



**MEDIA RELEASE**

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## **Three cheers for Sovereign Place IGA + Liquor**

Sovereign Place IGA + Liquor is going to need a larger trophy cabinet after being crowned NSW Liquor Retailer of the Year last night in Cairns.

Amazingly, two of the three state finalists were Hastings Co-op liquor businesses - Wauchope IGA + Liquor and Sovereign Place IGA + Liquor. The other being Oberon.

The award follows NSW and National Meat Department of the Year Awards earlier this year for Sovereign Place IGA's in store butchers.

The highly-competitive NSW Liquor Retailer of the Year award is judged by industry experts, supplier audits and mystery shoppers on criteria such as customer service, community contribution, sales, profits, merchandising, shopper experience and the store's overall performance. Wauchope IGA + Liquor has won the prestigious award eight times.

Hastings Co-op's liquor division manager Lisa Attkins said the award sets the benchmark for more than 150 independent liquor stores across NSW and the ACT and is a testament to the whole team.

"Being recognised as leaders in this field, above much larger, metropolitan stores, is a great honour, which belongs to all of our dedicated staff, who go above and beyond for our customers," she said.

*Pic: (l-r) Sovereign Place IGA + Liquor butcher Shane Hughes, Hastings Co-op CEO Nick de Groot and Sovereign Place IGA + Liquor Assistant Manager Brett Wilson.*

**Media contact -**

**Nicole Cook, Phone: 02 6588 8999, Mobile: 0498 111 353**

**Email: [nicolec@hastingscoop.com.au](mailto:nicolec@hastingscoop.com.au)**