

MEDIA RELEASE
1st November 2008



CONGRATULATIONS TAMWORTH!

THE KEEP AUSTRALIA BEAUTIFUL NSW TIDY TOWN 2009 OVERALL STATE WINNER

Tidy Town Awards were announced in Dorrigo on 1 November. Towns from right across NSW received awards but Tamworth took home the Overall honours!!!

In the Tidy Towns assessors report Tamworth was described as a “beautifully presented,” and a “well maintained centre of excellence.” These were among just some of the qualities that wooed the judges and resulted in Tamworth being announced the Top Tidy Town in the NSW during the Tidy Towns Awards Weekend between 31st October- 2nd November!

Covering 184 sq km and with a population of approximately 36,000 people, Tamworth is an important commercial centre serving a large population of northern NSW. The town is well served by an active and passionate community who take immense pride in their wonderful natural and built resources.

The Tamworth Regional Tidy Towns Committee has strong partnerships with the Council, local businesses and industry to achieve a healthy sustainable environment for residents. The level of community groups participating in improvement programs and special events is of very high ranging from service clubs such as Rotary and Lions to individual community groups such as Friends of the Botanic Gardens right down to smaller informal groups and even to individuals who participate by caring for particular areas in their residential neighbourhood.

The town demonstrates a progressive attitude toward industry and a keen community concern for the environment. Excellent sporting facilities, fascinating history and heritage, combine with beautiful parks and gardens, and a community committed to maintaining these assets has resulted in Tamworth winning this prestigious award.

Peter McLean, Chief Executive Officer of Keep Australia Beautiful NSW congratulates Tamworth as deserving winners of the 2009 Overall State Tidy Town Award.

“Tamworth has continued to raise the standard of Tidy Towns in NSW. The extensive partnerships shown across all activities undertaken in Tamworth was one of the distinguishing features in awarding Tamworth as the 2009 Overall State Tidy Towns Winner. Businesses, community groups, council, schools and individuals all collaborate together and contribute to making Tamworth a sustainable, active and prosperous community.”

Tamworth was the big Winner of the weekend, being awarded the prestigious Overall State Tidy Towns Award. Tamworth will go up against the Overall State Winners in each State and Territory across Australia for the National judging of the Overall Australian Tidy Town Award, to be announced in April next year.

Tamworth has participated in Tidy Towns Program for many years achieving high results across the board each year. Long time Tidy Towns’ Assessor, Brian McKellar describes just why Tamworth is the State’s top town.

“Tamworth is a committed, co-operative and willing community. Tamworth Regional Council is very active in its promotion of environmental conservation and is involved in many projects throughout the city area. In particular is the involvement in the development of the Victoria and

Oxley Park precinct to encourage tourism and passive recreation. The level of volunteer support is also significant, with the engagement of hundreds of volunteers and groups.”

Each Overall Tidy Town winner was analysed by a State judging panel to determine the Overall 2008 State Tidy Town Winner. Overall Tidy Town Award recipients are:

Population Category	First	Second	Third	Highly Commended
A (< 350)	Darby's Falls	Gooloogong	Rydal	Tootool
B (351-1,200)	Murrurundi	Lockhart	Binnaway	Boorowa
C (1,201-4,000)	Bundanoon	Manilla	Portland	Wyalong/West Wyalong
D (4,001-12,000)	Gunnedah	Cowra	Leeton	Kurri Kurri
E (12,001-25,000)	Lithgow	Singleton	Cessnock	Young
F (> 25,000)	Tamworth	Wagga Wagga	Orange	Port Macquarie

The first town name in each column is the winner and the second town name in *italics* is the highly commended award recipient.

Individual Award Categories Winners	Cat A	Cat B	Cat C	Cat D	Cat E	Cat F
Grundfos Water Conservation Award	Leadville <i>Tottenham</i>	Henty <i>Boggabri</i>	Balranald <i>Portland</i>	Kurri Kurri <i>Forbes</i>	Griffith <i>Singleton</i>	Tamworth
Remondis Waste Solutions Schools Environment Award	Maitland schools <i>Kurri Kurri Public School</i>	Ballina High School <i>Forbes High School</i>	Grahamstown PS <i>Griffith Public School</i>	Greta Public School-Raymond Terrace	St Michael's Catholic School-Manilla <i>St Josephs Catholic School</i>	Brungle Public School <i>Rookhurst Public School</i>
Heritage Branch Cultural Heritage Award	Tottenham <i>Cullen Bullen and Brungle</i>	Boggabri <i>Lockhart</i>	Coolamon <i>Gloucester</i>	Toronto <i>Gunnedah</i>	Lithgow <i>Goulburn</i>	Tamworth <i>Camden</i>
Packaging Stewardship Forum Waste Management and Litter Reduction Award	Delungra <i>Merriwagga</i>	Lockhart <i>Salamander Bay</i>	Maitland <i>Summerland Point</i>	Kurri Kurri <i>Leeton and Cowra</i>	Singleton <i>Griffith</i>	Orange <i>Wagga Wagga</i>
Department of Environment and Climate Change NSW Wildlife Corridors & Habitats Conservation Award	Rydal <i>Delungra</i>	Boorowa <i>Karuah</i>	Woodberry <i>Hallidays Point Mambo/Wanda</i>	Narrandera <i>Soldiers Point/Salamander Bay</i>	Lithgow	Camden <i>Wagga Wagga</i>
Country Energy Energy Innovation Award	<i>Morundah</i>		Bingara	Tanilba	Griffith	Orange
Clubs NSW Clubs Partnership Award	Tottenham	Dorrigo <i>Boggabri</i>	Wallerawang <i>Greta</i>	Deniliquin <i>Leeton</i>	Singleton	Wagga <i>Wagga</i>
Civic Partnership Award	Tottenham <i>Rydal</i>	Gulgambone <i>Dorrigo and Jerilderie</i>	Hallidays Point <i>Bundanoon</i>	Parkes <i>Tanilba Bay-West Tilligerry</i>	Taree <i>Griffith</i>	Tamworth <i>Orange</i>

Please note: For further information about the Tidy Towns Program and award recipients including Tamworth, please visit www.kabnsw.org.au

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For further media information please contact, Elizabeth Jarrett, Communications Coordinator at Keep Australia Beautiful NSW on 02 9633 3380. For media comment please contact Peter McLean, Chief Executive Officer of Keep Australia Beautiful NSW.