



Regional retailers dominate Retail Excellence Annual Awards

600 greats of Irish retail gathered to mark the best in business

Retail Excellence has announced the winners of its 2018 Awards in association with Barclaycard. The 2018 Awards drew more finalists than ever before, with the third ever Lifetime Achievement Award being presented to Rachel Doyle of Arboretum.

The Awards celebrated the best of every facet of Irish retail across stores, people, managers and team members, ecommerce and suppliers. This year's Friendliest Place Award saw County Councils and Local Enterprise Offices (LEOs) from around the country nominate their towns with Ennis taking the prize.

Among the overall winners were Garvey's SuperValu Tralee, the first ever grocery winner of the National Store of the Year Title who also won Supermarket of the Year, Fallon and Byrne winner of Food and Wine Store of the Year, Tilestyle winner of Home Interiors Store of the Year, Applegreen in Tramore for the Forecourt of the Year, House of Waterford Crystal for Visitor Store of the Year, Vodafone Killarney winner of Electronic and Tech Store of the Year.

Other sectoral award winners include Mellerick's Pharmacy of the Year, Laurdree Restaurant and Coffee House of the Year, Stonechat Jewellers Jewellery Store of the Year, Mullingar Opticians Optician of the Year and Pat McDonnell Paints Home Décor Store of the Year.

CEO of Retail Excellence David Fitzsimons said "We are delighted to recognize and award the very best in Irish retail all of whom have shown an unquestionable commitment to meeting and exceeding customer expectations as well as innovation in store and in-service delivery. We are particularly pleased that across all of our categories of awards Irish retailers, both big and small, urban and rural competed to deliver that exceptional standard of service to customers regardless of their size.'

"All winners are standard bearers in their sector and we are delighted to support and assist such progressive retailers be the best they can be. We look forward to working with the finalists, entrants and members into the future to assist in their endeavors and continue driving standards in Irish retail".

The Awards were presented on Saturday evening (November 11) by media personality Hector Ó hEochagáin. The sell-out event was attended by a number of Oireachtas members and 600 Irish retail industry executives.

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About Retail Excellence

Established in 1995, Retail Excellence is owned by the members, for the members. We are an organisation which invests in innovative and exciting learning, market intelligence, human resources services, Government representation and member networking initiatives. Retail Excellence has over 1,800 leading retail companies in Ireland. Our members are the most progressive and innovative retailers. Retail Excellence is by far the largest retail industry body in Ireland.