



Take a Break accolade for local business

By **MEGAN FRANKEL-VAUGHAN**

A local bed and breakfast is still basking in the glory of winning a state award late last year.

Pike River Woolshed, in Lyrup, overlooking the Murray and Pike Rivers, was one of 15 state winners of the inaugural Take a Break – Best Places to Stay Awards.

Take A Break presented Pike River Woolshed owners Andrew and Bronny Caire with South Australia's Best Group Accommodation Award.

Mr Caire said the award was judged on a number of factors.

"We had to ensure our customer service was of an excellent standard by responding to requests promptly, ensuring the woolshed was kept in quality condition and ready at all times to welcome our guests, and successfully meeting their accommodation needs while they were staying with us," Mr Caire explained.

"Take A Break measured the response time for guest requests, information provided on our web page, and most importantly the ratings guests gave us and their comments."

Take a Break chief executive officer Craig Davis

said TakeABreak.com.au initiated the 'Best Places to Stay' awards for the tourism industry to recognise outstanding service in specialist segment categories and to showcase accommodation providers who consistently do an outstanding job in meeting and exceeding their guests' expectations.

"Being a winner in these awards is a fantastic achievement as winners were selected via an exhaustive process from over 11,000 properties in 1400 localities and 39 accommodation types," Mr Davis said.

"The guests were the ultimate judges, with the finalists having to qualify with a consistent four or five (star rating) from five or more guest comments."

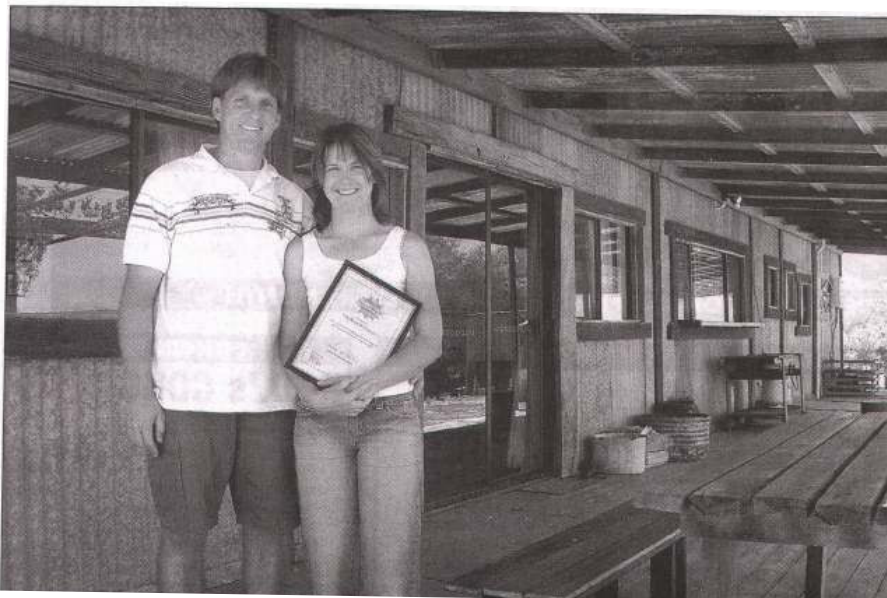
Mr Caire said he was pleased Pike River Woolshed guests "took the time to positively comment on their stay".

Mr Caire also said the business received recognition via both the Take A Break website and the Pike River Woolshed website, which has been adorned with a winner's logo.

Mr and Mrs Caire, with the help of their children Niki and Jordan, are responsible for the upkeep, cleaning, running and booking of their accommodation facility.

"The woolshed is a converted working shearing shed, last used in approximately 1985," Mr Caire said. "It is now a spacious homely abode, with bed facilities to accommodate up to 10 people with space to spare. It has a full kitchen and laundry. It is fully air-conditioned and has a combustion heater for added warmth in winter.

"We also have access to the Pike River itself which provides people with the opportunity to enjoy aquatic activities such as fishing, bird watching and water sports."



Andrew and Bronny Caire, of Pike River Woolshed, proudly display their Take a Break award for Best Group Accommodation.