



## Tim Gilligan Tops Fifty Years

Tim Gilligan celebrated 50 years as a Catenian at **Mid-Herts Circle's** Christmas Dinner on Tuesday, 8th December 2009, held at the Sopwell House Hotel, St Albans. Grand President Joe McNally was on hand to present Tim with his 50 Year Scroll. The brothers of Mid-Herts were also delighted to welcome Grand President's wife, Philomena. Despite a recent hip fracture Tim was determined to be present to receive his scroll and had a special "late pass" for the evening from the hospital where he was recovering. Sadly Tim's beloved wife Bunty died in September. They had been married nearly 65 years. So for the presentation Tim was accompanied by his daughter, Councillor Rosemary Gilligan, Mayor of Hertsmere, a job that Tim himself held during a long and successful political career. Tim has now left hospital and is recovering well at home.

*Pictured with Tim are, left to right, Rosemary Gilligan; President Paul Williams; Grand President Joe and Philomena McNally*



## Welcome Floyd



In September 2009 **Torbay Circle** brothers had great pleasure in welcoming to the circle Eden, a Labrador guide dog, companion to Circle brother Tony Randall. The time has now come for Eden to retire for a well earned rest having guided Tony for eight years and so he has moved to a new home in Dorset. Tony's new companion is two year old Floyd. Having spent six months hard work training, they look forward to many happy years together. Just what Floyd makes of his new Catenian friends remains to be seen.

## Cardiff Men Get Wise

Three members of **Cardiff Circle** were carefully selected by popular acclaim as being the wisest people in their parish when they were chosen to play the Three Wise Men in a Nativity Tableau put on by three Cardiff parishes as part of their annual Christmas Carol Service just before Christmas. The "wiseness" selection criterion was never quite clear but their very appearance shows how correct the choice was.



*Pictured are (from l to r): Jim Winterbottom, John Worthington, Chris Stevens*

## Lord and Lady Celebrate 50 Years

Lord and Lady Brighthouse (**Medway Towns Circle**) have had a double celebration this year. To the Christmas festivities they added their Golden Wedding Anniversary, 50 years of marriage, for which they received the congratulations of family and friends as well as a Papal Blessing expressed in an illuminated parchment. They were married at the Cathedral of Lomas de Zamora, Argentina, on 22nd November 1959, by Monsignor Alejandro Schell, Bishop of Lomas de Zamora.



## Stoke-on-Trent Mark Pat's 90th Birthday

A party was held in the Michelin Sports Club on 19th December 2009 to celebrate Pat Burke's 90th birthday when President Jim Gillen and many Catenian friends were invited by the family. The photo shows Jim presenting Pat with a flask of 20 year old malt whisky. A few days later the Circle were able to attend a special Mass on the 22nd at St Teresa's church Trent Vale, the actual date of Pat's birthday.

