

# Talking Water

Tuesday 21 August 2012



Murray Irrigation

## Customer meetings

Murray Irrigation is hosting a series of meetings next week and all customers are encouraged to attend. The times and venues are as follows:

- Wakool & District Services Memorial Sports Club, Tuesday 28 August, 9.00am to 11.00am.
- Deniliquin RSL Club, Wednesday 29 August, 9.00am to 11.00am.
- Finley RS Club, Friday 31 August, 11.00am to 1.00pm.

Topics to be discussed will include:

- The roll out of PIIOP; what, where and when?
- Issues for the current irrigation season, including delivery entitlements, the casual usage fee, and accessing better information from our website; and
- Murray-Darling Basin Plan update.

For more information, call reception on T. 03 5898 3300.

## MGCC Canberra delegation

The Murray Group of Concerned Communities took a delegation to Canberra last week to meet with urban parliamentarians. The objective was to put a human face to the Murray-Darling Basin debate and explain the impact the Plan will have on communities and why balance is so important.

Jenny Wheeler from Finley, Kellie Crossley from Deniliquin and Lloyd Polkinghorne from Moulamein gave politicians an understanding of what the Basin Plan will mean for people from various perspectives – family, education, services and farming. MGCC Chairman Bruce Simpson said it was clear that their meetings were the first time many of the politicians had thought of the Basin Plan as anything other than environmental policy.

## Storage releases

The MDBA Weekly Report (15 August) indicates Hume Reservoir releases were increased to 18,500ML/day last week as additional airspace was targeted in response to forecast rainfall. Over the past week the storage volume fell 16 GL to 2,928 GL (97 percent capacity). The aim is to have the storage at a level where it can be quickly filled to maximise resources should conditions turn dry but to also provide some airspace to manage higher inflows from potential rain events. As such, the storage volume may be increased or decreased over the coming weeks depending on forecast rain and diversions.

## Basin Plan video clip

The Murray River Group of Councils (MRGC) plus the City of Greater Shepparton and Strathbogie Shire have sponsored a video clip calling for a balanced Murray-Darling Basin Plan. The six-minute clip, *Achieving the Right Balance* can be found on the home page of the MRGC website: <http://www.mrgc.com.au>.

## Water allocation credit provision

Murray Irrigation is again offering a 2ML water allocation credit provision for unused domestic pipe outlets this season. Applications must be made in writing on the prescribed form and received by Murray Irrigation no later than **5.00pm Friday 14 September**. Application forms (Form WM1) are available from the *Customers* then *Forms* section of Murray Irrigation's website or by contacting reception.

Applicants must be able to demonstrate that their outlet has not been used for the 2012/13 season. Outlet fees will still apply. Customers may also wish to consider the permanent removal of unused domestic outlets.

## Murray Irrigation office hours

Customers are reminded that Murray Irrigation's Deniliquin and Finley offices are open between 8.30am and 5.00pm weekdays. This also applies to MIRC staff. Wakool staff are available via appointment only. Calls made out of office hours are diverted to an automated message. For after hours emergencies, call T. 1300 657 313.

## Young rice growers social event

There will be a meeting of young rice growers at the Berrigan Races next Saturday 25 August. This day will be an opportunity to extend the young growers' network and provide some interesting discussion about the industry. For more information, call Andrew Bomm on M. 0408 279 006.

## Direct drilled rice field day

Rice Research Australia Pty Ltd (RRAPL) will be holding a direct drilled rice field day at 'Old Coree' near Jerilderie on Tuesday 28 August, commencing at 9.00am. The day will include speakers such as Department of Primary Industries (DPI) Deniliquin District Agronomist John Fowler and Agropraisals researcher Malcolm Taylor. Morning tea, lunch and drinks will be provided. Farmers planning to attend are asked to RSVP to John Fowler on M. 0427 079 138.

**Anthony Couroupis**  
General Manager

## Announced allocation

Class C General Security .....	100 %
Class B High Security .....	100 %
Class A Town Water .....	100 %
Water Efficiency Allocation .....	7 %

## Water availability & usage

(21/08/12)	
Vol. Remaining % of Entitlements .....	115%
On-Farm (incl. WEX Volume)	
On-Farm Balance .....	1,060 GL
On-Farm Usage .....	14 GL
Comprising:	
On-Allocation Usage .....	2 GL
Off-Allocation Usage .....	12 GL

## Water exchange

8.30am today	
Water for Sale .....	6,943 ML
Price Range .....	\$20 - \$35
Buy Offer .....	\$18
Last 10 Sales .....	2,374 ML
Price Range .....	\$19 - \$21
<b>To buy water call 1300 781 431</b>	

## Channel flows

Today	
Mulwala Canal .....	1,150 ML/day
Capacity .....	10,000 ML/day
Wakool Canal .....	380 ML/day
Capacity .....	2,350 ML/day
Total Escape Flows .....	100 ML/day

## Rainfall & evaporation

07/08/12 – 21/08/12 .....	Rain .....	Evap .....
Finley .....	17.3mm .....	27.5mm
Tullakool .....	21.6mm .....	30.3mm

## Storages

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)		
Dartmouth .....	3,545 GL .....	92 %
Hume .....	2,922 GL .....	97 %
Lake Victoria .....	451 GL .....	67 %
Menindee Lakes .....	2,025 GL .....	117 %
Active Storage .....	8,943 GL .....	96 %

## Rivers

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)	
Murray @ Jingellic .....	15,155 ML/d
Mitta Mitta @ Tallandoon .....	2,546 ML/d
Murray @ Doctors Point .....	28,282 ML/d
Murray d/s Yarra. Weir .....	29,999 ML/d
Goulburn @ McCoy's Bridge .....	13,375 ML/d
M' Bidgee d/s Balranald .....	11,493 ML/d
Darling @ Wilcannia .....	13,346 ML/d
Darling @ Burtundy .....	4,414 ML/d
Flow to SA .....	39,921 ML/d
Murray @ Murray Bridge .....	0.68 m
Murray to the Sea .....	N/A

**Tune into 'On The Land' every  
Tuesday from 6.45am on 1521  
2QN.**