



Keep Australia Beautiful NSW

2009 Tidy Towns Awards Newsletter



Well Done Lockhart 'The Verandah Town!'

The Keep Australia Beautiful NSW, Tidy Town Overall State Winner for 2010 is Lockhart. Lockhart's population places it into category B 351-1,200 and it has successfully challenged high quality contenders from around the state for this year's top title.

Where is Lockhart? Lockhart is situated 530km south west of Sydney in the Riverina via the Hume and Sturt Highways. The 'Verandah Town' is a most worthy winner of this year's highly competitive Keep Australia Beautiful NSW Overall Tidy Town Sustainable Communities Award. After the town is assessed and the report compiled this is not the end of judging. The assessors report and the town's submission document is then sent to one of the 6 state judges – who evaluate the assessors decision. The results are statistically analysed and there is then a winner selected for each population category from A–F. The best of each population category is then re sent to the state judges who rank the best from 1-6. Lockhart came out on top across all population categories after this exhaustive process.

In the 1850s, Lockhart was known as Green's Gonyah, after a certain Mr Green, who set up a roadside shack that became a watering hole for travellers on their way to Narandera.

Today's New Gonyah Hotel stands on the site of this early 'hotel', and the ruins of the original stables can be seen at the rear of the site.

Lockhart was named by the Commissioner of Crown Lands in 1896. The railway reached the town in 1901, and from then on the town prospered as a wheat producer.

The main street (Green St), with its continuous shady verandahs, decorative iron lacework and beautifully restored facades has been deservedly classified by the National Trust as a repository of turn-of-the-century architecture. Plaques on the shops list all of the historic details.

The 2009 Tidy Towns Assessor, Peter Davis said "Lockhart has been in a severe drought for a number of years and all levels of the community are well aware of the need for water management. The council, community committees and schools promote efficient use of water. Council informs and assists residents on rebates and grants for water tanks. Council policy covers the construction of individual reuse schemes for residential and semi residential allotments >2000 sqm. Mulched fallen trees are stockpiled and used for water preservation where needed.



There are excellent education and awareness programs such as Water Wise gardens promoted by council.

"There is a youth steering committee, which is involved in all aspects of community. This involvement was highlighted by the students of the school on my visit. An outreach grant was received and a partnership was formed with the central school and the Men's Shed as mentors to conduct a course covering practical woodworking. A qualified cabinetmaker/TAFE teacher covered aspects of OH&S, use of machinery and tools, and the manufacture of project items such as bird boxes."

The Lockhart & District Progress Association (Incorporating Lockhart Tidy Towns Committee) is highly involved with Council, Service Clubs, Community groups and all community members. Over the last number of years the Progress Association has facilitated to support greater community participation in decision making on a broad range of issues that impact the local community. The Progress Association is a highly developed and well organised group. This has fostered greater networking and wider dialogue with Council and all individuals in the Community.

Lockhart Shire Council is very supportive of all the activities carried out by the Tidy Towns Committee and other organisations. Council works with community providing

financial assistance, education, awareness and promotes the communities activities.

Lockhart Shire Council State of the Environment report covers all aspects of the local environment including land, water, air, aboriginal and non aboriginal history. Community input is highly valued.

Tidy Towns Committee plan goals and objectives each year to create a better environment in Lockhart.

The Lockhart & District Progress Association initiated Gerry Gillespie (President of Zero Waste Australia) which is part of an international movement that aims to promote healthy community without waste.

- The topic was 'City to soil' redesigning collection systems – linking rural and urban communities to the Lockhart and wider community.
- This system gives the farmer many benefits including increased yields, improved crop quality improved water efficiency, improved soil structure.

Lockhart is a beautiful relaxed village with incredibly strong community involvement of all ages and within easy driving distance to a major centre. It is worthy to win the state title.

2009 Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities Program Presenting the Award Winners for 2010



Heritage Branch Cultural Heritage Award

A	Winner HC	Milparinka Cooyal	Milparinka Heritage Precinct
B	Winner HC HC	Jerilderie Henty Lockhart	Jerilderie New Central Library
C	Winner HC	Salamander Bay /Mambo Wanda Finley	Maaingal Aboriginal Heritage
D	Winner HC HC	Young Glen Innes Leeton	Young Railway Station
E	Winner HC	Singleton East Maitland	Sacred Spaces: Sisters of Mercy Convent
F	Winner HC	Maitland Orange	Maitland Gaol Museum



Schools Environment Award

1	Winner	Forster Public School - Forster
2	Winner HC	King Street Public School - Singleton Scone Public School - Scone
3	Winner HC	Grahamstown Public School - Raymond Terrace Kyogle High School - Kyogle
4	Winner HC	Coal Point Primary School - Toronto Forbes North PS - Forbes
5	Winner HC	Murrurundi Public School - Murrurundi St Joseph's Primary School - Merriwa

countryenergy

Country Energy Bush Spirit Award

A	Winner HC	Bendemeer Rydal Warrah Creek	Grey Fergie Tractor Muster
B	Winner HC	Trundle Murrurundi	Trundle's 99th Show
C	Winner HC	Portland Kootingal	Gindaay Youth Centre
D	Winner HC	Gunnedah Kurri Kurri	Caroona Action Group
E	Winner HC	Griffith Cessnock	Dancing with our Stars
F	Winner HC	Orange Tamworth	Cootes Estate Revitalisation



Conservation Partnerships

Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water Wildlife Corridors and Habitats Conservation Award

A	Winner	Tottenham	Tree Planting Program
B	Winner HC	Boorowa Murrurundi	Bridges to Bush Program
C	Winner HC	Summerland Point Tenambit	A Walk on the Lakeside
D	Winner HC	Gunnedah Young	Waterways Wildlife Park
E	Winner	Lithgow	Mt Kanimbla Landcare Inc
F	Winner HC	Wagga Wagga Port Macquarie	LEP Bio Certification



Packaging Stewardship Forum Waste Management & Litter Reduction Award

A	Winner HC HC	Tottenham Delungra Merriwagga	Do the Right Thing in Tottenham
B	Winner HC	Coolah Lockhart	Coolart Waste to Art
C	Winner HC	Portland Summerland Point	Preventing our Recycling Touching Landfill
D	Winner HC	Toronto Cooma	Turning Toronto Green
E	Winner HC	Cessnock Singleton	Cessnock Waste & Reuse Centre
F	Winner HC	Wagga Wagga Tamworth	Enhancing Our City & the Environment



Grundfos Water Conservation Award

A	Winner HC	Laguna Tottenham	Laguna Community Water Conservation Scheme
B	Winner HC HC	Lockhart Boggabri Gulargambone	Every Drop Counts
C	Winner HC	Coolamon Summerland Point	Every Drop Counts
D	Winner HC	Kurri Kurri Tilligerry Peninsula	It's not just Water it's a Valuable Resource
E	Winner	Griffith	Griffith Urban Salinity Project
F	Winner HC	Orange Port Macquarie	Watertight Project



Overall Town Category

A	First Second Third HC	Nundle Rand Gooloogong Tibooburra & White Cliffs
B	First Second Third HC	Lockhart Murrurundi Euston Coolah & Gulargambone
C	First Second Third HC	Portland Kootingal Aberdeen Summerland Point
D	First Second Third HC	Young Cowra Kurri Kurri Toronto
E	First Second Third HC	Singleton Lithgow Griffith Cessnock
F	First Second Third HC	Orange Wagga Wagga n/a n/a

Population category		Schools category		Award	
A	1-350	1	701+students	HC	Highly Commended
B	351-1,200	2	451-700		
C	1,200-4,000	3	301-450		
D	4,001-10,000	4	160-300		
E	10,001-25,000	5	26-159		
F	25,000+	6	Less than 26		

Publicise your town and achievements on our Website!

Keep Australia Beautiful NSW would like to let you all know that we have an exciting addition to our website which will allow greater connectivity between Keep Australia Beautiful NSW staff, Tidy Town members and the public.



Each Tidy Town will be granted their own webpage on our website, to be managed by the town's Tidy Town Committee! It is not difficult to add information, please contact us for details. Each town will be provided with their own username and password, and will be able to construct their town's page to include information and photographs about their projects, local news and media clippings about Tidy Town events and make updates about the Town's progress throughout the year.

The Keep Australia Beautiful NSW website has significantly increased in public usage over the last year with traffic reaching over 67,000 in one month alone. We foresee this new initiative as a wonderful tool for towns to gain further recognition for their hard work and dedication as well as a great way to increase public awareness and tourism for the town.

Please contact the Keep Australia Beautiful NSW office on 02 9633 3380 at your convenience to have your town's very own, easy to use instruction manual about accessing your webpage sent out to you. To view the Keep Australia Beautiful NSW website please go to www.kabnsw.org.au

Thank you to those towns that have made the effort to put their towns on our website and we encourage others to follow.

Tidy Towns quirky facts!

Trundle has the longest verandah on the widest main street, it is one of the widest main streets in Australia

Forbes, 1994, HRH Prince Charles planted a golden elm tree in Victoria Park to commemorate his visit and to celebrate Forbes as the winner of 1993 Tidiest Town in Australia award.

The Blackstump Hotel at Merriwagga has the highest bar in the Southern Hemisphere.

Tottenham is in the centre of NSW.

Coutts Crossing gained its name from one of the early squatters in the Clarence Valley 170 years ago, Thomas Coutts.

How did Darby's Falls get its name? There was a postman named Darby who fell off his horse and died. They used to call it the place where Darby fell and over the years it got changed to Darby's Falls.

Manilla runs a unique activity each year at their Australia Day celebrations. They hold a "Golden Flipper" Relay (swimming) not "Golden Slipper" (horse). The trophy is a gold flipper mounted on a board in the shape of Australia - very appropriate for Australia Day.

Jerilderie is the only place in NSW for Ned Kelly to visit and also, Sir John Monash went to school here and was told he was too smart and should go to Melbourne and be schooled there as they couldn't teach him anymore!

He also held Neds horse and was given a floren to hold the horse.



Haven't We All Come A Long Way!



2010 will be the 30th Birthday of Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities!

Next year our great regional program will be turning 30. Please help us make this a great year by sending in your thoughts on how to celebrate this excellent milestone. We at Keep Australia Beautiful NSW are proud of the achievements we have made as an organisation in managing the Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities program. We are always inspired by the quality projects that are carried out in the bush and the efforts you all go to in making your towns and villages *simply better places to live*. We have people that have been involved with Tidy Towns since it's inception and others who have only recently got on board. The shift of Tidy Towns from a focus of merely keeping a town neat and tidy to building more sustainable communities is paying off. This is demonstrated by the range and quality of submissions received from the participants and the feedback we receive from councils, residents and chambers of commerce.

Let's make it a great 30th and you are all invited to come to Lockhart for the Celebration Weekend in November 2010! Details to be advised.

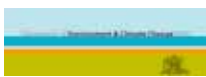
2009 Tidy Towns Assessors

A big thank you to all our assessors for volunteering their time, efforts and energy to this year's program:

Mr. Daniel Barber	Woollahra Council	Mrs. Linley Marshall	Nature Conservation Council
Mr. Phil Bryant	NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service	Mr. Doug McDonald	Consultant Terry Hills
Mr. Peter Davis	Birubi Point NSW	Mr. Brian McKellar	Leeton Shire Council
Mr. Dennis de Kantzow	Gordon NSW	Mr. Luciano Mesiti	University of Western Sydney
Mr. Mike Dodkin	NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service	Mr. Rob O'Brien	Lismore City Council
Mr. Peter Evans	Catchment Management Authority Lithgow	Ms. Yolande Presland	Canterbury City Council
Ms. Tejinder Gill	Willoughby Council	Ms. Heather Ranclaud	Upper Hunter Shire Council
Mr. Don Goodsir OAM	Mosman	Mr. Syd Smith	Director Keep Australia Beautiful NSW
Ms. Chris Jeffreys	Packaging & Stewardship Forum	Ms. Sue Stoddart	Dunedoo Development Group
Ms. Sue Johnson	Narrandera Shire Council	Mr. Richard Wiesel	Blacktown City Council
Mr. Richard Wei Li	National Trust	Mr. Phil Kelly	Keep Australia Beautiful NSW

Sponsors

Our sincere appreciation to all our partners who continue to generously support the Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities Program:



Conservation Partnerships



Keep Australia Beautiful NSW, Level 1, 83 Marion Street, HARRIS PARK NSW 2150
Tel 02 9633 3380 Fax 02 9633 4402 Email info@kabnsw.org.au Website www.kabnsw.org.au



Printing Proudly Sponsored by Planet Press: 4-10 Ilma Street Bankstown NSW 2200 | Ph 02 9771 4711 | Email enquiries@planetpress.com.au | Web www.planetpress.com.au