



Press Release

29 September 2009

The Queen's Head near Llandudno named AA Pub of the Year Wales



Photo caption (l-r): Natasha Kaplinsky, host of the AA Hospitality Awards; Robert Cureton, proprietor; Sally Cureton; Rupert Miles, CEO of AA Publishing

The Queen's Head near Llandudno at Glanwydden, Conwy, North Wales received nationwide recognition last night when it was named Pub of the Year Wales at the AA Hospitality Awards 2009 - 2010. The AA, celebrating the best in hospitality for over 100 years, held the glamorous black-tie ceremony, hosted by Natasha Kaplinsky, at the London Hilton on Park Lane.

Robert Cureton, proprietor of the Queen's Head, received the award in front of a high profile audience of 700 members of the hospitality industry, including world-renowned 'celebrity' chefs, prominent hoteliers, hospitality gurus and key industry media, he said: "Winning the AA Pub of the Year for Wales is a marvellous accolade and a great achievement for which all our staff can be very proud indeed. We will continue to provide first class hospitality, delicious food and fabulous service and to be passionate about what we do. Thank you AA."

The Queens Head is a gastronomic pub acclaimed not just for its food and wine but also for its character and the welcome diners receive. It dates back to 1790 and was originally the wheel maker's (Wheelwright) Cottage.

AA Hotel Services Group Area Manager Giovanna Grossi said: "We selected The Queen's Head as Pub of the Year for Wales because the current proprietors and their team have over 27 years, built up an excellent reputation with both locals and visitors alike for excellent food, traditional ales, good wines and friendly service at this unique gastronomic pub."

The AA Hospitality Awards recognise and reward the excellent services provided by the UK's very best establishments and launches the 2010 AA guides to UK hotels and restaurants.

This year, guests were treated to a sensational three course gourmet meal prepared by three of the industry's most highly esteemed chefs - Eric Chavot, Chris Galvin and Gary Rhodes - in conjunction with the Hilton Park Lane kitchen team. The guests also enjoyed a special performance by *Britain's Got Talent* winners Diversity.

Selection is made based on overall excellence and the specific achievements throughout the previous year. Other AA Hospitality Awards 2009 – 2010 winners were:

AA Hotel Group of the Year – **von Essen hotels**

AA Small Hotel Group of the Year – **Exclusive Hotels**

AA Hotel of the Year Wales - **Penmaenuchaf Hall Hotel, Snowdonia National Park**

AA Restaurant of the Year Wales - **Y Polyn, Carmarthenshire**

AA Wine Award Wales - **The Bell at Skenfrith, Skenfrith - Monmouthshire**

AA Chef's Chef of the Year Award – **Marcus Wareing**

AA Lifetime Achievement Award – **Raymond Blanc OBE**

AA 5 Rosette – **Restaurant Sat Bains, Nottingham**

AA 4 Rosette – **Hibiscus, London; The Connaught Hotel, London; and The Latymer at Pennyhill Park Hotel & Spa, Bagshot**

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For more information about the AA Awards go to www.AAHospitalityAwards.com

For more information about The Queen's Head go to www.queensheadglanwydden.co.uk

Notes to editors:

The AA has been recommending and acknowledging hotels since 1908, and last year celebrated 100 years of excellence in the hospitality industry. The AA Hospitality Awards covers the finest pubs and all AA-inspected and recommended hotels and restaurants. These accolades are presented in

recognition of all-round excellence, unfailing standards and outstanding service, as well as acknowledging the vital role played by those individuals who work to maintain the highest of standards within the industry.

AA Publishing produces a series of lifestyle guides, covering every aspect for planning leisure pursuits - from hotels, pubs, B&Bs and restaurants, to days out, golfing, caravanning and camping, or family and pet friendly accommodation – the guides feature over 14,000 inspected, selected and recommended establishments, offering the UK traveller an unparalleled choice of places to stay, eat, drink or play a round of golf in England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland and the Channel Islands.

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