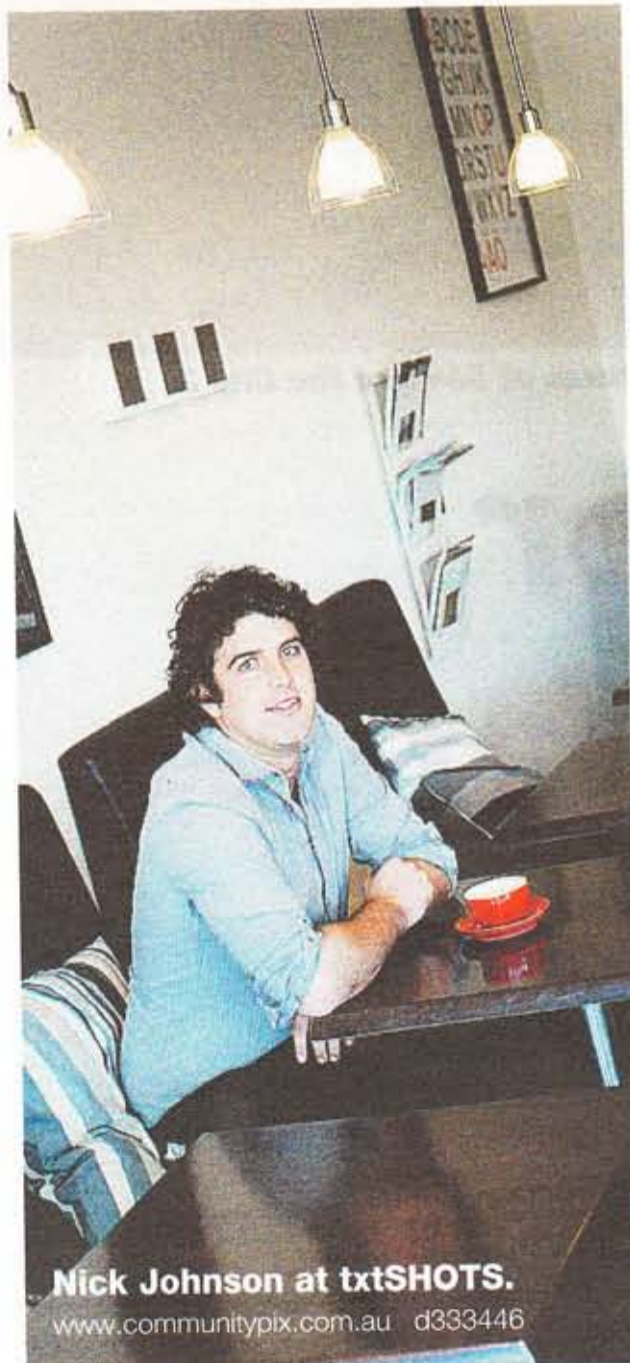




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Caffeine shots in a flash



Nick Johnson at txtSHOTS.
www.communitypix.com.au d333446

COFFEE meets technology at North Perth cafe txtSHOTS espresso bar, where caffeine lovers can text in their coffee order.

The brainchild of Mt Claremont residents Annie Rankin and her stepson Nick Johnson, txtSHOTS was born out of a desire to create a business-friendly cafe with fresh local food, great coffee, Wi-Fi access, a meeting space for professionals and tables without the wobble.

It took just under 12 months for the original seed of the idea to come to fruition, with the business opening in March at a new development on Scarborough Beach Road, North Perth.

Ms Rankin and Mr Johnson went to great lengths to get everything just right, choosing their own special blend from Five Senses Coffee, undertaking barista courses and researching cafes in the US and eastern states.

Mr Johnson (23), who manages txtSHOTS, spent seven months working at Café Vinyl on Hay Street.

Ms Rankin, who has a background in marketing, had a clear vision of the decor, which is reflected in the cafe's clean lines and

touches of chocolate, raspberry and stainless steel.

The idea of texted orders was inspired by a trip to the US.

"I haven't heard of anyone doing it here – it's pretty cutting edge," Ms Rankin said.

The texting has proven popular, especially in the morning when the frequent "ding" of texts can be heard as they appear on the computer screen behind the counter.

The food, inspired by the Sydney and Melbourne scene, includes paninis, sandwiches, wraps, muffins and cupcakes, as well as homemade banana bread.

Demand has led the cafe to open for breakfast on Saturdays, and there are plans to add to the breakfast menu.

"We're responsive to what is in season and we're always looking for great new food ideas," Ms Rankin said.

She said good coffee came down to passion.

"We know we're making great coffee because people tell us it's good, we know we're right up there," Ms Rankin said.

"Word of mouth has been really important."

