



## the regions **glenelg hopkins**



### Partners/Sponsors

Glenelg-Hopkins Catchment Management Authority, Glenelg Water, South West Water Authority, Warrnambool City Council, South West College of TAFE, Shire of Southern Grampians, Glenelg Shire Council, Portland Aluminium, Environment Protection Authority, Department of primary Industries Fisheries, Southern Rural Water, Warrnambool & District Fish Care.

### Monitoring Groups/Site Information

79 Groups, 2016 participants, 180 sites

### Coordinators

Jennie Sparke, Sally Melis-Walsh, Polly Hall, Gillian Fry, David Nichols.

### Stormwater Awareness

With an ever-increasing interest in urban stormwater pollution issues, the Glenelg Hopkins Waterwatch program continued to expand its stormwater education. A record number of students were involved in 2002 both in classroom activities and drain stencilling. This work complements other programs being undertaken by Glenelg Hopkins CMA and regional shires and councils.

### National Water Week

A total of 565 primary and secondary school students from 15 schools were involved in National Water Week activities. Three interactive education days were held to accommodate the large amount of interest. Activities included water treatment tours, tree planting, Alcoa Frogwatch, marine invertebrates, groundwater systems, stormwater and NRE fish care program.

### Glenelg River tour

Casterton Primary School students have been monitoring the Glenelg River near their school for several years but few students actually knew where the River began and finished. On World Environment Day students visited the Glenelg estuary, one of Victoria's longest estuaries measuring 76km in length. This was complemented later in the year by a visit to the diversion channels at Rocklands Reservoir and a once in a lifetime walk through the dam wall.



Casterton Primary School students at Rocklands Wall.

Student carries out a biological assessment via a macro invertebrate sample technique.



### Community monitors

In 2002, Glenelg Hopkins Waterwatch program focused strongly on recruiting and retaining regular water quality monitors. Landholders along the Glenelg River answered the call and are now collecting salinity data to assist the CMA with environmental flow releases into the River. Whilst in the Portland Coast basin, the Winda Mara Aboriginal Cooperative is volunteering its time to monitor the water quality of Lake Condah tributaries.

### Changing of the guard

Sadly, 2002 saw the departure of Sally Melis-Walsh from the successful program in the Portland Coast region to return to secondary teaching. David Nichols replaces Sally bringing with him a wealth of knowledge and enthusiasm.



Students demonstrate catchment and pollution processes.

Casterton Primary School students congregate on the banks of the Glenelg River.