

Sam Mensah, Managing Director, Uncle John's Bakery

Baking up a storm

Did you know West Green Road is home to the number one Ghanaian Sweet Bread company in the UK, Uncle John's bakery? The reputation of this Haringey baker is growing by the day with a growing number of loyal customers across the UK and far beyond.

Arriving at the bakery I'm met by Sam Mensah, the Managing Director who explains how Uncle John's Bakery has built up an international reputation as London's number one West African baker. While we talk about Uncle John's a steady stream of customers greet Sam by name and exchange good wishes – a sure sign of the respect that Uncle John's is held in by the local community.



Uncle John's Bakery entrance



Uncle John's Bakery in store

How did Uncle John's start off and why is it based in Haringey?

"My parents established Uncle John's over 20 years ago. When they first moved to the UK they were looking for Sweet Bread but what they found wasn't as authenic and tasty as what was made back in Ghana. So they started baking in Stoke Newington and then started looking for a small shop to work from and moved to West Green Road, Haringey and we've have been here ever since."

How did you get the deal to sell your products in Tescos?

"Tesco's saw a lot of people loved our products and they asked us to work with them. They found people really enjoyed what we made and come back for more. Now Uncle John's pastries and breads are sold all over the UK and Europe."

What is the next step for Uncle John's bakery?

"It is to carry out our mission to bring Ghanaian baked goods to the mass market. We want everyone to enjoy Ghanaian baking! We want to continue our growth and expand into the major supermarkets, stores, hotels and restaurants."

What so special about Haringey?

"This is a great place to be based we couldn't of thought of a better place to open our first shop. The Haringey community are so warm and friendly and have supported us over these last 20 years. There is so much diversity here and we draw our inspiration from the people, we also sponsor a local youth team within Haringey by supplying them with their football kits. We've had opportunity to leave but so much of our history is from this area and it would not be the same."

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