



## Province 8's Bournemouth Weekend

At the end of February during a brief respite in the wintry mayhem, 162 brothers, ladies and one six year old son (a potential future Visiting Gentleman), descended on Marsham Court Hotel in Bournemouth for the 23rd consecutive Province 8 Provincial Weekend. The weekend started on the Thursday in time for 25 golfers to prepare for the annual competition on the Friday morning. Friday saw the start of the "fun" weekend themed "Paris, France" with most participants sporting the usual imaginative fancy dress. "Le Bear" arrived in time for the naming raffle which raised £201 for the Benevolent Fund whilst a sparkling wine reception and a themed meal was accompanied by Cliff Hall on the keyboard. After dinner the dance hall was packed to



the sounds of the Magnum Trio. Despite a late night, 83 ladies and brothers boarded coaches to Salisbury after breakfast on the Saturday for the choice of a guided tour of the Cathedral or a roam round the city. They arrived back at the hotel in time for the Gala evening hosted by Provincial President Kevin Nash in the presence of Grand President Joe and Philomena McNally. Dancing was again to the Magnum Trio. A very enjoyable weekend concluded on the Sunday with Mass celebrated in the hotel by Father Owen Cannon SMA. The picture shows Tom O'Reilly, President of **Aylesbury Circle** receiving the Joe Geenty trophy from Grand President. This trophy is awarded to the Circle with the highest attendance at the weekend (38 from Aylesbury) – a truly splendid turn out.

## On Safari in Bromley!

Bromley Circle's Safari supper was held on 10th April. Some 40 brothers, wives and visiting gentlemen met at the house of Janice and Michael Douse for an aperitif. Then it was out with the satnavs (or A-Z) as each couple was given the address of where they were to enjoy their starter course. Midway through the food the address for each main course was given. Similarly the address for dessert was unknown until midway through the course. The complete party then assembled at the home of President Graham Pollard for a coffee and night cap. Everybody agreed that it was a great safari; fortunately the only wild animals that were seen were the prowling suburban foxes that have taken Bromley over!

## North Warwickshire's Presidents Galore

At **North Warwickshire Circle's** May Meeting, immediate Past President Tony Taylor paid tribute to the Circle's immediate Past Provincial President Bill and Mary Johnson who were acknowledged to have had a wonderful year around Province. Circle President Greg Moroney Barnett then paid tribute to Tony Taylor's year as Circle President and warmly congratulated him on leading Circle in so many different directions, ably assisted by his wife Joan. All the Ladies received bouquets, and the applause of a large number of Circle brothers and wives.

*Pictured (l to r): Joan and Immediate Past President Tony Taylor; Eileen and Circle President Greg Moroney Barnett; Mary and Immediate Past Provincial President, Province 6, Bill Johnson*



## If The Mountain Won't Come...

Michael Ludlow of **Duchy of Cornwall Circle** joined the Association as a founder member of Weymouth Circle on 7th May 1960. Having moved to Cornwall and transferred to Duchy of Cornwall Circle a couple of years later Michael went on to become President of his new circle and later Provincial President of Province 13. Over the years his input to circle affairs was invaluable.

With his health not being too good and as he is caring for his wife, Anne, Michael is unable to attend circle meetings. Here was the dilemma. Michael was keen to receive his 50 year scroll on the exact date of his joining the Association. Traditionally the Grand President presents the scroll, or in his absence, his deputy. Unfortunately all were at the Bournemouth Conference for that weekend.

It was decided that in the absence of all the upper echelons of the Association the Circle President George Phillips would deputise and present the scroll, together with letters of congratulation from Grand President and Director Bob Butler, on the due day and at Michael's home.

*Pictured are: President George Phillips presenting the scroll to a delighted Michael in the garden of his cottage in deepest Cornwall*



## Province 3's Visit to Rheims

This year's Provincial trip, organised by Provincial President 3 North John Kelly of **Wetherby Circle** and Graham Green, Provincial President 3 South of **Grimsby Circle**, was to the Champagne region of France. Some 32 brothers, wives and guests had to endure visits to three champagne houses, being forced to taste some very fine champagne and if that were not enough, being carried around on a luxury coach. It's a hard life but someone has to do it!



*Pictured is the long-suffering group*