

BACKWASH

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

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Know-how for Horticulture™

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LAST CHANCE FOR RETAIL TRAINING COURSE

IAL is running the last 13-day retail training course for 2009 in Caloundra, Qld from 25 July to 6 August 2009. To register click [here](#).

Irrigation: meeting the challenge, Irrigation Australia Conference. Registrations open soon. A great opportunity to meet people in the industry from all over Australia and find out the latest on topics like data management, modernising irrigation systems, groundwater management, competing irrigation need and urban irrigation. For information click [here](#).

BOARD NEWS

Needs analysis underway. The IAL is working with Richard DeVos on an Industry Development Needs Analysis. The analysis is designed to provide the business case for the projects HAL helps to fund and ensure projects are well developed and effective. The analysis will also help regions intending to develop business plans, such as Sydney and Melbourne.

Training plans. A training and certification forum was held last month to develop a more detailed plan. An important consideration was ways of increasing recognition of IAL irrigation professionals by the water authorities. Implicit in this is making sure that there are enough professionals with the right qualifications.

NSW scraps water restrictions in Sydney. In disappointing news, NSW has scrapped water restrictions in urban areas and replaced them with new "Permanent water saving rules". IAL

members and Tim Gilbert had been working closely with Sydney Water to develop a pilot program to encouraging installation of efficient irrigation systems that would operate under more relaxed conditions. Unfortunately, this sound, long-term approach has been overlooked. Tim is continuing to look at options to put this approach back on the agenda, since the reality is that there is still a severe water storage problem and this can't be ignored. For information contact Tim Gilbert, phone 02 9476 0142, email tim.gilbert@irrigation.org.au

ICID – making the most of membership. A teleconference will be held 13 August from 10.00 to 12.00 am (EST) to discuss ways of being involved in ICID activities. There will also be a forum at the conference in Swan Hill to workshop needs and future activities for IAL to support members interested in ICID. We are very keen to ensure we engage in ICID and its working groups and to ensure that the interests of the original ANCID group are maintained. This is your chance to be involved and have your say. If you would like to be included in the teleconference contact either Willem Vlotman, phone 03 5833-5680, or Chris Bennett, phone 02 9476 0142.

IAL INFO

Contact the IAL national office for information about your association, phone 02 9476 0142, [email](#).

REGIONAL NEWS

To find out what's happening in your region click on the links. Check out regional contacts as well as when your regional committee's next meeting is, and other activities and events. [North Queensland](#), [South East Queensland](#), [Darling Downs](#), [North West NSW](#), [Sydney](#), [Central and Far West NSW](#), [Melbourne and Southern Victoria](#), [South Australia](#), and [Western Australia](#).

MEMBERSHIP

If you know someone who is interested in joining the IAL let them know it's as easy as downloading the membership form from the IAL website and filling it in. For an application form, go to [IAL website](#)

FOR THE DIARY

Irrigation Efficiency courses 2009. Do you manage an irrigation system and want to measure how efficient it is? Complete the IEC and you will be able to evaluate your system. Training in Certificate III in Irrigation competencies: troubleshooting irrigation systems; measuring irrigation delivery system performance; and operating pressurised irrigation systems. Courses in all capital cities in September, and in Sydney, Brisbane and Townsville in September. Course [schedule](#)

LAST CHANCE. Register now for Irrigation Training Course 2009. Industry designed and presented training for retail staff. With support from Advanced Industrial Products, Davey, FHS, Grundfos, HR Products, Hunter, Iplex, Netafim, Philmac, Toro and Vinidex, IAL is running its next 13-day retail training course in Caloundra, Qld from 25 July to 6 August 2009 [more](#).

WA irrigation expo – catch with the latest. The annual WA Waterwise Irrigation Expo is on 12 August at Tompkins Park Conference Centre, Alfred Cove. Features are a trade show and a

waterwise workshop. A great opportunity to catch up with the latest in irrigation in the west. Contact Tracy Martin for information, phone 08 9474 9089, email tracy.martin@irrigation.org.au

Irrigation Australia Conference plans on track. Planning for Irrigation Australia Conference being held in Swan Hill 18 to 21 October 2009 is well under way. Over 120 abstracts were received, catering for all areas of interest. Make sure you register when the forms become available soon. Along with the conference will be a choice of interesting field trips.

Riverland Field Days 16 and 17 September, Barmera. Highlight will be the Irrigation Efficiency Avenue, an important and popular feature of the field days for many years. A great opportunity for businesses to promote products and services. And for the first time there will be an irrigation feature page in the official program (25,000 copies distributed) identifying all irrigation businesses at the field days. For information and a copy of the Prospectus phone 0409 099 122, or go to website www.riverlandfielddays.com.au

60th IEC Meeting and 5th Asian Regional Conference, 6-11 December 2009, New Delhi. Take a look on the other side of the fence and see what is happening with irrigation and water management around the world. Theme is "Improvement in Efficiency of Irrigation Projects Through Technology Upgradation and Better Operation and Maintenance". For information go to conference [website](#)

Murray Darling Association 65th Annual Conference. Adelaide 2 to 4 September. Theme is Water Innovation – Challenging the Drought. Speakers include Penny Wong, Nick Xenophon, Fran Bailey, Ian Lowe, Rob Freeman and Peter Cosier. For information go to website www.mda.asn.au

Symposium: Agricultural Technologies in a Changing Climate. An international symposium being held in Brisbane in September 2009. Topics include irrigation, water and environmental management; plant production, handling and processing; information management. For information go to [website](#)

Centre for Groundwater Studies. Courses presented through the year by experts in groundwater management and studies. For information about courses this year go to [website](#)

INDUSTRY NEWS

Last month the Federal Government announced a \$650 million call for proposals for NSW Murray-Darling Basin private irrigation infrastructure operators. For guidelines and application form click here <http://www.environment.gov.au/water/programs/srwui/piiop.html> To read the media release click here <http://www.environment.gov.au/minister/wong/2009/mr20090619.html>

Film makers wanted. Rain Bird's Intelligent Use of Water Film Competition is now open. This new award is for industry professionals. There's a chance for them to win a \$6,000 cash prize and a trip to LA. The aim is to increase awareness of the need for effective, efficient and responsible water use. Closing date is August 15, 2009. For information go to website www.iuowfilm.com

JOB SPOT

Pump technician and installer. Tambourine Pumps and Irrigation is looking for an experienced pump technician and installer. Applications close 16 July. For more information click here <http://www.irrigation.org.au/index.cfm?event=public.page&pageuid=7A4C9E12-1708-51EB-A6F299FD2CBDB54C>.

SAWM UPDATE

Irrigation equipment guidelines for applicants to the Smart WaterMark are available [here](#).

Closing date for applications for the next application round is 14 August. For more information visit [website](#)

STANDARDS UPDATE

Thanks to the efforts of IAL members Standards Australia has now formally constituted a committee, ME-065-03, as a mirror committee of the ISO committee TC 23 SC18. The committee currently has a membership of 16 IAL members. Its committee is to review documents and materials from ISO TC 23 SC18, propose new standards initiatives and, more importantly, help keep the wider IAL membership and irrigation community informed on the development of standards. It is important to note that all members of the IAL will be able to comment on standards activities because it is critical that a national view is taken to any international forums. For information, contact Jeremy Cape, phone 0410 30744, [email](#)

HANDY LINKS

Download the latest edition of the quarterly newsletter, 'ReWater', from website www.recycledwater.com.au/index.php?page=newsletter

The latest ICID newsletter is on line at http://www.icid.org/nl2009_2.pdf

For an alternative view on global water issues check out Circle of Blue's newsletter <http://www.circleofblue.org/waternews/>

PRODUCTS

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

About this newsletter

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