

Business cleans up in trader awards

BY KIRSTEN LEIMINGER

BROWN Gouge Dry Cleaners has been named central Dandenong's premier retailer of the year.

The Foster Street business won retailer of the year at the Dandenong Retail Traders Association's annual awards night last week.

Five other retailers were also awarded for providing excellent service in 2010.

Association chairman Roy Aspinall said Brown Gouge Dry Cleaners won retailer of the year for growing its business during difficult economic times. The business opened in 1992 and was taken over by its current owners Therese and Graeme Ross in 2005.

Mrs Ross said she believed they won the award for great customer service.

"Without our staff our business would not be as successful as it is today."

Mrs Ross said the business always met customer requirements — "we make sure customers are aware of the process the clothes go through".



Best business: Theresa Ross, Graeme Ross, Erica Velsas, Claire Mosig and Georgia Lozina.

Brown Gouge Dry Cleaners has now been entered into the Greater Dandenong Chamber of Commerce Premier Regional Business Awards.

Peter Simcock, former editor of the *Dandenong Journal*, was honoured with a chairman's award, presented to those who make a "significant contri-

bution to central Dandenong retailing".

Mr Aspinall said the award was not an annual one but only presented

THE WINNERS

- Central Dandenong retailer of the year: Brown Gouge Dry Cleaners.
- Retailer with more than 10 employees: Beletti Restaurant Cafe Bar.
- Retailer with less than 10 employees: Leah S Designs.
- Innovative retailer: CW Cakes.
- Retailer with excellent store design: Pretty Creations.
- Business that represents a culture: CJ's Indian Restaurant.
- Chairman's award: Peter Simcock.

when there was a worth recipient.

"For 30 years, Peter Simcock has provided leadership within the Dandenong community and his hard work is greatly appreciated."

Mr Aspinall said an excellent range of entries made the job of judging a tough one this year.

Brown Gouge

BROWN GOUGE