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THE BAR-FLY BLOG (February 2024)

So that's what we're going to call this little update. I have linked it on our webpage (address above) and left some printed copies for you, on the counter... our own (off-line) Face-to-Facebook.

It has been Birthday Season over at the bar; starting with Lisa, Linda, Wendy and Shirley. Older, but are we any wiser?

During a pretty hectic start to the year, the team have been working their socks off and some of the time it has been more than a bit challenging. Your support has been overwhelming and I for one, have found it hard to keep up with you. We love this place and it seems many of you do too.

Thanks for popping in and thank you for your continued support. W.



OUR PRICES

It was at the end of October (2023) when we created our draft food and drinks menus and it was intended to adjust the pricing at the end of December (2023), ready to start in January. Well, I didn't. But now I have had to.

You have repeatedly told us that our prices are low compared to others, in fact you have said that, considering the quality and portions, they are *much too low* – especially breakfast items! Although the new menu, with modest price increases, will be introduced from Monday 26th February, we will still continue to ensure that you get value for your money.



THE MENU

You already know that for us it's very much about the food and we actually care about what we prepare and cook for you. Our SPECIALS BOARD has been great for 'testing the water' and getting to know your favourites. 'Captain Pat's Pie' is such a favourite of Mr B that he gets an early warning text message to let him know when it's on the menu! *The other week, he actually ordered two before they were even made!* Linda's cakes and puds are going down equally well.

Since your other top choices include 'Dirty Pig Pulled Pork' 'Peking Pat's Chinese Curries' and (another from the Pie Meister) Beef, Mushroom & Stilton Pie, we can clearly see that you're having as much fun with the menu as we are. We want to do even better and that's why I keep bringing out the little tasters, such as the soups, cake and pastries, for you to try... and what about that vegan vanilla 'ice cream' that's *not* dairy?

Talking veggie – we're trying out a new veggie burger: 'The Bangkok Bad Boy Burger'
A Thai-influenced burger with fresh lemongrass and lime leaf, mixed vegetables, coriander and chilli. Coated in a black onion, sesame and cumin seed crumb containing crunchy red lentils.

And it's been working both ways... *YOU* have been bringing *YOUR* little tasters for us to try. Your recipes are awesome so we might try to re-create a few and stick them on the SPECIALS BOARD. One worthy of an early mention is the carrot cake recipe from Mrs W.

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CATCH-UP FROM THE KITCHEN (January 2024)

I am not the biggest fan of Facebook but we know that if we are to keep in touch with you then it's a given; I'm under orders, I have to embrace it. We need to get the menus, opening times and other basic information on, so a start has been made.

Thanks for popping in and thank you for your continued support. W.



OUR LOVELY DOGS.

There has been much debate about allowing our dogs into the café; all of us here have a dog. Sadly, we have decided not to allow pet dogs in during opening hours (this does not apply to registered Guide & Assistance Dogs). However, plans are underway for the creation (in spring) of an area, just outside, where we can accommodate customer's dogs; somewhere out of the weather with a dog-biccy & a (non-alcoholic) drink.



THE BAR-FLY CREW

You know who you are! Your early evening buzzing around the bar has now led to the doors remaining open until 9pm on Thursday, Friday & Saturday - just for drinks & nibbles. As we all know, this place takes on a very different vibe in the evening, it's chilled and extremely friendly... and that, my friends, is thanks to you. (BFC? Could it catch on?).



FOOD SERVICE IN THE EVENING

Our kitchen (should) shut down at 3pm but The Bar Fly Crew already know that there can be prep and cooking still going on, sometimes after 7pm.. which means little tasters emerging every now and then. Once we get our evening bar team settled, we can take a look at some early evening food; maybe some pizza and small plates (sort of a tapas). But until then, it's just nibbles and whatever you can blag from the kitchen!



THE VALENTINE EVENING CHILL-OUT

So, we did a Valentine Smörgåsbord with bubbly and wine. What's a Smörgåsbord? It's like a Swedish cheeseboard - and some; your own special mini-buffet. I think we might do it again, without waiting until Valentines Day. Don't forget it's a Leap Year and we all know what that means. *(By the way, "I love you" in Swedish is "jag älskar dig").*



AFTERNOON TEA

Our daytime regulars have been asking for us to do this for some time, so we are now getting a nice afternoon tea menu together to see how it goes. We are planning to start in March.