



Media Release

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Balnarring Clean Beach win hits home

The community of Balnarring Beach is feeling the brunt of the force after winning the Thies Services Victorian Clean Beach Challenge for the second year running. Visitor numbers are up and the community is reaping the benefits.

It has reportedly been extremely difficult to find a spot in the car park at the beach, "I have never seen so many cars and people at the beach in my years at Balnarring", said Ranger Neil Baine. The café at the beach, where the trophy is displayed, has reported increased takings and many customers have commented that they are visiting as a result of the award.

Many visitors are from Melbourne, choosing to visit Balnarring after reading about the Clean Beach Challenge awards in The Age newspaper. Terry Mulcahy, from the Balnarring Foreshore Committee, highlighted that "the beach has not suffered under the influx of increased traffic, the beach has remained clean with the bins being used and very little rubbish being left about."

New Years Eve was a big night with many people partying on the beach. "On New Years morning our ranger had some teenagers come up to him and ask if it was okay for them to collect the empty bottles, cans and other litter that may have been deposited on the beach", said Mr Mulcahy, "It was a very pleasant surprise and has provided a real sense of community pride at the beach."

Keep Australia Beautiful runs the competition, sponsored by Thies Services and Chambers Rosewood Vineyards. Nominations open again in July. To register to receive a nomination form for the 2006 competition, please call (03) 9484 2399 or email cleanbeach@kabv.org.au

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