

#### For Immediate Release

# World Gourmet Summit International Masterchef Ian Curley Gives Back At **Singapore Soup Kitchen**

Australia-based chef volunteers with Chef Lucas Glanville, the Executive Chef of Grand Hyatt Singapore and Prime Society's Head Chef, Dallas Cuddy at Willing Hearts to help prepare close to 3,500 meals for the



[L-R] WGS Hosting Chef Lucas Glanville (Executive Chef, Grand Hyatt), International Masterchef Ian Curley, Willing Hearts Vice-President Charles Liew and Hosting Chef Dallas Cuddy (Head Chef, The Prime Society)

27 March 2014 (SINGAPORE) - Non-profit community organisation Willing Hearts had extra pair of hands today as world-renowned Chef lan Curley spent the morning in their soup kitchen, helping the team of dedicated volunteers prepare close to 3,500 meals for the underprivileged in Singapore. Chef Curley was joined by Grand Hyatt Singapore's Executive Chef Lucas Glanville and the Head Chef from premium Steakhouse The Prime Society, Dallas Cuddy. All three Chefs are part of this year's 18th World Gourmet Summit. Chef Curley, a champion of similar initiatives in Melbourne, Australia, and a close friend of both Chef Glanville and Chef Cuddy rallied the gentlemen to take part in this charitable cause close to his heart.







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Chef Curley, a guest chef on Australia's Masterchef program and an ambassador for Jamie Oliver's Ministry Of Food in Australia, together with Chefs Glanville and Cuddy, joined the Willing Hearts volunteers in the kitchen at the Cideco Building on Genting Lane, where every day up to 3,500 hot meals are prepared lovingly from scratch and distributed to the needy in Singapore, including the elderly, adults and children. The organisation was founded in 2005 by Mr. Tony Tay, his wife and a group of nine fellow parishioners from the Church of St. Michael, and is today run by up to 70 volunteers who commit their time in the kitchen whenever they can.



WGS International Masterchef lan Curley (Front) and Grand Hyatt Executive Chef Lucas Glanville (Back)



WGS International Masterchef Ian Curley (Left), The Prime Society Head Chef Dallas Cuddy (Centre) and Grand Hyatt Executive Chef Lucas Glanville (Right)

Speaking after his morning at Willing Hearts, Chef Curley said, "It's a privilege to be able to volunteer here at this incredible organisation and support this amazing team of volunteers, day-in, day-out. As an advocate for similar initiatives in Australia, I wanted to spend my time wisely when in Singapore for the World Gourmet Summit, not only with the events lined up over the next week but also getting in touch with the community at all levels and helping out wherever I can. It was even more special with Chef Glanville and Chef Cuddy joining me and sparing their time for this incredible cause."

Chefs Curly, Glanville and Cuddy were introduced to Willing Hearts by a partner organisation, ONE (SINGAPORE), which works to raise awareness of social issues and eliminate poverty both locally and overseas. "This partnership between the World Gourmet Summit and Willing Hearts is a great example of how companies can apply their core competencies to make a positive contribution to the community," says ONE (SINGAPORE) President Nichol Ng. "Food issues are close to our heart and we take our hats off to Chefs Curly, Glanville and Cuddy for taking time to volunteer and share their expertise, despite very hectic schedules."

Charles Liew, Vice-President of Willing Hearts, said, "We consider every volunteer a blessing, and were very happy to hear that an international chef such as Chef Curley and his friend, Executive Chef of the Grand Hyatt, Lucas Glanville, made time to spend with us at Willing Hearts to help in our mission to help prepare daily meals to the underprivileged, needy, and marginalised members of our society. Chefs Curley, Glanville and Cuddy have been an incredible help here today. More importantly, we hope that their time with us this morning will help to spread the word of what we are doing and to inspire others in Singapore and beyond to volunteer their time for those less fortunate, even if it is just a few hours a week."





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Mr. Peter Knipp, CEO of Peter Knipp Holdings, parent company of World Gourmet Summit organisers A La Carte Productions, said, "Food and water are perhaps the most critical elements for our survival. As a former Chef, I absolutely loved preparing meals for my guests, be it for their special evening or a simple night out. When I prepare a meal now, I still know it makes a difference and means something to those close to me."

"The work done by Charles and his team at Willing Hearts is simply incredible. Charity is a big part of what we do, specifically our annual World Gourmet Summit Charity Dinner which has raised over S\$5 million over the years. What Chef Curley, Chef Glanville and Chef Cuddy have done today is admirable. We are proud of these three Chefs and their dedication to helping the community," said Mr. Knipp.

Chef Curley was full of praise for the Willing Hearts volunteers. "I've only been able to spend a morning here, but together with Chefs Glanville and Cuddy, we were blown away by these wonderful folks at this kitchen led by Charles. It was incredibly heart-warming for us to see people giving up their time for those around them, and I would encourage everyone to find the time to spend even just a few hours here whenever they can," said Chef Curley.

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High-resolution images are available for download at tinyurl.com/WillingHeartsWGS

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#### **About Willing Hearts**

Willing Hearts is a 100% volunteer-based non-profit organisation, registered as a society, with a vision of improving the lives of the underprivileged and marginalised by providing them with daily meals, and helping them to become useful members of society. Founded in 2005, the organisation operates a soup kitchen, preparing, cooking and distributing 3,500 meals across Singapore every day.

Would-be volunteers can visit the Willing Hearts website at www.willinghearts.org.sg/volunteer to find out more on how they can help.

#### **About the World Gourmet Summit**

The World Gourmet Summit is an international gastronomic extravaganza organised by À La Carte Productions (a division of Peter Knipp Holdings Pte Ltd), supported by the Singapore Tourism Board (STB), and presented by Citibank. The World Gourmet Summit will celebrate its 18th anniversary in 2014.

An annual epicurean festival that showcases the intricate craftsmanship of prestigious chefs; it is also an exposition of internationally acclaimed vintners. Encompassing a series of dazzling events like the vintner dinners and celebrity dinners, it is a gourmet spectacular specially crafted for discerning individuals who appreciate fine wines and gourmet cuisine.

Since 2000, the World Gourmet Summit has been raising funds through its annual Charity Dinners in support of the Community Chest, the fund-raising arm of the National Council of Social Service (NCSS). The charity dinners have raised over S\$5 million (approximately U\$3.9 million) with the generosity of its distinguished guests through table sales, charity auctions as well as donations.

www.worldgourmetsummit.com

#### **ORGANISERS**

#### **About A La Carte Productions**

A La Carte Productions, a division of Peter Knipp Holdings Pte Ltd, is an independently owned events company, which provides events planning, conceptualisation, and execution services. The annual gastronomic extravaganza - World Gourmet Summit held from March to April each year, and the Awards Of Excellence, the leading and most comprehensive F&B platform in Asia, which recognises and motivates talents to excel in the F&B industry and promotes the appreciation of dining in Singapore and the region.

#### **About Peter Knipp Holdings Pte Ltd**

Peter Knipp Holdings Pte Ltd (PKH) offers a multi-faceted range of services for the food, beverage (F&B) and hospitality industry. Founded in 1996 by Peter A Knipp, the multi award-winning company has grown over the years to include four independent companies, encompassing various aspects of the F&B and hospitality businesses: A La Carte Productions, an events management which provides events planning, conceptualisation, and execution services at the annual gastronomic extravaganza – World Gourmet Series which includes Awards Of Excellence (http://www.wgsawards.com), World Summit Gourmet (http://www.worldgourmetsummit.com), Gourmet Abu Dhabi (http://www.gourmetabudhabi.ae); Food2Print Pte Ltd which publishes Cuisine & Wine Asia magazine, newsletter at http://www.asiacuisine.com, and provides marketing communications consultancy services; and Bytes Asia Pte Ltd, IT consultancy.



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