

David Thurley: Scientist and Catchment Champion



Catchment Champion

Zac Kennedy, Bayley Sutcliffe,
Darcy Penny and Hunter Carle

Glenroy Public School



Creative Catchment Kids

Creative Catchment Kids is an initiative of the Murray Darling Association and Wirraminna Environmental Education Centre. It aims to improve engagement between the Murray Catchment Management Authority and school students by providing opportunities for positive and authentic ventures that encourage students to develop creative solutions to natural resource management issues. www.murray.cma.nsw.gov.au/creative-catchment-kids.html

Wirraminna Environmental Education Centre

The Wirraminna Environmental Education Centre is located in Burrumbuttock, north of Albury in southern NSW. Since 1995, the centre, which is adjacent to Burrumbuttock Public School, has provided opportunities for discovery and learning about the natural environment, the ecology of the local woodlands and the beauty of native plants. www.wirraminna.org

Murray Darling Association

The Murray Darling Association has membership of over 100 Local Government councils in the Murray-Darling Basin, as well as community groups, businesses and individuals with an interest in ensuring that the Basin continues as a valuable asset for all Australians. Since 1950, the Association has initiated various school and community education programs on managing the Basin's land and water resources. www.mda.asn.au



Enviro-Stories is an innovative literacy education program that inspires learning about natural resource and catchment management issues. Developed by PeeKdesigns, this program provides students with an opportunity to publish their own stories that have been written for other kids to support learning about their local area. www.envirostories.com.au

David Thurley: Scientist and Catchment Champion

Authors: Zac Kennedy, Bayley Sutcliffe, Darcy Penny and Hunter Carle

Teacher: Bruce Arnott

School: Glenroy Public School

Catchment Champions

In 2013, students involved in the Creative Catchment Kids program researched and wrote stories about 'Catchment Champions', people who have made important contributions to managing natural resources in their local community. The program was generously funded by the Murray and Murrumbidgee catchment management authorities.

The Catchment Champions books are part of the Enviro-Stories Education Program.



**Catchment Management
Authority**
Murray



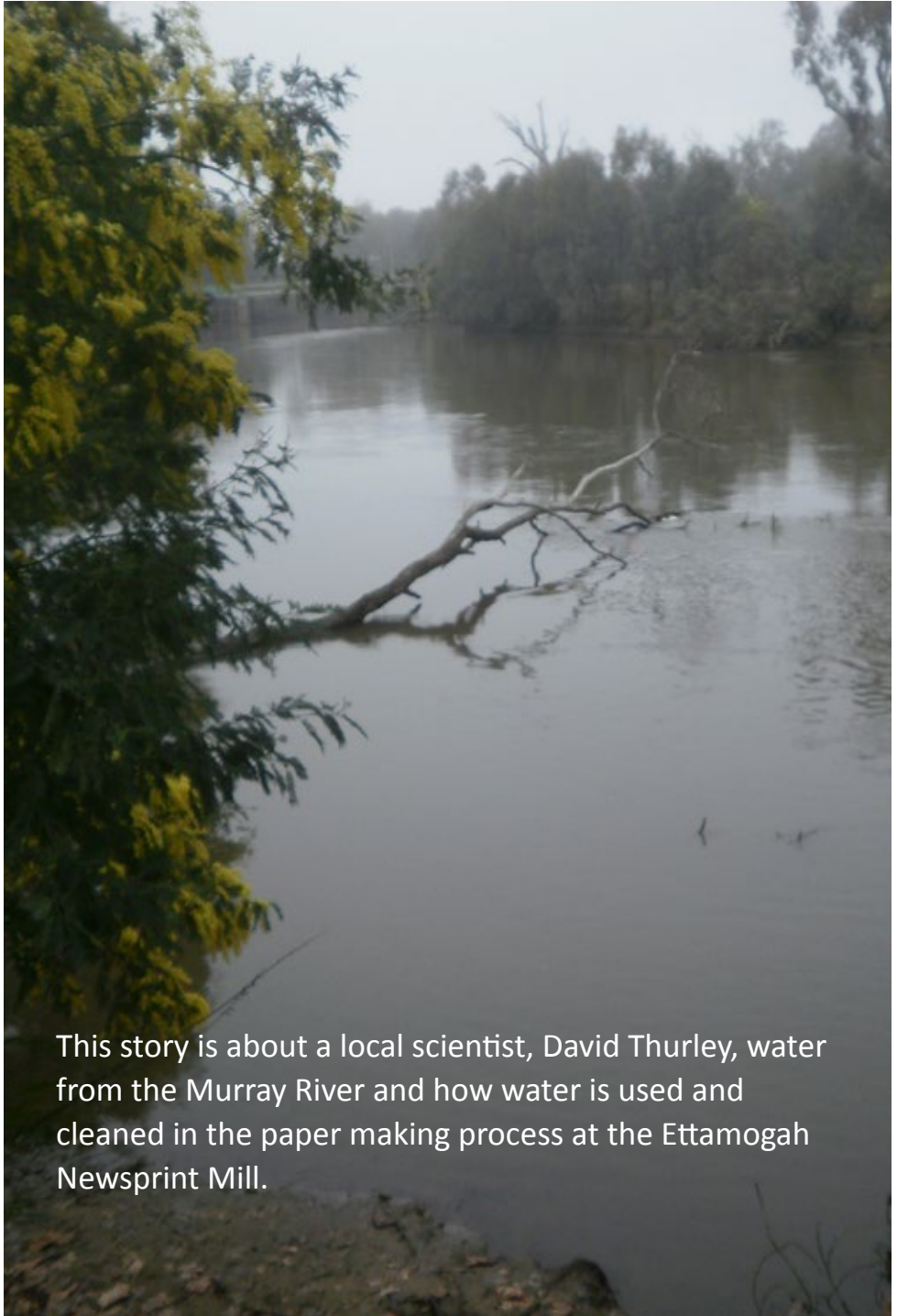
CARING
FOR
OUR
COUNTRY



**Catchment Management
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Murrumbidgee

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This story is about a local scientist, David Thurley, water from the Murray River and how water is used and cleaned in the paper making process at the Ettamogah Newsprint Mill.



Water is necessary for drinking, to grow crops and for industrial processes. It is a major reason that we have life on our planet Earth.

It is very important to recycle water, especially in Australia's dry climate. When water has been used, it can be treated to clean it so it can be used again.



David was born in Tasmania in 1947 and wanted to be a scientist since he was 10 years old. He obtained a Bachelor of Science with Honours in 1969. He began work with the Australian Newsprint Mills, a company now owned by Norske Skog, that produces the paper that newspapers are made from (Newsprint).

David's first big project was to look at ways to treat industrial waste water. They wanted to make the recycled water quality so good that it can be put back into the river without harming the fish and other animals.

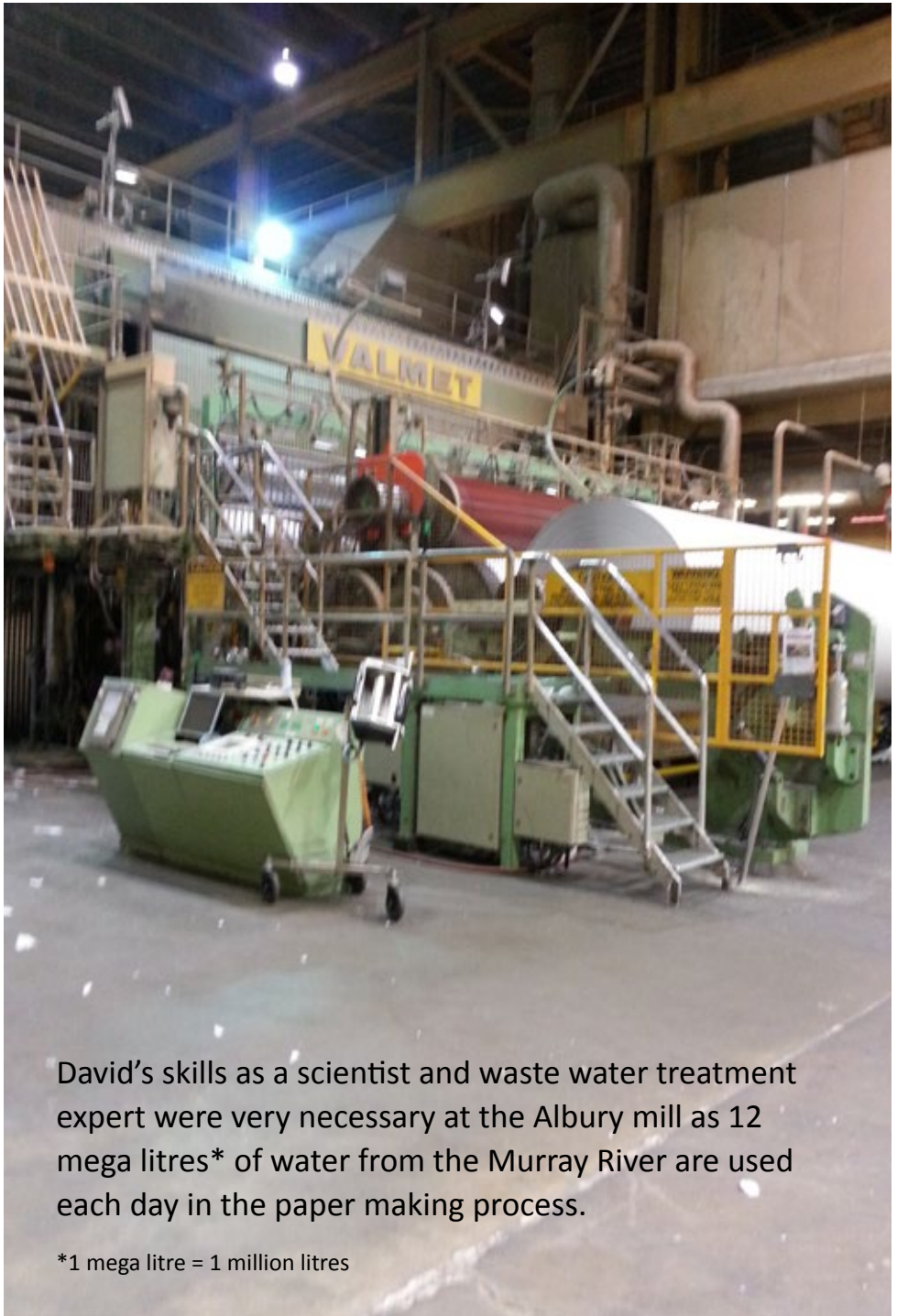


The processes used to treat sewage and industrial waste water are very similar. They use bacteria and other tiny creatures to remove the pollutants and then filters to clean the water.





David became an expert in the treatment of waste water and began to work for companies around the world, helping them to improve their water recycling. He has worked in Malaysia, Brazil, England, France, Sweden and Greece. Although, he has spent most of his working life in Albury at the Newsprint Mill at Ettamogah.



David's skills as a scientist and waste water treatment expert were very necessary at the Albury mill as 12 mega litres* of water from the Murray River are used each day in the paper making process.

*1 mega litre = 1 million litres

The Norske Skog Newsprint Mill uses pine wood chips and recycled newspapers and magazines to produce the paper we need for our daily newspapers.





David is now semi-retired and spends his time doing many interesting activities. He generously gives his time to visit Glenroy Public School and conducts a variety of science experiments with the students.

David makes science interesting and fun.

David is the President of the Albury-Wodonga Astronomical Society. He has a great knowledge and interest in our solar system. He can be seen regularly sharing his love of astronomy at public star gazing events.



David is now an Albury City Councillor. As part of his role in local government, he helps make decisions about water usage, storage and treatment for the region.

These decisions impact on water quality and availability right throughout the catchment area.



David Thurley, Scientist, Astronomer, Councillor and Volunteer Educator, is a worthy Catchment Champion.

David's work over the years has ensured the Murray River is kept clean, healthy and alive for us all to enjoy.

“Science is fun and exciting and I have really enjoyed working in that field.”

David Thurley, Scientist and Water Treatment Expert June 2013

We would like to give a big thank you to David Thurley and Norske Skog (Ettamogah Newsprint Mill).



Zac Kennedy, Bayley Sutcliffe, Hunter Carle and Darcy Penny

2013 Year 4,5,6, Glenroy Public School

The 2012 and 2013 Creative Catchment Kids writing program was showcased at the Seventh World Environmental Education Congress, held in Morocco during June 2013.



Catchment Management Authority Murray



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Catchment Management Authority Murrumbidgee