



Bedford helping the disabled turn tables

ALEXANDRA ECONOMOU

DISABILITY services provider Bedford is proving it has a flair for food.

In May last year, Bedford took over operation of Entwich Cafe, at Business SA's Enterprise House headquarters in Unley.

Since then, sales of morning tea and lunch items have doubled, Bedford chief executive Max Dyason says.

"Our reputation has seen customers from surrounding businesses come to buy their lunch or morning tea," he says. "It's (popular because of) the quality of the food and the staff are all enthusiastic, bright and want to

service the customer. There are some good systems in place, and we have got some great support staff who train our employees."

Entwich Cafe employs 10 people with a disability. The food is prepared by Bedford Hospitality's more than 40 staff at kitchens in Panorama and Clapham. Bedford Hospitality – an Australian Disability Enterprise – also provides catering services for private and corporate clients.

"Our hospitality business is all about providing people with disability with new skills and opportunities,"

Mr Dyason says. "Most of our hospitality employees have certificate one or two in hospitality through our registered training organisation and TAFE. The Entwich success story is so positive that we are now looking to find another suitable site to expand our offering in the very near future."

Business SA's finance and administration manager Joe Scordo and Enterprise House function centre manager Julie Campbell have been happy to welcome the Bedford initiative into the centre.



NOSH KNACK: Enterprise House's Julie Campbell and Business SA's Joe Scordo flanked by cafe workers Lisa Dnouin and Damien Braun.

Picture: CAMPBELL BRODIE