



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**\*\*\*EMBARGOED UNTIL 11.30PM (EST), 17 JULY, 2009**

**17 July, 2009**

### **TASSIE'S HOTEL INDUSTRY RISING STAR**

A Tasmanian has been named Australia's Hotel Industry Rising Star at the 2009 AHA National Hotel Awards for Excellence.

The honour has gone to Liza Gadd of Triabunna's Spring Bay Hotel.

With three other national award winners this is a major achievement for the Tasmanian hospitality industry.

"Tasmanian hotels and their staff have a lot to be proud of and our national award winners have tonight proven exactly why" said the AHA Tasmania's General Manager, Steve Old.

"Given the financial downturn, it is particularly pleasing to see that high standards have once again been set by Tasmanian venues and staff." Mr Old said.

"These awards demonstrate that Tasmania provides quality hospitality venues of the highest standard," he said. Mr Old highlighted the fact that Tasmania matches its rivals in other states, and that recent developments and investment had been well rewarded.

Barnbogle Dunes at Bridport has been recognised for the best Tourism Initiative. It is great to see investment in a regional Tasmanian tourism initiative receiving well deserved recognition at these highly esteemed awards" Mr Old said

"It is also worth mentioning that North West Tasmania can once again lay claim to having the best mid range accommodation provider in Australia through Tall Timbers Tasmania at Smithton" Mr Old said.

"It was with great pleasure that we saw the Shoreline Hotel at Howrah take out Best Sporting Entertainment Venue. There has been much work and investment at the Shoreline and it is fantastic to see that recognised here tonight" Mr Old said.

Mr Old said that the National Awards for Excellence recognises the best in the industry, and showcases the finest hospitality can offer.

All winners of awards were announced tonight during a gala dinner at Conrad Jupiters on Queensland's Gold Coast, which was attended by the Federal Minister for Tourism, Hon Martin Ferguson AM MP.

Accolades for Tasmania were:

- Best Tourism Initiative: Barnbogle Dunes Golf Links (Bridport);
- Best Sporting Entertainment Venue: Shoreline Hotel (Howrah);
- Hotel Industry Rising Star: Liza Gadd, Spring Bay Hotel (Triabunna); and
- Best Mid-Range Accommodation (joint winner): Tall Timbers Tasmania (Smithton).



**AUSTRALIAN HOTELS ASSOCIATION – TASMANIAN BRANCH  
RESTAURANT & CATERING ASSOCIATION - TASMANIA**

25/93 Salamanca Place Hobart Tas 7000 T: 03 6224 7033 F: 03 6224 7988  
PO Box 191 Battery Point Tas 7004  
E: aha@australianhotels.asn.au W: www.australianhotels.asn.au

Major award-winners were:

- Overall Hotel of the Year (General Division): Coolangatta Hotel (Coolangatta, QLD); and
- Overall Hotel of the Year (Accommodation Division): Park Hyatt Melbourne (East Melbourne, VIC).

Other award-winners included:

- Best Bar Presentation & Service – Metropolitan: Ravesi's on Bondi (Bondi Beach, NSW)/The Langham Melbourne, Aria Bar & Lounge (Southbank, VIC) – joint winners;
- Best Bar Presentation & Service – Country: Zedbar (Albury, NSW);
- Best Restaurant (Accommodation Division): Radisson Plaza Hotel Sydney, Bilson's Restaurant (Sydney, NSW);
- Best Restaurant (General Division – Metropolitan): Cruise (Sydney, NSW);
- Best Restaurant (General Division – Country): Royal Mail Hotel (Dunkeld, VIC);
- Outstanding Community Service & Achievement: Hillside Hotel (Castle Hill, NSW).

A complete list of winners follows.

**Please do not attempt to contact any winners before 11.30pm (EST) on 17 July, 2009**

**For further information please contact Steve Old on 0418 363 566**

*The Australian Hotels Association (AHA) is the pre-eminent tourism and hospitality industry organisation in Australia. It has around 5000 members operating general and accommodation hotels. It has a national office and branches in each State and Territory. It also has a discrete branch to represent the interests of its accommodation members that covers four and five-star properties.*

## **2009 AHA National Hotel Awards for Excellence**

### **OVERALL HOTEL OF THE YEAR (GENERAL DIVISION)**

**(sponsored by Lion Nathan)**

Coolangatta Hotel (Coolangatta, QLD)

### **OVERALL HOTEL OF THE YEAR (ACCOMMODATION DIVISION)**

**(sponsored by Tabcorp/Sky Channel)**

Park Hyatt Melbourne (East Melbourne, VIC)

### **HALL OF FAME**

**(sponsored by Johnnie Walker)**

#### **2009 Inductees**

Margaret and Cyril Maloney (NSW)

Jim Stewart (QLD)

Darryl Washington (VIC)

### **OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY SERVICE & ACHIEVEMENT**

**(sponsored by Penfolds)**

Hillside Hotel (Castle Hill, NSW)



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**OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN TRAINING**

**(sponsored by Wolf Blass)**

Sydney Harbour Marriott Hotel (Sydney, NSW)

**BEST ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTICE**

**(sponsored by Arctic Green)**

Crowne Plaza Alice Springs (Alice Springs, NT)/Rydges Lakeside Canberra (Canberra, ACT)  
– joint winners

**BEST TOURISM INITIATIVE**

**(sponsored by Tourism Australia)**

Barnbogle Dunes Golf Links (Bridport, TAS)

**BEST BISTRO/CASUAL/FAMILY DINING – COUNTRY**

**(sponsored by Schweppes)**

Buderim Tavern (Buderim, QLD)

**BEST BISTRO/CASUAL/FAMILY DINING – METROPOLITAN**

**(sponsored by Coca-Cola)**

The Winston (Winston Hills, NSW)

**BEST RESTAURANT, GENERAL DIVISION – COUNTRY**

**(sponsored by Crown Commercial)**

Royal Mail Hotel (Dunkeld, VIC)

**BEST RESTAURANT, GENERAL DIVISION – METROPOLITAN**

**(sponsored by Distilled Spirits Industry Council of Australia)**

Cruise (Sydney, NSW)

**BEST RESTAURANT, ACCOMMODATION DIVISION**

**(sponsored by Diageo)**

Radisson Plaza Hotel Sydney, Bilson's Restaurant (Sydney, NSW)

**BEST RETAIL LIQUOR OUTLET**

**(sponsored by Diageo)**

Edinburgh Hotel & Cellars (Mitcham, SA)

**BEST BAR PRESENTATION & SERVICE – COUNTRY**

**(sponsored by Carlton Draught)**

Zedbar (Albury, NSW)

**BEST BAR PRESENTATION & SERVICE – METROPOLITAN**

**(sponsored by VB)**

Ravesi's on Bondi (Bondi Beach, NSW)/The Langham Melbourne, Aria Bar & Lounge  
(Southbank, VIC) – joint winners



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**BEST SPORTING ENTERTAINMENT VENUE**

**(sponsored by Austar & Fox Sports)**

Shoreline Hotel (Howrah, TAS)

**BEST ENTERTAINMENT VENUE**

**(sponsored by Australasian Performing Right Association)**

Governor Hindmarsh Hotel (Hindmarsh, SA)

**BEST OUTDOOR OR NON-ENCLOSED FACILITY**

**(sponsored by British American Tobacco)**

The Highway (Plympton, SA)

**BEST GAMING VENUE – COUNTRY**

**(sponsored by IGT)**

Grand Hotel (Mornington, VIC)

**BEST GAMING VENUE – METROPOLITAN**

**(sponsored by IGT)**

Golden Grove Tavern (Surrey Downs, SA)

**BEST REDEVELOPED HOTEL, GENERAL DIVISION**

**(sponsored by Tabcorp/Sky Channel)**

Goulburn Valley Hotel (Shepparton, VIC)

**BEST REDEVELOPED HOTEL, ACCOMMODATION DIVISION**

**(sponsored by Schweppes)**

Grand Hyatt Melbourne (Melbourne, VIC)

**BEST MARKETED HOTEL, GENERAL DIVISION**

**(sponsored by Aon)**

Hallam Hotel (Hallam, VIC)

**BEST MARKETED HOTEL, ACCOMMODATION DIVISION**

**(sponsored by Aon)**

Emporium Hotel (Fortitude Valley, QLD)/The Westin Melbourne (Melbourne, VIC) – joint winners

**BARTENDER OF THE YEAR**

**(sponsored by HOSTPLUS)**

Luis Bruce, Cruise (Sydney, NSW)

**CHEF OF THE YEAR**

**(sponsored by HOSTPLUS)**

Daniel Fountain, The Watershed Hotel (Darling Harbour, NSW)



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**FRONT OF HOUSE EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR**

**(sponsored by HOSTPLUS)**

Cameron Cundle, Sheraton on the Park (Sydney, NSW)

**EMPLOYEE EXCELLENCE IN SERVICE**

**(sponsored by HOSTPLUS)**

Derrick Buckley, The Shed (Northbridge, WA)

**HOTEL INDUSTRY RISING STAR**

**(sponsored by Mint Group)**

Liza Gadd, Spring Bay Hotel (Triabunna, TAS)

**BEST PUB-STYLE ACCOMMODATION**

**(sponsored by Lion Nathan)**

Coogee Bay Hotel (Coogee, NSW)

**BEST MID-RANGE ACCOMMODATION**

**(sponsored by Coopers Brewery)**

Largs Pier Hotel (Largs Bay, SA)/Tall Timbers Tasmania (Smithton, TAS) – joint winners

**BEST APARTMENT/SUITE HOTEL**

**(sponsored by Qantas)**

Quay Grand Suites Sydney (Sydney, NSW)

**BEST RESORT STYLE ACCOMMODATION**

**(sponsored by Members Equity)**

Lake House (Daylesford, VIC)

**BEST SUPERIOR HOTEL ACCOMMODATION**

**(sponsored by Staging Connections)**

SKYCITY Darwin (Mindil Beach, NT)

**BEST DELUXE HOTEL ACCOMMODATION**

**(sponsored by HOSTPLUS)**

Hyatt Hotel Canberra (Yarralumla, ACT)