

# A Flavourful Success: Easter Cookery Demonstration Raises in excess of €10,000 for The Down Syndrome Centre NE

Castle Leslie Estate played host to a night of culinary creativity and heartfelt community spirit on Monday, April 14th, 2025, as their Easter Cookery Demonstration in aid of The Down Syndrome Centre NE proved to be a resounding success—raising in excess of an incredible €10,000 every cent of which will go directly to support the centre’s vital work.

Guests gathered at the stunning and elegant Castle Leslie Estate for an evening that blended flavour, fun, and philanthropy. The event kicked off with welcome drinks and canapés—including treats and refreshments for the little ones—setting the tone for what would be a memorable night. The spotlight was on the exceptionally talented Executive Head Chef Aaron Duffy, who wowed attendees with an inspiring showcase of Easter-themed dishes. From comforting Seafood Chowder to a show-stopping Silverhill Honey Roast Whole Duck, and sweet sensations like Estate Honey & Lavender Blancmange and Whole Sharing Pavlova, Aaron delivered a masterclass in creativity and culinary excellence. Guests also got an insider’s look at his signature Fighting Bishop Gin Cured Salmon and indulgent Easter Egg Cheesecakes.

The interactive demonstration, hosted by popular MC Sean McCaffrey of Northern Sound Radio, was filled with laughter,

learning, and delicious aromas. Guests had the chance to engage with Aaron, ask questions, and take home recipe cards to recreate the magic in their own kitchens.

The night also featured a lively raffle with a range of fabulous prizes, adding extra excitement and energy to the event. Most importantly, the event succeeded in its mission: to raise funds and awareness for The Down Syndrome Centre NE, an organisation committed to improving the lives of individuals with Down Syndrome and supporting their families across the region.

Mr. Brian Baldwin, CEO of Castle Leslie Estate said; “We are incredibly proud to have hosted this special evening in support of The Down Syndrome Centre NE. The generosity and warmth shown by our guests was truly inspiring. It’s a testament to what can be achieved when a community comes together with purpose and heart. On behalf of all of us at Castle Leslie Estate, thank you for making this night one to remember.”

Thank you to everyone who supported this wonderful event. Your generosity, enthusiasm, and love for great food have made a real difference.

Pictures from Event

