



Monday 17 May 2004

2004 GLENFIDDICH FOOD & DRINK AWARDS

TOAST NIGEL SLATER

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London's Hempel Hotel was the glamorous setting for the presentation of this year's Glenfiddich Food & Drink Awards. Attended by celebrities including Antony Worrall Thompson, Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall, Antonio Carluccio and Raymond Blanc, the evening was hosted by writer and broadcaster Sandi Toksvig.

The coveted Food Book prize went to multiple award-winner **Nigel Slater** for his extraordinary story of a childhood remembered through food. *Toast, the story of a boy's hunger* (Fourth Estate), includes such culinary highlights as Arctic Roll and Grilled Grapefruit (then considered something of a status symbol in Wolverhampton). Nigel's likes and dislikes, aversions and sweet-toothed weaknesses form a fascinating and often amusing backdrop to this memoir of a child.

Rum by **Dave Broom** (Mitchell Beazley), with photography by Jason Lowe, won Drink Book. Covering both the multitude of styles of this complex spirit and its rich animated history, it describes pure rums by individual island or country of origin.

Other winners included top Scottish chef **Nick Nairn** in the Television category for the programme **Nick Nairn and the Dinner Ladies** (Brighter Pictures for BBC Scotland) in which Nick, passionate about healthy eating, endeavours to change school meals for the better.

The GQ/Glenfiddich Food & Drink Personality went to **Heston Blumenthal**, the 3 Michelin-starred chef/owner of The Fat Duck in Bray, Berkshire. Heston is best known for his empirical approach to the challenges of food creation, ignoring the conventional understanding of individual foods and flavours – his famous smoked bacon and egg ice cream and sardines on toast sorbet are just two examples of his unique approach to cooking.

The Restaurant Critic category and the coveted Glenfiddich Trophy were awarded to **Guy Dimond**. A veteran in the food and drink arena, Guy started writing reviews for the Time Out Eating & Drinking Guide 15 years ago. In 1999, he became food and drink editor of the weekly magazine Time Out. He is now consultant editor to the



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highly respected Guide which is particularly noted for its coverage of non-European cuisines.

The year's Glenfiddich Independent Spirit Award – presented in recognition of a piece of work, an individual, or campaign making an outstanding contribution towards widening the understanding and appreciation of food and drink in Britain – was picked up by **Randolph Hodgson** for his work with Neal's Yard Dairy (NYD). Randolph has owned and run Neal's Yard since 1979. Over the years, he has sought out the best cheese makers (producing by hand). Randolph helped form the Specialist Cheese makers' Association, which successfully campaigned to prevent the ban of the sale of cheese made from unpasteurised milk. In 1997, NYD set up a shop and warehouse in London's Borough Market. Randolph had the idea for, and was instrumental in, setting up a regular Food Market at Borough.

Attendees of the prize-giving enjoyed Asian canapés and a selection of Glenfiddich Serves created by Craig Condie from Putney Bridge and Charlotte Voisey from Apartment 195.

Established in 1970, the Glenfiddich Food & Drink Awards honour the very best writers and broadcasters – both the established leaders in their field and newcomers or 'Independent Spirits' – who find inspiration at the bar, on the menu and on the wine list. There are 11 categories covering everything from authors to bar writers, restaurant critics to television presenters, plus the **Glenfiddich Independent Spirit Award** and **The Glenfiddich Trophy**.

An independent panel of six judges seek to reward work where strong professional skills and sound judgement combine to produce a significant contribution to the communication and enjoyment of food and drink in the UK. This year's panel comprised **Robbie Bargh**, *founder and Managing Director of Gorgeous Group*, **Richard Ehrlich**, *drinks writer for The Independent on Sunday and food columnist for FT Weekend*, **Alastair Hendy**, *author, food writer and photographer*, **Oliver Peyton**, *restaurateur*, **Rose Prince**, *food journalist* and **Kate Thal**, *freelance wine buyer*.

Winners were presented with a special bottling of Glenfiddich Single Malt Scotch Whisky along with a cheque for £1000.

www.glenfiddich.com/foodanddrink

Independently Minded. Independently Made.



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Glenfiddich is the only single malt Scotch whisky to be distilled, matured and bottled in the Highlands using a single source of natural spring water for absolute purity. The distillery remains committed to time-honoured whisky making techniques using the skills and craftsmanship established in 1887 by William Grant.

Glenfiddich is still the only Highland producer to heat the copper stills with a naked flame and one of the last distillers to run its own cooperage.

Glenfiddich is the best-selling 100% pure single malt Scotch whisky in the world – a perfect balance of style and substance, taste and quality.

For further information and photography, please contact Georgie Harmer or Minnie Peel at Wild Card on 020 7307 9670 deck@wildcardpr.co.uk



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WINNERS 2004

FOOD BOOK

Toast: The story of a boy's hunger by Nigel Slater, Fourth Estate
short listed

Cakes Regional & Traditional by Julie Duff, Grub Street

Cooking Like Mummyji: Real British Asian Cooking by Vicky Bhogal, Simon & Schuster

DRINK BOOK

Rum by Dave Broom, Mitchell Beazley

short listed

The Craft of the Cocktail by Dale DeGroff, Proof Publishing

The Wines and Vineyards of Portugal by Richard Mayson, Mitchell Beazley

FOOD WRITER

Philippa Davenport for work in the Financial Times

short listed

Nicholas Lander for work in the Financial Times

Tom Parker Bowles for work in Night & Day The Mail on Sunday

COOKERY WRITER

Angela Nilsen for work in BBC Good Food

short listed

Hugo Arnold for work in The Irish Times

Nigel Slater for work in Sainsbury's Magazine

DRINK/BAR WRITER

Roger Protz for work in The Guardian and What's Brewing

short listed

Fiona Beckett for work in The Guardian

Dave Broom for work in Whisky Magazine and Wine International

WINE WRITER

Tim Atkin for work in Observer Magazine and Observer Food Monthly

short listed

Jamie Goode for work in Wine International

Clive Coates for work in The Vine



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RESTAURANT CRITIC

Guy Dimond for work in Time Out London

short listed

Terry Durack for work in The Independent on Sunday

Marina O'Loughlin for work in Metro

REGIONAL WRITER

Alastair Gilmour for work in The Journal, Newcastle

short listed

Neil MacLean for work in The Sunday Times Scotland

Jo Ewart for work in The Scotsman

TELEVISION PROGRAMME

Nick Nairn for 'Nick and the Dinner Ladies', presenter **Nick Nairn**, executive producer

Katie Lander, Brighter Pictures for BBC Scotland

short listed

Jonathan Meades for 'Meades Eats', presenter Jonathan Meades, Arena Series Editor Anthony

Wall, directors Francis Hanly & Ben McPherson for BBC2

RADIO PROGRAMME

Bombay Lunch Boxes, The Food Programme, presenter **Simon Parkes**, executive

producer **Dixi Stewart**, producer **Rebecca Wells** for BBC Radio 4

short listed

Eating Song, producers Rosie Boulton, Virginia Crompton, Karen Maurice, Lynsey Moyes

and Sue Waldram for BBC Radio 4

Prawn Industry Investigation, You & Yours, presenter **Winifred Robinson**, editor **Andy**

Smith

for BBC Radio 4

PHOTOGRAPHY

Giacomo Bretzel for work in Telegraph Magazine

short listed

Con Poulos for work in Modern Classics Book 2 published by Fourth Estate

Philip Webb for work in Olive



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GQ/GLENFIDDICH FOOD & DRINK PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR AWARD

Heston Blumenthal, chef/owner of The Fat Duck

2004 GLENFIDDICH INDEPENDENT SPIRIT AWARD

Randolph Hodgson, Neal's Yard Dairy

From the category winners, one outstanding candidate is selected to receive

THE GLENFIDDICH TROPHY

Guy Dimond

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