



Ibrahim Rassa, co-owner of Maiwand supermarket.

PICTURE: PENNY STEPHENS

SMALL STORE, LOTS OF CHARACTER

One of the first grocery stores in the Afghan Precinct Maiwand Supermarket is still going strong.

Selling Iranian, Afghan and Middle-Eastern groceries and quality halal meats, as well as a huge assortment of nuts and sweets, it is part of the eclectic foodie heaven of

central Dandenong.

Co-owner Ibrahim Rassa said he gets shoppers from "far away" parts of Melbourne.

"We sell many items that are ingredients for Middle Eastern cooking — lots of spices, meats and our dried fruits and nuts are very

popular," he said.

"We have ingredients that you can't get in the big supermarkets."

The Afghan Bazaar, in and around Thomas Street has about 20 shops featuring speciality goods from the regions and communities of Afghanistan.