

Frazer Coast Chronicle, September 18 2012

Bay pies one of Aussie finest

Mitch Crawley | 18th September 2012 5:30 PM

NEXT time you're sinking your teeth into one of Pie and Pastry Paradise's finest you can be certain - you're tasting one of Australia's best, officially.

The Pialba-based store's owners Nic and Jodie Berkhout recently returned home from the industry's biggest competition event in Melbourne with a bag of medals won.

Named the Official Great Aussie Pie Competition, bakers and pastry experts Australia-wide annually enter the awards with ambitions of claiming recognition for their product.

Mr Berkhout said in 2012 Pie and Pastry Paradise had one of its most successful outings, collecting three medals.

"We got a silver medal for our chunky steak pie, we got a bronze medal for our lentil pie and we got a bronze medal for our garlic chicken pie - they're the three pies we entered in the competition," Mr Berkhout said.

He admitted all categories were hotly contested but made special mention of his lentil pie for being recognised in the vegetarian category.

The medals capped off what has been an enormously successful year for Mr and Mrs Berkhout, who won the prestigious Retailer of the Year trophy at the 2012 Sprake Fraser Coast Business Awards in June.

Another new frontier was the expansion of Pie and Pastry Paradise, a move which came when many other Fraser Coast businesses are struggling.