

Strategists offer food for thoughts

By **BOB ANTHONY**

THERE may be no such thing as a 'free lunch' but Emily Ashton will settle for a free dinner.

Emily took part in the Tweed Economic Development Corporation's business survey, the largest of its kind done in the district.

The survey is being sent to more than 4000 Tweed businesses and TEDC chief executive officer, Tom Senti, said the information gathered would be used to help form economic strategies, which would be put to Tweed Shire Council.

"This survey is canvassing all sorts of businesses across the Tweed and the initial response has been extremely positive," said Mr Senti.

"This will help us to help the business community by identifying needs and short-falls, as well as gaining suggestions which will create a better business environment.

"By doing this online, it is something which business people can do when they have time outside of their busy schedules."

Emily Ashton, who works at Arrow Concrete Cutting and her boss and manager, Jo Mitchell, both filled out the survey but it was Emily who was selected as the first winner of a dinner for two at the Saltbar at Kingscliff.

Mrs Mitchell said the survey would help the TEDC know what businesses wanted.

"We have been operating on the Tweed for the past eight years and to let the TEDC know about some of the challenges which we face, such as daylight saving, can only help them plan strategies which will benefit us all," she said.

The survey runs until the end of this month and there will be another three dinner prizes before it closes.

For details contact www.tedc.com.au



Arrow Concrete Cutting owner Mick Mitchell with administration employee Emily Ashton, the first winner in the TEDC business survey.