

# Sustainable Communities

2018 Program Information

*Showcase your local community*



# Showcase your local community

Showcasing local community action is at the heart of KESAB Sustainable Communities.

Sustainable Communities is about celebrating the sustainable actions, practices and achievements of South Australia's regional and rural communities. However, it is more than just a celebration; it's the recognition and acknowledgement of hard work, long hours, new ideas, passion, enthusiasm and spirit of regional South Australian communities.

The Sustainable Communities program is about people getting together to help their local towns, schools and businesses; to provide a better place to live, work and play; a place where visitors are delighted to go; and locals want to stay. And it's about protecting, conserving, managing and improving South Australia's resources and natural environment.

The KESAB Sustainable Communities program started as Tidy Towns in 1978 and grew over three decades to be an iconic South Australian environmental education and action program. The program encouraged schools, councils and community groups to improve their local area through litter management and beautification.

In 2008, Tidy Towns transitioned to Sustainable Communities. The program has retained its focus on community action, while expanding to encourage communities in regional South Australia to become environmentally conscious, proud of their history, naturally beautiful, litter free, and of course, sustainable!

In 2018, the program celebrates its 40th year! Over the past four decades, regional South Australian communities have undergone significant changes and we want to take the opportunity to reminisce but also to look forward to the future and innovative and exciting ways that regional communities are tackling long term sustainability and embracing change.

No matter how big or small the town, there is a place for every regional South Australian community within Sustainable Communities!





## **WHY PARTICIPATE?**

Participating in the KESAB Sustainable Communities program can have many benefits including increased community involvement and pride in local activities as well as opportunities to tell your community's story via Awards and through local and wider media.

Most importantly, it brings you into a network of many other community groups, schools, councils, towns and businesses in South Australia, who share a passion and commitment to sustainability and provides an opportunity to learn more about their initiatives.

## **WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?**

Community groups, schools, individuals, businesses and councils in regional/rural South Australia can all be part of the Sustainable Communities program.

## **HOW DO YOU PARTICIPATE?**

To participate in the Sustainable Communities program you must fill out an entry form.

The information in this booklet will explain the entry process and will also provide you with some tips for a successful entry.

## FROM THE 2017 WINNERS

Being involved in the KESAB Sustainable Communities Awards has provided a platform for Kimba to showcase on a national stage the fantastic outcomes that have been able to be delivered through innovative collaboration between Council and community stakeholders.

Whether its creativity in the form of Kimba's must-see silo art, the work being done on waste management and resource recovery initiatives, or the projects providing our future leaders the skills needed to drive environmental change, I believe we have always punched well above our weight, and being crowned the 2017 South Australian Sustainable Communities Overall Winner is testament to this.

Kimba has a diverse cultural heritage, and being involved with the awards has given us an opportunity to share the immense pride we have with the rest of the country.

Dean Johnson  
Mayor  
District Council of Kimba



Kimba is known as Halfway Across Australia, Eastern Gateway to the Gawler Ranges, and more recently home to some fabulous Silo Art. Being a small rural community heavily reliant on agriculture in a low rainfall area poses us some challenges. However we also have some great strengths with a 'Can Do' attitude and very proactive community groups and District Council. Volunteering is a way of life in Kimba and this contributes significantly to our resilience as a community.

Winning the KESAB 2017 Sustainable Communities Overall Award (and the Medium Towns Award) has given us the opportunity to acknowledge and promote many of the innovative projects that have been rolled out in our community. It has supported us in raising our town's profile through the Awards ceremony and media attention. The Awards have also enabled us to hear about other great projects around the state and nation to keep the ideas coming and to build networks with other participating communities.

Kimba's involvement in the Sustainable Communities program has been extremely rewarding and definitely well worth our participation.

Heather Baldock  
Chairperson

Kimba Community Development Group Inc



# PROGRAM INFORMATION

There are two core award categories for the 2018 Sustainable Communities program; Overall Towns and Outstanding Projects.

## **Overall Town Awards**

To qualify for the Overall Town Awards an entry must have projects in six categories, including the compulsory category – Community Action and Partnerships.

Entries that qualify for the Overall Award are to be submitted by a Council or Community Group on behalf of their community. Schools, businesses and individual can still participate in the program, as part of their broader community entry.

Entries will be judged as;

Small Town/Community – population < 1000

Medium Town/Community – population 1001 – 5000

Large Town/Community – population > 5001.

## **Overall Project Awards**

To qualify for the Overall Project Awards, the entry must have elements of at least three categories. Entries can be submitted by Council, Community Group and Schools.

Entries will be judged as;

Best Overall Council Project

Best Overall Community Project

Best Overall School Project.

## **Categories;**

Appearance, Amenities and Facilities

Community Action and Partnerships

Environmental Sustainability and Education

Health and Wellbeing

Heritage and Culture

Leadership and Youth Activities

Natural Environment Management

Resource Recovery, Waste Management and Litter Prevention.

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

Entries Open – 17 May 2018

Entries Close – 11 July 2018

Judging – July and August 2018

Awards – September 2018 (date to be confirmed)



## **APPEARANCE, AMENITIES & FACILITIES**

This category recognises the overall appearance and appeal of a town or community, as well as the amenities and facilities.

These are some examples:

- entry statements
- streetscapes
- information bays
- visitor information centres
- playgrounds, sports grounds, parks and gardens
- signage, lighting and public amenities.



## COMMUNITY ACTION & PARTNERSHIPS

This category recognises the partnerships formed in communities, between schools, community groups, business, industry and local government. It also recognises the actions undertaken to protect, enhance and promote the community and its features.

These are some examples:

- local government, industry and business support of schools and community groups, community initiatives and events
- joint initiatives (e.g. schools and community working together on project)
- community awards
- volunteer and community initiatives
- information sessions
- fundraising initiatives
- bulk buy initiatives
- festivals, celebrations or events
- community spirit, drive and pride.





## **ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY & EDUCATION**

This category recognises the sustainable use of resources and the creation of sustainable communities. It includes energy and water management and efficiencies, decreasing the environmental footprint and sustainable transport. Also embraced within this category is environmental education, at both school and community levels.

These are some examples:

- energy efficiency initiatives including alternative products, reduction practices and actions towards carbon neutrality
- energy generation from renewable sources
- sustainable transport
- green buildings
- climate change adaptation
- management plans
- sustainable use of water/ water reuse
- water sensitive urban design
- monitored/ automatic irrigation
- community awareness and education initiatives.

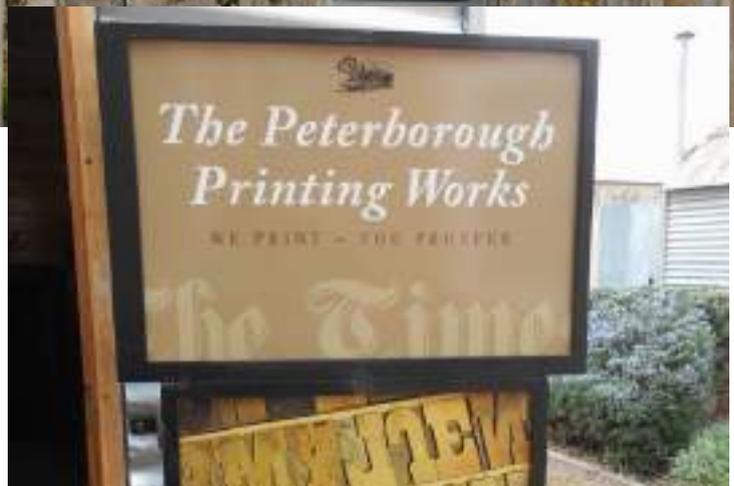


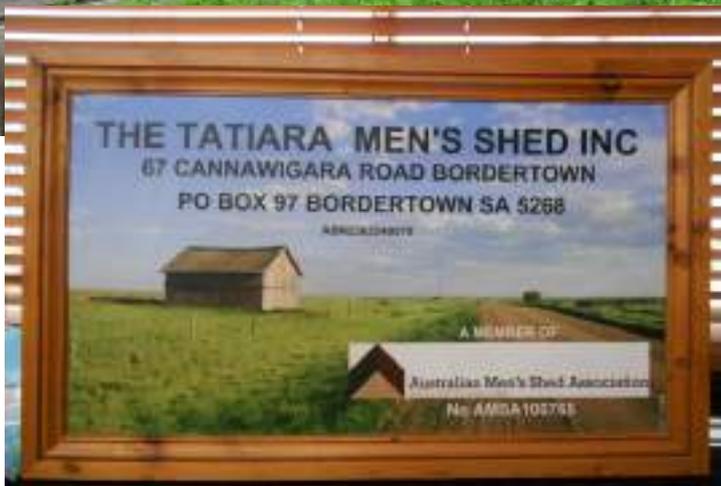
## HERITAGE & CULTURE

This category recognises initiatives that preserve, celebrate and value Indigenous and non-Indigenous (including maritime, agricultural, industrial) heritage and culture. Buildings, places, objects, events, practices, stories and more are embraced within this category.

These are some examples:

- local museums and history displays
- interpretive signage, town history walks and heritage trails
- preservation of heritage sites and artefacts
- cemeteries, memorial parks and gardens
- celebrations and commemorations of historical and cultural events
- artwork depicting local heritage, landscapes and activities.





## HEALTH & WELLBEING

This category recognises initiatives that contribute to the health and wellbeing (physical and mental) of the community, and in particular linkages to the environment.

These are some examples:

- sporting facilities including skate and bike parks
- community gardens, produce swaps and vegetable gardens
- cycling and walking trails
- playgrounds and fitness equipment
- men's sheds
- community facilities
- disability access
- targeted community groups, programs or events
- lifestyle programs, community networking, group fitness and walking groups.





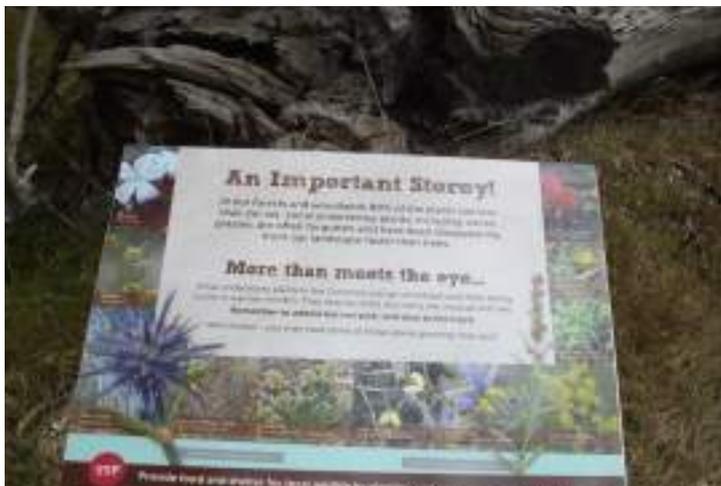
## LEADERSHIP & YOUTH ACTIVITIES

This category recognises the achievements by individuals or groups in community participation and initiatives. In particular, activities undertaken by young people or joint initiatives that contribute to sustainability in their town/community.

These are some examples:

- community driven events or actions (e.g. fundraising events, campaign for skate park)
- youth run groups or initiatives (e.g. Young leaders, Youth Environment Council, SRC)
- buddy systems
- mentoring programs
- public education campaigns driven by young people
- youth connections (e.g. council, business, awards programs).





## NATURAL ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT

This category recognises the protection, conservation and enhancement of the natural environment including waterways, dunes, corridors, roadsides and recreation areas

These are some examples:

- demonstration gardens
- seed nurseries and propagation activities
- riparian vegetation management
- habitat provision
- frog ponds and wetlands
- protection schemes for local flora/fauna
- weed removal
- replanting schemes
- breeding programs
- eradication of feral animals
- education and community awareness programs
- salinity and soil erosion programs
- interpretive signage
- Land Care, Coast Care, Friends groups
- wildlife corridors - roadsides or property.



## RESOURCE RECOVERY, WASTE MANAGEMENT & LITTER PREVENTION

This category recognises achievements in reusing, reducing and recycling waste, litter management (including enforcement) and prevention, along with education and awareness.

These are some examples:

- education/ awareness programs
- resource recovery centres and waste transfer stations , drumMUSTER, Mobile Muster, Planet Ark, REDcycle
- audits and data gathering
- community waste events (clothes swaps, shared produce)
- adequate provision and collection of litter bins and other waste streams (e.g. recycling, cigarette bins) including appropriate signage
- CDL collections schemes
- innovative reuse of materials
- e-waste recycling, composting, worm farms
- local clean up days.



# IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- To qualify for the Overall Award, your entry must include projects in the compulsory Community Actions and Partnerships category, as well as five other categories. You are more than welcome to enter more than six categories. To qualify for the Overall Project Awards, the initiative must have elements of at least three categories.
- Communities and councils are able to enter both categories (Town and Project). A project entered as part of the Overall Project Award can also be included in the Overall Town Award.
- If you have accompanying data for any of the projects or initiatives, please submit this as it provides a greater overview of the practices taking place in the community.
- Submissions may include relevant photos, newspaper clippings or additional documents. Printed entries are accepted, however electronic is preferable.
- If your entry includes projects that are seasonal or have significant “before & after” elements, please include photos to adequately demonstrate the work undertaken.
- Projects or initiatives do not need to be large in scale or cost. Small projects that have a significant outcome for your town/community are equally as important.
- As an overall community entry, we encourage you to get representatives from a cross section of your community (industry, recyclers, schools, businesses, council, and community groups) and work together to put in a submission. This allows for a more thorough understanding of your town and shows us that the broader community is involved and interested in sustainability.
- Entries should cover recent initiatives (within the past two years) or be substantial progress on an existing/older project.
- Entries can include projects that are in their planning or implementation phase. Please include as much information about these as possible, including expected outcomes and timeframes.
- Most importantly, we are more than happy to help you with your entry. We can talk you through the process and assist with completing your entry form!

Please note: We may not be able to undertake an onsite judging visit for every entry. If this is the case, we will undertake a comprehensive judging process via desktop/phone conversations. Your entry will not be disadvantaged if this occurs.

Onsite judging visits will be given a minimum of two weeks notice.

Judging takes into account resources available, climatic conditions and demographics of a community.

**KESAB thanks the following partners and sponsors  
for their valuable support of the  
KESAB Sustainable Communities program**



The Sustainable Communities Awards event is held in conjunction with Wipe Out Waste and NRM Education as an opportunity to showcase initiatives across schools, community and councils across all of South Australia.



## **Contact Details**

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