

## **Media Release**

Friday 5 November 2010

### **Tasmanian North-West Coast winners of the KAB Tasmanian Awards 2010**

Tasmania's North-West Coast has blitzed the Keep Australia Beautiful (KAB) Tasmanian Tidy Towns Awards, cleaning up awards in seven of nine categories.

The City of Burnie won the Sustainable Cities Award and Sisters Beach won the Clean Beaches Award.

Wynyard High School was named the overall winner of the School Environment Award, while Waratah, Queenstown and Wynyard each won KAB Tidy Town Population Category awards.

And Burnie Mayor Alwyn Boyd was awarded the prestigious 2010 John Donaghy Memorial Award that recognises achievements and contributions to the community.

Judge Barrie Muir said to win seven of nine categories was an outstanding performance by the communities of the north west coast.

In announcing the awards today (5 October), Mr Muir described Burnie as a forward-thinking city.

"Its approach was typical of what I saw across the north west coast in terms of satisfying KAB principles," he said.

"Burnie's community leaders have shown imagination and understanding of the city's needs to achieve a sustainable future.

"Environmentally proactive community members have shown an ability and willingness to roll up their sleeves and get things done.

"When you drive into the city there are many clear indications that local government and the community are working together well."

Mr Muir said while Sisters Beach had so much to offer, it was also fortunate to have a very protective and environmentally active community to care for it.

"Together with the Waratah-Wynyard Council, they have been able to ensure excellent progress in recent years," he said.

In other awards announced today, New Norfolk won the 2010 Tasmanian Tidy Towns Award, recognised as a valued and sustainable community town, and Oatlands was awarded a Tidy Towns population category award.

A number of Tasmanian schools were also recognised in the KAB program for their commitment to addressing issues of sustainability within the community.

St Helens District High School and Richmond Primary School were named joint winners in the 'How the school presents itself to the community' category. Stanley Primary School and Sorell School shared the award in 'How the school involves itself with the community' and St Joseph's Catholic School and South Arm Primary School were joint winners in the 'How the school curriculum responds to today's environmental issues' category.

The Tasmanian Tidy Towns program is run by the Keep Australia Beautiful Council, with support from the Tasmanian Government and the Packing Stewardship Forum.

Over several years Tidy Towns has developed from simply an anti-litter program to one that touches on every aspect of community life.

Through its Awards Programs, KAB recognises local community and individual efforts that are encouraging rural and regional communities across Australia to become environmentally, economically and socially sustainable.

Tasmania's major winners are now eligible for national KAB awards some judged later this year and some in 2011.

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