



**For Immediate Release  
MEDIA RELEASE**

**12 June 2008**

## **COMMUNITY WINS UNITED NATIONS AWARD**

Last Friday evening at an official dinner in Melbourne the community of Castlemaine was awarded a United Nations Association of Australia World Environment Day Award and became the Community of the Year by taking out the Community Category Award.

Kicking the Carbon Habit: Towards a Low Carbon Economy was the theme for the 2008 UN Awards. The Awards acknowledge actions taken at a local level to address global environmental issues and offer national recognition for initiatives taken in a range of sectors and settings that include community, business, government and education.

The community was nominated by the Mount Alexander Shire Community Action Network (MAS-CAN) for its successful, cooperative endeavour to use partnerships to achieve targets of carbon reduction greater than planned.

Carol McDonough represented MAS-CAN at the function and she delightedly accepted the award on behalf of the community.

Also in attendance on the evening were Councillors Ruth Barkla, Jim Norris and Philip Schier.

“Congratulations to the many people across the Shire who have contributed to winning this prestigious award,” said Cr Norris. “This is a highly significant award providing national recognition and further reinforcing the work that our community is doing in conjunction with Council.”

“The enormous energy and commitment shown by many people in the Shire is leading to us achieving a low carbon economy,” said Cr Schier.

Cr Barkla added that, “It is recognition of what can be achieved by working together. The win highlights that each and every contribution adds up to make a difference.”

Mount Alexander Shire Council was also acknowledged as a finalist in the Local Governments category, themed ‘Excellence in Overall Environmental Management’.

Ends....

**Media enquiries:**

Aileen Walsh, Communications Officer  
Mount Alexander Shire Council  
Tel: 5471 1810 or 0407 706769  
Email: [a.walsh@mountalexander.vic.gov.au](mailto:a.walsh@mountalexander.vic.gov.au)