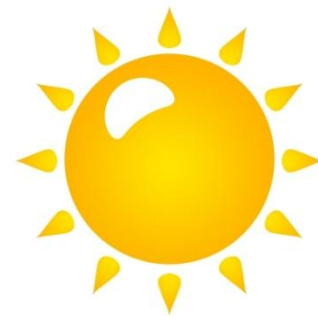


CORURGAN COMMENT



It's Summer!

Circ. No 01 - 2026
January 2026

Welcome to the January 2026 Corurgan Comment Newsletter.

Happy New Year to everyone. I hope you all had a great Christmas /New Year and spent quality time with your family and friends.

Harvest season has finished and most people I have talked to are happy enough with their results considering the long dry conditions within our district. Barley crops averaged out very well; Canola was not as good, depending on whether it was an early or late sown crop; Wheat was as expected, and there were some great Bean crops that received irrigation water.

The prevailing hot dry conditions and low allocation has dramatically effected Temporary water price. The current price is between \$375 and \$390 per Megalitre. The lack of available allocation water within all of Zone 10 Murray (MIL and WCPID), is also pushing up the price of Temp water sales. If you have any allocation water that you are not planning on using this irrigation season please consider making it available for other Members to use.

We will have enough West Corurgan water to supply irrigation and Stock/Domestic water this year (2025/26 season), but in a **worst case scenario** the current trajectory suggests that we will be in a similar situation as 2019 (0% Allocation at start of year), and may not have enough carryover water to supply irrigation next season. I will be monitoring this and will keep you all informed. This situation can change very quickly with some good rain and in flows within the catchment area. Lets hope it rains and fills the dams for next year.

Allocation Announcement – Year to Date – 20% @ 01.01.2026

July – 1%
August – 2%
September – 7%
October – 8%
November -2%
December – 0%
January – 0%

Water Pumped

August – 1382 ML
September – 4475 ML
October – 6447 ML
November – 2602ML
December – 4721ML

Current Dam Levels

Dartmouth Dam – 73%
Hume Dam – 35%

As always, if you notice any maintenance works that need to be taken care of, please contact your Channel Attendant.

Peter Hamilton
General Manager

Office Administration



Christmas

I hope your Christmas was relaxing and happy, as I know the lead up to Christmas is often hectic and stressful for many of West Corurgan's farming families.

After the incomprehensible shootings on Bondi Beach, I sincerely hope everyone gave their loved ones an extra tight hug for Christmas and simply appreciated having them close.

I know I did.

My son lives in Bondi Beach.

I hugged him extra hard when he arrived home safe and sound for Christmas.



January Half-yearly Invoicing

Jasmeen has gone home to India for several weeks but worked very hard before she left to ensure the January Half-yearly fee invoicing was finalised.

All invoicing will be mailed or posted out on Friday 9th January.

Statements

The end of month statements we send out are Activity Statements, so show the 'activity' on that account for that particular month and any amounts owing carried forward.

Unfortunately, we cannot issue the end of month statements until 3-4 days after the end of the month. Please keep this in mind if you have made a payment on perhaps the 1st, 2nd or 3rd of the following month.

Office

With Jasmeen away until possibly late-February or early-March, the office is down to one.

So please be understanding if the paperwork for a trade doesn't arrive the same day.

I will be working hard to ensure that it does, but it may be the next day.

Water – Tanker Deliveries

During Christmas you may have used more water than you thought.

Please check your tanks.

Running out of water will not go down well in the household.



Farm (174) - he has learnt.

He ordered extra water three days before we stopped delivering prior to Christmas and his Christmas was total *harmony*!! 😊



We do our best, but please try and provide three-days' notice when ordering tanker water.

Know your Available Water

WCPID Water Bailiffs are reading your meters regularly and readings are officially entered into our Water Management system on the 15th of the month and again at the end of the month.

However, it is your responsibility to know how much AVAILABLE water you have, so please liaise with your Water Bailiffs and the Office.

Water Trades in December

There was a frenzy of trade activity as we approached Christmas, but the higher price of \$320 to \$350 (at the time) made everyone head for the calculator.



In **December** we processed:

Internal Trades - 20

External IN Trades - 6

External OUT Trades - 1

Discounted Allocation Internal Transfer Fees

Given the limited volume of allocation water available to purchase inside West Corugan, especially larger volumes, the West Corugan Board decided at their 17 December Board Meeting, to discount the Internal Allocation Transfer fee charged from \$60 per transfer to \$20 per transfer (incl GST).

It is hoped this will assist those Members who will need to buy a number of smaller parcels of water in order to reach the volume they require. Rather than paying \$60 for each transfer, the cost is now \$20 per transfer.

This reduced transfer fee was effective, 18 December 2026 and will apply until 30 June 2026.

Leased Properties

In order to properly set up our Water Management System, we need to know when farms are leased. This allows us to ensure the Outlets on the leased farm can be GROUPED with those leasing the property.

We especially need to know so we invoice correctly.

Your Lease Agreement may have specific stipulations regarding who pays our DE, WE and/or Water Usage fees. And now the Future Fund Levy may also be a consideration.

We have updated our *Form 16 – Advice of Property Lease Form* to include the Future Fund Levy – who pays?

Some Members we do know are leasing their property (and/or water), others we do not, at least not formally.

The level of scrutiny from the Bureau of Meteorology and the ACCC is increasing, as too is the level of detail required in all our reporting.

Temporary trades between two leasing parties needs to have the relationship noted. If you are leasing a property, and/or the water, please discuss with your Lessee and contact the Office.

The West Corugan *Form 16 – Advice of Property Lease Form* has been added to the bottom of this Corugan Comment for your review.

Our form does not replace the formal legal Lease Agreement you may have in place, but rather it 'picks out' the bits that says,

- Who pays for what and
- Who is authorised to say or do what.

PERMANENT WATER FOR SALE

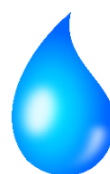
A WCPID Member has permanent water to sell.

He is looking to sell within the Scheme.

650 Water Entitlements.

Will sell in smaller parcels.

If genuinely interested, please contact the Office.



We have a new Lady Farmer on the way.....

Now it may take a few more years, but we have another lady farmer on the way.

Hopefully,

Maybe,

She will, won't she?

Dad needs all the help he can get.

Soon we will have Elise Nixon (128), and little Agnes Hawkins (108) and little Annabele Simpson (157) running the show.

Go! Lady Farmers!

Now, if we could just introduce little Oscar Sandral to little Agnes Hawkins, our future could be assured! 😊

THEWEEKLYTIMES.COM.AU WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 10 2025

Gap year goes bush

FIONA SHEEAN

After finishing her final VCE exam, Elise Nixon was back behind the wheel of a chaser bin, helping bring in the harvest on her family's 7000ha Riverina property at Oaklands, NSW.

But the 17-year-old Methodist Ladies' College graduate won't be staying long – she's planning to trade wheat and barley for Brahman, heading north for a gap year to work as a jillaroo before pursuing a double degree in agriculture and business.

At 12, Elise became a full-time boarder at MLC in Melbourne, four hours' drive from home.

Now, as she awaits her VCE results, Elise reflects on how boarding has shaped her future.

"Up until the start of year 11, I wanted to do nursing," Elise said. "Then I had a look at some agricultural courses and thought, no, this is what I want to do."

Her parents have supported her ambitions, even if they were initially surprised by her choice.

"I think they always knew I was going to do agriculture, and one day, if I want to, I could run the family farm and go down that business path," Elise said.



MLC student Elise Nixon, from Oaklands, NSW, will study agriculture after finishing her VCE but hopes to take a gap year as a jillaroo first.

LET'S BE HAPPY.....



If money doesn't grow on trees,
How come banks have branches?

They have less branches than they used to, so does that mean they have less money than they used to?

What's a Maths Teacher's favourite winter sport?
Figure skating.



What happens when a Microscope crashes into a Telescope?
They Kaleidoscope.



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And we cannot finish our 'Let's Be Happy' Section without a good (or bad!) **Christmas Bon-Bon Joke.**
Actually, these two are pretty good.

Q: What lies at the bottom of the sea and shivers?
A: A nervous wreck



Q: What do you call a Present that sings?
A: A Wrapper!



Whilst the West Corugan Newsletter is primarily provided to keep Members informed of all water matters relating to the WCPID Scheme, you will note it also has a lighter side. It is this lighter side that should be read in the spirit for which it is intended and with 'tongue firmly planted in one's cheek'! 😊 Debbie

Form 16: Advice of Property Lease

This is not a legal document; it is required for West Corugan's administrative purposes.

On the expiry of a Lease Contract, a new 'Advice of Property Lease' will need to be completed and returned to the West Corugan Office.

Nonpayment of Rates and Charges

1. During the term of any Lease the Lessor shall be primarily liable for the payment of all West Corugan Rates and Charges for the leased landholding regardless of any nomination made by the Lessor and Lessee under Item F, points 1 – 4 inclusive that the Lessee is the person responsible for payment.
2. West Corugan can recover all rates and charges from the Lessor even though it has not taken recovery action against the lessee as the nominated responsible person.
3. Under Clause 3.4 of WCPID RULES, West Corugan can discontinue supplying Water to the landholding for non-payment of rates and charges. The Lessee acknowledges and agrees that neither West Corugan nor the Lessor shall be liable for any loss or damage that the lessee may suffer due to the non-supply of water because the Lessee has not paid the rates and charges.
4. If the Lessor pays any rates and charges that the Lessee is the nominated person responsible for payment, then the Lessor can recover such amount paid from the Lessee in addition to all other rights and remedies that the Lessor can exercise under any Lease Agreement.

Lessor – Owner of Property

Name/s of Lessor:

Farm Number: _____ Ph: _____ Email: _____

Postal Address:

Property Address:

Signature/s of Lessor/s: _____ Date: _____

Lessee

Name/s of Lessee:

Trading As:

Ph: _____

Email: _____

Postal Address:

Signature/s of Lessee/s: _____ Date: _____

Lease Details

Farm Number to be Leased: _____

Date Lease to Commence: _____

Date Lease to Expire: _____

Use of Water Entitlements

Is the Lessee authorised to access the Water Entitlements owned by the Lessor, on the property?

Yes/No?

If no, please provide details:

Form 16: Advice of Property Lease

Farm number: #	Nominate if the Lessor and/or Lessee is responsible/authorised for the actions. (Name the person responsible for the action in the boxes below. Both the Lessor and Lessee can be responsible jointly for a single action)
Actions that the Lessor/ Lessee may undertake	
A: Operational contact including channel repairs and maintenance and water quality concerns	
B: Ordering water – placing and changing orders	
C: Allocation Transfers (Temporary Water)	
D: Water Availability Enquiries	
E: Receive information about the property – landholding, entitlements, mapping	
F: Billing and accounts – payment, account balances, and statements	
1: Stock and Domestic	
2: Half Yearly Fees - Network Access Fee (DE) - Fixed Government Fee (WE)	
3: Water Usage	
4: Future Fund Levy - DE component - Water Usage ML component	

Lessor accepts the above responsibilities: Lessor to sign: _____ Date: _____

Lessee accepts the above responsibilities: Lessee to sign: _____ Date: _____