



# MHVwater

## Scheme News

inside  
this  
editionMessage from  
the CEO

1

Water in Races; Lease  
Water; Biosecurity

2

Valetta collapse; Well  
heads; Consents

3

AGM; Movement of  
Water; Staff profile

4

## Message from the CEO

Whilst Spring officially starts on the 23rd September, I'm not sure the lambs, calves and bulbs got the memo as they all seem to be very early this year. We have had an unusual mild winter and there are many Shareholders predicting a similarly early start to the irrigation this season. Although we have had some infrastructure challenges within the Valetta Line, we will be ready to distribute water when the season starts, should there be a need. Our repair strategy and winter maintenance programmes are well on track.

To provide an overview of the main workstreams:-

- Automated gates installation for trials in Laterals 1 and 5 on the MH Open Race
- Replacement of Node 8 and PRV 4 on the Valetta Line
- Valetta Line 1600mm pipe collapse, re-pressurise, re-connect, re-bed
- Automated gates installation where access is difficult on the MH Open Race
- Concreting of race drops on MH Open Race
- Cleaning/tidying of races/offtakes



Melanie Brooks, Chief Executive

The Hackthorne Feasibility Study begun last month as a result of high demand from our request for expressions of interest. Should the line proceed it would deliver water between the existing Valetta Line and the Ashburton River. It primarily enables existing groundwater users to supplement their takes, reduces the pressure on the aquifer and support increased minimum flows in the Ashburton River (where wells are close to the river). We see this opportunity as a win:win for landowners outside the scheme, shareholders and the wider community, as a result of the above outcomes and the additional storage, and having these landowners in our Environmental Management Programme. We will be looking to engage with existing Shareholders on the outcome of the Feasibility Study in due course.

Our Farm Environment Plan (FEP) meetings are in full swing and it is great to hear some of the conversations that are being held about what can be done to promote long run Environmental Sustainability, especially questions on what will drive an A audit. Our team are very knowledgeable on actions that you can take, so I encourage you to ask them what they would do differently or what they are seeing across the scheme. We all know that we need to keep pushing to be the environmental stewards our kids and grandkids need us to be and I know we will see improved environmental, social and economic outcomes as a result.

Have a great spring and as always I encourage you to provide us with feedback on how we can add value and I look forward to seeing you at the AGM in October if not beforehand.

Mel

## Why is there water in our races?

Generally at this time of the year, our races are dry while we carry out maintenance but you may have noticed in the last few months that there has been some water in the races. This is to enable MAR to continue to operate over the winter months.

If you are undertaking any maintenance which would be hindered by water in the race, please let your Scheme Operator know so that we can cease the flow for the duration of your operations.



## Overflowing Races

Water overflowing onto roads it can be hazardous to road users, damaging to property, and a breach of resource consent.

It is essential that we preserve this special resource and prevent stock water mixing with irrigation water and MAR water.

If you see any overflowing stockwater or irrigation races please contact your Scheme Operator as soon as possible, or text with a photo.

## Coming Up

### "Scheme Introduction" Workshop

*Are you a new Shareholders or do you have a new farm manager?*

*We strongly encourage those new to the scheme to come along to meet the team and learn about being a part of MHV.*

Wednesday 17 October 2018  
9:45am for a 10am start.

### Annual General Meeting

Thursday 18 October 2018  
7.30pm

Hinds Community Centre

*We look forward to seeing you there.*

## Biosecurity

We are continuing to maintain **Bio-Security Level 3** for the scheme. This means that no MHV vehicles are allowed onfarm without approval and full washdown/disinfectant before and after.

We ask for your support should an Operator contact you for assistance to access a property or change a gate. We remain committed to ensuring the biosecurity safety of all our Shareholders.

## Lease Water

We have had enquiries from a number of Shareholders who are interested in leasing out their allocation of water for the coming season, and similarly shareholders on the other side of the equation too.

If you are interested in leasing out some or all of your water, please email Jo with the details ASAP ([info@mhvwater.nz](mailto:info@mhvwater.nz)) and confirm you are comfortable for us to share this with the wider shareholder base.

M and MG water must remain in the MH or Ruapuna infrastructure, and Valetta water within Valetta infrastructure.

### Contractual Responsibilities

- All share trading and leasing is subject to approval by MHV and there must be no net increase in nutrient leaching as a result;
- The Scheme shall co-ordinate lease transactions. An approved MHV Lease Agreement will be executed by all parties and the Scheme Office will keep a record of leases;
- Any financial arrangements around the leasing of shares shall be the responsibility of the lessor and lessee to determine and enforce;
- The lessor of leased shares shall remain responsible for all water charges and obligations under the water supply agreement and will retain ownership and voting rights. Should the lessee default on any compliance matter, the responsibility for compliance will remain with the shareholder/lessor.

To date the following shareholders have advised that they will have water available for lease for the 2018-19 season.

Shareholder	Contact	Volume for Lease (l/s)	Where water can be applied
Athel Price	03 303 6478 or 021 061 9456 <a href="mailto:athel@xtra.co.nz">athel@xtra.co.nz</a>	16.43l/s M Shares 49.29 l/s MG Shares <b>Water available until Christmas</b>	MH Open Race or Ruapuna*
Carl Weiers	<a href="mailto:carljosefweiers@hotmail.de">carljosefweiers@hotmail.de</a>	16.43 l/s M Shares 24.65 l/s MG Shares	Ruapuna*
John McDougall	03 303 7257 or 027 625 9700 <a href="mailto:mcdougallclan@netaccess.co.nz">mcdougallclan@netaccess.co.nz</a>	20 l/s M Shares	MH Open Race or Ruapuna*

\* All Ruapuna water is subject to capacity being available in the line.



## Well Heads

When was the last time you checked the well heads on your property?

Poorly maintained well heads can create preferential pathways for bacteria to enter your drinking water.

If you want more information about what to look out for get in touch with **William Dench**, our Groundwater Hydrologist on 027 223 7260.

## Consent to Farm

### Reminder

Any property that receives MHV Water does not need a separate consent to discharge nutrient or consent to permit farming as an activity. You are included under our consent.

Some providers of fertiliser have been querying shareholders of their obligations - we want to reconfirm that you are covered. If you have any queries or have a property that doesn't receive MHV Water, feel free to give us a call to discuss your obligations and requirements.



## Valetta Pipe Collapse

On 26 July, a 1.7km section of our 1600mm Valetta pipeline collapsed between Ponds 1 and 2.

Following the Board Meeting held last week to discuss the Valetta Line failure the Directors have agreed that we must mitigate, as best as possible, the risks to our ability to deliver water.

Accordingly, we will have two workstreams underway to remedy the collapse and restore our ability to deliver water; re-pressurise the existing pipe and, as a contingency option, begin preparatory work to replace the failed section of pipe.

### Workstream One - Re-pressurise the pipeline

This workstream has begun. The overburden is being stripped from the top of the pipe for the full 1.7km of the collapse and the pipe will be entered to manually extract gravel from within. Plates will be fitted so that the pipe can be re-pressurised. Engineering advice is that this may reinflate the pipe and fix the collapse.

As part of this work we have also commissioned an engineering assessment to determine whether there is an increased risk of the 1.7 km collapsing again when the pipe is next drained. If this is the case then we may need to nurse it through the current season and plan to replace it next winter.

### Workstream Two – Replacement of the Pipe

There is only one manufacturer in New Zealand capable of manufacturing replacement pipe of the correct size and it would take them around 5 weeks to manufacture 1.7 km of pipe. We have asked them to begin manufacturing 700m of pipe for us during the period while we are attempting to re-pressurise the pipe. We would then assess the outcome of the re-pressurising before determining whether to continue with pipe manufacture or not.

While we would be spending approx. \$700,000 on pipe which we might not initially need, if the re-pressurising is successful, our estimate is that the financial risk to MHV water is likely to be considerably less than this as we would like to have some spare pipe available to mitigate against other failures within the main Valetta Line. This line has 14.5 km of 1600mm pipe and we have experienced two weld failures of pipe joints in the last 12 months. Additionally, there are other potential projects across our scheme which, although they wouldn't need pipe this large, could utilise this pipe in the future.

The Board will be meeting again on the 20th August to assess the success of the re-pressurising of the pipe and the engineering assessment of the residual risk and based on those, will make a decision on how to proceed. We want to ensure that we sufficiently mitigate the risk of not being able to supply water in the peak of the season and to build some additional resilience into the network.



## Movement of Water within the Valetta Line for 2018-19 Season

Please can you be mindful of your shared allocation and to which offtakes your allocation applies. Movement of water to different offtakes can have wider unintended consequences and reduce the pressure for other shareholders.

Any requests to move water this season, where we are running at full flow, will require hydraulic modelling to ensure there is no detrimental effects.

## Annual General Meeting

The AGM will be held on:

**Thursday 18 October 2018**

**7:30pm**

**Hinds Community Centre**



A preliminary Notice of Meeting has been posted to Shareholders, which includes a nomination form for Directors.

The Board will reduce to 7 elected Directors and 1 independent Director this AGM. To facilitate this, three Directors are retiring by rotation with two Directors to be elected.

Mark Dewhirst and Nigel Reith are retiring and not seeking re-election. John Nicholls is retiring and seeking re-election.

Nominations close **3:30pm, Friday 7 September 2018**. If you would like further information about this role, please contact an existing Director to discuss.

It is important that we continue to encourage new Directors to the Board and help guide the future direction of the company. Ongoing rotation of Directors ensures that we achieve a good balance between historical knowledge and new thinking and that strong board governance continues into the future.

## A Bit About.... Mark

Mark has been an integral part of our team since he began with MHIL in October 2012. Initially working on Laterals 3, 4 & 5, he is now predominantly based on Lateral 2, with his primary responsibilities being delivery of water, maintenance and any other tasks that come his way.

Mark particularly enjoys dealing with the farmers and the variety of work that the role provides.

Growing up in Cheshire in the north-west of England, Mark has been a strong supporter of the Football premier league in the UK since the age of 4, supporting his favourite team the Wolverhampton Wanderers. While in England Mark worked on Dairy Farms and enjoyed showing Friesian Holstein cattle.

Mark made the move to New Zealand in October 1999, landing on Labour Day and now lives with his wife Jan near Mayfield.

In his spare time, Mark runs a few cattle and 35 chickens. He enjoys rugby league and rugby union, supporting the Warriors and other rugby league teams.



## Scheme Introduction

*Are you a new Shareholder or do you have a new farm manager?*

We strongly recommend that new key personnel attend our "Scheme Introduction" workshop.

You will meet the team and learn about the Enviro programme, Irrigation Best Practice and being part of the MHV Scheme.

**Wednesday 17 October 2018**

**10am**

**Carew Hall.**

Lunch provided and an optional bucket testing workshop will follow.

RSVP to [info@mhvwater.nz](mailto:info@mhvwater.nz) or book with your FEP co-ordinator.



## Environmental Update

**We are over half way through the FEP updates!**

If you are yet to come in to complete your FEP, please feel free to give Claudia a call to book in an appointment to suit you.

Claudia can be reached on 027 550 0131.

**All FEP updates are to be completed by the 1 October 2018.**

If you are getting a nutrient budget completed, remember to get all of your information to your consultant by the end of August.