



THE RIGHT RECIPE . . . George Magganas proudly displays the major award.
Photo: LISA McMAHON

Family business top of the chocs

Nina's Chocolates was named the Most Successful Chocolate Exhibitor at the recent Sydney Royal Cheese and Dairy Produce Show after winning 23 medals.

The family owned business won four gold medals - for its wattleseed truffle, white chocolate bar, Irish cream truffle and novelty mandolin - plus nine silver and 10 bronze.

Owner George Magganas said he was thrilled with the results.

"We were stoked last year with the 12 awards we won," he said.

"We did more homework this time, took it more seriously.

"[But] at the end of the day the quality we presented at the show is what our customers always get."

Mr Magganas said the key to good chocolate making was his dedicated and talented staff.

"In our situation, we always strive that you eat first with your eyes then follow with the taste sensation," he said.

"If the taste sensation is there you have a winner, you have the wow factor.

"Our expertise is in presentation and food technology, which is in the centres. So put those two together and the synergy of quality and I think that's the main reason why this place has succeeded."

Mr Magganas said he planned to make chocolate in his retirement but fast-forwarded the plan and set up the company with his wife, May, eight years ago after he was made redundant by a multinational confectionery company.

Now Nina's supplies chocolates nationally including to Myer in Melbourne.