

We're home to Australia's number 1 SPAR supermarket

Adam Hourigan | 1st Aug 2016 2:31 PM



SPAR Maclean Owner Bob Little and some of his staff celebrate the store three national awards, including SPAR store of the year.

Adam Hourigan

36 YEARS after he went into the supermarket business, SPAR Maclean owner Bob Little still walks the aisles of his supermarket working alongside his staff and talking to customers.

"I'm still just as passionate about it as I was when I started," Mr Little said. "And my staff are equally as passionate about delivering good service to the community."

The store's approach has led them to winning the National SPAR store of the year award, which was presented at an awards dinner on the Gold Coast.

SPAR Maclean also picked up national awards for delicatessen of the year, and produce department of the year, something which Mr Little said had been a real focus for the store.

"We've put a lot more effort into the look of the business, and the fresh department is one of the key components of the business, making sure you have really good quality and good presentation."

"The overall award is a real coup for us, as we also won the store of the year award last year, so to go back-to-back competing against nearly 300 stores is great."

Mr Little said a renovation three years to increase the area of the store and a change to the look of the store was one of the factors in the award, along with looking at customer service, staff presentation, workplace and health and safety to get the nod.

But Mr Little saved his biggest praise for his staff and department managers.

"We've got people here from 15 years old, to 66... and honestly this award is about them. The commitment that they've made to provide this level of service and presentation comes down to them," he said.

"We just want to make sure we've got the best store we can for ourselves and the town.. and they're really passionate about it."

The Daily Examiner