# Gloria Hunniford departs mid-episode of Celebrity Great British Bake Off due to illness



Celebrity Great British Bake Off experienced an unexpected disruption when beloved presenter Gloria Hunniford, aged 85, had to exit the show mid-episode due to feeling unwell. Host Alison Hammond addressed the viewers before the judging commenced, sharing, “Before we start the judging we should mention the fact that Gloria is not here, she is not feeling very well but she wanted us to carry on anyway.”

Gloria was participating in the Stand Up to Cancer edition of the show alongside fellow contestants including actor Jim Howick, 45, who was later crowned Star Baker for the week, as well as Jamali Maddix, 33, and Ellie Goldstein, 23. Hunniford had prepared a distinctive 'magician cake' to honour her late father, who was a member of the magic circle. This cake was an egg-free four-layer chocolate confection, infused with golden syrup and vanilla filling.

Despite Gloria's absence during the final round, presenter Noel Fielding provided commentary on her cake, while judge Paul Hollywood remarked, “I like the concept. The concept is being executed really well.” In a light-hearted moment, Alison added, “Such a shame Gloria wasn't feeling very well and wasn't able to tell the story.”

Hunniford has previously spoken about her motivations for participating in the series, citing her personal loss. She expressed, “Unfortunately, I lost my daughter to cancer. To lose a child is the worst thing that can happen to you... It’s very tragic when you lose that child.” She highlighted how giving back has been a healing process for her. “Giving something back has a wonderful mending process because you are giving back in the name of the person you loved, who you do love, and have lost,” she shared.

In a previous edition of the show, Kate Garraway was also acknowledged for her baking skills, having been crowned Star Baker after impressing the judges, including earning a coveted handshake from Paul Hollywood. The television audience witnessed her disbelief when she received the accolade. “What?”, Garraway exclaimed, stunned by the news, before joyfully adding, “I can't believe it! It's the best day of my life.”

The Celebrity Great British Bake Off is known for blending heartfelt stories with culinary competition, featuring hosts Alison Hammond and Noel Fielding alongside judges Paul Hollywood and new judge Caroline Waldegrave. The show continues to garner attention as it balances the challenges of baking with the personal narratives of its participants.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)