

Dish - Dawn O'Porter, a fish pie and a carignan blanc

NICK GRIMSHAW: This podcast may contain some strong language and adult themes.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Oh, hello, and welcome along to Dish from Waitrose. I am Nick Grimshaw.

ANGELA HARTNETT: And I'm Angela Hartnett.

NICK GRIMSHAW: And here we are in that weird bit between Christmas and New Year. Do you like this bit of the year, Ange?

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, I do. I do.

NICK GRIMSHAW: I quite like it. Are you off, by the way, for entire Christmas?

ANGELA HARTNETT: Pretty much, yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Do the restaurants close?

ANGELA HARTNETT: All the restaurants close for a few days over Christmas.

NICK GRIMSHAW: For a few days. Okay, that's nice.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, Murano closes for about five, the cafés for about four or five.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Okay. And then what happens now for you normally at this time of year?

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh, friends, see friends. Go for walks, you know, all that stuff.

NICK GRIMSHAW: I really love it. That's brilliant. I like that there's like a film on at about 11 o'clock in the morning.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Marvellous.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Like some weird black and white film you've not seen for years that might-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Or an old Inspector Morse episode, or Columbo.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm, yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Love it all.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah, and you get that on and then you finish that and then you think, oh maybe what I'll do is now, is have a bit of like cheese and a bit of like chilli jam or summat, bit of a pork pie and some mustard. Then you watch your second film-

NICK GRIMSHAW: -which might be like, Babe: Pig in the City on ITV2.

ANGELA HARTNETT: How do you feel having eaten that pork pie, watching Babe?

NICK GRIMSHAW: I don't mind that.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Don't care.

NICK GRIMSHAW: I mean, I'll do it.

ANGELA HARTNETT: It's fine.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Then you finish and it's like five.

ANGELA HARTNETT: You're already on the wine.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Then you think, I might have another snack.

NICK GRIMSHAW: It's days like this in between Christmas and New Year where I'm like, what are we doing the rest of the year?

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, we should just be like this all year round.

NICK GRIMSHAW: We should be like this, don't it, just like-

ANGELA HARTNETT: No work, just do nothing.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah, I love it. So, ages ago, on the radio, I had Rob Beckett on. He talked to me about fridge tapas, and I always think about Rob Beckett at this time of year.

ANGELA HARTNETT: But what's it- what do you mean fridge tapas?

NICK GRIMSHAW: Fridge tapas is when you open the fridge when you're not hungry, and you're like, oh, what I'll do is have a bit of a base of ham, and then I'll put

a bit of sliced cheese on top, and then like maybe just push in like a cherry tomato, and you just have that. So you just sort of eat directly from the fridge.

ANGELA HARTNETT: From the fridge.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: That's very dangerous.

NICK GRIMSHAW: It's very this time isn't- or maybe you're like, I'll have a Pringle.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Then you swig a bit of wine and a little bit of beer.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah, whatever you want, yeah. 'Tis the season. So today, joining us for a bit of lunch, we have Dawn O'Porter. And I'm excited that Dawn is with us today because she's someone who loves food.

ANGELA HARTNETT: She does.

NICK GRIMSHAW: She sent us an essay about her likes and loves and barely any dislikes.

ANGELA HARTNETT: We like un-fussy.

NICK GRIMSHAW: We do, we love un-fussy. So Dawn O'Porter, she's, she's gonna be a great guest, she's someone great to spend time with. She's presented loads of amazing TV shows, she very-

ANGELA HARTNETT: You've met her before.

NICK GRIMSHAW: I have met her, many a time before and had many good time with her.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Good.

NICK GRIMSHAW: And she's had amazing success with her writing as well. Sunday Times bestseller in *The Cows*, and then last year released a book called *Cat Lady*. She is here to talk about the amazing work of Choose Love, who are a really great charity that we can, you know, get Dawn to talk to us all about-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Tell us about.

NICK GRIMSHAW: -that she was one of the founders of. Also, married to Chris O'Dowd.

ANGELA HARTNETT: He's brilliant. He's an amazing actor.

NICK GRIMSHAW: He is.

ANGELA HARTNETT: And he was fantastic in Bridesmaids.

NICK GRIMSHAW: He really was, wasn't he?

ANGELA HARTNETT: He was very, very good.

NICK GRIMSHAW: I'm going to try and not bring up Bridesmaids to Dawn O'Porter.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Try not.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Because she's like, don't really want to talk about my husband's film from fifteen years ago. We are going to have today - fish pie.

ANGELA HARTNETT: You like fish pie?

NICK GRIMSHAW: Love fish pie.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh, that's good.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Love fish pie.

ANGELA HARTNETT: You make a fish pie?

NICK GRIMSHAW: Never made a fish pie. Fish pie really reminds me of my dad.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Aw.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Because every time my dad came to London-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Sheekey's.

NICK GRIMSHAW: -he'd want to go to J. Sheekey's for fish pie.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Nice. Yeah, it's good.

NICK GRIMSHAW: It's good, it's yum.

ANGELA HARTNETT: And the J. Sheekey's, reminds me, has it got mash or is it pastry topping?

NICK GRIMSHAW: It's mash.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh right, that's what we've got.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah, and crumbly mash that they sort of cook a bit on the top maybe?

ANGELA HARTNETT: Put a bit of cheese? Alright, maybe brown it up.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Brown it up a little bit.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Lovely.

[Dinner table sounds]

NICK GRIMSHAW: Our guest is here. We are thrilled to have the wonderful Dawn O'Porter with us today. Writer and documentary maker who says that her happy place is in the kitchen, which is great news 'cause there's one right there.

ANGELA HARTNETT: You're here.

DAWN O'PORTER: Here I am.

NICK GRIMSHAW: A round of applause for Dawn O'Porter.

[Applause]

NICK GRIMSHAW: Hi Dawn!

DAWN O'PORTER: Hi.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Hello, hi.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Welcome.

DAWN O'PORTER: Thank you so much.

NICK GRIMSHAW: How are you?

DAWN O'PORTER: I'm alright, yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Thanks for coming to see us.

DAWN O'PORTER: You're welcome. Thanks for having me, honestly, I love your little gorgeous little show you've got going on, yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: What is it that you love about the kitchen Dawn?

DAWN O'PORTER: Well, I have two children and I feel that when I'm cooking, I'm allowed to not be with them.

[Laughter]

DAWN O'PORTER: You know?

NICK GRIMSHAW: It's dangerous and hot.

DAWN O'PORTER: It's like, mummy's busy, 'cause I'm-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yes. Go and see that TV.

DAWN O'PORTER: I'm making all the food. So... but it is like, you know, people do different things to chill and de-stress and mine is like, get the recipe books out and concentrate on that. It's really the only thing that takes my mind off things.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Uh-huh.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Right.

DAWN O'PORTER: The wine, the radio, the recipe, ultimately it brings people together, doesn't it?

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

DAWN O'PORTER: And I love to be the hostess and have parties and dinner parties and gatherings and all sorts of different things. And when you can cook, you can create those situations.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

DAWN O'PORTER: And that's what I love about it.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah. That's what I love about it too. Because Mesh, my boyfriend, he finds it really stressful. And he thinks it's crazy that anyone would enjoy cooking.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Cause he's like, 'It's too stressful, man,' like, he gets like, really stressed out about it. Is your husband Chris like that? Does he get stressed? Or does he enjoy it?

DAWN O'PORTER: He, he doesn't do it very often.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Right.

DAWN O'PORTER: But that's more because it's my thing that I like to do.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Right.

DAWN O'PORTER: Like, we're so defined in our roles in our house, it's so funny, like, he literally, puts up shelves and does DIY.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Takes the rubbish out, all that sort of- love it.

DAWN O'PORTER: And I do the cooking.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Quite forties.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah, I love it. Absolutely love it. And I get like, when- for example, I went away for a week and I came back and he'd rearranged the kitchen, 'cause he's like, he's not in the- and I was like [*makes hyperventilating sounds*], like the kitchen is my space and I love it. And so he will every now and then like throw a chilli together or do something like that, but if I don't want to cook, we'll just order in. So he doesn't cook very often, but he's good, and I don't think he gets flustered, I can't remember if he gets flustered. But I do-

NICK GRIMSHAW: It could have been once.

ANGELA HARTNETT: So long ago.

DAWN O'PORTER: It's like, when we got married that one time....

NICK GRIMSHAW: And are you quite a gadgety cook? Do you have like all the stuff? Because Mesh's thing is that he says, 'I would cook, but I don't like that all the knives don't match and all the pans don't match.'

ANGELA HARTNETT: Don't be ridiculous.

NICK GRIMSHAW: I'm not joking.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Well actually, what am I talking about? I know Mesh, of course, yeah, everything would have to match.

NICK GRIMSHAW: If we just had all the same chopping boards, I'd be able to do it. He's very-

ANGELA HARTNETT: That's slightly OCD.

DAWN O'PORTER: That- yeah. No, I'm quite chaotic.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

DAWN O'PORTER: And I like, I like country kitchen vibes rather than like, noth- no kind of neat modern vibes. Like when I cook, it's, it's chaos in the kitchen. Which is why I don't want anyone- in fact, we've got- when we lived in America, I, we used to have people over all the time, and I kind of, I love cooking for lots of people, like a crowd of like twenty, thirty people. I just didn't understand when people got to the house, kind of open plan kitchen scenario, never understood why people would kind of come into the kitchen and like rest against the oven and talk to me.

NICK GRIMSHAW: You'd be like, excuse me?

DAWN O'PORTER: What is happening? Why? How do you- how are you not over there next to the drinks? Like I just, it drives me mad. So Chris got me a red rope to put across. Which is the best present anyone's ever given me, so I put the red rope across and then no one can come the f*** near me, and it's so amazing.

[Laughter]

NICK GRIMSHAW: That is so good ...That is amazing.

ANGELA HARTNETT: I want one.

NICK GRIMSHAW: You have to get one of them Ange.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah, it's good. It's good.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, I love that.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Would you like that?

ANGELA HARTNETT: No, but I absolutely get that. We have a downstairs kitchen and people, and I always say, because that's why I would say to Chris, and I will say it to my husband, I said 'Neil, stay out there, do the drinks, don't let anyone come downstairs.' And inevitably you hear clip, clop, clip, clop, and then they stand there chatting.

DAWN O'PORTER: They stand there chatting.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

DAWN O'PORTER: And also it's like trying not to take offence to, 'Can I do anything to help?' I would almost be like, 'I've f***** got this. Okay? I got this. You go and get drunk. I'm on the cucumbers.'

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

[*Cutlery sounds*]

NICK GRIMSHAW: Now this episode is going out in that weird in between Christmas, New Year time. We were just saying before you joined us Dawn that I actually- well we both really like this time of year. Are you for it, or are you against it, or?

DAWN O'PORTER: I usually quite like it. We're going to go away on the 27th this year.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Fab.

DAWN O'PORTER: Which is really unusual, but I usually like it. I love leftovers, like, kind of...

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm. Like Bisto, mm.

NICK GRIMSHAW: What's your favourite food? Leftovers.

DAWN O'PORTER: Leftover Christmas dinner.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Everyone does though.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah, and I, and I just- so even if it was just the four of us last Christmas and I got a fifteen pound turkey, and so we just ate it-

NICK GRIMSHAW: 'Til March.

DAWN O'PORTER: -for days and days and days, and like, you've got it in sandwiches, you got your toasted sandwiches, make the turkey pie on day three, like, you know, just.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yep.

DAWN O'PORTER: And I love that about it. It's a bit exhausting with small children, that week, but now they're getting older it's kind of nice.

NICK GRIMSHAW: So you're here now, Dawn.

DAWN O'PORTER: I am, yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Not at Dish, but in the UK.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: When did you move back?

DAWN O'PORTER: In June.

NICK GRIMSHAW: And how long were you in LA?

DAWN O'PORTER: Fifteen years in Hollywood, baby.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Oh, wow. Fifteen years.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh gosh.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Wow. I think when I think of you and Chris, like, 'They just moved to L.A. this week,' like, I think it's really a recent thing, but fifteen years.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah, and we met there. We didn't go together.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Oh, really?

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah, I was out there filming a show, and then he appeared.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Didn't you meet at your birthday?

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah, but he asked me out on Facebook. And I said no, about three times.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Did you?

DAWN O'PORTER: Yes, well I was seeing somebody else, and then-

NICK GRIMSHAW: Oh, yeah, fair.

DAWN O'PORTER: And then- and then it was my

NICK GRIMSHAW: Fair enough.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Morals, good.

DAWN O'PORTER: And then it was my birthday, and I didn't know many people there and he messaged me on that day and so he said, 'Do you want to go bowling?' And I said, 'No, but come to my birthday party and bring all your friends.'

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh, right.

DAWN O'PORTER: And when he arrived, I was dancing with my dad because everyone had left. And my dad is this kind of tall, burly Scotsman, and in walks this tall, burly Irishman, and it was just like a straight swap. That was it, he moved in with me four months later.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Fantastic.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Oh my God, wow.

DAWN O'PORTER: I know, it's wild.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Oh, I love that you met on your birthday.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah, it's cute.

NICK GRIMSHAW: What a gift.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah.

[Dinner table sounds]

NICK GRIMSHAW: So we're gonna have fish pie.

DAWN O'PORTER: Can't wait.

NICK GRIMSHAW: So you grew up in Guernsey.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: And I listened to you on something where you were talking about being quite a fishy place, because it's an island.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: And things like that you would eat day to day kind of were kind of posh, things like oysters, or things I'd consider posh.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: But when you're by the sea, not that posh.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah, I mean, I definitely was aware that most children probably weren't eating lots of oysters. But my family, my auntie and uncle who raised me are just very into fish and the local produce and going to France when we were kids and all that kind of stuff, and so we had oysters a lot in our house- that looks delicious, thank you.

NICK GRIMSHAW: And okay, the fish pie is here.

DAWN O'PORTER: This looks incredible.

NICK GRIMSHAW: I'm gonna have some peas, I love peas.

DAWN O'PORTER: Love peas.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Bon appétit.

NICK GRIMSHAW: So this is 'the best fish pie'.

ANGELA HARTNETT: The best fish pie, by our fantastic chef, Martha Collison.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Served with peas. I love peas.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Served with peas. Always gotta have peas.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Always forget about peas.

ANGELA HARTNETT: No, but they're perfect.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Always forget about peas.

DAWN O'PORTER: They're so good.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Keep them in the freezer.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Apparently they're fantastic for you, a pea.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Is it?

DAWN O'PORTER: And so easy. They're really taking over from the avocado. Peas on toast is like, it's gonna be the new Instagram special.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Is it? 2024, get ready. Peas on toast.

DAWN O'PORTER: This is absolutely wonderful.

NICK GRIMSHAW: So you've made Dawn a gluten free fish pie.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Gluten free, yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Talk to me about making a gluten free fish pie. How, is it the same but with gluten free flour?

ANGELA HARTNETT: Exactly that.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Oh wow, okay.

ANGELA HARTNETT: There it is, yeah, there it is.

DAWN O'PORTER: You wouldn't know the difference.

ANGELA HARTNETT: No, you wouldn't know the difference. And it's just, you're making a roux which is butter and flour, to thicken a white sauce. We've got wine in our white sauce as well, a little bit of mustard, and then you add that to your raw fish, so we've got prawns, we've got salmon in there, we've got cod in there, haddock, and then a mashed potato topping.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm.

DAWN O'PORTER: When you add wine to a roux, you just add it like the milk?

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yes, add it at the beginning, so it starts to cook off. So you cook off all the sort of alcohol and you're just left with the wine sort of taste. And we also had leeks at the beginning, so we cook the leeks down, then add flour.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Then add a bit of butter and then add your wine as well after that.

DAWN O'PORTER: Delicious.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

DAWN O'PORTER: And what potato did you use?

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh, I just think a normal Maris Piper, I think it was.

DAWN O'PORTER: Maris Piper.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, I always think the best potatoes, things like mash and chips is basically what your fish and chip shop are using at the time. Cause there are years that- potatoes change through the year, so you want one that's going to be a great chip potato, then I think it's always good for mash as well.

DAWN O'PORTER: Potatoes change through the year?

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, because they sort of have their different seasons, and sometimes it's, if they've got a lot of high sugar content to them, because it's a carbohydrate, it can sometimes either, I don't know the science behind it, but either it's really great for frying or it's not. So you do have to look at your potatoes and not presume it's the same potato throughout the year.

NICK GRIMSHAW: That has blown my mind.

DAWN O'PORTER: That's blown my tiny mind.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Honestly, sometimes, I make roast potatoes the same every Sunday.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: And sometimes they're a bit s***.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, you see. Depends on the sugar content in the potato.

NICK GRIMSHAW: And I'm like, what happened? Okay, this entire podcast is going to be about potatoes.

DAWN O'PORTER: You know what? I'm in.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah, you're down, Dawn.

DAWN O'PORTER: I love potatoes so much.

NICK GRIMSHAW: It's going to be a forty-minute potato chat.

DAWN O'PORTER: Do you think, like, your standard chippy is monitoring the seasonal...

ANGELA HARTNETT: Certain ones are, I bet. There's this ex-chef who was a three-star chef called Pierre Koffman. He's not an ex-chef, he doesn't run a restaurant anymore, he now runs Koffman's Chips, and Gordon Ramsay imports them all over the world because he's got the best chip ever. Seriously. Koffman's chips.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Where's his chippy?

ANGELA HARTNETT: He doesn't have a chippy, he produces these potatoes.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Oh.

ANGELA HARTNETT: 'Cause he's done all the science behind it.

DAWN O'PORTER: Wow.

NICK GRIMSHAW: I was just about to run there.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Run there.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah, just gonna go.

ANGELA HARTNETT: He could do. Pierre could do a chippy.

NICK GRIMSHAW: So, on the fish counter...

ANGELA HARTNETT: On the fish counter, yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah, if I was going to Waitrose.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

NICK GRIMSHAW: They do like a fish mix, right? Don't they, like-

ANGELA HARTNETT: They can do a fish pie mix. In this one you've got cod, we've got salmon, we've got prawns, and we've got smoked haddock. But if you can't get certain things, you can substitute trout in there, you can do coley which is an underused fish, you can use gurnard, you know, there's loads of British fish that people don't use enough of, that you should use instead of always having cod and salmon.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah. If they don't have the mix ready, could you just ask them at the counter?

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, just say you want the same amount of fish, yeah, chop it all up, yeah.

DAWN O'PORTER: I love the capers.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Capers, yeah, a little bit of acidity in there, yeah.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah. Do you have to watch how much salt you put in when you put capers in?

ANGELA HARTNETT: I think you sort of do, because fish pie, you know, it's got butter in there, you put cheese on top, and you can be- it can be overly salty if you're not careful. But then I sort of like add the eggs in, a little bit of lemon as well, and it just breaks all that acidity, yeah.

DAWN O'PORTER: It's just gorgeous.

NICK GRIMSHAW: And the samphire as well.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Samphire, yeah.

DAWN O'PORTER: That's my favourite vegetable.

ANGELA HARTNETT: See that's deceptive, because that's got that sort of, you'll recognise that sort of oyster-y taste where it feels like the seaside, so if you put that in, you do have to be mindful of the salt, because you'd think it's salty, but it's the capers and the samphire. But you need that I think, otherwise it's too creamy.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah, my kids love samphire, it's one of the only vegetables I can properly get into them.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Really?

ANGELA HARTNETT: Seriously?

DAWN O'PORTER: It's so salty, they love it.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh my God.

NICK GRIMSHAW: And it looks quite fun I guess if you're a kid, doesn't it. It looks like, you know...

ANGELA HARTNETT: God I love it, I love it when kids have different tastes and stuff, like adult tastes, which you wouldn't expect them to have like samphire.

DAWN O'PORTER: No, I know.

ANGELA HARTNETT: And obviously all these ingredients are available online, and in Waitrose.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Also, last pie question, you've added eggs to this, boiled eggs.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh yes, I did.

DAWN O'PORTER: I love the boiled eggs.

ANGELA HARTNETT: There you go.

NICK GRIMSHAW: So, how come? Is this a normal fish pie ingredient?

ANGELA HARTNETT: Well I'll tell you what, some do, and I'll tell you where I got it from, Mary Berry.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Oh! Mary Berry.

DAWN O'PORTER: Jamie Oliver does it as well.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mary did it in her Christmas episode last year, fish pie, or a couple of years ago when she did one of her Christmas shows. And I thought, oh, I quite like the idea, so yeah, Mary.

NICK GRIMSHAW: If you want to try this recipe, [waitrose.com/dishrecipes](https://www.waitrose.com/dishrecipes), all the recipes that we make on Dish are on there. And not just saying this, do you know what I think is really helpful, and I do it - someone editing down recipes. Because you know you can't decide what to have for your tea and you crang on the internet, it's like, good luck. You're like, 'A recipe - search.' It's like... I like that all our faves are all on there.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Marvellous.

NICK GRIMSHAW: An edit.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Edit. Love an edit.

NICK GRIMSHAW: An edit of a handy a hundred, so.... Yeah, knock yourselves out guys.

[Drink pouring sounds]

NICK GRIMSHAW: The wine pairing is Waitrose Loved & Found, Carignan Blanc. That's white. This is quite a rare grape variety- don't laugh. South of France, very vibrant, zesty flavour, and this is perfect with the very creamy fish pie.

DAWN O'PORTER: This is really good.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Cheers. Lovely.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Cheers guys.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Beautiful.

DAWN O'PORTER: Cheers.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Now Dawn, we were really excited when you were coming on because you are one of those guests that loves food.

DAWN O'PORTER: I do.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Now we touched on you growing up with your auntie and uncle in Guernsey.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yep.

NICK GRIMSHAW: And they were very much into seafood and cooking and, and delicious food, but life before that I heard was sort of tinned.

DAWN O'PORTER: It was different. I lived with my grandparents and they were very different kinds of people to my aunt and uncle who were very kind of creative bohemian types, and then my grandparents weren't very, and they weren't really foodies. They almost kind of had that kind of end of the war vibe about them where everything was just, you know, it wasn't very adventurous. Vegetables were mushy and...

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

DAWN O'PORTER: But there was one thing back then in the eighties that I just thought was the most delicious thing in the world, and that was tins of chicken in

white sauce. And this used to be like a real treat that my Gran would give me like once a week, and I'd sit on the floor and eat it covered in salt out of a bowl, and I just thought it was the most decadent, incredible, amazing thing. But, but I remember it-life was quite basic back then. There weren't many frills.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

DAWN O'PORTER: And that chicken in white sauce was...

NICK GRIMSHAW: What you loved.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Was... yeah.

DAWN O'PORTER: My biggest frill. I loved it and I can taste it now.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Oh really?

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah, yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Right-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Did it taste like a chicken soup sort of thing? You know that thick chicken soup?

DAWN O'PORTER: Yes. If you were to taste Campbell's chicken soup.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

DAWN O'PORTER: It was, it tasted like that with massive chunks of chicken in it.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Wow.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Wow.

DAWN O'PORTER: And I just thought it was absolutely incredible.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Absolutely delicious.

ANGELA HARTNETT: I quite like a Campbell's chicken soup, like, I don't mind that, yeah.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah, it's good.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

DAWN O'PORTER: I like cooking with it.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

DAWN O'PORTER: It's, I mean it, it makes everything taste delicious.

NICK GRIMSHAW: It's funny you say like, out of the war stuff, like your grandparents, 'cause my dad used to love tinned fruit, and my sister would always be like, 'You know you can buy fruit now, like you don't have to get it in a tin,' he'd be like, 'It's nice, this.'

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: But you know what, I think when you make a trifle, tinned fruit's better.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah?

ANGELA HARTNETT: And I also think tinned peaches-

DAWN O'PORTER: Tinned peaches.

ANGELA HARTNETT: I think are-

DAWN O'PORTER: I love tinned pineapples.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Delicious.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Tinned pineapple, yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: There are certain things that tinned is brilliant for.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah. Like if you're doing a gammon.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

DAWN O'PORTER: A- like fresh pineapple doesn't work.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: You need that-

DAWN O'PORTER: Unless you fry it and butter, then it's obviously delicious.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Of course.

DAWN O'PORTER: But like tinned pineapple just slopped onto a gammon, ugh.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Oh, that's good.

DAWN O'PORTER: Can't get enough.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Do you think tinned could make a comeback, Ange?

ANGELA HARTNETT: I think tins do do a lot of stuff.

NICK GRIMSHAW: D'you think, yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: I think people do. I think there is an element of snobbery.

NICK GRIMSHAW: You've got cat food, dog food.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, everyone loves it. We always do it-

NICK GRIMSHAW: But like a tinned meal, because at uni I used to get tinned-

ANGELA HARTNETT: The Fray Bentos you mean? I've got a mate that really loves it.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah, I used to love it at uni.

ANGELA HARTNETT: He loves a Fray Bentos.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah, I ate a lot of them at uni.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah. And I used to have a tinned breakfast, like an English breakfast, in a can.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yes, yes, I remember that.

ANGELA HARTNETT: No way!

DAWN O'PORTER: I remember that.

NICK GRIMSHAW: And I used to have that at uni and be like-

ANGELA HARTNETT: How did they- what do they have in it?

NICK GRIMSHAW: Sausage, bacon, beans, eggs.

ANGELA HARTNETT: You had an egg in a tin?

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah, and it was tinned and you'd heat it up and have it all at once. Which I didn't think was weird at the time, and now I'm like, that's mad.

DAWN O'PORTER: But you know what, in America, like if you go into the tinned section of a supermarket in America, there's still all of that stuff.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Wow.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Wow.

DAWN O'PORTER: And you look at it and go, who is buying this, but it's obviously popular.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

DAWN O'PORTER: But lots of like full English in a can type meals.

ANGELA HARTNETT: I sort of get the beans and like-

NICK GRIMSHAW: Oh, yeah beans yeah, and spaghetti hoops.

ANGELA HARTNETT: All that, yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah love, obvs, love that. How was the move back from LA? How's that affected how you eat and how you cook and how you host? Were they vastly different?

DAWN O'PORTER: I probably will eat out more in London, because we'll go to the pub more for a Sunday roast, because there's no Sunday culture in America, really, I would always cook on Sundays, and that's when we would have people over. And so in America, people aren't inviting over for Sunday roasts, it's not really a thing, so we

would always have people over on Sundays. And here, I love going to the pub. So I'm not cooking as much, but we're also in a rental, and I think it, you know, I'm not quite, you know...

ANGELA HARTNETT: Once you're settled, probably.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah. But I love British food. I love, I love, like, we live- this rental that we're in is right opposite an amazing chippy.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

DAWN O'PORTER: And like my kids didn't know what a chippy was until June.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

DAWN O'PORTER: And we go every Friday now and it's so great.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Nice.

DAWN O'PORTER: From what I'm experienced of being back London does food really well, like that pub culture.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm-hm.

DAWN O'PORTER: And pub meals, so yum. So I'm cooking a bit less than I did in America.

NICK GRIMSHAW: That's okay.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah. Thanks.

NICK GRIMSHAW: You've had fifteen years.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah, exactly.

NICK GRIMSHAW: It's a good shift. Yeah, I like the ceremony of a Friday night chippy.

DAWN O'PORTER: Ugh, love it.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Because that, every time I have chippy now it'll be, when I really crave it, if I'm really tired or it's really wet, or if I've been poorly, and it just- because it reminds me of being little.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: It's a good, good chippy ritual to instil in children.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, nice. Yeah, that's true.

DAWN O'PORTER: It's yum. Love it.

[Dinner table sounds]

NICK GRIMSHAW: We have a question from Karen. Karen's been on, please get involved on this Dawn. 'Dear Nick and Angela. Normally we stay at home for Christmas, but this year we are renting a house away so we can be with our extended family. We're gonna take it in turns to do the big meals for fourteen. As we won't have any leftovers, please can you recommend something to cook that is easy but delicious and won't need loads of equipment, as we've no idea what the rental kitchen is gonna be like.' So what's good? You like cooking for loads of people.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Fourteen people? You're like fourteen, that's nowt for me.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Easy.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Easy.

DAWN O'PORTER: Oh.

NICK GRIMSHAW: This could be good, right?

ANGELA HARTNETT: Fish pie, lasagne, any sort of one pot dish that you can put-chilli con carne, Chris, there you go.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: His chilli. Perfect.

DAWN O'PORTER: I'll tell you what I did last- stews, I mean, that is...

ANGELA HARTNETT: One pot wonders, isn't it?

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: But a stew for fourteen you've got to have a big pot?

DAWN O'PORTER: But if they can take their slow cooker.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Oh yeah.

DAWN O'PORTER: If they take a slow cooker and then just get it, it's like that, you know, beef brisket in a slow cooker.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah. Just leave it there. Go out.

DAWN O'PORTER: Can't go wrong.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Go to the local pub.

DAWN O'PORTER: Massive thing of mashed potato and some buttery peas, and it's just the most delicious dinner.

NICK GRIMSHAW: I mean, that is delicious.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

NICK GRIMSHAW: So we think of slow cooked brisket, pack your slow cooker. If you've not got one, get one ordered right now, Karen.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

[*Salt grinder sounds*]

NICK GRIMSHAW: Dawn, let's talk about Choose Love.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yes!

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yes.

NICK GRIMSHAW: You are wearing a fantastic and iconic, I feel, bit of Choose Love merch.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: We talked about it at the beginning of the podcast, but for everyone who doesn't know about Choose Love, tell us all about it and how you became to become involved, because you're a founder.

DAWN O'PORTER: Co-founder, yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Co-founder.

DAWN O'PORTER: So, we raise money and get aid to displaced people all over the world, and that could be they're displaced from a war, or an earthquake, or however that came to pass, and we will do our best to get what they need to them. That's essentially what Choose Love does in a nutshell. And we started eight years ago at a boozy Sunday lunch, and a couple of us were just like, why isn't anyone getting any aid to the people in Calais? Like what's happening? So we said at this lunch, we would just try and fill a van up with supplies and get it to Calais. Oh my God. Then the next day on- just via our Twitter feeds, we did it. And within, I think it was twenty-four hours, we had something like 7,000 packages arrived.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Wow.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Incredible.

DAWN O'PORTER: Big Yellow Storage gave us a floor to put everything. And my friend, Lliana Bird, who's also one of the co-founders, she had the genius idea of an Amazon wishlist. So we weren't getting people's old crap, we were getting brand new, you know, tents and jackets and stuff. And so then we had to get it to Calais, and I was like, well, I hadn't thought of that, and I had to get like a fleet of lorries to get all this stuff. We did it and then it was done and then you're kind of thinking, well, what happens now? Now, I'd just had a baby, and I lived in America. And so I went back to America and Josie and Lliana and a group of people who were there from the start just carried it on, and it used to be called Help Refugees and now it's called Choose Love, and it's just that. In times of hardship and pain, when people are struggling, choose love.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah, it's an amazing message that you guys put out and you guys are always like on the ground as well.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Which I love. If you don't follow them, go follow on Instagram and go support Choose Love. And I have some more stats. I love a stat.

DAWN O'PORTER: Oh yeah, do.

NICK GRIMSHAW: So let's do some more stats. So over \$120 million raised across forty-one countries, 1.2 million items of clothing provided, nearly 600,000 shelter items, and over 20,000 assisted sea rescues. 20, 000!

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: And 3.2 million nappies donated. That's some big stats, huge stats, in eight years.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah, and we have something called the Choose Love Shop, which we'll be closing around now, but you can still do this online. We've been donated a space in the Rockefeller Centre in New York this year, which is incredible, and the very kind people at Carnaby always give us a shop in London. And people love it, because I think one thing we've realised with Choose Love is people feel helpless, they don't know what to do, and we just offer this really easy way to do something very direct.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

DAWN O'PORTER: And I think people trust us for that and that's why this is you know, every time I'm walking around in London I see it- saw it in America sometimes, but I'm walking along I see these tops all the time. And it just makes me so proud because while wearing the t-shirt you're saying, we're in.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: I love the shop idea that you've done as well.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah, it's great, isn't it?

NICK GRIMSHAW: Because I think people like to see, like you say, to pick how to help.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: And when people are out Christmas shopping, I think there's something really, I don't know, about going into a shop and physically buying something that you know will reach someone. I think it's such a good idea, such a genius idea.

DAWN O'PORTER: Well also, there's so much wasted money at Christmas, and everybody's got someone that they don't know what to get them.

NICK GRIMSHAW: And you can gift a thing for them.

DAWN O'PORTER: You can gift them. And like my- it's really good for like, Grans, and people at work, like Secret Santas. And you say, in your name, I got fifteen pounds worth of hot food. I mean, it's pretty cute, and people love it.

NICK GRIMSHAW: And how could people help now, who've missed the shop? The shop's still online.

DAWN O'PORTER: Still online.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

DAWN O'PORTER: And buy the merch all throughout the year, support our, you know, fundraisers that we do, and just stay engaged with us. When something comes up, we'll show you what you can do, and I think that's the most important thing. Follow us on Instagram, and just stay engaged, and support, and wear your t-shirts loud and proud.

[Dinner table sounds]

NICK GRIMSHAW: I know what I wanted to talk to you about: pets.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm.

DAWN O'PORTER: Ah, yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: I love the pet names. Also, weirdly, I don't have children and I don't know if I will have children, but when I had fake children's names, they were your children's names.

DAWN O'PORTER: No way.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah, and I only found that out on Monday. I was like, how weird.

DAWN O'PORTER: Both of them?

NICK GRIMSHAW: Both of them.

DAWN O'PORTER: Stop.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Isn't that weird?

DAWN O'PORTER: I'm so proud of my kids' names.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Are we allowed to say them or is it a secret?

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah, of course.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Okay.

DAWN O'PORTER: Art and Valentine.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Art and Valentine

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm. Gorgeous.

NICK GRIMSHAW: The best names.

ANGELA HARTNETT: My grandfather's Valentine.

NICK GRIMSHAW: No way.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Is that from the Irish side, from Chris?

DAWN O'PORTER: No, it's not. I'm not really sure where it came from, when I first moved to LA there was a radio host called Valentine. Also Chris is you know, six foot four, big guy, and so my boys are going to be big, and I just love the gentle giant-ness of Valentine.

ANGELA HARTNETT: It's very poetic, isn't it.

DAWN O'PORTER: Honestly, and this kid, he bats his eyes, he is, he knows it. We were, we were on a boat once going- we did one of those little boat things somewhere in a canal, somewhere in London. And he was waving at people on the shore and someone said from the shore, 'What's your name?' And he said, 'Valentine. Isn't it a beautiful name?'

[Laughter]

DAWN O'PORTER: He's heard that so many times.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh my God, that's so brilliant.

NICK GRIMSHAW: It really is.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah, it's lovely.

NICK GRIMSHAW: It's really good. So congrats on the human name choices. But the pet name choices are amazing.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah, they're good too.

NICK GRIMSHAW: So you have two rescue cats, two rescue dogs, and a tortoise.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yes.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Could we have the full names? Because, Dawn, they're exceptional.

DAWN O'PORTER: So one dog is Meatloaf.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Fantastic.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yep.

DAWN O'PORTER: The other dog is Puffin.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Cause Meatloaf and Puffin already.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

DAWN O'PORTER: I know. Our dog that died a few years ago is called Potato, so we, we-

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh, Potato! Oh, that's a great name.

DAWN O'PORTER: Oh, he was the greatest gift the earth ever had.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Aw.

DAWN O'PORTER: He was so wonderful.

NICK GRIMSHAW: RIP Potato.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah, very special boy. And then the cats are called Myrtle and Boo, which aren't that exciting but-

NICK GRIMSHAW: As a double act.

DAWN O'PORTER: -my dad used to call me Boo when I was a kid, and when Chris and I, our first house that we lived in together is called Myrtle Cottage. So, they're more sentimental.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh, right, nice, yeah.

DAWN O'PORTER: And then the tortoise is called Sandwich.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Sandwich!

DAWN O'PORTER: Which is Valentine again, he's good. We had the stray cat come into the house, and I was like, 'What should we call the cat?' And he went, 'Traffic Light.' So I was like, we had a stray cat called... 'What should we call the tortoise?' 'Sandwich.'

NICK GRIMSHAW: Sandwich. Just Sandwich.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah, that's it.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Is tortoise in hibernation now?

DAWN O'PORTER: No, unfortunately.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Did L.A. f*** him up? Like 'cause there's no seasons.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah, poor tortoise.

DAWN O'PORTER: No, we only, we only rescued him in July.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Okay.

DAWN O'PORTER: He was actually Val's birthday present. And I took him to the vet for like a routine, is he okay? And he wasn't okay.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh.

NICK GRIMSHAW: What was wrong with him?

DAWN O'PORTER: So he had pneumonia.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Pneumonia?

ANGELA HARTNETT: No!

DAWN O'PORTER: And he had like, he just wasn't very well. And so I've been- he's on antibiotics.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh my God.

DAWN O'PORTER: And I have to keep him up this winter, so I've just got him under a heat lamp all the time, and so hopefully next year he'll be able to hibernate.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Aw.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh my God.

NICK GRIMSHAW: I know. I think it's gonna be fine.

ANGELA HARTNETT: He's ill and shattered, 'cause he's not getting six months sleep.

DAWN O'PORTER: I know, I know. I have to take him for another blood test next week.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh, poor little thing.

DAWN O'PORTER: And it's so weird, like, they come back with like, he comes back with a little bandage around his head.

ANGELA HARTNETT: No way.

DAWN O'PORTER: I had no- because my parents have got a tortoise, but they're so seventies about it, he just like lives in the garden.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

DAWN O'PORTER: And now, like, you know, modern tortoise care is really, you've got the heat lamp, the, you know, clay lamp for night time, the UV lamp, it's, it's a lot. And so I've just had to really step all of that up.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Oh yeah, step it up. And does Sandwich live everywhere, inside-outside?

DAWN O'PORTER: He lives in the kitchen now, and I just let him stomp about, and then in the summer he's got a little house outside.

ANGELA HARTNETT: He's allowed to go outside.

NICK GRIMSHAW: And how are the dogs with the tortoise? Because I really want a tortoise, and I've always wanted one.

DAWN O'PORTER: They just didn't care.

NICK GRIMSHAW: They just didn't care.

DAWN O'PORTER: And neither did the cat. I think when you introduce a new animal to your house, if the dogs see, if you make it part of the family - it's my experience with it anyway - but then they kind of get used to it. But no, or like, I was literally sitting in the kitchen last night, and I've got two dogs next to me, two cats there, and the tortoise comes and just sleeps between my feet.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Aw.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Ooh.

DAWN O'PORTER: I know, it's very cute.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Very sweet

NICK GRIMSHAW: I've wanted one for a really long time. Coming up thirty years.

ANGELA HARTNETT: There you go.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: I've wanted one, my sister's called Jane and her best friend-

DAWN O'PORTER: So is mine!

NICK GRIMSHAW: Really?

DAWN O'PORTER: Brother?

NICK GRIMSHAW: I don't know why that's weird. We're like, what?! And our Jane, her best friend's called Amelia, and Amelia had a tortoise and called it Jane.

DAWN O'PORTER: So good.

NICK GRIMSHAW: So we always had Jane the tortoise at Amelia's.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: And I loved it.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yes.

DAWN O'PORTER: Do you know what I love about them? Like I went for dinner, it's a bit of a name drop, at Sophie Ellis-Bextor's house a couple of weeks ago, and I took the tortoise.

ANGELA HARTNETT: No.

DAWN O'PORTER: And we take Sandwich to the park and let him just kind of wander around, and like, taking him out and about is so great.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

DAWN O'PORTER: And I used to have a cat, a Siamese cat, that I used to like take everywhere with me.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yeah.

DAWN O'PORTER: And now I take my tortoise everywhere with me, I love it. And I carry him around in an Indian takeaway box.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Is that what he comes in?

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah 'cause this Indian takeaway box came with, handles.

NICK GRIMSHAW: What, the cardboard handle house.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah, and I was like, that's perfect.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Perfect.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Perfect.

DAWN O'PORTER: So I filled it with straw and that's what he, that's what he goes around in.

DAWN O'PORTER: Love him.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Aw. Love.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Does he recognise your voice?

DAWN O'PORTER: Yes, and he comes over.

ANGELA HARTNETT: So his head will come out of his little shell?

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah, he storms over when he sees you, and, like I said, if I'm sitting in the kitchen reading, he will come and, like, nestle in between my feet.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh my God, I am gobsmacked.

NICK GRIMSHAW: I need one today.

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah, great.

[Dinner table sounds]

NICK GRIMSHAW: Right, Dawn, we've come to the end of the show question.

NICK GRIMSHAW: In this envelope is a question for you, Dawn. Should you choose to answer it, you can win a goodie bag courtesy of Waitrose.

DAWN O'PORTER: Oh my goodness.

DAWN O'PORTER: 'Thank you for coming on Dish today, we hope you've had a good, great, brilliant time.' I have, thank you so much. Lovely.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Aw.

DAWN O'PORTER: 'In order to nab a Waitrose goodie bag to elevate your Christmas grazing to the next level, please answer this question: we know you choose love, but if you had to, would you choose cats or dogs?' Cats.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Oh!

ANGELA HARTNETT: Wow!

NICK GRIMSHAW: Wow!

DAWN O'PORTER: A hundred percent.

ANGELA HARTNETT: That was not even a-

DAWN O'PORTER: Yeah, no.

NICK GRIMSHAW: I really thought you were gonna be like, I can't do this guys, too much, I'm gonna go.

DAWN O'PORTER: No.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Cats.

DAWN O'PORTER: Always.

NICK GRIMSHAW: What did the dogs do?

DAWN O'PORTER: I love my dogs.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yes.

DAWN O'PORTER: But I...

ANGELA HARTNETT: I'm not sure if you do to be honest.

DAWN O'PORTER: I love my dogs. Here's the thing. Chris is away a lot because he's an actor. And when he's home, he does the dogs and I do the cats and the tortoise.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Right.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm-hm.

DAWN O'PORTER: And when he's away, which he has been a lot recently, I find the dogs are the thing that tip me over the edge.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Right, okay, yeah.

DAWN O'PORTER: Like, their energy-

NICK GRIMSHAW: Two kids, fine.

DAWN O'PORTER: Two big walks a day, like, I take them to the office with me and it's almost as soon as I get there that they're like, can we go out again? And they stress me out. I love them more than life itself, but my cats, apart from the fact that one of my cats sleeps on my pillow now, I find them so much less stressful.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Mm.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yes.

DAWN O'PORTER: But I can imagine that maybe it would be a harder question to answer when my kids have flown the nest.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Oh.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Mm, yeah.

DAWN O'PORTER: And I haven't got quite so much chaos in my house, because I've got to look after seven of them.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yes. It's a lot.

DAWN O'PORTER: It's a lot.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah.

DAWN O'PORTER: And the dogs, it's mostly our younger one, she's a f***** d***.

[Laughter]

NICK GRIMSHAW: A round of applause for Dawn O'Porter!

[Applause]

DAWN O'PORTER: Thank you for my delicious food. That was so lovely.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Oh Pleasure

DAWN O'PORTER: Glug my wine.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah that was delicious. Really good.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Coming up next week on Dish we have one of our most brilliant young actresses, Saoirse Monica Jackson.

SAOIRSE MONICA JACKSON: In my opinion, can you really mess up sushi? Like I've never been wowed like and, Hector, my partner, is such a like culture vulture and he took me to Nobu and honestly it was class, loved the cocktails and stuff... But when people are like, the sushi at Nobu is amazing, it's cold rice with cold fish on top, how could you mess that up, how long are those training at.. like how long were you training to do the same shape with different fish and rice or am I missing something...?

ANGELA HARTNETT: Details of all the delicious meals I've cooked on Dish can be found at waitrose.com/dishrecipes. All the links are in our show notes.

NICK GRIMSHAW: We love reading your reviews, don't we Ange? Ange?

ANGELA HARTNETT: Yep.

NICK GRIMSHAW: Yeah. Please keep them coming, and you know, the bigger the better. Like what you hear, then please share the love. Leave us a review on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, or wherever you are listening today.

ANGELA HARTNETT: Dish is a SE Creative Studio production.

Voiceover: Waitrose - Food to Feel Good About