

food&wine

by Terry Muller

A warm wintertime wonder

Elephant Boy

329 Bong Bong Street, Bowral
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With the warmth of summer behind us, it's time to consider eateries that are oh so fitting to the chilly months ahead. Elephant Boy with its comfy sofa, walls set with bookcases and elegantly masculine stylish décor is just the place. The café, which has doubled in size since it opened two years ago, is at its best cooking mouth-watering, home-style comfort food.

Owner/chef David Le Duc (with his wife Claudia) has a swag of recipes inherited from his native East End (London) and his favourite dishes are associated with the autumn and winter months.

Eggs of all descriptions, pancakes, real fruit breads, proper porridge, crispy bacon or home-made muesli for those watching

their waists are some of the options for a breakfast treat.

But you really should try David's potato cakes. The only other person I know who makes these delicious accompaniments to good salty crispy bacon is my aunt, and she lives in Dublin. Casseroles and curries, those great pots of hearty vegetables and soft tender meats, are once again a regular feature.

Bangers and mash with real onion gravy, country style soups and pies, the sort we all love but can't be bothered to cook, are also back on the menu, and where else would you find Tyrolean dumplings?

Desserts are just as appealing and include comfort appeasers such as sherry trifle, rice pudding and apple pie.

With input from all the team, the easy and versatile Elephant Boy sauces are widely used in the kitchen to create interesting and



practical dishes.

"We aim to cook dishes that other people don't, we want our café to reflect its own identity and create something which recognises the historical significance of the town's high street," David said.

Elephant Boy clearly enjoys a strong regular clientele and draws a crowd of weekend visitors. It's

FAST SERVICE: The Elephant Boy. famous jars of Elephant Boy curry sauces and condiments are available to take home and are also sold throughout the likes of David Jones food stores, Harvey Nichols of London and a network of other leading food shops. Plans are currently underway to offer Elephant Boy franchise stores.