

## **‘Gossiping Gourmet’ chef Craig Bennett, to judge the village ‘Bake-off’.** **The Willows Village**



Residents and visitors to The Willows Retirement Village at Winston Hills were in for a treat last Saturday, when **The Honourable Bronwyn Bishop** (member for Mackellar) paid a visit, together with **Gossiping Gourmet** chef **Craig Bennett**, to judge the village **Bake-off**

Ms Bishop (a former Minister for Aged Care, and now Shadow Minister for Veterans Affairs) and Mr Bennett (a regular guest on 2UE and The Kerry-Anne Kennerly Show), spent considerable time chatting with individual residents as well as entrants, much to the delight of everyone concerned.

The Bake-off competition was part of the celebrations to launch the village's new coffee shop, **The Coffee Pot** on Open Day. Scores of visitors enjoyed the beautiful spring weather and mingled with residents over morning teas and a buffet lunch, before settling down to watch the judging at 12.30. Thirty four of the residents took part in the competition, with prizes to be awarded in three categories . Slices, Scones and Cakes .

With great fortitude, the two celebrities diligently munched their way through tastings of all 34 dishes . everything from lemon, fruit, shortbread and peanut slices through pumpkin, cheese and date scones to banana, carrot, mango,

apple, passionfruit, pineapple and chocolate cakes. The tastings took two hours . and not surprising, the two judges politely refused lunch!

And the winner ♂ There were nine winners in three categories, but the outright winner was Gwen Jolliff, for her double treat of diabetic fruit cake and cream pastry matchesq Gwen has been married for 65 years to husband Tom, and they have been enjoying life in their Willows apartment for 9 years.

%just love cooking,+said Gwen. %its my biggest hobby, and Iqn often cooking things for social occasions here at The Willows. But Iqn a bit shy so I donq normally go into competitions. When they called my name and I saw the lovely plaque, I was so shocked and embarrassed . but it was a big thrill.+

