



THE WATER WHEEL is a two-monthly magazine on water and water research published by the South African Water Research Commission (WRC), a statutory organisation established in 1971 by Act of Parliament. Subscription is free. Material in this publication does not necessarily reflect the considered opinions of the members of the WRC, and may be copied with acknowledgement of source.

Editorial offices:

Water Research Commission, Private Bag X03, Gezina, 0031, Republic of South Africa.

Tel (012) 330-0340. Fax (012) 331-2565.

WRC Internet address:

<http://www.wrc.org.za>

Editor: Lani van Vuuren,

E-mail: laniv@wrc.org.za;

Editorial Secretary: Mmatsie Masekoa,

E-mail: mmatsiem@wrc.org.za;

Layout: Drinie van Rensburg,

E-mail: drinie@wrc.org.za

CONTENTS

- 4 LETTERS
- 6 UPFRONT
- 11 IN THE NEWS
Changing long drops into green drops
- 14 RIVER ECOSYSTEMS
All eyes on Olifants as experts search for answers
- 19 WATER HISTORY
Gariiep – the dam that tamed the Great River
- 26 STORMWATER MANAGEMENT
Weathering the storm(water) in Cape Town
- 30 BIODIVERSITY RESTORATION
Ostrich sector takes giant strides to preserve the Little Karoo
- 34 WATER PERSONALITY
Mma Tshepo – celebrating a life dedicated to water
- 36 WATER KIDZ
River health – what are the symptoms?
- 38 LAST WORD
Minister launches new weather radar network

Cover: More than 30 researchers from the CSIR are racing against time to save the beleaguered Olifants River catchment (page 14). Cover illustration by Ralf Broemer.

