

**NOVEMBER 1, 2007
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**DO YOU KNOW AUSTRALIA'S NUMBER ONE MUM?
NOMINATE HER FOR THE 2008 BARNARDOS
AUSTRALIA'S MOTHER OF THE YEAR AWARDS**

National Ambassador
Noni Hazlehurst AM

Ambassadors
Dennis Coard
Debra Lawrance
Paul Mercurio
Monica Trapaga
Lisa Wilkinson

Barnardos Australia is looking for 2008's Mother of the Year. If you know a fantastic Mum who deserves to be recognised, don't keep her a secret - nominate her today!

You can nominate via the Barnardos website www.barnardos.org.au. Nominations open on **November 1, 2007** and close midnight, **Thursday, January 31, 2008**.

They could be your own mum (natural, foster or adoptive), your wife, partner, sister, friend, daughter, someone in the local community - anyone who you believe is truly worthy of the title "**Australia's Number One Mum**".

Eight State/Territory Finalists will be selected from which the National Barnardos Australia's Mother of the Year will be chosen and announced at a special event in May 2008 - just prior to Mother's Day.

Initiated by Barnardos Australia in 1996, these annual Awards are the only National Awards directly linked to Mother's Day and offer people of all ages the opportunity to pay tribute to the immense contribution made by mothers in shaping Australia's future.

Glynis Sequeira, Barnardos Australia Marketing Director says: "These Awards are a chance to recognise a caring and nurturing person who has acted beyond the call of duty and is a true example of Australian motherhood".

Respected TV presenter and actress, **Noni Hazlehurst AM** is the National Ambassador for the Awards and Barnardos. "By hosting these Awards, Barnardos' intention is to bring motherhood to the forefront of Australian social consciousness and instil a high level of respect within the community for this tough but incredibly rewarding role."

Natasha Crofts from NSW is the reigning Barnardos Australia's Mother of the Year. She was nominated by her husband, Stuart and says, "it was an honour to be chosen out of so many worthy mothers around Australia".

"I felt overwhelmed, surprised and privileged to be nominated and I encourage everyone who knows a special Mum to nominate her. It's a wonderful way to make her feel appreciated and loved."

There is a direct synergy between the Awards and the work of Barnardos, whose aim is to build positive relationships between children, young people, their families and the community. Just like a caring mother, Barnardos believe that all Australian children and young people deserve to grow safely in a loving and caring environment.

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Johnson's
baby


Barnardos
Caring for Australia's Children