

# IRRIGATION NEWS

March 2024



## Message from Rebecca Whillans, Chief Executive



It is hard to believe that Autumn is here already & the 2023 / 2024 irrigation season is drawing to a close.

The last day of the irrigation season will be Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> May. RDRML will be having a shut-down from Monday the 6<sup>th</sup> of May to Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May. This is to allow the RDRML operations team to conduct various maintenance & inspection activities.

If you have any maintenance concerns regarding offtakes or air valves, please contact our operations team so that this can be addressed as part of the winterisation process.

## Scheme Operations Update

### Stock Water

Shareholders are reminded that stock water will only be delivered (outside of the irrigation season) to those properties that have a stock water connection. If you require stock water and haven't already made an application, you will need to apply using the [ALIL Stock Water Registration Form](#), which can be also requested from our office. An application for delivery of stock water this winter, will need to be received no later than Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

There is an upfront fee applicable of \$3,000 + GST. This fee is required to provide for a company issue flow meter and pressure reducing valve on the stock water connection.

Stock water allocation is capped at a rate of 280 L/ha/day, being 70 litres per lactating cow on a 4 cow to the hectare basis.

### Signage

In our January 2024 Newsletter we advised that the ALIL scheme infrastructure was restricted to use by the scheme operators and the Fire Service. We will soon be updating our scheme signage – please keep an eye out for this & ensure that your spray contractor has access to water from your property, and that any waste is disposed of appropriately.



**FIRE HYDRANT ONLY**  
**HIGH PRESSURE**  
**NO**  
**ACCESS ALLOWED**

## Environmental Update

### Congratulations



The team at ALIL would like to pass on their congratulations to Sarah Everest (nee Hayman), our Environmental Manager, on her recent marriage to her fiancé Paul.

We are sure that you will all agree, Sarah made a stunning bride (and Paul scrubbed up pretty well too)!

### Environment Canterbury (ECan) Compliance Report

On 8<sup>th</sup> February, the scheme received confirmation from ECan, that the scheme complied with the resource discharge consent conditions that have been monitored.

### Water on Roads

This is a reminder to please ensure irrigation water remains off the road and within the property boundary. Not only is irrigating the road a hazard but ALIL must **avoid the use of water for irrigation onto non-productive land** as part of the scheme's water take consent conditions. Unfortunately, we have received a number of phone calls about irrigating the road and shareholders receiving non-compliance letters from ECan.

Irrigation systems can sometimes not work correctly, so please ensure any issues are fixed as soon as possible.

If you see any irrigating of the road, please contact ALIL to follow up.

### 2024 FEP Programme

The Farm Environment Plan (FEP) updates for 2024 will commence at the start of April. Information will be sent out to shareholders to inform them what is required this year. If you would like to book in your FEP, please contact Sarah (027 296 6444) to arrange a time.

### Intensive Winter Grazing (IWG)

We are expecting ECan to carry out another fly-over of Canterbury Intensive Winter Grazing (IWG) land this year, once before and once during the winter. Please ensure you have:

- An IWG Management Plan (also required for sheep on crop or oats and transitional crops on dairy farms),
- Any crop planted within 5m of a stream, river or wetland will need to be lifted or cut and fed out,
- If you have a boggy corner or wet area, please fence it off before grazing to paddock.

Last year ALIL submitted a resource consent to ECan for landholdings with more than 50 ha of IWG. This application is sitting with ECan awaiting a decision. All ALIL Shareholders with more than 50 hectares of IWG area continue to meet ECan's requirements under that standard in the National Environmental Standards for Freshwater. We will share progress with the consent process as we go.

## Directors Update

Last year directors agreed that it was important that shareholders were able put a face to the name and hear directly from their elected representatives. This month, we would like to introduce Phil Lowe. Phil, together with his wife Donna & their two children Chloe & Josh, farm on Ashburton River Road. Here is what Phil has to say.



I have a real passion for water and the ability it gives us to farm in a somewhat consistent manner. We converted to Dairying from a mixed Arable lamb finishing operation back in 2008 the year in which our farm was delivered pressured irrigation water from Ashburton Lyndhurst Irrigation.

I was elected to serve on the ALIL board in 2018. ALIL has obtained its discharge consent during my tenure, acquired the Palmers site for the construction of extra in-scheme storage, and most recently, in collaboration with MHV, acquired the two RDRML farms at Klondyke for future storage for both schemes.

As a Board, we have been lucky to have three very competent Board Associates over the past 2.5 years.

Their opinions have always been greatly appreciated, and they always seek to challenge the Board and it's decisions.

The 2023 / 2024 season seems to be trending, to what some may say, is a more normal irrigation season. Through the prudent use of stored water we purchase from BCI, and the great work from our Op's team in utilising our limited in-scheme storage we have enjoyed no restrictions to the end of February.

Just like any of my fellow directors, I'm always available to have a chat regarding any concerns or opportunities you may have regarding the ALIL scheme. Phil.

## 2024 Share Offer

The Board of ALIL is pleased to present an offer of ordinary shares in ALIL (the Offer Shares) as detailed in the Information Memorandum, sent separately to this newsletter.

40,000 ordinary shares (400 L/s) has been made available to current and prospective Shareholders. Following feedback from shareholders after the 2023 share offer, the Board have agreed to offer shares at \$160 per share (\$16,000 per L/s). The sale of these shares is beneficial to shareholders as it will assist in spreading the operational costs of the business, and therefore managing water charges.

Please refer to the Information Memorandum for all other information.

## 2023 Annual Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the 2023 Annual Meeting were reviewed & confirmed by the Board of Directors at the December 2023 Board Meeting. Subject to no changes being raised by shareholders,

these will be presented for approval at the 2024 Annual Meeting. A copy of the minutes are available on the ALIL website ([www.alil.co.nz](http://www.alil.co.nz)), or by clicking the link [here](#).

## Kitchen Table Catch-ups



Over the coming months Rebecca will be getting in touch with a cross section of shareholders to arrange catch ups with individuals or small groups.

The purposes of these get-togethers is to understand what you love about being an ALIL shareholder, what frustrates you, and what you think the scheme should be working on.

## Contact us

As always, please do not hesitate to contact a member of the ALIL team should you have any questions or concerns or require general scheme support. Our contact information can be found on the ALIL website ([www.alil.co.nz](http://www.alil.co.nz)), or by clicking the link [here](#).