



DECEMBER 2016

SCHEME AND EXPANSION NEWSLETTER

In this month's newsletter we advise of times for the upcoming construction update meetings, take a look at our Stock Water Policy, remind you of meter reading requirements, and provide our Christmas holiday office hours information.

Construction Update Meetings

We will be holding a series of update meetings this coming **Monday 12th December**, with a range of times and places so that you can choose which you would like to attend. They are as follows:

11:00am	Ngapara Rugby Clubrooms
1:30pm	Five Forks Hall
7:30pm	Maheno Hall

Stock Water v Irrigation Water

As you may know NOIC has a Stock Water Policy which has been in place to ensure that the taking of water for stock and shed operations throughout the scheme will not impact on design flows and pressures to the detriment of other irrigators. NOIC makes the stock water available by bypassing the hydrometer and measuring usage in a separate meter. NOIC wishes to ensure the following:

(a) that shareholders do not take water for the purposes of irrigation through the stock water valve rather than the hydrometer; (b) that the rate of flow through the stock water bypass valve is set at a rate that is reasonable but not likely to impact of irrigation flows and pressures down the pipeline; and (c) that allocation is sufficient for non-irrigation requirements so long as on-farm back-up and storage is available.

It is important to note that NOIC does not guarantee the supply of water for animal health and advises shareholders to have at least four days back-up supply available for planned outages. In unplanned events when there is insufficient warning of supply issues we may make efforts to facilitate emergency supplies. If you are unsure about your allocation or have questions about the application of this policy, please call Steve Burns our Operations Manager.

Rostering

As is required under the NOIC Rostering Policy, a pre-season meeting was held with shareholder representatives on Friday 4th November. It was agreed that the roosting methodology which was fine-tuned last season would remain as the plan for this season. Key elements include: robust and regular communication; setting a roosting timetable at the beginning so rostered dates do not alter; off-takes not turned off by 7am on their day will be turned

off by the company and turned back on at the company's convenience; and only those lines that will benefit from roosting would be rostered.

In setting up reliable communication please ensure that you have updated NOIC on any personal or staffing changes with phone and email addresses.

Bucket Testing

Great to see Pierre out bucket testing the pivots on Waiareka Dairy! There are a lot of pivots on those properties and Pierre told us he had done one third of them in a morning.



Everybody who has water and plans to start irrigating soon should do a bucket test in advance of irrigating. Bucket tests highlight any issues your irrigator may have and allow you to understand your application rates and depths. This information is crucial for understanding how much water you are putting on and whether it will fit in the soil profile. We have a set of buckets at NOIC if you wish to borrow them and you can find a template for the bucket test here: <http://www.noic.co.nz/environment>

Meter Readings

We would like to receive water meter readings by the 2nd day of each month so that invoicing may be undertaken in a timely manner. It is the responsibility of the shareholder to provide their water meter reading to NOIC either via Data Online, text, email, or phone. Shareholders do not have access to off-take boxes and the reading is made through an aperture provided within the box. It is the shareholder's

responsibility to inform the office if there is a problem reading the meter.

NOIC provides the meter as part of the provision of an off-take box on connection to the scheme. NOIC is responsible for the set-up, calibration and maintenance of the meter. A shareholder may connect their own independent meter if they so wish, as long as it does not interfere with or impede the NOIC hydrometer. Any discrepancy between the NOIC provided meter and a shareholder meter will be investigated however the NOIC meter will be used as the measure for invoicing unless proven to be in error.

NOIC will offer, through their operations and maintenance staff, a service to read the meters for the shareholder for a nominal fee per off-take box. If a shareholder continues to miss the reporting of their meter readings, that is, for more than one month in any irrigation season, the following will apply:

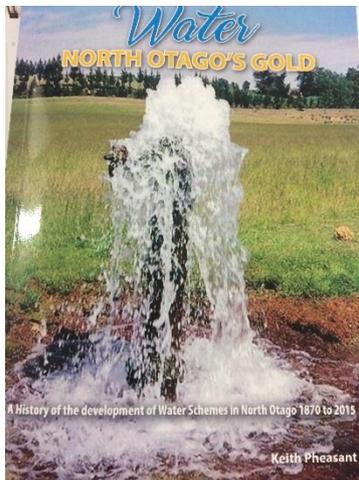
If no reading is received in the second month, a meter reading will be required. If this has to be done by staff a special charge will be made to the irrigator of twice the standard charge per offtake to cover costs of the reading; and the shareholder's total volume reported will then be split over the number of months unreported equally and the respective power charges applied.

For example:

- December power charge 8 cents no volume reported
- January power charge 6 cents 200,000 m³ reported
- Charged at (100,000 m³ x 8 cents) + (100,000 m³ at 6 cents)

Water - North Otago's Gold

Keith Pheasant, a former director of NOIC, has just written a book "Water, North Otago's Gold" which traces the development of water schemes developed since 1870 to 2015. This historical book covers the remarkable story of how the resource of water has been developed for the benefit of North Otago over a period of 150 years. About half of the book covers the struggle to develop the NOIC scheme over a long period of time and the obstacles that were met along the way. It is now ten years since Stage 1 was opened and this book will be most enlightening for all past and present NOIC shareholders. The book is available at Paper Plus, PGG Wrightson, or you can phone Keith on 0274 503028 and email at pheasant@extra.co.nz for a posted copy which costs \$45 inclusive of GST & postage. We will also be holding copies here in the NOIC office which can be purchased for \$40.



Chocolate Cherry Slice

We have had several recipe requests for the chocolate slice recently served at one of our meetings, so here it is - thanks to Debbie of Five Forks Playgroup:

Preheat the oven to 180° and line a 20x30cm slice tin with baking paper. Sprinkle 300g dark chocolate broken into bite sized pieces into the prepared tin and place in the oven for 6-7 minutes to melt the chocolate. Using a spatula spread the choc evenly around the base of the tin and cool in the fridge. Beat 1 egg with ½ cup caster sugar then mix in 2 cups (300g) glace cherries and 1 cup coconut. Spoon this over the chocolate and bake for 20 minutes. Cool in the tin then chill in the fridge before cutting into slices.

Xmas Office Hours

This year the office will close at midday on Friday 23 December and will only be closed for the statutory holidays and the three days in between Christmas and New Year. We have an emergency number which is **0800 333 437**. This number goes to an offsite answering service with messages being sent directly through to the Operations Team.

Although the office is officially closed, key members of management and the NOIC expansion team will be working to continue the pressure on concluding the expansion as expeditiously as possible.

The office will re-open on Wednesday 4th January 2017.



Don't forget our new number for emergencies ...

0800 333 437

With kind regards from the NOIC team