

New TV Series Commissioned for 'Best Chef', Neven Maguire

Top audience figures achieved for current TV series 'Neven's Food from the Sun'

[18 May 09] Having achieved top audience figures with his first TV series 'Neven's Food from the Sun', RTE has commissioned a second series with Neven Maguire. Maguire was announced 'Best Chef' and 'Celebrity Chef' at the first Irish Restaurant Awards last Wednesday where his MacNean House and Restaurant also received 'Best Restaurant' and 'Best Customer Service' in Ulster.

Currently being broadcast on RTE 1 and soon to feature on UKTV Food and in New Zealand, Maguire's current 'Neven's Food from the Sun' television series has achieved an excellent audience of 325,000 on average per episode. His next TV series will be based around his upcoming Harper Collins book, "Home Chef", due for publication this autumn. Shooting for the television series in Neven's own home kitchen in Blacklion as well as throughout Ireland will begin in August.

"I'm thrilled to have the opportunity to work on a second series", says Maguire. "I am so proud of the team at MacNean Restaurant and what we have achieved in my home town of Blacklion. The food is only one part of the dining experience and winning the best customer service in Ulster was just wonderful for my wife Amelda and the team."

Maguire's books have previously sold over 100,000 copies and 'Home Chef' will be his 6th recipe book published over the last decade. Employing over 20 people at his award-winning MacNean House & Restaurant, Neven is a long-time promoter of using seasonal, local produce at his restaurant, adding a real boost to the local economy as well as bringing extra trade and filling additional B&B beds when his guest house is full.

Joining Maguire and his wife Amelda at a special 'thank you' dinner hosted by the chef last night at his MacNean House & Restaurant to celebrate the new series were Gay Byrne and Kathleen Watkins, Mary Kennedy, who worked so successfully with Neven on Open House, and singer Eleanor Shanley. Neven and his team served a specially created tasting menu for the fifty five diners who joined in the celebrations.

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