

10 August 2009

CURRY LOUNGE CELEBRATES TWO YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF KITCHEN NIGHTMARE

Today (August 10) marks the anniversary of the momentous occasion when iconic celebrity chef Gordon Ramsay arrived in Nottingham in 2007 to help the Curry Lounge restaurant change its fortunes.

The Curry Lounge was the first ever Indian venue to take part in the hugely popular Channel 4 series, Kitchen Nightmares, resulting in the episode being watched by 5.6 million viewers, and subsequently being shown around the globe.

Restaurateur Arfan Razak (also known as Raz) took Gordon's comments in his stride, and as a result, has been winning a plethora of national awards and praise from curry-aficionados since.

"As Gordon wasn't able to return to our city in April for the one-off programme originally organised by the production company, we thought it would be fitting to hold a two-year anniversary celebration in his honour," commented Raz.

"Organisation is under way with the Sikh Union Nottingham Hockey & Social Club, which has accepted our challenge for a cricket re-match and barbeque – something that we all immensely enjoyed back in August 2007, including Gordon!"

Since the show, Raz and the Curry Lounge team have achieved franchise status, with a venture spanning across the continents, as well as a fully booked cookery masterclass itinerary and a number of corporate events in the diary, not to mention their recent triumph of breaking the world-record for the tallest poppadom stack.

Ctd/...

Page 2/...

Raz said: "Gordon's advice was invaluable to turning the business around. He established that for us to succeed, we had to produce authentic regional cuisine, instead of serving up such an extensive menu. He also made me personally realise that organisation and communication is key – I have a lot to thank him for."

For more information on the family day-out Cricket Barbeque 2009 at the Brian Wakefield Memorial Ground on Nottingham's Lenton Lane, visit www.sikhunion.com (the date is to be confirmed).

Ends

About the Curry Lounge:

Promising traditional Indian and Punjabi cuisine freshly cooked to order, The Curry Lounge has been praised by the toptable Top 100 Dining Awards 2009 as one of the top 10 restaurants that offers the best value meals when dining out in the UK.

Having opened the first Curry Lounge restaurant in Nottingham in 2007, the brand has gone from strength-to-strength since its appearance on Gordon Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares series.

Restaurant owner Arfan Razak (better known as Raz) is the brainchild behind Curry Lounge Ltd, and has set up a franchise venture that reaches right across the globe. It's this entrepreneurship that got Raz noticed when he came in the top five of the Midlands Business Awards' Entrepreneur of the Year category in 2008.

The Curry Lounge has also been voted Best Indian Restaurant East Midlands 2008 by the Customer Excellence Awards in recognition for the quality of the food, service and authenticity.

Located in Nottingham's city centre, The Curry Lounge caters for dinner, corporate events and special occasions. Visit www.currylounge.co.uk for more information.

For more information please contact:

Emma Finden-Crofts
Account Manager
BCS Public Relations
Tel: +44 (0)155 948 6901
Email: emmaf@bcspr.co.uk

Ctd/...

Picture caption:

Arfan Razak, owner of the Curry Lounge, with Gordon Ramsay.

