

# Plea by ladies who lunch



**COLD COMFORT:** Runnymede Court residents Alice Swift, left, aged 92, and Elsie Watson, aged 87, make do with their sandwiches after the freezer broke down

FORTY elderly residents of a Bolton sheltered housing complex are hoping for regular hot meals — with a little help from the Make It Happen community awards.

The awards are being run by the Bolton Evening News in conjunction with Combined Insurance, the specialist accident and health insurance company which has 8,000 policy holders in the Bolton area alone.

The firm has donated £10,000 for local groups and voluntary organisations across the borough, and the only criteria is that they must make a difference to the local community.

And the Runnymede Court complex in Deane has put itself forward for one of the cash awards. Residents know just what would make a difference to their lives — a new freezer.

Their old one has broken down, and that means that the senior citizens cannot buy in bulk for their regular luncheon club sessions which provide a welcome hot meal.

Estate manager Janet Fletcher is faced with buying fresh food to be cooked that day, often a difficult task for so many, or serving up sandwiches for the residents.

“It’s a shame because the residents look forward to a warming meal and a pleasant get-together,” she said. The group has applied for a grant from the community awards to buy a modest but useful freezer to help with the meals.

Applications for the Make It Happen awards close this week, and the lucky recipients will be invited to an awards night at the Reebok Stadium next month.

Watch out in the Bolton Evening News for details of the successful applicants.



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