

News & Views

WHAT'S HOT AND WHAT'S NOT IN THE WORLD OF FOOD



Get peeling

CELEBRITY CHEF Mark Hix is on the search for a new dessert that uses the Bramley apple. So get thinking and submit your ideas to www.bramleyapples.co.uk or Bramley Campaign's Facebook group.



THE FRANCE SHOW 2011

14-16 January Earls Court, London, from £13 (£10 in advance)

In celebration of all things Gallic, this exhibition showcases the very best of French culture. With wine tasting theatres to help you choose with confidence and over 50 stalls with gourmet foods to try and buy, any Francophile will feel right at home. www.thefranceshow.com

HAMPSHIRE POTATO DAY

29-30 January Testbourne Community Centre, Micheldever Road, Whitchurch, Hampshire

Start planning your potato planting at the Hampshire Potato Day. Expect talks, planting and growing advice, over 140 varieties, a potato seed swap, competitions and much more. www.potatoday.org

THE WORLD'S ORIGINAL MARMALADE AWARDS & FESTIVAL

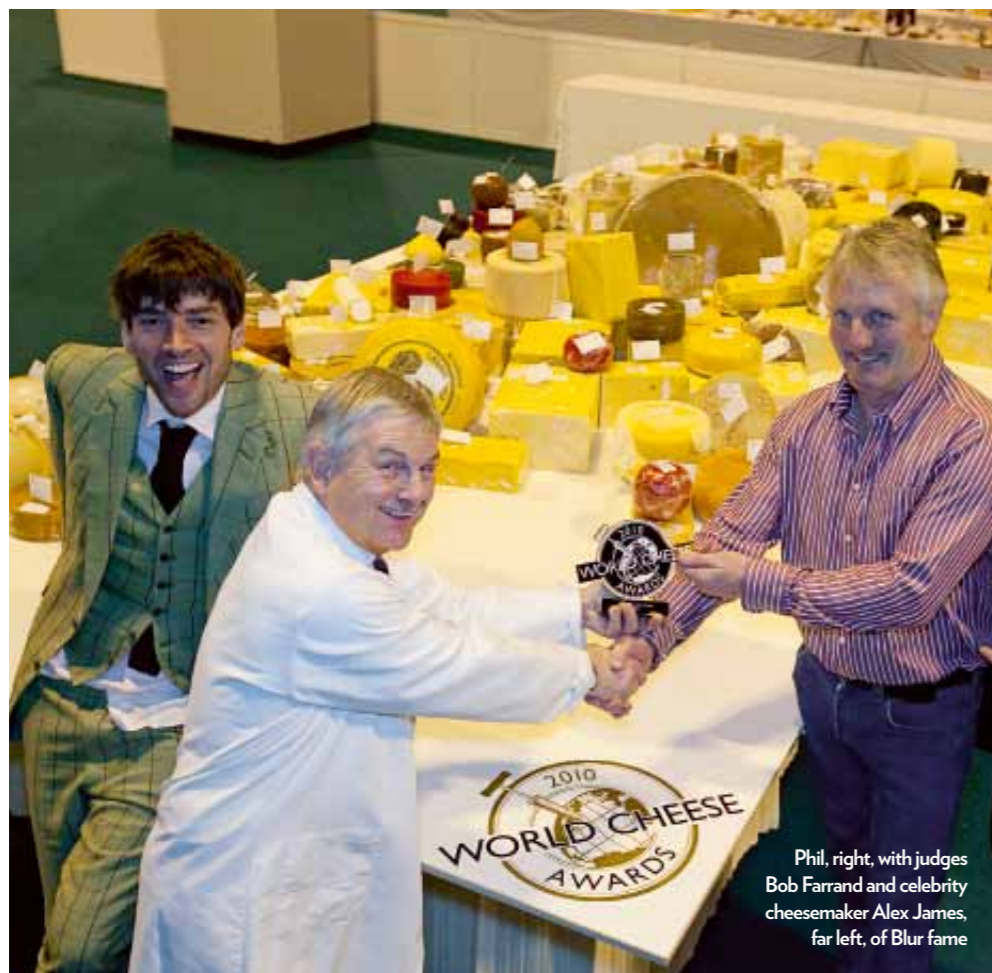
12-13 February Dalemmain House & Gardens, Dalemmain, Penrith, Cumbria
Brighten up the bleak midwinter with a visit to the Marmalade Festival in Cumbria. There'll be a marmalade concert, lecture, tastings, workshops and the marmalade competition. www.marmaladefestival.com

RYE BAY SCALLOP FESTIVAL

12-20 February The cold winter months are prime time for scallops and other shell fish, and at the Rye Bay Festival you'll find special tasting menus, cooking demonstrations and more. www.ryebayscallops.co.uk

LOVE CHIP WEEK

14-20 February Vote for your favourite chips, whether from a takeaway, pub or restaurant and nominate them for the Golden Chip award. www.lovechips.co.uk



Phil, right, with judges Bob Farrand and celebrity cheesemaker Alex James, far left, of Blur fame

Say cheese

HE'S ALREADY won a string of awards for his Cornish Blue, made from the milk of Holstein Friesian Cross cows. Now it's a big hand from **FANCY** to Phil Stansfield from Liskeard in Cornwall as he's just beaten 2,600 other entries, from 26 countries, to claim the top prize in the

2010 World Cheese Awards – the world's largest international cheese competition. We love this delicate cheese, that's made to be enjoyed young, and you can sample it too, by buying online, direct from Phil, for delivery in the UK. £12.99 for ½ kilo in a gift box. Visit www.cornishcheese.co.uk for more details.



Introducing... Cocoa House

FED UP WITH the standard coffee house chains? **FANCY** cheers the arrival of The Cadbury Cocoa House and its nostalgic menu of knickerbocker glories, tea cakes, Welsh rarebit and chocolate drinks, including choco'tails. Modelled on John Cadbury's first shop of 1824, the three sweet-toothed entrepreneurs have ambitious plans to open an impressive 10 more Cocoa Houses this year. But if you're at Bluewater Shopping Centre near Dartford in Kent, you can pop in and drool over this, their first chocolate emporium. You'll find all-day desserts, afternoon tea (with either hot chocolate, tea or champagne) and a variety of chocolate cocktails await. Visit www.cadburycocoahouse.com for more details.

Everyone's doing it!



MAKING JAMS, chutneys and jellies. If you've never tried it, catch Master Preserver Clippy (aka Michelle McKenna) on her nationwide tour, Preserving the Nation, where she'll teach you how to turn apples into

chutney or quince into jelly. This champion of the nation's apple orchards rings the changes with exciting ingredients from chilli to chocolate. Check out dates at www.preservingthenation.org.

One for the bookshelf

THE HUNGOVER COOKBOOK by Milton Crawford, Square Peg, £6.99. Wittily written and with sweet illustrations, Milton will get you through those mornings after the night before with this great selection of hangover cure recipes. Choose a remedy to suit: from a hair-of-the-dog Hot Bloody Mary to Blue Cheese on Toast with Pears and Pickle or a Knickerbocker Glory with Refresher Sweets.



Stand and deliver!

THIS HAS GOT to be the cutest – and niftiest – cake stand ever. It comes flat-packed and in gorgeous retro florals and sherbet colours that will display your cakes and sandwiches to perfection. Then, when the party's over, dismantle and save it for another occasion. The Truly Scrumptious Cake Stand costs just £8.95 from www.prezzybox.com.



WORDS: JEAN ELGIE AND JULIA SHAW PHOTOGRAPHS: ISTOCKPHOTO