The Association has had another active year supporting members, in the main with social activities. The main thrust of these is bingo, coffee mornings, chair fit, fish and chip lunches, afternoon tea, trips to shows, our annual litter pick on the foreshore, river trips on The Allen Gardner, our annual Christmas party and separately our carol singing in the clubhouse. A small team from The Court also took part in the annual Tree and Crib Festival.

Our coffee mornings were complemented by a talk from St.Elizabeth Hospice by Helen Finlinson, Head of Inclusion and Development providing information on hospice services which many of us were unaware of. We also had a presentation by Charlie Sharp and Howard Morris on the construction of the Orwell Bridge which was fascinating and some of the statistics and facts quite mind boggling.

Members of our association together with other residents of Priory Park made a sterling effort for the 2022 Macmillan Coffee morning and raised £1570.

Ros Eaton has resigned from the Parish Council during this last year and sadly we have not identified a replacement yet.

A new sea shanty group called “The Smugglers” has been formed earlier in 2023 in Priory Park including some of our members. The objective was to provide some of the entertainment at our Big Lunch celebrating the Coronation of King Charles III. The group took advantage of a guest spot at The Alma public house , Harwich during their Shanty Marathon. This was a good warm up for the Big Lunch at our clubhouse where the group performed as did a professional singer and other amateur musicians which together with an excellent lunch provided a very successful day. The Smugglers now hope to carry on performing elsewhere.

Priory Lane has been bedevilled by numerous potholes and their repair has been managed by Allan Sugg, one of our members who has pursued a solution by Ipswich Borough Council through endless contact and I am pleased to report that he has finally met with success with the vast majority being professionally repaired . Dr Therese Coffey had also been contacted for help to influence the matter. Suffice to say she had been invited to join us to inspect the lane and its potholes but was beaten to it by the contractors.

Nevertheless residents found plenty to talk about during her visit, not least difficulties entailed applying for EBSS Alternative Fuel Payment for our LPG gas which she is looking into for us. Dr.Coffey is photographed during her visit together with Mick Richardson, who was at the time an East Suffolk District Councillor but as will be known was not re-elected.

