

Winners who are ushering in new era of enterprise

Impressionist Rory Bremner hosts ceremony

A new era for businesses in Havering was ushered in last week, as TV impressionist Rory Bremner hosted an evening toasting the cream of the entrepreneurial crop.

The Havering Business Awards, held at Thames Chase Community Forest, Cranham, was a "fantastic" event that marks the borough's "completely new approach to business", according to council leader, Cllr Michael White.

"Business has always been important to Havering as a

community," he said. "Now we have made it easier for businesses to get contracts with the council by cutting out some of the red tape.

"You can see through innovation we have some great businesses in Havering and I'm really pleased that every year new businesses are coming to the fore and being celebrated."

Business of the Year was claimed by Right Choice Insurance Brokers Ltd, Havering-atte-Bower.

Managing director, Mike

Joseph, told the Recorder: "We started five years ago and have won New Business, then Growing Business and now Business of the Year. It doesn't get any better.

"It feels absolutely fantastic - we're delighted."

On why he thought they got the award Mr Joseph added: "Year-on-year our performance and turnover has improved and the number of staff keeps growing. We employ 140 people now."

Justin Rich, of Total Assist Group, was left "speechless"

after being named Business Person of the Year.

He added: "I think it's down to me having a relentless approach to what I do.

"But it's also about the people I work with - their support has made a real difference to what I've achieved."

Apprentice of the Year went to Ellie Ford, of The Vanilla Room, in Hornchurch.

The 20-year-old, who has



■ Best Small Family Business: Surevent Ltd



■ Best Hospitality: The Queen's Theatre



■ Best Business in the Community: Romford Shopping Hall



■ Best Charity in the Community: Thames Chase Trust



■ Best Small Business: Heavenly Beauty and Tanning Ltd



■ Best Business2Business: RM Magazine



■ Best Staff Training: New Beginnings Nurseries



■ Best Business Person: Justin Rich, centre



■ The roaring 20s was the theme for some



■ The Streets Ahead Award: Lakehouse Contracts Ltd



■ Getting into the swing

