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## Results from The Great Australian Vanilla Slice Triumph

Mildura City Heart has celebrated the success of its inaugural “Great Australian Vanilla Slice Triumph” in the Langtree Mall.

The event was centred on the professional baking competition, for which 54 entries were received, across 3 categories.

With the sun shining, people were traversing around the Mildura CBD enjoying the live music, kid’s activities and cooking demonstration by Stefano de Pieri.

In addition to the display of entries from the professional baking competition, people lined up to purchase sweet treats from the Vanilla Slice Market Hall, at which 5 local bakeries participated, as well as Bayswater Cake Kitchen, with the slices so popular that some had sold out by lunchtime.

Chief Judge of The Great Australian Vanilla Slice Triumph, Corey Howard, from EOI Peerless Foods was impressed with Mildura’s inaugural event. “We are absolutely blown away by the passion the greater Mildura community with the transition of the event to the Langtree Mall location. We have spent a great deal of time discussing the judging process with the public, and a huge number of people viewed the display of the professional entries”.

Joining Mr Howard on the judging team were Ty Baxter (Baxter Food Equipment Solutions), Brendan Bulleen and Jason Riley (both from EOI Peerless Foods), and Paul Brown (Timstock), and they were backed up by a team of local judging assistants, headed up by Anne & Syd Nash.

The results are:

### **Professional Vanilla Slice:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> prize – Hudak’s Bakery (Mildura);
- 2<sup>nd</sup> prize – Tatura Hot Bread (Tatura);
- 3<sup>rd</sup> prize – North End Bakehouse (Shepparton).

### **Professional Innovative Vanilla Slice:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> prize – Rob Beanham (crème de citrouille and caramel);
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> prize – Rod Miller (blueberry and lemon);
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> prize - Tim Sullivan (mango lassi).
- All prize winners for the Professional Innovative category were from Mawson’s Bakery (Euroa)

### **Apprentice Vanilla Slice:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> prize – Ryan Kuhn from Country Cob Bakery (Kyneton);
- 2<sup>nd</sup> prize – Lina Hut from Country Cob Bakery (Kyneton);
- 3<sup>rd</sup> prize – Kaitlin Cass from The Deakin Bakery (Mildura)

Members of the public also got to have their say on who was the best vanilla slice at the Vanilla Slice Market Hall by voting in the People’s Choice Award. The award was won by The Deakin Bakery who received the most votes.

Mildura City Heart Chairman, Ryan Hammerton, said “He are absolutely thrilled with this, being the first of many Great Australian Vanilla Slice Triumph’s, in the Mildura City Heart. Although this is a transition year for us, with a smaller schedule of categories, we saw the Langtree Mall filled to capacity, and we have seen many people travel to the region for the event”.

“We look forward to a full-format event in 2018, and gratefully acknowledge the efforts of everyone involved, particularly our volunteers, in making the day a huge triumph”, said Mr Hammerton.

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