

Herald Express

www.heraldtoday.co.uk

50p where sold

Thursday, October 29, 2009



BEAT THE
VAT
INCREASE

UP TO
50%
OFF

MATTRESS CLEARANCE



Excellence Awards mark proud night

by **Jonathan Saunders**
jonathan.saunders@jpress.co.uk

THE PRIDE of Dacorum were recognised for their hard work and dedication in the Excellence Awards.

The event, held by The Gazette and Dacorum Borough Council on Friday, paid tribute to those who have made outstanding contributions to the community, business and sport in the area.

More than £2,000 was raised for the mayor's charity Dacorum Emergency Night Shelter, which helps the homeless, and for the Poppy Appeal.

It was sponsored by The Gazette, Dacorum Borough Council, BP, Kodak, the Sportspace Snow Centre in Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire Chamber of Commerce and Industry and NGK Spark Plugs.

The Gazette's Jill Manning, who organised the awards with Dacorum Borough Council's Tara Clark, said: "It was a good

night. There was lots of money raised for DENS charity and I think a good time was had by all."

The Mayor of Berkhamsted, David Collins, said he was delighted businesses in the town came up trumps in this year's awards.

"It was very pleasing that three out of the five nominees in the most promising new business category were from Berkhamsted with the ultimate winner being Walk the Dog that is based in the town.

"It shows that new businesses are using their initiative and it is encouraging to see that they did so well."

Entertainment on the night, at Shendish Manor on London Road, Apsley, was provided by two Dacorum talents - 14-year-old Chloe Smith sang a collection of modern songs and 17-year-old Charlie Smith performed a medley of jazz and soul classics.

● For more pictures see this week's Gazette - in shops now.



Charlie Smith sang a collection of jazz and soul classics, left, the evening in full swing, top, sporting category winner Brian Worrell receiving his award.