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HONOUR: Shalit with Pixie Lott, left, and Denise Van Outen

★ The showbusiness agent **Jonathan Shalit** often gets ribbed for using the title professor, following his honorary award two years ago. But he now has a royal blessing to do so.

At a gathering to celebrate his OBE for services to entertainment, Shalit announced that he told Princess Anne, when she invested him with his gong, that his stepdaughter has teased him for using an academic honour when he'd never set foot in a university.

"The Princess raised her eyebrows when I mentioned the teasing," he told guests who included Pixie Lott, Denise Van Outen and Arts Minister Ed Vaizey, "but she said it was OK for an honorary professor not to have a degree." So there!

