



**THE TEAM:** Pictured is the team from Collins Hume in Ballina with (front, from left) partners Peter Fowler, Ian Wunsch, Chris Atkinson, John Collins and Shane Bartrim.

PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

# Local firm a finalist in four national awards

LOCAL accounting and business advisory business covering NSW Northern Rivers is in the running to take out one of Australia's top industry awards.

Collins Hume has been shortlisted as a finalist in four national category awards for Community Engagement, Firm of the Year, Office Administrator of the Year and Partner of the Year at the 2017 Australian Accounting Awards, hosted by Accountants Daily and partnered by Thomson Reuters, Australia's top publication for the accounting industry.

Founded in 1980, Collins Hume provides tax and accounting, mortgage broking, financial and

business advice throughout Ballina, Byron Bay and Lismore.

It has particularly strong relationships with families and business owners and specialises in helping the local community to prosper professionally, financially and personally.

Now in its fourth consecutive year, the Australian Accounting Awards, which covers 26 categories, recognises individual excellence in accounting, from the profession's most senior ranks to its rising stars.

Winners in the individual categories will automatically be shortlisted for the coveted Accountants Daily Excellence Award.

In addition, Collins Hume's Peter Fowler and David Keith will both be in the running for the Editor's Choice Award, which recognises an individual's outstanding contribution to the Accounting Industry.

"We broadened the awards program this year to better recognise the breadth and depth of the talent in this industry. For those who have made it to the finalist stage, congratulations, you have secured your place amongst Australia's leading accounting professionals," said Terry Braithwaite, head of partnerships at Accountants Daily.

"We are set for a superb evening when the awards are presented. The judges

have a tough job on their hands this year and there no doubt will be huge excitement to hear their verdicts."

David Keith, business manager at Collins Hume, said he was humbled by the nomination.

"Recognition for our contribution to our local community reinforces the strength of the Collins Hume brand in connecting with our community and engaging with our clients," he said.

"None of our work would be recognised without the significant contribution from all of our team."

The winners will be announced at dinner in Sydney on May 26.