



PRESS RELEASE

**RUDDING PARK CELEBRATED FOR USE OF REGIONAL PRODUCE AT
DELICIOUSLY YORKSHIRE AWARDS**



4 November 2008 - Rudding Park's Clocktower restaurant has triumphed at the Deliciously Yorkshire Awards winning *Best Use of Regional Produce* in a restaurant or hotel for its innovative Food Heroes campaign.

An evolution of Clocktower restaurant's existing *Yorkshire Selection* dishes, the Food Heroes concept was launched in March 2008 and draws inspiration from a dozen local producers. The campaign includes a new, daily menu offering a choice of four starters, main courses and puddings, each featuring a principle ingredient sourced in Yorkshire within a 100 mile radius of Rudding Park and annotated with the food miles travelled respectively.

The cream of the region's food and drink industry turned out to celebrate outstanding local produce and producers at the annual Deliciously Yorkshire Awards dinner held at Rudding Park, Harrogate on 3 November – a glittering showcase of the very best food and drink that Yorkshire and Humber has to offer.

The prestigious awards, which were established by The Regional Food Group for Yorkshire and Humber three years ago to showcase outstanding produce and celebrate the achievements of producers and suppliers of the very best food and drink in the region, attracted a record number of entries this year, with a panel of expert, independent judges whittling down a record-breaking 172 entries to a shortlist of just 51 producer members across 18 categories. Judging this year involved labelling, transporting and preparing 360 regional products, an independent judging panel of 29 experts, 102 man (and woman) hours spent judging, 2 chefs for 21 hours to prepare the samples and tasting 60 sausages, 7 beers and 18 cakes

Regional Food Group chief executive Jonathan Knight said increased recognition of the awards is commensurate with growing awareness about the Deliciouslyorkshire brand. “The keen interest in this year’s awards reflects not only huge ongoing interest in the outstanding food and drink produced in Yorkshire and the Humber, but also the innovative and skilled producers we enjoy in the region,” he said. “We really are top class.”

BBC Radio 2 resident ‘gastro-gnome’ Nigel Barden was on the panel of independent judges and also co-hosted the awards, a Yorkshire-based wine merchant before starting work in radio, Nigel said: “It was a delight to spend time judging some of Yorkshire’s finest produce and the diversity of ingredients was quite remarkable. I was completely unaware that some of the more exotic ingredients, particularly among the range of vegetables, are now being grown in commercially viable quantities in God’s own county.

“I tasted fine examples of traditional baking and brewing, alongside products which reflect the ethnically diverse make up of the region. There can never have been such a variety of quality fare on offer to Yorkshire folk and those lucky enough to enjoy the fruits of its culinary loins outside its borders”.

Notes to editors:

About Deliciouslyorkshire

Deliciouslyorkshire is the Regional Food Group’s campaigning brand which aims to increase awareness of the fantastic range of food and drink from Yorkshire and Humber. The brand can only be used by companies producing food and drink within the region and enables consumers to source produce of local provenance at-a-glance. Recent research has shown that awareness of the Deliciouslyorkshire brand rose by a massive 81% within the county and 31% nationally over figures for 2006.

The Deliciouslyorkshire winners 2008-9

Deliciouslyorkshire Supreme Product

Sponsor: Proudfoots

Winner: Figit Pie from Andrew Jones Pies

Deliciouslyorkshire Champion 2008-09

Sponsor: Rollits

Judy Bell, Shepherds Purse Cheeses, Thirsk

Prepared meat

Sponsor: Ledgard Jepson

Winner: Heavenly Honey Swaledale Sausage – Yorkshire Dales Meat Company

Fresh meat, game and poultry

Sponsor: The OPM Group

Winner: Rack of Venison – Holme Farmed Venison

Confectionery - including sweets and chocolates

Sponsor: PKF

Winner: Sloe Gin Truffle – Sloe Motion

Fish and seafood - smoked, cured and fresh

Sponsor: Yorkshire & Humber Seafood Group

Winner: Breaded Fillet Goujons – Whitby Seafoods

Prepared food – savoury and sweet

Sponsor: Barlett and Company Ltd

Winner: Figit Pie – Andrew Jones Pies

Drinks - alcoholic, non-alcoholic, tea and coffee

Sponsor: Harrison Goddard Foote

Winner: Wold Top Bitter,- Wold Top Brewery

Fresh produce

Sponsor: Booths

Winner: Roast Vegetable Mix – Stuart's Foods

Dairy

Sponsor: Fresh RM organisers of IFE '09 and Speciality Fine Food Fair, London

Winner: Yorkshire Blue – Shepherds Purse Cheeses

Spices, oils, condiments and preserves

Sponsor: CenFRA

Winner: Aubergine Pickle – Curry Cuisine

Bakery - including bread, cakes and biscuits

Sponsor: Asda

Winner: Organic Bread Mix – J. Stringer and Son

Farm Shop Retailer of the Year

Sponsor: Fosters Bakery

Winner: Balloon Tree, Gate Helmsley

Independent Retailer of the Year

Sponsor: Mumtaz Ventures Ltd

Winner: Ripley Store, Ripley

Best use of regional produce - café/tearoom

Sponsor: Yorkshire Agricultural Society

Winner: Cedar Barn, Pickering

Best use of regional produce - restaurant/hotel/
pub/inn

Sponsor: Yorkshire Agricultural Society

Winner: Clocktower Restaurant, Ridding Park, Harrogate

Deliciouslyorkshire Breakfast Member

Sponsor: Stuart's Foods

Winner: Low Penhowe, Burythorpe

Deliciouslyorkshire Award for Innovation

Sponsor: Yorkshire Forward

Winner: W.S. Bentley (Growers)

About Rudding Park

Rudding Park is independently owned by Simon Mackaness and his family. Over the last 30 years they have carried out a comprehensive programme of improvement and redevelopment, which includes the opening of Rudding Holiday Park in 1978, the renovation of Rudding Park House in 1987 and the subsequent opening of the 50-room hotel in 1997.

The estate also comprises an 18 hole, par 72 golf course set in mature Parkland, complemented by an 18 bay floodlit driving range and Golf Academy. A new development of 18 luxury holiday lodges adjacent to the golf course opened in May 2006 and a par-three six-hole short course opened in April 2008.

For further information on Rudding Park visit www.ruddingpark.co.uk

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