

# GOLDFIELDS-ESPERANCE BUILDING CHAMPIONS

*Master Builders director Michael McLean reports on the winning builders and projects in this year's Master Builders-Bankwest Building Excellence Awards for the Goldfields-Esperance region.*

**E**ACH year the Master Builders Association, in conjunction with Bankwest and several other sponsors, conducts an awards program to benchmark the best builders, specialist trades and apprentices in the region.

In 2016/17 there were 30 new homes with a combined contractual value of \$19 million built in Kalgoorlie.

In Esperance there were 45 new homes built worth \$16 million. Both towns recorded a slight increase in housing approvals from the previous year.

Two registered builders, Charlie Baggetta and Kevin Sale, judged the 46 entries across the 400km divide between Kalgoorlie and Esperance this year.

With few exceptions, local trades provided the specialist skills to support the local builders complete their projects. The judges were impressed with the quality of entries received.

This year's successful builders and projects are:

- Best Overall Country Home (Goldfields-Esperance region): BD Partington Building Contractors.
- Best Commercial Project: Dixon Construction for the Recherche Medical Centre in Esperance.
- Best Residential Alterations & Additions (under \$250,000): Quest Developments.
- Best Multi-Residential Development: Westralia Homes.
- Best Contract Home (under \$250,000): Westralia Homes.
- Best Contract Home (\$250,000-\$275,000): WA Country Builders.
- Best Contract Home (\$275,000-\$300,000): G.J. Gardner Homes Esperance.
- Best Contract Home (\$300,000-\$325,000): GJ Gardner Homes Esperance.
- Best Contract Home (\$325,000-\$350,000): GJ Gardner Homes Esperance.
- Best Contract Home (\$350,000-\$400,000): WA Country Builders.

- Best Contract Home (\$400,000-\$500,000): BD Partington Building Contractors.
- Best Contract Home (\$600,000-\$800,000): JMAC Building.
- Best Contract Home (\$800,000-\$1 million): BD Partington Building Contractors.
- Best Contract Homes (over \$1 million): BD Partington Building Contractors.
- Best Customer Service: G.J. Gardner Homes Esperance.
- Apprentice of the Year: Digby Hoey, employed by Dixon Constructions.

Master Builders awards showcase the best the building industry has to offer clients. To each builder, their project is a winner as it reflects many months of planning, coordination of specialist trades and attention to detail in delivering the finished project.

As these awards provide an independent assessment of workmanship standards, the real winners are, of course, homebuyers and corporate clients who benefit from builders striving for continual improvement from one year to the next.

The awards presentation was held for the first time at the Esperance Bay Turf Club on September 2.

Like Perth, the Goldfields-Esperance region is experiencing a significant economic downturn. However, there are some encouraging signs of renewed mineral exploration activity around Kalgoorlie, which tends to generate additional work eventually for the building industry.

This is a resilient community which is conditioned to volatility as a result of mining booms and economic down-turns. As always, the locals hope the recovery phase will occur sooner rather than later and be sustained for years ahead.

Before embarking on your next housing or construction project in the Goldfields-Esperance region, however big or small, visit the Master Builders website at [www.mbawa.com](http://www.mbawa.com) or contact Doug Backhouse on 0437 184 366, our regional representative based in Esperance.

***Best Commercial Project - Dixon Construction.***

