

# LOWER WAITAKI IRRIGATION COMPANY LTD

NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2018

## Operational

- A reminder to all shareholders that all races must be fenced to exclude cattle from the race profile.
- Water ordering – we ask that you please use the Companies online water ordering system for spray irrigation, if you have not received or have misplaced your LOGIN details please contact the office. Please phone your raceman if you need to turnoff at short notice.
- Trees around Scheme races are your responsibility and it is up to you to make sure slash and trimmings are cleaned up afterwards.
- The Company are upgrading one of the raceman trucks and will be selling off a 2014 Mitsubishi Triton Space cab 4X4 flat deck Ute. The sale will be done on a first in first served basis.

## Development

Some of you will have noticed some activity at the Altavady property at Georgetown, a private irrigation pond is being constructed alongside the Papakaio race to harvest water from the race for irrigation expansion on the property.

It was announced at the AGM in September the Company are too fast track plans to install a fibre cable connecting 13 automated race control sites as part of the SCADA development. Affected landowners will have received a letter and should expect a visit from Ross over the coming weeks and we do ask for your cooperation on this.

## FEMP

Those of you due for farm audits should be expecting a visit from an Irricon representative soon. Any queries or questions contact Nichole Phillips on 027 4140 456 email [nichole@irricon.co.nz](mailto:nichole@irricon.co.nz)

Those of you required to carry out bucket testing on irrigators We have a kit including buckets and measuring devices here at our Papakaio office for loan.

### **Borderdyke State of Play**

The ever frequently asked question of when will I have to get rid of my border dyke irrigation? The Company are not able to give a straight answer to this question but can only give advice based the facts as they stand at present. We can only provide this information as a guide to your future decision making.

- It is unknown, but the assumption is that when LWIC's water use consent comes up for renewal in 2030 (or if sooner reviewed) based on previous consent renewals there would likely be a 900mm or lesser allowable application rate per season.

#### **Can you effectively irrigate your property with this amount of water?**

- ORC plan change 'A' – section 12.C.0.1 states that the discharge of any contaminant to any drain or water race that flows to a lake, river, Regionally Significant Wetland or coastal marine area; or (iii) Bore or soak hole is not permitted.

#### **Can you manage Borderdyke with Zero run off?**

- Aquifer recharge – there is not yet enough science to prove the theory that existing borderdyke irrigation on the Lower Waitaki Plains is diluting the N levels in the aquifer nor that the water quality will deteriorate further if the transition to spray irrigation continues. This is known to be the case in some Canterbury catchments and if could be proved, may give some glimmer of hope for the retention of some borderdyke.

### **TAKE A KID FISHING**

Take a kid fishing was held on the Sunday of Labour weekend with a magic day for it. 80% of the children entered are first time participants for the day which is great to see. Special thanks goes out the Mark and Sonia Eckhold for all the hard work for what was another fantastic take a kid fishing day.