

Youngster from Grangemouth among first to apply

DANCING DREAM



By JILL BUCHANAN
REPORTER

YOUNG dancer Victoria Pirrie wants to 'Make it Happen' for her friends.

The eight-year-old was one of the first to apply for the exciting £10,000 giveaway offered by *The Falkirk Herald* and Combined Insurance.

Community groups can request a payout ranging from £50 to £1000 to help finance projects in their area.

Organisations with members aged eight to 80 have already been quick to write in with details of their proposals on how the jackpot could be put to good use. Plans to spend the cash include everything from new tops for a youngsters' football team to paying for a pensioners' bus trip.

Victoria, of Wavell Street, Grangemouth, wrote in to ask for cash for her dancing school.

She said the teachers at the McKechnie School of Dance were "the best in the world". Any donation received would cut down on fundraising activities, according to Victoria, and allow teachers, Nadine, Irene and Chris to "take it a bit more easy".

Victoria has been doing a variety of dance classes, including ballet, jazz, tap and highland, for over two years and loves every minute of her time at the dance school. She said: "I look forward to it everyday and hate when it is on holiday."

Her application will now go

forward with all the rest to be carefully scrutinised and the successful applicants will receive their cheques at a special events, towards the end of this year.

Falkirk Herald editor Colin Hume said: "We're delighted with the response in the first few days of this link-up with Combined Insurance. However, there are hundreds of groups in our area doing great work and we want to help as many as possible."

Combined Insurance managing director Clive Robinson said his company was committed to "investing in people, enhancing lives and building for the future", adding that the awards were a perfect chance to put that into practice.

He said: "We're delighted the community awards have had such an immediate impact on the local community in Falkirk. We're looking forward to seeing the dreams of winners being realised in the coming months."

Combined Insurance operates throughout the UK and Ireland. It has been serving the Falkirk area for 40 years and currently has around 2000 customers locally.

Any groups wishing to apply for a share in the bumper windfall should write in with details of the group, how much is wanted and how the cash will be used, remembering to include a daytime contact number. Send all applications to: Make It Happen, *The Falkirk Herald*, 1 Newmarket Centre, Newmarket Street, Falkirk FK1 1JZ.



Dancing scheme: Victoria Pirrie is among the hopefuls