



MEDIA RELEASE
Friday 19 May 2023

Australia's 2023 Tidy Towns Sustainability Award Winners demonstrate regional Australia's commitment to sustainability.

Keep Australia Beautiful has announced the winners of the 2023 Australian Tidy Towns Sustainability Awards.

The Western Australian finalist, Gascoyne Junction was announced as the overall winner of the 2023 Australian Tidy Towns Sustainability Awards, at an event hosted by the 2022 winner King Island, Tasmania on Friday 19 May 2023.

Running nationally since 1990, the Australian Sustainable Communities - Tidy Towns Awards have evolved to encompass projects and initiatives with a focus on environmental sustainability and resource management to reflect a growing awareness of the importance of community-led environmental action. The Tidy Towns name has always been synonymous with community pride, cohesion and above all, community action. The awards reach beyond tourism to encourage, motivate and celebrate the sustainability achievements of grassroots rural and regional communities across Australia.

The finalist for Northern Territory, Mount Liebig was awarded joint winner of the **Heritage and Culture** category and highly commended in the **Environmental Sustainability – Energy, Environmental Sustainability - Water** and **Young Legends – Individual (Travis Baliva)** categories. Cedric Dixon also received a special acknowledgement from the judges as “Mount Liebig’s Litter Champion.”

The Australian Tidy Towns Sustainability Awards judging panel commended Mount Liebig and MacDonnell Shire Council on their effective partnerships to tackle a range of environmental and community issues, making the community one of the Northern Territory’s sustainability leaders.

“Mount Liebig is committed to going green and developing sustainable practices with recent upgrades to water and lighting infrastructure as well as a shift from petrol powered equipment to electricity.

“Travis Baliva excels in ensuring Mount Liebig’s water and power run efficiently, he displays a level of maturity well beyond his years despite very little work experience before joining McDonnell Regional Council.”

Val Southam, Chief Executive, Keep Australia Beautiful commended all the finalists in this year’s Awards.

“We are fortunate to be associated with some of the most dedicated and enthusiastic people in the world through the Australian Tidy Towns Sustainability Awards competition, which is largely run by volunteers.

“It is clear from the quality of projects entered in the National Awards Program that communities are passionate, committed, driven, and dedicated to making their communities special in every way.

“This is the true Tidy Towns spirit.”

The winners’ book and photographs are available at www.sustainablecommunities.com.au.

Australian Tidy Towns Sustainability Awards Winners Table 2023

Category	Winner
Overall Winner	Gascoyne Junction Western Australia
Dame Phyllis Frost Litter Prevention	Gascoyne Junction Western Australia HIGHLY COMMENDED - Mount Liebig Northern Territory SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT - Cedric Dixon Mount Liebig, Northern Territory
Resource Recovery and Waste Management	Euroa Victoria HIGHLY COMMENDED - Scone New South Wales
Heritage and Culture	Oatlands Tasmania & Mount Liebig Northern Territory HIGHLY COMMENDED - Gascoyne Junction Western Australia
Young Legends	GROUP Belltrees Public School Scone, New South Wales INDIVIDUAL Renzy Perez Scone, New South Wales HIGHLY COMMENDED - Travis Baliva Mount Liebig, Northern Territory
Environmental Sustainability - Energy	Euroa Victoria HIGHLY COMMENDED - Mount Liebig Northern Territory & Gascoyne Junction Western Australia
Environmental Sustainability - Water	Gascoyne Junction Western Australia HIGHLY COMMENDED - Mount Liebig Northern Territory Scone New South Wales
Environmental Sustainability - Natural Environment Management	Euroa Victoria HIGHLY COMMENDED - Oatlands Tasmania
Environmental Communication and Engagement	Euroa Victoria & Gascoyne Junction Western Australia HIGHLY COMMENDED - Scone New South Wales
Community Health, Wellbeing and Interest	Gascoyne Junction Western Australia HIGHLY COMMENDED - Scone New South Wales & Oatlands Tasmania

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EDITOR'S NOTE:

About the Australian Tidy Towns Sustainability 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 Tidy Towns Sustainability Awards. The Awards program commences with state and territory awards and culminates in a national Grand Final event.