



Local baker named Best Artisan Producer in prestigious competition

by Laura Donnelly

ISEULT Janssens, from Newcastle picked up two awards at the recent Blas na hÉireann Irish Food Awards, for her newly-opened business, The Cake Stand.

In business for just a year now, Iseult produces French-style desserts, cupcakes, tarts, macaroons and wedding cakes in her commercial kitchen at the back of her house and supplies them around the country.

Iseult travelled to Dingle, County Kerry for the ceremony, where she picked up a silver medal in the Confectionary Category before being named Best Artisan Producer.

Commenting on the awards, Iseult said: "I thought I was just nominated for one award, I had no idea about the second one. It was a huge award to receive, I couldn't believe it, I was over the moon.

"I'm a one-woman-show here, I take the

orders, bake the products, and deliver them. My family is very supportive, they help out when I have a lot of deliveries and I couldn't do it without them.

"I trained in Paris and worked in bakeries and restaurants while I was over there, but when I came back home I tried a couple of places but couldn't find anywhere that did the kind of French-style cakes that I love. I didn't want to spend the rest of my days making apple tarts so I said I'd set up my own business!"

Iseult's macaroons are stocked in six locations across the country, including The General Store at The Village at Lyons in Celbridge.

To find out more visit www.thecake-stand.ie.

Pictured left: Artie Clifford, chair of the Blas Awards, Una Fitzgibbons, An Bord Bia, Iseult Janssens (The Cake Stand), and Peter Ward, Patron of the Awards.