

Irrigation Company Scholarship Attracts Exceptional Candidates

29/11/2017

St Kevin's School pupil Harriet Hanning has been named the winner of the annual North Otago Irrigation Company (NOIC) tertiary scholarship. Harriet, a year 13 student was presented with a cheque for \$1000 by NOIC Chair Leigh Hamilton earlier this month after Harriet was selected as the worthiest from a number of exceptional applications. The scholarship was established in 2012 to promote environmental management and stewardship among young people and as a way for NOIC to support local environmentally minded students.

In this fifth year of existence, NOIC chief executive officer Robyn Wells says that the overall standard of applications was significantly higher than seen in previous years, and it was a difficult but satisfying decision to award Harriet whose essay on management of environmental risks with irrigation really stood out. Harriet's understanding of irrigation systems, environmental risks including run-off and nutrient loadings and her obvious drive to succeed shone through.

Harriet has had an interest in veterinary science for many years. She resides locally with her parents Jo and John in Duntroon, where they have a property that is partially irrigated. Harriet intends attending Massey University in Palmerston North to become a large animal vet.

The NOIC tertiary scholarship is open to high school pupils around North Otago or pupils with family from North Otago but boarding elsewhere. The scholarship is to be presented annually around the beginning of November.



Harriet Hanning at the NOIC Board Room with Leigh Hamilton (NOIC Chairperson)

Ends

Summary of Organisation: The North Otago Irrigation Company supplies water sourced from the Waitaki River to 17, 000ha of farmland in North Otago. The company has a co-operative structure with strong social and environmental principles.

Other relevant background: NOIC also offers Environmental Awards to our irrigators who achieve very high grades in their Environmental Farm Plan audits. Over the past couple of

years, NOIC has undergone an expansion to our scheme, water is now flowing in these pipes to our new shareholders.

Links to Websites: www.noic.co.nz Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/noic.co.nz>

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