



As I write this, it seems that autumn is almost passed with the fallen leaves carpeting the ground and the first hard frosts in the morning and the evening. Sometimes it seems all we have to look forward to is the cold and dark of winter but The Debenham Project continues to be a story of “Good News”, and especially this last month.

“This is really good news!”

The Mid Suffolk District Strategic Partnership has confirmed that they will be giving the project a substantial grant which will cover our core funding for the next two years. It is a great relief to have the security and comfort of not having to worry about money and for the project to be able to continue to develop. We are so grateful when all local authorities are having to make major savings as a result of the banking crisis.

We are also so grateful for the private donations which show how much, within our community, people want to help with the project. Especial thanks are due to the W.I. who have invited me to represent the project at their Christmas party and to accept a most generous donation towards our work.

In addition, the project’s image continues to grow apace – we have recently taken part in an Anglia TV news programme and have also given a presentation to the Commission for health, housing and social care in South Essex. That presentation resulted in a £500(yes £500!) donation for the project. It is so encouraging that others believe that what we are doing here in Debenham is important.

On the 18th of last month we had the last of the autumn series of our Education and Awareness meetings. Unfortunately, Alan Reynolds was taken ill and couldn’t take part, but Julia Dawson demonstrated the enthusiasm and knowledge that has made her role and that of The Alzheimer’s Society so important in tackling the problems that dementia presents to our community. Many thanks are also due to Joan Read and Doreen Balaam who have been our “hostesses” with tea and coffee etc. for each of our evenings.

Our programme resumes on the 13th of January 2011 when Dr. Rob Butler of the Suffolk Mental Health Team together with, we hope, a rescheduled Alan

Reynolds will be our speakers. Please watch out for the posters and invite anyone that you might feel would be interested – as usual, tea and coffee will be available.

As always, thanks to all in Debenham, the surrounding villages, the local authorities, and our partners for all their support.

Finally, on behalf of the trustees, I wish all our volunteers, all our carers and those they care for, and all the wonderful people who have given us such support **A Very Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year.**

If you would like to know more please see our display in the Post Office, ring 01728862003, call in at the Library Resource Centre or visit www.the-debenham-project.org.uk where you can access all our newsletters, and much more.

With best wishes and kind regards

Lynden