

NEWS FROM LEWIS & COOPER

• PURVEYORS OF FINE FOOD AND WINE SINCE 1899 •

March 17, 2009

Calling all egg decorators...

A FAMOUS fine food store hopes to benefit a children's hospice with its annual egg decorating contest.

Entrants to Lewis & Cooper's colourful competition this Easter are being asked to pay a 50p donation to the store's chosen charity, Zöe's Place, in Normanby, Middlesbrough.

Opened in 2004, the hospice provides respite care for almost 60 families, caring for babies and infants from across the region with multiple special needs and life-limiting or terminal illnesses.

Last year, Lewis & Cooper and its customers raised more than £2,000 for Zöe's Place with its annual Pre-Noel fundraising event.

Entry forms for the decorated egg contest are available now from the gourmet store's outlets in Northallerton High Street and within Strickland & Holt, in Yarm. Lakeside Eggs, from Seamer, near Stokesley, is supporting the fundraiser by generously donating free range eggs for budding artists to decorate. These are available for collection along with the entry forms.

Simon Barr, manager of Lakeside Eggs, which supplies Lewis & Cooper, said: "We're delighted to be able to support the competition this year, and I look forward to seeing some of our eggs transformed and lots of money raised."

There are four entry categories: under-fives, five to 12-year-olds and adults. The rules are simple – one hard-boiled hen's egg per entry (although contestants can enter as many times as they wish).

Entries will be accepted at either store from Saturday, April 4. The closing date for eggs delivered to the Yarm store is Wednesday, April 8, and at the Northallerton store, no later than Easter Monday (April 13).

There will be edible goodies for all entrants, with a basket of Easter sweets and chocolates for the winners.

Zöe's Place volunteer co-ordinator, Derrick Preville, who will judge the decorated eggs on Tuesday, April 14, said: "We're once again delighted to be receiving the support of Lewis & Cooper customers and I'm looking forward to the job of choosing some winners."

New for this year's event will be the opportunity for shoppers visiting the Northallerton store to cast their votes too: entries will be on show over Easter weekend and a People's Vote prize will be awarded.

* For further details and entry forms, ask in-store or contact Kate Wintersgill on 01609 766702 or email kate.wintersgill@lewisandcooper.co.uk.

NOTES TO EDITORS

- Please find attached a jpg picture showing egg decorators Edwin, four, and Matilda Dant, seven, collecting some eggs to decorate.
- For press inquiries, please contact Gareth Dant on 01609 760059 or 07929 869269.
- The Northallerton store is at 92 High Street, telephone 01609 772880; a second store can be found in Yarm, within Strickland & Holt at 44 High Street, telephone 01642 802147. The Northallerton store is open 8.30-5.30 Monday-Friday, 8am-5.30pm on Saturday and 11am-4pm on Sunday. The Yarm store is open from 9am-5.30pm, Monday-Friday.
- Zöe's Place is at Crossbeck House, Normanby, Middlesbrough, TS6 9DA, tel 01642 457985, www.zoesplace.org or derrick@zoesplace.org.
- Lewis & Cooper stocks 35,000-plus lines, including its multi-award winning hand-made plum puddings, luxury fruit cakes and massive range of world-famous hampers. For more details of these, and of their many awards, please visit www.lewisandcooper.co.uk.

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