



TOWN OF VINCENT

MEDIA RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Did Somebody Say 'Coffee'?

Can you smell that? It's the heady aroma of roasted coffee beans... A sensory sensation awaits Perth's coffee connoisseurs when master barista Ben Bicknell fires up the cappuccino machine at the Vincent Cappuccino Festival in North Perth on 30 November.

"There is no substitute for quality, freshly ground coffee and I can't wait to take a lesson from the king of the coffee machine – Ben Bicknell – and learn how to make the perfect espresso at home. Home espresso enthusiasts will get to learn all about the best use of their machines and the tricks and treats like how to get a perfect flower on top of your latte at the sessions being held as part of the Vincent Cappuccino Festival", enthused Mayor Nick Catania.

"Ben is the go-to guy when it comes to the Perth coffee scene. He started the WA Barista Academy and to say he is passionate about coffee is an understatement! Lovers of coffee are going to be ecstatic to take a lesson from a master and will get a real feel for the café culture that permeates our Town and draws so many to our suburbs in search of an incredible brew. Make mine a macchiato!" concluded Mayor Catania.

In addition to the coffee workshops, Angove Street will come alive with craft, jewellery, fashion and textile stalls, children's activities and entertainment, roaming street theatre and live entertainment all day long.

A native plant sale and gardening advice and workshops will be held, together with wholefood cooking demonstrations and fresh food stalls where people can purchase their produce direct from the growers.

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The Rosemount Hotel will be the venue for a number of free workshops on wine and beer appreciation. Workshop sessions on home espresso, latte art and chocolate appreciation will be held on stage.

More info is available [here](#).

Ben Bicknell

Starting out in 2002 in a large chain, Ben Bicknell first entered the coffee industry in an effort to earn some money to get him through university. This part-time work soon turned from a means-to-an-end to an out of control passion, leading to work in an independent café and continuing his research and experimentation over the following three years.

In 2005 Ben started, along with a couple of other passionate WA coffee people, the [WA Barista Academy](#). Here, he began to pass his passion and knowledge to others during barista training courses and researched further afield with trips to Europe and the United States.

In 2006 Ben moved positions to more closely work with artisan local roaster, [Five Senses Coffee](#), where he now works full-time as their Coffee Quality Manager.

Over the past several years, Ben has also become much more involved with the wider coffee community, becoming an accredited AustralAsian Specialty Coffee Association (AASCA) judge and helping to judge and organise the Barista Championships run throughout the country. Most recently he has been re-elected to the position of Vice President of AASCA – an appointment that provides some exciting opportunities to spread the passion for specialty coffee around the country.

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