

Firm is top business

Awards keep adding up for Collins Hume accountants

IT'S been a big year for Ballina accounting firm Collins Hume, with national accolades and now a local gong, too.

The firm, which was established in 1980 and has 25 staff, was last Saturday night announced as the Ballina Coast and Hinterland Business of the Year award.

This follows success earlier success by partner Peter Fowler who was awarded Partner of the Year for a Boutique Firm at the Australian Accounting Awards, business manager David Keith who was awarded Office Administrator of the Year at the same event and Mr Fowler who also received an Overall Excellence award.

Also, the firm received the 2017 accounting practice of the year award plus a second award in the best event 2016-2017 category from GPS Wealth at their fourth annual conference in Thailand.

The firm also since 2011 has been involved in the Buy 1 Give 1 (B1G1) philanthropic organisation, and at an business seminar in Ballina midway through the year raised \$18,000 for charities.

Mr Fowler, a business advisor, said "the core purpose of our business is to inspire business owners", and the firm delivered

"extraordinary service."

He said Collins Hume didn't just "talk the talk", but also "walked the walk" in its own business.

He told the 200 people gathered at the Ballina RSL Club for the gala awards night that, as an advisor, he knew the challenges business people faced, and congratulated the business owners at the awards' night.

He also said he was proud that Collins Hume was

“The core purpose of our business is to inspire business owners

— Peter Fowler

making a difference in people's lives around the world through its philanthropy.

Mr Keith, who told the gathering he was "blown away" by the award, thanked the firm's "fantastic team" for their efforts.

The Don King Community and Social Service award went to Disability and Aged Information Service Inc (DAISI).

The annual awards are organised by the Ballina Chamber of Commerce and Industry.



THE WINNER IS...: Peter Fowler (left) and David Keith (centre) from Ballina firm Collins Hume accept the Ballina Coast and Hinterland business of the Year Award last Saturday night from the Northern Star/Ballina Shire Advocate's account manager Alf Boston.

PHOTO: GRAHAM BROADHEAD

AWARD WINNERS

Best New Business: Gekko Arthouse

Customer Service Award: Ballina Shire Meals on Wheels

Fitness and Wellness: Riverside 24/7 Fitness

Hair and Beauty: Blushed and Beautiful -- Hair and Beauty Lounge

Hospitality: Ballina RSL Club

Manufacturing and Innovation: Horizon Motorhomes

Professional Service: Collins Hume

Retail Outlet: Ballina Campervan and Motorhome Centre

Sustainable Business: Collins Hume

Don King Community and Social Service: DAISI - Disability and Aged Information Service Inc

Tourism Award: Summerland House Farm

Trade and Construction: Active Pest Management

Workplace Safety: Active Pest Management

People's Choice: Ballina Camping and Disposals

Business of the Year: Collins Hume