



Monday 19 May 2003

Glenfiddich Food & Drink Awards 2003 Jamie Oliver Wins Pukka Prize

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Triumphant Jamie Oliver won the respect of his peers and the public to scoop two top accolades at tonight's Glenfiddich Food & Drink Awards – the industry's 'Oscars'.

"Jamie's Kitchen", produced by Fresh One and Talkback Productions for Channel Four, won the acclaimed *Television Award*. The programme was praised for its entertaining, inspiring and utterly compulsive viewing covering the subject of food from a broad range of angles, and extending the appeal of the programme to 'non-foodies' through its soap opera style. The programme enhanced Oliver's credibility with the general public, a point reflected by the fact Oliver also awarded the *GQ/Glenfiddich Food & Drink Personality of the Year 2003*.

Other winners include celebrated London chef David Thompson, author of this year's winning *Food Book* Thai Food published by Pavilion. Thompson, who developed his skill for Thai cuisine while working as a chef for a Thai Prince, has written an absorbing and encyclopaedic food book which provides an insight into Thailand and its food.

This year's winning *Drink Book*, Africa Uncorked, written by John and Erica Platter and published by Kyle Cathie is hailed as a witty, whacky and insightful exploration of African wineries that provides a great read. The book is more than just another wine book. It is an original collection of colourful stories about people, places and wine, gleaned from the Platter's travels throughout the African continent including Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco, Madagascar and Mauritius, before exploring the jewels of Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, and South Africa.

The coveted *Glenfiddich Trophy* was awarded to drink writer and broadcaster Andrew Jefford, a veteran in the food and drink arena who consistently produces incredible, intelligent, thought-provoking observation pieces, which challenge the readers' and listeners' perception. Jefford was also awarded the Drink Writer and Wine Writer Awards for 2003.



This year's *Glenfiddich Independent Spirit Award* – awarded in recognition of a piece or work or progressive individual or campaign that is thought to have made an outstanding contribution

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towards widening the understanding and appreciation of food and drink in Britain – was picked up by James Pavitt of the National Association of Farmers' Markets, for his role in the establishment and launch of a farmers' market certification scheme, which aims to preserve and protect the ethic of true farmers' markets by identifying those markets that are local producers exclusively selling their own produce directly to the public. The Certification scheme was launched in June 2002.

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

Guests included celebrity chefs and television personalities Antony Worrall Thompson, Gordon Ramsay, Jancis Robinson, Kirsty Wark and Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall as well as a host of UK's leading writers, publishers and broadcasters.

Guests enjoyed Glenfiddich serves created by leading style bar mixologists Alessandro Palazzi of Aurora at the Great Eastern Hotel, Colin Appiah of Fifteen and Daniel Warner from Zander at Bank Restaurant plus champagne from one of the few remaining independent champagne houses, Laurent-Perrier.

Established in 1970, the Glenfiddich Food & Drink Awards honour only the very best writers and broadcasters who find inspiration at the bar, on the menu and the wine list. There are 15 categories covering everything from authors to bar writers, restaurant critics, drink writers and 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 judging panel comprises Fiona Beckett, *Food and Drink Writer*; Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall, *Food Writer and broadcaster*; Dominic Ford, *Restaurants and Food Retail Director of Harvey Nichols*; Peter Gordon, *Chef and*



restaurateur; Ben Reed, *Author and bar consultant* and Caroline Stacey, *Food & Drink editor of The Independent*. The panel chair is Sally Gordon of *William Grant & Sons*, the award-

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winning, independent family owned company and distillers of Glenfiddich Single Malt Scotch Whisky.

www.glenfiddich.com/foodanddrink

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