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Media Release

### **CENTRAL NORTH ISLAND TOP SHOP WINNERS ANNOUNCED**

The best shops from Taranaki, Waikato, Bay of Plenty and Gisborne have been named at the Retail NZ Top Shop Awards ceremony in Hamilton tonight, with Specsavers Gisborne taking top honours as the Overall Regional Top Shop.

"The Retail NZ Top Shop awards are a fantastic occasion to celebrate all those who have achieved excellence in retail across a broad range of categories, including electronics, fashion, homeware and giftware. Our awards recognise the best in retail across all formats including national chains, independent single-stores and omnichannel retailers", Retail NZ Chief Executive Mark Johnston said tonight. "I want to congratulate all the finalists and winners, but offer a special congratulations to Specsavers Gisborne, which took top honours in the Fashion & Footwear Category, and was also awarded the title of Overall Regional Top Shop for the Central North Island".

The winners were selected based on three rigorous rounds of judging - two in-store assessments and a panel selection. Judges who visited Specsavers Gisborne said that everything about the store was professional. The staff were friendly and made customers feel welcome and at ease, while providing trustworthy and high-quality advice.

There was also a People's Choice award for the best Top Shop in the region which this year was awarded to Pinky's Bargains in Whitianga.

For the second year in a row, Ashley Brunel from Liquor King Horsham was named as the Service IQ Retail Professional of the Year in the Central North Island.

The team from Specsavers Gisborne will compete against other regional winners for the National Supreme Award at the prestigious Top Shop finals held this year in Christchurch on 3 September.

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## Central North Island winners:

*Fashion & Footwear sponsored by The Register*

**Winner - Specsavers Gisborne**

Runner Up - Barkers Garage Hamilton

*Health & Beauty sponsored by Retail NZ*

**Winner - Indulgence Beauty & Day Spa (Matamata)**

Runner Up - Waters Day Spa (Hamilton)

*Jewellery & Giftware sponsored by Union Pay*

**Winner - Acquisitions New Plymouth**

Runner Up - Silvermoon Bayfair

*Technology & Electronics sponsored by Rightway*

**Winner - Spark Matamata**

Runner Up - Spark Rotorua

*Small/Single-Store sponsored by Retail NZ*

**Winner - Furnish (Tauranga)**

Runner Up - Florist Ilene (Hamilton)

*National/Multi-Store sponsored by Visa*

**Winner - Cruiseabout Tauranga**

Runner Up - Warehouse Stationery The Base

*People's Choice sponsored by The Hits*

**Winner - Pinky's Bargains (Whitianga)**

Runner Up - The Girl on the Swing (Hamilton)

*Food & Beverage sponsored by Meridian*

**Winner - The Girl on the Swing (Hamilton)**

Runner Up - Liquor King Horsham

*Home & Garden sponsored by Westpac*

**Winner - Brambles Boutique Florist (Tauranga)**

Runner Up - Furnish (Tauranga)

*Lifestyle & Sports sponsored by Spark Business*

**Winner - Rebel Sport New Plymouth**

Runner Up - Hikoi Taupo

*Retail Professional sponsored by Service IQ*

**Winner - Ashley Brunel - Liquor King Horsham**

Runner Up - TJ Houltram - Florist Ilene (Hamilton)

*Single-Store OmniChannel sponsored by Mastercard*

**Winner - Furnish (Tauranga)**

Runner Up - The Design Depot (Hamilton)

*Multi-Store OmniChannel sponsored by Z Energy*

**Winner - Warehouse Stationery The Base**

Runner Up - Bike Barn Taupo

*Regional Overall Winner sponsored by 99 & NZME*

**Winner - Specsavers Gisborne**

Runner Up - Spark Matamata

## For further information, please contact:

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