

Sustain

KESAB Sustainable Cities & Communities Newsletter

Spring Edition 2011

Welcome to the KESAB Sustainable Cities and Communities Spring Newsletter.

The last couple of months have been very busy for both KESAB Sustainable Cities and Communities programs.

This edition of the newsletter comes to you "from the road" as I am currently judging for Sustainable Communities.

Having driven over 6000km already I must say that South Australia is looking wonderful. This year I have been greeted by vast amounts of greenery, whether it be crops or native vegetation and it certainly makes the long hours in the car more enjoyable.

Everywhere I have gone spirits have been high and I have been warmly welcomed into communities.

If you, like me, are always thinking of your next holiday destination I highly recommend exploring SA and wherever you go, don't forget to talk to the locals—they will always point you in the direction of a hidden gem. Whether it be the best bakery, great lookout or top camping spot!

Until next time,
Alex



KESAB

environmental solutions

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Highlights:

- *Details of the schools poster completion- \$2000 to be won.*
- *Wipe Out Waste audit*
- *Snapshots from 2011 Sustainable Communities Judging*

City of Charles Sturt— Sustainable Cities Winner!

The City of Charles Sturt has been judged KESAB *environmental solutions* South Australian winner of the 2011 Sustainable Cities Awards.

The City of Charles Sturt demonstrated a huge effort across the board in their environmental activities in Adelaide's western suburbs.

Embraced within Sustainable Cities Awards are the many partnerships that City of Charles Sturt has forged to implement and innovate through

projects including examples of water efficiency and harvesting with Grange Golf Club and Cheltenham Race Course sites.

Fencing and paths have been constructed working with community in the Tennyson sand dunes and planting and weeding have been a strong focus.

A Green Buildings program has been established ensuring sustainability reviews and upgrades have been implemented including installing solar panels and

energy saving devices at public toilets, library and community centres.

The City of Charles Sturt will now enter Keep Australia Beautiful National Sustainable Cities Awards. National judging will take place in September and the category and overall winners will be announced in Perth in November 2011.

Congratulations and Good Luck to City of Charles Sturt

Sustainable Cities and Communities Awards

Wednesday October 26 @ Semaphore Palais

If you are a current participant—keep an eye out for your invitation in mid September

Report from Executive Director

When Keep South Australia Beautiful commenced as an anti litter campaign in 1966 I am sure the Foundation Members did not foresee that the “campaign” would be alive and well some 45 years later.

The shape and delivery of programs and services delivered by the now leading NGO KESAB *environmental solutions* are dynamic and diverse and benchmark Australia in the context of environmental sustainability education and community engagement.

Nearly all South Australians have been touched through KESAB initiatives often driven through local action underpinned by important funding partnerships.

Some programs are delivered as part of State wide service agreements such as Wipe Out Waste, NRM Education or Sustainable Communities, others at the local level such as Road Watch and Clean Site working in conjunction with councils to reduce waste and litter.

In coming months KESAB will also focus on graffiti reduction education through a crime prevention initiative funded by the Attorney Generals Department. The project will embrace engaging schools and promoting an extensive graffiti clean up action day.

As part of KESAB communications upgrade four of the fleet vehicles have recently become travelling billboards with colourful imagery showcasing key messages including Recycle Right, Clean Marine, Wipe Out Waste and NRM Education.

And we have not forgotten our original objectives. In 2010 KESAB and the South Australian community achieved a reduction in litter *(KESAB Litter Index May 2011) and collected over 620 million beverage containers for recycling through Australia’s only Container Deposit System.

As we commence another year we can be proud of what KESAB has achieved but quickly recognise we could not have done it with out you.

Thank you to all South Australians for being part of the KESAB family.

John Phillips OAM
Executive Director

Keep an eye open for our new fleet of vehicles
You won't be able to miss us!



KESAB involved in River Murray survey

A recent survey of the River Murray provided vital information on the environmental health of the river and issues that impact on tourism, boating safety, bank stability and economic growth in the Murraylands and Riverland regions.

The Boating Industry Association of SA (BIASA), Environment Protection Authority (EPA) and KESAB partnered in the 700km river survey from Wellington to the New South Wales border during late July.

The survey involved a 'floating laboratory' aboard a twin-hulled houseboat from which data was collected on water quality, safety and environmental issues.

"The drought, followed by very welcome but extremely high river flows, prevented us from conducting the detailed survey along the full South Australian length of the river for the past five years," said BIASA General Manager, Glen Jones.

"Renewed flows have allowed us to develop this latest survey. We are delighted that the EPA and KESAB partnered with us in work that will generate information to help various authorities deliver positive outcomes for the environment and everybody who enjoys the river", he added.

Regular stops were conducted along the way, including Mannum, Waikerie and Loxton, to meet with community organisations and individuals to discuss issues affecting the river environment, safety and also on boating, tourism and leisure activities.

"The survey also provided an 'on river' opportunity to look more closely at over 20 locations that are highly sensitive to the wake from river craft with a view to developing a number of initiatives including user education packages and installing signs that aim to improve safety and amenity," said Dick Olesinski, KESAB's representative on the survey.

Apart from gathering vital data, the survey provided an ideal opportunity to work with industry, government representatives and the community to identify environmental matters and raise awareness, while interacting with river users to highlight the need for environmental care and compliance with issues such as the discharge of grey water from vessels together with litter and general behaviour whilst enjoying the river.

EPA officers involved in the survey observed and recorded:

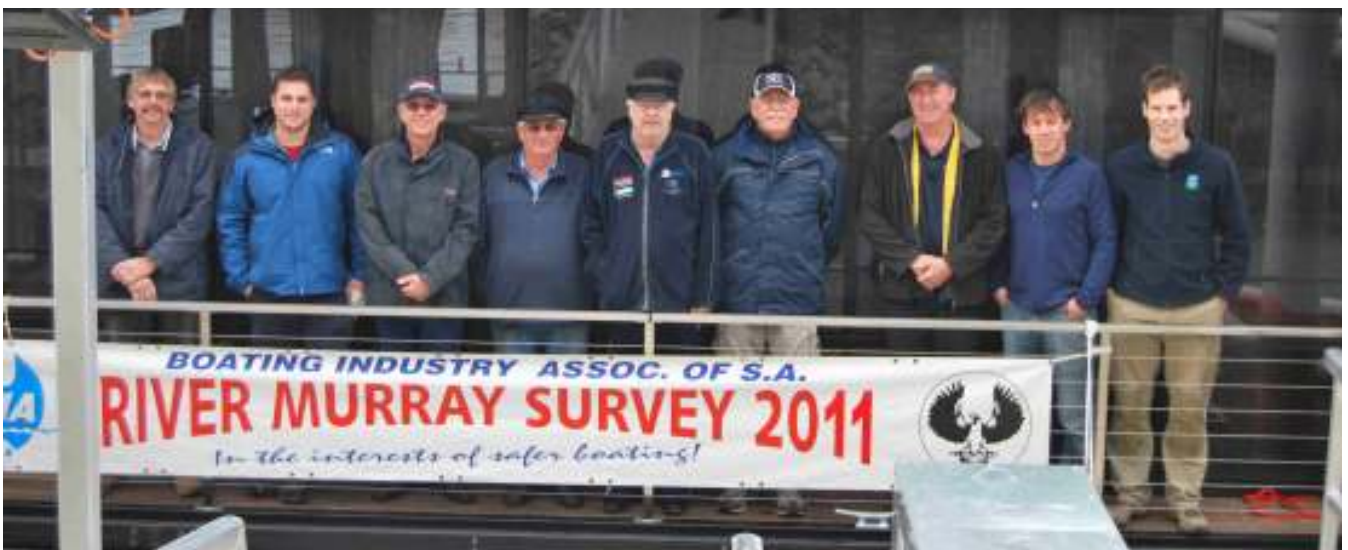
- * 19 instances of illegal sand dumping;
- * 10 instances of illegal riparian grazing;

- * 15 instances of illegal development;
- * 8 partially submerged vessels;
- * 9 abandoned vessels;
- * audited 262 private vessels for waste water discharge compliance;
- * quantified inland vessels and locations, and recorded registration details;
- * undertook water quality monitoring at 18 Lower Murray sites;
- * undertook water quality profiling at 10km intervals along the whole river system, and
- * maintained continuous logging of surface water quality parameters for the duration of the survey.

For further information on the 'No Wake' zone development, which is part of KESAB's involvement in the River Murray ECO Action program, please contact Dick Olesinski on 0413 750681.



Photo; River Murray Survey team including staff from KESAB, BIASA and EPA.



Program News

Sustainable Communities Merit Signs

Each town/ community that is participating in the Sustainable Communities program is entitled to **5 FREE SIGNS**.

Each town can choose the wording they would like on their signs (In the white section—5 words maximum).

Signs will be ready for pick up at the awards ceremony. Therefore orders must be received by September 30.

As mentioned in a previous edition, there are still some towns that are using the old Tidy Towns signs. In order to receive your new signs you will need to bring your old signs please to swap over.

Please email, write or call us with your order, clearly stating the text for each sign.

Additional signs will be available for purchase in the near future.



Something Fishy Happening at Warradale & Alberton Primary Schools



Three years ago after visiting the River Murray, Warradale Primary students discovered the Southern Purple Spotted Gudgeon was critically endangered in South Australia and locally extinct in the Adelaide metropolitan creeks and rivers.

Since then, students have been committed to creating a wetland paradise at their school to provide a local habitat and create awareness about the fish. They have been involved from the beginning assisting with the planning and implementation including conducting biodiversity audits, planting days, fundraising to buy more plants, stocking the wetland

with macro-invertebrates and engaging with a number of stakeholders and the local community to help make the project happen.

The students have shown a strong commitment to follow the project through and their passion in creating a habitat for the Gudgeon has also increased habitat for other local native species. Students have shared the learning with their school community as well as peer teaching students from other schools.

In 2010, the school formed its own partnership with Alberton Primary School who are part of a Purple Spotted Gudgeon breeding program in the River Murray system by rearing and releasing the fish into the Piawalla Wetlands near Murray Bridge. In May 2011, students from both schools were able to release the Purple Spotted Gudgeons into their new Warradale Wetland home, just two years after the wetland was constructed.

What was once a concrete patch in the far corner of the school is now teeming with native plants, birds, critters...

and now Purple Spotted Gudgeon.

NRM Education has been supporting student actions at both schools for several years through mentoring students, provision of resources and staff professional development.



Alberton students inspect fish in their new home

Snapshots from Sustainable Communities Judging 2011



Baby Chicks at Booleroo District School—food production, sustainability and agriculture are an important aspect of teaching here. But don't worry—these aren't for eating!!!



My tour guides at the Loxton Preschool Centre—where they are teaching children from a very young age the importance of sustainability, through recycling, water usage and sustainable gardening.



Foodbank at Mt Gambier—not only helping a huge number in the community, but saving vast amounts of good food from going to landfill. Over the past six years 450 000 kilograms of food has been distributed.

Steamtown—showcasing the history and culture of the railways in Peterborough and South Australia.



Investigator College— Sustainable Living Ecocentre at Currency Creek. Runs on solar power, uses a geothermal heat exchange system, solar passive design—just to name a few of its features!



Beginning of the Ramindjeri Heritage Trail at Kent Reserve Victor Harbor. The trail continues along the coast with signage at many points that tell the story of the Ramindjeri people and the local area.

WOW- Wipe Out Waste

Since the WOW - Wipe Out Waste initiative began in 2006, sites that have attended WOW workshops are able to have WOW staff work with their students to conduct Bin Materials audits. These are a great way to really identify what is going into bins to landfill, and make any changes to improve (or develop) source separation systems. The pie chart below gives a breakdown of the type of materials found in bins.

Now that we have begun re-auditing some sites, it's clear that audit information does help to reduce the volume of material sent to landfill, with 8 out of 10 re-audited sites reducing their volume by between 40-70%

WOW congratulates Jervois Primary School which had the smallest volume in recent years, with only 0.13L of material to landfill generated daily by each person in the school. This is well below the average figure (for 95 sites) of 0.81L/person/day. Well done Jervois Primary School Community, well on the way to generating Zero Waste!

A new WOW resource that will be available by the end of 2011 is a DIY audit kit designed for smaller sites with less than 100 students. This resource will allow you to separate directly into the audit categories (with labels and pictures provided) which can then be quantified by weight and volume.

For sites that haven't yet attended a WOW event, we slowly roll around the state with workshops (**South East in Week 10 this Term!**), keep an eye on the website www.wow.sa.gov.au

And every holidays we hold **FREE** Holiday Field Trips in Adelaide which are an amazing day out on a bus visiting local resource recovery sites- book in for these they fill up fast!



Government of South Australia
Zero Waste SA

Jervois Primary School students sorting through litter for their school audit.



Winners and Prizes

Prize awards are for 1st, 2nd and 3rd for each division

1st - \$150, 2nd - \$100, 3rd - \$50.

Overall winner (\$250) & runner up (\$200)

Winning slogan - \$100

Themes and Guidelines

- Posters should have a positive approach and focus on solutions to South Australia's environmental issues
- Posters should embrace environmental themes such as; litter, water, energy, biodiversity, pollution, recycling, climate change, environmental protection.
- Classes may choose to focus on one theme or allow students to choose their own theme.
- Poster should be artistic, original, clearly demonstrate the theme and original slogans are encouraged.
- Reproducibility will be a factor in judge's decisions, so use good clear lettering, bright colours and high contrast
- All South Australian Schools students are eligible to enter.
- Divisions: Reception- Year 3 Year 4- Year 7
 Year 8- Year 10 Year 11- Year 12

Rules

- A3 size paper only (landscape preferred)
- Key slogans may be used eg. Keep South Australia Beautiful and Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.
- No copyrighted, syndicated, clip art or electronically produced imagery
- Students name, yr level & school to be written lightly on the back to prevent showing through. (No names or signatures on front of artwork)
- Whole class entries need to be accompanied by an entry form – available on our website www.kesab.asn.au
- All entries become the property of KESAB environmental solutions & KESAB reserve the right to modify any poster for reproduction purposes.

Entries

Mail to KESAB at 214 Grange Rd, Flinders Park SA 5025 or send through the DECS Courier system and address it to KESAB in bold lettering. Please use an A3 envelope if possible - Do not fold or bend entries.

Winning entries will be reprinted with acknowledgements in the KESAB environmental solutions Events Calendar in 2012.

Deadline: Friday September 30 2011 (end of Term 3)





214 Grange Rd
Flinders Park SA 5025

Phone: 08 8234 7255
Fax: 08 8234 7266
E-mail: communities@kesab.asn.au
Website: www.kesab.asn.au



Keep an eye on our website for the latest KESAB news!

www.kesab.asn.au

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Have your details changed? Are you new to Sustainable Communities?
Would you like to receive the newsletter as an electronic version?

Name of contact person:

Organisation:

Postal Details:

Phone Number :

Fax:

Mobile:

Email:

- I would like to receive an electronic copy of the newsletter instead of a paper version
- My / our details have changed

Please remove and fax/ send to the details above.

You are more than welcome to email these details as well

- I / we are new to the Sustainable Communities programs