



MEDIA RELEASE
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Australia's Tidiest Town announced

Keep Australia Beautiful has announced the winners of the 2017 Australian Tidy Towns Awards. The sustainability and litter-fighting organisation set out to recognise the hard work undertaken by individuals and groups in rural communities and share these best practices and ideas to continue to improve our vibrant rural towns. Running since 1990, the national awards are sponsored by the [Australian Packaging Covenant](#) and the [Department of the Environment](#).

The finalist for Western Australia, Greenbushes was the joint winner of the **Community Action and Wellbeing** category and was highly commended in **Dame Phyllis Frost Litter Prevention Waste Management and Resource Recovery; Environmental Sustainability; Environmental Education and Young Legends**. The overall Australian Tidy Towns win went to Barmera, South Australia.

Australian Tidy Towns judge Jill Grant said, "The sense of inclusion and forward planning to create a better life for all residents and a sustainable legacy for the future are overarching features of this town.

"Young people in the town are active participants in all the sustainability activities and have strong community spirit as evidenced through the wildlife rescue, bush regeneration, "Little Library", St John's Ambulance volunteering and various fund raising initiatives."

Val Southam, Interim Chief Executive, Keep Australia Beautiful said, "The care and strong sense of cohesion that exists in the community means that the natural and cultural environment is in good hands and their future looks extremely positive.

"It's pleasing to see another year of high calibre National finalists from every corner of our amazing country."

The two-day event included a tour of Triabunna that showcased some of the town's excellent projects, which contributed to their win last year; an address by Greg Irons, Wildlife Rescue Campaigner and Former Young Tasmanian of the Year; highlights from Jill Grant's judging tour; finalist case studies; as well as opportunities, which allowed representatives the chance to share information and network with like-minded professionals from around Australia.

This year the program received more than 195 applications, with over 445 category submissions across councils, shires, community groups, schools and individuals.

The full judge reports and winners book are available at kab.org.au.

Australian Tidy Towns winners table 2017

Category	Winner	Highly Commended
Community Action and Wellbeing	Stanley, TAS & Greenbushes, WA	Areyonga (Utju), NT Barmera, SA
Dame Phyllis Frost Litter Prevention, Waste Management & Resource Recovery	Barmera, SA	Maitland, NSW Areyonga (Utju), NT Greenbushes, WA
Environmental Sustainability	Barmera, SA	Horsham, VIC Greenbushes, WA
Heritage and Culture	Stanley, TAS	Maitland, NSW Areyonga (Utju), NT
Young Legends	Barmera, SA	Horsham, VIC Greenbushes, WA
Environmental Education	Barmera, SA Horsham, VIC	Areyonga (Utju), NT Greenbushes, WA
Overall	Barmera, SA	

(ENDS)

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EDITOR'S NOTE:

About the Australian Sustainable Communities Awards

Keep Australia Beautiful seeks to lead, challenge and inspire all Australians to strive for a sustainable and litter free environment. It does this through research, communications programs and awards programs.

Its national awards are known as the Australian Sustainable Communities Awards, which consist of the Tidy Towns, Sustainable Cities, and Clean Beaches Awards. Each awards program commences with state and territory awards and culminates in a national Grand Final event.