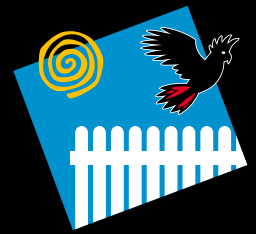


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**Tidy Towns**

Sustainable Communities

Tidy Towns  
**Winners' Book**

**2006**



Publishers  
National  
Environment  
Bureau



AUSTRALIAN  
FOOD AND GROCERY  
COUNCIL



Department of  
Environment and Conservation



## From the Chairperson



The Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities program is in its 37th year in Western Australia and continues to grow in strength and participation each year. The Keep Australia Beautiful Council strongly values the Tidy Towns program and it is an extremely positive way to engage with regional communities about social, cultural and environmental issues important to the region.

Minimising litter is still a strong focus in the Tidy Towns program, but the program has evolved to include promoting the messages of sustainability while creating positive social change in regional communities. Over the past few years Tidy Towns' expanded focus has resulted in the inclusion of new categories. The addition of these Achievement Award categories has allowed the Keep Australia Beautiful Council of WA to encourage communities to consider the various areas of sustainability. The new categories are Community Action and General Appearance, Recycling and Waste Management, Natural Heritage Conservation, Enhancing Cultural Identity and Water Conservation.

Every year, volunteers from each region are invited to take on the role of Tidy Towns' judges. This year has been no exception and once again we have had assistance from a rich diversity of judges. Along with the Department of Environment and Conservation judges in each region, we gratefully acknowledge government and non-government workers, staff from community agencies and community members who also gave their time to judge this year's awards. As with every year, in 2006 the judges deliberated over many difficult decisions, and I would like to personally thank them all for the considerable amount of time and effort they have put into the 2006 Tidy Towns program.

The Keep Australia Beautiful Council would also like to thank our sponsors, Australian Food and Grocery Council – Packaging Stewardship Forum, and Publishers National Environment Bureau. Without their generous support, the 2006 Tidy Towns program would not have been the huge success that it was.

In July this year, Keep Australia Beautiful Council launched its own website ([www.kabc.wa.gov.au](http://www.kabc.wa.gov.au)). This site is a gateway to all of KAB WA's programs, including information on the Tidy Towns program. This new website is a fantastic asset and promotional tool for Keep Australia Beautiful.

This Winner's Book showcases the 2006 Tidy Towns Regional Finalists and Regional Winner from each of the nine regions in Western Australia. These towns have all done exceptionally well in all the initiative categories. Of the nine Regional Winners, one town has been selected and has been awarded the title of 2006 State Winner. The State Winner will be flown to Victoria in early 2007 to compete with other State Winners for the title of Australia's Tidiest Town. We wish them the best of luck in the national competition.

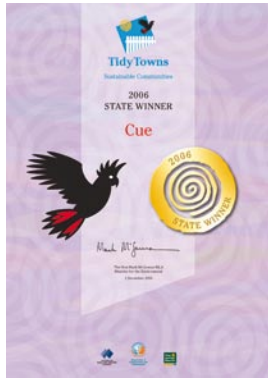
Listed at the back of this book are all the Achievement Awards Winners. Congratulations to these winners, as well as to the Regional Finalists, Regional Winners and State Winner. I would also like to extend congratulations to all the towns and communities who participated in the 2006 Tidy Towns competition. You should be extremely pleased with your contribution to one of the best and most impressive Tidy Towns competitions yet. The motivation and dedication you have exhibited and the hard work and commitment you have put into the 37th annual Tidy Towns program is both impressive and inspirational. All your time, effort and hard work has assisted in creating positive change in your community!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mel Hay', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Mel Hay, APM**

Chairperson  
Keep Australia Beautiful Council WA  
November 2006

## State Tidy Towns Winner Cue



Situated in Western Australia's Mid West, the small mining town of Cue has achieved outstanding results in Tidy Towns this year.

Known as the 'Queen of the Murchison', Cue is located 650 km north east of Perth. At the turn of the century Cue was the centre of the Murchison Goldfields, boasting a population of about 10,000, but now all that is left is a small settlement with some of the most grandiose buildings to be seen anywhere in rural Western Australia. The current population is about 300 and the Tidy Towns program was implemented with the help of volunteers, school students, local business and the Shire of Cue. Through the cooperation of the community, this dedicated small town has managed to achieve many positive initiatives this year, even though the Tidy Towns committee was formed as late as April 2006.

Cue Primary School has been involved in a variety of practical programs promoting sustainability. Students have practised the principles of reduce, reuse and recycle, conducted a school waste audit and have started a compost bin to help reduce the amount of school's green and organic waste going to landfill. This year Cue Primary School has also achieved Water Wise School accreditation.

In the past year many improvements have been carried out around Cue. Brockman Park was developed as a memorial, acknowledging a local Indigenous family. Now well established, it contains many features including shade, seating, barbecues, play equipment and a lovely garden.



In the main street, any disused shop windows had their front windows cleaned and filled with various displays, including antiques, making the street much more interesting to locals and tourists. An information centre was also established in the main street making use of a beautiful historical building and providing a valuable resource for tourists.

Natural heritage conservation work was undertaken by volunteers at Milly Soak, a historic spring, and graffiti was removed from Garden Rock, restoring the local natural icon to its former glory.

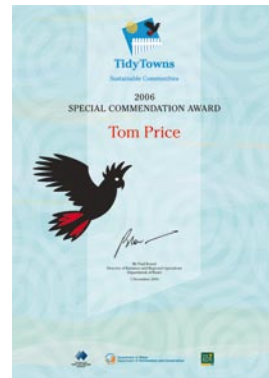
Good luck to Cue as they go on to represent Western Australia in the National Tidy Towns competition, sponsored by Hungry Jacks, to compete for the title of Australia's Tidiest Town.





# Special commendation

## Special commendation Tom Price



Tom Price has earned a special commendation from the State Judging Panel for their extraordinary efforts. Tom Price is a vibrant community, with a strong ethic of volunteering throughout the town. A great diversity of community groups, the Shire of Ashburton, Pilbara Iron, and the Ashburton Aboriginal Association worked together on many Tidy Towns projects this year and they are to be congratulated for their efforts.



## Regional overview

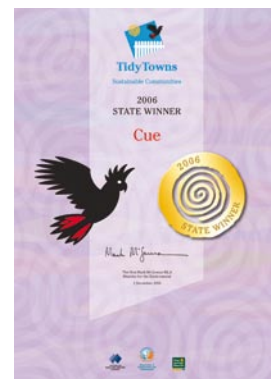
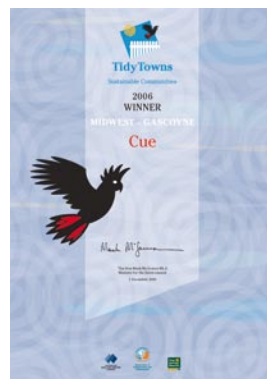
“This region varies from rapidly growing coastal towns to remote communities. Even during the recent difficult times experienced by all towns in this region, it was apparent that this did not discourage Councils and residents from improving their town environment. Examples of these improvements included the general lack of litter, new gardens and landscaping, tree planting within the towns and on rural properties as well as providing care for existing gardens and remnant bush. Some towns have also expanded their recycling opportunities.”

Adrian Price, Wonderful Ways with Waste

From the outback to the ocean, this diverse region covers more than 470,000 square kilometres. The Mid West extends from a mineral rich hinterland to prime agricultural land, spectacular coastal areas and productive offshore fisheries. The region has a population of more than 50,000 people. More than half are based in the built up area of Geraldton, the region’s commercial, administrative and service centre. This region has a rich maritime history, and has the State’s most significant fishing industry. The Gascoyne is home to many popular tourist destinations, including the heritage-listed Ningaloo Marine Park. Indigenous tourism is also developing in the area.



## Winner and State Winner Cue



The mining town of Cue has an estimated population of around 300, but this number fluctuates seasonally with many prospectors leaving in the summer. Cue Tidy Towns Committee have had an impressive year with their Tidy Towns program and have undertaken many initiatives to continue developing the historic town.

Several projects have enhanced the general appearance of Cue. A clean-up of abandoned main street shop fronts and the idea of using them for display space has cheered up the main street and provided a resource for tourists, showcasing various aspects of the vibrant community. Restoration of Garden Rock, a local icon, by cleaning it of graffiti has returned it to its former glory. Hopefully this will discourage others from defacing it again in the future.

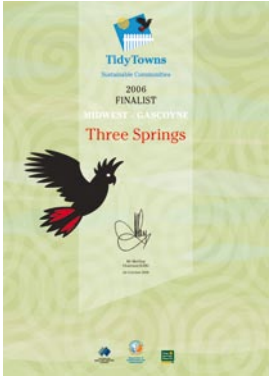
The school has been learning the principles of reduce, reuse and recycle and has completed a waste audit for the school. From this they have begun to compost green and organic waste and have begun collecting aluminium cans for recycling.

A local business has followed the waste reduction plan of the school and, to discourage the use of plastic bags, supplies free green shopping bags to the public.

A clean-up at the knoll in town has assisted in maintaining the importance of the natural feature as part of the community and town’s heritage. The formation of Brockman Park and the restoration of the Pensioner’s Huts and Post Office are also a credit to the community.



## Finalist Three Springs



Three Springs has completed many projects over the last 12 months. Tidy Town's 2006 projects include the creation of a unique entrance statement to the town; the development of the aged persons' garden area; the establishment of a community playground and the formation of a Three Springs Primary School community garden. In addition, several members of the Three Springs Tidy Towns Committee have thrown their efforts into the Centenary Committee and its plans to enrich the community through various programs for the upcoming Three Springs 100-year celebration.

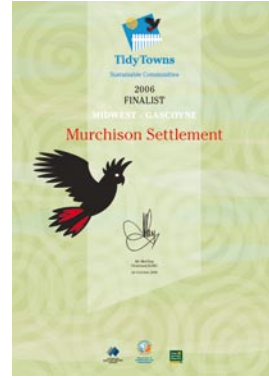
A water feature representing the namesake of the town 'three springs' is currently being built. The next stage of the centenary celebrations will involve surrounding this water feature with a memory lane of pavers. These special pavers will feature the engraved names of current and former residents, businesses, clubs and volunteer organisations, allowing for recognition and commemoration of individuals and groups who have been an important part of Three Springs.

Three Springs Lions Club has offered extensive support to the Tidy Towns Committee by supplying cemetery maintenance and recycling services, while the shire provides free mulch and shredded paper to residents to encourage and promote waterwise gardens.

Three Springs Primary School students have been extremely enthusiastic in this year's Tidy Towns program and have been heavily involved in community programs such as tree planting, painting a mural for the hospital, creating a community garden, producing worm juice as fertiliser and so much more. These extensive projects, along with achieving waterwise status are an inspiration. Community sustainability by future generations of Three Springs looks very promising.



## Finalist Murchison Settlement



The Murchison Shire and community have been continuously and enthusiastically improving the appearance of the Murchison Settlement over the past year.

Although it has a very small overall population of about 106 people, the Murchison Shire is a very social place and the hub of activity is the Murchison Sports Club situated in the Murchison Settlement. Built in 1980, the building received a complete makeover this year, providing community members and visitors access to the new and improved facilities.

Smorgon Steel recently visited the Murchison Shire to collect unused scrap steel. The Murchison Settlement had a clean up and almost 50 tonnes was removed. The majority of this scrap metal was in the form of car bodies. This allowed for the upgrade of the rubbish tip, which was provided with new signage, and distinct areas to allow for rubbish sorting and recycling.

Murchison Shire undertook many other initiatives for Tidy Towns 2006 including: planting several hundred trees, more grassed areas and flowers; silencing the settlement power supply; building an entry statement for the settlement; coordinating a thorough town clean-up which resulted in several tonnes of rubbish being collected and removed; creating and building emu sculptures out of local plants and scrap steel; and erecting two large poles used for promotional banners advertising town events and features.





## Regional overview

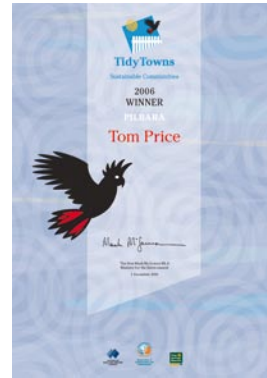
“The unique Pilbara region has much beauty and natural diversity. It has been an honour to judge the Tidy Towns Awards for 2006 and to learn about the local level actions taking place promoting sustainable communities. The motivation and commitment of volunteer time and labour shown was outstanding and the approach to sustaining healthy lifestyles and communities culture was at times inspirational. I was also impressed by the partnerships that have been developed between the communities, government, shires and industry.”

Cath Rummery, Biodiversity Facilitator for the Northern Rangelands Natural Resource Management Coordinating Group

Situated in the north-west of Western Australia, the Pilbara is a mineral rich region of spectacular scenery thought to be about 2.8 billion years old. With approximately 40,000 people living in the Pilbara, and a significant fly in-fly out representation, it is often described as the engine room of the nation because of its immense reserves of natural resources. The Pilbara covers a total area of 507,896 square kilometres extending from the Indian Ocean to the Northern Territory border (including offshore islands). This region can be separated into three distinct geographical formations - a vast coastal plain, breathtaking inland ranges and an arid desert region extending into Australia's dry centre. It is blessed with stunning natural beauty boasting striking landscapes and a rich and diverse cultural heritage.



## Winner Tom Price



This has been another successful and impressive year from the Tom Price Tidy Towns Committee with the Shire of Ashburton, Pilbara Iron, the Ashburton Aboriginal Corporation and many community groups working together to create significant improvements to the town.

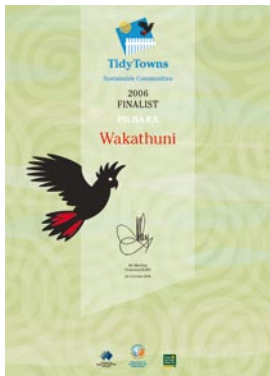
Tom Price has a vibrant community with a strong volunteering ethic. The town's overall appearance is fantastic and this can be partially attributed to the well-attended annual Clean Up Australia Day. This year the community again enjoyed the Nameless Festival and Pilbara Iron Family Picnic Day which was organised by industrious volunteers. Local students participated in NAIDOC Day, National Harmony Day and Reconciliation Day. Another asset for the community and for tourism in the future is the current development of an Art and Cultural Centre.

The town of Tom Price has a strong commitment to waste management and recycling. Volunteers at the Ashburton Aboriginal Corporation have been collecting used cooking oil from local business and camps in town, and converting this into bio-diesel. Members of the town have opened a community op-shop and the Girl Guides have started a recycling program. The rubbish tip also continues to be extremely well maintained.

This year Tom Price has also focused on reducing water consumption. All the schools are currently in the process of becoming WaterWise schools. Another notable achievement is the establishment of the Water Efficiency Team, whose goal is educating Tom Price residents and encouraging them to reduce household water consumption.



## Finalist Wakathuni



Wakathuni have put in a fantastic effort, especially considering this was their first year in the competition. The community participated in Clean Up Australia Day and their success inspired Wakathuni to enter Tidy Towns. The whole community has supported the Tidy Towns projects and the community's appearance has been greatly transformed over the past 12 months.

The Community Development Employment Projects Team (CDEP Team) put in a particularly impressive effort tidying community areas, tree planting, watering and gardening. Merit Certificates have been awarded to honour the volunteers assisting with these projects.

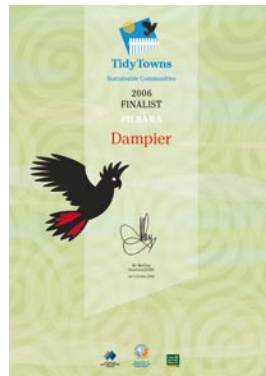
Wakathuni has a thriving youth group. This year the youth group became involved in making a film, allowing the development of a new and broad range of skills. Wakathuni's high attendance rates at the school in Tom Price are another element to their already great success story.

Another project that the Wakathuni community have developed is the Wise Women's group. This group has been established with the aim of working with other communities to create a network of women working together for positive change.

Through the Tidy Towns program, Wakathuni has created an impressive sustainability plan and a clear direction of where they want to be in future years. They are focusing on being a healthy community, a strong community, and building pride and confidence within all community members. It is clear that they are well on their way.



## Finalist Dampier



It is obvious that Dampier Tidy Towns Committee has put in a huge effort this year. There is a strong volunteering spirit in the town and many different community groups have contributed this year to Tidy Towns.

An active cyclone season saw Dampier's community clearing away debris for several months earlier this year, with the Shire of Roebourne, Pilbara Iron and countless residents all working together. The community spirit that Dampier prides itself on was evident in the support for the fundraising breakfast on Australia Day for a family who lost everything in a house fire shortly after Cyclone Clare.

A focus on youth resulted in the construction of a skate park, with competitions and demonstrations by pro-skaters. A community bus was purchased and the youth centre upgraded so that regular school holiday activities for teens could be organised.

The town strongly supported Clean Up Australia Day and National Tree Day and there was a great turnout of families and students. Partnerships between industry and local government continue to grow with many positive outcomes, including the refurbishment and extension of the local library and, with the support of local industry, the community continues to use the public recycling bins.

The Dampier Tidy Towns Committee is dedicated to recognising and rewarding volunteers, with volunteer breakfasts, certificates, vouchers and awards, to allow the community to reflect on their amazing achievements and to keep the enthusiasm in the town growing.

## Regional overview

“It is great to see the communities of these towns taking such an active role in their town’s development and striving for constant improvement. Every town entered in the Tidy Towns Awards should be very proud of the job they have done. I hope they all continue their great work and we see them again next year. Well done everyone!”

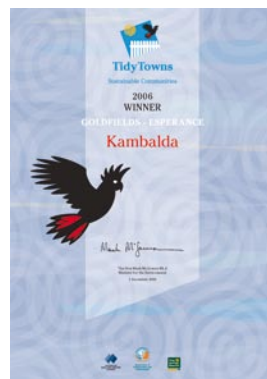
Joanne Gray, Landcare Officer for Kalgoorlie-Boulder Urban Landcare Group

The Goldfields - Esperance region is more than three times the size of the state of Victoria and just under a third of Western Australia’s total land mass. It is the largest region in Western Australia.

It is bound geographically by the Little Sandy Desert and Gibson Desert to the north, the Wheatbelt region to the west and the Great Australian Bight to the south, while South Australia and the Northern Territory create borders to the east.

The region is currently undergoing a period of sustained economic growth, with mining and agriculture being the predominant industries.

## Winner Kambalda



Kambalda has a rich history of community involvement. This year the community has demonstrated this through such events as the Australia Day Breakfast, Clean Up Australia Day and National Tree Day.

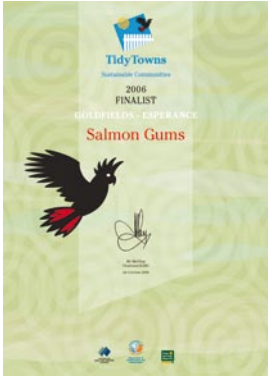
The appearance of the town has been greatly improved through initiatives including: paving the Marianthus Road extension; cleaning up the Woolworths Plaza car park; redesigning the front gardens of the council office; installing banners around town; completion of the memorial gardens; starting to beautify the Kambalda Town Square and the establishment of a skate park in Kambalda East.

Initiatives such as aluminium can recycling at both schools, printer cartridge recycling throughout Kambalda, recycling plastic bags at Woolworths and the mobile muster are continuing. New initiatives have also been implemented. These include the beginning of worm farming, recycling paper into paper bricks, installing solar energy panels and setting up recycling stations around Kambalda.

Cultural identity is continuing to develop through such initiatives as having the Maori community help students present traditional dances and chants, local art around the community and celebrating the opening of the Miner’s Memorial Garden.



## Finalist Salmon Gums



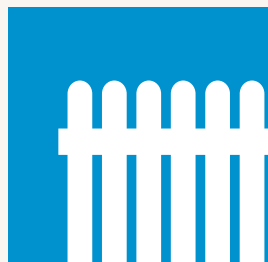
A strong group of community members in Salmon Gums has achieved a great deal around the town in the past 12 months.

An extremely successful fundraising event was held. The Nude Community Calender was a huge success and also an amazing example of the dedication, if not bravery, of the "models". Although the idea is not a new one, it was a superb calendar and its success was shown proven by the amount of money raised.

The local school body has been active in the community. Part of their support for Tidy Towns is that their grounds are now the focal point for displaying and presenting features that advertise what is happening in the community. Examples of these are the scarecrows placed in the school grounds and facing the highway. The sculptures are a delight to travellers passing through the town.

The use of recycled materials for fencing and other infrastructure and landscaping projects around the town are all great achievements and the result is that many more town projects were accomplished using the cheaper materials.

To enhance the stay of casual visitors, points of interest around the town have been given clear signage and posts with historical information have been erected marking a heritage walk. These initiatives also provide a strong feeling of community pride and identity.



## Finalist Esperance



Esperance's committed volunteers and joint ventures have proven successful. Programs include the Emergency Services Fun Day, the Blessing of the Fleet and Seafood Festival, and Fun Day Out Children's Festival, all attracting high participation and plenty of positive support.

Local community groups have been busy with projects such as the Community Garden and Clean Up Days, as well as promoting their services and volunteers at the Community Involvement Expo.

Community events such as the Annual Christmas Pageant, Harmony Day, Jetty Celebrations and 10,000 Steps program, were extremely well received by the community. Esperance's primary industry organisations have been very supportive of the community, ranging from the donation of the port's first pilot boat to monetary and in-kind support.

Various committees in Esperance are addressing issues such as environmental, social and health and heritage, as well as looking at services for the elderly and disadvantaged.

Esperance's premier biennial cultural festival is a community celebration aiming at inclusiveness, education and entertainment. Organisation for the 2007 Festival is underway. Esperance's achievements over the past year have greatly benefited the town.



## Regional overview

“Tidy Towns in the Wheatbelt helps keep towns together. We realise we have something in common as we all want to improve our towns and keep rural towns strong. Tidy Towns is about wanting to create something to look forward to for the rural area, about creating sustainable futures.”

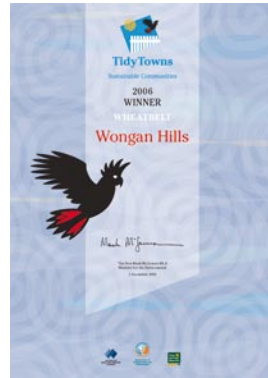
Bobbie Reilly, Tidy Towns Ambassador

The Wheatbelt region is home to 72,000 people, making it the State’s third most populated region. The population is diverse, with a higher than average Indigenous sector. The inhabitants of the Wheatbelt are widely dispersed across the region, with only a small percentage of the population living in major towns.

The Wheatbelt region accounts for 45 per cent of the agricultural produce of the State. Major environmental issues such as salinity and habitat restoration are being tackled.

## Winner

## Wongan Hills



The Wongan Hills committee and its ongoing commitment this year have allowed the town to complete a wide range of Tidy Towns projects. Regular community clean ups and street and garden competitions have ensured that the overall appearance of the town is always maintained at a high level.

The community has a strong sense of cultural identity, with a number of vibrant community groups working together on Tidy Towns projects. This year saw the opening of the Wongan Hills Cultural Heritage Walk. Volunteers are also recognised and appreciated through the highly successful Volunteer Awards Program.

The improvement of the Wongan Hills cemetery has continued this year, with the opening of a baby memorial section.

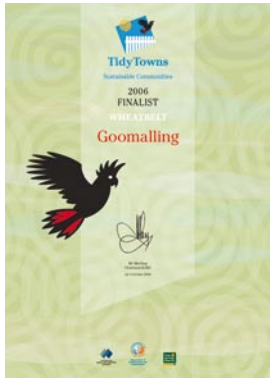
There has been a tremendous amount of tree planting throughout the town and revegetation along the railway precinct. This particular project was a huge community effort and the results look fantastic.

The development of the Mount O’Brien Lookout, with full disability access, is a true asset to the town and is popular with both residents and visitors.

Another notable achievement was the hosting of the launch of the 2006 Kleenheat Gas Community of the Year Award. This took place on the airstrip that was upgraded the previous year. The event included the presence of water bombers, the local choir, councillors and WIN Television.



# Finalist Goomalling



Goomalling Tidy Towns Committee received the Australia Day Citizens of the Year Award for 2006. The committee has been running for six years and the town is reaping rewards for this hard work and effort.

Goomalling has put concerted effort into recycling and waste management. The town's waste management site has been fitted with a new fence by the Shire of Goomalling, and is extremely well maintained. The Lions Club is continuing recycling for the town and educational pamphlets on recycling have been delivered to all residents. Local art around the town has been created from recycled materials.

The Tidy Towns volunteers have been involved in numerous other projects: fundraising at the "Station" on Mondays; starting a "Knick Knacks Op Shop"; working on the new school oval; tending to "Joe's Garden"; nurturing and improving the cemetery; trying their hand at farm sculpturing and learning about waterwise gardening. The school and community turn out for Clean Up Australia Day was outstanding and now ongoing "Clean Up Wednesdays" ensure the town continues to look immaculate.



## Regional overview

“I am extremely proud of the Tidy Towns program and its ongoing help in building sustainable communities. Peel is one of the fastest growing regions in Western Australia and is a pristine area with the attraction of healthy clean waterways. It is wonderful to see the entrants from Peel improving their environment and local community and I would encourage more entrants to participate in next year’s awards.”

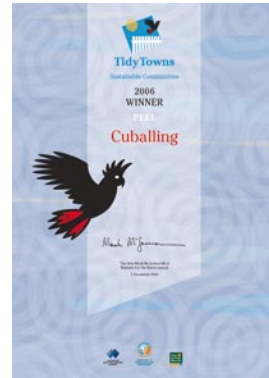
Mel Hay, Chairperson, Keep Australia Beautiful Council, WA

The Peel region, directly south of Perth, continues to be the fastest growing region in Western Australia and Australia.

The region encompasses 130 square kilometres of estuary and inland waterways, much of which is a wetland of international significance. The region also includes 50 kilometres of coastline on the Indian Ocean.

The region’s economy is driven by mining, manufacturing, building and construction, retail and tourism. Agriculture also makes a significant contribution to the Peel’s diverse economy.

## Winner Cuballing



Cuballing is two hours by road to the south east of Perth. Residents live in a country village environment and new arrivals are often impressed by the friendly casual approach of locals.

Community action is inspired by the Townscape Committee, CWA, Naturalist Club, Kids Club, Restoration Group, Volunteer Fire Brigade Service, Social Group, members and employees of the shire council, golf and cricket clubs and Lions Club members.

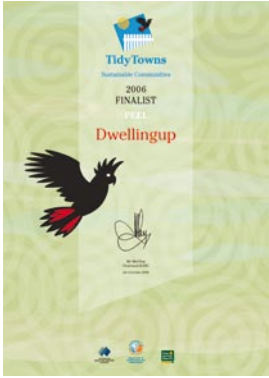
Cuballing has undertaken considerable improvements this year. All heritage listed homes are in the process of restoration, the tavern won awards, public facilities are utilised and very popular and local artists performed at the Musical Variety Night attended by most residents.

Individual and shire funding is contributing to the war on weeds such as Bridal Creeper and Spiky Bullrush. Residents are Water Wise and information on Australian plants has been published in the local “Cuby News” to help townspeople create and maintain low water-usage gardens.

Cuballing is still affordable for the average family and tradesmen are finding work easily. Local roads are slowly being upgraded. Generally the mood of the community is optimistic. New homes are springing up and land is in great demand.



# Finalist Dwellingup



Dwellingup is a small town that has transformed from servicing the logging industry to developing into a rapidly growing tourist town.

There has been extensive youth and community group involvement in the Tidy Towns program. The school serves as a focus for sustainable programs, including tree planting, worm farming, composting, recycling, Clean Up Australia Day and National Tree Day.

The Garden Club is a big part of the community and has taken part in many events and initiatives. The Orondo Open Garden Scheme, supported by the Garden Club and school students, has been a successful initiative. Tidy Towns has been effectively promoted in the media and newsletters and the involvement of the school in many of the projects is an effective way to involve young people.

Great efforts have been made to improve the appearance of town parks and gardens. In particular, the school has a beautiful new garden and mural. The Garden Club also contributed to the gazebo in the heritage garden at the school. The replanting of grass trees at the town entry and new signage make a positive and inviting statement when entering the town.





## Regional overview

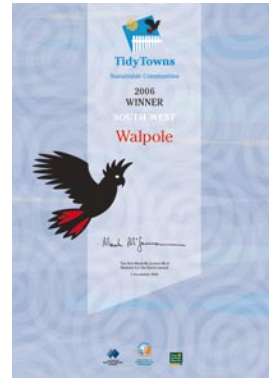
“The South West is a region with world renowned environmental biodiversity. Explosive population demands and development have placed huge pressures on communities and their sustainability. I congratulate the 2006 South West entrants on their dedication and hard work. I found the innovation, vitality and interest from the general community to be amazing. Small communities are working very hard in the South West to make their areas sustainable....their pride and hard work is paying dividends! The well known saying “From small things, big things grow” is very apt with many positive changes made during 2006.”

Tracy Teede, Complaints Management, Department of Environment and Conservation, South West Region, Bunbury

Facing the Indian and Southern oceans, the South West is the most highly populated region outside of Perth Metropolitan area. With rapid population growth, the South West has a consistently lower than average unemployment rate.

The South West has the most diverse regional economy in the State. The economy is based on the production of alumina and mineral sands, strong agricultural and horticultural industries, timber products, viticulture and retailing. Tourism is also rapidly expanding, with national parks, ancient forests, beaches, wineries and eco-tourism sites crediting the South West Region as the most popular tourist destination outside Perth.

## Winner Walpole



As a tourist centre, Walpole faces challenges and opportunities in servicing thousands of visitors during summer. Having established a clear view of its desired direction, the cohesive community of Walpole is working strongly towards a sustainable future.

Walpole has an ongoing program of self-improvement, growing from a Community Opportunities Workshop which involved the whole community in developing a “wish list” and establishing priorities and strategies for their achievement.

Improved waste removal services, recycling, road and foreshore clean up, health services, aged care programs, environmental education, cultural and heritage events, main street appearance, tourism facilities, sporting activities and community safety initiatives are part of this program.





The Tidy Towns Committee draws its members from many local organisations already involved in these activities and is able to play a vital role in encouraging and co-ordinating further efforts to make Walpole a cleaner, healthier, safer and more attractive place to live. Walpole Primary School has a very active program of environmental initiatives, in particular the UR Walpole Eco Education Program in conjunction with WOW Wilderness Eco Cruises.

With the establishment of the surrounding Walpole Wilderness Area, the town is uniquely situated with challenges to be met and opportunities to be grasped in developing a sustainable future.



## Finalist Greenbushes



Greenbushes has had a dynamic year of Tidy Towns projects in 2006. An exciting town square and community garden project kicked off in 2006 in a vacant block at the town's main intersection. School, business, industry and community representatives also contributed to a number of projects to preserve cultural and natural heritage and enhance social values.

Planet Ark Tree Day/Clean Up Australia Day and Waterwatch programs were run in conjunction with Greenbushes Primary School. The school was also awarded a Warren Blackwood Education District "Excellence in Education Award" for the second consecutive year for the Community Co Mingled Recycling Scheme and Stage One of their Waterwise Garden was completed.

The streetscape planter box mulching project began and there was progress on the Greenbushes Discovery Centre Interactive Timber Module. A new gazebo, viewing deck and playground were constructed at Greenbushes Pool as part of a joint Community-Shire Management Plan and a new playground was built at Thomson Park.

Solar lights formed part of the new Greenbushes entrance statements and text and graphics are being developed for the Heritage Walk. The Shire and the community are also undertaking a joint project to upgrade the town's historic cemetery.

The community spirit is strong, with blood donation clinics organised in October 2005 and August 2006.

Local industry also contributed, with Whittakers Timber Mill officially opening its multi-million dollar "Small Log Line" processing facility to take logs formerly known as "waste wood" to develop into quality wood flooring products.



## Regional overview

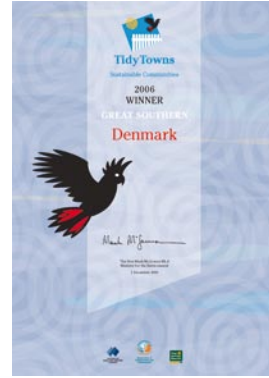
“The Great Southern Region has it all! It is diverse like no other, from coastal, to tall timbers, rivers to mountain ranges with an industry that includes aquaculture, fishing, mining, agriculture, tree farming, horticulture, viticulture and tourism. Add to this the tag of ‘clean and green’ – where else would you want to live? As a Tidy Town judge for the past three years I am constantly amazed at the level of commitment, hard work and dedication by the volunteers and the role they play in their communities. It has been an honour to be associated with the Tidy Towns project.”

Margaret Edwards, Great Southern Regional Coordinator, Department of Water, Albany

The Great Southern has a diversity of industries. The region is the second largest producer of agriculture in the State, along with aquaculture, tree harvesting and the production of high quality wines, which have received a number of awards.

Tourism is flourishing in the region with great potential for nature-based tourism. The popularity of local Nyoongar - Australian Aboriginal art is also growing and a marketing network is being established.

## Winner Denmark



Denmark has had another extremely active year of Tidy Towns. Community, school, businesses and shire have been involved in the various projects and rewarded by the Tidy Towns Committee with the ‘Big Breaky’ celebration and afternoon tea.

Voluntary delivery of social services, regular sustainability conversation cafés, a fierce anti-plastic bag campaign and lobbying to save and protect special Denmark features provides evidence of diverse community action. The Denmark High School bus shelter, Centre for Sustainable Living and the Denmark Weed Action Group are examples of some of Denmark’s endeavours to improve the appearance, functionality and sustainability of key areas.

Denmark Arts, Historical Society and Learning Community (DWALC) all contribute to a unique cultural identity. Communicating between groups and across boundaries is the theme for this colourful cultural collection. The construction of a wetland to address an eyesore, treat run-off water before it reaches the river and educate the general community is a functional and educational project in progress.



## Finalist Kojonup



The Denmark Tip Shop assists in reducing landfill and is an interesting discount shopping experience for renovators, artists and curious tourists. The Denmark community hosted the State Natural Resource Management Conference. Many groups assist in the preservation, conservation and maintenance of our coastline and waterways. The Nature Sanctuary offers a meaningful place for contemplation amidst a cluster of completed revegetation and planting activities.



The Kojonup community is highly committed to improving the presentation and preservation of the area with a number of major initiatives undertaken in the past year. Approximately 600 volunteers have participated in Tidy Towns activities, with an estimated 1,200 voluntary hours being invested into the community.

Local community donations and in-kind support from the Shire of Kojonup have enabled the purchase of new playground equipment and safety fencing for the Newstead Road Playground. Trees, a seat and shelter were also added to make the park a friendly and safe environment for families.

The completion of the Kodja Place Landscaping project involved 29 volunteers and many generous donations from the Kojonup community. To commemorate the completion of the project a free community concert was held and included songs and dances from local school children, community members and groups. The new stage and courtyard provide the venue for outdoor performances and community events.

New improvements to waste management and recycling have seen a waste oil disposal unit installed at the Recycling Depot and doggie-doo bags and disposal units located at the dog exercise park.



## Regional overview

“The Kimberley region of Western Australia is a vast and ancient land where Indigenous culture and the stories of country are still strong. Unfortunately the dramatic increase in tourism has caught the region by surprise and is having a negative impact on many areas of the Kimberley. To save the environmental and cultural integrity of the Kimberley, steps need to be taken NOW to change behaviours and put appropriate facilities in place to cope with the influx.”

Jake Zahl, Clean Up the Kimberley Campaign Manager

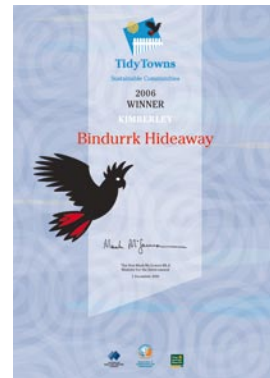
The Kimberley region, one sixth of the size of Western Australia, is home to 35,000 residents. The population is comparatively young, with a median age of 28 years, and with a 47 per cent Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander population.

Prone to tropical cyclones, the Kimberley has a diverse and amazing environment with sandy beaches, lush rainforests and spinifex plains.

For the past century, the main land use in the Kimberley has been pastoral. Currently more than 50 per cent (approximately 224 000 square kilometres) of Kimberley land is held under pastoral lease - that is, the land has been classified primarily for the grazing of stock. The pastoral, mining, pearling, fishing and tourism industries are all major economic activities in the region.

## Winner

## Bindurrk Hideaway

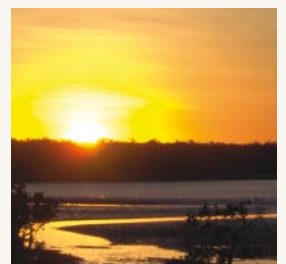


Bindurrk Hideaway is a tiny Indigenous community approximately two hours north of Broome on the Dampier Peninsula. Bindurrk is a beautiful location, right on the beach with lovely ocean and mangrove views and opportunities for outdoor activities such as swimming and fishing.

Indigenous Cultural Tourism has been rapidly expanding on the Dampier Peninsula and in 2006, Bindurrk Hideaway allowed tourist access into their community.

Over the past year, the community has greatly increased the tidiness of the property and improved many of its features. Lawns have been planted and clear entry signage erected, including a welcome sign for visitors.

An ablutions block is also being built, along with more accommodation. The community is in the process of setting up a website and is confident tourism will continue to develop in years to come.



# Tidy Towns 2006 Achievement Award Winners

## Midwest/Gascoyne Region

Community Action and General Appearance  
**Murchison Settlement**

Recycling and Waste Management  
**Dandaragan**

Natural Heritage Conservation  
**Useless Loop**

Enhancing Cultural Identity  
**Cue**

Water Conservation  
**Cue**

## Pilbara Region

Community Action and General Appearance  
**Pannawonica, Dampier**

Recycling and Waste Management  
**Tom Price**

Natural Heritage Conservation  
**Wickham**

Enhancing Cultural Identity  
**Wakathuni**

Water Conservation  
**Tom Price**

Encouragement Award  
**Bellary Community**

## Kimberley Region

Enhancing Cultural Identity  
**Bindurrk Hideaway**

## Goldfields-Esperance Region

Community Action and General Appearance  
**Kambalda**

Recycling and Waste Management  
**Esperance**

Natural Heritage Conservation  
**Esperance**

Enhancing Cultural Identity  
**Salmon Gums**

Water Conservation  
**Hopetoun**

## Wheatbelt Region

Community Action and General Appearance  
**Wongan Hills**

Recycling and Waste Management  
**Goomalling**

Natural Heritage Conservation  
**Bencubbin**

Enhancing Cultural Identity  
**Nungarin**

Water Conservation  
**Cunderdin**

Encouragement Award  
**Dowerin**

## Peel Region

Community Action and General Appearance  
**Cuballing**

Recycling and Waste Management  
**Waroona**

Natural Heritage Conservation  
**Dwellingup**

Water Conservation  
**Boddington**

## South West Region

Community Action and General Appearance  
**Cowaramup**

Recycling and Waste Management  
**Walpole**

Natural Heritage Conservation  
**Walpole**

Enhancing Cultural Identity  
**Nannup**

Water Conservation  
**Greenbushes**

## Great Southern Region

Community Action and General Appearance  
**Kojonup, Albany**

Recycling and Waste Management  
**Denmark, Gnowangerup**

Natural Heritage Conservation  
**Denmark**

Enhancing Cultural Identity  
**Kojonup**

Water Conservation  
**Denmark**

A sincere thank you to the 2006 Tidy Towns judges, without whom our program would not be possible. We have been honoured to have a diversity of judges, whose dedication and expertise brought a great richness to the program.

**Virginia Scott**

Principal Policy Officer, Department of Local Government and Regional Development

**Bobbie Reilly**

Tidy Towns Ambassador – 2003 Winner of the Individual Environment Award

**Anne Braithwaite**

Resource Recovery Manager, Australian Food and Grocery Council – Packaging Stewardship Forum

**Adrian Price**

Consultant, Wonderful Ways with Waste

**Cath Rummery**

Biodiversity Facilitator for the Northern Rangelands Natural Resource Management Coordinating Group

**Chickie Clements**

Environmental Health Officer, Kimberley TAFE

**Colin Bell**

National Coordinator, Enterprise in the Community

**Esther Roadnight**

Director, Roadnight and Associates

**Irene Shepherd**

Active community member

**Jake Zahl**

Campaign Manager, Clean up the Kimberley

**Jane Mouritz**

Active community member

**Jane Singleton**

Active community member

**Joanne Gray**

Landcare Officer, Kalgoorlie- Boulder Urban Landcare Group

**Leanne Grant-Williams**

Board Member, Great Southern Area Consultative Committee

**Mark Hewitt**

Manager, Indigenous Coordination Centre South Hedland

**Pamela Payne**

Active community member

**Paul Rosair**

Director of Business and Regional Operations, Department of Water

**Adam Rayner**

Department of Water, Goldfields Region

**Tracey Teede**

Department of Environment and Conservation

**Rebecca Tuesley**

Department of Water, Mid West Region

**Natalie Lauritsen**

Department of Environment and Conservation, Mid West Region

**Margaret Edwards**

Department of Water, Great Southern Region

**Fiona Westcott**

Department of Environment and Conservation, Goldfields Region

**Shantell McClenaughan**

Department of Environment and Conservation

**Cathy Gossel**

Department of Environment and Conservation

**Sherilee Macready**

Department of Environment and Conservation

**Lauren Holst**

Department of Environment and Conservation

**Amy Thom**

Department of Environment and Conservation





<http://community.environment.wa.gov.au>

