

FOOD & DRINK



Time for MAINS

As the heat gets turned up on the preparations for the Hertfordshire Food And Drink Awards, we finish our round-up of the various categories.

With almost as many runners as the Grand National, the Best Restaurant Of The Year category will be the most contested.

With voting closing tomorrow, the 32 candidates for the gong will be hoping for a last-gasp push to see them to victory.

One of the hopefuls is Lussmanns, in Fore Street, Hertford, and its owner is determined not to let any recognition cause complacency.

Andrei Lussmann said: "Lussmanns was developed as a restaurant I wanted to eat in and what we do is very much what I like.

"I am very grateful to all our patrons who appreciate what we offer, proud of what we've achieved as a team and delighted to be nominated for Restaurant of the Year.

"However, I'm very aware that, like all restaurants, you're only as good as your last meal, so we will continue to avoid complacency and continue to seek feedback from diners on how we can improve."

Manager of The Wellington, in Welwyn, Bruno Le Coze, told the *Mercury* that he did his utmost to ensure anyone could leave satisfied.

He said: "We have got classic dishes, but we can also be quite creative with our dishes - so if you are a foodie or if you want something more traditional, there should be something for you.

"We want people to understand that we are passionate about food and serious about what we do - but we are a village restaurant with a very relaxed atmosphere.

"It would mean the world to win. As the manager, I would love for the chef to win the award for his hard work, but whatever happens, we are happy."

Visit hertsfoodanddrinkawards.co.uk to vote for

any of the following nominees:

- Hermitage Road, Hitchin
- Francesco's, Tring
- Le Moulin, Wheathampstead
- Sword Inn Hand, Westmill
- The Fox and Duck, Therfield
- The Old Chequers, Gaddesdon Row
- Galos, Hertford
- Salisbury Arms, Hertford
- Gangnam Korean Restaurant, Stevenage
- Lussmanns, Hertford
- The Pig & Truffle, Welwyn GC
- The Grandison, Bramfield
- Kippings Bistro, Wheathampstead
- Casa Lua, Ware
- Loch Fyne, Hertford
- Manolya, Ware
- The Thai Rack, Royston
- The Gables, Newgate Street Village
- The Alford Arms, Frithsden
- The Fox & Hounds, Hunsdon
- The Sea Tree, Ware
- The Three Tuns, Ashwell
- New Mexico, Sawbridgeworth
- Il Vino, Hitchin
- Mevan, Hitchin
- West Lodge Park, Hadley Wood
- Bar Meze, St Albans
- L'Olivo, Wheathampstead
- Gladleys Courtyard Brasserie, Stevenage
- The Wellington, Welwyn
- Radcliffe Arms, Hitchin
- Zero Ristorante Pizzeria, Ware

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9 sales - 01992-468-619. countrysidepromotions.co.uk
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Entrance £2/head, under 16 free, free car park.

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Contact marianmmurphy@hotmail.co.uk

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