

MEDIA RELEASE

Shire of Esperance

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GARAGE SALE TRAIL AWARDS FOR COUNCIL EXCELLENCE

Garage Sale Trail, Australia's largest reuse and community event has announced its awards for Council Excellence. The award winning councils are recognized for their outstanding achievements from the 153 supporting local councils who represent more than half the Australian population nationally.

The Shire of Esperance was awarded an **Outstanding Contribution Award** to recognize their innovative approach to promoting the event to their local community.

"Shire of Esperance WA – in their first year of involvement, team members Priscilla Davies and Georgia Ryan achieved exceptional campaign media, community involvement, support of elected members, and great registration results."

- Garage Sale Trail website

Garage Sale Trail is a grass roots program that engages communities to rethink what they waste through the simple act of buying and selling at a garage sale. Registrations for the nationwide event increased again this year in line with deeper council engagement and growing community support.

Now in its 6th year, **Garage Sale Trail**, which took place on Saturday 22 October 2016 exceeded all previous records with **15,340** registered garage sales and stalls representing over **2 million** items listed for reuse at an approximate value of **\$13.9 million**.

"It is inspiring to see how councils continue to embrace the program in new and innovative ways and how communities in both metropolitan and regional Australia have responded on such a massive scale"

– Andrew Valder, Garage Sale Trail Co-Founder.

"It was fantastic to see the way the Esperance Community jumped on board with this new initiative. Reducing our waste through recycling what we can is a valuable lesson for us all. Congratulations to Shire staff for their enthusiastic approach in encouraging the community to support the program. I hope everyone involved was successful by either earning a little extra cash, fundraising for their group or finding a bargain. We look forward to running the program again next year."

- Shire President Victoria Brown

The Awards for Council Excellence were awarded to:

Outstanding Achievement

- Central Coast Council, NSW
- City of Melville, WA

Excellence in Garage Sale Trail Communications

- Wollongong City Council, NSW
- Gladstone Regional Council, QLD

The Trail Blazer Award

- City of Stonnington, VIC
- Snowy Monaro Regional Council, NSW

Best Newcomer

- City of Wanneroo, WA
- Blayney Council, NSW

The GOOD STUFF Award

- City of Rockingham, WA
- Lockyer Valley Regional Council, QLD

Community Engagement Award

- Sutherland Shire Council, NSW
- Gympie Regional Council, QLD

Best Council Sale

- Town of Cambridge, WA
- Huon Valley Council, TAS

Outstanding Contribution Award

- Megan Taht, City of Burnside, SA
- Hayden Thompson, Central Highlands Regional Council, QLD
- Maxine Dowley, City of Palmerston, NT
- Mayor Ray Kingston, Yarriambiack Shire Council, VIC
- David Bradford, Derwent Valley Council, TAS
- Priscilla Davies & Georgia Ryan, Shire of Esperance, WA
- Nicky Julian & Michelle Newman, Port Macquarie-Hastings Council, NSW

Ends

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For more information about the program visit:

www.garagesaletrail.com.au

For more information, high-resolution images or for interviews please contact:

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