

where we've been...



Arts Centre Cafe Campbelltown

Campbelltown Arts Centre is one of my favourite places in Macarthur and for many reasons. Not only is the grand building the epicentre of culture in Macarthur, it also offers a sophisticated and meaningful haven from the outside world. That feeling stretches into the famous Japanese Gardens and the brilliant cafe that connects the two.

My PA Kirsty and I wandered over to Campbelltown Arts Centre recently for Friday lunch. I love entering our Arts Centre. Its construction was a turning point for Campbelltown and its reputation in the arts community is second to none. I think the feeling I get is pride. This is modern Campbelltown.

Upon entering the cafe, we are greeted by a beaming smile. I have been friends with Rose and Hans for longer than their tenure in the cafe. Every visit to the cafe is a catch up with old friends. "Hello Dave," Rose calls across the room. Hans and Rose have managed the city standard cafe for many years now. They don't reinvent the business and why would you? It has been very successful under their tenure. I think the secret to their success is a shared passion for quality. Most of the menu items are quite simple dishes, but quality produce, great technique and Hans' broad knowledge of ethnic cuisines offer superb modern cafe dining.

Our lunches on this visit are perfect examples. 'Let's Go To Tokyo' is a Japanese inspired dish that had me in raptures. Perfectly cooked

tempura chicken breast strips flavoured with Sichimi, stacked atop a Soba Noodle salad with carrot, cucumber and pickled ginger. This was a superb lunch. Order it! You will love it too.

Kirsty chose a vegetarian dish from the Specials Board and was equally enamoured. Roast Vegetable Salad with Couscous and Halloumi. Always check out the Specials Board at the arts centre Cafe. Hans is a creative who still enjoys the fun of cooking.

There is no more beautiful setting for lunch in Macarthur and Hans' kitchen lives up to the good looks. Enjoy!