Magnaificent

This year’s Business Excellence Awards saw colleagues coming together to celebrate some of the fantastic achievements of the past year, and Connections was or hand to find out more about the trophy winners.

At a glittering ceremony held at the Magna Science Adventure Centre in Rotherham, the awards were presented in true “Oscars” style as all the finalists were showcased on the big screen, building up the tension and leaving everyone on tenterhooks to see who would take home the major prizes. The gold envelopes were opened and the winners were called up to the stage amid thunderous cheers and applause to receive their awards. In what was a very close fought competition eight trophies were presented on the night and the winners received their awards from judges Rob Salmon, director of corporate affairs, Allison Bainbridge director of finance, Roger Hyde, no executive director of YW, and chief executive Kevin Whiteman.

Everyone who attended was in agreement that the night of celebra was a fitting end to the whole awar process that had begun back in Apr Praising the high quality of the entri Kevin Whiteman commented: “I am motivated by the staff at Kelda and Yorkshire Water, they are inspiration because of their drive, enthusiasm and passion. It is no accident that Yorkshire Water has been named ‘Utility Company of the Year’ for tw years running.”
Roll of honour
Managing Director's Trophy
Glide Path to Zero Interruptions
Clear Water team
Colleague of the Year
Shahnaz Hussain, contact centre manager
Partners
Research & Development team
Strategic Partnerships
Society
One Vision
Street Works Improvement team
People+
Get on board the YW Rocket –
the WW2020 Roadshow
WW2020 Roadshow
Project team
Value+
Whirlwind in Goole
Mains Rehabilitation team
Compliance+
Getting it right at the start
Screens and Handling team
Service+
They think it’s all over, but
now comes goal 750
Service Improvement team

Simon Barnes, fresh approach and clear water programme manager
Managing Director's Trophy winner
"Winning this award is a fantastic achievement. It clearly demonstrates the commitment Yorkshire Water and its partner organisations have towards customer service and achieving zero supply interruptions."

David Brown, mains rehabilitation manager
Value+ Trophy winner
"It was a thrill to win the Value+ category as there was such a high standard. It was a real team effort with representatives from Yorkshire Water, Balfour Beatty and the manufacturer, Whirlwind Utilities, represented on the night."

Chris Fell, senior project engineer
Compliance+ Trophy winner
"It's fantastic that the company has recognised the importance of the problem posed by screenings and our approach to overcome it. I'm delighted that the hard work from everyone in the team was recognised. The fact that the quality of the competing projects was so high makes it an even more excellent result."

Gillian Wardman, regional customer services manager
Service+ Trophy winner
"Everyone within the water business unit deserves congratulations for winning this award. We are now moving onto Goal 750 and are looking to reduce the amount of written complaints even further. I was hopeful that we would do well and very pleased on the night for everyone who contributed to our success. It was a fantastic result and a pat on the back for everyone involved."

Shahnaz Hussain, contact centre manager
Colleague of the Year winner
"I was stunned when they called my name at the award presentations. It was so unexpected and the reaction from people made me feel special. It was also rewarding that recognition came from external departments such as Kelda and not just internal departments."

Claire Green, graduate trainee
People+ Trophy winner
"It was great to showcase some of the really good stuff that is going on in the business and I loved seeing each project up on the big screens. We're really moving forward at Yorkshire Water and there was some tough competition in our category and winning the award felt fantastic. The award recognised what we'd done in bringing people together and exciting them about the future. All the hard work finally paid off. It was the icing on the cake!"

Marie Brear, R&D programme coordinator
Partners Trophy winner
"I believe that the Research and Development Strategic Partnerships are an example of a true partnership. This was shown by the attendance of representatives from each of the Universities on the night of the Oscars. Research and Development are genuinely pleased to receive this award for the innovative Strategic Partnerships."

Kay Gawthorpe, street works improvement manager
Society Trophy winner
"We feel extremely proud that we were recognised for our efforts. We managed to achieve so much and involved not only the Yorkshire Water street works improvement team but Guide Dogs for the Blind and local highway authority representatives."

The winners made the steel house rock! Richard Neville entertained everyone as Elvis.