

MEDIA RELEASE

Shire of Esperance

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Esperance is a Tidy Towns Finalist

The Keep Australia Beautiful Board has announced the finalists for the 2019 Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities Awards and Esperance is mentioned a few times.

Esperance is a finalist in four categories:

- **The Overall State Award Title**
- **Young Legends – Wongutha Caps – Lake Monjingup Victorian Tea Tree**
Congratulations to the Wongutha Christian Aboriginal Parent-Directed School (CAPS) Bushrangers who partnered with the Shire of Esperance and Esperance Weeds Action Group (EWAG) to remove over 2500 Victoria Tea Tree plants throughout Lake Monjingup.
- **Environmental Sustainability – Restoration of Fourths Beach Dune System**
Extensive erosion on Fourth Beach saw upwards of a thousand seedlings being planted. Shire Environmental officers coordinated an army of volunteers, including Esperance Senior High School Bushrangers, Wongutha Christian Aboriginal Parent-Directed School and the Work For The Dole Program, with Max Employment to undertake this fantastic work. To supplement this, fencing to formalize paths and lookout areas occurred, 7 truckloads of brushing was spread and weed control occurred extensively. The works completed in the restoration of Fourths Beach was made possible by funding from by Coastwest, a program of the Western Australian Planning Commission with community group Esperance Weeds Action Group.
- **General Appearance – Murals**
The Wanju Nyungar Boodja Mural Project is a partnership between Esperance Community Arts, Seawater Families, Escare Incorporated and Esperance Tjaltjraak Native Title Aboriginal Corporation. Three murals were created by professional mural artist Matt Adnate, three local Nyungar artists, and many other community members. The project was an opportunity for local regional artists and young people to learn new skills and share cultural knowledge over the course of four community workshops.
As part of the Edge of the Bay Event, the Shire of Esperance commissioned a mural on the Scout Hall wall. The wall is particularly visible when looking back into town from the foreshore and had previously been a target of graffiti. The project involved the input of local Scouts and community members who assisted the artist, Esti Nagy, with the design and painting of the mural.

Chief Executive Officer Matthew Scott extended his thanks and congratulations to everyone involved “the recognition of the fantastic work that is being achieved in our community is great to see. We are fortunate to live in a beautiful location and have passionate community members, and shire staff, who want to make a positive difference. “

Ends

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