

Marks & Spencer Reveals Hamper for The Patron's Lunch Celebrations



On Sunday 12th June 2016, M&S is proud to be helping celebrate The Queen's patronage of more than 600 charities and organisations on the occasion of Her Majesty's 90th birthday at The Patron's Lunch.

The event will see The Mall transformed into its largest ever street party with 10,000 people seated for a hamper style lunch where guests will each receive their own bespoke Patron's Lunch Hamper provided by M&S, created especially for this event.

The hamper will include a delicious lunch and afternoon tea picnic, which has been specially selected by M&S experts for the celebration, and showcases the very best of British produce and ingredients.

Sandra Ziles, Head of M&S Product Development, says "The Patron's Lunch Hamper has been created by our food experts who have put all their passion and creative know-how into devising a very special menu for the celebration. We've worked closely with our farmers and producers to ensure we showcase the very best of British produce at The Patron's Lunch and we're looking forward to seeing guests enjoying the picnic on The Mall."

Members of the public have the opportunity to join the celebrations: The Public Ballot is open until 23.59 on Thursday 31st March. For those wanting to register, visit:

www.thepatrons-lunch.com/publicballot

Highlights from the hamper include a Scottish Smoked Salmon Mousse with Hot and Cold Smoked Salmon, Pembrokeshire Chicken Salad, Mini Piccalilli Pork Pie, and British Windsor Apple Juice.

The Smoked Salmon Mousse uses the exclusive M&S Scottish Lochmuir salmon, which is slow grown for a fantastic taste and texture. To make sure the dish is extra special the smoked salmon has been slow smoked over wood chips from an oak tree grown on the Sandringham Estate in Norfolk.

The Pembrokeshire Chicken Salad includes free-range chicken grown by Justin Scale on the Pembrokeshire Coast, Wye Valley Asparagus grown by Henry Chinn in Herefordshire and Cornish potatoes which have a rich, sweet flavour due to the warmer climate on the coast.

The Mini Piccalilli Pork Pies are hand crafted in Melton Mowbray, by our expert bakers who have been making pork pies since 1824. Using 100% British pork encased in a hot water crust pastry and hand finished with a tangy piccalilli and pastry crown they have created the ultimate pork pie for the celebrations.

The British Windsor Apple Juice is made using the Windsor apple variety grown in Suffolk. The beautiful red apples are known for their distinct flavour and aroma and accompany the dishes in the Patron's Lunch hamper perfectly.

The hamper will be served in an exclusive wicker hamper with a plate, set of cutlery, wine tumbler and a napkin that guests can take away with them. It will also include a 250ml can of Pimm's and a 500ml bottle of M&S Scottish Spring Water.

M&S will also be helping the nation to celebrate The Patron's Lunch with a bespoke picnic collection to purchase in-store, allowing shoppers to create their own celebration on streets and parks across the country with friends and family.

Taking inspiration from the official Patron's Lunch Hamper, the delicious picnic range focuses on a fantastic selection of produce and ingredients from across the British Isles, with picnic classics including sandwiches, pork pies and cupcakes.

The range will be available in all stores from the end of May.

For more information please contact: Jo.Maish@marksandspencer.com | 02087181213

Notes to editors:

- The retailer has also created hamper picnics suitable for vegetarians, vegans, kids and those avoiding gluten.
- The Patrons Lunch will see 10,000 people come together on The Mall as the finale to a National weekend of celebration.
- Elsewhere in London, St James's Park and Green Park will host 'Live sites' where members of the public will be able to bring their own picnic and enjoy watching the event on big screens.
- Across the UK and the Commonwealth, The Patron's Lunch also aims to inspire communities to host their own street parties and join in the celebrations wherever they are based.
- Please see attached document for the full Patron's Hamper Menu.