



**Gold Coast Bulletin**  
**Thursday 27/08/2009**  
Page: 3  
Section: General News  
Region: Gold Coast QLD, AU  
Circulation: 41121  
Type: Regional  
Size: 535.69 sq.cms.



press clip

# Finesse with their froth as baristas brew up in annual coffee challenge

by Stephanie Bedo

BREWING a decent cup of joe is serious stuff.

Forget instant coffee granules or milk from the fridge. Conjuring up an impressive caffeine hit is a skill that goes worldwide.

Yesterday, talented baristas from Zarraffa's Coffee stores across the Coast battled in round two of its annual barista competition.

The contest is based on World Barista Competition standards and coffee makers had to compete on special barista benches.

Zarraffa's Coffee managing director Kenton Campbell said baristas were judged on how they presented their drink; taste, timing and personality.

This year they also held a latte art competition.

Harbour Town manager Jodie Watney has been a barista for

14 years and decided to take part to show off her skills.

"For many years I've been into coffee festivals," she said.

"I always wondered what it would be like to compete professionally."

Ms Watney concocted a signature drink for the judges she titled Cookies and Cream Surprise.

"I was talking to my other staff for ideas and they all wanted me to incorporate cookies into a drink," she said.

Ms Watney said she sprinkled chocolate flakes on the top of her drink to represent the cookies.

Mr Campbell said the idea to hold their own barista competition came about when he was at a world contest a few years ago.

"I realised it would be an awesome opportunity for our baristas to compete at that level," he said.

"It was a way of bringing all

those people together to see where their skills are at and try to increase those skills for them."

The grand finalists selected in yesterday's competition will now go on to compete at the Zarraffa's National Franchise Conference in October.

From there the winner will go on to represent Zarraffa's at the Queensland competition.



Jodie Watney with her signature brew – Cookies and Cream Surprise – she concocted to impress the judges in round two of the barista competition ● Picture: Richard Gosling