Cooking Orchids

Simple Summer Recipes

Pressure cooker shakshouka

2 portions

Inspiration: Nasim Lahbichi on Instagram

1 tbsp olive oil

1/4 cup chopped onion

3 celery sticks, finely sliced

1/2 cup potato, finely chopped

1 tin plum tomatoes

1 cup hot water

1/2 cup cannellini beans

4 eggs

2 tsp chilli flakes

1/2 tsp paprika

1. Fry onion in oil in base of pressure cooker then add butterbeans, water, celery, potato and plum tomatoes

- 2. Cook on highest pressure for 10 minutes
- 3. Lightly mash tomatoes and potato against side of pan
- 4. Add eggs quickly. They should be almost submerged
- 5. Sprinkle spices on top
- 6. Simmer for 10 mins on medium heat

Cornish pasties

Inspiration: Plymouth Barbican Pasty Shop

Makes 2

1 cup plain flour + 2 tbsp rolling out

30g butter/margarine

2 tbsp oil

1/4 cup cold water

2 cups mix of vegetables including tomato, potato, carrots, swede, tomato, sweetcorn, peas

1/2 tsp mixed herbs

- 1. Measure flour into a medium mixing bowl
- Add margarine/butter, slice through it with a butter knife and rub into flour with tips of fingers

- 3. Pour in oil and water then combine pastry working it as little as possible
- 4. Split dough in two
- 5. Roll each ball into a circle on a surface dusted with plenty of flour
- 6. Wet the edges of the dough, place half of filling in centre and press edges together
- 7. Bake for 50 minutes at 180°C

Coconut dal with chickpeas

2 portions

Inspiration: Jessica Hylton's blog Jessica in the Kitchen

1/2 cup red split peas or daal mix

1 chicken stock cube

1 tbsp tomato purée

2 tsp medium curry powder

30g spinach

2 tbsp coconut cream

3 cups hot water

1/2 cup chickpeas

1/2 pepper or 1 tomato

Juice of 1/2 lime

- 1. Into a medium saucepan, add split peas, stock cube, curry powder, tomato purée, pepper, spinach, coconut cream and water then simmer on a medium heat for 15 minutes
- 2. Add chickpeas and simmer for another 10 minutes
- 3. Stir in lime juice before serving

Optional: serve with naan bread instead of rice

Tomato and aubergine soup

2 portions

1 tbsp extra-virgin olive oil

1/2 tsp caster sugar

4 salad tomatoes, quartered

1/2 aubergine

2 cups cold water

- 1. Fry tomatoes in oil and sugar in a saucepan for about 10 minutes on med-high heat until brown
- 2. Drop tomatoes in bowl of icy water (total 2 cups volume)
- 3. Fry baked aubergines in saucepan in tomato juices until golden

- 4. When ice melts, blend contents of bowl
- 5. Heat in a medium saucepan on low heat
- 6. Can be served in a mug

Mozzarella & peas pasta

2 portions

4 cups pasta

1 jar tomato sauce

1 ball of mozzarella, finely shredded

1 cup frozen peas

- 1. Bring a medium saucepan of water to the boil and add pasta to it
- 2. Simmer pasta for 15 minutes
- 3. Drain pasta water over peas to defrost them
- 4. Stir mozzarella through pasta in the saucepan then cover or heat for a few minutes to let melt
- 5. Stir in peas

Lemon Cookies

Makes 8

Zest and juice of 1 lemon

1/4 cup caster sugar

1/4 cup sunflower oil

1 egg

2 1/2 cups plain flour

1/4 tsp baking powder

- 1. In a medium mixing bowl rub lemon zest into sugar
- 2. Add sunflower oil and egg then beat with a whisk
- 3. Mix in flour and baking powder
- 4. Stir in lemon juice
- 5. Rest dough in fridge for 30 minutes
- 6. Form 8 balls and bake at 180°C for 15 minutes
- 7. Sprinkle with caster sugar

Scones

Makes 2

Inspiration: Cornish Bakery Plymouth

1 cup plain flour

- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1 tbsp granulated sugar

60g vegetable shortening, margarine or butter

1/4 cup milk

- Measure flour, baking powder and sugar into medium mixing bowl
- 2. Slice fat into cubes in bowl then rub into dry ingredients
- 3. Pour in milk then combine gently with a butter knife
- 4. Split dough in two then shape into rounds

Optional: sprinkle remaining crumbs on top and wrap baking parchment around

5. Bake at 180°C for 30 minutes

Flapjacks

Makes 5

100g butter

2 tbsp golden syrup

2 cups porridge oats

- 1. Melt butter in a saucepan or double boiler then add golden syrup and stir in oats until evenly coated
- 2. Press mix into a lined 6x4 glass baking dish
- 3. Bake at 180°C for 25 minutes