

18 March 2015

Announcing the winner of the #SoNotCrap People's Choice Award

Congratulations to Sharna Stone of Sarsfield who has scooped the People's Choice Award in East Gippsland's #SoNotCrap photo exhibition.

She beat off stiff competition from more than 50 other photo entries with her image of a mini ecosystem and receives a GoPro as her prize.



Sharna Stone's photo: 'Turning rain into a mini ecosystem'

During February hundreds of people participated in #SoNotCrap initiatives, exploring how East Gippsland's beautiful, natural environment is being safeguarded through the smart use of recycled water.

The brainchild of artist Sue O'Connor, the program included a photo exhibition of fantastic images

submitted by the public, which ran at various locations around the region.

Also, the inside of the historic water tower in Bairnsdale's Main Street became the canvas for a captivating audio and visual experience by Sue herself. This captured the interdependence of the Bairnsdale Wastewater Treatment Plant and the adjacent Macleod Morass, with the flora and fauna of the morass thriving on recycled water produced by the plant.

In addition there were tours of Bairnsdale Wastewater Treatment Plant and the morass – led by East Gippsland Water staff and rangers from Parks Victoria.

Said Sue O'Connor: "The public's response to the photo exhibition has been terrific, with a lot of great entries submitted on the themes of water, wetlands and wastewater.

"We don't like to think about wastewater and sewerage, but East Gippsland Water is showing that if you manage it well, you make your towns more liveable and you protect and enrich endangered habitats such as the Macleod Morass."

#SoNotCrap was sponsored By East Gippsland Water and East Gippsland Shire Council.

Ends

NOTE TO EDITORS: For more information please contact East Gippsland Water's Communications Manager, Ronan Carroll in the first instance on 5150 4434 / 0428 539 303.