



the evening
Telegraph
Tuesday, September 28, 2004 www.peterboroughtoday.co.uk 32p

The ET makes it happen for charities



Make It Happen
with a
£10,000 GIVEAWAY
Telegraph COVERED

Grab a Lab!
Pedigree pups going free from the RSPCA
PAGE 11

BIG NIGHT: Posh manager Barry Fry with the winners of *The Evening Telegraph* Make It Happen competition. The lucky charities, groups and organisation won a share of a £10,000 prize pot. Full story: Page 3

CEREMONY - 21 worthy causes walk away from Make It Happen event with cash



SMILING FACES: Posh boss Barry Fry presents Car Dyke Rainbows' Alice Betanbeau (7) and Sarah Masters with their share of the Make It Happen cash. (4AL0927513)
Picture: ANDY LAITHWAITE

Winners take all in cash giveaway

THERE was more than a sprinkling of stardust in the air when dreams came true for hard-working charities in Peterborough.

Many had been struggling to fulfill ambitions which will make life better for people who really deserve it. Others had worthy plans that just needed a little help to get off the ground.

Last night, *The Evening Telegraph*, with help from Combined Insurance, turned Fairy Godmother and waved a £10,000 magic wand to Make It Happen for 21 deserving community groups.

Tears of joy glistened in some eyes and thunderous applause greeted the winners as they took centre stage at the Marriott Hotel, Alwalton, to celebrate a unique chance to fund good work in the community.

Editor Rebecca Stephens told the audience of caring volunteers and community workers: "When we at *The Evening Telegraph* got the chance to hand out £10,000 we hoped it would make a difference to a few local groups, but we didn't realise we held the magic wand to help 21 different organisations.

"Through our columns and pictures we aim to champion all that is good about the community and these awards help us to do just that."

Those who will be now be able to Make It Happen for people who deserve a boost include Peterborough ShopMobility which received £1,500 to buy a new electronic scooter to help disabled members of the public get around and do their shopping. The YMCA Time Stop charity, in Eastgate, will use an award of £500 to buy a computer to help it find jobs and accommodation for troubled young people.

Although there was a serious element to many of the awards, people who entertain

ALEX CLAYDON NEWS REPORTER

others, or encourage youngsters to take part in healthy activities, were not forgotten. Deeping Gang Show will spend £500 on audio equipment to make its annual show better than ever, and Whittlesey Royals Football Club will look posher than ever in new kit thanks to a £550 boost.

The winners received their prizes and commemorative plaques from Posh owner Barry Fry.

Barry said: "I think the Make It Happen project has been a fantastic team effort."

"This evening has made so many people so happy and I am delighted and proud to be part of it."

Nigel Brittle, marketing director for Combined Insurance, said: "We were keen to invest in the community where we do business, and we decided it is important to focus on people and groups who may not be able to get funding for themselves."



There will be a special feature on the Make It Happen awards in tomorrow's *Evening Telegraph* with a full list of winners.

alex.claydon@peterboroughtoday.co.uk



ON STAGE: Evening Telegraph editor Rebecca Stephens makes a speech at last night's ceremony.