now, and in order to do so, I would be happy if you could assist me in putting together these “Mine Water Notes” by sending me anything that you deem interesting for our readers. There is always space for interesting news about your work, research, or experience. In addition, if you are a student and just finished your studies, or are looking for

some winter experience: contact me, as I need a research assistant in the next few months to prepare and conduct an interesting mine water tracer test in the Sydney Mine Pool.

A last note on June’s IMWA/PADRE meeting: the delegates in Freiberg decided to restructure PADRE and have an election at next year’s IMWA Congress in Aachen. You will read more about the meeting in one of the next “Mine Water Notes”.

Glückauf and have a beautiful spring or autumn!  
Christian Wolkersdorfer

PS: While I was writing those words, a message came in that 15 coal miners had died in a Chinese coal mine explosion in the Liugou mine in Linfen city (Shanxi province). During the IMWA 2010 Symposium, a Chinese delegation visited Cape Breton University in order to explore the possibility of educating Chinese authorities and miners about mine safety. We at Cape Breton University have recently committed ourselves to improving mine safety in China, but all of us, as mine water specialists, have the opportunity to contribute to mine safety—not only in China, but everywhere—and I encourage all of you to look for opportunities to share your knowledge and experience and thereby prevent future disasters.

### Women in Mining

The number of women involved in mining and exploration is among the lowest in primary industry categories. This is a problem because forecasts point to a re-emergence of skill shortages within the next decade. Attracting and retaining women is one of the keys to sustainable growth in the mineral sector. The UK Women in Mining network aims to support this evolution by promoting the

---

Ch. Wolkersdorfer (✉)  
Cape Breton University Industrial Research Chair in Mine  
Water Remediation & Management Sydney,  
Nova Scotia, B1P 6L2, Canada  
e-mail: christian@wolkersdorfer.info

employment, retention, and progress of women in the mining industry and offering its members support in professional development, access to information, and opportunities to network. Founded in 2006, the network has grown to approximately 450 members, representing a variety of mining-related businesses and professions. Membership is free and open to all women in the mining industry, *wherever* they are based.

Women in Mining publishes a monthly newsletter and events calendar (find recent issues under “WIM UK” at [www.womeninmining.net/newsletter.asp](http://www.womeninmining.net/newsletter.asp)) and organises networking drinks and speaker seminars on mining or career-related topics. On Wednesday, 17 November 2010, Karen Dingley, UK Surface Water Manager with Golder Associates, will discuss how miners can balance their own water security with the need to protect local community water supplies by identifying cost effective measures that will protect the quantity and quality of surface and groundwater reserves, transferring the experience of sustainable urban design from the city to the mine site. Please contact Barbara Dischinger ([barbara@greenmining.co.uk](mailto:barbara@greenmining.co.uk)) for further information or to be added to their mailing list.

Barbara Dischinger, Romy Matthies, United Kingdom.

## New Members

We welcome our following new members:

Mattias Bäckström, Örebro, Sweden  
 Tim Bartlett, Parade West, United Kingdom  
 K.K. Bhardwaj, Saket, India  
 Philip Burris, Brentford, United Kingdom  
 Wendy Chevalier, Pittsburgh, USA  
 Carol Cunningham, Halifax, Canada  
 Lyle Davis, Tucson, USA  
 Craig Divine, Littleton, USA  
 Jane Doucette, Sydney, Canada  
 Bastian Graupner, Kiel, Germany  
 Jordi Guimera, Barcelona, Spain  
 Dennis Hall, Scottsdale, USA  
 Denver Harper, Bloomington, USA  
 Axel Juch, Berlin, Germany  
 Todd Keay, Tucson, USA  
 Anna Kluza, Tom Price, Australia  
 Richard Lansley, Stanton-on-the-Wolds, United Kingdom  
 Alastair Lings, Galashiels, United Kingdom  
 Ferenc Madai, Miskolc-Egyetemvaros, Hungary  
 Fred Marinelli, Fort Collins, USA  
 Karl-Dieter Markus, Berlin, Germany

Scott Mason, Kalispell, USA  
 William Mayes, Scarborough, United Kingdom  
 Richard Morykot, Sydney, Canada  
 Angels Pique, Barcelona, Spain  
 Esther Pusch, Berlin, Germany  
 George Ring, Bloomfield Hills, USA  
 Michael Rosko, Tucson, USA  
 Lotta Sartz, Kopparberg, Sweden  
 Karl Schwarz, Brentford, United Kingdom  
 Rüdiger Schwarz, Berlin, Germany  
 Botio Tabakov, Sofia, Bulgaria  
 Wolf von Igel, Las Condes, Chile  
 Ingar F Walder, Kjeoy, Norway  
 Thomas Walter, Saarbrücken, Germany

We hope that our new colleagues will benefit from and contribute to the extensive mine water knowledge and expertise gathered within our group of international experts. Please use your membership number in any correspondence, especially money transfers with IMWA. You can find it easily on your journal’s address label, in front of the word “GES”.

Lee C. Atkinson, Treasurer, Lakewood, Colorado, USA;  
 Chris Wolkersdorfer, Secretary General, Cape Breton, Canada.

## Forthcoming Events

*June 21st–23rd 2011, Aberystwyth, Wales, UK*

Frontiers in Environmental Geoscience; <http://www.minersoc.org/pages/meetings/frontiers-2011/frontiers-2011.html>; [njp@aber.ac.uk](mailto:njp@aber.ac.uk)

*September 4th–11th 2011, Aachen, Germany*

### 11th IMWA Congress

<http://www.IMWA2011.info;info@IMWA2011.info>

*2012, Denpasar, Bali, Indonesia*

### IMWA 2012 Symposium

<http://www.IMWA2012.info;info@IMWA2012.info>

*2012, Ottawa, Canada*

### ICARD 2012—MEND Canada

Mark your calendars; the 9th International Conference on Acid Rock Drainage (ICARD) is coming to Ottawa, the birthplace of MEND, in May/June 2012. The Conference will include 3 days of technical presentations, a suite of short courses and field trips.  
[gtrembla@nrca.gc.ca](mailto:gtrembla@nrca.gc.ca)