



## Media Release

3 November 2009

### National Tidy Towns Judge visits Rockhampton

The Australian Tidy Towns Awards Judge, Dick Olesinski, will be visiting Rockhampton tomorrow as part of his judging tour for the Keep Australia Beautiful, Australian Tidy Towns Awards. The winner will be announced in Canberra in April 2010.

The Judge will be in town this Wednesday and Thursday to assess the merits of Rockhampton, recently proclaimed Queensland's 2009 Tidiest Town. He will evaluate the community based on the national award categories including Heritage & Culture, Resource Recovery & Waste Management, Water Conservation and Community Action & Partnerships.

As Queensland's Tidiest Town, Rockhampton has many environmental initiatives in place, such as the introduction of its new domestic recycling bins and public place recycling. Bottles and containers generated by households and at football grounds are diverted from landfill and directed to recycling businesses, saving rate payers money and helping the environment.

Rockhampton's pride in its history and heritage also makes for a remarkably diverse, attractive and vibrant city. The preservation of its heritage, blended with modern buildings and technology, add to Rockhampton's unique and friendly character.

Keep Australia Beautiful Queensland Chairman, Emeritus Professor Tor Hundloe commented that "Rockhampton has demonstrated its commitment and leadership in engaging the community and working towards creating a sustainable community. We congratulate them on winning the 2009 Queensland Tidy Towns Awards, and wish them all the best for the Australian Tidy Towns Awards in 2010."

The National Judge now faces the tough task of determining which of the state finalists should be crowned the national winner for 2010, following Tamworth's success in 2009.

"The Australian Tidy Towns Awards are highlighting the efforts of our communities in reducing their environmental impact. All the state finalists have demonstrated excellent environmental outcomes with each of their activities and I'm looking forward to visiting these communities", said Dick Olesinski, the National Judge.

The Australian Tidy Towns Awards are proudly sponsored by the Packaging Stewardship Forum 'Do the Right Thing' program, Grundfos Pumps and Navman.

Other state finalists include Beechworth in VIC and Lockhart in NSW, whilst the NT, TAS, WA and SA winners will be announced throughout November and December 2009.

#### **MEDIA ALERT - Photo Opportunity with National Judge and elected representatives**

**Date / Time:** Thursday Nov 4 at 12.30pm  
**Location:** Gardens Tea Room, Botanical Gardens, Rockhampton

#### **For further information about the judge's visit, or photo opportunities, please contact:**

**KAB PR:** Lara Shannon on 0415 076 015 or [laras@kab.org.au](mailto:laras@kab.org.au)  
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## **EDITOR'S NOTES:**

### **About the Judge – Dick Olesinski:**

Dick is a passionate and committed individual who runs an environmental management support consultancy in South Australia for business, industry, community groups and government agencies.

He consults to the retail industry to initiate environment improvement policies, as well as to KESAB (Keep South Australia Beautiful) and natural resource management boards in Adelaide. Projects include implementing environmental initiatives for the construction industry together with coordinating business, industry and community environmental education programs.

Dick is the Keep Australia Beautiful National Association's longest serving Judge, working for 14 years as the Australian Tidy Towns Judge.

He is passionate about our environment and is currently a member of the:

- Adelaide & Mount Lofty Ranges Natural Resources Management Board's Coast Estuarine & Marine Advisory Committee.
- City of Onkaparinga's Environmental Consultative Group.
- Surf Life Saving Australia's ECOSurf program National Working Group.
- Waste Management Assn of Australia (SA) Commercial & Industrial Waste Working Group.

### **About the Australian Sustainable Communities Awards**

Keep Australia Beautiful seeks to lead, challenge and inspire all Australians to strive for a sustainable and litter free environment. It does this through research, communications programs and awards programs.

Its national awards are known as the Australian Sustainable Communities Awards which consist of the Tidy Towns, Sustainable Cities and Clean Beaches Awards. Each awards program commences with state and territory awards and culminates in a national grand final.

The Tidy Towns Awards are open to rural and regional communities across Australia, covering the 20% of the population who care for 80% of the country.

The Australian Tidy Towns Awards are sponsored by:

#### Packaging Stewardship Forum 'Do the Right Thing' program

The Packaging Stewardship Forum (PSF) of the Australian Food and Grocery Council works with partners to deliver industry recycling, litter reduction and education programs on behalf of its members, who consist of Australia's major beverage companies and their packaging suppliers. The Forum's highly successful *Do the Right Thing* anti-litter campaign has proven to be a strong litter prevention message, with more than 80% of people recognising that *Do the Right Thing* means 'put your waste in the bin' and more than 300 towns and cities around Australia taking the *Do the Right Thing* message to their communities.

#### 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.

#### Navman

Driven by innovation and expertise, Navman has grown from its humble beginnings in an Auckland garage to become a global pioneer in navigation technology. People wishing to visit and stay at past or present Tidy Towns can search them out at the [TakeABreak.com.au](http://TakeABreak.com.au) website and find details of local accommodation, using a Navman to easily find their way there.