



REGIONAL NETWORKS FOR EFFECTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT

# RENEWNSW

*Turning waste into resource.*

## **RENEW NSW prevents landfill through innovative 'Waste to Art' competitions!**

Waste to Art is a community art exhibition and competition that showcases creative works made from re-used & recyclable waste materials. The aim is to challenge people's perceptions about 'rubbish' and to celebrate the reuse and recycling of waste through arts and crafts.

This innovative approach to waste education invites schools, community groups and individuals from diverse backgrounds to take up the challenge and create a 'new life' for materials that would otherwise have been thrown away and considered useless. Instead of ending up in landfill these waste materials are transformed into fantastic works of art!

A number of Regional Waste groups have embraced the waste to art concept and whilst the desired outcomes are the same, the approach varies in each region.

In the NetWaste region the project consists of four stages, beginning with Community Workshops in each participating council shire. Local artists with expert skills in creating art from 'general' objects facilitate the workshops and help community members to create their works of art from bottle tops, hessian bags, old bus tickets, parts from rusted farm machinery and so on.

The second stage involves Local Competitions that are held in each participating council shire. This is followed by a Regional Exhibition that is hosted by a different council each year. The 2007 Waste to Art Regional Exhibition will be held in Dubbo, on the 15<sup>th</sup> May.

NetWaste consists of 28 councils. Covering such a large region, the Regional Exhibition often features more than seventy winning art works across an area that extends from the Blue Mountains to Broken Hill, and includes larger centres such as Orange and Dubbo and smaller communities like Parkes, Warren, Lightning Ridge and Menindee.

The *grand finale* is a travelling photographic exhibition that travels throughout the NetWaste region. This provides an opportunity for communities to marvel at the creative talent of our Waste to Art artists and the clever use of a whole lot of 'rubbish'!

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### **'Rocking Horse'**

Artist: Herb Clarke who is 85 years old. The body of the horse is made from old timber palettes sourced from the tip, straps from old suitcases, scraps of various materials make up the saddle and a visit to the abattoir provided the mane and tail.

Herb Clarke 'Rocking Horse' case study:

- Was the winner of the Community Craft Works category of the Orange Waste to Art Competition (2006)
- Went through to the Regional Waste to Art Competition and received a Highly Commended (2006)
- Took approximately 1 month (on and off) to create
- All materials used were scrap, right down to the eyelashes which were crafted from 'hair wefts' discarded by apprentice hairdressers at a hair dressing school in Orange
- He is a carpenter by trade, but was reluctant to enter the competition as he didn't think he had any 'artistic' talent
- He would love to enter the 2007 competition, but being 85 years old he thinks he should take things a bit easier



**'So Shall They Be Known'** Artist: Peter Brooks from Mudgee. Made from old spoons, forks and scrap metal.

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