



Hello everyone,

Since last I “put two fingers to the keyboard” it seems to have been a bit of a quiet period. All our activities have continued as usual, our Research and Carers Co-op projects have got under way, and I have been having a rest from all the meetings with the County Council, the NHS, various charities, and a wide range of other contacts that have all helped us develop over the past 3 years.

However, I would like you to think about our initiative to recruit a small team of volunteer carers who can look after an elderly person for a few hours in an emergency, or enable their family carer to have a little time off or to attend an important appointment. Sam Cage, our Carers Liaison, is organizing this and, if this is something you might like to do, please look out for her article in this magazine, and for the posters that will be appearing around the village. A meeting is being set up in Dove Cottage on the 12<sup>th</sup> Sept at 7.30 – please come.

The other thing I wanted to mention was the “Prime Minister’s Challenge on Dementia”. The main feature of this is to encourage large and small communities to become **dementia friendly** by increasing local awareness, developing local support services, and providing local access to quality advice and information. In this respect the Debenham Project is recognized as being uniquely in the forefront of achievement, and a model for other communities to learn from. We are being asked to contribute on a number of fronts, both directly by the Alzheimer’s Society (the organisers of the Dementia Friendly Communities campaign), and by other organisations across the UK who are seeking to participate in the Challenge.

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 Maureen 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