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NEWS

Show of support for quake victims

Harry Hogger



AN ITALIAN restaurant on Weymouth seafront is doing its bit to support the victims of the devastating earthquake that has killed nearly 300 people.

At least 290 people were killed in the quake that rocked the historic town of Amatrice in Italy and the surrounding area.

The relief effort is continuing and Al Molo restaurant at the old Pier Bandstand in Weymouth is getting behind it.

Throughout this week the venue will be offering a pasta dish called all'amatriciana, which hails from the region devastated by the 6.2 magnitude earthquake.

Every time the dish is ordered, the restaurant will donate £1.40 to the British Red Cross to support the relief effort in Italy.

Al Molo's head chef Giuseppe Vannucci said that he wanted to do something to support the victims of the earthquake and heard that Jamie Oliver was doing something similar at his restaurants.

He said that all'amatriciana was a very traditional dish that was not normally offered on his menu but he was looking forward to serving it up for a good cause.

Giuseppe said that, while he was keen to cook the dish for his customers as a tribute to the people of the earthquake-hit region, he would also gratefully receive any other offers of sup-



DOING OUR BIT: Giuseppe Vannucci and Andrea Bonelli from Al Molo restaurant in Weymouth F18357

port to boost their fundraising efforts for the Red Cross.

He said: "If someone doesn't want to have the dish they can still come in here and donate some money."

Giuseppe said that the all'amatriciana recipe found in the UK varied slightly to the very traditional one that originated in Italy and includes pork

belly, tomatoe sauce, red wine and a touch of chilli with a special kind of pasta for the dish.

The dish will be on the menu all week until Sunday and Giuseppe says he is looking forward to going through the bills at the end of the week to see how much has been raised for the cause.

Italy has been in mourning for

the victims of the earthquake and efforts continue to support the thousands left homeless as their houses were destroyed.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Blaze is put out

PURBECK: A fire crew from Wareham was called to reports of a fire in the open at Worgret Road at around 10.20pm on Saturday. The blaze was extinguished using two hose reel jets.

Caravan on fire

NORTH DORSET: Firefighters from Sturminster Newton and Blandford attended blaze involving a caravan near Enford Mead on Saturday.

Petrol spillage

COUNTY: A fire crew from Sherborne was called to reports of a petrol spillage from a vehicle in Acreman Place shortly after 9pm on Saturday. The crew used an Environment Agency pack to tackle the spill.

Vehicle made safe

NORTH DORSET: Blandford firefighters extinguished a vehicle fire at Stour Park in Blandford St Mary on Saturday at 9.10pm.

Terror threat impacting travel

MORE than four in ten people in the south west are concerned about terrorism affecting their travel plans, according to new research.

The survey was carried out by International Travel and Healthcare and conducted with YouGov.

International Travel and Healthcare recently launched the UK's first terrorism travel insurance product, Safe Journey, which includes allowing

travellers to get their money back should they wish to cancel or curtail their trip following an act of terrorism within 40 miles of their chosen destination.

Nearly a quarter of respondents in the south west believed that travel insurance policies usually cover the cost of cancelling a trip if an act of terrorism has occurred, while 29 per cent believed that it covered the cost of cutting a trip short for the same reason.

The YouGov research showed that there was an increasing need for insurers to provide financial protection for travellers against the effects of terrorism, with a total of 76 per cent of respondents from the south west stating that they were likely to purchase additional financial protection against terrorism for their holiday if the price was under £5 for two weeks.

Kate Huét, managing director of International Travel and

Healthcare, said there was a clear need for this option.

She said: "Our research with YouGov has shown that terrorism is very high on the list of concerns and is being taken seriously when people are thinking about their travel plans.

"There is now a very clear need for financial protection against its effects for the many thousands of people whose trips are indirectly affected by acts of terrorism."

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