

# Dee Whooley & Punch Tavern go for British Comfort Food - Tuesday 26th May 09'

Submitted by: The Punch Tavern

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"Mustard is no good without roast beef" (Chico Marx)

Building on his success at London pub, The Punch Tavern on Fleet Street, Head chef Dee Whooley has taken time to assess the current climate and customer needs to produce a menu to suit.

Comfort food well cooked, is what the customer can expect at the beautiful, historic and welcoming Punch Tavern. Despite being located in the heart of the City of London, the team at the Punch roast their own meats and hams and make their own pies, burgers, salads, chutneys, terrines and puddings.

Dee is a Londoner, born and bred in Waterloo, a stone's throw from the Punch, where he has had particular success claiming the titles of 'Best Food Pub in London' 2008 Morning Advertiser, 'Food Manager of the Year' 2008 Pub Chef magazine and 'The People's Choice' 2008 for British Pie Week.

Dee Whooley has been well received in London in the past as Head chef at places such as The O'Conor Don, The Lexington and 190 Bistro. He has been fortunate to work with the likes of Richard Corrigan and Mark Emberton however he claims that it was his grandmother and her home cooking that first inspired his passion for British food.

"Freshly prepared food, cooked on the premises is very important as it gives our customers the home-cooked meal experience that they can't find at a chain! Comfort, service and value for money - without compromising on standards - is what our customers are looking for today." says owner and manager, Sunnil Panjabi.

Sunnil is an experienced operator having managed Le Petit Blanc Brasseries in Oxford, Cheltenham and Birmingham; Chez Gerard Opera Terrace and Charlotte Street; Chutney Mary and Veeraswamy and the Atlantic Bar and Grill.

The Punch Tavern team have been honoured with a number of awards including:

- 'Love Your Local Competition – Top 4 finalist for London's favourite pub' 2008 Stella Artois
- 'Best Tenanted/Leased Pub in London' 2008 The Morning Advertiser
- 'Catering Pub of the Year' 2006 The Publican
- 'Best After Work Bar' 2006 City AM

Excerpts from a 2009 survey of Punch customers are attached.  
Menus and photographs can be requested via email.

For further information please contact:

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Excerpts from a 2009 survey of Punch customers

Love the brilliantly friendly staff, proximity to our office (30 metres), snacks, fire, atmosphere, everything. Hate that we have to work occasionally and can't be in more often.

The most cosy, relaxing pub in the area serving great food each day - every week and charming staff. A place where you feel comfortable taking friends /clients. Knowing there will always be a good and varied selection of dishes to choose from. Excellent I just love it! This is the opinion of a person who rarely visits pubs normally.

I love the Punch - great atmosphere, and fantastic staff. You get the impression they genuine value their customers, which is sadly a rare thing!

It's nice to find a proper pub in the days of the hideous 'All-Bar-One' type chains. Keep up the good work!

Love the friendly staff, the beer is always cold, the wine always well chosen. The atmosphere is always good, feels like you are among friends in there. Also down to the clientele as well - lots of after work bars are full of assholes but the Punch never seems to be.

I love the Punch. The people are awesome, the food is great and the venue is unique. It's definitely top of its game for me in this area. It gets too crowded and there are too many suits but you can't do anything about that : )

Atmosphere is always great and staff are attentive and tend to remember you if you come in regularly, which does make a lot of difference. Beautiful place to spend an evening.

Great atmosphere, great service and great staff. It's a really friendly place. Best pub in London!