



Media Release

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Atitjere wins the Resource Recovery category at the Australian Tidy Towns Awards

The Northern Territory town of Atitjere (Hart's Range) has won the Resource Recovery Award 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.

Atitjere is situated approx 250kms north east of Alice Springs, off the Northern Territory's Plenty Highway. The Central Desert Shire takes on the role, in partnership with community members, of coordinating the numerous activities underway within Atitjere. Projects in particular focused on beautification, recycling and litter reduction programs.

According to Australian Tidy Towns Judge, Dick Olesinski, "Hart's Range proactive school program is committed to developing pride and general positive action amongst its community networks". Teachers and students work together to reduce litter, as well as beautifying school grounds in a harsh and hot arid environment.

"There is a major focus on recycling and resource recovery within the community with numerous colourfully painted bins in place throughout the community to help reduce unwanted litter within this unique outback environment. Members of the community are committed to ensuring the township and its surrounds are free of bottles and cans.

"Atitjere Store Manager, Russell Naismith is to be commended for his dedication and leadership skills in encouraging community action and pride in caring for Atitjere through Tidy Towns program initiatives", 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 Atitjere (Hart's Range) 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.