

Summary of Debenham Project Performance and Achievement

(April – June 2026)

Overview

The Debenham Project supports carers, cared-for individuals, former carers, volunteers, and other community participants through a range of support groups, social activities, transport services, and practical assistance.

Participation spans multiple services including the Information Café, Fit Club, Songs for Sharing, TLC, Care to Dance, Lunch Club, the Hut, transport services, form-filling support, diagnosis support, and administrative activities.

Important: The participation figures do not represent unique individuals because many people are involved in more than one activity.

Participation Highlights

Support for Carers, Cared-for People and Other Participants

Activity/Service	Carers	Cared-for	Past Carers	Other Participants
Carers Club & info Cafe	12	12	4	4
Fit Club	5	4	1	8
Songs for Sharing	7	7	0	7
TLC	7	4	0	2
Care to Dance	6	6	1	2
Transport	0	0	0	24*
Coopersfield Lunch Club	8	11	1	0
Hut** & other events***	7	8	4	4
Forms Support	4	0	0	0
Pre/Post Diagnosis	7	7	0	0
Respite Initiative	4	4	0	4

*The Transport Service also provided **74 passenger journeys** during the reporting period.

*The **Hut** is a special annual outing at Felixstowe held in August which supports a diverse mix of carers, cared-for people, former carers and other community members.

***The **Annual Debenham Project Garden Party** is an annual celebration held in June sponsored, funded and organised by local benefactors which brings together everyone involved. Additionally, other “community” events are organised, such as the **Jukebox Party** (this May) which attract attendances of 150+.

Key Observations

- **The Carers Club and Information Café** provides the broadest support across carers, cared-for people, former carers and other participants.
- **Fit Club** and **Songs for Sharing** attract significant participation from the wider community, with 8 and 7 other participants respectively.
- **Transport** supported 24 local individuals in attending their medically related appointments on **74 occasions**, with a team of **23 volunteers**.
- The Debenham Project's activities demonstrate a broad community impact, supporting not only carers and cared-for individuals but also former carers and other local residents through social, wellbeing and practical support services.

Volunteer Involvement

The Project relies heavily on volunteers across all services.

- **Transport** has the largest volunteer base, involving **21 regular volunteers and 2 occasional volunteers**.
- The **Hut outing** engages **17 volunteers** (1 regular, 16 occasional). Other events require similar levels of volunteer commitment.
- Information Café, TLC, Songs for Sharing, Care to Dance, and Lunch Club each involve between **6 and 9 volunteers**.

Volunteer Time Contribution

Volunteers contribute approximately:

- **365 hours per month**
- **100 hours per week on average**

Activities Requiring the Most Volunteer Time

Activity	Monthly Volunteer Hours
Transport delivery	80
Hut	50
Fit Club	36

Transport administration	32
Carers Club & Info Café	24
Care to Dance	24
Info Café preparation/clear-down	20
Hut administration	20

Transport services account for the largest share of volunteer time.

Geographic Reach

People Supported

Category	Debenham	Surrounding Villages
Carers	11	19
Cared-for	15	19
Past carers	12	14
Transport passengers	20	4
Other participants	14	0
Total	72	56

Key Findings

- The Project supports **128 people in total** across Debenham and neighbouring villages.
- Around **56% (72 people)** are based in Debenham.
- Around **44% (56 people)** come from surrounding villages.
- Transport services are particularly significant within Debenham, supporting **20 individual passengers**.

Key Messages

- The Debenham Project provides wide-ranging support for carers, cared-for individuals, former carers, and the wider community.
- Volunteers are critical to delivery, contributing over **360 hours each month**.
- Transport services represent the largest volunteer commitment and support a substantial number of users.

- The Project has a strong local impact while also serving a significant number of people from neighbouring villages.
- Participation is spread across social, wellbeing, practical support, respite, and information services, demonstrating a comprehensive community support network.
- **14 people participate in activities and services without identifying as carers, cared-for individuals, or former carers**, demonstrating the wider community reach of the Project.
- Of all people supported:
 - **19% are transport passengers (24 people).**
 - **50% are carers or cared-for individuals (64 people).**
 - **20% are former carers (26 people).**
 - **7% are other participants (14 people).**
- Approximately **56% of those supported live in Debenham**, with **44% living in surrounding villages.**

Overall Impact

Whilst The Debenham Project's support continues to be focused upon those carers and cared-for in our community who are living with dementia, it also seeks to be inclusive and welcomes all others in our community who can benefit from what it offers. Through transport services, social activities, wellbeing groups, and community engagement opportunities, the Project currently supports a total of **128 local people**, significantly helping to reduce isolation, improve wellbeing, and strengthen community connections across Debenham and the surrounding area.