



Trading places

WOMEN can be tradies too, according to Fiona Shewring who was recently honoured for her work in promoting and advancing women in trades.

Mrs Shewring, who teaches painting and decorating at the TAFE NSW Wollongong campus, was awarded the Rider Levett Bucknall Crystal Vision Award at a celebratory ball at Luna Park last month.

The award was presented by the National Association of Women in Construction (NAWIC) to acknowledge

Mrs Shewring's work towards furthering the interests of women in the industry.

In particular the award recognised her recently published booklet *Supporting Women in Non-traditional Trades*.

Mrs Shewring said she was delighted to receive the award.

"It is not only a validation of the work that I am doing but it also recognises the contribution that I and other women make to the construction industry," she said.

Relieving Illawarra Institute Director Jai Waters said Mrs Shewring's work had resulted in a significant increase in the number of females undertaking trade courses at the Illawarra TAFE Institute.

Other awards previously presented to Mrs Shewring include the New Researcher Award from the National Centre for Vocational Education Research and the Institute for Trade Skills Excellence Trade Teacher of the Year award in 2007.



Women can be "tradies" too