

## DINNER LADIES RULE OK!

### 35<sup>th</sup> Presentation of the Glenfiddich Food & Drink Awards 2005

Winners of the hotly contested Glenfiddich Food & Drink Awards, now in their 35<sup>th</sup> year, were announced last night. Kitchens across the country were left in the capable hands of sous-chefs as most of London's leading chefs including Gordon Ramsay, Rick Stein, Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall, Antonio Carluccio and Heston Blumenthal (whose restaurant was recently named Number One in the world's top 50) turned out to lend their support.

Campaigning was high on the agenda. Dinner lady, **Jeanette Orrey**, shared the highest accolade – the Glenfiddich Independent Spirit award – with **Jamie Oliver** for **Jamie's School Dinners** and the **Feed Me Better** campaign. The award is made in recognition of an individual or campaign thought to have made an outstanding contribution towards widening the understanding and appreciation of food and drink in Britain.

Jeanette who, long before the government was raising major issues about obesity in children, was spearheading a quiet revolution to change the way our children eat. Through her campaigning, she has increased the take-up of school lunches at her own school to 85% while the national average is 45%. Now she is visiting schools across the UK so they can benefit from her skills and expertise.

Jamie Oliver, through a national television series, sought to take the issue of school food even further and 'bust a gut' persuading schools to ditch the processed, ready-made meals the students are used to eating and replace them with fresh, nutritious food, prepared from scratch every day. He also established the 'Feed Me Better' campaign, generating a massive petition with which to lobby government.

Jamie was away researching a new programme in Italy on the night of the presentation, however his protégée Nora Sands who appeared alongside him on Jamie's School Dinners, was on hand to receive the award on his behalf and also on behalf of Greenwich Council's catering service.

Nora commented: "I am delighted to be picking up the award for Jamie and my colleagues in Greenwich. I am one of more than 300 front-line kitchen staff working for the Council's catering service in 80 Greenwich schools. We are now halfway through rolling out the new menus, developed with Jamie, in schools across the Borough. Processed ingredients have, of course, been completely removed. It's been a unique school meals revolution and all of the kitchen staff deserve to share the credit. We've all been working tremendously hard and it's great to have our efforts recognized with this award."

Investigative journalist, Joanna Blythman, won Food Book for *Shopped: The Shocking Power of British Supermarkets*. A powerful and insightful book, Joanna delivers a wake-up call to the supermarket shopper, asking questions such as "Is there a price to pay for our enduring love affair with cheapness, choice and convenience?"

'Beyond River Cottage,' presented by Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall, won the Television Programme award. Hugh is widely known as a writer, broadcaster and campaigner. His series have earned him a huge popular following and his books – including his most recent *Meat Book* – are lauded for their campaigning zeal and commitment to promoting a better understanding of the nature and origins of what we eat. For his uncompromising commitment to real food, Hugh was also awarded the coveted Glenfiddich Trophy.

Kitchen Nightmares star, Gordon Ramsay, was the clear winner for the GQ Glenfiddich Food & Drink Personality award voted by GQ magazine readers.

Three awards were scooped up by The Independent: Food Writer went to Christopher Hirst, Wine Writer to Anthony Rose and Restaurant Critic went to Terry Durack for work in The Independent on Sunday Review.

The Drink Book prize went to Christy Campbell for Phylloxera, on which judges commented: "It reads like a fantastic thriller, pacey and amusing."

Mike Chapple, who was also short listed in the Regional category, won the Bar Writer award for his column 'At The Bar ...' in the Liverpool Daily Post.

By recognising and encouraging excellence in writing publishing and broadcasting in this field, the Glenfiddich Food & Drink Awards, established in 1970 have made a significant contribution to improving the standards and choice of what we eat and drink.

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**For further information and photography, please contact  
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**Notes to editors:**

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. The 2005 panel included **Tim Atkin** – wine correspondent for The Observer and wine editor at large for William Reed Publishing, **Dave Broom** – drinks writer, author and broadcaster, **Dylan Jones** – editor of GQ, **Sheila Keating** – food writer for The Times Magazine, **Sue Lawrence** – author and president of The Guild of Food Writers and **Paul Wootton** – editor of Class Magazine.

Winners were presented with a special bottling of Glenfiddich Ancient Reserve 18 Year Old Single Malt Scotch Whisky and a cheque for £1000.

For details on the award-winning range of Glenfiddich single malts, click on [www.glenfiddich.com](http://www.glenfiddich.com)

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### FOOD BOOK

**WINNER: Shopped: The Shocking Power of British Supermarkets by Joanna Blythman**

RUNNER UP: The River Cottage Meat Book by Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall

RUNNER UP: Not On The Label by Felicity Lawrence

### DRINK BOOK

**WINNER: Phylloxera by Christy Campbell**

RUNNER UP: Peat Smoke and Spirit by Andrew Jefford

RUNNER UP: Biodynamic Wines by Monty Waldin

### FOOD WRITER

**WINNER: Christopher Hirst, The Independent**

RUNNER UP: Richard Ehrlich, Financial Times

RUNNER UP: Andrew Purvis, Observer Food Monthly

### COOKERY WRITER

**WINNER: Matthew Fort, The Guardian Weekend**

RUNNER UP: Nigel Slater, Sainsbury's Magazine

RUNNER UP: Elisabeth Luard, Waitrose Food Illustrated

### DRINK / BAR WRITER

**WINNER: Mike Chapple, Liverpool Daily Post**

RUNNER UP: Andrew Jefford, Financial Times

RUNNER UP: Kevin Gould, Waitrose Food Illustrated

### WINE WRITER

**WINNER: Anthony Rose, The Independent Magazine**

RUNNER UP: Joe Fattorini, The Herald Weekend Living

RUNNER UP: Chris Orr, Food and Travel

### **RESTAURANT CRITIC**

**WINNER: Terry Durack, The Independent on Sunday Review**

RUNNER UP: AA Gill, The Sunday Times Style

RUNNER UP: Matthew Fort, The Guardian Weekend

### **REGIONAL WRITER**

**WINNER: Robert Cockroft, Yorkshire Post Magazine**

RUNNER UP: Neil MacLean, The Sunday Times Scotland

RUNNER UP: Mike Chapple, Liverpool Daily Post

### **TELEVISION PROGRAMME**

**WINNER: 'Beyond River Cottage'**

**presenter Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall, Keo Films for Channel 4**

RUNNER UP: 'Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares'

presenter Gordon Ramsay, executive producer Patricia Llewellyn, Optomen

Television for Channel 4

RUNNER UP: 'Rick Stein's Food Heroes'

presenter Rick Stein, producer David Pritchard, Denham Productions Ltd for BBC 2

### **RADIO PROGRAMME**

**WINNER: 'Made in Shetland'**

**producer Lynne Mennie, researcher Claire White, mixed by Doug Maskew for**

**BBC Radio 4**

RUNNER UP: 'The Food Programme, Should We Eat Less Meat?' presenter Sheila Dillon, producer Sue Todd, executive producer Dixi Stewart for BBC Radio 4

RUNNER UP: 'The Food Quiz' presenter Jay Rayner, producer Rebecca Wells and Paula McGinley, executive producer Dixi Stewart for BBC Radio 4

### **PHOTOGRAPHY**

**WINNER: John Reardon for work in Observer Food Monthly**

RUNNER UP: Alastair Hendy for work in Food and Travels: Asia

RUNNER UP: Jason Lowe for work in The Real Greek at Home

### **GLENFIDDICH INDEPENDENT SPIRIT AWARD**

**Jeanette Orrey and Jamie Oliver for Jamie's School Dinners and Feed Me Better Campaign**

### **GQ GLENFIDDICH FOOD & DRINK PERSONALITY**

**Gordon Ramsay**

### **GLENFIDDICH TROPHY**

**HUGH FEARNLEY-WHITTINGSTALL**