



28<sup>th</sup> September 2010

## **Boath House in Nairn, Highland named AA Hotel of the Year Scotland**

Boath House beat off stiff competition last night when it was named Hotel of the Year Scotland at the AA Hospitality Awards 2010, hosted by Penny Smith at the London Hilton on Park Lane.

Wendy Matheson, Owner of Boath House, who received the award in front of an audience of over 700 members of the hospitality industry, commented, "It may be an often used and hackneyed phrase, but without our amazing staff and some very experienced and helpful AA inspectors we would not have achieved this award!"

Located in one of the finest Georgian houses in Scotland, Boath House offers inviting lounges, striking, sumptuous and individually styled bedrooms with many fine antique pieces, and a wonderful dining room overlooking the garden and Trout Lake. The passionate and "hands on" owners have the enviable ability to establish a special relationship with each and every one of their guests that is both genuine and memorable, making the hotel a real delight to visit.

AA Hotel Services group area manager Giovanna Grossi said: "We selected The Boath House as AA Hotel of the Year for Scotland because we felt that this delightful hotel offers the ultimate package; sumptuous bedrooms and bathrooms, top notch dining and a passion for great hospitality and service from "hands on" owners Don and Wendy Matheson. The result is a unique place to escape to in a stunning setting."

Attended by world-renowned chefs, prominent hoteliers, hospitality gurus and key industry media, the AA Hospitality Awards recognise and reward the excellent services provided by the UK's very best establishments and high achieving individuals, and launch the 2011 AA guides to UK hotels and restaurants.

This year, guests were treated to a sensational three course gourmet meal created by five AA Rosette-awarded chef Marcus Wareing in conjunction with the Hilton Park Lane kitchen team, as well as a special performance by multi-million record selling and twice-Brit Award winner Heather Small, formerly of M People.

Selection is made based on overall excellence and the specific achievements throughout the previous year. Other AA Hospitality Awards 2010 – 2011 winners were:

AA Hotel of the Year England - **Lucknam Park Hotel & Spa, Colerne, Wiltshire**  
AA Hotel of the Year Wales - **The Imperial Hotel, Llandudno**  
AA Hotel of the Year London - **The Royal Horseguards, London**  
AA Restaurant of the Year England - **The Harrow at Little Bedwyn, Marlborough, Wiltshire**  
AA Restaurant of the Year Scotland - **The Peat Inn, Fife**  
AA Restaurant of the Year Wales - **The Hardwick, Abergavenny, Monmouthshire**  
AA Restaurant of the Year London - **Galvin La Chapelle, London**  
AA Wine Award England (sponsored by T&W Wines) - **Hambleton Hall, Oakham, Rutland**  
AA Wine Award Scotland (sponsored by T&W Wines) – **The Kitchin, Leith, Edinburgh**  
AA Wine Award Wales (sponsored by T&W Wines) - **Fairyhill, Reynoldston, Swansea**  
AA Pub of the Year England - **The Black Swan at Oldstead, Oldstead, North Yorkshire**  
AA Pub of the Year Scotland - **The Sun Inn, Eskbank, Edinburgh**  
AA Pub of the Year Wales - **The Swan Inn, Little Haven, Haverfordwest**  
AA Chef's Chef of the Year (sponsored by Caterer.com) - **Martin Wishart**  
AA Small Hotel Group of the Year (sponsored by beacon) - **Apex Hotels**  
AA Hotel Group of the Year – **Marriott Hotels**  
AA Eco Hotel of the Year (sponsored by British Gas Business) - **The Scarlet, Cornwall**  
AA Eco Hotel Group of the Year (sponsored by British Gas Business) – **Elite Hotels**  
AA Lifetime Achievement - **George Goring OBE**

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For images, interviews and further information, please contact the AA Press Office

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#### **Notes to editors:**

##### **About the AA Hospitality Awards**

The AA has been recommending and acknowledging hotels since 1908, and in 2008 celebrated 100 years of excellence in the hospitality industry. The AA Hospitality Awards recognise the achievements of the finest AA recommended hotels, restaurants and pubs. These accolades are presented in recognition of all-round excellence, unfailing standards and outstanding service, as well as acknowledging the vital role played by those individuals who work to maintain the highest of standards within the industry.

**About AA Publishing**

AA Publishing produces a series of lifestyle guides, covering every aspect for planning leisure pursuits - from hotels, pubs, B&Bs and restaurants, to days out, golfing, caravanning and camping, and family and pet friendly accommodation. The guides collectively feature over 10,000 inspected, selected and recommended establishments, offering the UK traveller an unparalleled choice of places to stay, eat, drink or play a round of golf in England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland and the Channel Islands.