



7 April 2009

## ***Media Statement***

### **Tidy Towns committees invited to national awards**

As part of the Tidy Towns – Sustainable Communities 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations all Tidy Towns committees are invited to attend the national awards being held at Government House in Canberra on 8 May.

The free event will be hosted by Governor-General of Australia Quentin Bryce who will announce 2009 national Tidy Towns winner.

As Western Australia's winner of the 2008 Tidy Towns title, Kambalda is in the running for the national award.

Tidy Towns' State program manager Gail Dodd said the invitation presented a wonderful opportunity for community members not only to be part of the national awards but to also visit Government House.

"This historic landmark is not often open to the public. It dates back to the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and features grand architecture, an extravagant interior and is surrounded by 54ha of parkland," she said.

"People will have to arrange and pay for their transport to Canberra and accommodation but the event itself is free."

The Tidy Towns program was started in Western Australia and Bunbury picked up the first State title in 1969.

The program, now run by the Keep Australia Beautiful Council (KABC), has evolved and its current name, Tidy Towns – Sustainable Communities, reflects the broader focus.

Entrants are now assessed in the following categories:

- Community Action
- General Appearance;
- Recycling and Waste Management;
- Natural Heritage Conservation;
- Enhancing Cultural Identity; and
- Water Conservation.

KABC in Western Australia is supported by the Department of Environment and Conservation. Tidy Towns – Sustainable Communities is supported by Packaging Stewardship Forum and Grundfos.

For more information about the national awards go to: [www.kab.org.au/tidytowns](http://www.kab.org.au/tidytowns)

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