

DAVID AND GOLIATH BATTLE AT ICONIC NATIONAL FOOD AWARDS

Rob Rees - The Cotswold Chef - will be attending the 35th Glenfiddich Food and Drink Awards in London on Monday 15th May as a shortlisted finalist with Jamie Oliver and Gordon Ramsay in the category of "Best TV Food programme of 2005".

Rob who worked with BBC Points West on a regional programme called "Eat the West" last Summer will compete against the big celebrity chefs of Channel 4 who have the programmes "Jamies Great Escape" and "Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares" as finalists.

Rob says " To have made it to such prestigious awards as a finalist is fantastic. Jamie and Gordon are such national icons and I am delighted that the team effort, by myself and the BBC Points West, has been recognised. We will fly the flag for the South West as best we can and, hopefully, come home as winners. Our programme dealt with food issues affecting every community in our region. I'm going to enjoy the evening, we know we are underdogs but its going to be great fun."

35 Years of the Glenfiddich Food & Drink Awards

It's 35 years since the Glenfiddich Food & Drink Awards were inaugurated.. Since then, the Glenfiddichs have become the major event in the food and drink calendar, the gastronomic equivalent of the Oscars.

The awards themselves have multiplied over the years to reflect the growing importance of food and drink in the public consciousness and now celebrate the finest writing, publishing and broadcasting on the subjects of food and drink. The expansion of the awards to the present dozen reflects the authority and respect, which the Glenfiddichs now command. Indeed, a dust jacket boasting a 'Glenfiddich Awards Winner' does wonders for sales - ask any publisher.

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