

BUSINESS AWARDS 2017

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 The firm sells brands including Ramaroots and Frank Pott to a range of outlets.
 Director Martin Pold said MP Canned Food "prides itself on the products it supplies along with its attention to customer service".
 He said the company hopes to achieve continued growth and is committed to supporting its local community with staff regularly volunteering with Hum-berstone Gate-based mental health charity Recovery.
 Martin said: "I decided to enter the awards because we are a local business in Leicester and the Leicester Mercury is our local paper. For me to be considered for an award would be like winning the lottery."

Complete Services Award. Complete PA offers a range of support services including diary management, call handling, business planning, social media support, event management and other administrative tasks, freeing small business owners to focus on growing their businesses.
 Based in Leicester, with seven staff, the firm provides office services to businesses across the UK and abroad, devising bespoke packages for each client, depending on their requirements.
 In its application form, the company said it is able to offer "valuable support at a time when companies need it most".
 MP Canned Food, based in Chaucer Street, Leicester, has been nominated for the Small Business of the Year Award.
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range of canned meats and ready meals from Estonia for the UK market.
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A healthy fast food business
 has been nominated in the
 Apprentice Employer of the
 Year and New Business of the
 Year categories at the 2017
 Leicester Mercury Business
 Awards

The Detox Shack, in Market Street, Leicester, makes fresh healthy food to order.
 Co-owner Phil Jackson said the idea is to provide a fast-food style service, but with all offerings made from fresh ingredients, prepared in front of the customer.
 Phil launched The Detox Shack in October 2015 and co-owns the business with manager Bella Alionyte. They also have two apprentices, Jordanne Robinson and Sabah Gani.
 Phil said the company sees running apprenticeships as "a sustainable business choice" and he hopes they will lead on to full-time positions.
 The company will then look to take on new apprentices.
 Asked why he decided to enter the awards, Phil said: "Firstly, because we feel we have very happy and fulfilled apprentices, but also because we wanted to provide these apprentices with a reward for their hard work - and being a finalist and attending the awards ceremony would certainly provide that reward.
 We hope to be shortlisted as, considering our size, we believe no business is doing more than we are to provide quality training for young apprentices. Half of our staff are now apprentices, and we will then train them to go on to supervising roles once they have finished their apprenticeship.
 For such a small business, we feel this is unique.
 We also have a very close relationship with the training provider (Rathbone training) who provide excellent academic training for our apprentices.
 It would mean the world to us to be shortlisted as a finalist for this award, having only started up just over a year ago.
 Just to be mentioned alongside much larger businesses would be a great honour."
 Complete PA, a virtual administration service for small businesses, has been nominated for

PICTURE: BETH WALSH



fast food-style service using fresh ingredients

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