

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **Three nominations in GSDC Medal shortlist**

A shortlist of three has been announced for the prestigious GSDC Medal, presented by the Great Southern Development Commission (GSDC) to honour best practice in the management of the region's natural resources.

Ruhi Ferdowsian, Steve and Geraldine Janicke, and Bev Lockley were shortlisted for the award, following the initial assessment of nominations.

Each will now be assessed by a panel of judges who will choose the recipient of the award.

The medal will be presented at the GSDC Medal Dinner at the Kalyenup Studio at the Albany Entertainment Centre on Friday 11 June, which will highlight regional produce including a showcase of Great Southern wines.

Ruhi Ferdowsian is a former government hydrologist who worked on the remediation of land degradation and salinity in farming areas along the Great Southern coast. Contributions noted by Mr Ferdowsian's nominator include scientific research and the development of widely used hydrology assessment tools.

Steve and Geraldine Janicke are consultants and educators who have 30 years' experience in waterways research and management on the south coast. Their nomination cites a passion for the environment and for communicating about science.

Bev Lockley is a volunteer contributor to Katanning Landcare and other groups, and works to apply sustainable practices in her retail business. Her nominator noted her leading role in environmental work at Katanning's Piesse Park where she influenced the design, and developed and implemented an extensive planting plan.

Tickets to the GSDC Medal Dinner are available through a link on the medal page of the GSDC website or search 'GSDC Medal' on Trybooking. Anyone with an interest in regional leadership, innovation and achievement is welcome to attend.



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Albany Pyrmont House, 110 Serpentine Road, PO Box 280, Albany WA 6331. Phone: (08) 9842 4888 Fax: (08) 9842 4828 Email: [gcdc@gcdc.wa.gov.au](mailto:gcdc@gcdc.wa.gov.au)

Katanning 10 Dore Street, Katanning WA 6317. Phone: (08) 9821 3210 Fax: (08) 9821 3334 Email: [katanning@gcdc.wa.gov.au](mailto:katanning@gcdc.wa.gov.au)

Web: [www.gcdc.wa.gov.au](http://www.gcdc.wa.gov.au)



The GSDC Medal was first awarded in 2002. The recipient receives a sterling silver medal and a grant to support further work in their field.

This year's recipient will be the fourteenth to wear the honour, joining a select band that includes environmental educators, research scientists, farm innovators and community leaders.

**Media contact: Natasha Monks, ph. 9842 4888**



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Albany Pyrmont House, 110 Serpentine Road, PO Box 280, Albany WA 6331. Phone: (08) 9842 4888 Fax: (08) 9842 4828 Email: [gfdc@gfdc.wa.gov.au](mailto:gfdc@gfdc.wa.gov.au)

Katanning 10 Dore Street, Katanning WA 6317. Phone: (08) 9821 3210 Fax: (08) 9821 3334 Email: [katanning@gfdc.wa.gov.au](mailto:katanning@gfdc.wa.gov.au)

Web: [www.gfdc.wa.gov.au](http://www.gfdc.wa.gov.au)