

Comforts from the visitors

MAKE IT HAPPEN

with the
Bolton Evening News
£10,000
giveaway



WESTHOUGHTON Visiting Service, which works to combat isolation for elderly residents, desperately needs a new cooker to help provide hot meals this winter.

And the the Bolton Evening News and Combined Insurance — market leaders in specialist accident and health insurance — may be able to help.

Together, we are running the Make It Happen community awards to give away £10,000 to voluntary organisations in the Bolton area.

The visiting service, based at Westhoughton Methodist Church and under the leadership of co-ordinator Jean Jones, offers a variety of services.

As well as visiting, there is a weekly carer support/activity group and a busy weekly drop-in luncheon when about 50 senior citizens enjoy a buffet lunch and lively social chat.

Jean said: "The cooking facilities are not adequate to cater for these numbers now, and so we are unable to offer hot soup or anything hot for our older people which would be ideal in the winter."

The group is hoping that the Make It Happen awards could buy either a soup warmer or a new range cooker.

"We have seen one with six rings and a double oven," Jean said. "And our volunteers would be over the moon with the choices they could offer for a warming meal."

And if that goal is achieved, other groups that use the facilities there — including church members, the Westhoughton Age Support Project, Rainbows, Brownies and Guides, toddlers



SERVING UP FRIENDSHIP: Julie Green, centre, a volunteer for the Westhoughton Befriending Service, at the Thursday drop-in with two of the oldest diners (left) Frances Ingham, aged 95, and Kathleen Howarth, aged 92

and the Houghton Grove Luncheon Club — could all benefit.

If you would like a cash helping hand to Make It Happen for your voluntary group, write in and tell us about your organisation.

All the applications will be considered by a judging panel and

there will be a special awards evening for the lucky recipients next month.

Write to: **MAKE IT HAPPEN** Community Awards, Angela Kelly, Features Dept, Bolton Evening News, Churchgate, Bolton BL1 1DE or email akelly@boltoneveningnews.co.uk