



## Media Release

4 February 2008

### Tidy Towns National Finalists announced for 2008

The national finalists in the Keep Australia Beautiful, Australian Tidy Towns Awards have been announced and will now compete to become Australia's Tidiest Town 2008.

Tidy Towns is part of the Keep Australia Beautiful 'Australian Sustainable Communities' Awards, which also includes the Sustainable Cities and Clean Beaches Awards.

The Tidy Towns Awards celebrate the achievements of each finalist and, in a spirit of friendly competition, identify, acknowledge and promote Australia's best examples of excellence in grass roots environmental improvement in regional and rural areas from around the country. In 2008 the finalists are:

- **NAUIYU NAMBIYU (DALY RIVER)\*** – NT (Contact Henk Rhee on 08 8978 2422)
- **DORRIGO** – NSW (contact David Hitchcock on 0427 109 030)
- **MOE** – VIC (contact Wendy Hrynyszyn on 03 5128 5618 or 0428 387 170)
- **MOUNT GAMBIER** – SA (contact Gina Ploenges on 08 8721 2505)
- **ROSS** – TAS (contact Debra Spohn on 03 6381 5338)
- **TOOWOOMBA** – QLD (contact Narelle Kuehnemann on 07 4688 6467)
- **WALPOLE** – WA (contact Cr Dave Tapley on 0400 968 251)

Through the Australian Tidy Towns Awards, sponsored by [truelocal.com.au](http://truelocal.com.au), a division of News Digital Media, Keep Australia Beautiful is able to recognise local community and individual efforts that are helping regional towns to become environmentally, economically and socially sustainable communities.

Over 800 communities entered the Awards competition this year, with tens of thousands of volunteers donating their time and effort for practical local initiatives.

**Keep Australia Beautiful National Chairman, Don Chambers, said:**

“The need for local communities to work together to become more sustainable is now more important than ever, particularly as many towns face flash flooding or severe water shortages - and economic challenges as a result. Whilst Tidy Towns still embraces litter and civic pride initiatives, the program continues to evolve to help influence and create a sustainable future for regional and rural Australia. It is our on-the-ground participations that are playing a vital role in this and I would like to acknowledge and congratulate each and every one of them for their dedicated involvement.”

Members of the public are invited to join in the Australian Tidy Towns activities being held in Hobart from 18 – 20 April. For details, visit [www.kab.org.au/tidytowns](http://www.kab.org.au/tidytowns)

**Media enquiries to:**

**Lara Shannon, KABNA National Publicist on 0415 076 015 or [laras@kab.org.au](mailto:laras@kab.org.au)  
Further information on each finalist can be found at [www.kab.org.au/tidytowns](http://www.kab.org.au/tidytowns)**

## **EDITOR'S NOTES:**

\*Naiya Nambiya (Daly River) was selected to represent NT in the Australian Tidy Towns Awards following their win of the 2007 KABCNT 'Pick of the Litter' Award.

### **About Keep Australia Beautiful**

The Keep Australia Beautiful Network has been encouraging people all around Australia to care for their local environment for over 30 years. Through its awards programs such as Tidy Towns, Sustainable Cities and Clean Beach Challenge local communities and individuals are recognised for their achievements in helping create sustainable communities. Keep Australia Beautiful Week is a national program to raise awareness of environmental issues and participation in Keep Australia Beautiful activities, whilst the Keep Australia Beautiful National Litter Index is the only national, quantitative measure of litter that takes place annually. These are just some of the activities that involve up to 3 million Australians each year. Visit [www.kab.org.au](http://www.kab.org.au) for further information.

### **Principal Sponsor**

#### **truelocal.com.au**

truelocal.com.au, part of the News Digital Media network, is an online business directory that lists 1.3million local businesses nationally. In print the truelocal section of News Limited Community Newspapers can be found in over 100 local papers nationally. truelocal is fast becoming a brand synonymous with local business, and prides itself on having national coverage with local knowledge. truelocal.com.au is proud to become the official 2008 Principal Sponsor of Australian Tidy Towns.

### **Category Sponsors**

#### **Grundfos Pumps**

As a world leading pump and pumping systems manufacturer, Grundfos Pumps has joined with Keep Australia Beautiful to help all Australians achieve improvements in water conservation. The partnership is based on sponsorship of the Water Conservation category of both the Tidy Towns and Sustainable Cities Awards at a national and state/territory level. These awards identify, acknowledge and promote examples of excellence in local environmental initiatives. Finalists and winners of the awards will help provide best practice case studies and benchmarks that other local communities across Australia can utilise to address water shortages and restrictions.

#### **HUNGRY JACK'S® 'Bag it and Bin it'**

Hungry Jack's is doing its bit to help keep Australia beautiful:

- a 'Bag it and Bin it' anti litter message is being added to packaging;
- painted or printed Fries containers have been discontinued in favour of natural board containers
- some Queensland stores are trialling compacting units for both food waste and cardboard recycling;
- a grease guardian is being trialled at Flemington in Victoria which removes grease and oil from waste water.

#### **'Do the Right Thing' program of the Packaging Stewardship Forum of the Australian Food and Grocery Council**

The PSF provides a vehicle for broader corporate support for Australia's efforts to improve resource recovery and reduce littering of food, beverage and grocery packaging. In addition, it also assists in the delivery of national projects for the National Packaging Covenant and provides an opportunity for progressive businesses to re-engage with their stakeholders and partners in packaging stewardship. PSF manages the 'Do the Right Thing' program.

#### **Tidy Towns Travel with TakeABreak.com.au**

Keep Australia Beautiful and online travel information and accommodation provider **TakeABreak.com.au** have joined forces to promote environmentally sustainable tourism. This provides Tidy Towns participants with a higher level of exposure and a new avenue for promoting their localities as holiday destinations, whilst travellers and holiday makers can use the Tidy Towns awards to help find the best places to visit.