



## Bursary Scout Recounts His Adventures

The Bursary Fund, via **Portsmouth Circle**, helped Emsworth scout David Jarczyk financially so that he could travel to Uganda to work on a project in a school for disabled children. David, accompanied by his father Richard, recently attended a meeting of the Circle to give an account of his experiences. 19 scouts from local groups made the journey to Masindi some five hours over rough roads north of the capital, Kampala, their task to paint a school - four class rooms and the exterior - in two weeks. David's first impression - formed in Kampala - that life in Uganda was not as hard as he had been briefed was rapidly dispelled when they arrived, after a tiring journey, in Masindi where extreme poverty was the norm. He then realised that his efforts could make a real difference to the lives of the children there.

The school was an almost derelict shell. So with the other Hampshire scouts and in partnership with scouts from Masindi they set about first cleaning then painting the school building with vigorous determination. After hard work and long days they achieved their objective just within the time scale.

Then came the reward for their efforts - some touring and sightseeing in this beautiful country. A quad bike drive to the source of the River Nile, a game drive and then, the icing on the cake, a climb to the top of Mount Elgon, 4321m, which is almost exactly on the Equator, to watch the sun rise.

This project was sponsored by The Wells charity with money raised in the UK.



*David is pictured being presented with his award by the then President, Stuart Thompson*

## Carlingford Help Kenyan Children

**Carlingford Circle**, Province 21, makes an annual donation of A\$1,000 to a charity of the President's choice. The 2009 donation was made to the Patrician Brothers' Mission at Kabongo in Kenya.

The Mission operates a health care centre and clinic for HIV/AIDS patients, a 430 student primary school and a kindergarten where younger children receive fresh hot cooked food twice a day. The Mission has organised the mains electricity supply for the Kabongo area as well as a 170 metre deep bore to provide clean drinking water for the school and local community.



*The picture shows, left to right, President John O'Grady presenting the cheque for \$A1,000 to Patrician Brother Peter Higgins with the Very Reverend Fr Paul Slyney, EV, PP, the parish priest of Baulkham Hills South and Chaplain to Carlingford Circle, looking on*

## Chums Together

The brothers and their families from **Ascot & Sunningdale Circle**



held their annual Chums lunch, for the local elderly and needy. Some 80 guests attended and were treated to lunch and plenty of refreshments, along with entertainment, and as always, everybody attending received a gift from the Circle. All the food and drink was supplied by and cooked by the members and their families, along with generous donations from local businesses.

## Roof Repairs at Droitwich!

At **Droitwich Circle's** November 2009 meeting John Franklin formally presented to Mgr Graham Wilkinson a cheque for £537.35, the proceeds of his President's Charitable Appeal towards roof repairs at St Peter's Church Bromsgrove.



## Calendar Lady Barbara at Stoke

At **Stoke on Trent Circle's** Christmas party on 1st December 2009 the gathering was addressed, after an excellent dinner and party frolics, by Barbara Mercer, wife of Michael of Stoke Circle, on the subject of the Chingcombe Mission in Africa. Calendars depicting the Mission's activities were available



and the Circle raised £86.50 to add to the sum raised in North Staffs as a whole. This will be used to provide new vehicles for use in connection with parish work that often requires huge journeys across very difficult terrain.