



Murrumbidgee Irrigation



The MI team wish you a Merry Christmas and a happy new year.

Dept of Industry Water Allocations

AS AT 17 Dec 2018

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

Plus 3% MI additional to eligible customers

Storages at 19 December 2018

Burrinjuck	44%
Blowering	48%

EASYWATER

www.mirrigation.com.au

Freecall 1800 822 450

Our privacy statement can be downloaded from our website: www.mirrigation.com.au

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

NEWS IN BRIEF

DECEMBER 2018 Newsletter

Christmas message from CEO

As the year draws to a close I would like to thank you for again working together with us through another year of considerable change across our network and the business.

Together we have achieved a tremendous amount over the past year including continuing to modernise and simplify our asset base. This has given you the opportunity to reconfigure outlets to get the flow rate most suited to your farming needs.

We have worked closely with customers to help you better understand Delivery Entitlements and what they mean for you and your business, through group meetings, information sessions and individual communications. Also, many years of hard work will soon culminate in Wah Wah Stock and Domestic farmers becoming their own Private Irrigation District, after we handover ownership of the new Gunbar Water Pipeline to Gunbar Water.

As we are again experiencing dry conditions and low allocations, 2019 is likely to be a challenging period. With this scenario front of mind, we are already adjusting our operations to ensure we can continue to deliver water in a way that best optimises on-farm efficiency and system efficiency.

Demonstrating the tremendous strength and resilience of the MIA, our irrigators are clearly some of the most innovative - thinking outside the square to make every drop count. If you see anything that doesn't look right in relation to both unauthorised use or wastage, please let us know.

Finally, we know your crops don't take time off for Christmas, so it will be business as usual for our water operations during the festive period, with reduced hours for customer services between Christmas and New Year.

I wish you a happy and safe holiday period and look forward to continuing to work with you in 2019 to drive change and grow our region together.

Brett Jones

Chief Executive Officer

December supply restrictions

We experienced a surge in demand for water this month due to a combination of forecast rain not arriving and a spike in temperatures, causing crop demands to soar. This resulted in a supply shortage with restrictions being required based on DE's.

Water from Lake Talbot in Narrandera was used to help to reduce the immediate impact on customers, with volumes replaced immediately after the event passed. Diversions for key environmental sites were also suspended through the high demand period.

By using our new automated structures differently and working with Councils to manage non-essential usage, we reduced the extent and severity of the supply impact on customers from the anticipated 7 days to 2 days of restriction on the Main Canal supply system.

continued page 2

from front page

Our new metering technology was also put to good use during this period, helping us identify customers who were taking water without an order or above their ordered flow rate. Our customer service and delivery teams contacted customers, and their supply was suspended or adjusted so as not to impact others.

Despite our best forecasting efforts there is always the potential for a mismatch between supply from the River and our local customer demand. This is because water released from our dams (Blowering and Burrinjuck) takes up to seven days to reach our supply network via the Murrumbidgee River. Our customers are only required to order water 48 hours in advance (or 24 hours in advance for extending an existing order).

To mitigate supply shortages in the future we are planning to construct on-route surge reservoirs within our network. We have already acquired a property at Myall Park and a property adjacent to Roaches regulator at Yanco for these purposes. We are also planning to increase the capacities of the Yenda and Brays dams.



Lake Talbot was used to help to reduce the impact of supply restrictions.

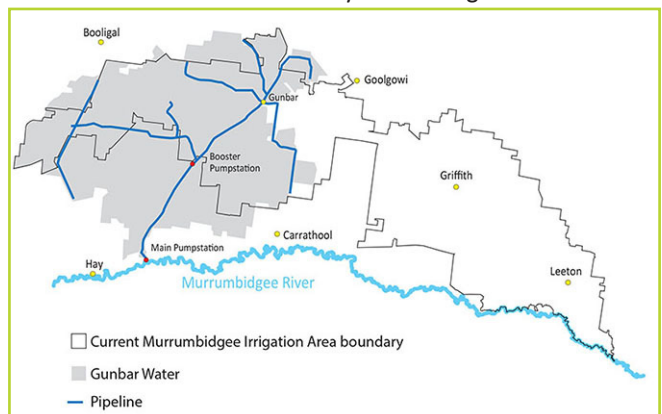
Celebration for Wah Wah farmers and MI

We officially launched Gunbar Water Pipeline near Hay this month at the Main Pump Station site. This was the final step before we hand over ownership of the pipeline to Gunbar Private Water Supply District on 31 December.

The new 270km pipeline will supply filtered pressurised water to 62 properties in the Wah Wah district, which covers 310,000 hectares from Carrathool to Hay in the south, and from Gunbar to Booligal in the north.

WIN FOR WAH WAH FARMERS: Wah Wah farmers will benefit through improved levels of service, with year-round access to the river and bores, pressurised water supply and measured water use, which can be remotely monitored.

WIN FOR MI: The handover will result in a significant change to MI's area of operations removing over 300,000 hectares (see map below). All MI customers will benefit from operating and maintenance savings, lower future refurbishment costs and conveyance savings.



MI Deputy Chair Nayce Dalton and Gunbar Water Chair Don Low officially launch the Gunbar Water Pipeline.

Driving tired second biggest killer on NSW roads

Did you know being awake for 17 hours is similar to driving with a 0.05 blood alcohol content? Avoid driving tired - get a good night's sleep, plan regular breaks and share the driving where possible. You can also test your tired self at www.testyourtiredself.com.au. Better to be late than not arrive.

Christmas/New Year office trading hours

Water ordering, supply and delivery will continue uninterrupted.
For **emergency** supply and drainage faults, contact
Griffith 6962 0262 or Leeton 6953 0146

Date	Hanwood Office	Leeton Office
Mon 24 Dec	9am to 12 noon	Closed
Tue 25 Dec	Closed	Closed
Wed 26 Dec	Closed	Closed
Thu 27 Dec	9am to 12 noon	Closed
Fri 28 Dec	9am to 12 noon	Closed
Mon 31 Dec	9am to 12 noon	Closed
Tue 1 Jan	Closed	Closed
Wed 2 Jan - Resume normal trading hours		

Normal trading hours, Monday to Friday:

- Hanwood Customer Service: 8.30am to 5pm
- Leeton Customer Service: In person 9am to 4pm / Phone 8.30am to 5pm