



OUTSTANDING ACCOUNT: David Keith and Peter Fowler with their accounting awards.

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Two out of four ain't bad for Collins Hume

IN FRONT of a full house of accounting industry peers at the fourth annual Australian Accounting Awards on May 26, Ballina accounting and business advisory firm Collins Hume won two of the four categories in which they were finalists.

They also received an unexpected best-in-show award for Excellence.

Collins Hume business manager David Keith was nationally recognised as Office Administrator of the Year and partner Peter Fowler picked up a national award for Partner of the Year in a Boutique Firm.

The awards ceremony was topped off by Peter Fowler also receiving an overall industry recognition Excellence Award.

Collins Hume had already been short-listed as finalists

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— David Keith

in two other national categories.

These categories included Community Engagement Program of the Year and Firm of the Year Less Than \$1b Revenue.

There were a record number of finalists and submissions for this year's awards, and all judges commented on the standout quality of the entrants.

“What an amazing achievement,” Mr Keith said.

“Our awards were accepted on behalf of all the Collins Hume team and it is

through their collective hard work that we get to shine and be recognised in our profession.”

Soundbites of Mr Fowler's acceptance speech were tweeted live on the night by avid followers.

He summed up Collins Hume's philosophy.

“What I do want to say to every accountant in the room is don't forget that we have the power to change lives,” he said.

“That's what I wake up every morning to do.

“I think every accountant

has that ability and I want you to share that so, collectively, we can change the world.”

Managing director for Australia and New Zealand of Thomson Reuters Ben Scull said the event recognised and championed the work of the Australian accounting industry.

“We are so pleased to be partnering with a program which recognises the depth of talent in the Australian accounting industry,” Mr Scull said.

“(We) extend our congratulations to all the winners and finalists in this year's Australian Accounting Awards.”

Winners were announced in front of an industry audience of 500 people at a five-star gala dinner at The Sofitel Sydney Wentworth.