Wednesday

Ham ribollita

Serves 6

1 onion	2 cloves of garlic
2 sticks of celery	1 carrot
olive oil	2 teaspoons fennel seeds
1×400 g tin of plum tomatoes	1 x 400 g tin of cannellini beans
750 ml vegetable stock	300 g cavolo nero
100 g spinach	150 g cooked ham
crusty bread	

Peel the onion and garlic, then finely chop along with the celery and carrot. Heat a drizzle of oil in a large pan over a medium heat, add the chopped veg and fennel seeds, and season. Cook, covered, over a low heat for 10 minutes, until golden brown, stirring regularly.

Reserving half the cannellini beans to one side, mash the rest and add them to the pan along with the liquid from the tin, the tomatoes and the stock. Carry on simmering for another 10 minutes.

Chop and stir in the cavolo nero and spinach. Tear the ham into rough chunks and add along with the remaining beans.

Simmer until the greens have cooked down and you have a lovely thick stew.

Serve with crusty bread.

Redcurrant sorbet & custard

Thursday

Beef Olives

Serves 6

6 thin slices of beef1Beef stockpot11 onion6butter150 g bacon very finely chopped5

120 g. fresh breadcrumbs1 lemon60 g shredded suet1 egg50 g cooked beef/chicken chopped

Potatoes, carrots, green beans

You need cotton twine for this recipe

First make the stuffing. Put the breadcrumbs in a mixing bowl with the suet, bacon and cooked meat and mix together thoroughly. Grate a little zest off the outside of the lemon and stir in with the mixture. Add 1 small teaspoon lemon juice. Beat the egg and stir in. Form the mixture into a ball.

Lay out the slices of beef, sprinkle with lemon juice and place a portion of stuffing in the centre of each. Roll the beef round the stuffing and tie up with cotton twine. Finely chop the onion and fry in the butter in a large billy. Add the rolled beef and brown all over. Add just enough water to cover and add the stockpot. Bring to the boil and simmer for about an hour.

Serve with carrots, potatoes and green beans.

Gooseberry fool and shortbread

serves 6

600g gooseberries	160g golden caster sugar
2 vanilla pods	300ml double cream
300ml plain yoghurt	Shortbread biscuits

Put the gooseberries and sugar in a pan over a medium heat. Split the vanilla pods, scrape out the seeds and add them and the pod to the berries. Stew for 10 minutes, until softened, then let cool.

Whip the cream to very soft peaks and fold through the yoghurt. Fold three-quarters of the cool gooseberries through the cream. Spoon the fool into bowls, and spoon over the remaining berries. Serve with shortbread biscuits for dunking, or crumble over the top.

Friday

Chicken Korma

Serves 6

5 skinless and boneless chicken
breasts, sliced into thin strips
3 tbsp sunflower oil
2 brown onions, thinly sliced
2 garlic cloves, crushed
1⁄2 fresh red chilli, seeds removed,
finely chopped
2 tbsp medium curry powder
1 tsp ground cumin
10 green cardamom pods, crushed to
remove the seeds

450 ml chicken stock
125g ground almonds
2 tbsp mango chutney
½ lemon, juice only
200g full-fat natural yoghurt
salt and freshly ground black pepper

450 g rice cucumber

Season the chicken pieces with salt and pepper.

Heat a large, deep frying pan and add 2 tablespoons of the oil. Quickly fry the chicken for 4–6 minutes until sealed and slightly golden. (You may need to cook the chicken pieces in batches if they don't fit in your pan in a single layer.) Remove with a slotted spoon and set aside.

Add the remaining oil to the pan with the onions, garlic and chilli and fry over a medium-high heat for 10 minutes, or until the onions are golden brown. Add the spices and fry for another minute, stirring well to coat the onions. Stir in the stock, ground almonds and mango chutney, then bring to the boil and allow to bubble for 2–3 minutes.

Return the chicken to the pan and stir in. Reduce the heat, cover with a lid and simmer for about 5–7 minutes, or until the chicken is cooked through. Stir in the lemon juice and yoghurt, check the seasoning, adding salt and pepper to taste. Serve with boiled or steamed rice and sliced cucumber.

Morello Cherries and custard

Saturday

Braised duck legs

Serves 6

6 duck legs	400ml red wine
30g sliced onion	100ml orange juice
75g sliced carrot	2 bay leaves
diced garlic	1 chicken stockpot.
30g unsalted butter	12 shallots, peeled
2 tbsp extra-virgin olive oil	2 tbsp caster sugar
2 celery stalks, roughly chopped	

Peas and creamy mashed potato, to serve

Place onion, carrot, celery and garlic in a large billy with red wine, orange juice, and bay leaves. Bring to the boil, then remove from heat and set aside to cool. Pour over duck legs in a bowl, cover and leave overnight. Make up the chicken stock with stockpots.

Drain the duck legs, reserving the marinade and vegetables separately. Pat duck dry with paper towel. Heat oil in a large pan over medium heat. Fry the duck legs for 2-3 minutes each side until golden all over. Remove duck from pan and set aside, then drain all but 1 tablespoon of fat. Place the reserved vegetables in the pan and cook for 3-4 minutes until golden. Add reserved marinade, chicken stock and bring to the boil. Add the duck legs and cover. Cook for 1 hour or until the duck is tender. Ten minutes before the dish is ready, add the shallots whole.

Serve the duck with the peas and mashed potato

Rice pudding

Sunday

Moroccan lamb stew

Serves 6

1 bunch of fresh rosemary	3 red onions chopped
12 cm piece of ginger peeled and	6 cloves of garlic, sliced
chopped	2 tins plum tomatoes
1 teaspoon cumin seeds	1 cinnamon stick
1 tablespoon coriander seeds	2 bay leaves
1 teaspoon fennel seeds	2 handfuls of dried apricots
4 small dried chillies	500 g couscous
extra virgin olive oil	red or white wine vinegar
6 small lamb neck fillets	1 big bunch of fresh coriander
6 sweet potatoes	6 tablespoons natural yoghurt

Put the ginger and a few rosemary leaves into pestle and mortar with the cumin, coriander, fennel seeds and dried chillies. Add a pinch of sea salt and black pepper, then pound to a paste, stirring in a couple of tablespoons of oil.

Pour half the marinade over the lamb, and massage well, then put aside until needed.

Peel and chop the sweet potatoes into $2\frac{1}{2}$ cm chunks; mix with the onions, and garlic with the remaining marinade.

Heat a little oil in a large pan, add the lamb and quickly brown on both sides, then remove to a plate.

Add the sweet potato mixture to the pan and fry for around 4 minutes, or until the onions are slightly soft.

Add the tomatoes, breaking them up with a spoon, then give the pan a shake and place the meat on top. Add 600 ml of water, the cinnamon stick, bay leaves and dried apricots, and simmer for 1 hour 15 minutes.

Cover the couscous with 300 ml boiling water and leave to fluff up. Season with salt, pepper, a slug of oil and a swig of vinegar, cover with tin foil and leave for 5 minutes to steam.

Pick and roughly chop the coriander and scatter over the lamb before serving. Divide between plates with the couscous and spoon over a good dollop of natural yoghurt.

Eton mess

500g strawberries, hulls removed 250 g raspberries 500ml double cream 3 x 7.5cm readymade meringue nests, crushed 1 tbsp ginger cordial (optional)

Chop the strawberries and raspberries.

Whip the double cream until stiff peaks form, then fold in the fruit and crushed meringue and ginger cordial, if using.

Monday

Chicken and lime stir fry

Serves 6

5 chicken breasts
2 limes
10 spring onions
Nam pla (fish sauce)
Olive oil

Fresh coriander 1 tin celery soup 2 green chillies milk

Cut the chicken into bite-size pieces and marinade in the juice & zest of the limes. Cut up the spring onions, including the green part, into 1 cm lengths. De-seed and finely chop the chillies. Roughly chop the coriander.

If using condensed soup, add milk & water to double the quantity.

Heat the oil in a dixie and fry the chicken for about 3 minutes until browned all over. Add the spring onions and the chillies and cook for a further 2 - 3 minutes. Pour in the nam pla and celery soup and add the coriander. Cook for a few more minutes until the chicken is cooked through and piping hot. Serve with plain rice.

Plums & custard

Tuesday

Chicken Marengo

Serves 6

6 chicken joints bay leaf, parsley & seasoning 2 tablespoons olive oil 50g butter flour for coating 2 medium onions sliced 1 clove garlic finely chopped 250g chestnut mushrooms

125 ml dry white wine
1 x 400g can tomatoes, chopped
pinch basil & marjoram
salt and pepper
lemon juice.
1 chicken stockpot

First make the stock.

Heat the oil and butter in the large billy. Flour the chicken joints lightly and fry briskly in the large billy until golden brown all over. Add the onion and garlic and fry until the onions begin to change colour. Add the wine, stock and mushrooms and boil for 2 - 3 minutes. Add the tomatoes coarsely chopped and the herbs. Season with salt, pepper and lemon juice. Cover and cook gently for about 40 minutes until the chicken is tender.

Serve with rice or pasta.

Peach melba

Serves 6

12 amaretti biscuits, broken in half150ml orange juice (a good carton one is fine)4 ripe peaches_or nectarines

225g jar raspberry coulis or sauce500g carton vanilla custard284 ml carton double cream

Put the amarettis into a glass bowl and pour over the orange juice. Slice the peaches or nectarines and save a few good slices. Add the rest to the bowl and mix lightly. Drizzle over a little raspberry coulis, followed by the custard.

Whip the cream until it just holds its shape then spoon over the trifle. Top with the reserved peach slices and drizzle with a little more raspberry coulis. Chill for up to 2 hours, until ready to serve.

Wednesday

Cider sausages

Serves 6

Vegetable oil for frying 12 beef/lamb sausages 1 onion, sliced into rings 3 celery stalks, chopped 3 carrots chopped Parsley 3 tablespoons flour 450 ml medium-dry cider 150 ml water 1 bouquet garni salt and pepper

1 kg potatoes, green beans

Melt the oil in the dixie. Put the vegetables into the dixie and fry, stirring constantly until lightly coloured. Add the sausages and fry until browned on all sides. Stir in the flour and cook for 1 to 2 minutes. Pour in the cider and water and bring to boil. Add the bouquet garni, and salt and pepper. Cover and cook for 45 minutes. Sprinkle with parsley.

Serve with beans and mashed potatoes.

Fruit salad

Thursday 1st August

Spaghetti Bolognese

Serves 6

750g minced beef 1 onion chopped 1 carrot chopped 1 stick celery chopped 1 beef stockpot Vegetable oil 1 x 500g carton passata 450 g spaghetti

Fry the onion, carrot and celery in a large pan until the vegetables are soft. Add beef and brown it.

Put the stockpot in and the passata with enough water the cover but not drown the beef and cook for about 45 minutes.

Meanwhile cook the spaghetti in boiling salted water; it takes about 11 minutes. To serve, drain the spaghetti and share it out round the plates, then spoon the Bolognese sauce over.

Sussex Pond Pudding

Serves 6

For the suet pastry: 140 g self-raising flour, plus a little extra for dusting 100g breadcrumbs grated zest 1 lemon 55 ml milk 75 g shredded suet a little butter for greasing

For the filling 1 lemon 175 g butter 175 g demerara sugar pouring cream, to serve

You will also need 6 mini pudding basins with a capacity of 175 ml, very well buttered; some kitchen foil; and a steamer.

Sift the flour into a bowl, then sprinkle in the breadcrumbs, lemon zest and suet and mix together. Next, mix 55 ml water and the milk together and sprinkle about 75 ml of this liquid into the flour. Mix to a smooth, elastic dough that leaves the bowl clean. If the mixture seems a little dry, add more of the liquid.

Next, give the dough a light kneading and then divide it into 6 equal portions, slicing off a small piece from each for a lid. After that, roll out the large pieces into rounds big enough to line each basin.

Cut the lemon into very thin slices and divide the slices equally between the basins. Put 25 g butter and 25 g sugar into each basin. Finally, roll out the extra pieces of pastry into rounds and use these as lids, dampening the edges with a little water and pressing to seal them firmly all round.

Cover each basin with a double sheet of kitchen foil, pleated in the centre and twisted at the edges, and place in a steamer fitted over a saucepan filled with boiling water. Pop the lid on and steam for 2 hours, keeping the water at a steady simmer, and making sure it is topped up.

When the puddings are ready, turn them out into warmed bowls, sliding a small palette knife around the edges to loosen them, and serve with some pouring cream.

Friday 2nd August

Pork Chow Mein

Serves 6

4 tablespoons olive oil
3 onions, chopped
4 garlic cloves, minced
1 large green pepper, seeded and chopped
560 g pork belly, cut into strips
8 tablespoons soy sauce 3 tablespoons oyster sauce 110g sliced carrot ³/₄ head cabbage, chopped 800g fresh egg noodles 300g mange tout salt and pepper, to taste

In a wok over a medium heat, warm the oil and add the onion, garlic and green pepper. Add the pork and cook and stir to brown.

Add the soy sauce, oyster sauce, carrot and cabbage and stir fry for 5 minutes. Add the egg noodles, mange tout and seasoning. Increase the heat and toss and stir constantly for 5 to 6 minutes until the noodles are heated through. Serve immediately.

Yoghurt corners