



MEDIA RELEASE

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MI action through COVID-19 pandemic

It seems everyone has been tested in one way or another by the COVID-19 pandemic which has swept the globe in the first half of 2020. MI has not been immune and the rapidly evolving situation has required us to adapt to keep our people, customers and community safe, whilst never missing a beat in delivering water.

Reflecting on the recent events, MI Managing Director Brett Jones said that COVID has not led to a slowdown for the organisation.

“In fact it has been very much ‘business as usual’, with our team busy supporting our customers. In just the last month we processed in excess of 300 trades and undertook 766 maintenance tasks – all whilst maintaining social distancing measures. Our customers have also been supportive in working with us during this difficult time, for which we are very grateful.

Rain over the past month and a five percent General Security allocation increase have provided a welcome boost to region. In May we were able to take advantage of supplementary flows on the river to deliver a total of 5,192 ML to customers across the MIA.

The usual program of Winter Works has also commenced across the region and is vital to deliver maintenance to keep the water delivery infrastructure and systems operating as efficiently as possible throughout the year. They also provide the opportunity to deliver upgrades that can further support irrigators to be ready for when conditions are favourable.

As always with the winter program MI seeks to minimise impacts to water supply for customers, minimise traffic disruptions and keep everyone informed on progress.

“This year we are using our MI Facebook page as another way of keeping the community informed of progress. We encourage customers and community alike to jump on see what MI is doing across our region and how some of our customers are taking advantage of the services we deliver.”

Social distancing has not stopped the MI team keeping in touch with one and other, nor supporting the wider community. We want to give a huge shout out to all the businesses who donated vouchers to our Biggest Morning Tea raffle helping us raise more than \$1,500 for the Cancer Council Australia last month. The MI morning tea was still held to mark a significant fundraising day for this very important cause – although it was a virtual cuppa this year!

The measures we have introduced, to ensure that the organisation can safely continue to provide its services to the community, will continue up until at least July in line with Government advice around Stage 3 lifting of restrictions. This means our Hanwood and Leeton offices will remain operating by restricted access and are closed to customers and visitors other than via appointment. Customers are instead encouraged to call our Customer Service team for assistance or to make an appointment.

“We believe that the challenges we have successfully navigated over the last few months have actually made us an even stronger organisation, leaving us well positioned to support our customers in the MIA to do what they do so brilliantly – primarily growing food and fibre for Australia and the world.

For more information keep an eye on our Facebook page or check out our website: www.mirrigation.com.au/Home

Photo: Winter Works near the Sturt Canal Offtake

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