

24 hours with... Jang Hussain

Jang Hussain is the owner and manager of the renowned Mango House restaurant in Magor. Newport born and bred, Jang has recently opened a second restaurant on Westgate Street in Cardiff. He lives at home in Newport with his wife Aliyah and their three young daughters.

'I usually wake up relatively late on a weekday, at about 7.30am. The morning begins with helping my wife Aliyah around the house. We have three daughters, with our youngest one just 14 months old, so the morning rush does tend to get a little hectic sometimes! After dropping our eldest two daughters off at school, I often go to the gym for a quick workout. Working in the hospitality industry means that I have more free time in the day than most, but evenings are a different story.

My afternoons are divided between our two Indian restaurants in Cardiff and Magor. Whilst the Mango House in Magor was established ten years ago, the new restaurant in central Cardiff only opened at the end of last year. Managing another restaurant has certainly added to my daily workload! Stock checks and ordering, confirming reservations and coordinating staff schedules must all be undertaken each day in order to ensure that service runs smoothly and that we maintain the high standards which our customers expect.

At the moment the Mango House in Cardiff is also taking part in the capital's annual Indian Food Festival, which runs throughout the month of March. As part of the festival, the Mango House has organised a number of exclusive events highlighting numerous elements of traditional Indian culture, which inevitably takes a great deal of time to plan.

By mid-afternoon, I always try to return home for an hour or two, so that I can spend time with my family. Then it's straight back to the Mango House in either Cardiff or Magor to greet our evening diners. The majority of our clientèle are regular customers, so I enjoy spending time chatting with them and making sure they are satisfied with the food and service. A typical evening will usually end at around 11.30pm, although the hours are obviously longer at the weekend.

By the time I get back home at around midnight, I'm usually ready to collapse! Six hours' sleep is generally sufficient to see me through until the next day, although with a 14-month old baby this is often sacrificed! When I do have a day off, I enjoy relaxing with my family and friends and catching up with the local newspapers.'