## Slow cooked PGI Welsh Beef* with leek rarebit

## scones

This melt in the mouth beef casserole is topped with a twist on the classic Welsh rarebit.

Serves 4 | Prep 30 minutes | Cook $2 ½$ hours

## Ingredients

700 g stewing beef, cubed
2 tbsp oil
1 large onion, peeled and chopped
2 large carrots, peeled and chopped
2 sticks celery, chopped
400 ml red wine
400 ml beef stock
1 bay leaf
1 tbsp fresh thyme chopped
1 tbsp Worcestershire sauce
200 g chestnut mushrooms, halved
2 tbsp plain flour
Topping
250g self-raising flour
1 tsp (heaped) dry mustard
75 g salted butter
8 tbsp beer
150 g grated Welsh cheddar with leeks
2 tosp chopped fresh chives

## Method

O1 Preheat the oven to $180^{\circ} \mathrm{C} /$ Gas 4
02 Heat the oil in a casserole dish and cook the meat in batches until browned all over.
03 Remove the meat from the pan and add the onions, carrots and celery and fry for 5 minutes. Sprinkle in the flour, mix well and pour over the wine and heat through, scraping any charred pieces from the bottom of the pan. Add the stock, herbs, Worcestershire sauce and return the beef to the pan. Cover with a lid and cook for $1 / 2$ hour in the preheated oven. Reduce the heat to $140^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and continue cooking for a further $1 \frac{1}{2}$ hours, adding the mushrooms for the final 30 minutes.
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## For the topping

O1 Mix the flour and mustard in a bowl.
02 Add the butter and with your fingertips rub in to the flour until it resembles breadcrumbs.
03 Add the chives and half the cheese and mix well.
04 Slowly add the beer and bring the mixture together. Do not overwork as this will make the end result tough.
05 Tip onto a floured surface and bring together to form a soft dough.
06 Form into a circle about 2.5 cm thick. Cut out eight scone size circles - brush with a beaten egg then place on top of the cooked beef.
07 Sprinkle the remaining cheese over the scones.
08 Return to a preheated oven $200^{\circ} \mathrm{C} /$ Gas 6 and bake uncovered for 20-25 minutes until the scones are golden brown.

