

Wednesday's spotlight: It was time to celebrate the good in our community at an awards night

You'll make



Sarah Gomme reports

THEY are the groups and individuals who make good things happen everyday for people in their communities.

More than 40 individuals, charities and community groups received awards for their tireless efforts by the *Daily Echo* and Combined Insurance at the Make it Happen awards night on Monday.

Representatives of 42 groups from across the area enjoyed an evening at the Southampton Novotel where they received the cash awards that will help them make a real difference.

The *Daily Echo* teamed up with Combined Insurance, which operates throughout the country, in May to offer every single reader the opportunity to claim a share of a £10,000 award pot.

We received hundreds of applications and recipients included sports clubs, Scout and Guide groups, retired people's social clubs and charities.

On hand to present the cheques was Southampton's newest Olympic medal winner, diver Peter Waterfield.

Peter, 23, from Millbrook, sported the silver medal he won in Athens with diving partner Leot Taylor in the 10m synchronised contest.



DESERVING: Golden Condor Judo Club receive their award from Pete Waterfield, left, and Alwyn Hill, right.

Order no: rad714a9

"It's been a great night," he said. "It's wonderful to see so many people of all ages from different sections of the community here."

Helping Peter with the all-important cheque presentations was Combined Insurance senior regional manager for South East England, Alwyn Hill.

Mr Hill said: "We want to get more involved in the communities where we have customers. We are a community insurer."

"This is quite something. It's the first time I have been involved in these awards and it's wonderful to see so many people benefiting. We see this as an excellent opportunity to

provide something special for people in the community."

Among those who waited eagerly before being presented with their Make it Happen award was ten-year-old Jessica Atkins, from Woolston. Jessica, a member of the 9th Ichen Sea Scouts, picked up an award for £150 to upgrade the group's equipment.

Jessica said: "It's great to be a member of this group because we do so many activities like kayaking and going out on the boats. "It's really good that we've been awarded some money. We were all very pleased when we found out."



Poppin playgroup
Order no: rad9855b



Newtown Adventure Playground Support Group
Order no: rad505d1



Zoe Braithwaite Play Centre Order no: rad41783



Coxford Adventure Playground Order no: rad3c85b



Shirley Baptist and Toddler Club
Order no: rade4637



Live Longer Club
Order no: rad32433

- Ichen North Scout Group.
- First Romsey North Baddesley Scout Group.
- Eastleigh Gang Show.
- Ichen Woolston Methodist Sea Scouts.
- Katie Appleby.
- Sticky Fingers Pre-School.
- The Above Bar Poppin Playgroup.
- The Braithwaite Playcentres.
- The Newtown Playgroup.
- Coxford Adventure Playgroup.
- Shirley Baptist Parent and Toddler Group.
- The Live Longer pensioners group.
- The Hamble Monday Club.
- Birchlawn Residential Home.
- The Latham Court Social Club.
- The Hampshire Harriers wheelchair basketball team.
- Panther Roller Hockey.
- Honeypot House.
- The Tower project drop-in venue.
- Dibden Rovers FC.
- Winchester in Bloom.
- The Golden Condor Judo Club.
- Hythe Strikers Football Club.

The award recipients

- First Light Autistic Club.
- Hythe Dragons Kick Boxing.
- The Solent Rescue Inshore Lifeboat Crew.
- Gosport Young at Heart Club.
- Chalkhill Lives.
- Athlete Catherine Steels.
- The Western Challenge Art Classes.
- The Isaac Watts preschool.
- Romsey Victim Support.
- Botley CE Primary School.
- The Gentle Way to Do It Group.
- The Childrens' Fellowship League.
- The Avenue Centre.
- Gina Fitzpatrick and Friends at Southampton University.
- Colne Avenue Parent and Toddler Group.
- The Swanmore Disabled Club.
- The OEB Evening Club.
- The Blackfield Ladies Circle.
- The Play IT Group.



Hamble Monday Club
Order no: rad7639d



Panther Roller Hockey Club Left
Order no: rad1fb23



Birch Lawn Residential Home
Order no: radca402.



Latham Court Social Club
Order no: rad9e02d



Honeypot House (right)
Order no: rad15gd9

Daily Echo pictures by Chris Moorhouse

backed by the *Daily Echo* where thousands of pounds was distributed

it happen



Solent Rescue Inshore Lifeboat Crew

Order no: rad5279d



The Play IT Group

Order no: rad683a2



Blackfield Ladies' Circle

Order no: rad4a72b

WINNERS ALL: The line-up at the Make It Happen awards in Southampton.

Order no: rad2ea12



The Tower Project

Order no: rad98e97



Dibden Rovers FC

Order no: rada642a



Winchester in Bloom

Order no: radc6576



Hythe Strikers FC

Order no: rad9a420



First Light Club

Order no: rad584c8



The QEII Evening Group

Order no: rad5913e



Hythe Dragons Kickboxing

Order no: rad8bfb3



Gosport Young At Heart Club

Order no: rad5828f



Chalkhill Lives

Order no: rad0ab39



Catherine Steels

Order no: rad17024



Western Challenge Art Group

Order no: rade5afd



Colne Avenue Parent and Toddler Group

Order no: rada8339



Isaac Watts Preschool

Order no: rada38c6



New Forest Victim Support

Order no: rad2aa64



Botley Primary School

Order no: rad0718



Gentle Way To Do It Group

Order no: rad21501



Children's Friendship League

Order no: rad3808c



Gina Fitzpatrick and Bryan Wiltshire

Order no: rada8eaf



The Avenue Centre

Order no: rad31081