**The Pie Club of Little Egypt**

**Report for Annual Parish Meeting Glemsford Tuesday 12 April 2022**

The Pie Club of Little Egypt started three months ago with the doors of the Methodist Church Hall opening for the first pie making session on Wednesday 26 January.

Inspired by The Men’s Pie Club in the North East and initially born from Suffolk Libraries Jump Start January initiative there was enough motivation to set up a Pie Club in Glemsford, the aim being to discover the Power of Pie.

Simply put, it is about local guys getting together, having a chat plus baking, making and eating pies. In doing so the aim is to help combat feelings of social isolation, somewhere for guys to meet or just a good excuse to get out and about a bit more.

The much-valued support from Suffolk County Cllr Richard Kemp, via his locality budget, meant that the Methodist Hall in Glemsford could be hired for three 4-hour monthly sessions to gauge the interest in a regular pie club in the village. Thank you.

February and March were so successful and via Cllr Michael Holt the club have funding from the joint locality awards from Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Council. This is a terrific boost and means that the club can continue to hire the hall once a month until the end of the year. Thank you.

Thank you to local chef Jackie Smith. Under her guidance the small group have been to three sessions and are now quite proficient in working with pastry, creating the pies (plus pastry decorations!) and preparing the spuds and vegetables. Throughout the mornings there is pleasant banter ending with a hearty lunch. Everyone goes home well-fed content and happy.

A name was needed for the group and several options were put to the vote with The Pie Club of Little Egypt emerging a clear favourite. Permission from the Morris Men of Little Egypt was given and seen as another wonderful way to keep the nickname for the village alive!

Thank you to the following butchers for their generous support - Lavenham Butchers, JR Humphreys of Clare and Clark & Son of Long Melford. Thank you to Roughacre Brewery (Clare) for the ale. Thank you to Turners Fish Van who are donating fish for tomorrow.

Thank you to Mrs Daphne Jay who has been an immense help with the bookings and ensuring the hall is open, clean and warm.

For further information about dates for the rest of the year please contact Glemsford Library.

Harriet North
The Pie Club of Little Egypt
12.04.22