

Hi everyone,

Volunteers and Trustees

They do say "be careful what you wish for — It may come true". Well, 16 years ago we wished for a project that could "make a difference" for the increasing numbers of those in our village and the surrounding area that were struggling to cope with caring for someone with dementia. And that wish came true. Today, I continue to be amazed at how much has been achieved and how much it is appreciated by those who participate in the wide range of support services we offer. But it has been, and continues to be, a major effort for a village community. I am so very grateful to all our 60+ volunteers for their generosity, kindness, empathy, understanding, and time, not only in our regular activities and groups but also in all the other tasks involved in creating and running a community project.

However, I especially want to thank our trustees - Mike, Roger, Carol, Paddy, Richard and Tammy. The Charity Commission places a legal duty upon them personally to oversee all aspects of the Project, and ensuring that the organization functions safely, smoothly and ethically. This entails a myriad of responsibilities beyond the direct care we provide - policy formulation, administrative tasks, data protection, safeguarding, financial governance, legal compliance, etc. Their role often goes unrecognised but takes a great deal of their time – It's not just attending the odd meeting or two!!

And finally, at the end of this month we will welcome all our Debenham Project family – Carers and those they care for, Past carers, Donors, Volunteers, Trustees, and other Participants - to our Annual Garden Party for an afternoon of music and song, wine and beautiful canapes, and especially, friendship and laughter. All hosted so generously by Mike and Lyn. It has always been a very special occasion for us all.

Wishing you all a lovely June filled with sunshine and roses, and my very best wishes,

Lynden

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