



MEDIA RELEASE

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Saturday 4 November 2023

Bathurst wins top gong at Keep Australia Beautiful NSW 2023 Tidy Towns Awards

The winners of the Keep Australia Beautiful NSW (KAB NSW) 2023 Tidy Towns Awards were announced on Saturday 4 November 2023 at an event hosted by last year's winner, Scone.

The KAB NSW 2023 Tidy Towns Overall Award was awarded to Bathurst, qualifying the town to represent NSW in the National Tidy Towns Awards to be held in Gascoyne Junction, Western Australia in 2024.

Running nationally since 1990, the Tidy Towns awards have evolved to encompass projects and initiatives with a focus on environmental sustainability and resource management reflecting a growing awareness of the importance of community-led environmental action. The awards recognise the hard work undertaken by regional towns, councils, schools, individuals, and groups, encouraging the sharing of best practices and ideas to enhance our rural towns.

Overall winner Bathurst also won in the Litter Prevention: Clean Communities, Communication and Engagement and Heritage and Culture categories and received a highly commended in the Biodiversity Conservation category.

KAB NSW Tidy Towns Assessor, Doug MacDonald commented that "The Bathurst community is committed at every level to continue being a resilient, healthy, environmentally, and culturally sensitive community. There is very clear leadership from Council which has earned strong support from the community."

Val Southam, CEO of KAB NSW, said that "the Tidy Towns Awards inspire communities and councils across NSW to make a genuine and lasting contribution to their area through partnerships between local authorities, businesses, community groups, schools, and individuals.

"The commitment of the councils, organisations and individuals who entered is evident in the calibre of the entries received this year and I would like to congratulate this year's winners and finalists and everyone that entered." said Ms Southam.

The award program is run by Keep Australia Beautiful NSW with support from the NSW Environment Protection Authority, Upper Hunter Shire Council, Snowy Hydro, Australian Rail Track Corporation and TerraCycle.

Photos from the event and the awards winners' book are available at <https://www.kabnsw.org.au/bathurst-wins-top-gong-at-keep-australia-beautiful-nsw-2023-tidy-towns-awards/>.

Thank you to our
2023 awards and
event supporters



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KAB NSW 2023 Tidy Towns Awards Winners and Highly Commended Table

POPULATION CATEGORY	AWARD	RECIPIENT
OVERALL TIDY TOWNS AWARD		
Overall Winner	Bathurst	
Population category A	Winner	Bowraville
	Finalist	Walcha
Population category C	Finalist	Tilligerry Peninsula
Population category D	Winner	Muswellbrook
Population category E	Winner	Bathurst
	Finalist	Orange
	Finalist	Cesscock
Biodiversity Conservation - Sponsored by NSW EPA		
Population category A	Winner	Yuraal Native Community Gardens Mujaay Ganma Foundation Aboriginal Corporation
Population category C	Highly Commended	Naturally Leafy, Green Tilligerry Tilligerry Peninsula
Population category D	Winner	Sustainability and Landcare Muswellbrook Hunter Sustainability Landcare Team
Population category E	Winner	Tuggerah Lakes Foreshore Rehabilitation Central Coast Council
	Highly Commended	Conservation Volunteer Program Bathurst Regional Council
Bush Spirit		
Population category A	Winner	Spring Hill - The Little School That Could Spring Hill Public School
	Highly Commended	Phoenix, Together We Rise Nambucca Valley Phoenix
	Highly Commended	Bev Betts Rose Garden Walcha Council
Population category B	Winner	Community Skate Park Project Braidwood Braidwood Youth Performing Arts Association & Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council
Population category C	Winner	Where Theres A Will Where There's A Will (Scone)
	Highly Commended	TilliFest22 - Back to Normal? Tilligerry Community Association
Population category D	Highly Commended	The Great Cattle Dog Muster Muswellbrook Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Population category E	Highly Commended	Hampers of Hope Griffith Meals on Wheels
Circular Economy - Sponsored by NSW EPA		
Population category C	Winner	Green Seed Grocer Bec Kennedy, Scone
Population category E	Winner	Queanbeyan FOGO - Feeding the Soil Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council

POPULATION CATEGORY	AWARD	RECIPIENT
Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation – Sponsored by Snowy Hydro		
Population category A	Winner	Wirraminna's Climate-Adaptive Haven Petaurus Education Group
	Highly Commended	We Love Our River Nambucca Valley Landcare
Population category D	Winner	Eco Burn Education Mid Coast 2 Tops Landcare Connection
Population category E	Winner	Greening and Cooling the Tamworth Region Tamworth Urban Street Tree Advisory Committee
	Highly Commended	Cessnock Climate Change Resilience Plan Cessnock City Council
	Highly Commended	Wade Park - Net Zero Sports Precinct Orange City Council
Communication & Engagement		
Population category A	Highly Commended	Up-Cycling Reducing Textile Waste Murrurundi Landcare Tidy Towns Committee
Population category B	Winner	Waste to Art in Murrumbidgee Murrumbidgee Council
	Highly Commended	Environmental Envoy Outreach Program Rotary District 9705 - Environmental Envoy Team
Population category E	Winner	Water - Let's Make It Last! Bathurst Regional Council
	Highly Commended	DO-DO the Right Thing AlburyCity
Heritage and Culture		
Population category A	Winner	The Aunty Sue Project Walcha Central School
	Highly Commended	The Mural Project Bowraville NSW Mid North Coast Local Health District
Population category B	Winner	Digging Deep Time Megafauna Project Project Zone
	Highly Commended	Preserve and Retain History - Greta Camp Hall Branxton Community Hall
Population category C	Winner	Zine Tour of Native Gardens Cudgegong Valley Public School Aboriginal Education Committee
	Highly Commended	Rosy Futures Richmond Landcare
	Highly Commended	Chinese Tribute Garden Renovations Hilltops Council
Population category E	Winner	River Connections Bathurst Regional Council
Litter Prevention: Clean Communities - Sponsored by NSW EPA		
Population category C	Winner	Tidy Tilligerry Tilligerry Peninsula
Population category D	Winner	Trash Free Tuesday - Litter Prevention Cudgegong Valley Public School
Population category E	Winner	Banishing Bathurst Butts Beyond the CBD Bathurst Regional Council
	Highly Commended	Plastic Free Cafés Lake Macquarie Sustainable Neighbourhood Alliance
Litter Prevention: Clean Waterways - Sponsored by NSW EPA		
Population category E	Winner	Inland Fishers Tackle Litter Ozfish

POPULATION CATEGORY	AWARD	RECIPIENT
Local Legends: ≤ 25 Years		
Population category A	Winner	Young Legend Wurinda Gill Mujaay Ganma Foundation Aboriginal Corporation
Population category E	Highly Commended	James Sheahan and Community Regeneration James Sheahan Catholic High School
Local Legends: 26 - 65 Years		
Population category B	Highly Commended	Coolamon Lions Club Meeting Our Needs Coolamon Lions Club
Population category C	Highly Commended	Terri Blott Tilligerry Peninsula
Population category D	Winner	Rebecca Daniell Environmental Education Teacher, Cudgegong Valley Public School
	Highly Commended	Creating Inclusive Sustainable Community Warrior Disability Services
Population category E	Winner	Lake Mac Tiny Forest Anna Noon, The Groundswell Collective
Local Legends: > 65 Years		
Population category A	Winner	Walcha Men's Shed Walcha
Population category B	Highly Commended	Steve and Maureen Lind North Rothbury Tidy Towns
Population category E	Winner	Graham Johnston Clean4Shore
Resource Recovery & Waste Minimisation		
Population category A	Winner	Cobargo Folk Festival Zero Landfill Project Cobargo Folk Festival - Yuin Folk Club
Population category B	Winner	Another Moving Feast Rotary Club of Bungendore
	Highly Commended	Recycling and Waste Transfer Station Lachlan Shire Council
	Highly Commended	Eco Rangers Waste and Biodiversity Quirindi Public School
Population category D	Highly Commended	Green Team Muswellbrook South Public School
Population category E	Highly Commended	Business Soft Plastic Recycling Trial AlburyCity

Population Categories

- Population Category A: ≤ 1,500
- Population category B: 1,501-5000
- Population category C: 5001-12,000
- Population category D: 12,001-23,000
- Population category E: > 23,001

CONTACT DETAILS

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EDITOR'S NOTE:

ABOUT THE TIDY TOWNS AWARDS

Since 1981, the Tidy Towns Program has been rewarding and recognising projects around litter, waste management, recycling, heritage, community spirit and other environmental areas in towns both large and small across the breadth of NSW.

We endeavour to deliver an inclusive and positive platform that encourages shared learnings and inspires environmental action at the local level. The program recognises and celebrates those rural and regional communities who are pioneering the path towards a more sustainable future.

For more information about the NSW Tidy Towns Awards visit: <https://www.kabnsw.org.au/sustainability-awards-nsw/tidy-towns/>

ABOUT KAB NSW:

Keep Australia Beautiful NSW (KABNSW) is the state's premier organisation for litter reduction and environmental sustainability. Independent and not-for-profit, our focus is to engage communities and collaborate with industry, businesses, state and local government to promote sustainable behaviour changes for the future prosperity of our State.

Keeping Australia beautiful is about more than keeping litter out of our environment and over a 40-year history our programs have adapted to incorporate all aspects of sustainability. We have built a state-wide network of dedicated individuals, businesses, schools, community groups and government bodies striving to deliver a cleaner and more sustainable environment.

Through five core programs we work with communities across regional, metropolitan, and coastal NSW to educate and motivate environmental initiatives.