



Hello everyone,

Sitting here and composing this letter in the middle of May, it is a lovely Sunday morning and I hope that we can soon be enjoying the early summer that I know we all long for. "Blooming June" has always been special and I have a very particular reason for hoping that this will be the case this year. A little while ago I received a letter from The Lord Lieutenant of Suffolk with an invitation to The Queen's Jubilee Garden Party at Sandringham on June 12<sup>th</sup>. It is really something to know that what we have done here in Debenham has been seen as worth celebrating in this jubilee year. Almost everything about our success is due to the efforts of those in Debenham but it could not have happened without the freely given help from a range of professional organisations. So, I have been asked to bring someone who has been very important in our project. I had no hesitation in asking Louise Diss (until recently the dementia services manager of Age UK) who has been "just magic" in her support. Let's hope that the sun shines – I am sure it will be a wonderful day.

The Debenham Project would not exist except for the tremendous goodwill and support that has been given not only by local people but those further afield including Mid Suffolk, the County Council, the Norfolk and Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust, and the Suffolk Foundation to help us with specific projects. This month I want to highlight how very grateful we are to all the individuals and local organisations that have helped us by making private donations – each time that someone has quietly said to me "I'd just like to give you this towards the project" has shown how many truly caring people there are around. I would also like to thank Waitrose (Ipswich) who have donated £216 as one of their community charities for April - thanks to being nominated by a friend of the project.

As I write this, later this week we shall be hosting the 2 day visit by Sian Lockwood to study the project for The Joseph Rowntree Foundation. I have not the slightest doubt that she will go away knowing what "The Big Society" means.

Finally, just a thought! If you need a wheelchair for a short time, give me a call. We have one that you can borrow.

If you would like to know more about The Debenham Project, please think about visiting our website [www.the-debenham-project.org.uk](http://www.the-debenham-project.org.uk) where you can access all our newsletters, and much more. If you are a bit unsure how to contact us on the web please call in at **The Library Resource Centre**, Cross Green, Debenham and ask Melanie or one of her staff to help you. A range of leaflets are available at the **Post Office** and don't hesitate to call the **Project Phone Line** 01728 862003.

With my best wishes,

Lynden