



PARKS & LEISURE
AUSTRALIA
(VIC/TAS)

2025 REGIONAL AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE



Landmark
open space structures & solutions
PRINCIPAL SPONSOR



CHRISTIE



inside **EDGE**
sport and leisure planning





AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE PRINCIPAL PARTNER

With special thanks to our 2025 Awards of Excellence Principal Partner, Landmark Products. Landmark Products offers a complete, professional open space structure and furniture service throughout Australia and abroad. From design through to manufacturing and installation, Landmark Products delivers total project solutions for landscape architects and contractors, councils, private enterprises, schools and much more.





MEET YOUR HOST



Brett Phillips

Brett is a leading tennis commentator and long time supporter of PLA. Host of SEN's The First Serve, a dedicated two hour weekly radio show, covering the world of tennis from the elite to the grass roots here in Australia and abroad.

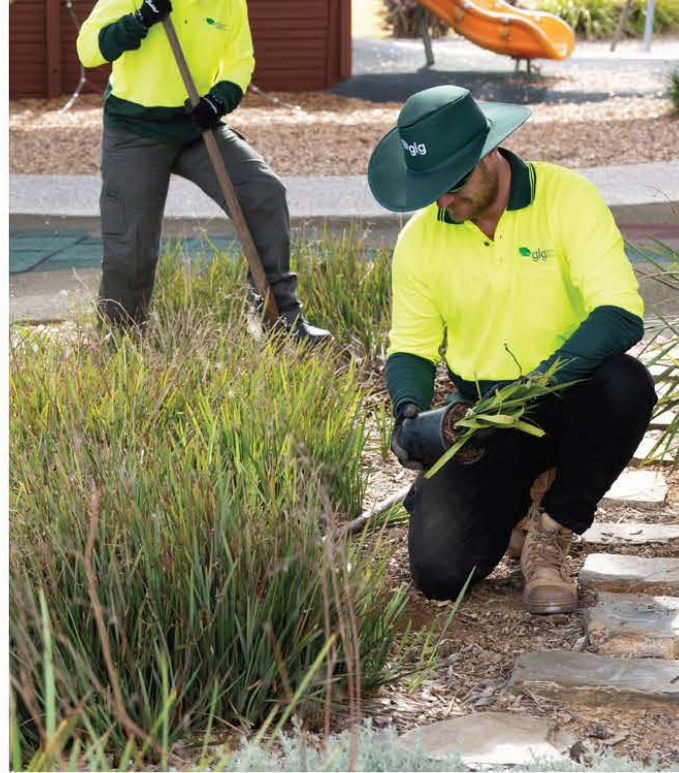
Brett is also a host of Channel 9's tennis coverage as well as being the big screens host for Tennis Australia at the Australian Open.

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Leaders in Property Services & Open Space Management



With 30 years of
industry experience,
GLG is a dedicated
open space specialist.





ORDER OF EVENTS

Welcome + Introduction

Entrée

Awards Set 1

Community Based Initiative of the Year Award
Research Award
Environmental Stewardship Award
Best Use of Technology Award
Strategic and Master Planning Award
David Aldous Emerging Leader Award

Main Course

Awards Set 2

Playspace (>\$500K) Award
Playspace (<\$500K) Award
Best Regional/Rural Industry Contribution Award
Community Facility of the Year Award
Park of the Year Award

Dessert

Networking/Dancing

Event Concludes

COMMUNITY BASED INITIATIVE OF THE YEAR

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COMMUNITY BASED INITIATIVE OF THE YEAR

This award is designed to recognise the combined effort that is required to successfully plan, organise and manage effective initiatives, projects, programs, events and/or festivals which promote and enhance leisure time for a number of social, environmental and economic benefits to the community. Evidence of success should form a component of the submission.

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@leisure is a sports, aquatic, open space planning consultancy with more than 30 years of experience. We provide rigorous strategies, business cases, feasibility studies and facility plans that are market tested and practical to implement. Our staff with sport, planning, and business backgrounds provide excellent service and good value for money.

COMMUNITY BASED INITIATIVE OF THE YEAR



Empower Her Ride Program
Maribyrnong City Council



Keysborough's Big Picnic 2024
City of Greater Dandenong



Get Active in Darebin
Darebin City Council



Collaboratively Preventing Drowning
Mornington Peninsula Aquatic and Recreation Venues + Belgravia Leisure



Belgrave South – Create, Protect, Love
Yarra Ranges Shire Council

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RESEARCH AWARD



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RESEARCH AWARD

This award acknowledges outstanding research achievement by a group or individual, professionals, student or academics who have made a significant contribution to the parks and leisure industry through expanded knowledge enhancement promoting the benefits or importance of the parks and leisure sector in Australian society.

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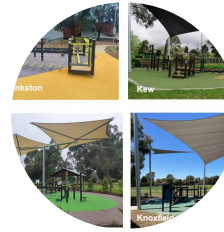


Endeavour Turf Professionals are one Australia's leading sports field design and turf agronomy consultancies. For over 17 years, our expert team of designers, consultants and agronomists have been working with Local Government Authorities and the professional turf industry designing and improving natural turf surfaces.

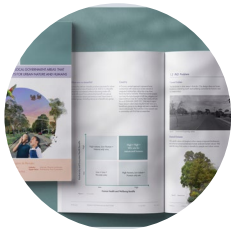
RESEARCH AWARD



Activating Social Connection
**Swinburne University of Technology +
RMIT University**



ENJOY MAP for HEALTH
**National Ageing Research Institute +
Boroondara City Council + Knox City
Council**



Transitioning to Australian LGA's That
Create Co-Benefits for Urban Nature
and People
Tract Consultants



Improving Recruitment and Retainment
of Lifeguards and Swim Instructors
Monash University



The Cost to Deliver and Play Sport
**Federation University + Australian
Sports Commission**

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ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP AWARD

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ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP AWARD

This award celebrates and acknowledges those who protect nature and parks, improve climate resilience, ensure sustainability, and care for our land, as well as champions in all of these areas as part of this award. Awarded to an individual, a team, or an organisation for the development of innovative processes, practices, or technologies that contribute to the development of a sustainable future. Developing and implementing a sustainable approach to economic, social, and environmental concerns should be integrated into all core activities in addition to complying with industry standards and best practices. Those responsible for subordinate strategies to an institution's overarching strategic plan are not included in this category.

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Christie Barbecues is an Australian family-owned public barbecue manufacturer. We have focused exclusively on providing the safest, most reliable and sustainable products for over fifty years. Our reputation for value and quality makes us the leader in public barbecue technology. Our products are the best in the category and provide a superior cooking experience.

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP AWARD



More Trees for a Cooler, Greener
West Program
**Department of Energy,
Environment and Climate Action**

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BEST USE OF TECHNOLOGY AWARD

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BEST USE OF TECHNOLOGY AWARD

This award acknowledges outstanding and innovative achievement in the area of technology application and how that application has benefited the industry.

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GreenLife Group is a national leader in property services and open space management. GLG delivers a wide range of integrated commercial landscape, horticultural and environmental services that include property and ground maintenance, sports turf, arboriculture, and development of sustainable solutions. With more than 27 years of industry experience, GLG is a dedicated open space specialist.

BEST USE OF TECHNOLOGY AWARD



Climate Resilience Index
Tract Consultants + OneMap

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Drowning Prevention Technology and
Analytics
Lynxight



STRATEGIC AND MASTER PLANNING AWARD

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STRATEGIC AND MASTER PLANNING AWARD

This award recognises the development of strategies for parks, open space, sport, recreation and leisure opportunities by rewarding outstanding examples of strategic planning that have enriched and revitalised a community.

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WILLPLAY

Play | Fitness | Recreation



WillPlay is an Australian manufacturer of play and fitness equipment with an extensive range of products to suit all size projects and budgets. Using premium materials such as aluminium, stainless steel and recycled plastics, WillPlay offers world class quality in a cost effective package. WillPlay's custom design capabilities can bring your next project to life and create a true destination experience for all users.

STRATEGIC AND MASTER PLANNING AWARD



Play Strategy and Let's Play Implementation
Frankston City Council



Graydens Reserve Master Plan
Bass Coast Shire Council + Emerge Associates



Dog Off-Leash Guidelines
City of Port Phillip



Maroondah Tennis Strategy
Maroondah Council



Mordi Aquatic Centre
Kingston City Council

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DAVID ALDOUS EMERGING LEADER AWARD

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DAVID ALDOUS EMERGING LEADER AWARD

This award seeks to recognise and celebrate outstanding contributions made by a student or emerging professional (under 30 years of age) in a course of study leading to a nationally recognised qualification in the sector throughout Australia or who has made a significant contribution to the parks and leisure industry.

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The YMCA is one of the world's longest-running and largest youth-focused movements. Y Victoria has been supporting communities for more than 170 years. We offer a wide range of programs and services that support children and young people across their life cycle.

DAVID ALDOUS EMERGING LEADER AWARD



Jacinta Ganino
City of Whittlesea



Ashley Dean
City of Stonnington



Claudia Marazita
Golf Australia

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PLAYSPACE AWARD (>\$0.5M)

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GroundScience



PLAYSPACE AWARD (>\$0.5M)

This award is given to a playspace over the value of \$500,000 that involves a range of stakeholders, contributes to the creation of a sense of 'place' for its local community and exhibits landscape and/or structural design innovation that delights and aids childhood development.

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Ground Science is a multi-disciplinary geotechnical consultancy company, that specializes in all forms of sports field profile design and engineering. A leading consultancy in this space they service clients Nationally and Internationally. Their designs focus on leading technology with sustainability in mind and provide niche expertise.

PLAYSPACE AWARD (>\$0.5M)



Orbost's Forest Park Revitalisation
East Gippsland Shire Council



Bacchus Marsh All-Abilities Adventure
Playground
**Brand Architects + Moorabool Shire
Council**



Hays Paddock Playspace
**Jeavons Landscape Architects, City of
Boroondara + Formium**



Gasworks Arts Park Playground
**Jeavons Landscape Architects + City
of Port Phillip**



Moubray Street Community Park
City of Port Phillip



Road Safety Centre
City of Launceston

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GroundScience



PLAYSPACE AWARD (<\$0.5M)

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SHADE 'N' SAILS



PLAYSPACE AWARD (<\$0.5M)

This award is given to a playspace under the value of \$500,000 that involves a range of stakeholders, contributes to the creation of a sense of 'place' for its local community and exhibits landscape and/or structural design innovation that delights and aids childhood development.

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SHADE 'N' SAILS

Shade N Sails is an Australian company that specialises in designing manufacturing and installing shade products. The company was established in 1999 to provide durable shade products for both the domestic and commercial markets. With over 150 years of combined industry experience and a focus on exceptional customer service and communication they have grown rapidly servicing both the Australian and global markets, offering a wide range of solutions.

PLAYSPACE AWARD (<\$500K)



Timbertop Park
City of Whittelsea



Launceston Pump Track
City of Launceston

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SHADE 'N' SAILS



BEST REGIONAL/RURAL CONTRIBUTION AWARD

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SHADE 'N' SAILS



BEST REGIONAL/RURAL CONTRIBUTION AWARD

Regional/Rural Australia includes all of the towns, small cities and areas that lie beyond the major capital cities (Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Perth, Adelaide, Darwin, Hobart and Canberra), who make a significant contribution through community initiatives which contribute to the parks and leisure industry. These projects can be playspaces, events, tourism, trails, programs, repurposing of facilities and environmental initiatives (ie. water saving, habitat development and restoration projects).

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REGIONAL/RURAL CONTRIBUTION AWARD



Memorial Square Changing
Places Facility
Colac Otway Shire

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COMMUNITY FACILITY OF THE YEAR

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COMMUNITY FACILITY OF THE YEAR

This community facility award recognises facilities that demonstrate innovative features of design, development and operation.

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insideEDGE
sport and leisure planning

insideEDGE passionately supports communities to enhance sport, leisure, and recreation programs and services. Our mission is to drive more thoughtful decision-making regarding investment in community infrastructure, ultimately leading to increased participation and improved facility utilisation. Through our work, we aim to foster stronger connections between communities, sports, and government, creating a more vibrant and engaged environment for all.

COMMUNITY FACILITY OF THE YEAR



Clyde Recreation Reserve
City of Casey



Diggers Rest Recreation Reserve
Melton City Council



Fawkner Leisure Centre
Redevelopment
Merri-bek City Council



Lara Multisport Pavilion
City of Greater Geelong



St Josephs College Elite Sports
Precinct
SPORTENG



Ascot Vale Leisure Centre
Ascot Vale Leisure Centre



Morack Public Golf Redevelopment
**Golf Australia + Whitehorse City
Council**

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COMMUNITY FACILITY OF THE YEAR



Stonnington Sports Centre
City of Stonnington



Northcote Aquatic and
Recreation Centre
Darebin City Council + Clublinks



Elevating Sport Through Smart
Design at Fortitude Drive Reserve
SPORTENG



Brennan Oval Redeveloped for
Peak Performance
SPORTENG



Memorial Square Public Toilet
Redevelopment
Colac Otway Shire



Jubilee Park Stadium
Redevelopment
Frankston City Council



Glen Waverley Sports Hub
Monash City Council

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PARK OF THE YEAR AWARD

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PARK OF THE YEAR AWARD

This award celebrates and promotes vibrant, successful well designed and managed new or significantly revitalised parks/ open spaces by recognising and rewarding exceptional examples of best practice in terms of design and management. This includes parks and open spaces that are large, small, linear, along transport corridors, road closures, foreshore and reclaimed urban spaces.

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An industry leader in the production, sale and distribution of premium instant turf and lawns for life. They are one of the nation's largest growers of premium drought-tolerant, water smart turfgrass varieties and are regarded amongst the most efficient and technologically advanced turfgrass operations in the world. Coolabah Turf are passionate about the turf and lawn industry and the power their people and products have to make a positive impact on people's lives.

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PARK OF THE YEAR AWARD

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Bell to Preston Linear Park: Level
Crossing Removal Project
Tract



Yubup Park Brunswick
Merri-bek City Council



Tobruk Park Sensory Garden
Central Coast Council



The Beauty Spot Carrum Foreshore
Kingston City Council



Chirnside Urban Park
Yarra Ranges Shire Council



Whittlesea Public Gardens Revitalisation
**City of Whittlesea,
McGregor Coxall + Convic**



Bedford Street Pocket Park
City of Melbourne



Realising the Ruffey Lake Park Landscape
Masterplan
Manningham Council



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