



Prestigious award for our local entrepreneur

Niall McManus receives top business accolade

KILKENNY man Niall McManus has been honoured with a Social Entrepreneurs Ireland award. Niall, who lives at and runs his business from Maudlin Street in the city, received the award for 'ReEnPower', an investment fund for Research and Development into small-scale renewable energy technologies.

The technologies will benefit communities in Ireland and the developing world and will be developed by Irish firms where possible and will be made affordable by methods such as micro-fi-

nance. The fund will minimize profits to guarantee low cost products.

For Niall, an exploration geologist who has worked across the globe, two things have always been apparent: The need to live within our limited resources, and people's need to improve their lives. Niall believes that the first step to economic empowerment is provision of electrical power.

He said: "1.6 billion people have no access to electricity. They are a potential market for cheap renewable energy

that is not dependent on a national grid."

The annual Social Entrepreneurs Ireland Awards, supported by NTR, a leading international developer and operator in renewable energy and sustainable waste management, honoured 38 exceptional individuals.

Guest speaker, Liam Black, former CEO of Fifteen, Jamie Oliver's social initiative for disadvantaged youths, reiterated the importance and necessity of innovation in making social change and progress.



Social Entrepreneurs Presentations: Niall McManus awarded