

July 2010

the food business the food business Backgrounder

Celebrating seven years at Hazelwood Park, award-winning restaurant and catering group, **the food business** was founded in 2003 by owners, eminent chef, John Gabel and front-of-house identity, Cindy Halasz.

Since its acquisition of the Adelaide Festival Centre's Bistro, below the Dunstan Playhouse and the Foyer Café catering contracts in 2009, **the food business** has more than trebled in size, with staff numbers tripling from 15 to 47 in just under a year.

The 2010 Adelaide Cabaret Festival was the group's second in residency at the Adelaide Festival Centre operating as **Bistro by the food business**, providing premium innovative handmade menu items to patrons prior to and after shows in a timely and efficient manner.

Bistro by the food business with its unrivalled River Torrens views is currently only open when shows are on in the Dunstan Playhouse. However, as of 1 September this year, the restaurant and adjacent Cocktail Lounge will be open more regularly for lunch and dinner trading. Lunches in the 140-seater restaurant will run from 12midday to 3pm on Wednesdays to Sundays and dinner will commence from 5pm on Wednesdays to Saturdays. **Bistro by the food business** will continue to be open at other times when there are performances in the Dunstan Playhouse.

In addition to the Hazelwood Park restaurant, the Adelaide Festival Centre's Bistro and Foyer Café, **the food business** has been operating out of a kiosk at Moonlight Cinema in Botanic Park for five years and providing catering for corporate and social events since it was first established.

The modern Australian cuisine covers a global spectrum of tastes and influences from Europe to Asia, using the freshest, local top-shelf produce. Some of **the food business'** ingredients are grown in the garden at the back of the Hazelwood Park restaurant.

Chefs and waiting staff alike, work across all of **the food business** venues to ensure a consistent approach across the board.

Owners, John and Cindy attribute much of the organisation's success to their flexible, 'hands on' approach.

"We've always applied a very 'hands on' approach, being on the frontline of all our business operations," John said. "We are blessed with the team we have working for us, who share similar goals of striving to provide exciting, top quality, local handmade products matched with excellent service."

"While our staff are fantastic ambassadors to the business, our practical and proactive approach has been vital to our success, enabling us to be abreast of the service offering we're providing our clientele," he said.

Cindy added, "It's our flexibility and ability to adapt to different working environments, regardless of the level of resources at our disposal, that has served us well, enabling the business to grow at such a steady rate."

“We’re committed to providing highly memorable experiences for our patrons, no matter where we serve them – be it a wedding in a paddock in the middle of nowhere, a boardroom lunch, the kiosk at the Moonlight Cinema, in their home or at our Hazelwood Park restaurant,” she said.

For further information on the food business please contact:
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