



# Murrumbidgee Irrigation

## Dept of Industry Water Allocations

AS AT 17 SEP 2018

Stock & Domestic	100%
Town	100%
High Security	95%
General Security	7%

*Plus 3% MI additional to eligible customers*

## Storages at 31 October 2018

Burrinjuck	41%
Blowering	55%

## EASYWATER

[www.mirrigration.com.au](http://www.mirrigration.com.au)  
Freecall 1800 822 450

## 2018 Annual Report

Our 2018 Annual Report is available on our website.

## AGM

All shareholders are invited to attend the 2018 AGM to be held at the Exies Main Club, Jondaryan Avenue Griffith on Monday 12 November 2018. Registration from 7pm for 7.30pm start.

Our privacy statement can be downloaded from our website: [www.mirrigration.com.au](http://www.mirrigration.com.au)

Contact us if you no longer wish to receive this newsletter.

# NEWS IN BRIEF

OCTOBER 2018 Newsletter

## Australian Institute of Company Directors session well received

Last month 22 people took the opportunity to attend an information session delivered by the Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD), which we hosted in Griffith.

The purpose of the session was to encourage aspiring Company directors and help customers who manage their own small business. Attendees learnt about: the role of directors (especially for small companies), compliance requirements, and good governance and decision making. Following the formalities there was a networking opportunity.

The session was well-received by participants and we'll look to provide similar opportunities in the future.

## Environmental watering supports bittern breeding

Environmental flows have been delivered to several sites across the MIA throughout this month.



These environmental flows, managed by the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), included the watering of the Ramsar listed Fivebough swamp in Leeton. With reduced rice plantings this season, this watering is critical in supporting Australasian bittern breeding.

The OEH is one of our customers and we work with them to ensure their environmental water orders are delivered in the best way possible.

The OEH manages environmental water to maintain the health of rivers and important wetlands. During dry sequences, these floodplain wetlands provide critical drought refuge for waterbirds, fish and other native animals.

## Help us avoid river losses in low allocation year

With low allocations, and projections for a dry year ahead, making sure your order is accurate helps us to minimise losses. We order our water 7 days in advance to allow for release from Burrinjuck and Blowering Dams, and with water orders starting to increase, please remember that providing notice for water orders is increasingly important. Also, take care when setting your start and stop times and make sure that you take the flow rate that you order.

If you would like assistance in using our EASYWATER ordering system, please contact us on 02 6962 0200. Your Division Operator can also assist you to provide a more accurate water order.

## Engineering solution saving water

We have been utilising a 10 ML pump at Deadman's Check, near Tharbogang, to redirect escape water back into our system before it reaches Barren Box Storage and Wetlands. On average the pump is redirecting 8 ML a day back into our system for use.

## Murrami automation and expansion opportunities

We are currently investigating potential opportunities for automation and expansion in the Murrami area. Our engagement team will be contacting Murrami customers over the next two months to understand opportunities from a customer perspective.

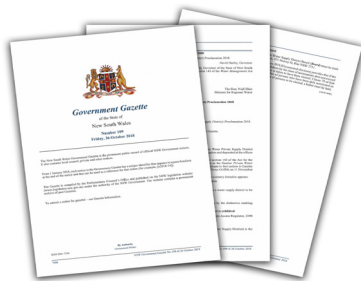
## Developing environmental improvement program

We have been working with the EPA to develop an Environmental Improvement Program.

You can help us by taking care when washing down farm equipment to reduce the risk of water pollution and ensure a safe work environment for everyone. Remember to:

- Look out for overhead powerlines
- Ensure wash down takes place on-farm and not channel banks or within 15 metres of roads or infrastructure, and
- Contain the runoff to prevent damage to access tracks, road works and irrigation structures.

## Major Wah Wah S&D milestone reached- Gunbar Water Private Supply District gazetted



A major milestone has been reached in enabling Wah Wah Stock and Domestic farmers to soon become their own Private Irrigation District, with the NSW Government proclaiming the gazetting of Gunbar Water Private Supply District.

Works on the Gunbar Water Pipeline are scheduled for completion in December 2018.

We will hand over ownership of the new pipeline to Gunbar Water, which will result in a significant change to our area of operations.

The NSW Government's proclamation will ensure a smooth transition of ownership.

## Final MI watering underway- focus on minimising system losses

The final Wah Wah Stock & Domestic watering using Murrumbidgee Irrigation channels commenced on 1 October. Additional resources have been allocated towards managing this final watering in the most efficient way possible to minimise system losses, especially in this low allocation year.

## SAFETY MESSAGE: Stay clear of irrigation channels

Please don't swim in channels and look out for children and pets.

With increasing automation regulator gates are controlled remotely meaning flows and conditions can change quickly. Regulator gates can open without notice and create a trap, while siphons and pipes can create powerful suction or a water surge.

Also, channel lining projects last year in the Lake View and Northern Branch Canals, including fencing, have significantly changed channel conditions in these areas. The new high-density polyethylene lined channels are very slippery compared to the old earthen or concrete sections. We have installed fencing along lined sections to prevent accidental entry to the channels.



There are many other hazards associated with channels that make them particularly dangerous to swimmers including submerged objects, strong undercurrents and varying channel depths.

## INDUSTRY NEWS

### Water Allocation and Trade Forum

Rice Extension are hosting a forum next month on understanding how water resource assessments in the Murrumbidgee are made and providing an overview of water trading products.

The forum will feature:

- NSW DOI-Water: Interpreting the fortnightly resource updates
- Snowy Hydro: How and when snowy water contributes to allocation, and
- H2OX: Overview of water market products and how people are using these products.

The forum is on from 10.30am to 1pm, Tuesday 13 November, at the Griffith Exies Club, 6/12 Jondaryan Ave Griffith. Registrations are required by Friday 9 November. To register visit <https://waterallocationandtradegriffith.eventbrite.com.au>. For more information contact Leah Garnett, Rice Extension 0455 558 035, [lgarnett@rga.org.au](mailto:lgarnett@rga.org.au).