

## Water overload demands a unique underwater repair

**Damage to an underwater dual water trunk main at Jindalee, sustained during the 2011 flood and compounded by subsequent river flows, was recently repaired using innovative engineering solutions.**

Built in the 1950s, the main, known as the Jindalee River Crossing, is unique because it was laid in the river bed when most other crossings are on bridges or in tunnels.

It is believed a shipping container rolling along the riverbed during the 2011 flood initially damaged the pipeline. Since that time, water supply to Mount Ommaney and Jindalee has been maintained using an Seqwater-owned crossing from Mt Crosby, however the repair was essential to ensure a reliable and secure water network for our customers into the future.

Innovative team work was required to overcome many challenges during the repair task, which was undertaken by QUU's Civil Maintenance Delivery team with the support of a diving contractor.

"Our initial repair attempts using gibault joints (clamps used to join sections of pipe) were unable to withstand further flooding, so we needed a more robust welding solution," said Manager Major Contracts and Budget, Daniel Faccio, who led the project.



One of the divers, with Daniel Faccio, returns to land after a shift of underwater welding.

"To manage the harsh environment, which included working underwater with poor visibility, tidal movements, high currents, shifting silt and a changing riverbed, a

purpose-built 'habitat' for the divers was created from an inverted shipping container," explained Daniel.

"Demonstrating QUU's careful attention to safety, we requested the diving contractor use electronic shark repellent to mitigate the risk of sharks in the river," said Daniel. "It was the first time the contractor had been asked to do so."

Other unique aspects of the repair included using underwater CCTV vision, and pumping clear water into the 'habitat' to stabilise the work environment and ensure quality control around the welding.

Three divers did rotating welding shifts about 10 metres below the surface of the Brisbane River upstream from the Centenary Bridge, with the two replacement pipe insertions being about one metre long and 550mm in diameter. Of the dual main, only one of the pipes has been repaired, as a replacement main is due to be constructed by the end of 2015.

## Milestones and achievements

QUU's Internal Communication Manager **Majella Doyle** and her husband Brian celebrate 25 years of marriage on 25 November. It was a big month all round for the Doyle family, as their daughter Isabella also graduated Grade 12 from St Rita's College at Clayfield and headed for schoolies on the Gold Coast to celebrate with friends.

A big warm QUU welcome to new Senior Communication Consultant **John Adcock** who joined the Urban Communications team this month. John, who some of you may know from SEQ Water Grid, is backfilling the team's Ipswich-based Nicole Pollock while she is on maternity leave.

Do you have some news you would like to share with your QUU colleagues? Weddings, births, milestone birthdays, sporting, cultural, community or academic achievements... let us know by emailing [UrbanComms@urbanutilities.com.au](mailto:UrbanComms@urbanutilities.com.au)



**Tickets**  
\$5 each  
three for \$10  
or  
seven for \$20

**Prizes will be drawn on Friday, 6 December.**

Keep an eye out for staff selling WaterAid raffle tickets in your area or contact the Marketing team by emailing [marketing@urbanutilities.com.au](mailto:marketing@urbanutilities.com.au)

## It's WaterAid raffle time!

**As part of QUU's ongoing support of WaterAid Australia, we're holding a raffle to raise funds.**

Your contribution will help the international charity overcome poverty by improving access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene education. You'll also be in the draw to win some fantastic prizes...

### What could you win?

**First prize:** A Luxury Accommodation Package at Sheraton Noosa Resort and Spa (pictured left) valued at \$1500, including:

- two nights' accommodation in a deluxe room for two (river, pool or ocean view),
- full hot buffet breakfast for two in Cato's Restaurant daily,
- entry for two to the Aqua Therapy Centre and Steam room in the AQUA Day Spa, and
- a bottle of Australian sparkling wine and cheese platter on arrival.

**Second prize:** An overnight stay at the Emporium hotel with complimentary valet parking valued at \$350.

**Third prize:** \$100 Coles Myer gift card.

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