

## Didcot Christmas Lunch

Here is a short report about how the day went:-

The Christmas Day lunch for people on their own was once again a success and much appreciated by all the attendees and those who received dinner deliveries. This year was the most challenging yet as I had changed venues due to location and also the husband/wife chef couple who had cooked for the past three years were not able to this year due to family commitments. I was let down a couple of times by chefs who said they could assist but fortunately a couple of weeks before the event the Operations Manager of the Baptist Church who is a very competent cook and had the necessary food hygiene certificates stepped in to save the day, her husband and an experienced chef who does not currently work as a chef assisted her

There were 70 dinners in total including those for the volunteers and two takeaway meals given to attendees with loved ones at home. Getting 28 attendees to and from the venue and then 30 dinners and hampers delivered all over Didcot to those who could not attend due to mobility or anxiety issues and within a 45 minute timeslot was a bit of a nightmare but it all worked out in the end. As always there were a few changes up until the day before as some of the attendees were not well and felt they could not come out so I was constantly changing arrangements from lifts for them to the venue to dinner deliveries at a different time.

After dinner we watched the King's speech then had a raffle with prizes before they all left at around 4pm with a hamper each

Needless to say they had an amazing day and were all very happy

Once again I had an amazing team of volunteers including the chefs, helpers in the room and volunteer drivers for pick-ups/drop-offs and dinner deliveries

It was a long and hard day and took many weeks to organise but it was worth it

My thanks to everyone for their kind donations

I attach a few photos of the day but more can be found on my Facebook page

Thank you again to Didcot Town Council for their kind donation – if it was not for DTC this event would not be able to take place.

Anna



