

Awards accorded Hamilton Field Naturalists Club and Rod Bird in 2017

2017 Glenelg Hopkins Environmental Achievers Awards – Waterways winner:
Hamilton Field Naturalists

2017 Glenelg Hopkins Environmental Achievers Awards – Individual Lifetime Achievers Award:
Rod Bird





FARMING FOCUS

Rod honoured with Lifetime Achievement Award

GLENELG Hopkins CMA recognises Rod Bird for his significant contribution to the preservation of remnant flora in the Glenelg Hopkins region.

Rod Bird attended the CMA's August Board meeting to receive his Lifetime Achievement Award as he was unable to attend the Award ceremony in June.

At the Board meeting, chairperson Tony Ford presented the Lifetime Achievement Award to Rod Bird noting his philosophy of productive agriculture and care for the environment should go hand-in-hand.

"Rod Bird spent his working life as a scientist, furthering understanding of farm productivity and biodiversity and continued this through his volunteer work, through biodiversity surveys, weed control and revegetation on public land," said Tony Ford.

"His contribution to Glenelg Hopkins CMA Advisory Group, Hamilton Field Naturalists Club, Trust for Nature and Birdlife Australia show that this is a man who is willing to place his energy, knowledge and support to better the environment in our region."

Since retiring in 2007 Rod has dedicated much of his time to actively working to protect and enhance wetlands and biodiversity, especially at Gooseneck, Bradys and Walkers Swamps. Rod also conducts monthly volunteer surveys of water birds on these swamps.

In addition, as a long-term member of Birdlife Australia Rod has also undertaken shorebird surveys on wetlands of the Hamilton - Willaura- Lake Bolac area and

down the stream & out in the paddock
News from the CMA and Agriculture Victoria

the coast near Killamey for over 10 years.

Rod Bird thanked Glenelg Hopkins CMA for the Environmental Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of his contribution to the environment.

"My philosophy has always been that productive agriculture and care for the environment should be inseparable. Taking care of, and enhancing the remnants of bush, native grassland and wetlands, and planting shelterbelts and woodlots, may actually increase farm productivity, help wildlife and make a farm a happier place to live in. Hopefully, landholders will continue to adopt such practices," Rod said.

As a result of winning the Glenelg Hopkins Environmental Lifetime Achiever Award, Rod Bird has been nominated for the Australian Government Individual Landcarer Award (Victoria) with the Awards to be held at Government House in Melbourne on September 1, 2017.

GLENELG Hopkins CMA chairperson Tony Ford and chief executive Kevin Wood present Rod Bird with his Lifetime Achievers Award at the August 17 CMA Board meeting in Hamilton.

Photo: SHIPPIE

