

CHEFS TO PROVIDE TRUE TASTE OF WALES AT ROYAL WELSH SHOW

Immediate: July 18, 2007

The best food and culinary skills in Wales will be showcased at next week's Royal Welsh Show in Llanelwedd.

A programme of culinary skills demonstrations and product tasting opportunities is being arranged in the ITV Wales Pavilion at the show to promote quality Welsh food.

From Monday to Thursday, chefs from the Welsh National Culinary Team will be in action, cooking with award-winning products from Wales as part of the Welsh Assembly Government's True Taste programme.

Team manager Graham Tinsley from the Castle Hotel, Conwy and Nant Hall, Prestatyn, vice captain Nick Davies and junior team coach Arwyn Watkins from Cambrian Training Company and junior team member Dafydd Sharpe from The Brigands Inn, Mallwyd, Machynlleth will be among the chefs displaying their talents.

Visitors to the pavilion will be able to sample dishes and products and pick up a leaflet telling them where to find the True Taste award-winning Welsh food and drink products on the showground.

Officials from the Welsh Culinary Association will meet John Griffiths, AM, Deputy Minister for Education, Culture and the Welsh Language, at the ITV Pavilion on Monday afternoon to discuss a proposed Welsh National Chef Project.

The focus on Tuesday will be skills on the world stage as Wales begins to prepare for the World Skills Olympics in London in 2011. Young Welsh speaking chef Dafydd Sharpe will give a televised demonstration using True Taste products.

Dafydd will be competing with other young chefs from Wales for a place in the British team for World Skills Olympics, which is held every two years and includes around 40 different vocations.

The cooking demonstrations continue on Wednesday and Mr Tinsley will take centre stage on Thursday with a presentation on what it takes to compete with the Welsh National Culinary Team on the world stage. The team is already preparing for the Culinary Olympics in Germany next year.

During the show, Welsh food producers will be encouraged to enter the prestigious True Taste Awards 2007.

Ends

For more information please contact Arwyn Watkins, Welsh Culinary Association, on 01938 555893 or Duncan Foulkes, public relations consultant, on 01686 650818.