



Winning smiles: Malcolm Watkins, joint managing director of Reabrook Ltd (left) with comedian and presenter Tony Hawkes

Environment win for Reabrook

Aerosol manufacturer Reabrook has been named the winner of the BAMA (the British Aerosol Manufacturers' Association) Corporate Social Responsibility Award. The company was acknowledged for its five-year, £105,000 sponsorship deal with The National Forest.

Reabrook and The National Forest are jointly developing a 38 hectare site, called Boothorpe Wood, just a five minute walk from the company's premises in Moira in South Derbyshire. A total of 42,000 trees on 21 hectares will be planted over the sponsorship period, with the remaining 17 hectares being developed as open parkland.

Malcolm Watkins, joint managing director, was delighted to receive the award from comedian Tony Hawkes, on behalf of the company at a national ceremony in Manchester.

He said: "We hope that the local community, our employees and their families enjoy this woodland for years and years to come, and we encourage you all to take a walk down to Boothorpe and discover this new area for yourself."



Members triumph

Chamber member companies have swept the board in regional heats of Chamber Awards 2012.

Pictured (left to right) are John Woodward, Busy Bee Benefits; Alan Volkaerts, operations director JLR; Emma Small, Busy Bee Benefits; Beverley Fairbank, HR Manager, JLR; Alok Mathur and Gorvinder Butter, Soul Tree Wines; Stephen Clarke, The Contact Group; and Mandy Canny, head of membership at Birmingham Chamber of Commerce Group.



New recruits: Amey chief executive Mel Ewell with the latest intake of apprentices

On the road to success

The company that maintains and manages the roads network in Birmingham on behalf of the city council has been awarded the Investors in People Gold standard for the way in which it develops, supports and motivates its employees.

Amey currently employs over 500 people on the 25-year contract and has previously won silver. It is now the only company in its sector to have been awarded Investors in People Gold across the whole of its business.

John Sunderland, business director at Amey, said: "This award is testament to Amey's commitment to employing and retaining the best talent in the industry.

"We are committed to working in partnership with the city council to bridge the skills gap and help young people and long term unemployed in the local community in to work."

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Amey was praised for its achievements across five core areas including its apprenticeship programme which includes partnering with the Duke of Edinburgh and committing to

employing two per cent of the workforce as apprentices.

Zoe Peters, an apprentice trainee technician at Amey, says: "I think it's amazing that Amey gives me the chance to learn while I start to build my career. As part of my apprenticeship, Amey has paid for me to attend university part-time to study for a degree in civil engineering.

"My apprenticeship has been really good for me on a personal level, as well as on a professional and academic one and I'm excited about my future with the business."

Amey will also become Investors in People Gold Champion, providing advice and help for other businesses aiming to achieve the award.

Mutual's sales team recognised

Wesleyan Assurance Society has won one of the UK's top sales awards. The Birmingham-based financial mutual won Sales Management Team of the Year at the National Sales Awards for its Hospital Doctors Segment, beating off competition from high profile firms such as Direct Line, Royal Mail and Virgin Media.

The Wesleyan team was praised for the way its strong, focused and people-orientated management team had helped to deliver continued success among its customers in the medical profession, despite the difficult economic conditions.

Craig Errington, Wesleyan chief executive, said: "This is a fantastic achievement and a tribute to the hard work and dedication our financial advisers put in across the country.

"The judges could clearly see how effective our segmented approach is, with our financial consultants becoming experts in the medical, legal and teaching professions to ensure they truly understand what our customers want and then deliver them a bespoke service."

Ian Morgan, national sales manager for Wesleyan Medical Sickness, added: "I am immensely proud of my team for receiving this national recognition, and also everyone else at Wesleyan who works with the Hospital Doctors Segment to support their approach and deliver fabulous results."

Wesleyan provides tailored financial products and services to the medical, legal and teaching professions through Wesleyan Medical Sickness, Wesleyan for Lawyers and Wesleyan for Teachers.