

Media Release

7th November 2011

WYNYARD TASMANIA'S TIDIEST TOWN FOR A FIFTH TIME

The north west coast town of Wynyard has been named the Keep Australia Beautiful (KAB) Tasmanian Tidy Town for 2011/12.

It is the fifth time Wynyard has been recognised as Tasmania's tidiest town, having entered in every year of the program's 32 years of operation in Tasmania.

The other major awards were presented to Devonport (KAB Tasmania Sustainable Cities Award) and Bellerive Beach (KAB Tasmania Clean Beach Award).

Judge Barrie Muir said the Waratah Wynyard Council was "in tune" with the Wynyard community, providing financial and in-kind support to many community groups and activities.

"The community's efforts to protect and rehabilitate the coastal precincts are significant and are a great example for other Tasmanian coastal towns to follow," he said.

"And it is clear that the health and wellbeing of the community is a high priority. It has a Men's Shed, an active Senior Citizen's Club, a community garden that encourages involvement and an outstanding selection of more than 14 kilometres of scenic cycle / walkways through the town."

Mr Muir said Devonport had done an outstanding job in developing itself into one of the major gateways to Tasmania.

"Each year it welcomes many thousands of tourists to Tasmania on board the Spirit of Tasmania vessels, and as each year has gone by, it has groomed itself into a very welcoming and attractive city," he said.

Mr Muir said Devonport's elected local government representatives and the council's employees demonstrated that they cared very much about their city.

"The community at large has responded," he said. "There are many groups around the city who work hard to rejuvenate, rehabilitate and reinvigorate the environment.

"Its shoreline is a pleasure to visit at any time of year, the spectacular redevelopment of the Mersey Bluff Precinct is a highlight, and the redevelopment of East Devonport and the streetscaping of both sides of the river has been outstanding."

Mr Muir said the presentation of the Clean Beach award to Bellerive Beach demonstrated that the community cares and is concerned about the area.

“The area immediately behind Bellerive Beach is well cared for and the bluff areas at either end of the beach have been rehabilitated by community groups,” he said.

“The removal of weeds and undergrowth has rejuvenated Bellerive Bluff and the Bellerive Howrah Bluff.

“The Clarence City Council has also played an important part by encouraging the groups and providing them with significant resources.”

Category awards were also presented as follows:

Under 500

Winner - Kempton. Highly commended – Port Arthur Historic Site

500 – 2000

Winner Franklin. Highly commended – Oatlands

2000 – 5000

Winner - Smithton

5000 – 15,000

Winner - Wynyard.

Highly commended awards were presented to Hobart (KAB Sustainable Cities Award) and Mersey Bluff Beach (Clean Beach Award).

Mr Muir said Wynyard and Devonport were now eligible for national KAB awards.

The Tasmanian Tidy Towns program is run by the KAB Tasmania Council with support from the Tasmanian Government and the Packaging Stewardship Forum.

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

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

For further information contact: Barrie Muir Tel: 0408 679 313

Released by: Nicolas Turner Tel: 0418 538 865