



Snapshots 2018

Winners' and finalists' projects



Government of Western Australia
Department of Water and Environmental Regulation



Congratulations

to these communities for registering in Keep Australia Beautiful's 2018 Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities awards.



Keep Australia Beautiful Council

Keep Australia Beautiful Council's Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities awards encourage, reward and recognise regional and remote communities that demonstrate effective litter prevention activities, positive environmental outcomes, projects that reflect the heritage and culture of their community, and young people who are making a sustainable difference to their communities.

The continued success of Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities awards is based on the engagement of the community. The program offers a framework for sustainability by encouraging and rewarding positive environmental and social change in regional communities.

It gives me great pleasure to present the finalists and winners of the 2018 awards.

Keep Australia Beautiful in Western Australia received 32 registrations from diverse communities throughout the State. I would like to compliment our Aboriginal communities for their outstanding contribution to this year's awards. This year, the task of choosing finalists and winners was a difficult decision due to the diversity of communities and projects. I commend our judges for their professionalism and expertise while visiting the communities to gather information, as well as volunteering their time.

According to this year's reporting, volunteers who engaged in the Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities awards worked more than 111,000 hours on projects in regional Western Australia. Participants, including community organisations, community resource centres, local shires, volunteers, schools and businesses, have once again demonstrated how effective partnerships can keep communities thriving and sustainable.

I encourage you to read through Snapshots 2018, which details one project in each category from each of this year's Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities State finalists. Congratulations, once again, to all 2018 entrants for your dedication and hard work towards the sustainability of your community.

Finally, congratulations to this year's Tidy Towns State award winner, Collie.

Michael Aspinall, Chairman,
Keep Australia Beautiful Council
Western Australia

21 September 2018

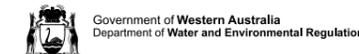


Chairman's foreword

Sponsors and supporters



The Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities awards are funded by the State Government through the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Account, administered by the Waste Authority.



The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation provides administrative, logistical and policy support to the Keep Australia Beautiful Council (WA).



Tourism WA is responsible for promoting Western Australia as an extraordinary holiday destination. Its focus is on marketing the State; developing, attracting and promoting major sporting, cultural and business events; and supporting the development of significant tourism infrastructure and projects.



Main Roads represents one of the world's most expansive road networks. We are responsible for the delivery and management of a safe and efficient road-based transport system that improves community amenity, mobility and travel choice, whilst reducing indirect environmental impacts. Main Roads is proud to be a supporter of this year's Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities awards.



Collie State winner

Collie is located 200 kilometres south of Perth. Declared a townsite in 1896, the town has grown to become an important coal mining community supplying the State with power. Today Collie is a warm and friendly community with approximately 8000 residents. Collie's CBD revitalisation project, spanning five years, is now complete. The general appearance and amenity of the town has been greatly enhanced with projects including the Collie Skate Park, Art Gallery, Central Park, swimming pool and road upgrades. In 2018, these initiatives were recognised as the best in the State by the Planning Institute of Australia, and Collie went on to be national joint winner of the institute's 2018 Planning Excellence Awards in the category of From Plan to Place. Being situated in a beautiful natural environment, Collie is also on track to be WA's first Trails Town, with a network providing connection to the Bibbulmun track and the town's cultural areas set to be completed in 2020. Action on littering is strong, demonstrated by the community's residents who organised impromptu clean-ups and removed litter at Black Diamond Lake over the Australia Day long weekend. Ongoing radio announcements urge people to keep Collie tidy and to recycle to reduce landfill. The Shire of Collie's Weeds and Waterways Committee achieved major success with the restoration of the Collie River and the removal of nardoo overgrowth.

Greenbushes finalist

In the heart of WA forest, this community is highly environmentally conscious, winning the Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities State award in 2016. The Tidy Towns committee and volunteer groups replaced large plastic litter bags with calico bags, enabling 75 per cent of waste items to be recycled. Volunteers restored the Masonic Lodge building and installed signage. The Tommy Turtle sculpture to educate visitors about native long neck turtles and the environment, was made from recycled metal and is part of the Greenbushes Discovery Walk.

In addition, the Community Shed was opened, Grow Greenbushes' new mural depicting native insects and wildlife was unveiled, and the community school bush block continued to engage students in landcare, weed and revegetation education.



Margaret River finalist

Margaret River's projects demonstrated strong local government, community and volunteer action. Transition Margaret River is recognised for its strong environmental advocacy and community and local government engagement. The Energise Margaret River project, an outcome of collaboration, focuses on education and training in renewable energy options. Community engagement over many projects included schools, events and the Youth Advisory Council leadership.

The Wash Against Waste trailer, provided by a Keep Australia Beautiful Community Litter Grant, enables events to be run without plastic food service items, by providing reusable items.



Port and South Hedland *finalist*

For many years, Port Hedland and South Hedland have been Pilbara role models in environmental care through the turtle monitoring program and Care for Hedland litter clean-ups and programs. An estimated 1000 bags of litter have been picked up this year. Osprey Village residents started regular monthly clean-ups. The Live it, Tell it survey had extensive reach, with over 33 per cent of residents responding, and enables planning for the community's future. Heritage preservation of significant collections and buildings with Port Hedland Town Council support, and the many programs run by the Youth Involvement Council, make this community a vibrant, environmental and litter-conscious place to live.



Waroona *finalist*

It is apparent that youth involvement is a driving force in this South-West community, such as Bushrangers litter clean-ups, the addition of a second youth organisation with the Youth Advisory Council, and the extraordinary Leos who were the Young Legends State winner in 2017. The Baldja Program (named after a Noongar word meaning strongly united), aimed at Aboriginal engagement in mental health and suicide prevention issues, contributes to Waroona being a caring and listening community.



West Arthur *finalist*

West Arthur's community provided engagement projects in all categories. Waste management activities were run with a loose parts play and beeswax wraps workshop. The Enterprising Communities Program inspired events and activities, including the fun Operation Decorate Darkan and Hayfields. New entrance signage, and interpretive signage using Noonga and scientific names for the rail trail and native garden, were installed around town. The Betty Brown Historical Centre, the mini beast hunt, as well as research on the threatened red-tailed phascogale, a small carnivorous and endangered marsupial found in central and western parts of Australia, also helped to make West Arthur once again a standout regional community.





Environmental Sustainability award

Recognises an outstanding community's achievements in adaptation to environmental change, often through working in partnership with local government, industry and the wider public.

Esperance winner

Pink Lake Recovery Project

Local resident Chris Pope sought to find out why the Esperance Lake was no longer pink. Research showed a range of business, general usage and mining activities had contributed to the environmental damage. The lake also had a failed beta-carotene extraction business, and tarpaulins and rubber linings had been left on the lake

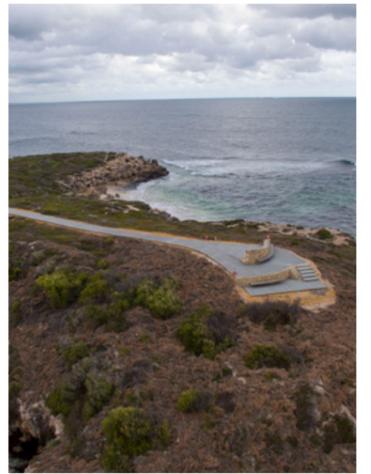
bottom. The Pink Lake Recovery Project was formed and a team of volunteers made a huge effort to remove the created lake bed. About 20 per cent of the linings have been removed with the help of the Shire of Esperance. The efforts of the groups have resulted in companies once based at the lake to be involved in the ongoing clean-ups. Illegal dumping on decommissioned business sites was also an issue and the group, in collaboration with WA Salt Group and the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, is pushing to close these areas. Success of the project to date can be seen in that the lake is showing a slight return to pinkness. Tree planting and the Quagi Beach Protection Project also addressed serious coastal erosion.



Green Head finalist

Green Head Three Bays Walkway

The Green Head Coastcare group protected and rehabilitated coastal vegetation at three coastline bays. This has been achieved through the construction and completion of concrete walkways, installation of directional and interpretative signage, and through effective 'brushing' which involves the placement of melaleuca cuttings on dunes to stop sand erosion while natural regrowth occurs. The success of the project is evidenced by dense vegetation on rehabilitated areas, the attractiveness of signs and the scenic amenity of the walkway and lookouts. The degree of success is attributed to collaboration between the group and the Shire of Coorow.



Kalgoorlie-Boulder finalist

Energy initiatives

The City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder is recognised for its energy-saving program. Projects include LED retrofitting of the goldfields Oasis Recreation Centre, saving 37 tonnes of CO₂ and over \$11,000 in electricity costs. A 30KW solar PV system was installed at the City Rangers' facility and, combined with 20KW systems installed at the golf course work shed, the city's solar systems will be 600KW capacity.



Port and South Hedland finalist

Care for Hedland environmental association programs

Care for Hedland's programs are extensive and have far-reaching positive outcomes for the community. The Turtle Monitoring Program involved 145 volunteers (including four international volunteers). The recording of 989 nests enabled ongoing monitoring and research. Community education programs on litter recovery, waste management, fox control and community gardening are run on a regular basis.



Tambellup finalist

Water management - vehicle wash-down bay

The new \$135,000 wash bay and capture facility is a great environmental initiative ensuring hydrocarbons and silt do not reach the local drainage system. Oil is filtered out and silt captured. Two new 250KL tanks are now capturing water and will be used to replace valuable scheme water. The water efficiency is expected to be 80 per cent.



Wongan Hills finalist

Solar panels

The Shire of Wongan-Ballidu addressed increasing power and environmental costs by installing 438 solar panels on seven of the Shire's public buildings. Over 50,000 units of electricity per year were being used by the facilities. With the panels now in place and costing \$120,000, it is estimated costs will be recovered in five years. Sensor and LED lighting has been added to The Station building which further aids costs savings.





Young Legends award

This category provides a platform of respect and opportunity for the best ideas and sustainable actions that young Western Australians have to offer. It is judged on whether environmental or social achievement have come about through youth initiative and/or by a community that encourages and promotes youth initiative.

Margaret River winner

Ladriel Hackett

Ladriel joined the Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) six years ago and, at 17 years of age, is the Chair of YAC. Ladriel shows outstanding commitment to youth involvement and sustainability outcomes for Margaret River. Showing leadership maturity, she leads 15 YAC members in environmental activities including river clean-ups (using a kayak), beach clean-ups, making reusable t-shirt bags and bottle cap murals. YAC also provide school holiday activities and offer their labour for activities such as planting trees and festivals. Ladriel also helps with the Wash Against Waste Trailer (supplied by a KABC Community Litter Grant) providing reusable crockery for events. Currently working as a community development trainee at the Shire of Augusta-Margaret River, Ladriel plans to study community development at university.



Albany finalist

Dean Crowley

Sixteen year old, Dean Crowley, is an emerging leader in Albany and was one of only three successful regional applicants to the State's Ministerial Youth Advisory Council. He also serves on the Albany Youth Advisory Council, Albany Gay and Lesbian Youth Support Group, the United Nations Youth Consultation Group and the student leadership group at Albany Senior High School. He strives to create change to ensure that young people are heard and can participate in community processes on merit. His involvement in Albany youth issues is outstanding and has volunteered his time to support a youth voice for the City of Albany.



Collie finalist

Lauren Jackson

Collie's 2018 Young Citizen of the Year, Lauren Jackson, is having an impact on the lives of Maasai children and shares those experiences with groups in the Collie region. Studying law, 22-year-old Lauren visited Kenya as a volunteer and was inspired to co-found the Children of Maasai Educational Program to improve the lives of Maasai children. Lauren also supports the South West Industry Road Safety Alliance and produced a testimonial on the effects of the loss of her young brother in a road accident.



Greenbushes finalist

Lynus and Tilly Butler

Lynus and Tilly Butler demonstrate how young children can take action on issues that affect them. Inspired by the loss of a classmate to cancer, they joined forces with two Bridgetown children to trek the Bibbulmun Track and raised \$7050 for cancer research. Lynus, 11, and Tilly, 9, are also responsible for the new pest-proof Little Free Library at the Greenbushes pool, where books can be borrowed and donated.



Ravensthorpe/Hopetoun finalist

Mark Sidamon

Mark Sidamon, is an emerging leader for youth in his community. Mark is undertaking a traineeship at the Hopetoun Community Resource Centre (CRC) and is influential in the activities the CRC offers residents. He is also the local hockey coach and is well-respected in the community.

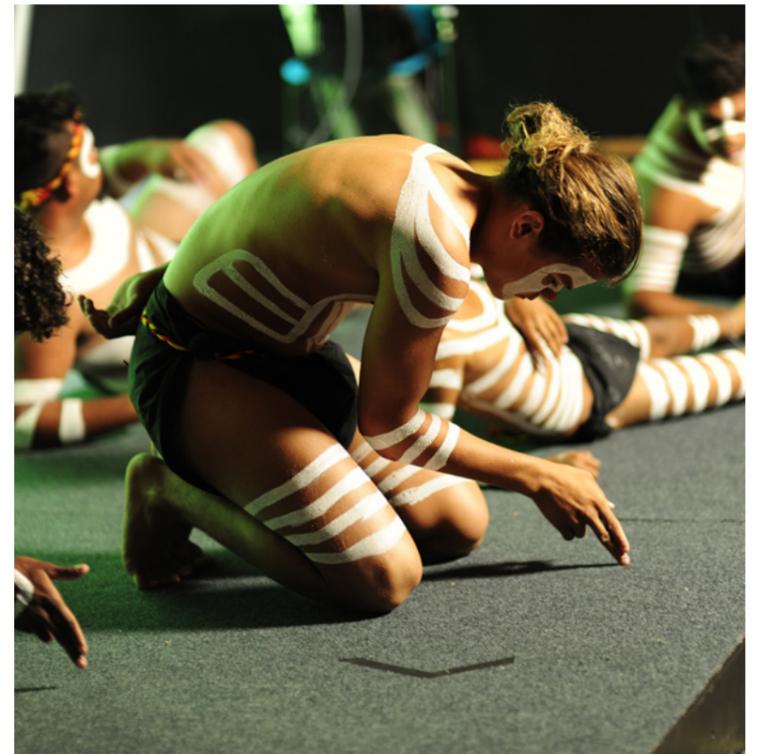


Waroona finalist

The Youth Advisory Council

Youth engagement and action in Waroona is high. The activity level of of the Youth Advisory Council (YAC) is exceptional. A forum for youth input and advice to the Shire of Waroona, the YAC also delivered community programs and activities such as Youth Fest, Youth Leadership Day, youth attendance sponsorship and Movie Under the Stars. YAC complements the activities of the Leo's Club and the High School Bushrangers.







Heritage and Culture award

Each community's cultural identity is made up of a range of factors, including the people, places and events. Enhancing cultural identity may involve planning, local government liaison, education and awareness programs, community involvement and innovation. It is hoped projects will contribute to building a strong sense of place in regional communities.

Dumbleyung winner

Bluebird precinct

The installation of the final interpretive panel for the Bluebird precinct project marked the completion of this outstanding four-year heritage project. The community-led initiative preserves and celebrates the significance of Donald Campbell's unrivalled 1964 World Water Speed Record on Lake Dumbleyung. The project has revitalised the main street into a vibrant heritage area. When driving into Dumbleyung you cannot miss the stunning replica of Donald's boat *Bluebird K7* at the new Bluebird precinct and the wire sculpture of Donald. The site of the precinct is built upon existing CWA memorial infrastructure and the old railway station. The project, which includes landscaping, picnic areas, nature play, banners and the purchase of the Post Office building for an interpretive centre and café, make this project visually appealing and regionally significant.



Albany finalist

ANZAC Albany Festival

Albany's heritage and culture projects are outstanding. The RSL and City of Albany collaborated to deliver the inaugural ANZAC festival, including the Convoy Campout event. Ship HMAS *Newcastle* officers performed a sunset ceremony and over 10,000 people attended the Troop March. The Field of Light art installation of 13,000 glass spheres will mark 41,000 troops who departed for the Great War from Albany.



Collie finalist

Museum revitalisation

Collie's Coalfields Museum grew from humble beginnings, with local Stan Cull salvaging items from the rubbish tip. The collection grew into a museum run as a family concern for nearly five decades. This year the museum was taken on by a volunteer group, and 60 volunteers have put in over 6200 hours to catalogue, digitise and upgrade displays, with work still ongoing. The Shire of Collie repaired the building so that the museum, which was always a great place to visit, now displays a magnificent heritage collection.



Dowerin finalist

Minnivale old bakery oven

The town of Dowerin aims to resurrect the history of the nearby village of Minnivale, once a thriving community. To date, volunteers and the Shire of Dowerin have revamped the Methodist church and general store and created the outstanding Wheatbelt Heritage Rail Discovery Centre. The oven is all that remains of a significant dynasty of bakers. Restoration of the bakery land has included clearing of rubbish, weeds and dead trees for safer access, erecting signage, and a protection area around the bakery, with further plans to preserve the oven and create an interesting visitor experience.



Northam finalist

Bilya Koort Boodja Centre (BKB)

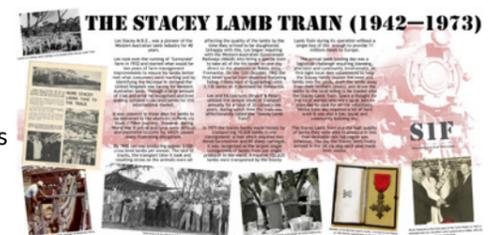
Set on the Avon River next to the Northam Visitor Centre, this unique cultural centre is a beautiful and spacious building that will have a regional impact. Completed in June 2018, BKB has a welcome space, interpretative space, sorry space and yarning circle. Interactive displays provide outstanding cultural educational experiences. The centre is a significant project and demonstrates outstanding commitment to, and preservation of, the culture of the Nyoongar Ballardong region. The Shire of Northam and Northam Aboriginal Advisory Group collaborated on the building. The centre will protect, celebrate and share the culture of the Nyoongar people and highlight land management practices that draw upon the knowledge of the land's traditional custodians.



Quairading finalist

Stacey's Fat Lamb Train

The Quairading Agricultural Society and Land Conservation District Committee combined to acknowledge the entrepreneurial excellence of Stacey family who, from 1942-1973, commissioned an annual train at the Badjaling railway siding to take fat lambs to market. More than 10,000 lambs transported in 1971 made it the largest consignment from one farmer in the world at that time. Leslie Stacey received an MBE for his services to the fat lamb industry.





Litter Prevention & Waste Management award

This category assesses leadership and innovative methods in the provision of litter, recycling and disposal amenities, participation in community clean-up days, and education and awareness programs.

Port and South Hedland winner

Hedland Recycling

Hedland Recycling was launched and a new recycling guide produced to raise awareness of recycling options in the community. Regular litter recovery projects including Adopt-A-Spot group clean-ups, Cash for Trash support, Toxfree drop-offs, e-waste recycling and Recycle Day events meant that 3740kg of plastics, 6974kg glass and 5511kg of mixed paper were diverted from landfill by the community. The Live It, Tell It survey showed recycling is on people's list of priorities and consultation with the community has led to clean-up initiatives and action.



Djarindjin finalist

Community Emu Bob

This small Kimberley region community of 300 on the Cape Leveque Road is congratulated on the implementation of a litter pick-up program (colloquially known as an 'emu-bob') aimed at encouraging children aged 6-15 years to collect litter. The underlying message conveyed through this initiative and by the school is to put litter in the bin. Bags of rubbish can be traded for a voucher to spend at the Djarindjin store, with numbers of bags collected displayed on a scoreboard.



Kalgoorlie-Boulder finalist

Dob in a Dumper

The City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder's litter and recycling initiatives include sending 300 non-repairable wheelie bins to be recycled for Carnaby's and black cockatoo breeding homes. The successful Dob in a Dumper campaign uses social media to show the cost of illegal dumping to the environment and the community, and has resulted in increased prosecutions. So successful was the campaign that someone handed themselves in!



Meekatharra finalist

Meeka Goes Green recycling

The Meeka Goes Green recycling centre continued to expand, with increased numbers of community members accessing this outstanding volunteer-run service, and two initiatives implemented. This included purchasing a second baler for cans, tins and plastics, enabling the existing baler to be used exclusively for paper. A repurposing section was also set up at the centre, enabling unwanted donated items to be purchased by visitors to the centre, and it's proving popular!



Wickham finalist

Litter pick-ups

Wickham Tidy Towns is a vital and clearly recognisable part of Wickham life and culture. The community's clean-ups throughout the year involved 180 volunteers who collected 2,300 bags of rubbish. With support from Toxfree removing bags and the City of Karratha's Bucks for Bags program, Wickham Tidy Towns supported 14 other community groups and sporting organisations that helped with clean-ups and provided funds for jute reusable shopping bags, exercise equipment and the Light's On project.



Wongan Hills finalist

Tidy Towns Clean-ups

Wongan Hills Tidy Towns is an active key group in the community. Adopt-A-Spot groups carried out monthly litter clean-ups along 90km of road and bushland around the town. Engagement by the Shire of Wongan-Ballidu increased with machinery made available to the groups for large dumped items. Overgrown yards and piles of junk were cleared. Funds raised through Wongan Tidy Towns Committee are used to provide refreshments for volunteers as well as providing funds for new entry signs.





Environmental Education award

This category recognises an outstanding initiative, organisation or community for its innovative environmental advocacy, action or awareness.

Cowaramup winner

Catching Gold

In 2017, Cowaramup Primary School's Year 6 class took it upon themselves to champion the removal of goldfish from Duggan Dam. Their project, Catching Gold, aimed to keep local waterways free of invasive goldfish. They recorded their observations and set up an underwater camera to produce a fantastic film of their journey. Their project was inclusive, involving the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, Murdoch University, and nature conservation and local volunteers. After a series of net, bait and traps proved ineffective, electrofishing was used and the dam was cleared of the invasive pest. The school now plans to stock the dam with native species.

Augusta finalist

The Environmental Research Group Augusta's – Kings Park

The Environmental Research Group Augusta advocates to protect 83ha of unallocated Crown bushland at the entry to Augusta. The 85-member group advocates to have the land saved from development and protected as a conservation park. Education has involved a detailed biodiversity survey that revealed the land has over 300 plant species and 70 bird species. This year the group commenced documenting the area's history into a book, Augusta's Kings Park, with 17 authors contributing voluntarily.



Dowerin finalist

Dowerin Community Service Centre (CRC)

Aiming to continually deliver initiatives and information that incorporate an element of environmental awareness, Dowerin's CRC is a focal point for residents and visitors. Initiatives include making boomerang bags, a recycling station, a community garden constructed from recycled crates and five Adopt-a-Spot programs.



Esperance finalist

Lake Monjingup

Lake Monjingup is a Class A reserve and in January 2015, a devastating bushfire completely destroyed the eco-education information centre, toilets, lakeside boardwalk and much of the vegetation within the reserve. The Shire of Esperance and the Lake Monjingup Community Development Committee, along with numerous community groups, have now completed and reopened a new eco-education centre, providing an excellent facility for schools and community groups. Work also included building a walk platform, installing a Phyto Fighter foot cleaner and building a bird hide.



Kalgoorlie-Boulder finalist

Goldfields Education Mining Industry Alliance (GEMIA)

GEMIA is a not-for-profit organisation working to stimulate an interest in science. GEMIA delivers science programs and events to thousands of students across Kalgoorlie-Boulder. Events included a Future Earth theme during National Science Week, sustainability lectures on recycling and composting, and a community science night at the museum.



Mount Barker finalist

Mr Hooty

Mount Barker commenced an art project to help spread the word about the need for litter and waste management. A local artist and school children have collaborated to construct the Mr Hooty mascot for Mount Barker. Mr Hooty's messages are 'Be Wise, Recycle' and 'Be Wise, put your litter in a bin'.





Community Action and Wellbeing award

This award recognises the achievements of community organisations and shires in creating a healthy, vibrant community that has actively engaged groups from all sectors.

Ravensthorpe/Hopetoun winner

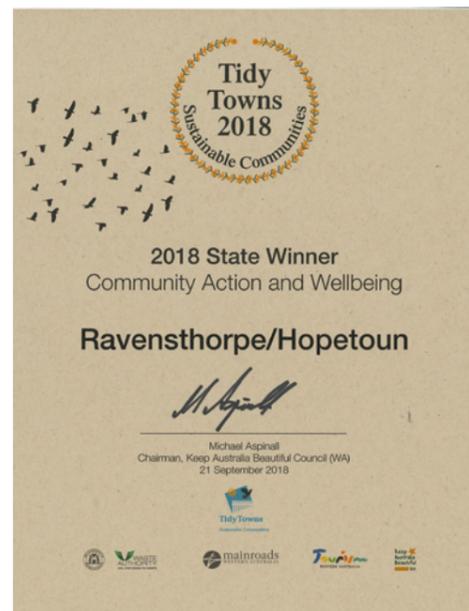
Floods will not stop us, we will go on!

In February 2017, the Shire of Ravensthorpe was affected by a flood which devastated the area and isolated towns. Every road in the shire sustained damage of some level, with many completely destroyed. The community rallied, showing true country spirit, and just got on with repairing the damage and taking care of everyone.

The world-class Ravensthorpe Wildflower Show, in its 36th year, is an internationally recognised botanical display that brings thousands of people into the shire and provides many opportunities for community members to share their love of this unique area, while having a good time and raising funds for community groups.

However, a flood, no roads and no access to the star of the show, Fitzgerald River National Park, meant a huge amount of barriers needed to be overcome for the show to go on.

The communities of Ravensthorpe and Hopetoun worked extremely hard to restore access to Fitzgerald River National Park in time for this event. Costing about \$750,000 and utilising local tradespeople, trucks, machinery and material, access was restored at the start of September 2017, just in time for this important regional event.



Margaret River finalist

Transition Margaret River's coffee club

Transition Margaret River (TMR) is a vibrant affiliation of members passionate about sustainability issues who work closely with the Shire of Augusta-Margaret River to develop Margaret River as a sustainable community. TMR's initiative to hold a coffee club on Saturdays at the organic garden is open to everyone and each week, a theme focuses on sustainability, waste reduction and sharing. Numbers attending have exceeded expectations and the event provides a discussion forum and safe venue for all members of the community.



Mungullah finalist

Tidying our community

Established in the 1980s, Mungullah is a small community of 150 people. Over the past 18 months, community members have made steady and increasing change in the Carnarvon community by working together and addressing littering and appearance issues. The Mungullah Crew have focused on picking up rubbish, removing old vehicles, general yard tidiness and revegetating areas with native flora. Mungullah Aboriginal Corporation has been active in encouraging residents to keep up their own properties and community areas. There is a feeling of pride in Mungullah and buildings have been restored and weeds cleared. Once again the buildings are used for community purpose.



Tambellup finalist

Recreation complex and community hub

People power in a small community is clearly illustrated in Tambellup. Community members planned from 2014 to source funding for ageing infrastructure at the sports ground. With \$3.7 million secured, the sports complex was completed in September 2017. The design incorporates community function areas, a commercial kitchen, water-wise landscaping and a new bowling green. The community sports club has taken over the responsibility of running the sports ground from the Shire of Broomehill-Tambellup. The community's vision of a modern sports hub has come to fruition.



Waroona finalist

Baldja Program

In its first year in Waroona, the Baldja Program has engaged Aboriginal youth to address youth suicide and self-harm. Partnering with WA Primary Health Alliance, Baldja outcomes have been very positive for at-risk youth and have strengthened community partnerships.



West Arthur finalist

Enterprising Communities Program

This project is the perfect example of how from little things, big things grow. A community engagement workshop by Peter Kenyon, Bank of Ideas, led to long-term goals and short-term initiatives being identified for this small community. Two activities to inspire the community were held, including decorating hayfields at Christmas, with engagement and competition widespread, and the inaugural Sheepfest event with over 1000 people attending. Planning for future events and initiatives is well underway.





General Appearance award

Recognises improvements to a community's general appearance including, but not restricted to, entries and approaches to town, business and retail areas, sporting areas, public parks and gardens, and private homes and streets, including footpaths and verges.

Halls Creek winner

Outdoor Art and Culture Project – car bonnets, murals and drums

This project is impacting the visual appearance of the Kimberley community. The Shire of Halls Creek, the Yarliyil Art Centre and Burks Park/Binawaji Aboriginal Corporation collaborated on the ongoing impressive art project to create visual and appealing signs, murals and bins – with the aim of creating community pride.

More than 40 Aboriginal artists have been engaged to paint over 50 murals, with many of the murals placed around the town – including at the post office, tourist centre and businesses as well as the surrounding areas – with the aim of creating an outdoor walking trail. Information plaques detailing the artist and background have been added to the paintings. The murals around the art centre perimeter are striking and draw visitors to the art centre.

Car bonnets have been recovered and painted by artists to create 15 signs now installed at popular tourist spots. This project is having a wider community impact, with the Ballaluna Aboriginal Community School (150km from Halls Creek) employing artist Barry Demi to paint a car bonnet.

In recycling at its best, old 44-gallon drums removed by Main Roads WA from the Great Northern Highway were collected by the Shire and are now being stripped, repainted and installed around the town as outstanding rubbish bins.

Albany finalist

New Tourism and information hub

The new \$3 million tourism and information hub in the CBD opened its doors in 2018 to much fanfare. The project combines state-of-the-art building concepts with the existing 1960s library building and is a vibrant addition to the main street. Noongar elders and artists were involved in planning and excavations, and Aboriginal artists painted a mural of the local historical identity Mokare at the site. Visitors can experience a virtual reality tour of the local area using goggle headsets and touchscreen kiosks. At night, the building is lit up with projections on the surrounds. Albany also has a new leafy sea dragon mural, created by FORM, resplendent on the CBH grain silos at the harbour. New welcome signs have been installed at entry points and the big roundabout has undergone a makeover with native plants and stone mulch.



Ngalingkadji finalist

Rim Man

Ngalingkadji is a small community 70km from Fitzroy Crossing. Residents have collaborated and worked over the year to radically improve the appearance of their community. The new entrance statement, Rim Man, made from recycled rim tyres and car parts, makes an appealing first impression. The community has created a fire pit and made seats from recycled building parts at the Home Maker Centre. Further improvements include reticulation and flower planting at the cemetery, removal of old sheds and cars to the tip, and greening of lawns.



Ravensthorpe/Hopetoun finalist

Shire of Ravensthorpe flood recovery

The joint community spirit displayed in the recovery of these communities after devastating floods in February 2017 is outstanding. Every road in the Shire of Ravensthorpe sustained damage and many were completely destroyed, with the damage bill at \$30 million. Community members rose to the challenge of rebuilding and improvement of their towns, and have planted natives and redeveloped the Hopetoun foreshore, sports ground and skate park. The Ravensthorpe Progress Association has turned salmon gum timber cleared from roads into stunning seat art with attractive paving inserts.



Tambellup finalist

St John Ambulance depot

The new depot was a collaborative effort from numerous community groups who raised \$250,000 for the \$440,000 building, with extra money sourced via grants and the Shire of Broomehill-Tambellup. Replacing a 60-year-old building, the new building has amenities including storage, bathroom and kitchen. Training and social events can now be held at the depot and the extended ambulance bay enables van training to be held in all weather.



West Arthur finalist

Three signage improvements

The information bay located on Coalfields Highway now complements the design of the railway station and the pioneer memorial. It is stunning and displays material that will not be outdated quickly. The rail trail interpretive signage located along the Darkan-Collie Rail Trail utilises the rail line in its design, appearing mounted on a railway line. The native garden interpretive signage is mounted on recycled wood from the Darkan Creek Bridge. The signs feature coloured photos of each plant and its flower, the common name, Noongar name and scientific name along with its Noongar flower essence, where relevant. There is also a map of where these plants can be found throughout the shire.



