

FOOD & DRINK

Get a taste of what you might have been missing

The first Birmingham Independent Food Fair is coming to Millennium Point on Saturday. **Mary Griffin** looks at six of the city's 40 small food and drink enterprises taking part

Soul Tree

For most food fair visitors this will be their first chance to sample Indian wine.

Soul Tree wines are produced 150 miles north east of Mumbai for a Birmingham-based operation in Warwick Road, Tyseley.

Alok Mathur, co-founder, reckons Indian wine could be about to enjoy the same growth seen by "new world" Australian and Chilean wines over the last 20 years.

It's now sweeping across curry houses just as Indian beers Cobra and Kingfisher have already.

He says: "India has been producing wine for 5,000 years. There is so much history behind it but the modern industry is very young."

"In our first year no one had heard of Indian wine and people were very skeptical. But now the customers have really taken to it."

The company is nearly four years old and now has a national presence, selling into more than 600 outlets (including curry houses, hotels and Michelin-star restaurants) through 220 distributors. And Purnell's are about to include Soul Tree on its wine list.

See soultreewine.co.uk

Kneals Chocolates



» Kneals Chocolates



» Samosas from Hibiscus Grove



» Berek Oscarek's Pierogi

Kneals' signature gift box is its 12 handmade chocolates (£9.50) featuring: rum and raisin.



» Pip Bradle

» Indian red wine

wrote up a list of ingredients on the back of a beer mat for her ideal hot sauce. The list became a recipe and the hot sauces became so popular that they are now stocked by venues

across the city - including The Plough. Pip now has eight different sauces, including La Boca Del Diablo, a refined smoked chilli sauce with a long, slow burn.

Nagatropolis is made using the Naga ghost chilli and Scotch bonnet, which means it's not for the faint hearted. And Fuego Del Verde is the latest in the range, using peppery green chillis to make a sweet sauce with a grown up kick.

Pip's hot sauces can be found in the Lord Clifden, Bodega, Brewdog, Lewis' in Moseley and in the Pug pubs in Leamington.

See pipshotsauce.co.uk

All Greek Deli

This deli in Stephenson Street, near New Street Station, opened in October last year.

Larisa Konstantinidou came to the Midlands