

Wickham Skeith Lunch Club
Report for Parish Council AGM – 14 May 2012

The Lunch Club is reaching its 8th year and is always well supported by residents of Wickham Skeith who are over 60 years of age. At present, we have 64 “members” but at Christmas it can be as many as 70.

Last year, we organised 2 Sunday Lunches that were open to all residents, they were a great success and enabled us to raise more funds along with 3 generous donations towards the purchase of a dishwasher. It was agreed that the Lunch Club would pay 2/3rds and the Village Hall Committee the other 1/3rd. It has now been installed along with a water softener in the back room. Originally we wanted to fit it under the sink but luckily, due to pipe-work problems, it wasn't possible, so the back room seemed more suitable. As you can imagine, having 4 people at a time in the kitchen preparing and cooking the meal, there would not have been any space left for someone to use the dishwasher. We all hear little whispers that an extension may be possible which, from our point of view, would be wonderful as all our cooking has to be done at the hall.

At present, we have 4 cooking teams, but from November it will become 5, which I am delighted about. Last year we lost 2 of our cooks (due to “retirement”) but thankfully they were replaced by newcomers to the village.

This year we had another food inspection and we received not only 5 stars but an “ELITE” certificate because we had 5 stars 2 years running, which is all down to our wonderful cooking teams who I would like to say a big thank you to.

In January, we raised the price of the meal from £2.50 to £3.00 and we are happy to say that we still make a small profit which helps us to purchase extra items for our use.

I would again like to thank my dedicated Committee: Dennis Sore (Treasurer), Romaine Elsdon, Jenny Harvey and Alan Watts who are a great help to me.

Also many thanks to everyone who helps on the day, taking entrance fee at the door, money for the raffle, serving food, clearing plates, serving coffee and tidying up once we have finished. It really is great teamwork.

Looking forward to another good year and hopefully further Sunday Lunches.

Ann West
14th May 2012