

## **Wickham Skeith Lunch Club**

### **Report for the Parish Council AGM on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2015**

October 2014 was the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the launch of the lunch club and diners were surprised with a free meal which included a glass of wine. Lady Julia Henniker, who opened the lunch club in 2004, Councillor Andrew Stringer, Alan & Lynne Watts and Liz & Alistair Govan were invited guests and a delicious lunch was enjoyed by all.

Sadly Ann West stepped down from her post as the co-ordinator after the November lunch. A presentation was made to Ann to thank her for her inspired leadership of the lunch club during the past five years. Lynne Baines and Margaret Jones-Evans took on the co-ordinator role jointly in January 2015.

The Committee, consisting of Dennis Sore (Treasurer), Romaine Elsden, Jenny Harvey, Lynne Baines and Margaret Jones-Evans, has discussed how to improve the cooking facilities in the Village Hall kitchen as the kitchen is not to be extended. The biggest problem the cooks find is that the cooker was not designed to cook sixty hot lunches and puddings. One of the ovens burns or under-cooks food and the rings on the hob are not big enough to heat the size of saucepans required. The Village Hall Committee has listened sympathetically and a costing exercise is underway, looking for a more suitable cooker.

In November 2014, the Lunch Club were nominated by the Parish Council for the award "Support for Older People" and were the successful winners of the Small Category, being presented with a plaque and cheque for £100 at the SALC AGM.

All the volunteers deserve a huge vote of thanks – two cooks, two kitchen helpers and two washers-up each month, Nigel West manning the dishwasher, Daphne Rose selling raffle tickets, Pete Davidson on the door, helpers to serve food, clear plates and serve coffee plus the helpers that no-one sees – the potato gleaners picked up enough potatoes to last all winter and the plum, apple and rhubarb donors who ensured that our fruit was garden-fresh. Thank you to everyone.

We are looking forward to another successful year.

Lynne Baines and Margaret Jones-Evans  
11<sup>th</sup> May 2015