



**WAFIC** FISHING  
PEARLING  
AQUACULTURE

**SEAFOOD DIRECTIONS**

**MEDIA STATEMENT**

**Embargoed until 9pm**

27 October, 2015

### **West Australia shines at National Seafood Industry Awards**

WA has hauled in a net full of accolades at the National Seafood Industry Awards winning four of the 11 categories, including best Restaurant and best Small Business and seeing two of its own inducted into the Hall of Fame.

A glittering crowd packed into the Astral Room at Crown Burswood to celebrate the accomplishments of Australia's commercial fishing and seafood industry and to watch a competitive field from all States and the Northern Territory vie for honours.

The gala event was the grand finale of the Seafood Directions 2015 Conference hosted by the Western Australian Fishing Industry Council (WAFIC) in Perth this week. Cheers and applause accompanied winning announcements, but none more so than when WA chef Peter Manifis' South Perth Incontro eatery was named best Restaurant.

A similar reaction accompanied Central Seafoods Managing Director Richard Buczak when he took to the stage to accept his best Small Business Award.

WA shone in other areas as well with Janet Howieson and Patrick O'Brien flying the flag to win the People Development Award and a consortium of WA companies involved in the Love Australia Prawns advertising campaign joining forces with their Queensland counterparts to take out the best Promotion Award.

Phillip Clark, who was awarded Young Achiever in the State Seafood Awards earlier this year, was presented with an encouragement certificate in the same category at tonight's event.

WAFIC Chief Executive Officer John Harrison said the results demonstrated the passion and commitment of those involved in WA's commercial fishing and seafood sectors.

"WA is one of the world's leaders in terms of the environmentally responsible and sustainable management of its fish resources," he said. "Over the past two days we have seen speakers of national and international reputation addressing the Seafood Directions 2015 Conference on a wide range of fisheries-related issues.

"It is extremely pleasing that many of them are here tonight to see the recognition offered by our peers in the form of these awards. I congratulate everyone involved and urge them to continue their fantastic work to improve our fishing and seafood industry, both in WA and around the nation."

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Mr Harrison also welcomed the induction of West Australians John Cole, AM, and Terry Adams (posthumous) into the Seafood Industry Hall of Fame, saying both men had played pivotal roles in the development of WA's fishing industry.

(ends)

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**The following list provides details of all the awards:**

**Primary Producer Award**

Finalists:

Huon Aquaculture (TAS)

Australia Bay Seafoods (NT)

Coffs Harbour Fishermen's Co-operative Ltd (NSW)

Winner

Huon Aquaculture (TAS)

**Large Business Award**

Finalists:

De Costi Seafoods (Holdings) Pty Ltd (NSW)

Austral Fisheries (WA)

Humpty Doo Barramundi Pty Ltd (NT)

Winner

De Costi Seafoods (Holdings) Pty Ltd (NSW)

**Small Business Award**

Finalists:

Central Seafoods Pty Ltd (WA)

Debbies Seafood Pty Ltd (QLD)

Darwin Fish Market (NT)

Winner

Central Seafoods Pty Ltd (WA)

**Research Development & Extension Award**

Finalists:

NPF Industry Ltd and The Expert Group (QLD)

Daniel Ierodiaconou and his Deakin Marine Habitat Mapping Group (VIC)

Small Pelagic Fishery Research Team (TAS)

Winner

NPF Industry Ltd and The Expert Group (QLD)

**Environment Award**

Finalists:

Darwin Harbour Clean-Up Partners (NT)

Dave Wyatt, Matt Dell and the SW Tasmania Marine Debris Clean-up (TAS)

XL Oysters (NSW)

Winner

Darwin Harbour Clean-Up Partners (NT)

Dave Wyatt, Matt Dell and the SW Tasmania Marine Debris Clean-up (TAS)

**People Development Award**

Finalists:

Janet Howieson & Patrick O'Brien (WA)  
NPF Industry CMO Program (QLD)  
Aquaculture Trade Training Centres Group (TAS)  
Winner  
Janet Howieson & Patrick O'Brien (WA)

**Promotion Award**

Finalists:  
Love Australian Prawns (QLD & WA)  
Regional Development Australia Whyalla and Eyre Peninsula (SA)  
Bruce Davey - Drawing the Line Documentary (NT)

Winner  
Love Australian Prawns (QLD & WA)

**Restaurant Award**

Finalists:  
Incontro (WA)  
Saffron (NT)  
Flathead Cafe and Fishmongers (TAS)

Winner  
Incontro (WA)

**Fish & Chips Award**

Finalists:  
Morgans Fish Market & Takeaway and Morgans Fish Bar (QLD)  
Frying Nemo Fish & Chippery (NT)  
Sweetlips (WA)

Winner  
Morgans Fish Market & Takeaway and Morgans Fish Bar (QLD)

**Young Achiever Award**

The judges decided that all nominees for the Young Achiever Award were deserving of recognition.

Finalists:  
Claire Webber (SA)  
James Tyrer (QLD)  
Christine Huynh (TAS)  
Johnathon Davey (VIC)  
Phillip Clark (WA)

Winner  
Claire Webber (SA)

**Encouragement Award Certificates for Young Achievers**

James Tyrer (QLD)  
Christine Huynh (TAS)  
Johnathon Davey (VIC)  
Phillip Clark (WA)

**Ambassador Award**

Finalists:  
Bill Passey (NT)  
Bradley Warren (NSW)  
Graham Tapley (SA)

Winner  
Bill Passey (NT)

**Hall of Fame Inductees for 2015**

Peter Dundas-Smith (NSW)  
John Cole (WA)  
Terry Adams (WA)