

Richmond Business Awards 2016

Headlining for 2nd year

HOSPITALITY and events experts Twickenham Experience have agreed to be the Richmond Business Awards' headline sponsor for the second year.

THE organisation, a joint venture with the Rugby Football Union, provides hospitality, conference and meeting room services at Twickenham Stadium.

BUSINESS development manager Louise Evans said being a part of the business awards was an excellent chance for the company to support the local community and Richmond's Chamber of Commerce.

SHE said: "We are part of the community of 5,000 businesses, and it is a great chance to demonstrate to them how we can help drive them forwards."

Rallying for retailers

THE chief executive of Teddington's Lensbury Club has praised the area's independent retailers and business community.

Winner of the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) category at the 2014 Richmond Business Awards, the 25-acre Lensbury leisure club has been in Teddington since 1920.

Chief executive Lacy Curtis-Ward said being part of the chamber and involved in the awards gives the organisation a vital opportunity to celebrate the variety and quality of business in the borough.

She said: "The businesses in Teddington are special because we have so many one-off shops - specialist places run by business people that largely live in the community they serve. It gives a sense of community and engagement that other places can

lack. The personal touch is important to the Lensbury and to all the businesses in Teddington."

Ms Curtis-Ward added winning the Best CSR award was a huge thrill for her team and receiving recognition of their hard work meant a huge amount.

She said: "The successes are big and small - sponsoring key events like Teddington Fair or Teddington Christmas event are high profile items, but we also introduced honey bees to the Lensbury site, the hives are on our roofs, safely out of the way, three years ago and changed our plantings to accommodate their activities. A small thing but lots of little changes make big differences when you add them all up. The CSR activities keep us very involved in Teddington - but the success of Teddington means the success of The Lensbury

and vice-versa."

The CSR category for 2016's awards will be sponsored by 2015's winner of the Best Business award, Butterworth Laboratories, which is also based in Teddington.

Richmond Chamber of Commerce chief executive Anne Newton advised business to ignore CSR at their peril.

She said: "We know that CSR is the cornerstone of every business strategy and we applaud The Lensbury for supporting local businesses so effectively by sponsoring a Richmond Business Award, winning Best CSR 2014 and for being on our Committee and assisting us wherever they can."

The Chamber's mentoring programme is offering mentoring for new firms from July 18. Contact email@richmondchamberofcommerce.co.uk for more information.

In brief

JUNE 30, Thursday - Chamber Business Evening sponsored by Sit-Stand.com in the Pitch View Suite, Marriott Hotel Twickenham: 6.30pm-8pm. Join us for an entertaining evening in the iconic Pitch View Suite and discover how you can improve your wellness and performance with active working from Sit-Stand.com

JULY 4, Monday - Exclusive members only: Chamber Group Mentoring Programme (five sessions). Richmond Borough Chamber of Commerce, 6pm - 7.30pm. This exclusive chamber members only group mentoring programme, led by our experienced chamber mentor Norman Jackson, is a resource for local SME business owners. This includes both start-ups and well-established businesses.

JULY 5, Tuesday - Exclusive members only Chamber Group mentoring programme (two sessions) Group mentoring sessions, led by experienced chamber mentor Stefan Kadlubowski, providing a confidential forum to discuss business issues and take onboard new perspectives.

JULY 11, Monday - Chamber Business Workshop: Apprenticeships. Investing in the next generation. This workshop will demonstrate how you can invest in the next generation and how apprentices can add value to your business.

JULY 14, Thursday - Chamber Business Evening with leading UK motor Journalist Gavin Green at Lexus Business Centre in Twickenham

JULY 19, Tuesday - Chamber Business Masterclass: Using behaviours to manage customer or colleague conversations

JULY 21, Thursday - Chamber Business Breakfast with the Bank of England at Le Salon Privé



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Heaping praise: Lensbury's Lacy Curtis-Ward

Picture: PFT Photography