

February 07, 2007

The Italian School of Cooking

Thanks to Marco and Marcello, my hosts at the [Italian School of Cooking](#), where I attended a class on pasta making last night. As well as learning how easy it is to make pasta without a machine - I was dead proud of my attempts at orecchiette! - I had a thoroughly enjoyable evening, eating and drinking, meeting people and being serenaded over dinner by a very enthusiastic Marco. The school, which is centrally located in Rathmines, is definitely worth checking out. Time to pick up a bag of durum flour from the Italian shop in Ranelagh for some pasta-making experiments down at the cottage!



Posted by Caroline at [05:19 PM](#) | [Comments \(0\)](#)

February 06, 2007

Happy Waitangi Day!

Although we may be back in Ireland, today we are celebrating [Waitangi Day](#), a national holiday in New Zealand, with that ubiquitous Kiwi desert - the pavlova. After bemoaning the lack of pavlovas in [Irish supermarkets](#), the Boyfriend went off to work this morning laden with boxes of meringue nests, tubs of cream, my hand whisk and a nice [pink bowl](#) to assemble a selection of impromptu pavs for his workmates. Bron has an entertaining defence of the NZ claim to the pavlova [here](#), along with many delectable pictures of her own fabulous Waitangi Day creation.

Posted by Caroline at [07:55 PM](#) | [Comments \(2\)](#)

February 02, 2007

Boiled, Baked & Basted - encore

Boiled, Baked & Basted, the brilliant [RTÉ Radio 1](#) programme that I mentioned in October, featuring chefs and cooks talking about their favourite cookbooks, sadly came to an end on 30 December. A simple but effective format - just the voice of the interviewee, interspersed by actors reading from cookbooks that they mentioned - made this essential listening for the cosy Saturday nights that we spent in the [cottage](#). You can listen back to the whole 13-programme series on the all-new redesigned RTÉ.ie website [here](#).

I've just discovered another informal [wine course](#) in Dublin. This one is on in [The Vaults](#) and starts on Tuesday 13 February at 6.30pm. The sessions are hosted by a Master of Wines from Findlater Grants and run every second Tuesday for four weeks, costing €35 per person per night. More information is



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