

## PRESS RELEASE

Father Christmas came early to Hansa's Restaurant of Leeds, bearing a gift that dreams are made of for any restaurateur. He came in the guise of Pat Chapman, the founder and editor of the Cobra Good Curry Guide, which is the definitive guide of the Indian Restaurant Industry. The Lord Mayor of Leeds Rt. Hon Cllr. Tom Murray, himself a vegetarian (although he eats fish), The High Sherriff of West Yorkshire Mrs. Virginia Lloyd (a devout fan of Hansa's since it opened back in 1986) and Nick Miles (Jimmy King from Emmerdale) were present to witness the owner Mrs. Hansa Dabhi receive the award for being The Best Indian Vegetarian Restaurant in UK, nominated by the thousands of diners reporting back to Pat Chapman. How cool is that! Of the 9000 Indian restaurants in the UK only



1000 make it to his guide and only 20 of them are given the top award for being Best in the region and The Best overall.

"Being nominated the Best Indian Vegetarian Restaurants in the UK is the icing on top of my Christmas Cake," said Chef Hansa Dabhi, "To receive such an accolade from such a prestigious food guide is what every restaurateur dreams of. It is achieved mainly thanks to my hardworking staff and my loyal customers who have supported me and encouraged me for over 27 years. We get recognised because we



serve good wholesome Gujarati vegetarian home-cooking, which our customers keep coming back for. I'm very proud to say that over 80% of our regular customers are non-vegetarians who keep coming back because they enjoy what we serve at Hansa's", she said. "I honestly feel that to get such an accolade is a tremendous milestone for a self-taught cook. Who would have thought that one day a little Indian girl, who was forced to immigrate from Uganda back in 1972, would one day become an award winning chef, run her own cookery classes,

take people on tours to India and be a cookery writer in her own right?" "This could only have happened in Yorkshire because the people here are so kind, supportive and have given me unbelievable encouragement to keep me going for all these years. So a BIG THANK YOU to all of you, particularly who have made my dream come true. Although I'm a devout Hindu, I now believe in Father Christmas too. He comes to ones who are hard-working, dedicated and passionate about their dream."

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