



Source: Yorkshire Evening Post {Main}
Edition:
Country: UK
Date: Friday 7, May 2010
Page: 11
Area: 199 sq. cm
Circulation: ABC 44818 Daily
BRAD info: page rate £6,836.04, scc rate £21.05
Phone: 0113 243 2701
Keyword: Leeds Loves Food

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PICK OF THE BUNCH: Chef Darren Collinson with students from Leeds City College PICTURE: SIMON DEWHIRST

Green light for food gala

BY CHARLES HESLETT

GREEN gourmets tucked into a sustainable supper and started the countdown to the Leeds Love Food Festival. Business leaders from across the city boarded the number 36 bus on Wednesday to Harewood House.

There they were treated to a three course banquet including asparagus and soft poached Birchfield Farm duck egg, confit of rabbit leg and Wharfedale Grange rhubarb.

Darren Collinson, executive chef at Harewood Hospitality & Events, said: "Half of all vegetables and the vast majority of fruit consumed in the UK is brought in from abroad. "At Harewood, we are beginning a programme where we will grow a selection of fruit and vegetables for regular use in our cafes and for our functions.

"Locally sourcing food is always our preference." The **Leeds Loves Food** Festival runs from July 1 to 4. More details at www.leedslovesfood.com

