

Sustain

KESAB Sustainable Cities & Communities Newsletter

Autumn Edition 2011

Welcome to the KESAB Sustainable Communities and Cities Newsletter.

Thank you to those who provided feedback on the first newsletter. I hope that you enjoyed reading the newsletter and found it worthwhile.

If you have an article that you would like to submit to the newsletter, send me an email or letter with the relevant information.

Sharing stories and ideas is a huge part of the Sustainable Cities and Communities program and we value your contribution.

Should you wish to receive the newsletter electronically or unsubscribe please see page 8.

Alex Hammett
KESAB Sustainable Communities Programs Manager



KESAB

environmental solutions

National Tidy Towns Awards

Congratulations to Waikerie for winning the Energy Innovation Award at the National Tidy Towns Awards.

The Awards were held on Saturday 16 April in Beechworth, Vic (2010 National Tidy Town Winner). Finalists from all over Australia gathered to celebrate their sustainability initiatives and achievements.

According to National Judge Dick Olesinski, a number of innovation and proactive measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote renewable energy sources, as well as many education programs and activities occurring in Waikerie's schools, contributed towards the award.

The Overall Winner was Lithgow, NSW.

- *Community Action & Partnerships* Westonia, WA
- *"Dame Phyllis Frost" Litter Prevention* Barunga, NT
- *Resource Recovery & Waste Management* Stanthorpe, QLD
- *Environmental Innovation & Protection* Lithgow, NSW
- *Water Conservation* Rutherglen, VIC
- *Heritage & Culture* New Norfolk, TAS
- *Young Legends* New Norfolk, TAS

Waikerie represented South Australia after winning the State award in November last year. Not only did they win the Energy Innovation Award, but were Highly Commended for their outstanding efforts in two other categories; Environmental Innovation & Protection, and Young Legends.



Kirsty Richards - KAB Board Member, Margaret Thiel, Cr Margaret Malthouse, Alex Hammett - KESAB Program Manager

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- *Youth Environment Council Camp*
- *Water for Good Excellence Awards*
- *Sustainable Communities Merit Signs*

Report from Executive Director

Here we are already almost half way through the "New Year". Are the years getting shorter or is KESAB just delivering more services?

KESAB Staff have been extremely busy working across a range of environmentally sustainable projects in partnership with State and Local Government, business sectors, schools and the community (see testimonial below).

Our level of expertise and experience to deliver services continues to expand, ensuring improved engagement in environmental and sustainability issues by the community.

In any one week KESAB will;

- Deliver a mix of school and teacher engagement sessions through Wipe Out Waste.

- Work with the building and construction industry demonstrating best practice site management through the Clean Site initiative.
- Work in partnership with the 250 Road Watch volunteer groups contributing to keeping South Australia's roads and highways litter free.
- Liaise with community groups and schools delivering lessons and resource support through NRM Education.
- Supply information and litter management services (litter and butt bins) to numerous event organisers throughout the State.
- Launch entry details for Sustainable Communities and Cities council and community based programs.
- Conduct council waste audits.

- Conduct community waste education tours and compost information workshops.
- Respond to over 100 calls from community and schools seeking information enabling action to better conserve waste, water and energy at the local level.

Supporting KESAB to deliver education and action based environmental initiatives are our very important partners. We take this opportunity to welcome new partners Sims Metal Management, Veolia Environmental Services, and the Department for Water.

Check out the new KESAB web site for more information.

John Phillips OAM
Executive Director



Christies Beach High School and Southern Vocational College

Education For All

23 March 2011

John D Phillips OAM
Executive Director
KESAB *environmental solutions*
214 Grange Road
FLINDERS PARK SA 5025

Dear John

I would like to express our thanks for the support that your organisation has given to our school.

Your staff has provided extremely valuable help to us in implementing sustainable initiatives.

It is not easy getting programs in place in secondary schools and the success that we are achieving has been a team effort between the school and organisations such as KESAB.

We have finally been successful in establishing an environmental cluster of schools in our area and the number of students visiting our school, in addition to our own, has increased.

Our yet-to-be-opened Environmental Learning Centre has opened up new opportunities to 'spread the word' and your generous donation of the interactive WOW wall is already proving popular with the students and teachers.

I hope that you will be able to attend the official opening of the ELC. This is likely to be early next term.

Again, thanks for your help and I look forward to catching up soon.

Yours sincerely

Paul Wilson
Principal

David Greenshields
Humanities Coordinator

Garden at the Wingfield Interpretive Centre is set to grow

A revamp of the Wingfield Interpretive Centre (WIC), located at the Wingfield Waste and Recycling Centre, is nearly complete.

The response from several community groups and school classes which visited the centre recently is very positive. Work is now in progress on developing the outdoor area into a garden and classroom to provide a more holistic learning experience.

The outdoor area will provide a great opportunity for interactive learning experiences which demonstrate and reinforce one of the key messages intrinsic to the Interpretive Centre: that much of the material currently going to landfill is a valuable resource which could be reused or recycled,

thereby reducing demand on our natural resources.

To reinforce this message, most of the materials used in the construction of the outdoor area are reused or recycled. The aggregate and sand used in the landscaping will be recycled building material sourced from demolition sites. A pergola will be constructed from recycled timber and school students will give old planters a new lease of life with mosaic art work.

An exciting aspect of this project is community involvement. The garden walls will be made from straw bales as part of community workshops to be held at the site, and Ocean View College will be involved with much of the civil work with St Pauls College assisting with carpentry skills.

Schools from all over the state will be able to visit the centre from Term 3, so regional sites can put it on their itinerary for city camps.

In addition there will be a FREE Holiday Workshop and Field Trip for school staff on Wednesday July 13th, based at the WIC. More details will be placed on WOW-Wipe Out Waste website closer to the date.

www.wow.sa.gov.au



KESAB Joins APY Lands TAFE EXPO

KESAB *environmental solutions* has been working with communities and schools on the remote APY Lands with Zero Waste to implement litter reduction action and recycling trials.

Engagement with remote aboriginal communities requires building strong onground networks and support groups and this has been achieved over the past two years through Regional Anangu Services (RAS), Bungala CDEP work crews and school teachers and students.

As an innovative approach to further build on the local networks, KESAB joined a number of diverse exhibitors on the APY Lands in April as part of the annual TAFE Careers EXPO.

The EXPO provided an opportunity

to showcase government and NGO service providers to APY communities and build awareness and increased understanding of issues including health, environment, waste and recycling, careers, mining exploration and education.

KESAB focused on the PALYA (good) Tidy Towns program encouraging clean communities, less litter, recycling and schools engagement.

APY schools have collected over 30 bales of CDL beverage containers in the past 12 months through a joint KESAB and Zero Waste SA recycling initiative, with hundreds of dollars being returned to schools for equipment and excursions.

Ernabella school senior students visited Adelaide in November 2010 using CDL earnings to expand their

knowledge about the Wipe Out Waste program, including on site visits to Wingfield Interpretive Centre, IWS and Statewide Recycling Education Centre.



PALYA Tidy Towns and Wipe Out Waste on show at Pipalyatjara

Program News

Sustainable Communities

2011 program information and entry details have now been sent out.

We encourage all regional South Australian community groups, schools, businesses and councils that are actively undertaking initiatives that contribute towards the sustainability of the community to enter.

To enter the program you **must** fill out an entry form and send it to us by either mail, fax or email.

Please include as many details about initiatives as possible.

If you are new to the program, or returning to the program and would like further information, please don't hesitate to call us! We would love to hear from you!

We have plenty of groups who approach us as they are unsure whether they are eligible, and more often than not they are!

Entries close for the 2011 program on **Tuesday 31 May 2011**.

Onsite judging will begin on June 27 and is likely to continue through July and August.

Please visit the KESAB website for more information and electronic entry forms.

We look forward to receiving your entry!

Sustainable Communities Merit Signs



During last years judging I noticed that some towns were still using the old merit signs (similar to the photo on the left) .

We would like towns to stop using these signs, and use the new Sustainable Communities merit signs (photo on right) .

All participating towns and communities will have access to 5 signs each, with relevant wording.

Please contact Alex for further information or to order your signs.



Water For Good Excellence Awards

KESAB and the Department for Water have partnered in 2011 to present the Water for Good Excellence Awards.

These awards are open to all South Australian community groups and schools who are working towards

securing the State's water future through education and behaviour change.

Entry for these awards can be through the Sustainable Communities program or as a single entry.

You may enter the same initiative for both the Sustainable Communities program and the Excellence Awards

Entry forms are available on the KESAB website and can be emailed, faxed or mailed.

SUSTAINABLE CITIES: ENTRIES ARE OPEN FOR METRO COUNCILS



Youth Environment Council of South Australia

Students take the lead on environmental action

On April 4th-5th, 50 year 6 to 11 students from 40 schools across South Australia came together to share, learn and be inspired about sustainability at a two day Youth Environment Council of SA leadership camp.

The two days included team building and getting to know you activities. Elisia Brook, NRM Education Officer with the Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Natural Resources Management Board said that they were looking at learning new ways to take action on environmental topics by developing leadership, team building and communication skills.

"The students did a great job of supporting each other as they didn't know each other beforehand", she said.

Feedback from students on what they gained and learnt was positive: "taking charge even though I didn't know anyone", "a sustainable place is a better place", "team work", and "confidence".

The AMLR NRM Board's NRM Education program has 13 Youth Environment Forum clusters, involving 320 students from 82 schools across the region.

At the first forum, students nominated themselves to be a YEC Representative, and this group then attended the leadership camp.

Six students from the camp were elected as the Executive Committee to represent South Australian youth on environmental topics.

They will meet with the Minister later in the year to discuss topics that students across the state are concerned about and are taking action on. This group's role will also be to lead activities at future YEC events.

A September Forum will be for the YEC representative group to come together and share stories about their projects, their successes, any challenges and what they have learnt by being a part of the YEC. Students will keep in touch throughout the year by taking part in online workshops.

The Youth Environment Council of South Australia is an initiative of the Department of Education and Children's Services and the Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Natural Resources Management Board.



Snapshots of

Port Vincent— South Australian Clean Beaches Winner 2010

Judged 27 November 2010



National Judging

Waikerie— South Australian Sustainable Communities Winner 2010
Judged 13/14 December 2010





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*KESAB have just launched our
new website
Please check it out!
www.kesab.asn.au*

KESAB Sustainable Communities & Cities Programs are proudly supported by



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Zero Waste SA



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