

Sydney's tiny bars are not forgotten

Sydney City Council has been pushing for it and now there's an award for the best small bar.

Until recently, friendlier licensing laws made the small bar tucked in a lane or back street much more common in Melbourne than Sydney but Lord Mayor **Clover Moore** and the council are now trying to rev up the Emerald City's leisure scene and the 2010 City of Sydney Business Awards has a small bar category.

The finalists include Grasshopper, which has already developed a strong following. Co-owner **Martin O'Sullivan** says the idea has been to make the food in the Temperance Lane bar as appealing as the drinks. Absinthe Salon, Balcony Bar, Pocket Bar, Small Bar and the Hive Bar are others in the running.

The cycle lanes popping up in the city haven't been as popular, but there is a new award for bicycle businesses. Other categories include cultural and creative, education and training, cafes, restaurants and a range of retail categories.

The winners will be announced on September 20.