



THE IN OXFORD MAGAZINE
**RESTAURANT
AWARDS
2011**

IN ASSOCIATION WITH VISIT OXFORDSHIRE

P R E S S R E L E A S E

Awards Venue



Awards Host



A W A R D S S P O N S O R

Miele
I M M E R B E S S E R

THE IN OXFORD MAGAZINE
RESTAURANT AWARDS 2011
IN ASSOCIATION WITH VISIT OXFORDSHIRE

AWARDS SPONSOR

Miele
IMMER BESSER



The Feathered Nest © Studio8

1ST IN OXFORD MAGAZINE RESTAURANT AWARDS A GREAT SUCCESS

Well we did it! 248 days after the first meeting was held to look into the possibility of staging the Awards, we pulled it off, not without the extraordinary help of our friends at Malmaison and Oxford Castle, not to mention Miele, our brilliant Committee, wonderful suppliers and our fabulous sponsors. The In Oxford Magazine Oxfordshire Restaurant Awards are, officially, here to stay!

We packed 270 guests into a huge marquee at Oxford Castle, in the Exercise Yard behind Malmaison, and the end product was a stunning sea of red and black tables, which was just incredible.

Special mention to **Zoe Naylor of Miele, Jean-Pierre Morilleau of Oxford Castle** and the **Malmaison A Team of Mark McSorley, John Ryan** (who was co-ordinating the military operation of food leaving the kitchen) and **Suzy Bramfitt** (who held it together front of house). **Chef Russell Heeley** did an unbelievable job making sure we could enjoy a terrific meal and **Suzanne Port** was also an immense help with the preparations.

Guests enjoyed a champagne reception in the A Wing of the former prison, and they were joined by actors from **The Oxford Actors Network** playing the part of prisoners, together with their very own Prison Warden, Mr Mackay! **The Orchestra of St John's** also played at the reception.

The Awards were hosted by **Reya El-Salahi**, a BBC radio and television broadcaster, writer and journalist, originally from Oxford, and **Donald Sloan**, Head of the Oxford School of Hospitality Management at Oxford Brookes University. Donald is also the Chair of Oxford Gastronomica.

Trophies were hand-made using reclaimed or sustainable wood by **Ian Smith, artist in residence at Rycotewood Furniture Centre, Oxford and Cherwell Valley College**. SAE composed music specifically for the Awards.

There were eight categories plus two special achievement Awards. The first of these was presented to **George Dailey of The Bell at Hampton Poyle**. George received his award for Outstanding Contribution from **Alain Desenclos, the Awards Committee Chairman**. It was then Alain's turn to be recognised for his Outstanding Service, and as guest presenter, **Raymond Blanc OBE**, commented before handing Alain his award, "Alain has most probably served every one of you here today." Raymond and Alain were then photographed together as La Marseillaise, the French National Anthem, played in the background.

Biggest winners of the night were **The Feathered Nest** who scooped the top prize of Restaurant of the Year and Best British Restaurant, followed by **Pierre Victoire** who were 'victorious' in the Best European and Public Vote categories – the latter with 488 votes! (over 7,500 votes were cast in total). Zoe Naylor, Financial Controller of Miele, presented the winners with their trophy. A full list of results is provided below.

Special guests presented the Awards alongside each category sponsor. Guests included **Jeremy Mogford** (founder of Browns and Maison Blanc, and owner of The Mogford Group), **Jo Thoenes** (of BBC Radio Oxford), **Raymond Blanc OBE, Robert B. Cook** (Chief Executive

Officer of Malmaison), **Sir John Madejski** (chairman and director of 18 companies including Reading FC and BGP Group), **Felicity Lusk** (Head of Abingdon School), **Martin Keown** (ex Aston Villa, Arsenal and England professional footballer and now television and radio analyst), **Sally Dicketts** (Principal of Oxford and Cherwell Valley College) and **Trevor Osborne** (developer of Oxford Castle and Chairman of The Trevor Osborne Property Group).

Malmaison hosted the event and **Head Chef Russell Heeley** masterminded the unenviable task of feeding his peers but, with the help of **General Manager, Mark McSorley, John Ryan, Suzanne Port, Suzy Bramfitt** and a team of over sixty staff, ensured that Malmaison were deserving of the utmost praise from all of those in attendance. Category sponsors included **FN Foods, Brakspear, Blueprint, JACK fm, Bean Bags** and **B4 Magazine**.

New Foliom Marquees and **Beautiful Chair Covers** were instrumental in creating a stunning scene for the guests and the event was co-ordinated by **Tina Rosser of TERA Events**. Local suppliers also included **Blueprint, City Audio Visual, Oxford Event Hire, Studio 8** and **SAE. The Oxford Actors Network, Illuminate, The Oxford Wine Company, Guylian, Stones the Printers, PrestoPrint, and Tamara Taboas** also played significant parts in ensuring the Awards were a success.

The independent committee who were responsible for deciding the winners of each category, were as follows: **Susi Golding** (Visit Oxfordshire); **Julie Archer** (Meet Oxfordshire); **Jacquie Bugeja** (Oxfordshire Registration Service); **Donald Sloan** (Oxford Brookes); **Daren Bowyer** (Pembroke College); **David Gambier** (Great Experience Travel); **Mark Taylor** (Darbys) and **Mark Ritchie**.

Macmillan Cancer Support were the beneficiaries of the raffle which included the star prize generously donated by **Baglioni Hotels** – two nights at The Relais Santa Croce in Florence.

Event organiser, **Richard Rosser**, Managing Director of The In Oxford Group, commented, "We couldn't have hoped for a better first year. There was a huge amount of work to undertake to make sure that we established a great platform for the Awards to continue long into the future. We have received an amazing flood of compliments about the Awards, which is down to everyone involved. It was certainly a team effort!"

Entry details for the 2012 Awards can be found here: www.inoxford.com. To keep in touch sign up to the www.inoxford.com e-Newsletter, or follow @inoxfordawards or @inoxford on Twitter.

WINNER OXFORDSHIRE RESTAURANT OF THE YEAR 2011

WINNER 2nd Place 3rd Place



WINNER PUBLIC VOTE CATEGORY

WINNER 2nd Place 3rd Place



WINNERS BRITISH CATEGORY

WINNER 2nd Place 3rd Place Finalist Finalist



WINNERS REST OF THE WORLD CATEGORY

WINNER 2nd Place 3rd Place Finalist Finalist



WINNERS ASIAN CATEGORY

WINNER 2nd Place 3rd Place Finalist Finalist



WINNERS PUB & BAR CATEGORY

WINNER 2nd Place 3rd Place Finalist Finalist



WINNERS REST OF THE EUROPE CATEGORY

WINNER 2nd Place 3rd Place Finalist Finalist



WINNERS EXPRESS CATEGORY

WINNER 2nd Place 3rd Place



TESTIMONIALS

"Both Amanda and myself are overjoyed with having bestowed upon The Feathered Nest not only "The Best British Restaurant" award but also the much coveted "Oxfordshire Restaurant Of The Year" award. This is especially rewarding considering that we only opened our doors in early June last year! I would like to thank all our staff without whom this would not have been possible. These awards are a reflection of their hard work and dedication to "The Nest". I also wish to take this opportunity to thank you, all our customers and friends, for supporting us over the last year. And last but not least, we like to thank Richard and his team at Inn Oxford Magazine for organising this prestigious event and his panel of esteemed judges for choosing us as the ultimate winners."

Tony Timmer – The Feathered Nest, Winners Best British and Oxfordshire Restaurant of the Year

"On behalf of Miele, I would like to thank you and your superb team at B4 for organising such a professional event last night. Staff members/partners and customers all feedback positive comments. Special thanks to your events manager/wife, Tina Rosser, for managing the event with such precision. I was particularly pleased that the Miele Logo was behind all the official prize winners photographs. I have personally spoken to Simon Grantham, our MD today, to notify him that the event was a success for our brand and a valuable opportunity to discuss business with some key local businesses and personalities."

Zoe Naylor – Financial Controller, Miele, Overall Awards Sponsor

"It was a pleasure to be a part of the inaugural Oxfordshire Restaurant Awards and I can only see the event going from strength to strength. Congratulations to the winners and I look forward to seeing a strong challenge mounted for Awards success in 2012 by all Oxfordshire restaurants."

Raymond Blanc, OBE, Guest Presenter

"I just wanted to write and thank you for your invitation to the inaugural In Oxford Magazine Restaurant Awards 2011. I think you did outstandingly well and I congratulate both you and Tina for all the enormous effort that I know you put in. Congratulations and well done and thank you so much for your warm hospitality."

Sir John Madejski, Guest Presenter

"Richard the Evening was a GREAT success and well themed - 10/10. An excellent idea I am sure it will now live on for many years. A big well done to Tina & yourself."

Kieran Lynch – Oxford Event Hire, Equipment Sponsor

"What a great night! I had a brilliant time, thank you for inviting me, and so exciting to see so many passionate and positive people under one roof."

Jo Thoenes – BBC Radio Oxford, Guest Presenter

"Thank you for a very enjoyable evening and the successful launch of the Oxfordshire Restaurant Awards. I am sure Monday night will be the first of many years of successful annual award dinners to which I look forward to attending. Congratulations and all best wishes and thanks from Barbara and myself."

Trevor Osborne – Oxford Castle, Guest Presenter

"We would have had a lovely time even if we hadn't won but getting an award was the icing on the cake, so thank you on both fronts! As the Feathered Nest said on BBC Oxford this morning, it really is a boost for all the staff and we're duly delighted for them to have been so celebrated."

The evening worked really well and looked terrific - well done to you and all your team."

Matt Lebus – Cibo, Winner Rest of the World category

"It was good to meet you on Monday evening and be part of a great evening."

From my point of view, and my colleagues on our table, we thoroughly enjoyed the evening and felt it ran swimmingly. It was superb to be part of the inaugural event."

Matt Tilsley – Regional Manager, South Midlands Marstons Beer Company

"What a great way to showcase Oxfordshire – well done."

Susi Golding – Visit Oxfordshire, Committee Member

"Really well done for last night. All went well from where we were! The venue looked fantastic and lots of details had been considered. I hope everyone else had as good an evening as our group did. Once again, a big thank you."

Martin Matthews – Blueprint, Sponsor Rest of the World category

"The Oxford Wine Company is delighted to have been involved in sponsoring the inaugural In Oxford Magazine Restaurant Awards which have obviously been a huge success and look forward to supporting the event in the future."

Ted Sandbach – The Oxford Wine Company, Wine Sponsor

"I'm sure my email to you today is just one of many congratulating you (& your good lady wife of course!) on the event last night; I'm confident that was a very successful start to what promises to be a very successful annual event for years to come, well done to you all. Kind regards and well done again."

Jamie Baskeyfield – General Manager, New Theatre, Guest

"The Awards provided us with an opportunity to meet new clients and entertain existing customers in a unique location where one of our coffees was served on the menu. Well done to the organisers for coming up with a new concept that embraces business to business development."

Mike Graham – Bean Bags Coffee, Sponsor British Category

"Thank you for your e-mail.. It is nice to know all our efforts were appreciated and recognised.. I must admit when I stood back after working so hard on all the flowers I had a lump in my throat as it looked more stunning than I had visualised. I'm very glad you liked it and it was what you had in mind. Tina was a delight to work with and it helped so much with her knowing exactly what she had in her head of how she wanted it all to look."

Sam – Beautiful Chairs, Sponsor Express Category

PHOTOGRAPHS



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To see all the pictures from the Restaurant Awards please use the links below.

Studio8 Award Nomine Photos : www.flickr.com/photos/b4magazine/sets/72157627557853065/
 Awards Photos : www.studio8.me/restaurantawards2011
 These images are available to purchase directly from Studio8. See: www.studio-8.co.uk

Tamara Taboas Awards Photos : www.flickr.com/photos/b4magazine/sets/72157627552627729/
 These images are available to purchase directly from Tamara. See: www.tamarataboas.com

Jessica Howell Award Nomine Photos : www.flickr.com/photos/51873804@NO2/sets/72157627519890918/
 These images are available to purchase directly from Jessica. Call: 01865 742211.

SPONSORS

Miele - AWARDS SPONSOR

Miele GB was established in 1963 when Karl Heinz Wedekind was entrusted by Rudolf Miele to set up a sales and marketing subsidiary in Great Britain. Originally operating with a small staff from offices in Great Portland Street, the company moved to larger premises in Acton in 1972 and, in 1981, to its current purpose-built offices in Abingdon.



FN Foods - sponsor Rest of Europe category

The FN Foods 3P's: P- People P- Passion P- Products FN Foods is a family run business which started with one van, one man and a lot of enthusiasm three years ago with a family background covering 35 years in the catering industry. In January 2011, FN moved into a brand new warehouse with over 1000 sq ft, state-of-the-art systems and the latest specification fridges. Many of FN Foods' suppliers are local farmers in Oxfordshire.



Brakspear - sponsor Pub or Bar category

Following the closure of the Brakspear Brewery in Henley on Thames in 2002, Wychwood was committed to bringing the brewing of Brakspear back to Oxfordshire. After a £1 Million redevelopment of the Wychwood Brewery site, the Brewery now incorporates a separate brewhouse and fermenting room. Much of the original Brakspear equipment from Henley was used, including the famous 'Double Drop' fermenting system used to brew Brakspear beers since 1774.



Blueprint - sponsor Rest of the World category

Blueprint Imaging offers a comprehensive range of exhibition graphics, display services and photographic printing. Our full in-house facilities enable us to offer anything from desktop displays, to fully installed exhibitions.

Based in Witney, our reliable and competitive service makes us first choice for all your exhibition, display and signage requirements.



JACK fm - sponsor of the Public Vote

106JACKfm and glide fm1079 are Oxfordshire's only 100% local radio stations, broadcasting 24 hours a day from our Woodstock Rd studios. JACKfm targets adults over 35 whilst glide fm targets females under 30. In less than 4 years the stations have become the UK's most awarded local radio stations, receiving over 25 industry national and international accolades.



Bean Bags Coffee - sponsor of British category

At Bean Bags we have a unique relationship with our coffee roasters, enabling us to supply ethically-sourced, sustainably-produced, bespoke coffees to suit our customers' individual needs. We also supply and service coffee machines. Locally-based, our customers across the region benefit from our excellent product knowledge and high standards of customer service. Going the extra mile to ensure high customer satisfaction is all part of the Bean Bags service.



Oxford Event Hire - Equipment sponsor

Oxford Event Hire was established in 2000 to provide catering equipment for a wealth of events. With a vast quantity of stock, we provide everything required for any function, including; tables, chairs, crockery, cutlery, fridges, freezers, BBQs and hog roasters - even chocolate fountains, popcorn and candy floss machines! Oxford Event Hire have developed a first class reputation for its products, service and reliability, and pride themselves on customer service.



Beautiful Chair Covers - sponsor Express

Beautiful Chair Cover Hire was an idea that has been 6 years in the making. Whilst owning a small linen hire business, founder Chris Clinkard noticed how many brides were spending lots of time and money on decorating their chosen wedding venue.

With this years high profile Royal Weddings, the team at Beautiful Chair Covers have noticed a big upsurge in the demand for their services.



SPONSORS

Stones - Programme sponsor

Established 1826 in Banbury Oxfordshire, Stones the Printers have a long and distinguished history in the printing industry and remain firmly in front today operating an extensive and sophisticated sheet-fed plant servicing many market sectors 24 hours a day 7 days a week. With our unique blend of client service experience, leading edge technology and award winning quality, we offer an exciting approach from a trusted team. www.stonestheprinters.co.uk



B4 - sponsor Asian category

B4 Magazine was launched five years ago to give Oxfordshire's businesses the opportunity to showcase themselves to a wide audience of business decision makers. With a 140 page magazine, 350 website members and quarterly events at prestigious locations attracting in excess of 200 local businesses, B4 is the business network that everyone is talking about. B4 is Oxfordshire's business platform, on line, in print and face to face. To find out more, visit www.b4-business.com.



Studio 8

Studio 8, an exciting creative hub in the heart of Oxfordshire. This well known and respected photographic business of 8 years boasts an enviable track record and repeat client base to match. Renowned for photography, Studio 8 continues to reinvent itself in line with client needs, now offering a full mix of creative services including photography, hd video, design and print management.



City Audio Visual

City Audio Visual is a professional and specialist provider of audio visual equipment. We provide for all live events, conference and presentation needs, and we also specialise in the installation of Board Rooms, Training Rooms and Lecture Theatres.



New Folium

New Folium Marquees produce beautiful covered spaces for any event throughout Oxfordshire and the home counties. Marquees allow the flexibility to create the interior you want within the surroundings you choose. By listening to our clients and working closely with them, we are able to realise their ideas whilst making the most of their budget.



Guylian

The romantic history of Guylian, the world's favourite Belgian chocolates, began in the late 1950's with the marriage of Guy and Liliane. The couple combined their names to form Guy-lian and developed Guylian's signature hazelnut praline recipe. Ever since, Guylian's iconic seashells have been loved throughout the world. Based in Sint-Niklaas, Belgium, today Guylian is sold in over 100 countries. See www.guylian.co.uk.



The Oxford Wine Company

Named Best Independent Retailer and Wholesaler in the UK 2011 by Harpers Magazine, The Oxford Wine Company is a well known multi award winning independent wine merchant. We focus on quality and value for money and have an extensive list of more than 1500 products and a large number of highly trained staff, 5 of whom hold the WSET Diploma, the industry's top qualification excepting the extremely rare Master of Wine, which one of our sales team is sitting at the moment.



BLINK Design & Print - Print Designer

Yes We Event Design and Print Stuff Too!
With some great clients, most notably Oxford Castle who have us (well, actually it's Keith) to thank for their great print and website designs, don't forget to think of us if you're planning a new website or need a fresh look. We like to think we're competitive when it comes to design and print.... and reliable! So give us a try. We did do this lovely programme after all so you know what we're capable of!





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