

## Maras Group wins national award for supporting the Mainstreet industry

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Maras Group's long term contribution to the Mainstreet industry was recognized last Thursday night at the bi-annual National Mainstreet Australia awards in Melbourne.

Held at the historic Thornbury Theatre in High Street, Thornbury, the gala event credited the very best in the Mainstreet domain from across the country in seven exclusive categories, having regard to best practice, innovation, leadership, creativity, success and passion.

The Mainstreet Australia awards are designed to recognize the people, programs and organisations that make mainstreets across the country prosper. National President, Mr Steve Bentley, said that "behind every one of our successful mainstreets, there are committed leaders, businesses,

volunteers, committee members, community members, centre managers and Councils. Through their hard work, dedication and initiative, they enable mainstreets to thrive on all levels, and respond to the constant challenges. President

Sponsored by Westpac, Maras Group took out the coveted award for "Business Support of the Mainstreet Industry". The award was in recognition of Maras Group's significant involvement and support of the Mainstreet industry primarily in South Australia, through organisations including Mainstreet SA, the Property Council of Australia, the East End Adelaide Association, Renew Adelaide, Rundle Mall Management Authority, the City of Unley and the City of Norwood Payneham & St. Peters.

The award also recognized Maras Group's ongoing commitment to re-shaping the East End district of Adelaide over many years, and the considerable progress made in recent years in making the precinct nationally and internationally acclaimed.

Group Managing Director and CEO, Steve Maras, who represented Maras Group at the awards ceremony, said "it was a huge honour for our company to have been recognized at a national level for our work in supporting the Mainstreet industry, something we are extremely passionate about. It was certainly a privilege to be among some of the best Mainstreet exponents around Australia and to see, first-hand, some outstanding initiatives and innovations that are truly ground breaking".

Other winners included Mr Gus Morello, President of the Templestowe Village Traders Association for Mainstreet Champion, the Sunshine Short Film Festival and the Port Melbourne Business Association for Mainstreet Marketing/Advertising, Clarke Hopkins Clarke for the Highett Mixed Use Development in the Mainstreet Activation category, Central Geelong Marketing for the Central Geelong Smart Phone App in the category of Mainstreet Digital Connections. Veteran City of Stonnington Councillor, Mr Claude Ullin, was the first member to be inducted into the inaugural Mainstreet Australia Hall of Fame.

To find out more, please visit www.mainstreetaustralia.org.au