

## Awards are here tonight

Expect all the stops to be pulled out as politicians and industry leaders attend the Richmond Business Awards 2015 black tie gala evening.

The borough's finest businesses are hoping for glory in 13 categories such as best start-up, best retailer and best business.

Hosts Richmond Chamber of Commerce expect more than 200 business owners to attend the evening at Twickenham Stadium, alongside representatives from the 12 sponsors, the 13 judges, MPs Tania Mathias and Zac Goldsmith and former MP and business secretary Vince Cable.

The chamber has advised that even those who did not participate are still welcome to attend and will be entertained by the BBC's Paddy O'Connell, a magician, and music from the Allbeats.

Events kick off at 6.45pm with a three course meal served from 7.35pm followed by speeches, the awards and then live music and dancing up to 12.30am.

Tickets include the meal and a half bottle of wine and can be purchased from [eventbrite.co.uk/e/richmond-business-awards-2015-black-tie-gala-evening-tickets-14605975867?aff=org](http://eventbrite.co.uk/e/richmond-business-awards-2015-black-tie-gala-evening-tickets-14605975867?aff=org).

In next week's edition look out for a 12-page supplement celebrating the winners, high commended and everyone behind the staging of this year's Richmond Business Awards.



Delegation: Business leaders who visited St Mary's University

# 'Investing in the local economy'

## RTT reporter

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St Mary's University played host to business owners and senior executives in a day designed to explain how the educational institute contributes to the local economy and community as a whole.

Chairman of the Chamber

of Commerce Anne Newton joined the delegation who were taken around the Waldegrave Road site last week.

She explained how Professor Francis Davis, a member of the research and enterprise team, spoke of the university's Brave New World – a scheme where students and pensioners from the area support each other. In return for

spending time with the elderly resident and offering assistance with day to day task, the students are able to enjoy subsidised accommodation.

The university also offers access to its facilities for use by local businesses, and has a greater focus on overseas students who, research confirms, return to their university town post graduation to invest and often set

up businesses

She said: "They are targeting 2,500 new overseas students to invest in Twickenham, knowledge transfers with business and joint bids with local firms for investment funding for new research, facilities courses."

She added: "The new vice-chancellor Francis Campbell is impressive and has a distinguished career including

being former Her Majesty's Ambassador to the Holy See, director of innovation at UKTI and head of the policy unit at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office."

The group were also introduced to former MP Ruth Kelly, who is a member on the senior team and Greater London Authority member Tony Arbour who is a governor.

## Chamber events in the pipeline as we draw nearer to Christmas

There are a number of chamber events taking place over the next month. Business experts will deliver weekly business learning and development courses based in Richmond, Teddington and Twickenham.

□ A second chamber mentoring group that meets in at Richmond College was launched last Tuesday and on Tuesday, November 17, the mentoring group will assemble at Richmond Adult Community College. Contact [email@richmond-chamberofcommerce.co.uk](mailto:email@richmond-chamberofcommerce.co.uk) to learn more about this programme

□ Monday November 16: Members only – chamber group Mentoring Programme, 6pm to 7.30pm at the Richmond Business School, Richmond Adult Community College, Parkshot, Richmond. Led by Chamber mentor Norman Jackson, programme participants will enjoy business problem resolution, an opportunity to acquire increased business skills and knowledge in a safe environment and a chance to revisit and strengthen your business strategy. £15 + VAT

□ Tuesday, November 17 –

Chamber business workshop: Employment law – hot topics from 2pm to 3.30pm Morrisons Solicitors Offices, Waldegrave Road, Teddington.

A practical and interactive session aimed at equipping senior managers and human resources directors with an overview of recent changes in the law. Members £15 + VAT, non-members £25 + VAT.

□ Wednesday, November 25 – Chamber Business Breakfast at Twickenham Stoop Stadium with Harlequins Rugby Club chief

executive David Ellis and rugby director Conor O'Shea, 7.30am to 9.30am.

Enjoy a breakfast and enjoyable networking at Twickenham Stoop Stadium. Members £15 + VAT, non-members £25 + VAT.

□ Thursday, December 10 – Chamber breakfast at Whole Foods Market Richmond, George Street, 7.30am to 9.30am Meet local business owners, enjoy a healthy breakfast and experience the Whole Foods Market in Richmond.

Members £15 + VAT, non-members £25 + VAT.

□ Thursday, December 10 – Exclusive Chamber Twilight Tour of Strawberry Hill House, Twickenham 6.30pm to 9pm. Enjoy a glass of prosecco and canapes and explore Walpole's Gothic castle out of hours, where an expert guide will show you the theatrical delights of Strawberry Hill and tell you about its unique history, architecture and £10m restoration. Members £15 + VAT, non-members £25 + VAT.

# Richmond

## BUSINESS AWARDS 2015

Richmond & Twickenham **TIMES**



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