

# Haute quizzine

## We give Celebrity Masterchef finalists a grilling

**Sam Nixon, 29**  
Children's TV presenter

**What would you cook to impress at a dinner party?**

I'd do a pasta dish with sticky toffee pudding and ice cream. I hope it would be a winner.

**Is there anything you'd never cook again?**

I am not good with offal. I have never attempted to cook anything like that and I think I will steer clear. Things like black pudding... being a northern lad you would expect me to like it but it is too rich for me.

**Best thing you've ever eaten?**

Before she was my wife I took my girlfriend to Gordon Ramsay's restaurant in Chelsea for her 21st. It was the first time we'd ever been anywhere like that and it was absolutely incredible. I tried pigeon for the first time and we still talk about that meal.

**What is your worst culinary disaster, either on the show or at home?**

At Wimbledon I cooked a massive tray bake of treacle sponge pudding. It looked amazing out the oven but it was completely raw in the middle and we couldn't actually serve it. I thought I was a goner.

**Who are you closest to out of the other contestants?**

Us three finalists got on ridiculously well. We set up a Whatsapp group and were messaging each other and still are now. I think they will be friends for life.

**“On my wife's 21st we went to Gordon Ramsay's... so incredible that we still talk about it**

**Who is your favourite chef?**

For me, Jamie Oliver. I was a young lad when I first saw him on The Naked Chef and he showed that cooking was cool and for guys as well. He was the whole reason I started cooking. I am a huge fan.

**Ultimate cooking ambition?**

My ambition every year is just to cook Christmas dinner at home. We're back in my home town of Barnsley and I love doing that. Potentially I could do a children's cookbook.

**What is the strangest thing you have ever put in your mouth?**

We were working with Heston Blumenthal's pastry chef and the dish I had was chicken custard. You expect it to taste like something else.

**On death row, what would your final meal be?**

A mixture of a roast and a Christmas dinner, so I would probably have lamb with mint sauce, but with Yorkshire puddings and all the trimmings like pigs in blankets.

**COOL** Sam in Dancing On Ice



**FINAL COUNTDOWN** The trio with judges John Torode and Gregg Wallace

**EXCLUSIVE**  
BY MARK JEFFERIES

**THEY'VE** have been steaming up the kitchen for weeks in a highly enjoyable season of Celebrity Masterchef.

But after yesterday's elimination of EastEnders star Scott Maslen, tonight's the night for Kimberly Wyatt, Rylan Clark and Sam Nixon. Whose three-course

meal is going to impress John Torode and Gregg Wallace the most in a three-way battle for the coveted crown?

Today all three contestants talk us through their cooking experiences and their high and lows in the hottest kitchen on TV.

■ **Celebrity MasterChef - The Final**, is on BBC1 at 8.30pm tonight.

mark.jefferies@mirror.co.uk

**Kimberly Wyatt, 33**

Former Pussycat Doll

**What would you cook to impress at a dinner party?**

I'd do a barbecue. I have a great rub for meats so I like to smoke food in my kitchen. I'd serve ribs and salmon with sweet potato fries and broccoli mash.

**Best thing you've ever eaten?**

A tough question but one dish does stick out - the truffle pasta at Cecconi's in London. I love truffles and pasta is my naughty dish I have on my cheat days, so it is two of my favourite ingredients put together at a beautiful restaurant - a match made in heaven.

**What is your worst culinary disaster, either on the show or at home?**

At home I was practising and everything that could go wrong did go wrong. I burnt my crumble, I burnt myself on the stove and I have the scar to prove it. It just sort of ended up in tears. It went better on the show. I did burn myself once but in the most part I was happy with the outcome.

**What are your fears for the final?**

My main worry is overdoing it. I have already cooked my best and now I have to prove myself even more, which is tough.

I just want to win so bad. I am worried I will push myself too much and ruin it. I don't want to do anything too complex that means so many steps and so many ingredients that I shoot myself in the foot.

**Who are you closest too out of the other contestants?**

Rylan is in the same heat at the beginning so it has been incredible to share the whole experience with him.

**GLAM** Kimberley at the Mobo awards



**Who was the most helpful, John or Gregg?**

At first I thought it was Gregg, and John was really intimidating. But as it went on John was really helpful and offered lots of advice, so he was the most helpful. John really made me prove myself from the first dish, he thought it was wacky so it became about impressing John. He is super super honest.

**Ultimate cooking ambition?**

To keep cooking and learning from other experts. I am flying over to New Jersey on Sunday to see family. Once I tell them about my

**“Everything that could go wrong did go wrong... I burnt my crumble & myself**

**Rylan Clark, 26**

Big Brother host, ex- X factor hopeful

**What would you cook to impress at a dinner party?**

I would cook what I did in the heats - a spinach tagliatelle, butter chicken breast and make my own bruschetta. I feel confident cooking it, so I could relax and have some drinks.

**Is there anything you would never cook again?**

Fish. Don't like it - it judges me. Don't cook it, don't eat it, don't talk to it.

**Best thing you've ever eaten?**

In Ibiza there was this place - it's not there no more but their Pad Thai noodles, I literally flew to Ibiza just to eat them.

**What was your high point of the series?**

I am the person that went on MasterChef and made a Happy Meal.



**LIFE OF RYLAN** On Big Brother

**“I don't like fish... it judges me. Don't cook it, don't eat it, don't talk to it**

**What is your worst culinary disaster, either on the show or at home?**

A month before I went on MasterChef I was messing around in the kitchen and I saw Nigella Lawson making a Meatza - it was a pizza but instead of the usual base, it was made of mince. It sounds lovely but it ended up looking like a

s\*\*t burger and it tasted like a foot.

**Who are you closest too out of the other contestants?**

Definitely Kimberly because we have been together since day one.

**Who was the most helpful, John or Gregg?**

What are they really like?

Originally John, but then Gregg really warmed to me. I was really frightened of both of them.

They want you to do well but I don't think that always comes across. The only time you see them is when they are cooking on assignment.

They don't come backstage or anything to speak to you - they are like Simon Cowell is on X Factor. And you don't get through on your personality - you get through on your food.

**What is the strangest thing you have ever put in your mouth?**

How dirty do you want me to go? I've put a lot of things in my mouth. I think sheep's brain... me and Louis Walsh had to do a Bushtucker trial for Text Santa and it was wrapped in pastry. It was vile but we raised £100,000.

**KITCHEN COUSINS**  
Kim, Rylan and Sam have become good pals on show

