

MARTHA AND VINCENT SCOOP TOP AWARD

Just months after first opening, Martha & Vincent has just been awarded one of the most prestigious awards in the industry. The Ilkley restaurant beat off competition from thousands of other top restaurants to scoop the Yorkshire Life Neighbourhood Restaurant of the Year for 2007/2008.

And the award is even more impressive considering Martha and Vincent only opened its doors for the first time in April. Under the leadership of General Manager Javier De La Hormaza, Martha and Vincent has become a huge favourite with diners and taken the eating experience to another level.

Javier says he is delighted with the award considering they are such a new business and says it is reflection of the hard work his team have put into the restaurant.

He said: "It is a huge honour to have won this award and not something we expected to win so soon after opening. We were delighted to have been short-listed but to win it is a huge achievement.

"We have had a very encouraging start and the feedback from customers has been very positive, hopefully we can now move onto the next level and continue to provide the best service and food and improve on the high standards we have set ourselves. "There are some excellent restaurants in Yorkshire, so to win this award is a massive achievement and reflects the hard work the team has put in."

This particular award was a reflection of not only the restaurant itself including the food and service but also of the way it has contributed to the neighbourhood and the judges were particularly impressed with the contribution Martha and Vincent has made to the local community since opening.

The restaurant has already raised over £5,000 for charity and contributed to a number of major projects including local schools, The Candlelighters Ball and Paul Hunter's Big Night Out. Javier added: "We have strived to become an important part of the neighbourhood and have tried to put as much back into the local community as possible."



From left to right: Noel Kershaw, Javier De La Hormaza, Matthew Wilkinson and Harry Gratton