

Christmas Lunch

Crazy days filled with frantic activity and a multitude of jobs one only undertakes during the festive season – that is the run up to Christmas. And it is no different at the Stroke Club. Christmas lunch with all the trimmings is the order of the day as the first Thursday in December sees members treated to a banquet fit for a queen and all thanks to the tireless efforts of an enthusiastic committee who work hard to ensure this is an occasion to be proud of. Dedication knows no bounds as champion peelers Anne and June attacked three hundred – yes, three hundred!! – sprouts and seventy carrots. This year around sixty guests, including the Mayor of Dorchester Councillor Peter Mann and his wife Sheila, tucked into a turkey feast beautifully cooked and piled high with everything that goes with Christmas dinner served in the traditional fashion. A hall festooned with decorations, crackers bedecking elegantly laid tables, and plenty of food for all – oh yes we know how to celebrate Christmas in style at the Stroke Club. Exhausting it may be but empty plates and grateful members make it all worthwhile, even if the thought of tackling one more sprout sent Anne reaching for the wine bottle. How many people would get the chance to enjoy festive fare in such a relaxed setting, surrounded by so many friends, were it not for the Club and its small army of volunteers? I guess only Santa himself knows the answer to that

Loneliness and isolation are bad at any time of the year, but over Christmas it can be an especially bleak prospect for many. Coming together to celebrate can mean so much, and what is Christmas if not for sharing and caring.