



Eat, drink...and raise money!

A recipe book celebrating Gloucestershire and its sumptuous local produce is being launched to raise money for the county's good causes.

The Old Spot Trust Cook Book – A celebration of Gloucestershire people and places - brings together recipes from some well-known local faces as well as people who work behind the scenes to help make Gloucestershire such a great place to live.

The book features more than 100 recipes – from snacks to grander culinary offerings and from drinks to desserts. County-based celebrities such as Pam Ayres, Jilly Cooper, Julian Lloyd-Webber and Judith Hann have joined MPs such as Parmjit Dhanda, David Drew and Martin Horwood along with sporting greats Jack Russell, Sir Geoff Hurst, Willie Carson, Sharron Davies and Phil Vickery to contribute their favourite recipes. Gloucestershire stalwarts such as photographer Mike Charity, charity fundraiser Brian Chaplin, the Bishop of Gloucester, vet Joe Inglis and a host of business and civic leaders as well as people from the media have also sent starters, mains or desserts for the book.

All money from book's sale will go The Old Spot Trust, a non-profit-making organisation which aims to make Gloucestershire an even better place to live. It raises money for county charities, community groups and other non-profit-making organisations.

The idea for the book came from Vicky Harper who lives in the Forest of Dean. Working with designer Dave Thorp and with the support of Trustees and Tewksbury-based Cotteswold Dairy, she co-ordinated the book's production.

“A few years ago, Vicky put together The Longhope Cook Book – a collection of villagers’ recipes to raise funds for facilities in the parish. When she suggested the idea could be extended to help The Old Spot Trust’s fund-raising efforts, we thought it was a fantastic idea,” said Rob Ayland, Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

“The Trust aims to help local good causes but it’s also about celebrating all that Gloucestershire has to offer so the book is a fitting way for us to raise funds. One of its aims is to encourage people to shop locally to help boost the local economy and to use as much seasonal produce as possible.

“We’re really grateful to Vicky for her idea and for all the work she has done to co-ordinate its production. We are also extremely grateful to Dave Thorp at The Work Shop and to Roger Workman of Cotteswold Dairies for his support in helping us to get the book printed and sold.”

“We are selling the book at £7.50 but if anyone would like to give us more, that will be very welcome as it means more money for local good causes.”

Vicky said “We were determined that the book should be available in time for Christmas as we think it will make an ideal seasonal gift.

“As a result, we had to work very quickly and it was pleasing to see so many local people keen to contribute recipes.

“We have been in touch with a number of potential stockists but if anyone else is interested in selling the book, please do let the Trust know.”

The Old Spot Trust Cook Book will be sold at a recommended retail price of £7.50 (although additional donations will be welcome) in a variety of local stockists, including Waterstones in Cheltenham and Gloucester. Cotteswold Dairy Ltd will be offering the books for sale to its customers. For a full list of stockists, see the Trust’s website at www.oldspottrust.co.uk from 2nd December 2009 or email info@oldspottrust.co.uk