



Media Release

2015 AHA (Vic) State Awards for Excellence Winners

The winners of the 2015 AHA (Vic) State Awards for Excellence were announced at the annual awards gala dinner held on Monday 16th November at Atlantic Docklands. The AHA (Vic) State Awards for Excellence program was established in the late eighties to recognise pubs in Victoria with service excellence across a range of categories, individual excellence and pubs that are a destination for the local community.

The finalists were honoured at the ceremony in front of a crowd of more than 1,000 hoteliers, industry suppliers and hotel supporters. This year, a record number of nominations were received across the 36 categories and according to the judges the standards were extremely high resulting in a large number of overall finalists in many of the categories.

The 2015 Nikakis Award was awarded to Bill Bell, for his contribution to "A life-time in pubs". This award was established in 1997 in memory of Nick Nikakis, recognising an individual or organisation who by their sustained performance and commitment serve as an inspiration to all in the industry, Bill is a true definition of this award. Congratulations to the 2015 Nikakis Award winner Bill Bell.

AHA (Vic), along with our event marquee partner, Tabcorp, are pleased to announce the winners of the 2015 AHA (Vic) State Awards for Excellence.

Award	Winner	Presented by
Nikakis Award	Bill Bell	AHA (Vic)
Best Public Bar - Regional	Cardinia Park Hotel - Beaconsfield	Asahi Premium Beverages
Best Public Bar - Metropolitan	Hophaus Bier Bar Grill - Southbank	Lion
Best PubTAB - Regional	Windermere Hotel - Kangaroo Flat	Tabcorp
Best PubTAB - Metropolitan	Epping Plaza Hotel - Epping	Tabcorp
Best Menu & Wine List	Flinders Hotel - Flinders	Treasury Wine Estates
Best Live Entertainment Venue	The Westernport Hotel - San Remo	Harvey Norman Commercial
Best Sports Bar	Bridge Inn Hotel - Mernda	Fox Sports
Best Theme Bar	P.J. O'Brien's - Southbank	Diageo
Best Presented Beer	Hophaus Bier Bar Grill - Southbank	Lancer
Best Gaming Venue with 50 machines or less - Regional	The Star Hotel - Sale	Tabcorp Gaming Solutions
Best Gaming Venue with 50 machines or less - Metropolitan	Cross Keys Hotel - Essendon	Tabcorp Gaming Solutions
Best Outdoor Area	American Hotel - Echuca	British American Tobacco
Best Retail Liquor Outlet	Gladstone Park Hotel - Gladstone Park	Australian Liquor Marketers
Best Keno Venue - Regional	Windermere Hotel - Kangaroo Flat	Keno
Best Keno Venue - Metropolitan	Newmarket Tavern - Flemington	Keno
Best Bistro - Regional	Korumburra Hotel - Korumburra	Coca-Cola Amatil
Best Bistro - Metropolitan	Rosstown Hotel - Carnegie	Coca-Cola Amatil
Best Hotel Group Operator	Pegasus Leisure Group	H&L Australia
Hotel Industry Rising Star	Drew Harry	William Angliss Institute

Award	Winner	Presented by
	Western Hotel - Ballarat	
Outstanding Achievement in Training	Pegasus Leisure Group	AVTES
Best Environmental Practice	Kings Creek Hotel - Hastings	AHA (Vic)
Outstanding Community Service	Mail Exchange Hotel - Melbourne	IGT Australia
Excellence in Service - Administration	Lee Cleal Woolshed Pub - Docklands	PFD Food Services
Excellence in Service - Gaming	Joanna Delacoe Cardinia Park Hotel - Beaconsfield	Aristocrat
Best Gaming Venue with 51 machines or more - Regional	Kelly's Motor Club Hotel - Cranbourne	Tabcorp Gaming Solutions
Best Gaming Venue with 51 machines or more - Metropolitan	Zagame's Boronia Hotel - Boronia	Tabcorp Gaming Solutions
Best Marketed Hotel	Queensberry Hotel - Carlton	Hostplus
Best Hotel Accommodation	Taylors Lakes Hotel - Taylors Lakes	AON Risk Solutions
Best Family Dining	Zagame's Boronia Hotel - Boronia	AON Risk Solutions
Best Redeveloped Hotel	Crown Hotel - Lilydale	United Refrigeration
Best Pub Restaurant - Regional	Criterion Hotel - Sale	Aristocrat
Best Pub Restaurant - Metropolitan	The Railway Hotel - Windsor	Asahi Premium Beverages
Excellence in Service - Front of House	Ryan Butler Glenferrie Hotel - Hawthorn	Bank of Melbourne
Excellence in Service - Back of House	Justin O'Donoghue The Cove Hotel - Patterson Lakes	Vectron
Overall Hotel of the Year - Regional	Flinders Hotel - Flinders	Carlton & United Breweries
Overall Hotel of the Year - Metropolitan	Rosstown Hotel - Carnegie	Carlton & United Breweries

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