

Best house sitters win

AUSSIE House Sitters is Australia's largest house sitting website. Local Lismore residents, Nick and Kylie Fuad, started the website in 2004 from their home. Since then the site has grown every year. Currently Aussie House Sitters has 10,000 registered houses and pet sitters, and 29,400 home owners. With 350 new homeowner ads through the site each week, there are always house sitting jobs available all around Australia. Nick and Kylie saw the opportunity to create other

house sitting websites, and over the last eight years they have developed house sitting websites in New Zealand, the UK and the USA. Their passion for family friendly travel also led them to start Aussie House Swap, a swap holiday website where members get to travel like a local. The Aussie House Swap site is currently being redesigned and upgraded ready to launch in August 2016. 2016 has been a huge year for the Aussie House Sitters team. Due to the need to

take on more staff, they recently purchased an office building in Magellan St, Lismore. They employ four staff members, have engaged a marketing consultant, and recently won the Best Online or Home Based Business Award at the Lismore Chamber of Commerce Business Awards. For more information visit www.aussiehousesitters.com.au

The Aussie House Sitter team (L-R), Elyse Knowles, Gabby Watson, Nick Fuad and Kylie Fuad. PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED



MINIMISING HARM: Ecoteam workers take a safety-first approach in high-risk work environments. PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

Award winning, innovative and eco-friendly team

ECOTEAM'S hard work has paid off with the company winning the top honours in two categories at the Lismore Property Managers Business Excellence Awards on Saturday night. Ecoteam was awarded the Manufacturing and Innovation Business of the Year for their industry leadership and championing of innovative and sustainable technologies for environmental challenges. Ecoteam are specialists in wastewater treatment technologies and have designed wastewater treatment systems in regional NSW, Borneo and Papua New Guinea. Ecoteam is also researching the practical application of biochar in wastewater treatment with results of recent field trials being published in a new biochar manual and two

upcoming scientific papers. Ecoteam is in the process of full scale production for the Surge Flow 100, a unique product used in wastewater treatment which pumps water and requires no moving parts or electricity. Ecoteam will now go on to the Northern Rivers Business Chamber Awards in the category of Innovation, to be held at the Lismore Workers Club on the 24 September. Ecoteam also won the Workplace Safety Award sponsored by SafeWork NSW. Ecoteam works in rural and remote locations, and in high risk environments containing asbestos, soil contamination and untreated wastewater. Ecoteam also works at heights and in confined spaces. Ecoteam staff all have families to get home to at the end of the day and

take safety very seriously. Ecoteam will now go on to compete with other regional finalists in the SafeWork NSW State Awards. Ecoteam was also awarded Highly Commended in *Professional Services* and will be striving to take out the top honours next year. Ecoteam Business Manager, Stefanie Stanley, summed up Ecoteam's success, "Thank you to the Lismore Chamber of Commerce and Industry and all the event sponsors. It was an excellent night and really gave us the chance to celebrate the achievements of the Lismore business community. Thank you also to our customers, your trust in us is our biggest success." For more information about Ecoteam, visit www.ecoteam.com.au.

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