

MARKET TIMES

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BRITISH FLOWERS
WEEK 2019



This issue's cover star is
Bob Cooley from L Mills



Andy Noble to take on the Thames Path Challenge

Andy Noble at Zest Flowers took part in the 22k Thames Path Challenge walk from Maidenhead to Henley on 8 September, to raise funds for Prostate Cancer UK.

Andy was diagnosed with prostate cancer in April 2018. After receiving wonderful treatment from the NHS, including blood tests, MRI scans, bone scans and a prostatectomy, Andy was given the all clear.

Prostate cancer is the main cause of cancer death among men. One in eight men will get prostate cancer at some point in their lives but the earlier it is caught, the better the chances of survival. Andy says, "Above all fellas, get yourself checked at your GP."

Andy is hoping to raise £3,250 from this challenge. You can donate online at www.justgiving.com/fundraising/andy-noble2 or visit Andy at Zest Flowers, where he has sponsorship forms. Andy is also selling Prostate Cancer UK's 'Man of Men' pin badges to help raise awareness and you can follow Andy's journey on his Instagram page @andynoble63



Above: Andy Noble



Above: Food Exchange

Tasty new arrivals at the Food Exchange

We've seen another influx of businesses come through the Food Exchange doors over the last few months, including some familiar faces. Peanut butter brand Manilife, French produce promoters Business France, and Vietnamese food supplier Tonkin have all been welcomed to the community. The familiar faces of Compagnie des Desserts and Fresh Connect have also opened new offices in the Food Exchange.

Brad and Louis run the London Marathon

We'd like to extend our congratulations to Brad Howe at Zest Flowers, and Louis Gibbs from DG Wholesale Flowers, who both ran the London Marathon in April and raised a lot of money for two very worthy charities.

In the last issue of Market Times, we let you know that Brad was running for Haven House Children's Hospice and raised a fantastic £4,500, while Louis ran for Mind, the mental health charity, and raised more than £4,000.

Congratulations to both of you on a wonderful achievement!



Left to right: Bradley Howe and Louis Gibbs



Above: Gary Marshall and his wife Deena

Bevington Salads scoops prestigious FPC Fresh Award

We'd like to extend warm congratulations to Gary Marshall and the team at Bevington Salads, who were awarded Wholesale Fruit and Vegetable Supplier of the Year at the FPC Fresh Awards in June. This award celebrates suppliers who can demonstrate a commitment to improving all facets of their business and is a great achievement for Gary and his team.



Above: Bonnington Café on Thessaly

Bonnington Café on Thessaly

Did you visit the Bonnington Café on Thessaly over the summer?

The pop-up neighbourhood café and community space at the Yvonne Carr Centre on Thessaly Road was funded by VINCI St. Modwen and New Covent Garden Market, working with local chefs from the Bonnington Café cooperative.

Every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, local chefs turned the freshest ingredients from our Fruit & Veg market into delicious lunches for the local community, and the café also hosted a range of activities including cooking classes, wellbeing sessions and flower arranging.

Michael Barrett completes ultramarathon in aid of Pickering Cancer Centre

Michael Barrett of HG Walker in the Fruit & Veg Market, took part in the Race to the King ultramarathon along the South Downs Way in June. The course was 53 miles in length, starting in Arundel and finishing in Winchester. Michael took part in this gruelling race to raise funds for the Pickering Cancer Centre in Tunbridge Wells. He's already raised a fantastic £5,000 but if you would like to donate to this worthy cause, you can still do so at uk.virginmoneygiving.com/MichaelBarrett28

For more information about the Pickering Cancer Centre, you can head to www.pickeringcancercentre.org.uk



Above: Michael Barrett



Allison Risebro celebrates 40 years

Allison Risebro, the thriving catering distribution business, which has depots in both New Covent Garden Market and Western International Market, recently celebrated its 40th anniversary in July. We'd like to congratulate the team on achieving this milestone, and wish them well for the next 40 years and beyond!

Obituaries



Above: Kevin Grimshaw

In memory of Kevin Grimshaw (1972–2019)

Following the sad news that Kevin Grimshaw from Direct Delivered Produce (DDP) has passed away, we would like to share this message from his brother, Paul and the rest of the team at DDP:

“We would like to convey our sincere gratitude for the support we have received from so many people in the market after the sad passing of Kevin Grimshaw.

He started work in the early 80s under the tutelage of Peter Fowler at Lyons and Dean, who christened him ‘Baby Cham’, a well-known drink at the time. He went on to work for DDP for the next 21 years, helping them to be the only company in the produce business to hold two Royal Warrants. This proves that the ‘Garden’ heart is still as strong as ever and the market tenants, in conjunction with CGTA, have been truly wonderful to us at this sad time.

Thank you very much,
Sham, Carole, Paul and all at DDP Ltd.”

In memory of Peter Robinson

Sadly, Peter Robinson from S Thorogood & Sons recently passed away. Andrew Thorogood and the rest of the team would like to share this message with you:

“It has been a real shock for us all. Whilst Peter was not in great health there was no indication that he was in any danger.

Peter was a man with a big personality. He had a very direct approach and a wickedly dry sense of humour. He was always good to work with, as everything was so carefully recorded and controlled whilst he kept up an amusing banter with both customers and suppliers.

At his funeral, we met his family and friends who all lived very close to Borough Market. They were a lively bunch who had one thing in common: a love and respect for Peter, which had lasted for decades. We are very sad that he has left us but we will not forget him.”



Above: Peter Robinson



Summer events serve up Market produce

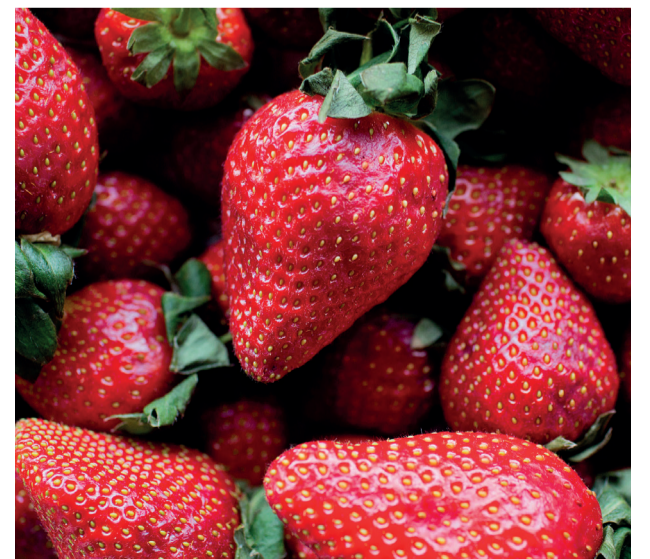
Above: Vernon Mascarenhas and Shaunie Dykes from Nature's Choice

The best British summer produce from New Covent Garden Market has been on the menu at a whole host of prestigious events this summer. The freshest fruit and veg from the Market was served up at the Wimbledon Championships, Royal Ascot, the Henley Royal Regatta, and major Royal Horticultural Society shows including the Chelsea Flower Show and Hampton Court Palace Garden Festival.

Caterers at high-profile events like these rely on market wholesalers' close relationships with British growers, to ensure they can source enough summer essentials such as strawberries, just when demand is at its highest. Companies such as Nature's Choice plan menus with

event caterers up to six months in advance. Their company director, Vernon Mascarenhas can then work with farmers to ensure there is plenty of produce such as fresh asparagus, wild garlic and heritage tomatoes, to meet the demands of high-end, high-volume contract caterers such as Gather & Gather, Levy Restaurants UK (Part of Compass Group) and Rhubarb Catering.

Are you involved with any exciting events this autumn or over the Christmas period? Get in touch with your news and we'll share it in the next issue of Market Times.



British Flowers Week 2019 is a blooming success

Since we founded British Flowers Week in 2013, it has gone on to become a spectacular annual celebration of the wealth and variety of British cut flowers, plants and foliage. From 10–16 June, we once again shone the spotlight on British flowers, their growers, and the fabulous independent florists who sell them.

British Flowers Week 2019 was a resounding success, with thousands of people getting involved and more than 30 events taking place across the country. The social media campaign reached over 5 million people, there were more than 40 media articles about the event, and there was a surge in British flower sales.

Some renowned venues got involved too, with events taking place at the Royal Opera House, The National Gallery, and the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew. Around 1,800 people visited a special exhibition at the Garden Museum, where five of the country's most exciting florists created installations on the theme of 'memories' using British flowers from New Covent Garden Market.

A huge thank you to Graeme Corbett of Bloom + Burn, Carly Rogers of Carly Rogers Flowers, Ruth Davis of All For Love, Rowan Gilmour of Rowan Blossom and Katie Smyth of Worm London, whose incredible displays caught the attention of both the media and the public, and to everyone who supported British Flowers Week 2019.

It was another fantastic event, with lots of you getting involved. We're excited to start planning for next year!



Above: All for Love



Clockwise from top: Worm London. Graeme Diplock, Zest Flowers. Michael Burgess, DG Wholesale Flowers. Bloom + Burn

We'd love to hear from you

What did you think of this issue
of Market Times?
It would be great to get your feedback.

If there's something you'd like to share
or see featured in our next quarterly
newsletter, just let us know.

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Above: Pratley Flowers and Plants