

## ETHICAL ENTERPRISE AWARD WINNER LIGHTS THE HOMES OF INDIA'S SLUM DWELLERS

**Strictly Embargoed until October 21<sup>st</sup> 2016**

Globally, 1.3 billion people have no access to electricity – an unimaginable situation for westerners who depend on electricity almost every minute of every day in order to function.

In India alone, 390 million people – one-quarter of the country's population – suffer energy poverty, as this lack of access to modern energy services has been dubbed. The domestic aspects such as food preparation and safe food storage are concerning. Equally worrying is that a lack of light means children are unable to study at night, which has ramifications for their future participation in the highly skilled 21<sup>st</sup> century workforce.

### The Winners

So Moral Fairground is delighted to announce that the winner of its fourth Ethical Enterprise Award, which recognises enterprises for innovative and ethical practices that deliver positive social and economic impacts, is [Pollinate Energy](#), a business dedicated to changing this situation by bringing affordable, sustainable solar power to those living in India's slums. In just three years, Pollinate Energy gave light to 10,000 families; the \$10,000 prize money, donated by [Australian Ethical](#), will help the organisation reach its next 10,000 families much sooner.

Winner of the second prize of \$7500, donated by [LUSH Australia](#), is [Tjanpi Desert Weavers](#), an Indigenous social enterprise created by members of the Ngaanyatjarra Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Women's Council to enable women on the lands to earn a regular income from selling their fibre art. (Tjanpi means 'locally harvested grasses'). More than 400 Aboriginal women artists from 26 remote communities in the western and central deserts of Australia come together to create their beautiful, intricate and whimsical fibre art.

[ASRC Catering](#), a not-for-profit social enterprise of the [Asylum Seeker Resource Centre](#) that helps provide social and economic empowerment for people seeking asylum, wins the third prize of mentoring and complimentary business consultation valued at \$15,000 from [One10](#).

This professional catering team consists of ASRC asylum seeker members led by an experienced team of mentor chefs. The food, which not surprisingly reflects the rich and diverse cultures of the members, is always house made with care, using the freshest ingredients. All dishes are also animal and cruelty-free. The organisation won *The Age Good Food Guide 2016* Food for Good Award.

## Finalists

The other six finalists are:

- [Business for Development](#)
- [Etiko](#)
- [ASRC Cleaning](#)
- [Ways & Means](#)
- [Jigsaw Business Solutions](#)
- [The Fabric Social](#)

## Judging Panel

The judging panel comprised four highly experienced and active ethical industry participants: Susanna Bevilacqua Moral Fairground's founder and director; Peta Granger, director of LUSH; Phil Vernon, managing director of Australian Ethical Investments, and Natalie Dillon of ethical clothing company 3Fish.

The awards were presented on October 20th at the Ethical Enterprise Awards ceremony dinner held at Melbourne's Jasper Hotel, the crowning event of Moral Fairground's one-day Ethical Enterprise Conference, the theme of which was "Tackling Poverty, Transforming Communities."

## Contact Details

For more information, to arrange an interview with any of our winners and finalists, or to attend the awards dinner, contact us at:

Susanna Bevilacqua

Founder, Moral Fairground

T: 0409 943 254

E: [susanna@moralfairground.com.au](mailto:susanna@moralfairground.com.au)

## About Moral Fairground:

Melbourne-based social enterprise and organiser of Fair@Square, Australia's largest annual ethical and fair-trade festival, Moral Fairground has operated with the ethical sector since 2009. Its aim is to create positive social impact by increasing economic opportunities and fairness within society – achievements met by creating avenues for enterprises to become more effective in delivering their social mission. Learn more at <http://moralfairground.com.au/>.

## About Australian Ethical:

For 30 years, Australian Ethical Investment has been busting the myth that investors have to compromise their ethics for returns, or returns for ethics – we achieve both. The company has consistently outperformed the market while ensuring every single stock it invests in delivers positive outcomes to people, the planet and animals. From its strong performance and the growing

social consciousness among investors, Australian Ethical has grown to more than \$1.5 billion in funds under management as at June 2016 and has the #1 performing Australian Shares Fund in a 10 year time frame – bar none. That includes all Australian Shares Funds, both ethical and non-ethical according to the Mercer Investment Survey September 2016.

If you could make money while doing good, why wouldn't you? Join in 3 minutes:

[www.australianethical.com.au](http://www.australianethical.com.au)