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Overall Winner	Principal Sponsor
Australia's Tidiest Town 2008	
Category	Category Sponsor
Community Action 200 Points Recognises achievement in community beautification, presentation and pride.	
Heritage and Culture 100 Points Recognises communities which proudly preserve and value cultural history.	
Environmental Innovation 100 Points Recognises achievement through innovation by community, government and business under the principles and practical actions associated with environment protection and sustainability.	
Water Conservation 100 Points Recognise sustainable water management within communities which has combined innovative water conservation and water re-use initiatives at the private, industrial and municipal levels, benefiting society and nature.	
Litter Prevention 200 Points Recognises achievement in community litter management and reduction including the undertaking of litter audits, and litter education programs.	
Resource Recovery 100 Points Recognises achievement in resource recovery and waste management including initiatives which conserve resources, water or energy minimisation practices; the recovery and reuse of materials including packaging, and the appropriate disposal of non-recyclable materials.	
Community Partnership 200 Points Recognises partnership achievements by government and/or business with local communities.	
Protection of the Environment 100 Points Recognises achievement in the protection of the natural environment and, specifically, the preservation of native flora and fauna.	
Young Legends 100 Points Recognises environmental achievement through youth initiative and/or by a community, which encourages and promotes youth initiative and environmental education.	
Dame Phyllis Frost Award Recognises outstanding individual or group contributions to the principles of sustainable communities. This category is named after the founder of Keep Australia Beautiful.	



Back in 1966 an organisation called Keep South Australia Beautiful was created and in 1968 it was joined by the Keep Australia Beautiful office in Victoria so we can say that 2008 is the 40th anniversary of the Keep Australia Beautiful Network.

For the past 40 years the Keep Australia Beautiful Network has been Australia's premier community based litter prevention organisation. Our flagship program is the Australian Sustainable Communities Awards consisting of the Tidy Towns, Sustainable Cities and Clean Beaches Awards.

These awards identify, acknowledge and promote examples of excellence in grass roots environmental initiatives by local communities. From a focus on litter and civic pride they have now expanded to incorporate the full spectrum of local sustainability issues.

On behalf of the Keep Australia Beautiful National Association board I would like to thank all the Keep Australia Beautiful volunteers who are active around the country and throughout the year.

I would like to welcome our finalists, Keep Australia Beautiful board members, staff and volunteers to the Australian Tidy Towns Awards in Hobart. The awards are being held in the home state of last year's Tidiest Town: Swansea Tasmania.

I would like to thank the new principal sponsor of Australian Tidy Towns which is truelocal.com.au. They are a company that shares our passion for national coverage with local knowledge. Thanks also to our other sponsors and to all the volunteers and staff who have made the national awards possible.

Happy 40th Anniversary Everyone!

Don Chambers, *Chairman, Keep Australia Beautiful National Association*



truelocal.com.au connects customers with local businesses and prides itself on providing national coverage with local knowledge.

Our partnership with Keep Australia Beautiful as principal sponsor of the Australian Tidy Towns Awards reinforces our commitment to local communities. The Tidy Towns initiative is a great way to assist communities in looking after their own environments and to recognise people who are making an effort to reduce environmental damage. Having been involved with the awards as a category sponsor in 2007, we witnessed what a well executed and worthwhile campaign it is, so we are proud to further our involvement as principal sponsors in 2008.

truelocal.com.au, a division of News Digital Media, is an online local business directory with 1.3 million listings. truelocal.com.au delivers local results by relevance rather than paid listings, in just one click. The site has experienced phenomenal growth, increasing unique browsers by more than 235% according to Nielsen Net Ratings, Site Census February 2006 to February 2007.

Best wishes to all Tidy Towners and to the overall winner.

Tracey Cannon, *National Marketing Manager, truelocal.com.au*



Pictured at the 2007 Tidy Towns Awards for Queensland are right: Tracey Cannon, truelocal.com.au. middle: Di Thorley, Mayor of Toowoomba. left: KAB Week Ambassador, Miss Australia: Kimberley Busteed



Don and Margaret Chambers.

NAUIYU NAMBIYU (DALY RIVER)

NT's 2007 Pick of the Litter Award Winner & National Finalist 2008

Situated approx 350kms south west of Darwin **Population** approx 600

Welcoming Community

Naiyu Nambiyu (Daly River) is situated approx 350kms south west of Darwin. The Primary School community is committed to developing pride amongst its students. Environmental improvement approaches are conducted within the school including recycling, reducing litter together with beautifying school grounds. The Community Council takes on the role of coordinating numerous activities and projects and in particular focuses on beautification, recycling and litter reduction.



Recycling & Resource Recovery

There is major focus on recycling within the community with various items including cardboard, bottles and cans being collected, sorted, packaged and recycled. Members of the community are committed to ensuring the township and its surrounds are free of discarded drink cans. The community workforce works each fortnight for two days in collecting, crushing and bailing cans to be delivered to Darwin for recycling. Approx \$5000 is raised each year which assists in funding activities for local school children.



Preventing Litter

There is major focus on litter reduction with numerous bins in place throughout the community to help reduce unwanted litter within this unique outback environment. Ongoing sweeping and clean ups ensure that the Naiyu Nambiyu (Daly River) environment continues to be well presented. The CDEP scheme is a key to the success of this community approach to litter reduction and beautification.



Community Pride

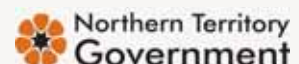
Pride in the community is a key within Naiyu Nambiyu (Daly River), in particular with respect to the town's Mission church and its surroundings. The community is to be congratulated on their well kept church building and its presentation within. Colourful indigenous hangings and posters are welcoming and provide a wonderful link between culture and religion.



Principal Sponsor of the NT 'Pick of the Litter Award' 2007 and Territory Tidy Towns 2008



Supporting Sponsor of Territory Tidy Towns 2008



(RIVER), Northern Territory



Rich Culture

The community of Nauiyu Nambiyu (Daly River), the Merrepen people, have a rich heritage and lifestyle. Dreamings have historic origins and are handed down forever. The Nauiyu Nambiyu (Daly River) community have a special place in history, and they now share their country and heritage through their paintings, crafts and tourism. The Merrepen Art Gallery is a great example of numerous local artists displaying their wonderful interpretations of country and heritage.

Beautification Initiatives

Well kept sporting facilities are maintained with the community encouraged to get involved in activities to ensure a healthy lifestyle. Residents demonstrate pride in keeping public and private areas clean and free from litter with the local police station leading by example in maintaining an extensive yard and garden area.

Further Highlights

The Nauiyu Nambiyu Community Government Council is dedicated to offering the best services to the community. It takes an active approach to working with the community to create a place that all residents can be proud to live. The Council's website is particularly proactive in keeping everyone up to date with what is happening within the community. (www.nauiyunambiyu.nt.gov.au)

The community was originally formed in the mid 1950's as a Catholic Mission. Although local administration is under the Council, the work of the Church is still important. The remains of the Jesuit missions can be found on the western side of the river at Daly River Mango Farm and on Elizabeth Downs Station.

Council's vision is to improve the overall living conditions of the community and to promote a greater capacity within them for self management and self sufficiency.

The town is well served with an extremely efficient and active CDEP program, a busy community supermarket, takeaway, social club, sports facilities including hall, swimming pool and oval, an airport, church, health centre, mechanical workshop and civil engineering section.



Contact

Henk Rhee 08 8978 2422

Keep Australia Beautiful NT 08 8981 5535

Keep Australia Beautiful National 02 9698 8773

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WALPOLE, *Western Australia*

Western Australia's 2007 Tidiest Town & National Finalist 2008
Situated approx 420kms south of Perth **Population** approx 500

Protecting Natural Heritage

WALPOLE is surrounded by the unique wilderness and natural beauty of the Walpole-Nornalup National Park. The town is situated on the Walpole Inlet, a shallow inlet with deeper access ways for larger boats to manoeuvre. WALPOLE's Tidy Towns committee plays an important role in preserving and enhancing the local environment through a range of projects and developed partnerships for a sustainable future. Various beautification and environmental protection projects are a welcoming feature of WALPOLE's presentation.



Sustainable School

Extensive environmental education programs are a feature within WALPOLE Primary School. Highlights include recycling and resource recovery initiatives, weed removal, environmental protection and nature conservation activities, as well as numerous beautification projects undertaken within the school as well as in the local community. The school community are active participants in the innovative UR WALPOLE Eco-education program with students learning about as well as benefiting from innovative ways to lessen their impact on the environment.



Partnerships Between Community & Council

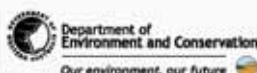
Numerous partnerships are the key to the success of the WALPOLE community's commitment to a sustainable future. Notable examples include the community alliances with Department of Environment and Conservation in providing well designed facilities to meet the growing demand of visitors and tourists. Facilities also interpret the natural features of the Walpole-Nornalup National Park and more importantly, the need to protect this sensitive and unique environment.



Recycling & Resource Recovery

The school community leads the way in sustainable resource recovery practices with students taking home ways to lessen impact on the environment. Recycling systems are well managed for the overall benefit of the community. The involvement in the waste recycling trial at the local transfer station is a credit to the community with bottles and cans, together with oil, steel, concrete and green organics separated onsite. The unique sea container collection system trial is to be commended.

WA Tidy Towns 2007 Principal Sponsor



Major Sponsor





Water reuse

The WALPOLE Tidy Towns committee continues to foster well developed community alliances which aim at ensuring the town has a sustainable future. There are numerous examples of the community working in partnership, particularly with the Water Corporation as well as input into the Wastewater Reference Group. An outstanding example is the successful wastewater reuse scheme which has nurtured extensive woodlot plantations in and around WALPOLE for future use.



Conserving the Environment

The Tidy Towns committee, the Shire of Manjimup, its representative, Dave Tapley and the general community continue to work together to ensuring the appeal of WALPOLE's unique identity and charm is retained, protected and enhanced. Ongoing improvement and rehabilitation works demonstrate a tremendous commitment to conserving and improving the natural heritage in and around WALPOLE.



Further Highlights

Michael Filby, John Kolo and their network of helpers are to be commended for their personal commitment to keeping WALPOLE free from litter.

A unique WALPOLE Tidy Towns partnership sees local work camp prisoners work closely with committee members in being jointly responsible for cleaning up and maintaining extensive areas around the town.

The community of WALPOLE has an excellent understanding of the need to conserve water. The number of waterwise gardens in the town reflects residents' commitment to ensuring that the issue of water conservation is high on everyone's agenda.

WALPOLE's successful Op Shop project aims at supporting the community by not only reducing materials sent to landfill but also assisting the needy to find all types of household goods, clothing, etc. It then reinvests profits in the community by providing grants to non-profit organisations within the town. Kate O'Brien and her network of volunteers are to be congratulated on their wonderful commitment.



Contact

Cr Dave Tapley 0400 968 251

Keep Australia Beautiful WA 08 6364 6500

Keep Australia Beautiful National 02 9698 8773

MOUNT GAMBIER, *South*

South Australia's Tidiest Town 2007 & National Finalist 2008

Location South East region **Population** approx 24,000



Proud Tidy Towns Tradition

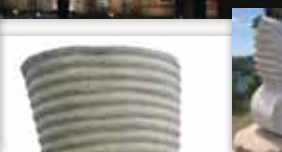
MOUNT GAMBIER's long tradition continues in the state and national Tidy Towns program with the community coordinating numerous tasks associated with ensuring the city's sustainability. MOUNT GAMBIER's entry statements are strong and welcoming and provide a broad range of information to the many thousands of visitors and tourists who pass through and stay within the city. Residents keenly

maintain their gardens that demonstrate pride in their city and its surroundings.



Historic & Cultural Preservation

Protecting and restoring MOUNT GAMBIER's heritage is high on the community's list of priorities. Numerous examples of projects are evident throughout the city, in particular Adrian and Joanne DeBruin's great restoration of the former Convent building and surrounding grounds typifies commitment to historic preservation. Council financially assists homeowners in conserving historic assets through a grant program that encourages conserving heritage buildings. Active historical societies and a Heritage Committee of Council work in partnership with the National Trust and others in preserving the community's proud past.



Beautification Initiatives

MOUNT GAMBIER's stunning art projects are featured throughout the city. The bi-annual Limestone Symposium provides a wonderful opportunity for creative sculptures to eventually be placed in and around the city. An innovative and modern approach to signs and fencing also complements the city's wonderful ambience and commitment to beautification. The new historic bollard walk also creatively identifies numerous heritage and significant sites throughout the community.



Partnerships Between Community & Council

An extensive number of community partnerships are evident and celebrate numerous projects that help make MOUNT GAMBIER so special. Notable examples include the Rotary Clubs of Mount Gambier's Potters Point lookout partnership with Council, the creative Community Garden project which saw numerous community, business, service and government organisations forming alliances providing a wonderful asset together with various restored heritage fence projects throughout the city.



SA Tidy Towns 2007 Principal Sponsor



Government of South Australia
Zero Waste SA

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Recycling & Resource Recovery

Resource recovery initiatives are the key to MOUNT GAMBIER's commitment to reducing impact on their local environment, in particular landfill facilities. Recycling programs are a priority with well organised community and school recycling systems in place. Numerous collection and diversion systems are available to enable the community to maximise the numerous facilities to recover resources. Innovative swales are positioned throughout the city to manage stormwater which directs this resource to recharge the city's underground aquifer.

Focused Environmental Education Approach

Environmental education programs are a key element of education in all of MOUNT GAMBIER. In particular MOUNT GAMBIER High School and Mulga Street School have a major focus with the school network of students, teachers and parents being great contributors to numerous community activities. Schools are strongly focused on environmental programs with innovative approaches to education and developed community partnerships for positive environmental outcomes. Leith Robson is to be commended for his leadership in the High School's recycling and waste reduction programs.



Further Highlights

MOUNT GAMBIER's Youth Advisory Committee continues to work in partnership with Council to address broad local as well as regional issues that affect young citizens of the south east.

The City of MOUNT GAMBIER citizen awards enable the recognition and encouragement of a range of individual contributions to the community in volunteering, innovation, citizenship and youth initiative.

As stormwater discharges into the city's underground aquifer that feeds into the community's water source, the city's water education initiatives are in place to raise community awareness of the need to protect the quality of this essential resource.

The innovative Butt Free MOUNT GAMBIER Blue Lake Watercare project successfully educates smokers in reducing the number of cigarette butts polluting local waterways.



Contact

Gina Ploenges 08 8721 2505

KESAB 08 8234 7255

Keep Australia Beautiful National 02 9698 8773

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ROSS, Tasmania

Tasmania's 2008 Tidiest Town & National Finalist 2008

Situated approx 115kms north of Hobart Population approx 300



Welcoming Community

ROSS is one of Tasmania's hidden secrets, positioned off the Midland Highway, which is the main route between Hobart and Launceston. ROSS is actually bypassed by the highway and this assists in preserving the original character of the town. The pride of the wonderfully preserved heritage town is the ornate stone bridge which was constructed by convicts in 1836. The third oldest bridge still standing in Australia, it is recognised as one of the most important convict-built bridge in the country. An extremely active and well coordinated Hub community group coordinates a host of projects and activities under the Tidy Towns umbrella.



Preserving Heritage

The district around ROSS was first explored by Europeans in 1807. Governor Macquarie named the river that runs through ROSS after himself when he traveled through the area in 1811. Today, ROSS is arguably the finest nineteenth century heritage village in Australia. The combination of the tree-lined main street, the stunning bridge and river, the location of Wesley Church at the top of the hill, and the many historically restored buildings, combine to provide peaceful ambience and aesthetic beauty.



Interpreting Historic Development

ROSS' Tasmanian Wool Centre is a non-profit organisation, which directs surplus funds to community projects as well as the preservation of the buildings and the heritage of ROSS and the region. The Centre offers a range of tourism-related activities and is one of Tasmania's main tourist attractions attracting over 95,000 visitors a year. It offers a distinctive display of high quality Australian-made woollen garments, timber and crafts. It also features the historic development of ROSS and the region over the past 180 years, and also depicts the evolution of the sheep and wool industry in Australia.



Historic Restoration

Maintaining ROSS' proud heritage is important to residents as well as the Northern Midlands Council. Heritage restoration is a major priority within the community with many fine examples of the preservation of cultural, retail and historic features.

New developments within the town also link with the unique historic architecture of the village to complement the welcoming atmosphere within ROSS.



TAS Tidy Towns 07 Principal Sponsor



Major Sponsor





Environmental Protection

The active ROSS Landcare group, supported by the state Landcare organisation, have made a significant contribution to restoring the Macquarie River and its habitat by extensively clearing Crack Willow and replanting native shrubs and grasses. Great support has been gained from local residents, youth and a network of volunteers to return the area to its natural state. The town's volunteer Fire Brigade also contributed by removing and burning of non native debris.



Promoting Proud Past

ROSS' Central Square raises awareness of the unique colonial past with the Man-O-Ross Hotel depicting Temptation, the Town Hall – Recreation, the Catholic Church – Salvation, the past local gaol – Damnation and the War Memorial – Commemoration.



Further Highlights

ROSS' effluent from the town's treatment plant is currently being assessed for use on local farming properties – a sustainable use of a useable resource which is normally discarded.

Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) principles are being adopted as a result of Council's Subdivision Development Guidelines enabling the effective diversion of stormwater from natural watercourses.

Somercotes Historic Estate, situated adjacent to ROSS, is a fine example of one of Australia's significant and cultural properties settled in around 1823. Visitors are also able to sample a wonderful selection of fresh cherries grown within the estate's fine orchards.

The community is an active supporter of the Midlands Biodiversity Hotspots program that funds a number of conservation agreements which protect threatened species unique to the region in and around ROSS.

Contact

Debra Spohn 03 6381 5338

Keep Australia Beautiful TAS 0418 314 080

Keep Australia Beautiful National 02 9698 8773

MOE, Victoria

Victoria's 2007 Tidiest Town & National Finalist 2008

Situated approx 134kms east of Melbourne Population approx 18,000



Making MOE Glow

MOE, situated within Victoria's Latrobe Valley, provides visitors and residents with a host of cultural and natural experiences. MOE's well organised 'Make MOE Glow' committee, formed in late 2005, has coordinated and facilitated numerous community projects associated with the Tidy Towns program. The group has achieved outstanding success in a short time and is a result of community partnerships, particularly with Latrobe City Council as well as numerous local residents, business and community groups.



Heritage & Culture

Old Gipps town, MOE's Heritage Park represents an authentic historic township with over 30 original furnished buildings, some under National Trust classification. Staff and a volunteer network are totally committed to preserving the town's proud heritage. The group is made up of numerous dedicated volunteers who have the foresight to preserve MOE's cultural heritage for the benefit of future generations. The park is home to an extensive and priceless collection of artefacts, information and memorabilia from in and around the district.



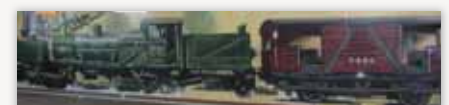
Proud Schools

Environmental education programs are a key element of education in MOE, particularly Elizabeth Street Primary School together with Baringa Special School's network of students, teachers and parents who are great contributors to numerous school and community activities. Both schools are strongly focused on environmental programs including recycling programs, biodiversity focuses as well as beautifying school grounds. Elizabeth Street was successful winning Keep Australia Beautiful Victoria's regional Proud Schools award for numerous activities to sustainable approaches.



Community Partnerships

An extensive network of community groups are involved with ensuring MOE continues and extends its commitment to being a clean, proud and sustainable town. The town's award-winning Stationeers project involves a range of community groups, V-Line staff as well as Council in beautifying MOE's busy railway station. Numerous totems recognise and celebrate local achievers, contributors and characters that help make MOE so special. Stunning art projects are also a feature in the school's well-maintained grounds.





Environmental Protection

Protecting the region's unique environment is important to numerous community members within MOE. In particular, the Ollerton Avenue Bushland Reserve Committee is a well organised volunteer group that works in partnership with Latrobe City Council as well as students from nearby Lowanna

College in the active conservation of the unique native vegetation situated within the reserve. Projects include extensive weed control, revegetation of areas damaged by human impact as well as installing signs, fencing and walking tracks.



Beautifying MOE

MOE's beautification projects are strongly linked to an exciting local arts community who work in partnership with Council, V-Line, schools, ethnic groups as well as service clubs. Numerous artworks and sculptures are a welcoming feature throughout the community. In particular, Jim Lawrence's unique metal sculptures are positioned throughout MOE and the Gippsland region.



Further Highlights

Latrobe City Council has a strong commitment to work with residents to develop its assets and foster community spirit. Council staff are active supporters of Tidy Towns objectives both as Council representatives and as local residents.

Since being awarded Victoria's 2007 Tidiest Town the Make Moe Glow committee with the help of the Council and wider community has seen even more of their projects completed with their momentum increasing.

With MOE under severe water restrictions, Latrobe City Council depot staff initiated a successful water recycling approach which backwash water from local swimming pools recycled and reused to water trees and plantations.

MOE's success in the Victorian Tidy Towns awards is seen as a win for local residents and also one that encourages other communities within Latrobe City Council to get involved in the Tidy Towns program.



Contact

Wendy Hrynyszyn 03 5128 5618
Keep Australia Beautiful VIC 03 9484 2399
Keep Australia Beautiful National 02 9698 8773



DORRIGO, *New South Wales*

New South Wales' Tidiest Town 2007 & National Finalist 2008

Location approx 80kms west of Coffs Harbour **Population** approx 1,200



Committed Community

DORRIGO is situated adjacent to a World Heritage listed National Park which contains one of the nation's most accessible and magnificent stands of lush rainforests famous for their exceptional natural beauty and international conservation significance. Perched on the eastern escarpment of the Great Dividing Range, DORRIGO features a host of historic facilities complemented by land devoted to agriculture and grazing. DORRIGO's Tidy Towns commitment is well established and has been recognised over the years due to the dedication and hard work of its members.



Sustainable Schools

DORRIGO High School students and teachers are totally committed to the school's environmental education programs. The school's Youth Environment Committee (YEC) assists in extending the awareness levels and understanding of protecting the environment. The program aims at involving children within and external to the school community to participate in extensive environmental initiatives. It complements numerous school beautification and improvement projects together with external community programs, such as the 'Adopt-a-Road' project. Congratulations to Ian Judd and his YEC environmental network.



Heritage & Culture

DORRIGO's Steam Railway Museum is a great example of a group of volunteers with the foresight to collect, restore and share the delights of times gone by. The area is



home to an extensive collection of railway memorabilia from around New South Wales and is one of the largest collections in the World. DORRIGO's Guy Fawkes Museum is also another great example of one of the numerous heritage restoration programs coordinated by the community. Living home to numerous artefacts, the facility is a significant example of maintaining DORRIGO's proud history.



Protecting Natural Heritage

The DORRIGO World Heritage listed rainforest is a major drawcard for locals and visitors to the Plateau. Combined with Dangar Falls and the natural beauty of the surrounding countryside, DORRIGO is a popular tourist destination. Combined with the appealing nature of the town, DORRIGO

has a unique charm that is more than welcoming. The town's community work in numerous partnerships to achieve a secure future, agriculturally, commercially, environmentally and sustainably. Farmers are encouraged to be proactive and farm sustainably with a commitment to quality and a holistic view to caring for the land.





Partnerships Between Community & Council

The Bellingen Shire Council continues to be supportive of all the voluntary work contributed by groups in and around DORRIGO. The active Garden Club members, whose average age is 74, work in partnership with Council's workshop team in maintaining numerous areas throughout the town. Council provides grants, technical support as well as in kind assistance to numerous tasks associated with ensuring the town continues to be well presented.



Opportunity for Alternative Energy

DORRIGO's high rainfall has led to numerous innovative practices that have reduced water use and promoted sustainability. A leading example is small hydro electric turbines have been introduced and promote electrical self sufficiency in reducing reliance on generators for electrical produce which in turn reduces greenhouse gas emissions. Local company, Pelena Energy estimates that over 8 000 tonnes of emissions per year could be reduced using this approach.



Further Highlights

DORRIGO plateau makes up part of Council's Environmental Management Plan. Management plans exist for the Chamber of Commerce, schools and numerous Government and NGO's. Many of these plans relate to one another ensuring an integrated approach to sustainability.

DORRIGO's population is approx 1,200 and has over 120 volunteer community groups committed to contributing to maintaining and developing the warm and welcoming ambience.

Extensive revegetation and restoration work has been completed in DORRIGO over the past year. Strong links have continued with National Parks staff and Landcare to promote sustainable practices of removing noxious weeds and revegetating with native species. Land holders are encouraged to fence off waterways and gullies and to plant trees to stabilise banks.

DORRIGO – Where mountains reach the sky.



Contact

David Hitchcock 0427 109 030

Keep Australia Beautiful NSW 02 9633 3380

Keep Australia Beautiful National 02 9698 8773

TOOWOOMBA, Queensland

Queensland's 2007 Tidiest Town & National Finalist 2008

Situated approx 125kms west of Brisbane Population approx 97,000



Welcoming Community

Situated atop of The Great Dividing Range, TOOWOOMBA is recognised as the 'Garden City'. The city has numerous welcoming garden displays at major entries into the city with colourful treatments and signs. TOOWOOMBA has a rich and varied history and the community is friendly, enthusiastic and dedicated to caring for their unique environment. The complimentary billboard is part of their entitlement as Queensland's Tidiest Town. They also receive green power from principal sponsor Ergon Energy.



Network of Volunteers

Numerous volunteers are a key to the successful management of various public facilities with notable examples being the Empire Theatre as well as the city's successful Visitor Information Centre. TOOWOOMBA is fortunate to have an extensive network of community groups including environmental, historical, sporting and community care networks, co-operatively working away with Council to ensure a sustainable and healthy lifestyle for residents and visitors.



Partnerships Between Community & Council

Many voluntary community environmental groups work in partnership with the City Council and effectively contribute to TOOWOOMBA's well managed environment. Extensive rehabilitation of the city's bushland parks is being carried out by numerous 'Friends' groups and supported by Council's Bushcare officers. One such group is the 'Friends of Escarpment Parks' who work on bush restoration and also organise and participate in innovative environmental education activities for schools and the general community. Some programs include Bushcapades (a school holiday program), the Richmond Birdwing Recovery Project for Toowoomba and the unique 'Backyards, Birds and Binoculars' project.



Sustainable Lifestyle

TOOWOOMBA's Sustainable Home project is an ideal example of partnerships between local and state government, business and industry achieving a positive environmental outcome. The dwelling is a unique display home which provides practical examples that meet the triple bottom line concept of environmental, economic and social sustainability. It demonstrates to the many thousands of visitors that sustainable housing is made up of many energy and water saving features coupled with environmental benefits.



QLD Tidy Towns 07 Principal Sponsor





Recycling & Resource Recovery

TOOWOOMBA's recycling and resource recovery initiatives divert extensive tonnes of waste from landfill. Separate collection areas at TOOWOOMBA's Waste Transfer Station allow the deposit of additional recycleable materials. The site also recycles an extensive array of waste materials. The site's Smart Tip Shop also generates a funding source for LifeLine's community care programs. The waste education centre provides an ongoing service to students and the community on how to recycle effectively. TOOWOOMBA has an extensive network of public recycling facilities located in high traffic areas to maximise usage.



Heritage & Culture

TOOWOOMBA is made up of a broad range of architectural approaches however the stylish Art Deco form is a notable feature, particularly throughout the city's Central Business District. The city's proud heritage is further highlighted at the well designed Cobb & Co Museum which interprets the community's rich culture. Traditional heritage trades and skills are an important part of history and the Cobb & Co Museum is dedicated to keeping the heritage spirit of Australia's heritage alive by ensuring pioneering skills are preserved. Skills such as blacksmithing and leatherwork, etc are taught to ensure these skills are not lost.



Further Highlights

TOOWOOMBA's water education programs are broad and extensive given the fact that the city is in the grip of a drought and under severe water restrictions. The innovative 'Turn of a Tap' education resource, produced by council's Water Demand Management Unit, is of national standard and provides a great teaching resource for the city's primary and secondary students.

Numerous heritage and historical society groups ensure that TOOWOOMBA's rich culture and history is maintained for all to share. Well designed brochures as well as numerous celebrations and activities enable the general community to appreciate the city's heritage. An unusual interpretative activity is TOOWOOMBA's 'Tombstone Trails Tours' through the city cemetery.

TOOWOOMBA's *Towards 2050* Community Plan is a partnership between Council and the local community in outlining a vision for the city across key themes. The plan is a strategic approach to planning for a sustainable future.

TOOWOOMBA's Environmental Excellence Awards increase community awareness of environmental management practices as well as encourages the community to be innovative in environmental protection. It provides an opportunity to recognise and reward effort in environmental care and commitment.

Contact

Narelle Kuehnemann on 07 4688 6476
Keep Australia Beautiful QLD on 07 3252 2886
Keep Australia Beautiful National on 02 9698 8773



DAME PHYLLIS FROST

Group Award

Recognises outstanding group contributions to the principles of the Tidy Towns program.

Naiyu Nambiyu (Daly River), CDEP group NT



Naiyu Nambiyu (Daly River) is well served with an extremely efficient and active Community Development Employment Program (CDEP), a busy community supermarket, social club, sporting facilities including a hall, swimming pool and oval, an airport, church, health centre, together with a mechanical workshop and civil engineering section.

There is major focus on a recycling within the community with various items including cardboard, bottles and cans being collected, sorted, packaged and recycled.



Members of the community and CDEP are committed to ensuring the township and its surrounds are in particularly free of discarded drink cans. The community workforce works collects, crushes and bails cans to be delivered to Darwin for recycling.

Approx \$5000 is raised each year which assists in funding activities for the community's local school children.

top: Naiyu Nambiyu (Daly River) CDEP group
bottom: can crusher

Special Merit Award

Ross Swayne, OAM

2007 was a special year for the South Australian Tidy Towns Awards as it was the last that would be judged by Ross Swayne OAM. As the photos (right) testify Ross was active in South Australian Tidy Towns between 1980 and 2007.

Ross was also instrumental in setting up the Australian Tidy Towns Awards and was the national judge for several years.

The Tidy Towns movement across the country owes a great debt to Ross. This award is a small token of acknowledgment from all Tidy Towners.

DAME PHYLLIS FROST

Individual Award

Recognises outstanding individual contributions to the principles of the Tidy Towns program.

Michael Filby, Walpole WA

Michael Filby is an active community member and Walpole Tidy Towns committee member who, since his arrival in Walpole several years ago, has taken a keen interest in keeping the Walpole region free of litter.

Michael has taken it upon himself as a volunteer to keep the South Western Highway free of roadside litter from the Shannon River (70kms north of Walpole) to the Kent River (30kms east of Walpole), a total distance of 100km, which he patrols on a fortnightly basis.

Because of the enormous amount of litter that had accumulated over the years, he initially cleaned the 100km strip in 3km sections on foot. However he now patrols the highway, in his own personal vehicle and at his own expense, in an ongoing attempt to keep those hundred kilometres free of litter.

He collects an average of 400 Keep Australia Beautiful bags of litter a year. This does not include bigger articles such as tyres, mudflaps, metal frames, buckets, drums and building materials.




The Walpole Tidy Town Committee and the whole Walpole community greatly admire Michael Filby's commitment to creating a litter-free zone on WA's busy South Western Highway, which also falls within the Walpole Wilderness Area, a site of significant biodiversity value.



top: Michael (RHS) at the state awards
middle: School Clean Up
bottom: Michael Filby



Paul Teske, Ross Swayne and Greg Muller in 1980 and again in 2007; Ross Swayne and Colin Hill celebrating 10 years of Tidy Towns in SA

	Overall Winner	Principal Sponsor
Australia's Tidiest Town 2008	Toowoomba, QLD	
Category	Winner	Sponsor
Community Action	Moe, VIC	
Heritage and Culture	Ross, TAS	
Environmental Innovation	Toowoomba, QLD	
Water Conservation	Toowoomba, QLD	
Litter Prevention	Naiyu Nambiyu (Daly River), NT	
Resource Recovery	Mount Gambier, SA	
Community Partnership	Mount Gambier, SA	
Protection of the Environment	Walpole, WA	
Young Legends	Dorrigo, NSW	
Dame Phyllis Frost Group Award	CDEP Group, Naiyu Nambiyu (Daly River) NT	
Dame Phyllis Frost Individual Award	Michael Filby, Walpole, WA	

Each year thousands of communities and hundreds of thousands of volunteers take part in Keep Australia Beautiful programs around Australia.

The national mission is to encourage the Australian community to protect and conserve the built and natural environment through individual actions, for the benefit of all Australians.

The Australian Sustainable Communities Awards consist of the Tidy Towns, Sustainable Cities and Clean Beaches Awards. These awards identify, acknowledge and promote examples of excellence in grass roots environmental initiatives by local communities. From a focus on litter and civic pride they have now expanded to incorporate the full spectrum of local sustainability issues. Keep Australia Beautiful Week raises awareness of the issues and reminds all Australians to spring clean for the environment.

The National Litter Index is the only annual quantitative measure of what litter appears where and in what volume. The Branded Litter Study is the only annual quantitative measure of litter by brand, material and location. Both studies are available to community, business and all levels of government to help improve litter reduction, resource recovery and civic pride.

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