



**STEP Inc**

Community-based Environmental Conservation since 1978

## MEDIA RELEASE

### *Meena wins NSW Young Scientist Environmental Award*

Meena Sritharan of Strathfield Girls High School was last week awarded the STEP Inc Young Scientist Environmental Award at a ceremony at the University of Western Sydney, organised by the Science Teachers Association of New South Wales Inc.

Meena's paper, *How to clean up an oil spill*, looked at how the water temperature of the ocean affects the time taken to clean up an oil spill. Judge Syd Smith mentioned that the general standard of entries this year was very high, reflecting a high level of maturity and skill by the students. Syd said of the winning entry "Meena's research is topical, very relevant for those who have to face future accidental oil spills and the quality of her presentation was the equal of many professional publications".

STEP President Barry Tomkinson commented that the award is part of STEP's continuing commitment to the field of environmental education. "We are passionate about addressing the causes and consequences of environmental change. As a result, we are also passionate about environmental education. We and are therefore delighted to continue our long involvement with the Young Scientist programme," he said.



*Meena Sritharan receives her award from Syd Smith*

**More details contact:** Barry Tomkinson 0412 250 595. (Note: STEP is a brand name, not an acronym).

*STEP is a community based environmental organisation of over 400 members from Ku-ring-gai, Hornsby and the surrounding suburbs of the northern Sydney region. STEP has been addressing the consequences of environmental and climate change for over thirty years*

