

Sustainable Cities

Awards 2016



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Keep 
Victoria
Beautiful

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Chairman of the Boards Foreword

Welcome to the Keep Victoria Beautiful (KVB) Sustainable Cities Awards 2016.

Sustainable Cities is a much loved awards program in Victoria. It has been rewarding great environmental work in Victorian cities for over a decade.

This is the 48th year of the KVB awards, and the 12th KVB Sustainable Cities Awards.

Each year, the Sustainable Cities program encourages and celebrates the achievements of metropolitan communities across the state, and it is exciting to see so many Victorians contributing to a cleaner, more liveable state.

The awards highlight a broad range of inspiring projects undertaken by community groups, councils, schools and others across the state to improve our communities. These projects rely on thousands of dedicated Victorians in metropolitan Victoria, who care for Victoria and take actions to improve and protect our communities and environment, for all of us to enjoy.

I am particularly excited to see the entrants in this year's Active Schools category. Let's hope that Victorian students are on the road to a long life time of community contribution.

Many of the projects celebrated through these awards would not be possible without committed volunteers and important partnerships established with local government. The awards also highlight the proud sense of community shown by everyone involved.

I congratulate each of this year's Sustainable Cities award recipients and entrants, and commend their dedication and commitment to a sustainable, livable future for all Victorians.

Dick Gross
Chair Keep Victoria Beautiful





Keeping Victoria Beautiful

Through Keep Victoria Beautiful (KVB) programs, thousands of Victorians are conserving, protecting and making their local environments more beautiful. KVB was founded 48 years ago by Dame Phyllis Frost – a woman renowned for her commitment to the environment and community.

In July 2015, KVB returned to independence after 6 years with the state government. We continue to reach more than 225 communities and thousands of volunteers each year and our aim is to grow participation in our awards and volunteer programs that celebrate community action in Victoria. We believe that vibrant beautiful communities are the result of strong committed volunteer community groups – all striving to improve their places.

The Sustainable Cities Awards involve local people and their councils, increasing council-community partnerships and genuine ownership of local environments. The awards promote and reward the efforts that communities in urban areas take to improve their local places. They encompass a diverse range of initiatives, such as preserving heritage, community engagement, litter prevention, recycling, protection of the environment, leadership and environmental sustainability programs.

Additionally, KVB's Tidy Towns Awards promote and reward the efforts that communities in rural and regional areas take to improve their local places.

KVB also manages two state-wide volunteer programs that connect people in practical and positive ways. The KVB Stationeers program aims to improve the look and amenity of railway stations across Victoria by removing litter, installing murals and creating and maintaining gardens.

V/line, VicTrack, Metro and PTV support this work. With the Adopt a Roadside program volunteers collect litter on Victoria's regional roadsides, while also undertaking revegetation work and the removal of weeds. VicRoads support this work.

All KVB programs aim to challenge and inspire Victorians to drive positive environmental and sustainable change within their communities. They recognise and celebrate the ongoing contributions that Victorian people and communities make every day to reducing pollution, improving our environment and the quality of our lives.

In 2016, the KVB Sustainable Cities awards have again highlighted the commitment of Victorians across the state who are contributing to making Victoria a more beautiful state. We are extremely grateful to the volunteers who provide countless hours and energy to participate in these important programs. All volunteers play an extremely valuable role in conserving and enhancing the state's environment.



Sustainable Cities Awards 2016 category winners, highly commended and finalists

Sustainable City of the year 2016

page 6

Yarra City Council (*Winner*)
Greater Shepparton City Council
City of Stonnington
City of Greater Geelong
Melton City Council

Dame Phyllis Frost Award

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Tony Herwerth

Active Schools

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Melbourne Girls' College (*Winner*)
Werribee Primary School Sustainability Team
University of Melbourne Early Learning Centre
St Louis de Montfort's Primary School and RB Landscapes

Clean Beach / Waterway

page 14

Greater Shepparton City Council and community groups (*Winner*)
Friends of Toolern Creek (*Highly Commended*)
City of Stonnington
Port Phillip EcoCentre
World Mission Society Church of God
Yarra Riverkeeper Association
City of Greater Geelong

Community Action Leadership

page 16

Yarra City Council (*Winner*)
Rockbank Community (*Highly Commended*)
Greater Shepparton City Council
World Mission Society Church of God
St Louis de Montfort's Primary School, Catholic Education Office Melbourne and Sustainability Victoria
City of Greater Geelong
Wyndham City Council & Victoria Polytechnic

Community Government Partnerships

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Members and volunteers of RiverConnect (*Winner*)
Melton City Council and Melton Community Groups
Yarra City Council, Alphington Community Centre, Carlton Neighbourhood Learning Centre, Melbourne Farmers Markets, Solar Neighbourhoods, Yarra Community Housing, and Youth Support and Advocacy Service
City of Greater Geelong

Cultural Heritage

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Yarra City Council (*Winner*)
City of Greater Geelong Community Development and Arts & Culture Departments (*Highly Commended*)
Melton Family History Group
Melton City Council

Environmental Sustainability page 22

Melton City Council, Brand Architecture and 2 Construct Pty Ltd *(Winner)*

City of Greater Geelong *(Highly Commended)*

Developers, Residents, Greater Shepparton City Council and Local Businesses

City of Greater Geelong

City of Stonnington

Port Phillip EcoCentre

Yarra City Council

Litter Prevention page 24

World Mission Society Church of God *(Winner)*

Melton City Council

Wyndham LitterWatch

Bellarine Catchment Network

Yarra City Council

Protection of the Environment page 26

City of Greater Geelong *(Winner)*

Melton Environment Group

Greater Shepparton City Council staff, environmental experts and GIS experts

Greater Geelong City Council and community

Resource Recovery and Waste Management page 28

Friends of the Melton Botanic Garden and Melton City Council *(Winner)*

Friends of Australian Botanic Gardens, ABGS committee, Greater Shepparton City Council and Contractors.

Yarra City Council

Yarra, Darebin, Maribyrnong, Moreland, and Whittlesea City Councils

Young Leaders page 30

Gio Fitzpatrick *(Winner)*

Youth in Shepparton

Gift Fund Prize page 32

St Luis De Montfort's Primary School





WINNER

SUSTAINABLE CITY OF THE YEAR 2016

Yarra City Council

Yarra City Council have demonstrated outstanding commitment to sustainability. There were 16 projects that were entered into the awards and all were of an excellent standard. Notable projects included the Roads to Parks Program, the restoration of the Collingwood Town Hall, and the work that Melbourne Girls' College are doing which is supported by the Yarra City Council. In your Patch is an excellent example of community and government partnerships.

Celebrating Aboriginal Culture in Gertrude Street was an innovative community engagement and consultation project, which sought to reinstate and share the prominence of Indigenous history in the area. The Victoria Street Gateway celebrates Vietnamese and Chinese culture, and is a landmark to mark out the area.

Yarra City Council have also shone in the field of litter prevention. In 2014, Yarra City Council introduced a bin beautification program to reduce litter.



The bright artwork of the bins has had a positive impact and the campaign has been successful in reducing litter. Additionally, the council introduced the Recycling more, Waste Less campaign, which included a number of initiatives to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill. It has successfully increased recycling levels.

The work that Yarra City Council is doing in carbon management is noteworthy. Yarra City Council is carbon neutral

and is seeking to reduce emissions by 60 per cent and produce at least 1,250t CO₂-e from onsite renewable sources. Schools in the Yarra City council area are also showcasing amazing work in the sustainability field. The University of Melbourne Early Learning Centre has been a pioneer and long-time leader in early learning and sustainability. In relation to resource recovery and waste management, Yarra City Council has partnered with other councils to deliver the program Food Know How.

The program is a pilot project grounded in community participation and behaviour change. Finally, Yarra's Urban Agriculture project is the first of its kind in Australia. The project is a resident led, council supported process for establishing street and footpath planter boxes, nature strips, vegetable gardens, community orchards and community gardens.

FINALISTS

SUSTAINABLE CITY OF THE YEAR 2016



MELTON CITY COUNCIL

Melton has proven what an exceptional city it is to live in and be part of. Melton City Council continues to strive for excellence. The projects that Melton City Council submitted this year were outstanding. In particular, the Rockbank Caravan Park project highlighted the insightful way Melton council is engaging communities. The Bridge Road Children's Centre is fantastic with its creative use of natural resources in the playground. This will enhance the lives of the children who are able to use it and it is an excellent example of a wonderful community centre. The Friends of Toolern Creek is an outstanding community led initiative and their work along the creek is extremely valuable. Melton has over ten entries into this year's awards and all were of excellent calibre.



GREATER SHEPPARTON CITY COUNCIL

Shepparton is a beautiful city and is doing great work in the field of environmental protection, conservation and litter prevention. The Greater Shepparton City Council is doing innovative and encouraging work in the region. In particular, their Community Plan is advanced and the Victoria Park Lake is an outstanding achievement. Council, staff and all involved in the project should be very proud of themselves. The RiverConnect project is a great example of communities and government partnering together. Additionally, Clean up Australia Day had strong participation, with 17 registered Clean Up Australia events occurring across Greater Shepparton. Schools, individuals, business and community groups all got involved with tonnes of waste collected across numerous sites.



CITY OF STONNINGTON

The City of Stonnington is making significant progress towards their commitment to creating a more sustainable future for their city. The City of Stonnington with support from local organisations, groups, residents and schools, is working to improve environmental conditions for the long-term benefit and enjoyment of all. Key achievements include their annual Calendar of Environmental Events. The Yarra River Biodiversity Linkages Project is increasing habitat connectivity, improving water quality and providing recreational and educational opportunities for the community along Melbourne's landmark river. In addition, the ABC Community Garden and Glen Iris Wetlands Interpretive Signage are both exciting projects. TH King Pavilion and Stonnington Environmental Education and Design Centre showcase environmentally sustainable design features.



CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

The City of Greater Geelong submitted many wonderful applications this year. In particular, the support that City of Greater Geelong has given to local community groups and residents is very impressive. The Partnerships to Protect the Hoodie Program is a particularly impressive project that has had lasting impact for the Hoodie bird species. City of Greater Geelong's Reconciliation Digital Projections is an outstanding project that highlights Geelong's commitment to reconciliation. Indeed, the City of Greater Geelong has a long history of working with Aboriginal communities in the region to promote the strength of the local culture, as a vital aspect of the Geelong identity. The City of Geelong have also been particularly active in protecting their local environment. The Grasslands and Grassy Woodlands program is a very important project that protects rare plant species and raises awareness. Overall the City of Greater Geelong entered more than 10 wonderful projects.

Dame Phyllis Frost Award recipients

Keep Australia Beautiful Victoria Sustainable Cities

- 2016 Tony Herwerth (Melton)
- 2015 John Forrester (Wyndham)
- 2014 Bruce West (KABV)
- 2013 Linda Bradburn (Melton City Council)
- 2012 Debbie Coffey (Frankston City Council)
- 2011 Topsy Nevett (Ballarat)
- 2010 Daryl Ackers (Melton)
- 2009 Paul Prentice (Friends of Merri Creek)
- 2008 Lyn Holdsworth (Friends of Toolern Creek, Melton)
- 2007 Eileen Mosden (Amaroo Neighbourhood Centre, Melton)
- 2006 Not Awarded
- 2005 Andrew Buuljens (St Monica's College, Darebin)
Dean Hallett (Frog Hollow Reserve)

Keep Australia Beautiful Victoria Civic Pride

- 2004 Alessandro Demaio (Year 12 Wesley Syndal Campus)

Keep Australia Beautiful Victoria Clean Beaches

- 2012 Neil Blake (Port Phillip EcoCentre)
- 2011 Kathleen Hassell (Frankston Foreshore)
- 2010 Don McTaggart (Warrnambool)

Keep Australia Beautiful Victoria Tidy Towns – Sustainable Communities

- 2015 Marion Vorwerk (Mildura)
- 2014 Audrey Hurst (Dimboola)
- 2013 James Douglass (Mooroopna Kiwanis)
- 2012 Margaret Pullen OAM (Wangaratta Community Pride)
- 2011 Norm McKinlay (Mornington)
- 2010 Don Johns OAM (Horsham)
- 2009 Brian Stahl OAM JP (Hastings)
- 2008 Wendy Dowling (Dartmoor)
- 2007 Iris Mannik (Beechworth)
- 2006 Chris Thorne (Benalla)
Jan Ballard (Dimboola)
Rae Wilkinson (Orbost)
- 2005 Heather Gregg (Poowong)
Scott Holland (Cobram)
Millewa Community Pioneer Forest
& Historical Society (Meringur)
- 2004 Not Awarded
- 2003 Bill Brearly (Principal of Seymour Tech School)

DAME PHYLLIS FROST AWARD

Tony Herwerth

Tony Herwerth is a Senior Land Manager at Melton City Council and has supported and been involved in Melton's community groups for over ten years. He is an outstanding environmental leader in Melton, particularly in the field of environmental protection and conservation. Tony received his initial training in horticulture at The Royal Botanic Gardens Kew in London, and then completed a Diploma in Conservation and Land Management at the Northern Metropolitan Institute of Tafe in 2005. There are over ten groups in Melton that Tony supports and he also supports individual landowners undertaking environmental works. Tony has developed strong relations with the community which have assisted Melton becoming a more sustainable city. He has negotiated many state and federal grants for landowners and community groups in Melton. He has attended many of the Friends and Landcare meetings, assisted in planting days and works with the community environmental groups every year on plans for planting. Tony also manages the council's environmental reserves including roadsides.

He has been particularly active working in protecting grassland herb species in the region. Tony has worked with Pinkerton Landcare and Environment Group and the CFA on Bush's Paddock, that has transformed the paddock from a weed infested reserve, to one that is now showing its full potential. It will hopefully continue to develop into one of the outstanding grasslands on the Western Volcanic Plains. Tony has developed a program of establishing various plantings of grassland herb species.

At Hannah Watts Park a major area for recreation in Melton, Tony has helped develop an educational resource for local residents and schools to educate them on grassland species. Tony was instrumental in the initial mapping of the flora assets found in the City of Melton – which has provided council officers with information to educate the public. It also contributes to the management of public reserves. It has included the identification of endangered flora so that the correct management can be put in place.





WINNER

ACTIVE SCHOOLS AWARD

Melbourne Girls' College

Educating for the Future

Melbourne Girls' College (MGC) has been leading the way in educating for sustainability for many years. It has an active community that is committed to increasing awareness of environmental

issues, spearheaded by the Student Environment Group – which has over 40 students from all year levels, as well as the MGC Sustainability Collective – which is made up of students, parents, local business and the wider community. In 2015, the school won the international Zayed Future Energy Prize. It collaborated with Yarra City Council and used their winnings to install a further 33KW of solar photo-voltaic panels at the school and to create a micro-hydro, rowing and wind generator to complement the existing pedal generators. As part of the curriculum, the school works on energy consumption reduction, waste management, water efficiency and biodiversity protection. Melbourne Girls' College aims to be carbon neutral by 2020. The school maintains four composting bins and has plans for expansion. They have built a strong relationship with the Wurundjeri council and have collaborated with them to plant a bush tucker garden and decorate the "Murnong Walk" with local Murnong daisies. In recent years, the school has hosted the Women in Environmental Science Conference and an Australian Youth Climate Coalition student conference.

FINALISTS

ACTIVE SCHOOLS AWARD



UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE EARLY LEARNING CENTRE

Connecting Children with Nature



ST LOUIS DE MONFORT'S PRIMARY SCHOOL AND RB LANDSCAPES

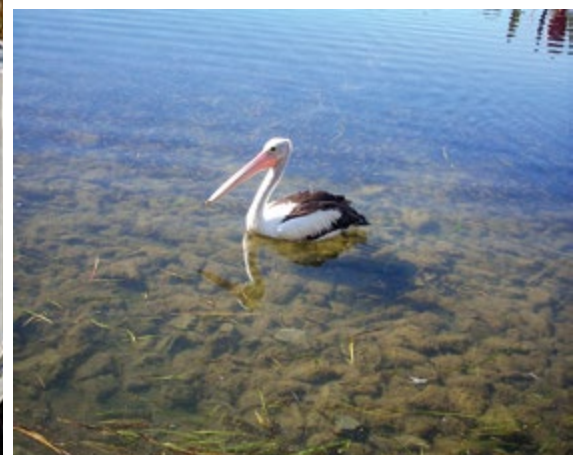
Let's Go Further



WERRIBEE PRIMARY SCHOOL SUSTAINABILITY TEAM

Creating Lasting Change





WINNER

CLEAN BEACH / WATERWAYS

Greater Shepparton City Council and community groups

Victoria Park Lake

This beautiful lake has been redeveloped and includes an extensive wetland stormwater treatment system, indigenous plantings, lawns, seating and is a refuge for many native animals and threatened species of birds, reptiles, turtles and fish. The Greater Shepparton City Council, Rowing Club, Sailing Club, Fishing Clubs, and various community groups have all contributed to the project. Within the lake complex there are extensive walking tracks, an aquamoves aquatic centre, shelters and finally 'all abilities playground'. Numerous outdoor activities take place – including moonlight cinemas and the 'Emerge Festival'. In addition, recreational fishing, skateboarding, sailing, canoeing and triathlons occur in the lake's surrounds.

CLEAN BEACH / WATERWAYS



HIGHLY COMMENDED

FRIENDS OF TOOLERN CREEK

Ten years of litter removal, weeding, and replanting of the Toolern Creek

Significant litter removal has occurred progressively over the last 15 years along a section of the Toolern Creek, and this has extended onto private land adjacent to the creek. Combined with weeding, replanting of indigenous vegetation, replacement of fences and installation of park furniture the areas are now a delight to walk through. Friends of Toolern Creek started in 2005 and involves volunteers, work for the dole participants, CFA, and people on community service programs.



CITY OF STONNINGTON

Yarra River Biodiversity Project



PORT PHILLIP ECOCENTRE

Baykeeper Catchment Education & Winter by the Waves



**WORLD MISSION SOCIETY
CHURCH OF GOD**

*Worldwide Environmental
Clean-up Campaign*



YARRA RIVERKEEPER ASSOCIATION

A Voice for the Yarra River



CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

Lake Lorne Regional Conservation Reserve





WINNER

COMMUNITY ACTION AND LEADERSHIP

Yarra City Council

Roads to Parks Program

The program provides open space for residents in neighbourhoods with little or no nearby access to parks. The project was prompted by data and consultation results collected during the development of the Yarra Open Space Strategy, which showed a strong community need in some parts of Yarra to have more open space. The Roads to Parks Program is based on enhancing the sustainability of the growing Yarra population within the Yarra City Council limited land area. Converting paved road space into local parks has delivered multiple benefits including social, environmental and economic benefits. Some benefits include a decrease in impervious road pavement and associated polluted stormwater and benefits to mental wellbeing which come from the presence of green space and places of retreat in the urban environment. Parks converted to date include the Peel Street Park, Oxford Street Park, both in Collingwood; and the Richmond Terrace Park and Church Street Park in Richmond.

COMMUNITY ACTION AND LEADERSHIP



ROCKBANK COMMUNITY

Growing vegetables together in Rockbank

Six vegetable beds, a compost heap and worm farm have been constructed at Sundowner Caravan Park in Rockbank, Melton forming a community garden which is supported by the Melton City Council and Bunnings. The project has been successful in supporting the residents of the Caravan Park to improve social connections and have a meaningful healthy occupation. The project also aims to inspire others to engage in similar pursuits.



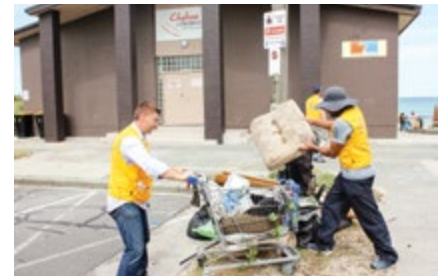
YARRA CITY COUNCIL

Victoria Street Gateway



GREATER SHEPPARTON CITY COUNCIL

Community Plan



WORLD MISSION SOCIETY CHURCH OF GOD

Worldwide Environmental Cleanup Campaign



ST LOUIS DE MONTFORT'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, CATHOLIC EDUCATION OFFICE MELBOURNE AND SUSTAINABILITY VICTORIA

Steps to Sustainability



CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

Nature Play



WYNDHAM CITY COUNCIL & VICTORIAN POLYTECHNIC

Wyndham Environmental Building Blocks Program



WINNER

COMMUNITY GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIPS

Members and volunteers of RiverConnect

RiverConnect

RiverConnect has reconnected the Shepparton/Mooroopna community to the Goulburn river. The project includes education, access to the river, cultural heritage and infrastructure. RiverConnect is a multi-agency and community partnership that has been running for 10 years. The project has coordinated and enabled the development of the Mooroopna Flats walk and interpretive signage, flood markers along the Goulburn river, and a master plan for the extension of the shared paths between Mooroopna and Shepparton. It has provided educational videos on the cultural, social and environmental values for the Goulburn and Broken rivers, the creation of the Boulevard Bush Reserve and provides an extensive number of community education activities such as regular spotlight walks, native animal interaction and education sessions, art along the river and breakfast with the birds. This program has seen over 25,000 locals, students and visitors engage with the rivers and their floodplains in a positive way.

FINALISTS

COMMUNITY GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIPS



MELTON CITY COUNCIL AND MELTON COMMUNITY GROUPS

*Partnering with Community Groups – Melton
Community Partnerships and Grants Program*



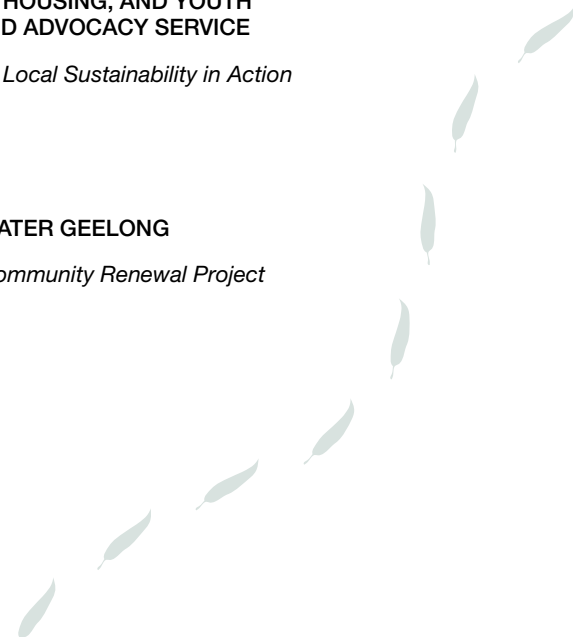
YARRA CITY COUNCIL, ALPHINGTON COMMUNITY CENTRE, CARLTON NEIGHBOURHOOD LEARNING CENTRE, MELBOURNE FARMERS MARKETS, SOLAR NEIGHBOURHOODS, YARRA COMMUNITY HOUSING, AND YOUTH SUPPORT AND ADVOCACY SERVICE

In Your Patch: Local Sustainability in Action



CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

Whittington Community Renewal Project





WINNER

CULTURAL HERITAGE

Yarra City Council

The Restoration of Collingwood Town Hall

Collingwood Town Hall has been a prominent landmark since 1887. Yarra City Council recognised that Collingwood Town Hall is a beloved local icon, a part of Yarra's history, and an important community asset. Thus the council realised the need for major work to make it a functional, accessible, modern community venue and have now restored it to its former splendour. The restoration of the Collingwood Town Hall took two years and included bringing the building up to current standards for disability access and effective working environments with improving the environmental performance of the building, and reinvigorating the building's unique historical character.

CULTURAL HERITAGE



**CITY OF GREATER GEELONG
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND
ARTS & CULTURE DEPARTMENTS**

Reconciliation Digital Projections 2015

The City of Greater Geelong has worked with local Aboriginal organisations and community groups to create a dynamic large scale digital show reel that was projected on to the front façade of Geelong City Hall. The program included Aboriginal artists and their work, historic footage and contemporary images of community members celebrating their cultural identity.



YARRA CITY COUNCIL

*Celebrating Yarra's Unique
Aboriginal Cultural Heritage*



MELTON FAMILY HISTORY GROUP

*Just Another Pair of Socks
bringing WW1 Back to Life*



MELTON CITY COUNCIL

*The Former Melton Courthouse –
Our Heritage Restored and Brought to Life*



WINNER

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Melton City Council, Brand Architecture and 2 Construct Pty Ltd

*Bridge Road Children's
and Community Centre –
Ecofriendly Inside and Out*

The Bridge Road Centre opened in January 2015. There are 3 children's areas, an occasional care area, maternal and child health services, and a community room. Melton City Council, together with the design team, led by Brand Architecture, incorporated many children friendly and environmentally sustainable design features. Some of the features include a Nature Play area that provides a creative play space with an emphasis on natural materials. The native vegetation within the play space and lack of plastic pre-made items is designed to encourage children into outdoor imaginative play. Recycled jarrah railway sleepers form part of the perimeter fencing, and old telegraph poles were used for some seating logs within the play space. Vegetable planter boxes encourage staff and children to experience growing edible plants. The building is designed to not require heating or cooling in public spaces. Natural ventilation reduces the reliance on non-renewable energy, allowing windows and louvers to be opened to heat or cool the building.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY



HIGHLY COMMENDED

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

Partnerships to Protect the Hoodie

The Hooded Plover Program is a partnership including City of Greater Geelong, BirdLife Australia, the Coastal Managers, Friends of the Hooded Plover Groups, Community Groups and Government Agencies. The program is driving local collaboration and integrated management of Hooded Plovers through a wide range of protection works and engagement with the local communities through local media and community events.



DEVELOPERS, RESIDENTS, GREATER SHEPPARTON CITY COUNCIL AND LOCAL BUSINESSES

Wetlands on Victoria Park Lake



CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

Shell Road Reserve Precinct



CITY OF STONNINGTON

TH King Pavilion and Stonnington Environmental Education Centre



PORT PHILLIP ECOCENTRE

Well Waters Workbees: Elster Creek Pilot



CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

One Planet Living Geelong



YARRA CITY COUNCIL

Leading the way in Carbon Management



WINNER

LITTER PREVENTION

World Mission Society Church of God

*Worldwide Environmental
Clean-up Campaign*

Coordinated Clean up Campaigns were held in October, November and December at different sites across Melbourne in 2015. The results of the clean-ups were impressive. There were 88-150 participants recorded at the different sites and 232-310kg of garbage collected on the different days. The group's ability to capture the community's civic mindedness for the benefit of the environment is impressive. The Volunteers came from all over Melbourne.

LITTER PREVENTION



MELTON CITY COUNCIL

Keeping Melton Beautiful – successfully dealing with illegal dumping and graffiti



LITTERWATCH

Wyndham LitterWatch



BELLARINE CATCHMENT NETWORK

Caring For Our Bays – Litter Hotspot Program



YARRA CITY COUNCIL

Beautiful Bins Reduce Litter



WINNER

PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT

City of Greater Geelong

Grassland and Grassy Woodlands – Hidden Treasures of Geelong

The grassland and grassy woodlands of the Geelong region are some of the rarest in Australia. They are not often protected in large reserves, so their conservation is dependant on private land owners efforts. Over the last four years the City of Greater Geelong, partnering with its community, have been implementing a program to identify, protect and better manage these important environments. On private land, with funding support from the Port Phillip Western Port Catchment Management Authority, and working together with adjoining municipalities, Geelong farmers and small block owners, have protected and enhanced 375ha of grassland and grassy woodlands. Geelong has mapped and now better manages remnants on small reserves, roadsides and unused roads. Working together has allowed these treasures to be recognised and valued.

FINALISTS

PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT



MELTON ENVIRONMENT GROUP

Valuing Melton's local birds a community engagement project



GREATER SHEPPARTON CITY COUNCIL

Wetlands at Gemmel Swamp



CITY OF GREATER GEELONG AND THE COMMUNITY

The Greenway Project





WINNER

RESOURCE RECOVERY AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

Friends of the Melton Botanic Garden and Melton City Council

*Using recycled green waste to
grow Southern African plants at
the Melton Botanic Garden*

The Melton Botanic Garden has received significant local, state and national attention since its inception in 2003, and trialling the new compost product has been a highlight. The project included constructing 5 trial garden beds growing Southern African plants using compost produced from roadside green bins. The trial beds consist of compost mixed with soil in ratios of 10 percent, 20 percent, 30 percent 40 percent and 50 percent. The project is an important aspect of a resource-awareness campaign and has also been made available to early learning centres for their active learning garden beds. The health of the plants has been monitored across the beds by visual assessments and soil pH readings. The lower rates of application of recycled compost have been found to be most successful with the 10 percent and 20 percent product providing the best pH for growth of species. The key community education message is the importance of only including acceptable organic materials in kerbside green bins.

FINALISTS

RESOURCE RECOVERY AND WASTE MANAGEMENT



**FRIENDS OF AUSTRALIAN BOTANIC
GARDENS, ABGS COMMITTEE,
GREATER SHEPPARTON CITY
COUNCIL AND CONTRACTORS**

Refugee Garden



YARRA CITY COUNCIL

Recycling More and Wasting Less



**YARRA, DAREBIN, MARIBYRNONG,
MORELAND AND WHITTLESEA CITY COUNCILS**

Food Know How



WINNER

YOUNG LEADERS

Gio Fitzpatrick

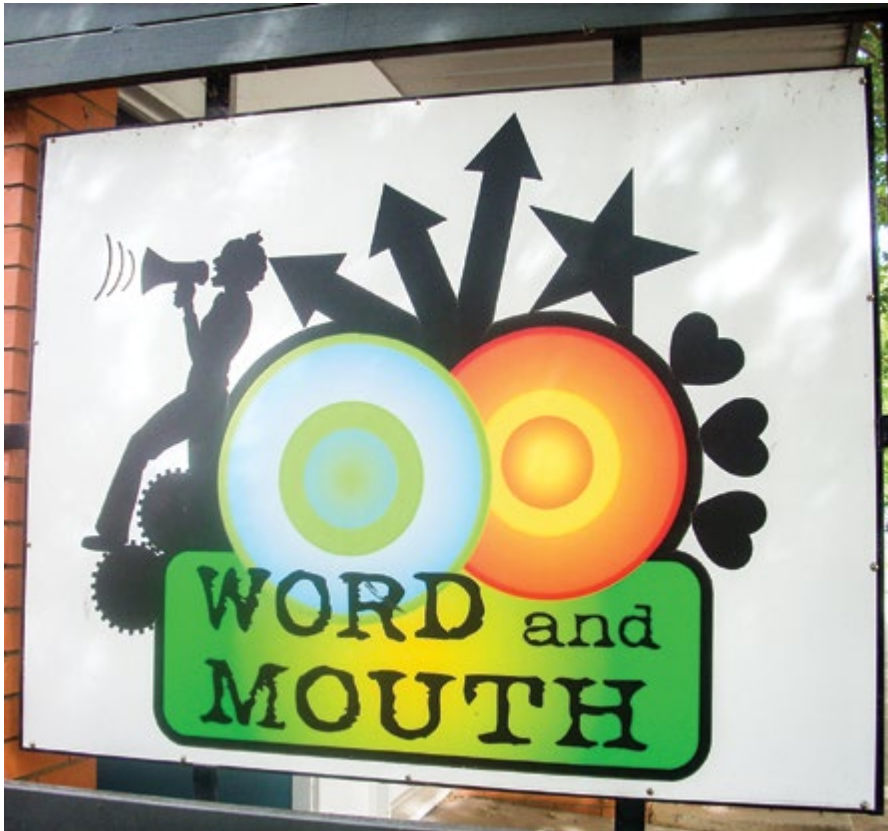
Gio Fitzpatrick is a 19-year-old urban ecologist and conservationist whose wonderful volunteer work by age 15 attracted endorsement by Sir David Attenborough. Gio has developed a reputation for knowledge and maturity far beyond his years, working and

volunteering with organisations such as Museum Victoria, the Port Phillip EcoCentre, Friends of Elster Creek, St Kilda Indigenous Nursery Cooperative and many local schools and community groups on a number of environmental causes and practical projects. His photography and knowledge is respected in online forums such as BowerBird and Birding Aus. Since a young child, Gio has spent time enjoying, studying and researching nature and taking practical action to protect it. As a result, his knowledge of local native plants and animals is equal to that of many people working in the wildlife conservation field.

At age 11, Gio began to volunteer with the Port Phillip EcoCentre. He realised that loss of breeding habitat was central to the survival of many wildlife species, so he researched, designed, and installed over 30 nest boxes which he continues to monitor and maintain for vulnerable species. In 2011 he was awarded the City of Port Phillip Young Person's Award and co-founded the re-launch of Friends of Elster Creek. The EcoCentre has employed him since 2013 as a Youth Wildlife Ambassador.

FINALISTS

YOUNG LEADERS



YOUTH IN SHEPPARTON

Word and Mouth



Keep Victoria Beautiful Gift Fund Prize 2016



ST LOUIS DE MONTFORT'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

St Louis de Montfort's Primary School encourages sustainability and builds community capacity through education. The Gift Fund Prize will be spent on funding for Sean MaCarthy of Snakehandlers.com to provide hands on education sessions to educate students on animal and environmental needs in the School's new reptile precinct.

About Keep Victoria Beautiful (KVB)

For over 40 years, KVB has been celebrating the action taken every day by Victorians across our state. Founded in 1968 by Dame Phyllis Frost AC, DBE, DSocSC (Hon), KVB has grown from a simple anti-litter campaign to encompass activities as diverse as reducing waste, preserving heritage and culture, saving energy, improving biodiversity and conserving water.

Investing in our communities

KVB welcomes financial contributions to our community Gift Fund, The Gift Fund was set up to help communities do more in their environments. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible. To invest in our communities, please contact KVB on the details below.

Partnership

KVB is actively looking for partnership opportunities with corporations and organisations that align with our values. Please contact KVB to discuss any partnership opportunities.

Membership

To become a member of KVB or for more information about these programs, please contact us on:

Telephone: 0408 528 318

Email: sabina.wills@kvb.org.au

Website: www.kvb.org.au



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