

BINGARA GORGE



The Wilton opens its doors

Just a few weeks after opening, The Wilton has already become much more than a new dining destination. It is quickly establishing itself as a place where families gather, friends connect and the wider community comes together.

Located within Bingara Gorge, The Wilton was created with a vision to deliver a true social hub for one of South West Sydney's fastest growing communities.

"The response from both residents and the broader community has been overwhelmingly positive," says Simon Johnson, CEO of Feros Group.

"We have witnessed strong visitation since opening, but what has been most rewarding is hearing directly from locals about what the venue means to them. We had one local become quite emotional and tell us she had been waiting for a venue like The Wilton for 10 years."



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The opening weekend exceeded expectations, with more than 2,500 bookings made between Friday and Sunday. Visitors have travelled from as far as Wollongong and Baulkham Hills, while local residents have embraced it as their new meeting place.

"Since opening, we have been booked out each weekend and served more than 8,500 customers in the first few weeks of May alone," Simon says.

Simon notes, "When a venue becomes the place for family dinners, weekend catch ups, celebrations and local events, it creates genuine connection. That sense of ownership from the community is what turns a venue into a long term success."

One of the most memorable moments leading into the opening was the auction of the first schooner poured at Steve's Bar, named in honour of one of The Wilton's owners who sadly passed away before the venue opened.

"We wanted to support the Kinghorn Cancer Centre, which had provided incredible support to Steve and his family," Simon explains.

"We invited local businesses and residents to bid for the opportunity to drink the first schooner. Christian from Yerra Bingin won the auction with a donation of \$2,650 and together with additional contributions from locals and the family, \$28,600 was raised for the charity."



Founded by Nick Feros in the early 1970s, Feros Group has grown into one of New South Wales' most respected hospitality operators, with a strong focus on creating venues that become genuine community assets.

"Our success is driven through creating venues that local communities are proud of," Simon says.

"That, combined with amazing food and beverage offerings and a relentless focus on customer experience is what underpins everything we do."

The opportunity to be part of Bingara Gorge was a natural fit.

"Bingara Gorge sits at the centre of one of South West Sydney's fastest growing corridors," Simon says.

"There was a clear opportunity to create a high quality hospitality destination that could serve locals, visitors and the broader region. We wanted to create more than just a pub. The vision was develop a place where people could stay, socialise, celebrate and make memories."

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Today, visitors can enjoy a family friendly bistro, lounge bar, outdoor dining spaces, beer garden, dedicated children's play area and state of the art sports bar.

Food is also playing a major role in The Wilton's success, with menu highlights including premium dry aged ribeye, generous share plates, a signature carvery and indulgent desserts.

Looking ahead, residents can expect an exciting calendar of events and experiences.

"We already have weekly kids' activities on Sundays and during the school holidays, we will be running everything from slime workshops and reptile encounters through to superhero appearances," Simon says.

"We are also introducing bottomless lunches, shared set menus, country music events, wine and beer dinners, and some major family activations inspired by destinations like the Grounds of Alexandria."

Construction of a dedicated function and events centre is scheduled to commence in October, creating even more opportunities for celebrations and community events.

"The best hospitality venues are the ones that truly belong to their communities," Simon says.

"When a venue becomes the place for family dinners, weekend catch ups, celebrations and local events, it creates genuine connection. That sense of ownership from the community is what turns a venue into a long term success."

Just a few weeks after opening, it is clear that The Wilton is already becoming exactly that, a place the Bingara Gorge community can proudly call its own.

To experience The Wilton for yourself, book a table, explore the menu or view upcoming events visit www.thewilton.com.au.

