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NEWS

Dorset food lovers to feature on ITV show Hungry Sailors

3:00pm Friday 20th January 2012 in

By Harry Hogger >

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A HOST of Dorset food lovers are to appear on a new television series.

ITV programme Hungry Sailors features Celebrity Masterchef finalist Dick Strawbridge and son James as they sail around Britain on a pilot clipper and check out the best local food and produce on offer.

Those featuring on the programme, which will be shown next Tuesday, January 24, include Quiddles cafe on Portland and the Watercress Company based at Waddock Cross, near Dorchester.

Quiddles owners Matt Baldwin and Steve Hall welcomed the pair into their acclaimed beachside cafe to cook a giant seafood dish.

Managing director of the Watercress Company Tom Amery said the Hungry Sailors' appearance was the second time the firm had featured on the small screen this year after Michael Portillo visited their farm in Arlesford in Hampshire on the BBC Two programme Great British Railway Journeys.

Mr Amery said: "We had a good run last year. Everyone wanted to come and see us. It's exciting."

Mr Amery and watercress farmer Tim Jesty welcomed Dick and James Strawbridge to the farm and were rewarded with an invitation back to the pair's boat to try a host of local ingredients.

He said: "They came to us at the watercress farm and on the next day we went to Weymouth Harbour and they did a lot of filming on their boat. We sat on the boat with other producers and all had a bit of a chat and a bit of food.

"It was a good day and they were interesting characters."

Mr Amery said the reputation of watercress as a 'superfood' was behind the interest in the plant at the moment.

He said: "There is a huge amount of interest in watercress at the moment because of its health benefits.

"Watercress has been featuring a lot in the press because of research that is being unearthed about its cancer fighting properties as well as its general health benefits."

Lyme Regis cheesemonger Justin Tunstall and Simon Bennett of the Watch House fishmonger, also feature in the show.

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Dick Strawbridge, right, and son James, second left at Quiddles at Chesil Cove with Matt Baldwin, second right, and Steve Hall, left

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