



Role of Co Ordinator for Together at Christmas

Co Ordinating and being a part of the team to produce Together at Christmas is hard work, sometimes exhausting, sometime frustrating, but always satisfying. In the last two years of being involved with TAC I have received more blessings than I have given.

As you are probably aware the lunch is staffed totally by volunteers from the churches in Ewell who give up their time to act as drivers, hosts, washers up and a variety of the numerous tasks that go to make the day special.

Christmas day when all the guests arrive looking forward to a great meal and meeting up with old friends and just the companionship of sharing a meal on a very special day with others and seeing the smiles is reward enough.

I have been so impressed with the commitment and support from other members of the team and all the helpers that are happy to give up time with their families to come and serve, wash up and generally make the day a very happy occasion.

The Role:

Work starts in September with a meeting of committee members to designate various roles e.g. the provision of guest's presents, writing to CTE members & churches requesting donations towards the meal, plus contacting Rotary Club who have provided sponsorship towards the cost of the chef. As a committee we also advertise for helpers. The other major roles consist of contacting and arranging drivers to transport the guests and booking in new guests plus contacting previous guests. My role is to co ordinate these and other arrangements.

I also write to the current Mayor inviting him/her to the lunch and reminding them that the Mayor's office usually provide a donation towards the event.

My role is mainly writing letters and speaking to the various contributors and generally ensuring everything comes together on the day. As we get nearer Christmas we generally meet as a committee two or three times just to update arrangements and I chair these meetings.

I also attend the lunch on Christmas day although this is not obligatory but I have always enjoyed the atmosphere and it is useful to be present in case of any hiccups.

After the event I write letters to all those who have helped thanking them, plus letters to those guests who often give us a donation supporting the lunch.

Much of the contact is done by E mail and this has been a very useful tool to keep in contact with one another so everyone knows what is happening.

The Co ordinator role is very much being part of a team. It cannot be done without their help and the support of all the churches in Ewell.