



2008 BUSINESS ACHIEVERS

Salon bubbling after great win

WHEN Stephanie Shepard opened her business 15 years ago she operated out of a tiny salon in Camp Hill.

Since then, she has moved and expanded twice - to Oxford St at Bulimba and the Brisbane Sofitel.

Last September, Stephanie's Natural Beauty & Day Spa picked up two accolades - the beauty services award, and a \$1000 grant from the State Government's Department of State Development - at the *South-East Advertiser* Business Achiever Awards.

We're not sure quite how influential the awards are, but just one month later Nicole Richie, *inset*, and Joel Madden chilled out at Ms Shepard's



Sofitel retreat ahead of Madden's band Good Charlotte opening their Australian tour.

Madden revelled in an hour-long massage while the pregnant Richie enjoyed a manicure and pedicure.

Owner and spa director Ms Shepard said customer recognition via such awards meant a lot.

"You work so hard for so long it's great to get that recognition," Ms Shepard said.

Today, the *South-East Advertiser* launches its 2008 Business Achiever Awards where you - the readers - determine our local business heroes.

■ Mud bath ... Nick Walker and Sharrin Roest test the Sofitel spa.

