

# **Food Wine**

**Saturday, 1 November 2008**

## ***Hayfield Manor Hotel***

Cork is special when it comes to good food and celebrations, and Hayfield Manor Hotel is bound to be an atmospheric affair. Secluded in gardens near University College Cork it has a country house feel yet it's just a mile from the city centre. After shopping for those last-minute pressies, guests begin with a recuperative afternoon tea on Christmas Eve, before getting into the spirit of Christmas with carol singers, and candlelit dinner. After evening services, return for mulled wine and warm mince pies. Children are especially welcome; the family focus means a traditional Christmas lunch (with pianist playing old favourites) and the day progresses gently with time for a stroll or traditional board games. Things liven up the following morning with late jazz brunch before it's time to get out and about, or use the residents-only spa.