# Great and good

■ Leading Jewish charity Norwood raised £470,000 at last week's Property Lunch & Awards

**BY HELEN CRANE**

The great and the good of the property industry gathered last week to raise almost half a million pounds for vulnerable children, families and people with learning disabilities at the Norwood Property Lunch & Awards.

Held at the Lancaster London Hotel on 20 June, the biggest charity event in the property calendar – which *Property Week* proudly supported as media partner – was attended by more than 670 property professionals and raised £470,000 for Norwood.

Veteran political journalist Andrew Neil entertained guests with anecdotes from behind the scenes of May's general election. He also shared his predictions on the future of the four main political parties, Britain's status in the EU and Labour's upcoming leadership battle, which he joked one Tory MP had dubbed "the Labour's got no talent contest".

Delivering an appeal speech that was met with resounding applause from the audience, Norwood beneficiary Nick Ivil, who has a learning disability, described how the charity had helped him take up cycling on a tandem bicycle five years ago, eventually leading him to complete one of the charity's toughest fundraising challenges: a 500km ride from Nicaragua to Costa Rica.
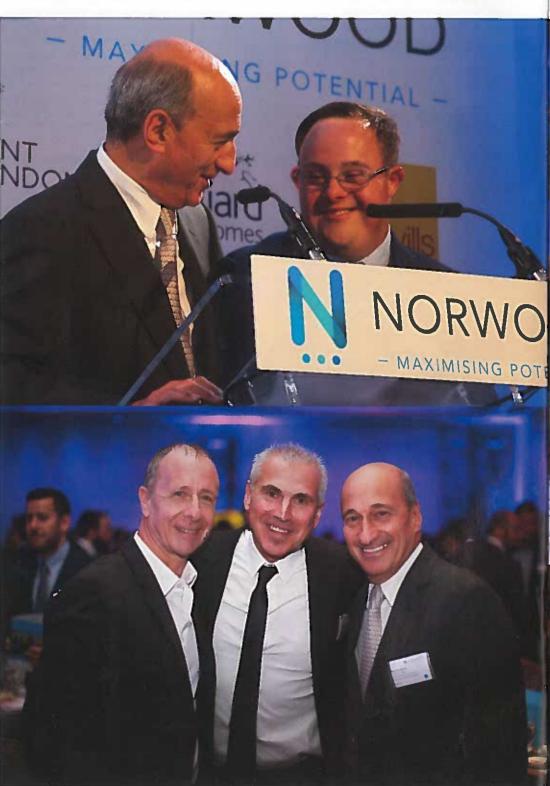
The lunch also played host to the Norwood Property Lunch Awards. Private Equity Firm of the Year was awarded to Ares, while Northacre took the prize for Residential Deal of the Year. Hatton Real Estate won Up and Coming Agents of the Year, and The Office Group got the gong for Co-Working Provider of the Year.

Mark Pollack, Norwood trustee and chair of fundraising and property lunch co-chair, said: "The property industry is doing fantastically well, and this event gives us the opportunity to put something back. We raised a tremendous amount of money for a very worthwhile cause." ■

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