

Lilydale Yarra Valley Leader

THROUGH THE LENS



Macadamia nuts are being measured for mixing, boxes of packaged shortbread are being moved along a conveyor and Rob Dalnes pushes a rack of biscuits for baking.

Pictures: STEVE TANNER. N17LE307

Never tired of the cookies

THE managing director of Lilydale's Old Colonial Cookie Company, Howard Dray, is quick to admit that he likes to mix business with pleasure.

Despite baking hundreds of thousands of cookies a year for sale nationally and around the world, he hasn't lost his love for butter shortbread biscuits.

"Of course I love them," Mr Dray said.

He has run the business at Industry Court with his wife Sandra since 1999.

Thirteen employees produce macadamia, choc-chip, ginger and butter shortbread for Australian retail markets, including Coles, as well as countries such as Canada, the US, Japan, Hong Kong, Singapore, New Zealand and China.



Tanya Caldwell with freshly baked shortbread ready for packaging.