

**30 April 2010**  
**For immediate release**

## **Last call for entries for Innovation Awards**

Businesses, including social enterprises in the Heads of the Valleys area are being reminded that there is only two weeks to go before the closing deadline for entries for this year's Heads of the Valleys Innovation Awards, with the overall related event sponsored by the University of Wales Global Academy..

The Awards are open to any business within the Heads of the Valleys region and in the wider boroughs of Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly, RCT, Merthyr Tydfil and Torfaen that can demonstrate a significant impact on or a link to the Heads of the Valleys.

Organised by Heads of the Valleys Innovation Programme(HOVIP) the awards has four categories, which are the Most Innovative Sole Trader (sponsored by HSBC), Most Innovative Business with less than 20 employees (sponsored by South Wales Chamber of Commerce), Most Innovative Business with more than 20 employees (sponsored by BT), and Most Innovative Social Enterprise (sponsored by Capital Law).

This year's ceremony, innovative business exhibition and speed networking event will take place at Bryn Meadows Golf, Hotel & Spa on June 24<sup>th</sup> where Arthur Davies, the co-founder of Penderyn Whisky will be guest speaker, with BBC Wales' presenter, Jason Mohammad compèring. There is also an award, sponsored by FS4B, for the Most Innovative Exhibitor.

Phil Burkhard, programme manager for HOVIP said: "With the 14 May deadline looming, we have had a tremendous response already but there is still time get in your entry. The Awards showcase and celebrate business innovation in the Valleys. Winners will automatically be entered for the Wales Innovation Award and South Wales Chamber of Commerce Awards. Likewise, entrants will automatically become members of the Turning Heads Club, HOVIP's regional business club comprising Award winners and entrants only."

It is free and easy to enter the Awards, just by visiting [www.hovip.org.uk](http://www.hovip.org.uk) and the closing date for entries is 12 noon on Friday 14 May 2010.

# PRESS RELEASE



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