**The Shops at Dartington May Food Fair 2018**

**Date**: Sunday 27th and Monday 28th May 2018 (May Bank Holiday)

**Time:** Sunday 27th – 10am – late, Monday 28th – 09.30am – 6pm

**Where:** The Shops at Dartington, Shinner's Bridge, Dartington, Devon TQ9 6TQ

**Price:** Free

**What**: In partnership with Food Drink Devon, this is a celebration of the very best of Devon and the Westcountry’s thriving food and drink community, with an emphasis on local, sustainable produce.

**The run down:**

* Food Marquee with live cooking demonstrations
* Elmhirst Gin distilling in brand new distillery in partnership with Devon Distillery
* Street Food area
* Tastings in the Food Shop
* Competitions to enter
* Gin bar in the Devon Drinks shop
* LEGO competition for children
* Craft demos in the craft centre
* Have a go pottery throwing with Crazy about Clay
* Magic shows and activities for children with Elfic
* Live music throughout, both days
* Late night pizza evening at Bayards Kitchen on Sunday 27 May
* Mud Larks Family Fun Run – Sunday 27 May
* Free Dartington glass engraving – Monday 28 May

**CHEF DEMOS**

**Sunday**

11am – Sue Stoneman, Winner of South West Home Cook of the Year 2016 and 2017

12 – Ben Palmer, The Greedy Goose

1pm - Chris Sherville

2pm - South Devon Pizza demo

3pm -  Peter Alcroft – Artisan chocolates

**Monday**

11am Sue Stoneman, Winner of South West Home Cook of the Year 2016 and 2017

12 Ankur Biswas

1pm – Chris Sherville

2pm – South Devon Pizza demo

2pm – Susy Atkins drinks talk in Devon Drinks

3pm Richard Hunt – Chef and owner of the Devon Scone Co

**EXHIBITORS SO FAR**

**Street Food**

* The Pig Apple
* Good Game
* Authentic Thai
* World Food
* South Devon Pizza
* Lemon Jelli
* Hey Mambo Coffee
* Cootealicious
* Black Tor Brewery Bar

**Food Marquee**

* Dartington Dairy – ice cream. milk. keffir
* Luscombe – soft drinks
* Tarquins- gins
* Bloomberry Juice – fruit juices
* Riverfood veg boxes
* The Garlic Farm
* Edwards Fudge
* Suzy Sweetooth Fudge
* Artisan Chocolates
* Winkleigh Cider
* Hunts Cider
* Ventons Cider
* Yetland Farm – meat products
* Barnabys Brewhouse – organic beers
* India in a jar
* Nibbly Bits – olives deli items like dips
* Herbs and Spices
* Littlestone Coffee
* Mrs Gills Cakes
* DD’s Cupcakes
* Passion for Pies – handmade pies
* Surf n’ turf kitchen – scotch eggs
* Norsworthy goats cheese
* Cheese and Bread
* Dartington preserves
* South Devon Chilli Farm
* Eat The Smoke – rubs and sauces
* Bam Foods – bacon and sauces
* RSPB

**PRESS RELEASE**

Dartington is once again gearing up to play host to its annual food festival, as the May Food Fair returns on Sunday 27th and Monday 28th May for the eighth year.

Hosted by shopping village, The Shops at Dartington, set in the idyllic grounds of the Dartington Estate, this two-day event attracts thousands of food-lovers as they flock to find the region’s finest food and drink, learn new cookery skills and watch demonstrations by top local chefs.

This free two day-event offers exceptional food and drink produced in the South West, alongside cookery demonstrations, workshop activities, local chefs, food producers, regional drinks, street food, family friendly workshops and live music to swing into the summer season. The festivities will continue into the evening on Sunday, as Bayards Kitchen will be serving pizza from 5pm. This year will see the next batch of Elmhirst Gin being distilled in the brand-new in-house distillery located in the Food Shop, made exclusively for The Shops at Dartington. With over 50 food and drink stalls under a marquee, visitors will be protected against the elements as they graze from stand to stand.

There are plenty of activities for both adults and children, including a LEGO building competition, magic shows, face painting, pot-throwing, story-telling, craft activities and live animals to meet.

Barbara King, Managing Director of The Shops at Dartington, said, “Families come from all over the South West and beyond to soak up the lively festival atmosphere of our May Food Fair. There are activities, competitions and entertainment for all ages, it’s such a fun day out. We see it as a great opportunity to promote the vibrant food and drink scene here in Devon, through the county’s fantastic chefs and producers.”

For the first time this year, The Shops at Dartington will also host the Mud Larks Fun Run – an obstacle course set through the grounds for families to get muddy whilst raising money for Plymouth Charity, Unity in Sport.

The Mud Larks Fun Run will consist of a 3km course, run twice by those feeling truly mighty, and includes a 500-foot zipline, 40-foot abseil, running through mud, navigating tyres, taking part in a dry kayak hill climb and there’s even archery thrown in too.

The 15 shops that make up the award-winning shopping village The Shops at Dartington will be open, providing seasonal food and drink tastings, home decoration ideas and unique gifts.

Working alongside Food and Drink Devon, the Food Fair aims to celebrate the very best of Devon’s thriving food and drink community, with emphasis on local, sustainable produce. All proceeds generated by the event go towards supporting The Dartington Hall Trust (a registered charity).

**FURTHER INFORMATION**

1. Barbara King, Managing Director of The Shops at Dartington, is the Chair of Food & Drink Devon’s board of directors. Founded with the aim of representing like-minded businesses dedicated to producing food and drink of the very highest quality, Food & Drink Devon works tirelessly to increase the county’s profile, as well as championing its producers.
2. A group of 15 shops and cafes, located in a beautiful rural setting in a range of what once farm buildings, The Shops at Dartington is owned by the Dartington Hall Trust an independent charitable organisation, trading ethically and sustainably as a social enterprise in order to help support the Trust’s activities in social justice, sustainability and the arts.
3. A video of May Food Fair can be downloaded: <https://youtu.be/de42Z8VDfO0>
4. With a unique selection of shops to explore, hours can be spent looking at the exquisite craft and pottery collections, stylish women’s and men’s accessories, homeware, unusual gifts and furnishings as well as ‘The Food Shop’ which stocks 60 percent of produce from Devon and a further 30 percent from the Westcountry and ‘Devon Drinks’ which specialises in alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks from the county.

**For further information, photography or an interview with Barbara King, Managing Director of The Shops at Dartington, please contact:**

Harry Wild at RAW Food and Drink PR – harry@rawprandmarketing.co.uk;

Mobile: 07540399025; Twitter: @RawSW