



Media Release

Friday 5 November 2010

Barunga wins the 'Territory Tidiest Town' Award 2010

The Top End community of Barunga was the overall winner, taking the title as 'Territory's Tidiest Town' for 2010, announced at Government House this afternoon by Keep Australia Beautiful Patron, His Honour the Administrator, Mr. Tom Pauling AO QC.

Barunga also received awards in recognition for their 'Fauna and Flora' program activities (in partnership with Jawyorn Rangers) as well as winning the award for 'Best Medium Territory Tidy Towns Community'.

Keep Australia Beautiful Council (NT) CEO, Heimo Schober, said, "Barunga community have a long and proud involvement with the Territory Tidy Towns program and it's great to see that the Roper Gulf Shire had taken 6 of the total 12 Territory Tidy Towns category awards this year. There has been some healthy competition between shires for the Tidy Towns Awards this year".

"Certainly attributes and indicators such pride, drive, determination and community self esteem has put Barunga at the forefront as Territory's Tidiest Town, but it's this strong culture of 'continuous improvement' that has pushed their community to the front of the pack again this year. It must be a Roper Gulf Shire or Council thing, as every one of their communities has just 'leap frogged' ahead, their Shire Service Managers and the people deserve a great big pat on the back for their efforts".

"The people of Barunga take great pride in their community and have a rich heritage and culture. The community has a special place in history, and the people share their country and heritage through their festival, arts, crafts and sporting activities. The town's Heritage Park is a great example of displays of cultural interpretations and the community's historic background".

"The Barunga Sports and Cultural Festival is one of Australia's longest running Aboriginal festivals and has developed into one of the most significant celebrations of Aboriginal culture, art, music and sport in the Top End".

"The festival provides a unique opportunity to be part of a remote Aboriginal community, sharing in the Jawoyn culture, and connects Aboriginal communities from right across the Northern Territory and the Kimberley in Western Australia", he added.

The CEO of Keep Australia Beautiful Council Northern Territory, Heimo Schober, also stated, "It is always a pleasure to be able to recognise and promote the work that many dedicated individuals and communities are undertaking to continuously improve the social and environmental developments within their own communities across the Territory".

"Congratulations to the community of Barunga, who have shown great commitment and leadership in local sustainability practices and education, setting a wonderful example. Congratulations to the Roper Gulf Shire Council for their involvement and support role – your communities are looking fantastic and you all can take pride in your achievements".

Through the Territory Tidy Towns Awards, Keep Australia Beautiful Council (NT) is able to recognise Territory community and individual efforts that are helping remote, rural and regional communities to become environmentally, economically and socially sustainable. The awards are sponsored by Grundfos Pumps, the Packaging Stewardship Forum (PSF) and the Northern Territory Government. - ends -

For further information visit www.kabcnt.org.au

Media contacts:

KABCNT: Heimo Schober, CEO of KABC(NT) on 0407 186 461
Barunga: Pls do not alert to results b4 4:00pm CST - Catherine Proctor
Director of Corporate and Community Services on (08) 8972 9020,
0488 589 052 or catherine.proctor@ropergulf.nt.gov.au

EDITOR'S NOTES

Keep Australia Beautiful Council (NT) - Territory Tidy Towns Awards 2010 Results Table

Category	Winner
Overall Winner/ National Finalist	Barunga
Best Community Action & Partnership Works	Ngukurr (Roper River)
'Dame Phyllis Frost' Litter Prevention	Wugularr (Beswick)
Best Resource Recovery & Waste Management	Jabiru
Best Fauna & Flora Protection	Barunga & Jawyong Rangers
Best Water Conservation	Nhulunbuy (Gove)
Best School	Arlparra School (Urapuntja)
Best Landfill Site	Nhulunbuy (Gove)
Best Small Community	Manyallaluk (Eva Valley)
Best Medium Community	Barunga
Best Large Community	Jabiru
Citizen Award	Mr. Ian Lindsay (for his recycling initiatives at Jabiru)

About the Australian Tidy Towns Awards Sponsors

Grundfos Pumps

As a world leading pump and pumping systems manufacturer, Grundfos Pumps has joined with Keep Australia Beautiful to help all Territorians achieve improvements in water conservation, reducing water waste.

Packaging Stewardship Forum

The Packaging Stewardship Forum (PSF) of AFGC was established in 2006. PSF work with partners, such as Keep Australia Beautiful, across Australia to deliver industry recycling, litter reduction and education programs on behalf of their members, Australia's largest beverage companies and their packaging suppliers. PSF has been working with KABC(NT) to create awareness and education and to deliver a voluntary resource recovery systems, to remote NT communities, systems that do not raise the cost of living yet achieves great recovery rate of resources.