

# And the award goes to ...

UNSEEN heroes, enterprising entrepreneurs and dedicated volunteers were honoured at Halton's Business and Tourism Awards on Friday.

Close to 200 people attended this inaugural event, the first time achievements of the borough's tourist industry have been recognised.

Clr Rob Polhill, board member for tourism, said: "It was a fantastic night. When you've got pride in your town, you develop ownership.

"We have so many wonderful people projecting such a positive image of Halton, it's a great way for us to welcome visitors.

"We are also privileged to have so many medium and small enterprises, including lots of dedicated family businesses.

"Many are making sacrifices to survive during these turbulent times.

"I want to thank them all for con-

tributing to our local economy."

Julie Burgess-Wilson, chairman of Halton Tourism Business Network and Director of Catalyst, said: "We have some great places in Halton worthy of celebration.

"Great customer service is especially important to all of us in tourism as this is the key to a memorable and enjoyable visit."

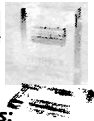
Steve Nickson, chairman of Halton Chamber of Commerce, said: "We have good cause to celebrate as we recognise our great people and outstanding achievements in Halton.

"An important part of the local economy is seeing new businesses start up and flourish.

"We have companies that are being recognised for the great work they do in exporting throughout the world."

Roger Phillips, from BBC Radio Merseyside, compered the evening at the De Vere Daresbury Park Hotel.

## Business and tourism roll of honour



### Tourism Awards:

- Outstanding Young Person, 16 -24  
*Sally Jones, Holiday Inn, Runcorn*
- Family Friendly - Ski Party Instructors  
*Runcorn Ski and Snowboard Centre*
- Unseen Hero or Volunteer  
*George Houghton, North West Vintage Fair Organ Rally*
- Team of the Year  
*Norton Priory Museum and Gardens*
- Outstanding Customer Service  
*Tracey Crutchley, Norton Priory Museum*

### Business Awards:

- Enterprising Halton Challenge Competition  
*Mike Cooke - Sports4all*
- Entrepreneur of the Year  
*Pet Education 4 U - Lorraine Duffy*
- Exporter Of The Year  
*Rockwood Additives Ltd*
- 1stuesday Networker of the Year  
*Merseyside Printing - John Dagnall*
- Best New Start-Up Business of the Year  
*About My Area - Tina Taylor*
- Halton Business of the Year  
*Merseyside Printing*