

LOCAL BUILDING TAKES DESIGN PRIZE

The elite of the architecture and development communities turned up at the new Fins at Salt restaurant late last year for the 2007 Mayne Investments Northern Rivers Urban Design Awards. The Awards are held biannually to recognise good and appropriate urban design in our region.

Of the eight projects awarded, Lennox is home to two. "Which is terrific going" said Awards Chair and Lennox Head local Steve Connelly. "This year we had a particularly strong line up of projects".

Swell Property's 9092 Lennox was awarded in the commercial category and Petrac's 'Community Planning for Pacific Pines' was awarded in the planning, analysis and research category.

"The Recognition is an honour and is appreciated" said Swell Property's Wayne Lazarus. "It has been a real team effort between Maree, myself and of course our very talented architect Paul Gray".

Petrac's 'Enquiry By Design' process for Pacific Pines impressed Awards judges, who noted "The EBD process has delivered not only a solid master plan but demystified the design process such that meaningful community input can continue to give vitality to the ongoing refinement of the building of a new neighbourhood".

The Urban Design Awards Jury Chair, Phillip Follent (City Architect for the Gold Coast City Council) praised the local industry, saying "The Jury noticed during its



Above: Maree and Wayne Lazarus of Swell Property took the prize in the commercial category

travels that there was a tangible community spirit evident in many of the projects and a desire by councils to firstly, capitalise on the best assets of the area and secondly, to make more of ordinary and sometimes neglected spaces to do something special for their citizens.

Yet at the same time Mr Follent advised that councils be vigilant and have the right staff to assess the appropriateness of design decisions.