What does International Women’s day mean to you?

For me it's personal and professional. Personally, I get to reflect on the kind of world I want my daughters and other young women to grow up in and be part of, and what if anything I am doing about that. Professionally, it is one of the days I reflect on the Institute’s policy of diversity – in gender, age, ethnicity, and ideas – and whether we are addressing the policy in meaningful ways.

A basic Health and Safety issue for everyone in the workplace is Bullying, Harassment and Abuse, which directly affects psychological health and wellbeing. Psychological/psychiatric injury claims are on the rise. Setting aside the recent spate of high profile incidents in the press, do we have an endemic problem within Australia workplace culture that needs to be talked about more openly? It’s important that the profession has the knowledge and skills to do its part to address the issues. We’ll be talking about it in the weeks ahead. In the meantime.....

Dr Rebecca Michalak is a respected expert in stress, job performance, and wellbeing, and is delivering a keynote presentation at our National Conference: In Practice May 23-24 in Melbourne, titled “Prevention, not cure: effective psychosocial risk management” discussing amongst other things, the critical importance of working on prevention strategies associated with issues which create workplace stress rather than reactive ‘rescue management.’ I’m looking forward to hearing her.

Register here, and have a great week.

David Clarke, CEO
**How to improve OHS outcomes by boosting psychological safety**

Most organisations generally don’t understand or apply psychological safety in order to achieve the goal of genuinely improving OHS outcomes, according to Amanda Jones, lead biological safety advisor for the University of Queensland.

*Read More*

**What HSE skills are most in demand?**

HSE leaders are choosing between having more “jack of all trades” type generalists who can deliver more specialist skills, or supplementing full-time employees with consultants and contractors who can provide expertise without adding to the permanent headcount, according to HSE compensation and recruitment specialists safesearch.

*Read More*
**Motorbikes and quad bikes dominate farm injury hospitalisations**

Almost 22,000 people were hospitalised in the period from 2010–11 to 2014–15 as a result of an injury which occurred on a farm, according to a recent research report, which found that injuries involving motorcycles and quad bikes on farms accounted for 21 per cent of hospitalisations for people aged 15 and over.

**Important Dates**

**Proposed New Terms of Reference and Entry Criteria for the SIA College of Fellows**

The work done to review this has now been completed, and members are invited to comment on the new criteria.

Click here to comment.

**SIA Awards: Call for Nominations**

The 2018 SIA awards are open for nominations. You can nominate for outstanding contributions in the field of health and safety for one of the three awards.

Click here to nominate.

**Draft FIFO Code of Practice - opportunity to review**

The WA Government have recently asked for public comment on their draft FIFO Code of Practice. The Code aims to assist organisations manage the mental health issues concerned with the fly-in-fly-out type roster. Some parts of the Code of Practice may also be applicable to other rosters. The Code and review details are freely available here.

Because we consider FIFO an issue of national significance in the context of Health and Safety, we invite interested health and safety people, no matter which state or territory you are from, to know that:

(a) you can contribute to the review, by clicking on the link above; and

(b) we’re happy to hear your views and consider those as part of the submission the WA branch of the Institute is undertaking.

If you would like to contribute to the WA Branch submission, please forward your comments to Marcus Cattani, WA Branch Chair, before **Friday 30th March**. The WA Branch welcomes contributions from anyone in any State. Email wabranch@sia.org.au
UPCOMING EVENTS

VIC BRANCH

Return To Work
Wednesday 21 March 2018

VIC Branch: Return to Work

This event will cover the key components required to build and sustain a suitable return to work (RTW) program for injured employees.

Who’s speaking?

Date: 21 March 2018
Time: 12:00pm - 2:00pm

Register here

SIA Webinar: Contractor Management

On behalf of the Safety Institute of Australia, we invite you to join us for an informative webinar at 2:30pm (AEDT) on Wednesday 28 March 2018 titled: Contractor Management.

In 2010 Sue Bottrell, after watching a Principal Contractor be found guilty for failing to manage the safety of expert contractors, wrote an article looking at the legal issues surrounding management of contractor safety, and the legal obligations imposed on employers under the health and safety legislation.

Register here

FOR MORE EVENTS CLICK HERE

INCIDENTS & PROSECUTIONS
VIC: Company fined $500,000 after worker crushed by tower tube

A Keysborough concrete pumping contractor was recently convicted and fined $500,000 after the death of a worker who was struck by a large section of tubing.

Read More

WA: Gold mining company fined $140,000 for rock fall crush fatality

Central Norseman Gold Corporation was recently fined $140,000 in the Perth Magistrates Court following the death of a worker at the company’s Harlequin gold mine, near Norseman, in 2014.

Read More

QLD: Company fined $200,000 after death of employee in kiln explosion

An environmental services company in Queensland has been fined $200,000 after pleading guilty in the Gladstone Magistrates Court to breaching the Work Health and Safety

WA: Company fined $65,000 after worker trapped in limestone block-making machine

West Australian firm Limestone Building Blocks Company was recently fined $65,000 (and required to pay costs of $3120.33) in the
Act 2011 following the death of a worker who was killed by an explosion in a gas kiln.

Read More

Joondalup Magistrates Court after a worker was seriously injured when he was trapped in a limestone block-making machine.

Read More

FOR MORE INCIDENTS AND PROSECUTIONS CLICK HERE

POLICY NEWS

SWA members respond to the mid-term review of the Australian Strategy

Safe Work Australia recently said that the mid-term review of the Australian Work Health and Safety strategy 2012-2022 has found that the strategy is delivering against its stated purpose and progress against the three targets to reduce work-related fatalities and injuries is on track.

NSW: Safety alert issued over hot work

SafeWork NSW recently issued a safety alert about the precautions required when carrying out hot work in the workplace, such as grinding, welding, oxy cutting or other processes which produce a flame or other ignition source.

Read More
WA: Inspection program looks at scaffold safety

WorkSafe WA is undertaking a proactive inspection program to look at safety issues with scaffolding across the state.

Read More

NSW: Quad bike safety body meets to discuss improvement program

The Quad Bike Safety Industry Action Group recently met in Griffith to discuss a safety improvement program which encourages and supports farmers to implement safety measures to reduce quad bike injuries on farms.

Read More

FOR MORE POLICY NEWS CLICK HERE