



Media Release

Strict embargo: 18:00 Friday 8 May 2009

Horsham wins two categories at the Australian Tidy Towns Awards

Horsham in Western Victoria has won the Water Conservation and Litter Prevention categories 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.

Horsham local, Don Johns OAM was also awarded the Dame Phyllis Frost Individual Award for his ongoing commitment to the environmental improvement of Horsham.

Horsham's proud and welcoming signs promote their commitment to the Tidy Towns program and visually raise awareness of the need to keep Horsham tidy to both local residents and the many thousands of tourists who visit the town. Local businesses, industry and community members continue to ensure in excess of 30 'Adopt-a-Spot' sites are free of litter and waste.

According to Australian Tidy Towns Judge, Dick Olesinski, "Horsham runs its own Tidy Towns Awards which result in increased community awareness of environmental management. They are also a great way of encouraging the local community to be innovative in environmental protection, beautification and sustainability.

"The reuse of treated stormwater is a priority within the town, with hundreds of megalitres being retained and recycled as part of reuse schemes. Rainwater tanks and pollution controls are also evident throughout the city.

"Resource recovery initiatives are also an integral part of Horsham's commitment to reducing impact on landfill facilities. Extensive recovery and recycling programs are in place with well organised community and school recycling systems underway."

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.

- ends -

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

Media contacts:

- Lara Shannon, KABNA National Publicist on 0415 076 015 or laras@kab.org.au
- Dick Olesinski, Tidy Towns National Judge on 0413 750 681 or ecomarketing@senet.com.au
- Scott Lyall, KABNA Executive Director on 0419 016 401 or scottl@kab.org.au

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.