

# Win's Thai Kitchen



Burmese refugees Nan Khin Win and Sa Myint Swe with their daughter Jasmine Swe in front of their new business, Win's Thai Kitchen in Moonee Street.

Photo: TREVOR VEALE 04070313B

## Happy to call Coffs home

IT'S a long way from the crowded tents of a refugee camp on the Burma-Thai border to the peaceful pavements of Coffs Harbour's Moonee Street.

And it's been an eventful trip for Burmese refugee Sa Myint Swe, his wife Nan Khin Win and their daughter Jasmine Swe.

But on Thursday the couple opened the doors of their own business in Coffs Harbour, Win's Thai Kitch-

en in Moonee Street.

Fourteen years ago Sa Myint Swe was forced to flee Burma for Thailand to escape retribution from his activities as a student demonstrating against the military dictatorship in Burma and his refusal as a soldier to shoot monks and innocent civilians.

He spent six years in a Thai refugee camp and one of the few good things to happen to him was when he

met Win, who is also Burmese, in a bus on the Thai side of the border.

Eight years ago Coffs Harbour refugee support group Sanctuary sponsored Hwe, Win and newborn Jasmine to come to Coffs Harbour, where Hwe found work as a baker for the Golden Hot Bread Shop and Win became head chef for the former Jiang's Thai Kitchen in the Coffs Harbour Hotel.