

**Press Release**

**Immediate issue: 6 June 2017**

**COELIAC UK TO HOST FIRST GLUTEN FREE FOOD FESTIVAL IN SALFORD  
WITH COOKING DEMO BY TV PRESENTER CHRIS BAVIN**

Coeliac UK, the largest independent charity for people living gluten free, will be hosting its first ever gluten free food festival on 24 June in Salford with special guest Chris Bavin doing a cooking demonstration.

The event is free to attend – but you must register for tickets in advance - and takes place from 11am – 3pm at the AJ Bell Stadium. Visitors will have the chance to sample and buy a whole range of gluten free delights from local and national gluten free producers and see what new products are available.

Special guest, TV presenter Chris Bavin said: “I am thrilled to be doing a cookery demonstration at Coeliac UK’s first Gluten free food festival in Salford. My wife has coeliac disease and so I’m looking forward to meeting and chatting to people who are coming along on the day and will no doubt pick up ideas of new products and tips to take back home.”

There will be over forty stands from bakeries to breweries including the event sponsors, Genius and Crabbie’s Alcoholic Ginger Beer.

In addition visitors will be able to book a face to face meeting with a registered dietitian in a free dietetic clinic, visit the Coeliac UK Hub, listen to specialist talks led by leading Gastroenterologist Professor David Sanders and watch a range of cookery demonstrations hosted by Coeliac UK’s Home Economist. The day will include a round up from Coeliac UK and their annual general meeting.

Register at <https://gffoodfestival.eventbrite.co.uk> for entry tickets and to redeem a free goodie bag which will be given out at the end of the festival. To find out more about the day’s events and up to date exhibitor listing go to [www.coeliac.org.uk/foodfestival](http://www.coeliac.org.uk/foodfestival).

Coeliac UK is the national charity for people who need to live without gluten. For most people living gluten free, they must do so for life as this is the only treatment for coeliac disease, a serious autoimmune condition caused by a reaction to gluten, a protein found in wheat, barley and rye. People diagnosed with coeliac disease must maintain a strict gluten free diet for the rest of their life if they are to avoid very serious complications such as osteoporosis, infertility and although rare, small bowel cancer.

Ends

For more information or interviews please contact  
Kate Newman [kate.newman@coeliac.org.uk](mailto:kate.newman@coeliac.org.uk) or tel: 07952 071014

#### **Notes to editor**

- Coeliac disease is a serious illness where the body's immune system reacts to gluten found in food, making the body attack itself.
- 1 in 100 people in the UK has coeliac disease
- Average time to diagnosis is 13 years.
- 1 in 4 people diagnosed with coeliac disease had previously been diagnosed with IBS.
- Gluten is a protein found in wheat (including spelt), rye and barley. Some people are also sensitive to oats. Obvious sources of gluten include breads, pastas, flours, cereals, cakes and biscuits. It is often used as an ingredient in many favourite foods such as fish fingers, sausages, gravies, sauces and soy sauce.
- Coeliac UK has a Helpline on 0333 332 2033 and further information can be found at [www.coeliac.org.uk](http://www.coeliac.org.uk)