

# SMITH & BROCK



EXPERTLY SELECTED, PROUDLY DELIVERED

## WEEKLY MARKET REPORT – 06/04/20

### GENERAL PRODUCT UPDATE

**Another difficult week has passed and the end of the tunnel still seems so far! We are seeing more and more issues with the fruit and veg coming to us.**

We still very much and so much depend on our import at this time of the year and it will not get any easier even when the UK crops starts in a month time! England even in the summer still remains a big importer of fresh produce.

Our UK farmers have been already struggling the last few years with the lack of labour interested in working in fields, and Brexit politics has made the situation worse. We are building as much stock as possible so we don't get caught out in case a lorry does not turn up!

These are unprecedented times where labour in fields and in logistics are short due to the virus affecting a lot of people.

We are still a few weeks away until the UK crops are starting. Supply and demand is still very difficult and prices have rocketed even within the basic root veg family as the stock is getting lower until the new spring/summer crops start.

You will remember the floodings back a couple of months ago which have delayed the work of the farmers, but with the good weather in the last few days, fingers crossed, we will have more UK grown fruit and veg soon!

#### EXPENSIVE

Carrots (expensive although still one of the cheapest veg)  
Cauliflower  
Broccoli  
Ginger (and hard to find)

#### AFFORDABLE

Root veg, potatoes, cauliflower, tomatoes, courgette – have gone up but still affordable in some ways compared to other produce.

#### MENU PLANNING

Still plan your menus around root veg and UK produce as much as you can.

#### PICTURED

Some of the UK produce available and also see the emailed list of UK produce.



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## HOME DELIVERY... KNOCK-KNOCK!

The current climate has been very challenging for all us! Fortunately we have managed to turn our business around, avoid closure, save staff and help 1000's of homes with essential supplies! But no one is protected from the virus and the current financial difficulties.

We remain with a very positive attitude no matter what and look forward to resolving this issue soon.

We are proud of what we do!  
As our catch phrase says:

'EXPERTLY SELECTED, PROUDLY DELIVERED'

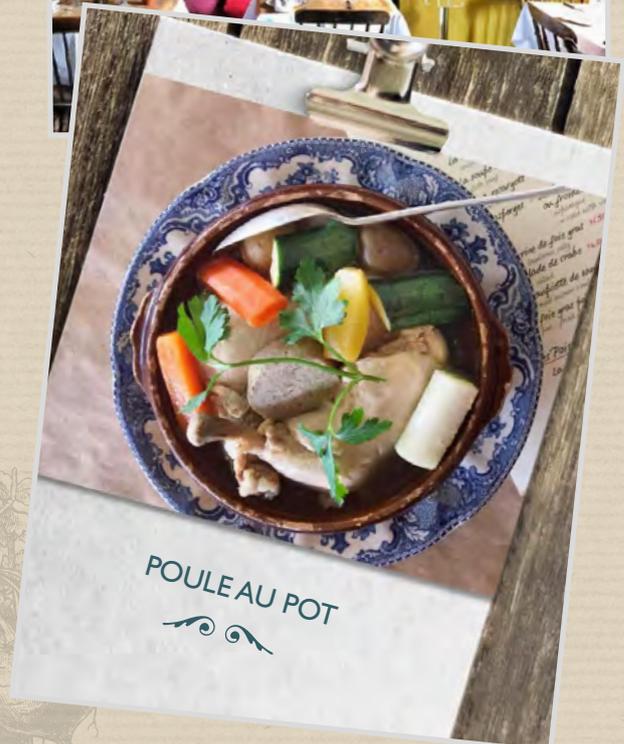


<https://www.knock-knock-groceries.com/>

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## DISH OF THE WEEK / RECIPE IDEA / CHALLENGE!



**Thank you all to have come back to me with all this great recipes ideas!**

So for this week we have decided to pick Tim's dish from "La Poule au Pot" in Chelsea. Second generation owner of this famous restaurant (translation – Chicken in a Pot!) and no surprise to feature this week his signature dish? Yes you guessed it! Poule au Pot! A French Classic done in many versions.

Tim serves it in a clear stock with seasonal veg. A simple yet very tasty dish that can be easily made at home or tweaked to your own taste! Tim had to close his two restaurants – 'Poule au Pot' and 'Maggie Jones' as a result of the shutdown, but he is really looking forward to the day he will be reopening and we all wish the same!

Please contact Tim direct via his website if you would like his recipe!

To enjoy with a nice glass of Chablis! (in moderation! ;))

<http://www.pouleaupot.co.uk/>

## FUNDRAISING FOR KING'S AND ST. THOMAS' HOSPITALS



**As the fundraising pot gets bigger, the amount of fruit and veg we are able to send to these two hospitals gets bigger!**

By donating you are not just helping the nurses but also the chain of the produce industry... from the farmer to the transporter and also S&B. We still need to fundraise more, thanks for your generosity and support to King's College and St. Thomas' Hospitals.

### Where you can show support:

- <https://www.gofundme.com/f/nhs-foodbox-fundraiser-for-st-thomas-icu>
- <https://www.gofundme.com/manage/buy-them-a-coffee-kch>
- [https://www.instagram.com/buythemacoffee\\_kch/](https://www.instagram.com/buythemacoffee_kch/)
- <https://twitter.com/buythemacoffee>

## COVID-19

**As this virus Covid-19 has already and will unarguably change lives for now and the years to come, we will change the way we produce the S&B Market Report...**

From now on let's have pictures of the people who are making Smith & Brock this unique company!

We are following all government guidances and doing all we can to make sure all the staff are safe at work. After all, without healthy staff, there is no business!

Gary is our manager in charge of the prepared produce. Sadly, the prepared section of the business is pretty much dead but all the staff have been relocated to the picking area! So no job loss there!

We were then able to do anything with the raw produce, from a fruit salad to a carrot baton and so many more bespoke items... fresh juices/cold press were a big part too... This is still operational as we provide delicious freshly made orange juice in the home delivery boxes.

Thank you Gary for your great job over last few days helping around from taking orders to picking and even juicing! You are another such valuable asset to the Smith & Brock Team!



STAY SAFE & WELL,  
THE SMITH & BROCK TEAM

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