

BACKWASH

YOUR MONTHLY E-NEWSLETTER BROUGHT TO YOU BY IRRIGATION AUSTRALIA.

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Know-how for Horticulture™

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***Backwash* gets a makeover**

You might notice that this issue of *Backwash* looks a bit different. We're making it more reader friendly by making it shorter while making sure that it's as newsy as always. In the next issue we will be going to a new design. We'll then be asking you what you think and how we can improve your newsletter.

Autumn Journal

Keep an eye out for the autumn journal which has been posted to members. Features innovation in irrigation and recycled water.

BOARD NEWS

The IAL Board met last week and resolved that members be given more opportunities for communication. The board wants to ensure that the knowledge and expertise of our membership are harnessed to the

benefit of the irrigation industry and to ensure that IAL's profile and reputation is enhanced further.

Regional meetings – your opportunity to have your say into the future direction of your IAL. Regional meetings are currently being organised so members can comment on IAL's business plan for the future. Watch future issues of *Backwash* for dates and venues.

IAL is currently restructuring its five IDO projects so they become a single program. This will mean that the IDOs will be given the opportunity to collaborate more effectively and there will be a national component in their work. Each project will be more efficient and a program approach means that individual skills and experiences can be picked up and used in the other regions. This approach has already been used successfully in Queensland in negotiating with policy makers.

REGIONAL ROUNDUP

Check out when your regional committee's next meeting is, as well as other activities and events. [More](#)

FOR THE DIARY

Irrigation Efficiency courses 2009. Training in Certificate III in Irrigation competencies: RTE3605A – troubleshoot irrigation systems; RTE3607A – measure irrigation delivery system performance; and RTE3611A – operate pressurised irrigation systems. Courses in all capital cities in April and September, and in Townsville in May. [Course schedule](#)

CID exams 2009. Being held in Australia in capital cities (can be organised in regional centres): 18 June 2009: closing date for applications, 15 May 2009; 15 October 2009: closing date for applications, 11 September 2009. [More](#)

Irrigation Training Courses 2009. With support from Advanced Industrial Products, Davey, FHS, Grundfos, HR Products, Hunter, Iplex, Netafim, Philmac, Toro and Vinidex, IAL is running two 13-day retail training courses: in Bunbury, WA from 9-21 May and in Caloundra, Qld from 25 July to 6 August 2009. IAL members with retail outlets can enrol employees for \$1,600 (includes tuition and accommodation). Cost for others is \$4,600. For details and enrolment information for Bunbury click [here](#). For details and enrolment information for Caloundra click [here](#).

Rain Bird summit. In partnership with Smart Approved Water Mark, Thursday 19 March 2009 in Melbourne. International and local presenters. For information, contact Rain Bird Australia, Freecall 1800

424 044, [email](#) .

CRCIF Solutes Masterclass. 31 March – 1 April, Adelaide. Cutting edge research and practice in managing salt and nutrients in the root zone. Info contact [Deborah Atkins](#), phone 02 4570 1763 [More info](#)

CRCIF Evapotranspiration Master Class. ET Masterclass, Adelaide 7-8 May. Info contact [Deborah Atkins](#), phone 02 4570 1763 [More info](#)

Centre for Groundwater Studies. For information about courses this year go to [website](#)

JOBSPOT

Eols for Specialist Irrigation Contractors. NSW Dept of Commerce invites Expressions of Interest from irrigation subcontractors to add to a pre-qualified panel of subcontractors to design and build specialist irrigations systems at Iluka golf course and playing fields. Documents at [website](#) Tenders close 31 March. For info, Willie Li, phone 02 6648 5921, [email](#)

INDUSTRY

New Philmac NSW Regional Sales Manager. Stephen Tunstead is Philmac's new Regional Sales Manager for the Civil and Plumbing team in NSW. [More info](#)

SMART APPROVED WATERMARK

For the latest in SAWM news go to the [website](#)

STANDARDS

Smart Approved WaterMark is developing guidelines for irrigation equipment and is looking for industry feedback, through IAL. If you are interested in the sseing the guidelines contact Tim Gilbert, IAL [email](#)

HANDY LINKS

[Hints for saving water.](#) An online tutorial on how to use Sydney Water's water efficiency tool, 'Every Drop Counts'.

[Irrigation training guide for veggie growers.](#) A new training guide for irrigators in the vegetable industry. Summarises data collected from on-farm research and trials over the past five years.

PRODUCTS

Check out IAL's [bookshop](#), and order your publications, Space Pro software and catchcans. Some publications also available for free [download](#).

REGIONAL COMMITTEE CONTACTS

North Queensland
[Geoff Chaillon](#)

Darling Downs
[David Wigginton](#)

South East Queensland
[Michael Barker](#)

NSW North West
[Peter Taylor](#)

Sydney
[Pat O'Shannessy](#)

Central and Far West NSW
[Ken Rogers](#)

Melbourne
[Des Horton](#)

South Australia
[Max Curnow](#)

Western Australia
[Greg Stewart](#)

Northern Territory
[Peter Giles](#)

ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER

Backwash is a monthly newsletter published by Irrigation Australia reporting on developments in the irrigation and related industries. For more information or to contribute article ideas send an [email](#).

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