

New era for Official Great Aussie Meat Pie Competition

After an incredible 22 years, the rights to run the Official Great Aussie Meat Pie Competition have been passed on to a new generation of baking industry members.

Competition Director John Ross has decided to step back from full time involvement to let the next generation move the Competition forward into a new era.

The rights have been bought by the Australian Pie Council Pty Ltd, a consortium of industry leading organisations.

John will remain the face of the Competition and will consult the Council on future events. The existing Competition judges and support crew will also remain.

The Official Great Aussie Meat Pie Competition was established by John Ross and Craig Perry in 1989. Since then, John has gone on to build the Competition into a prestigious event attracting hundreds of entries from across Australia.

The Council has appointed *Australasian Baker* as the official magazine for the Official Great Aussie Meat Pie Competition. *Australasian Baker* editor Kimberley Moody congratulates John Ross for his achievements over the past two decades in championing a much-loved icon; the perfect Australian meat pie.

“Through the Competition, John has helped to raise quality standards and enhanced a sense of pride among bakers who enter and are recognized nationally as the best at what they do,” says Kimberley.

“The Australian Pie Council’s aim is to build on John’s great work, by reaching an even wider audience through their

baking industry networks and increase awareness through greater media exposure.”

The Council thanks the sponsors of the Competition for their ongoing support, and the judges and support crew for their contribution to a highly successful event.

One of the Council’s first initiatives will see a financial incentive awarded to the winning apprentice team at the Bake Skills competition, which runs alongside the Official Great Aussie Meat Pie Competition at the Fine Food Australia Show.

Administrative support will be provided by Dani Lindsay-Wooldridge who will manage the day to day coordination of the event, while *Australasian Baker* will provide the marketing services. Each issue of the magazine will feature the latest news and information about the Official Great Aussie Meat Pie Competition, including tips from judges on what makes Australia’s best meat pie.



*The Winners! St George’s Bakehouse
Ben Rosenthal (Bakery Manager)
Harry Prandalos (Operations Manager)
George Theodoulou (Owner)*



*Official Great Aussie Meat Pie Competition
Founder John Ross and Judge Mike French*



Judges at Fine Food Sydney



Major Prize Winners 2011 Official Great Aussie Meat Pie Competition

Winner Official Great Aussie Meat Pie Competition:

St. George’s Bakehouse, Kensington S.A. (Plain Chunky)

Runner-Up:

Cheries Pies, Freshwater, NSW (Plain Mince)

Winner Gourmet Pie Competition:

Mick’s Bakehouse Wholesale, Moorebank, NSW (Beef Stroganoff)

Winner Red Meat Category:

Mick’s Bakehouse Wholesale, Moorebank, NSW (Beef Stroganoff)

Winner Poultry Category:

Mick’s Bakehouse Wholesale, Moorebank, NSW (Chicken Chilli Jam Stir Fry)

Winner Seafood Category:

Heatherbrae Pies, Heatherbrae, NSW (Steaming Prawn Madras)

Winner Game Category:

La Bakehouse Café, Penrith, NSW (Carriro)

Winner Vegetarian Category:

Mick’s Bakehouse Wholesale, Moorebank, NSW (Moroccan Pumpkin With Harissa Yoghurt)

Winner Asian Home Gourmet Spices Special Category:

Brighton’s Best Bakehouse, Brighton, TAS (Butter Chicken)

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Preparing the pies for judging