

MEDIA RELEASE

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Attention: News Editor

Community Chest grants approved

New grants through the Great Southern Development Commission's (GSDC) Community Chest Fund, a \$370,000 Royalties for Regions program, will support 26 projects and events in the Great Southern.

The 26 approved grants, for amounts up to \$20,000, will support initiatives across the region, including improvements to community and sporting facilities in Katanning, Wellstead, Mount Barker and Albany.

Regional Development Minister Terry Redman said the Community Chest Fund was developed to provide funding for small but important local projects.

"The Community Chest Fund provides capacity for regional communities to get valuable, smaller projects off the ground that may otherwise not eventuate," Mr Redman said.

"It is pleasing to see grants allocated to a broad spread of Great Southern communities from some of the smallest such as Manypeaks and Wellstead through to the larger centres of Katanning and Albany.

"This reflects Royalties for Regions' ethos of delivering quality projects and initiatives of all sizes, from State-wide initiatives through to local community priority projects," Mr Redman said.

GSDC Chairman Peter Rundle said the Board was pleased to support projects that will enhance the lives of regional residents.

"We were impressed with the range and quality of the project applications and we had to make some careful recommendations," Mr Rundle said.

"Twelve events are supported through the Community Chest Fund, including the Bloom Festival, Great Southern Sustainable Living Festival and Vancouver Street Festival.

"Community-focused projects across the region will lead to social infrastructure improvements for organisations including the Friends of the Fitzgerald River National Park, the Albany Cycling Club, Katanning Aboriginal Corporation, the Mount Barker Golf Club and the Wellstead Progress Association.



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“Young people in Denmark and Albany will benefit from the support for youth-oriented arts initiatives, and multicultural activities will be further expanded in Katanning,” Mr Rundle said.

A total of \$370,000 was provided for the Community Chest Fund program.

The response from the region was such that the funds were fully allocated and a possible second allocation will not take place. Therefore, no further Community Chest Fund applications will be considered in the 2014-2015 financial year.

A full list of the projects funded is on the GSDC website at www.gsdc.wa.gov.au.

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