



Media Release

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Tamworth named Australia's Tidiest Town for 2009

Australia's Country Music capital, Tamworth, NSW, has been announced Australia's Tidiest Town for 2009 at the annual Keep Australia Beautiful Australian Tidy Towns Awards, hosted by the Governor-General, Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce AC at Government House in Canberra last night.

As well as winning the overall national title, Tamworth picked up the national Community Action and Energy Innovation Category Awards.

The city's 'Don't Waste Tamworth' litter and waste reduction education campaign is spearheaded by Troy Cassar-Daley, one of Australia's finest Country Music stars. The program is particularly active during the Country Music Festival where the city is inundated by thousands of visitors.

Meanwhile, Tamworth's innovative 'Ban the Bulb' program saw the city be the first in the nation to install energy efficient lighting in almost every home. The purpose of the project was to remove all incandescent light globes and replace them with free energy efficient Compact Fluorescent Lights (CFL's) in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

According to Australian Tidy Towns Judge, Dick Olesinski, "The Tamworth Regional Tidy Towns Committee plays an important role in preserving and enhancing the local environment through a broad range of projects that work towards a healthy sustainable environment for residents and visitors.

"The Committee works in close partnership with the Tamworth Regional Council, business, industry, local residents and, in particular, the school community networks. The community has a strong understanding that even though important, neat and tidy streets are not all that the Tidy Towns program is about", he added.

The iconic Tidy Towns program celebrates 40 years of local environmental achievements in 2009 and aims to identify, acknowledge and promote Australia's best examples of sustainable communities in regional and rural areas across Australia.

The program is sponsored by the Packaging Stewardship Forum of the Australian Food and Grocery Council 'Do the Right Thing' program, Grundfos Pumps and the Hungry Jack's 'Bag it and Bin it' program.

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For further information about Tamworth and all national category award winners visit www.kab.org.au/tidytowns

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EDITOR'S NOTES

Australian Tidy Towns 2009 Award Winners

Category	Winner	Sponsor
Australia's Tidiest Town	Tamworth - NSW	
Community Action	Tamworth - NSW	
Heritage and Culture	Oatlands - TAS	
Environmental Innovation	Kambalda - WA	
Water Conservation	Horsham - VIC	Grundfos Pumps
Energy Innovation	Tamworth - NSW	
Litter Prevention	Horsham - VIC	Hungry Jack's® 'Bag it and Bin it'
Resource Recovery	Atitjere - NT	Packaging Stewardship Forum 'Do The Right Thing'
Community Partnership	Oatlands - TAS	
Protection of the Environment	Caloundra - QLD	
Young Legends	Stansbury - SA	
Dame Phyllis Frost Award: Individual	Don Johns OAM – VIC winner Greg McKean – QLD commended	
Dame Phyllis Frost Award: Group	Stansbury Tidy Towns Committee – SA	

About Keep Australia Beautiful

The Keep Australia Beautiful Network has been encouraging people all around Australia to care for their local environment since 1968. It holds the Tidy Towns, Sustainable Cities and Clean Beaches Awards and conducts the National Litter Index research. Keep Australia Beautiful Week is held at the end of August each year as a reminder of what we can all do to improve our local environments.

About the Tidy Towns Awards

2009 is the 40th Anniversary Year of Tidy Towns in Australia. The program was borrowed from Tidy Towns Ireland and commenced in Western Australia with Bunbury the first winner in 1969. Since then it has grown to become an Australian icon involving individual effort to create positive environmental change within local communities

Tidy Towns Partners

Packaging Stewardship Forum 'Do the Right Thing' program

The Packaging Stewardship Forum of the Australian Food and Grocery Council provides a vehicle for broader corporate support for Australia's efforts to improve resource recovery and reduce littering of food, beverage and grocery packaging.

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.

HUNGRY JACK'S® 'Bag it and Bin it' program

Hungry Jack's is doing its bit to help keep Australia beautiful by introducing a 'Bag it and Bin it' anti litter message and a range of environmental initiatives in stores across Australia.