

MEDIA RELEASE

Shire of Esperance

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SHIRE JOINS GARAGE SALE TRAIL

Esperance households, schools and community groups are set to join hundreds of thousands of people across the country on Saturday 22 October as part of national reuse, community and sustainable living movement, Garage Sale Trail.

Born in 2010, Garage Sale Trail has grown from a grassroots event to a program powered by over 150 councils nationally. By organising communities around Australia to host and shop at garage sales on one big day, Garage Sale Trail aims to encourage reuse, unite communities, create awareness around the issues of illegal dumping, provide a platform for fundraising and inspire creativity.

Acting Shire President, Natalie Bowman said Council is proud to be making Garage Sale Trail happen to provide Esperance locals with a fun way to declutter, meet other people in your neighbourhood and uncover some unique bargains. "The Esperance community has been enthusiastic about recycling and reuse of unwanted items in the past, in all sorts of creative ways, from recycled fashion to art exhibitions. The Garage Sale Trail is a really easy way for everyone to consider how things can be reused while providing an opportunity to raise money. We look forward to seeing how the Esperance community embraces the concept and hopefully there will be some very unique local sales and items up for grabs! The idea of passing on what you don't want to someone who does is a great form of sustainability."

Garage Sale Trail Co-Founder Darryl Nichols says that creativity, self-expression and 'good stuff' have always been an important part of the Garage Sale Trail initiative. "We absolutely love the unexpected interpretations of garage sales that we see on the day. In the past, people have sold some quirky items including a signed U2 Gold Record, a beachside apartment, a highland cow, a hovercraft and a definitive collection of Star Wars figurines. Two Swedish girls even set up a roller disco in their garage for the day!"

Last year saw 350,000 participants get involved with almost 3 million items listed for sale at over 13,000 garage sales across the country. On the day, the average household sale made \$300, while group sales made \$650. A massive 75% of participants said that taking part in the event changed their perception of waste and what they could reuse.

Ends

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Attachments:

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