

# City trucking firm drives

## Judges recognise efforts of Border companies

By PETER WILSON

FREIGHT company Border Express has taken out the 2005 Regional Business and Tourism Excellence Award for overall excellence.

The awards, with 20 categories in total, were announced before nearly 400 people at the Albury Convention and Performing Arts Centre last night.

Murray-Hume Business Enterprise Centre general manager James Burgess said the judges had been impressed with the standard of entrants.

He said Border Express had been selected after a long process but the company's flawless reputation for excellence could not be overlooked.

"It was selected for its staff members' overall passion for the job and their love for what they are doing," he said.

"The company has top quality staff who give great attention to detail to every job they take on, providing customer satisfaction which is just absolutely outstanding."

Mr Burgess gave special mention to the winner of the people's choice award, service station Border BP, located in Wodonga Place.

"It had a huge display in place to let its customers know it was entered in the awards and obviously was very proud of its accomplishment," he said.

"We had a lot of customers tell us how good the staff were in every way, how they made their customers feel special and how they provided great all-round service."

Mr Burgess said the awards, which are in their third year, had gone from strength to strength.

"Each year the number of nominations has grown by more than 50 per cent," he said.

"What is also most pleasing to see is the number of customers who are participating in the people's choice awards now."

"It shows an obvious pride in the Albury district which is why it is known as an outstanding shopping precinct and why people from all over the place come to the Border to do their shopping."

He said the 40 judges had been organised by the Wodonga TAFE from the business and industry sectors.

Individual award winners announced last night are:

Albury-Wodonga Business — Individual Achievement in Business and Community Leadership: Tony Smith.

Destination Albury-Wodonga Excellence in Tourism — Outstanding Contribution, individual: Bernie Mylon.

Destination Albury-Wodonga Excellence in Tourism — Outstanding Contribution, volunteer: Barry Wheatley.



● Mark Bryatt and Stephen Hogg, of Border Express, toast their success. Pictures: KYLIE GOLDSMITH



ABOVE: Representing ION at the awards last night Howard Morey, Brett Trezise, Lachlan McIntyre and David Anderson.



LEFT: John Jacob, author and speaker from Chicago was a special guest and local DJ Steve Bowen acted as presenter.

BELOW: Coles Express, Lavington, was represented by Anne Poole, Sharon Champion, Kevin Young, Russell Lacey and Danijela Belt.



# on to excellence



● Owner Anne Barry and second in charge Sarah Craig from Anne's Cafe.

## THE WINNERS

- **Overall excellence in business award: Border Express.**
- Excellence in customer service – people's choice award: BP Border.
- **Excellence in trade services: Wodonga Automatic Transmissions.**
- Excellence in innovation: Lucas Mills Pty Ltd.
- **Excellence in marketing: Hume Building Society.**
- Excellence in export development: Lucas Mills Pty Ltd.
- **Employer of Choice: Border Express.**
- Excellence in business and community partnerships: Wilson Transformers.
- **Excellence in a new or emerging business: Gundowring Fine Foods.**
- Excellence in retail: Beechworth Sweet Company.
- **Excellence in personal and home care services: Kirrinari Community Services.**
- Excellence in manufacturing: Wilson Transformers.
- **Excellence in business services: Border Express.**
- Excellence in agribusiness: Warrabilla Wines.
- **Excellence in tourism – speciality: Milawa Cheese Company.**
- Excellence in restaurant and catering services: Sweet Chestnuts Café.
- **Excellence in tourism – wineries: Warrabilla Wines.**
- Excellence in tourism – attractions: All Saints Estate.
- **Excellence in tourism – festivals and events: Albury Gold Cup.**
- Excellence in tourism – accommodation: Lake Hume Resort.