

NEWSLINK

East Sussex
County Council

EMPLOYMENT SERVICES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

1995 DISABILITY BUSINESS AWARDS

held at Michelham Priory on Friday 24 November

Last year's Disability Business Awards revved up to a memorable start after our launch at the House of Lords in April 1994. This year, the Awards hit a new gear. In the splendid Elizabethan setting of Michelham Priory, TV personality Michael Aspel told the winners, selected from dozens of entries in the Public and Commercial sectors, "These are your awards".



Mike Barratt, general manager of Employment Services with Michael Aspel OBE, Guest of Honour at the 1995 Disability Business Awards presentation.

Mike Barratt, general manager of Employment Services said, "The interest generated had, once again, surpassed all expectations". Mike said, "During the past year, my department has been looking at more and more ways of integrating people with disabilities into the workplace". He went on, "We are dedicated to our cause, but we wanted to find out what others were doing and to hear from companies who had shown a high level of commitment to their disabled staff.

We looked for evidence of how workplaces had been adapted for those with special needs. And we asked the employees themselves how happy they were in their jobs. Quite frankly, we were overwhelmed by the response". Presenting the awards, Michael Aspel made it clear they held a special and significant interest to him - his 15-year old son Patrick suffers from cerebral palsy.

He congratulated the winners for 'showing the way'.

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ROLL OF HONOUR

PUBLIC SECTOR

WINNER:

County Secretary's Department, Lewes

RUNNER-UP:

Craven Vale House, Brighton

SPECIAL COMMENDATIONS:

Benefits Agency, Brighton

Brighthelm Church Community Centre, Brighton

Community Assessment Team Eastbourne

Eastbourne Borough Council Treasurer's Department

COMMERCIAL SECTOR

WINNER:

Tesco Stores Limited, Eastbourne

RUNNER-UP:

Safeway Stores plc, Lewes

SPECIAL COMMENDATIONS:

Maleida Arts and Finishing, Hove

Safeway Stores plc, Hastings

Wych Cross Nurseries, East Grinstead

Wyevale Garden Centre, Kingston, Lewes

Some heart-warming stories were recalled during the Awards presentation and three strong messages were delivered...

The Disability Business Awards are going from strength to strength

Employing people with disabilities can be a challenge... but is also very rewarding

Disability does not mean inability

