



Hello everyone,

## Behind the Scenes

### Would You Like to Help?

Of course we all have a pretty good idea of the activities, groups and services we provide – Carers club and Info Café, Lunch Clubs, Chair-based Fit Club, Transport, Advice and Information, One-to-One support, etc. These are the front lines of the Project which give support to those who are living with the impact of dementia on their lives, and also to others who can benefit from them. But what goes on “behind the scenes”?

As you can imagine, managing a project like ours is bit like running a small business and we have to make sure that it has the finance, the accommodation, the volunteers, the referrals (carers and cared-for), the admin, the resources, the publicity, the website, the insurance, and more beside. It sounds like an enormous task, and it did take a lot of effort to put it all in place back in 2009. But since then the project has been remarkably easy to manage. Apart from the impact of the Covid pandemic, it has operated and developed successfully without any problems. It has all been down to the great support from our trustees and activity/group/service leaders and volunteers. So, on a day to day basis, only a very small proportion of our time and effort and resources have been devoted to the “back office”.

However, things have changed over the years and Covid has triggered major changes in health care, social behaviour, and the use of technology. Therefore, as I have reported in previous articles, Project Horizon has been launched in which we are reviewing, revising, enhancing and updating every aspect of The Debenham Project. This most definitely is involving a lot of effort both in “front of house” and “behind the scenes” and we need to seek both voluntary and professional help, especially in promoting the Project (graphics design, website development, social media) and in administration (e.g. running our transport service). Also, we shall begin reviewing our overall leadership and governance and thinking about appointing additional trustees to help lead the Project successfully into the next decade. If you or someone you know might be interested please let me know.

Finally, we always are so grateful for all the support we receive from our community. So, to all our volunteers – Thank You. And to all our donors and fundraisers, and particularly this month to the family and friends of the late Tony Thornton - Thank You.

With all my best wishes,

Lynden Jackson

[www.the-debenham-project.org.uk](http://www.the-debenham-project.org.uk) ; 01728 862003