

34 Food Places With Heart @ Hungrygowhere.com

What to Eat

34 food places with heart

by Daniel Ang

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There are several heart-warming food places out there that do a lot to help those in need. From cafés that employ young people with special needs, to a hawker stall that helps ex-convicts, to restaurants that donate money to support kids with heart disease; these eateries are making a difference. Want to chip in? Here they are:



*Every dish at Joan Bowen's is prepared by special needs youth |
Photo credit: Daniel Ang*

CRITIC'S PICK Joan Bowen Cafe

Food prepared by youth with special needs

“A place where we dare to care” is this north-of-central’s café’s tagline. To fulfill the dream of their special needs child, Joan Bo Wen, Mr and Mrs Khong Yoon Kay started an arts-themed café-cum-culinary centre and named it after her. The shy and sweet daughter not only helps out in the kitchen, but serves customers too. Most of the staff are youths with special needs, trained to work in the kitchen; they prepare easy main courses, such as bangers and mash (\$14). The food is delicious, not that we should expect any less.

Joan Bowen Café | Address: 9 Jalan Wangi, Sennett Estate | Tel: 62813629 | Opening hours: Mon-Fri 11am-9:30pm, Sat noon-9:30pm



The Prof's signature fish and chips| Photo credit: Daniel Ang

Professor Brawn Café

A meal, then a piece of art made by autistic kids

Few would know that this café was started by Member of Parliament Denise Phua and her husband, who have an autistic son. They set up this café to help other special needs children. It should come as no surprise then that several of their service staff are autistic. Other than providing jobs for these special needs children, the café also showcases their talents by selling their art pieces in its two-storey space at Boat Quay. The set lunches are quite affordable; the signature fish and chips with a soup and drink costs only \$14.90, for example.

*Professor Brawn Café | Address: 10 Circular Road | Tel: 65320607 |
Opening hours: Mon-Sat 11am-10pm*



Wow Wow West's chicken chop is cooked by workers with tattoo-covered bodies | Photo credit: Daniel Ang

Wow Wow West

A new lease of life with the Yellow Ribbon Project

Eric Ng made a promise to God that he would become a better person and employ people who have been in prison, if his rebellious daughter Elizabeth turned over a new leaf. Touched by her father's heart, Elizabeth reconciled with her father and started working hard to make the best out of their Western food stall Wow Wow West. Now, this popular hawker stall is not only known for its tender succulent chicken chop, but also wears their support for the Yellow Ribbon Project proudly. The helpers are reformed drug addicts or gang members who have spent time in prison.

Wow Wow West | Address: #01-133 ABC Brickworks Food Centre, 6 Jalan Bukit Merah | Opening hours: Mon-Sat 10.30am-9pm



The big, modern, almost stark Food For Thought outlet at Singapore Botanic Gardens | Photo credit: Daniel Ang

Food For Thought

Well-rounded helpings

Food for Thought's motto is 'Good food for a good cause'. The team here first ran a tuition centre for underprivileged students, before going on to open this café which contributes to several other causes, including environmental protection to provision of clean water to third world countries. Customers can choose to donate \$2 for free flow of water during their meal, and the money is given to Living Water International. The food here is also divine - a must-try is their banana and walnut duo pancakes (\$10) served with fresh cream and gula Melaka syrup.

Food for Thought | Address: Singapore Botanic Gardens, 1 Cluny Road (Holland Road entrance) | Tel: 63389887 | Opening hours: Mon-Sat 9am-10pm, Sun 9am-9pm

Sweet Charity Month

For October only, desserts for a good cause

Our last recommendation is not a single restaurant, but a group of 30 restaurants which include 2am:dessertbar, Canelé Pâtisserie Chocolaterie, Tanjong Beach Club and The Disgruntled Chef, to name some. These restaurants with their counterparts in the group will participate in Sweet Charity Month, where they donate part of their dessert sales to help NUH's Kids' Heart Fund to support children with heart diseases. For the full list and photos of the desserts, read: [Sweet Charity: desserts for a cause](#).

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