

WELSH CULINARY ASSOCIATION

# DOUBLE OLYMPIC CHAMPIONS TO BATTLE FOR THE DRAGON IN WALES

**Immediate: October 30, 2007**

Top chefs from Wales face a massive challenge to retain the Battle for the Dragon trophy at the Welsh International Culinary Championships next February.



**Peter Jackson, Welsh Culinary Association chairman – “honour to welcome Swedish and Italian teams.”**

The Welsh National Culinary Team face the ultimate test against double Culinary Olympics champions Sweden and Italy in the contest, which will be held between February 12-14 at Coleg Llandrillo Cymru, Rhos-on-Sea, Colwyn Bay.

Sweden have won the last two Culinary Olympics in Germany and defend their title again in November next year. Wales is currently ranked equal seventh in the world with Scotland, whilst Italy are 10th and have recently won the Kremlin Cup in Moscow.

The three countries will do battle in a Restaurant of Nations hot kitchen competition, each being allocated three hours to produce a mouthwatering three-course meal for 90 people under the supervision of a panel of international judges.

The contest, which is sponsored by the Welsh Assembly Government and Hybu Cig Cymru, is endorsed by the World Association of Chefs' Societies (WACS) and run over three days. It was introduced for the first time two years ago, when Germany beat Wales and France.

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The Welsh International Culinary Championships, which are organised by the Welsh Culinary Association (WCA), are sponsored by the Welsh Assembly Government to promote the food and drink industry brand 'True Taste'. The championships at Coleg Llandrillo Cymru are open to the public free of charge from 9am to 4pm each day.

Designed to celebrate the nation's culinary skills and food, the championships are packed with exciting competitions, including the National Chef of Wales Final on February 12.

Delighted WCA chairman Peter Jackson said it was real coup to attract the national culinary teams from Sweden and Italy to Wales. He explained that the Olympic champions were very selective about the competitions they enter.

“It will be an honour to welcome both teams to Wales and a great challenge for the Welsh chefs, who will need to be at their best to retain the Dragon trophy,” he added. “This is a fabulous opportunity for the people of Wales to see the Olympic champions in action and to sample their dishes.”

Due to popular demand, tickets are already on sale for lunch over the three days at Coleg Llandrillo Cymru, when diners will be able to sample the culinary delights served up by the three teams.

Lunch costs £29 per person with a reduction to £27.50 when booking for all three lunches with Jane Cater, events manager at the college, on Tel: 01492 542 305 (office hours) or e-mail [j.cater@llandrillo.ac.uk](mailto:j.cater@llandrillo.ac.uk). All diners will receive a commemorative Villeroy and Boch Hotwave mug.

Mr Jackson said tickets for the lunches would make an ideal Christmas gift for the person who has everything.

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For more information about the Battle for the Dragon contest and the Welsh International Culinary Championships visit the Welsh Culinary Association's website at [www.welshculinaryassociation.com](http://www.welshculinaryassociation.com)

The Welsh team is sponsored by the Welsh Assembly Government, C&C Catering Equipment Ltd, Brakes, Unilever Foodsolutions UK, Catering Engineers (N.W.) Ltd, Hybu Cig Cymru/ Meat Promotion Wales, Gourmet Classic Ltd, Villeroy and Boch, Friedr. Dick, Germany and Snowdonia Cheese Company.

**Ends**

**For more information please contact Peter Jackson, Welsh Culinary Association chairman, on 01766 780 200 or Duncan Foulkes, public relations consultant, on 01686 650818.**