Thinkers50 has been described by the Financial Times as “the Oscars of Management Thinking.

Thursday 6 November, 2025

Henry Stewart is receiving the Founders Award from Thinkers50. This award is given to an individual who has paved the way for thought and leadership to flourish.

Recipients of the Founders’ Award are chosen personally by Stuart Crainor and Des Dearlove, founders of Thinkers50. It aims to celebrate people who have made an important contribution and who deserve far greater attention on their work and achievements.

Stuart Crainer and Des Dearlove said:

“We have long admired the work Henry Stewart has done at Happy and more broadly in championing workplaces fit for the twenty-first century. The impact he has made is considerable. He has helped make workplaces more fun and humane environments. There is, of course, much to do and we are sure he will carry on campaigning for many more years.

“Henry Stewart is extremely honoured to be chosen for this fantastic award, shedding light on the hard work that he has put into Happy and *The Happy Manifesto*
over the years – paving the way for happier workplaces and better results from employees at those workplaces.”

Henry said:

"I am really honoured to receive the Founders Award. It has always been my mission to help people feel happy and empowered at work. It has been incredibly satisfying to see thousands of organisations adopt the principles of *The Happy Manifesto*, and hear their success stories.

"We are a training provider that help senior leaders build an organisation, based on trust and freedom, where employees make their own decisions.

"I’ve spoken at events around the world to spread these ideas, and seen it change people’s lives. I hope that one day, workplaces based on trust and freedom will become the norm rather than the exception.

"While I founded the company, the real success lies with our *truly awesome team*, who live these values every day and help others bring them to life in their own organisations.”

---ENDS---

About Henry Stewart

Henry is founder and Chief Happiness Officer of Happy Ltd, originally set up as Happy Computers in 1987. Inspired by Ricardo Semler’s book *Maverick*, he has built a company which has won multiple awards for some of the best customer service in the country and being one of the UK’s best places to work.

Henry was listed in the Guru Radar of the Thinkers 50 list of the most influential management thinkers in the world. “He is one of the thinkers who we believe will shape the future of business,” explained list compiler Stuart Crainer.

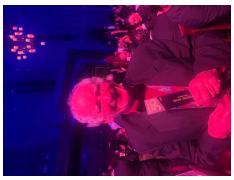
His first book, *Relax*, was published in 2009. His second book, *The Happy Manifesto*, was published in 2013 and was short-listed for Business Book of the Year. His latest book, *Creating Joy at Work: 501+ Ideas for a Happy Workplace* was released in 2025 and is filled with ways that people around the world have implemented workplaces based on empowerment and working to strengths.

Thinkers50

Every two years, Thinkers50 salutes the leading business and management ideas of our age with its Ranking of Management Thinkers and Distinguished Achievement Awards, known as

“The Oscars of management thinking” (Financial Times).

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The Thinkers50 annual Radar list identifies emerging thinkers with the potential to make a significant contribution to management theory and practice, and the Thinkers50 Hall of Fame recognises and celebrates the legacy of thinkers whose lifetime's work has had a lasting influence on business and management.

The Thinkers50 brand, built on the core values of independence, integrity, and accessibility, is admired globally for objective market intelligence, positioning Thinkers50 as the leading authority in management ideas.

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