

CORURGAN

COMMENT

Circ. No 09 - 2025
September 2025



Welcome to the September 2025 Corurgan Comment.

Thank you to the Members who attended the 58th Annual General Meeting. It was another successful meeting with the CEO of the MBDA, Andrew McConville, and MBDA Senior Director River Operations, Tom Zouch, answering many great questions from Members. I would like to thank the Oaklands RSL for the great venue and meal that they supplied on the night.

I am currently away on leave for the month of September, I am taking Laura and Byron to Uluru (Ayers Rock), Kings Canyon, Katherine Gorge and on to Darwin to see my eldest brother. I am hoping to enjoy some nice warm weather, although I do hope that there is good Spring rain around our district whilst I am away.

Ben Kerr (0407 152 051) will be in charge of operations whilst I am away and if needed you can call the Office, Debbie and Jasmeen are always ready to help.

With the current low allocation of General Security water, I would like to ask Members that are not planning on irrigating this season, to make water available on the temporary water market, to Members within West Corurgan that plan on irrigating this year. Our core business is to supply Stock and Domestic and Irrigation water to Members within WCPID, so if you have excess water, please make it available.

Allocation Announcement – Year to Date – 5% @ 01.09.2025

July – 1%

August – 2%

September – 2%

Water Pumped

August – 1382.2 ML

Current Dam Levels

Dartmouth Dam – 68%

Hume Dam – 52%

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

Peter Hamilton
General Manager

Lunch time Friday 05.09.2025: Craig said river too low. Pumps turned off. Will keep you informed.

I have provided the MDBA, River Operations' response to our concerns.

10-Years Service

Congratulations to Peter who has been with West Corurgan 10-years. He started 7th September 2015.



Office Administration

Monthly Fees

A reminder that the second component of the Future Fund Levy is based on ML usage. So, now that the irrigating season has started, you can expect to see this additional charge on your ML usage invoice. Eg: Used 143 ML in the month. $143 \times \$5.00 = \715 .



August Invoicing

As we did not start the pumps until 22 August and did not deliver until after that, and Peter is on five-weeks leave, the few irrigators that irrigated in August will not receive a ML Usage invoice for August. A record of all usage has been taken, but it will not be entered into our WAM system until Peter returns. It will be included with the September invoice, but possibly as a separate line item.

September Invoicing

Please note, the September ML Usage invoices and September Statements, which would normally be issued around 3rd October, will not be issued until around 9th October, due to Peter being on leave until 7th October and Peter wanting to ensure all the start readings for the new irrigation season are correct and no issues with the meters.

AGM

Last month I did say,

'Don't think of the AGM as Boring.

Think of it as a social outing, not as an AGM and certainly not as a dry, boring AGM.

We don't do boring!

We do informative, insightful, social and Yummy!'

Well, it was informative

It was insightful,

It was social, and

Definitely YUMMY!



And we started on time!

Farm (52) and (57) were brilliant!

They were not late. They arrived so early, they had lunch at the Club! 😊

It should be noted that they both used their early arrival as evidence that, when they are late, it is always the fault of Farm (233), who travels with them, but who is away at the moment.

Talk about throwing your friends under the bus.

Our Resolution was passed, and everyone appreciated our Guest Speakers:

- Sam Campi, Engagement Officer, MDBA
- Andrew McConville, CEO, MDBA
- Tom Zouch, Senior Director, River Operations, MDBA

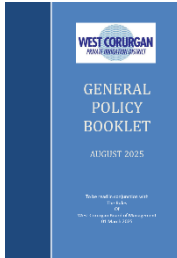
RESOLUTION:	To Accept and Adopt Clause 5, Section 1.1 <i>Procedure of Setting Rates and Charges</i> in The West Corugan Rules. The Rules were adopted 12 February 2025 and effective 1 March 2025. 5.1.1 Procedure for setting rates and charges <i>The rules must have procedures for setting rates and charges.</i> <i>At the first meeting of members, it will be resolved that the Board will set the rates and charges in early June for each following financial year.</i> <i>In setting the rates and charges the Board will use the calculations, explanations and procedures set out in Appendix A.</i>
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Our numbers were down a little bit from last year, so that was disappointing, but hopefully next year we can set a record.

General Policy Booklet

Thank you to Gerard McCarthy for his expertise in 'tidying up' our General Policy Booklet. We almost had it ready for the AGM.

It was finished and had been presented to the Board, but they had not had time to fully review it. They will do so prior to the September 17th Board Meeting. Then, I will email or post it out to everyone. We were That close!



NRAR Online Education Sessions

Peter had a meeting with NRAR Engagement Team on 25.08.2025 and they have provided a QR Code and link below if you would like to participate in any of the online learning tools offered by NRAR.



NSW water laws made easy

The Natural Resources Access Regulator (NRAR) is the independent water regulator for NSW. They ensure that the water laws are enforced and help water users comply with them. NRAR's free online course empowers licence holders to navigate the NSW water laws more easily. The learning is self-directed and self-paced, which means you choose the topics you want to learn about and do it at your own pace. You can also revisit the course as many times as you want.

Water users will be guided through:

- What rules apply to you and how to follow them
- How water is managed and regulated in NSW
- Basic landholder rights
- Floodplain harvesting
- Non-urban water metering
- Working on waterfront land
- Works approval and licenced water take

NRAR developed the free resource with TAFE NSW to promote greater collaboration between the regulator and the agricultural industry.

[Enrol today to boost your water knowledge.](#)

[Study water compliance online | NSW Dept of Natural Resources Access Regulator](#)



Lots of Forward Notice - Superannuation

This is for all my 'Office' Ladies and Gents within WCPID:

Don't forget that as of **July 2026** (next year) Superannuation will need to be processed and paid on the same day the payroll is paid, no longer monthly or quarterly.

Another Brilliant Business Strategy idea.

FLOATING SOLAR PANELS!

WOW. How Brilliant is that.

I freely admit this is not my brilliant strategy idea, but that doesn't make it any less of a brilliant idea.

If we think outside the square, there is certainly potential for WCPID.

Potential, not just for Farm (128) or Farm (225), although they should give it serious thought; this is good for the entire Scheme.

Farm (128), think how much you could reduce your diesel pumping costs. Go Solar.



Or imagine 565klm of Floating Solar Panels in the channels.

Now that would reduce evaporation from the O'Dwyer Main!

And..... no loss of valuable, productive, farming land! Tick. Tick. ✓ ✓

We could power the whole area!

Think big guys.



Looks like a F(128) size dam to me!
Go bigger. Let's put panels right to the edges!



Ag Econ's Jon Welsh, CRDC executive Allan Williams and University of Southern Queensland researcher Michael Scoble are collaborating on an irrigated agriculture research project.

Photo: Melaine Ienson.

You know the old saying....

'WHAT GOES AROUND COMES AROUND'.

Well, look what I found.

Coruragan Comment Newsletter - October 2019



It was a close call in the Picola & District Football League reserves vote count as Berrigan's Noel Baxter (pictured) edged ahead of Picola United's Shane Cooper to take out the best-and-fairest award by the skin of his teeth on Monday night.

It was do-or-die for Baxter as the Saints met Cooper's United in the last game of the season, but he proved to be more than up to the task by pulling three votes in an 86 point victory for his side to lift him to the top of the podium.

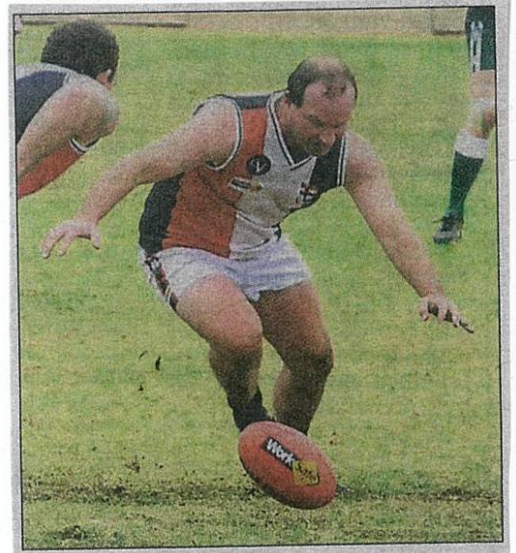
Coruragan Comment Newsletter - September 2025



And lo' and behold, he is still going strong..... (second from the left)
(Southern Riverina News – 13 August 2025)

Way to go, Noel.

Six years later and you're still showing those young'uns how it's done!



BERRIGAN RESERVES:



(Back, from left) Tom Baxter, Noel Baxter, Jack Ardle, Beau Haslam, Troy Poynton, Nick Arnold, Stu Pyle, Bailey Thornton, Miles Curtain and Murray Cameron; (middle) Seth Henderson, Patrick Waugh, Kyle Hawker, Matthew Ross, Ayden Good, Caleb Thornton and Kobe Dickson; (front) Ben Ackley, Liam Brown, Josh Monteath, Chris Binion. Absent: Henry Zorzer, Adam Fox, Jackson Clancy, Harry Spicer, Kal Simpson, Mick Fiore.

The Berrigan Saints reserves made a late season push to keep their finals dreams alive, scraping into the eighth spot.

Although it may not seem like it to an outsider, this Saints resses team can be very dangerous when the full side is in and they get a roll on.

With a mixture of experienced veterans, with years of senior football on their belt, and a new-found youthful group who are just finding their feet, the Saints can compete with the best on their day.

Coach Matt Ross has worked hard to keep players engaged through the highs and lows of the season, and will be looking forward to having a strong outfit ready to roar in the finals.



Don't you just hate it when someone is on a great holiday, and they like to send photos of all the places you would love to be (or see) but can't get there.

Following this photo, our illustrious leader said – 'Beautiful day, 24 degrees, total blue sky'.

Yeah. Yeah. Rub it in! 😊

But I will admit, the sign is pretty cool.



Wed 03.09.2025

Then as he drives into N.T. he says,

'Beautiful day, 25 degrees and blue sky'.

I'm thinking this could be a long 5-weeks!!



Thu 04.09.2025

LET'S BE HAPPY.....



Everyone is going to be so happy for years!!

Look what I bought.

Farm (118), how happy are you going to be.

I know you like a good 'bad' joke, and I now have a whole book full of bad jokes!

Here's a sample:

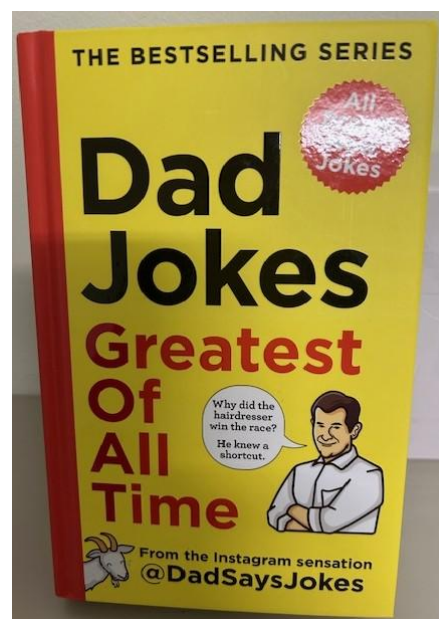
What kind of music do bubbles hate?

POP.

(Hey, I know a Bubbles. Bubbles, do you hate Pop music?)

Why did the hairdresser win the race?

She knew a shortcut.



There are about 120 pages in the book and there are jokes on both sides of each page!!

ALSO

Remember we had a tree removed out the front, but they left the stump. (June CC)

Well, someone must have whispered in someone's ear.....

Stump gone.

A little tidy up. Witch's hat gone. Perfect!



WCPID - Debbie Bell

From: Tom Zouch (MDBA) <Tom.Zouch@mdba.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 2 September 2025 8:41 PM
To: 'debbie@corurgan.com.au'; 'peter@corurgan.com.au'
Cc: Sam Campi (MDBA)
Subject: RE: West Corurgan PID - River height at Albury - Impact on WCPID [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Hey Debbie and Peter,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak at the AGM last week. Unfortunately as foreshadowed last week, the recent rainfall will impact access to West Corurgan over the coming days.

Some context as to why the reductions have been made at Hume below:

Hume releases have been reduced to minimums (600 ML/day). Kiewa flows are adding to Doctors Point flow which is currently 2,650 ML/day. As you highlighted in your email, flows at Corowa will fall because of the reduction to Hume releases over the last few days.

The Ovens is near its peak (currently 9,000 ML/day and rising) at Peechelba. Given the size of the flow from the Ovens, its unlikely we will need to increase flows from Hume for a few days at the least. There is also rainfall forecast in the second four days on BOM site, which could add to Ovens flow and result in Hume releases staying down longer.

If we were to send down higher flows from Hume now, there is a high chance this may spill at lake Victoria over spring. This is because we have significant inflows arriving into Menindee Lakes (400-600 GL) that will need to be moved into lake Victoria. If any additional volumes (sent from Hume) were to spill then this would not be available to the entire NSW resource pool and would negatively affect allocations going forward.

Once the Ovens flows subsides there is a small environmental order (targeting flows downstream of Yarrowonga) that will enable us to turn Hume releases on more quickly. As will any increase in demand at Mulwala and Yarrowonga Main channel.

I understand this is challenging, and so if we can support you with further information or forecasts please reach out.

thanks

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