



BOBBY PATEL, OWNER OF APPY FOOD AND DRINK, WITH HIS TEAM

MAKE SURE YOUR BUSINESS ENTERS OUR 2016 AWARDS

This year's London Business Awards are now open for entries and we hope to receive record entries before 3 June.

This is the fourth year that we have run this event and we'll be building on the success to make sure this event is bigger and better than ever before.

There are over a dozen categories and if you have never thought about entering a business competition before then this event is seriously worth considering.

Your team will receive a boost from knowing their boss thinks they are good enough to be entered and you will also gain a different perspective about your business which can lead to fresh thinking and new directions.

We know it can be a big step so we have arranged a Masterclass on 5 April to help you make sure your entry is as good as it can be.

We will have specialist speakers on entering awards as well as information on

how to write a bid to tender for contracts.

Winning a contract or winning an award? Both would be great for your business so make sure you book your place at fsb.org.uk/regions/greater-london/london-diary-events.

This is a view we have received from one of our previous winners:

"Appy Food and Drinks was proud to be awarded FSB's award for Business Innovation.

"It has helped maintain our strong belief in what we do: putting people before profit by formulating products that are naturally healthy and delicious.

"From being the first to produce a kids' stevia-based product to the first drinks range with augmented reality tetra pak packaging, innovation has always been in our DNA and we aim to keep the legacy going for healthier generations to come.

"Winning the award has made retailers re-think what they stock, and we will continue to innovate and expand our product portfolio."

RACHAEL'S TWEET WINS SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY TWITTER COMPETITION

Regular customer, Rachael Jenkins of Sutton, Tweeted about her Christmas tradition of buying her festive decorations from Room Remedies in Raynes Park and won £250 in our Twitter Photo Competition supporting Small Business Saturday. Karen

Wirth, owner of Room Remedies, promoted FSB's competition supporting Small Business Saturday to her customers and was pleased that one of her regular customers was the winner.

Rachael said: "I am absolutely delighted to

win. Room Remedies is one of my favourite shops and I had fun Tweeting about my visit there for the competition."

Karen Wirth, owner of Room Remedies, said: "I'm blessed to run a small business with such loyal customers."

CHANDRA TOASTS A DECADE OF RETAIL SUCCESS

Recent years have been tough for retailers on our high streets.

So it was heartening to hear that one of our members in Orpington celebrated their 10 year anniversary at the end of last year with a party attended by the Mayor of Bromley, Councillor Kim Botting, and over 30 local people.

Cut Price Cartridges opened on 10 December 2005 and now, with sister company Tangent Office Resources, has expanded to become one of Bromley's leading suppliers of office stationery.

It has been recognised for a number of awards recognising their green credentials, scooping the Excellent Dealer of Office Products award by industry body, the BOSS Federation, and last year, Tangent Office Resources was named Stationery Dealer of the Year in another national competition.

The business keeps him busy, but Chandra Sharma still finds time for FSB activities. He is the South East London Branch Chairman and Director of the Orpington 1st Business Improvement District (BID).

Chandra said: "I operate in a competitive sector but to compete with the large, multi-nationals it is vital to offer great customer service. Helping other small businesses as part of my FSB role means I help my community remain interesting."



CHANDRA AND DAUGHTER JAYA, AGE 4, CUTS THE RIBBON ON 10TH DECEMBER 2005 - ARTICLE FROM BROMLEY EXTRA'