



Hello everyone,

Another year has gone by and so we begin a new one.

2015 saw The Debenham Project, thanks to all the tremendous goodwill from our supporters, hard work from our volunteers, and generosity of our donors prove that community projects can make a real difference for those who have to cope with the impact of dementia on their lives. No matter which of our various clubs and activities that I think of, without exception, all are characterized by a “buzz” of interaction, an “atmosphere” of care, and an “abundance” of laughter. As you will imagine, December’s occasions were even more special with Christmas lunches and teas, crackers and chocolates – Carers Club with our very own “Christmas Music Man” was simply amazing. Also, I hope that you got a chance to see the “Debenham Stars” display in the church. Once again Sue Holifield created another brilliant contribution – very many thanks. The year was also one in which we continued to do what we could to encourage the development of community-based dementia support throughout Suffolk by working with the NHS, Social Services the charities and other organisations, including organising and hosting a major conference here in Debenham.

What will 2016 bring? The Debenham Project has become a recognised model for dementia friendliness in rural communities and I know that we will continue to evolve – we are always open to ideas for additions to what we do. However, in the current financial climate it is critical that we maintain a sound financial base, so we will be aiming for natural and steady development. As we enter 2016, I want to especially thank all those who have made donations, given grants, or fundraised for the project – Without you there would be no Debenham Project.

One thing is certain: The project will be here to help anyone who may need information and advice, wants to talk to someone about their concerns, or would like to participate in any of our activities. Please don’t hesitate to call me – it can make such a difference just knowing that you don’t have to struggle on alone.

Finally, if you need the use of a wheelchair, we have one for loan. Just let me know.

Best wishes,

Lynden

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