

We have been please to welcome several new guests to Lunch Club this year, and we currently have a total of 44 members on our list.

Grace is always said before the meal, and we have been fortunate that Rev. Martin Booth is often present to say the grace for us, as well as serving meals and clearing up at the end. One of our members, George Holding, also generously offers his help in putting out the tables and tidying up afterwards. The cooking teams always serve him coffee before lunch as a 'thank you', and at Christmas we presented him with a well-deserved gift.

Our six cooking teams have continued to provide delicious lunches, and members regularly ask the leaders to 'pass their compliments to the chefs'! One of our cooking teams, ably led by Julia Holland, and including Sarah Amott and Helen Greig, will be retiring at the end of this year after 12 years of wonderful service. We would like to thank them very sincerely for all their hard work and commitment.

We currently have a leadership team of four people: Pam Rankin, Maggie Booth, Gillian Roberts and Deirdre Montanaro. Rosemary McLintock also kindly assists when we are short-staffed, and Doris Gosnold helped enormously at the Christmas Lunch. We wish her a very speedy recovery from her recent ill-health.

We have received several donations this year, including cheques from Quercus Quilters, Age UK and Mr&Mrs Butler. We would like to thank Stuart Wigley for always attending so efficiently to our finances. We are also extremely grateful to Beryl Ellinor, Audrey Barnardi, Geoff Holland and Bryan Nicholas for their work in collecting the members' weekly £3 payment for their lunch.

Our volunteer drivers continue to work cheerfully and reliably, and are often just as important a part of the member's day as the meal and fellowship at the club.

We are always delighted to welcome new members to the club, and are grateful for offers of help, particularly in the cooking teams.