



Around the Circles

Bernard Gets It Right On Radio

Bernard Fyles, **St Helens Circle**, has recently had a short but interesting career in radio. Early in 2009, he and his wife Meg (see photo) were listening to "Brain of Britain" on Radio 4. Bernard was shouting answers at the radio, leading Meg to suggest he should apply to take part.



So he did and after passing the telephone audition round, he went on to win the North West heat quite comfortably. However, in the semi-final, he started poorly and was soon six points adrift. He did, however, stage a vigorous comeback but still lost by a single point.

Bernard only applied because he thought the programme was recorded in Manchester, a convenient half hour's journey down the M62. In fact, the recordings take place in the Radio Theatre at Broadcasting House in London. This turned out to be a very interesting experience. Meg accompanied Bernard to both recordings and they were joined for the semi final by their friends, Circle President Peter and May Ritson. They all enjoyed their involvement with the world of national radio and Bernard certainly provided a great deal of interest and entertainment for his family and friends.

Harrow Christmas Party

Despite heavy snow still falling at the start of the meeting, 34 hardy brothers and their ladies, plus two **Harrow Circle** widows, Mary O'Connor (senior) and Sheila Wizbek, together with Ted and Anne Canavan of **Watford Circle**, braved the elements, and resulting traffic problems, for an excellent evening at Grims Dyke GC. After the usual circle meeting, they enjoyed an excellent Christmas meal with much hilarity, gifts to the ladies, and followed by community singing of Christmas carols.



Pictured are Mary O'Connor and Sheila Wizbek

Tricky Question at Province 13

Pictured, seated, are Michael Barrett, John Brophy and Bill Victors from **Torbay Circle** with, standing, Mike O'Sullivan, Graham Johnson and Mike Fake from **Plymouth Circle**. The two teams were about to kick off the second semi-final of Province 13's annual quiz. The questions were set and the quiz marshalled by the new **North Devon Group**. After a closely fought contest, Plymouth moved on to play the other semi-finalists, **Duchy of Cornwall Circle**. Although Torbay were magnanimous in defeat, they did feel that when Plymouth were unable to answer the question "Who founded the Catholic Church?" they should win by default!



Droitwich Christmas Party

Droitwich & District Circle brothers held their usual ladies informal Christmas party with 69 in attendance. An Indoor Olympic Games was held. Each table became a team with a well trained team leader and was allocated an official Olympic colour. Pictured are Kit Morton and Mike Feery of **North Warwickshire Circle** pursuing an anxious Anne Quinn of Droitwich (wife of Grand Secretary Jim). The Leonard Nott Duo then played a medley of popular Christmas Carols with everyone joining in with the singing, thus ending a very enjoyable evening.



Croydon Win Provincial Darts

Kingston upon Thames Circle have been organising the Province 19 Darts championships for over 40 years. Recently over 80 brothers competed for the trophies. Winners were **Croydon Circle** with John Lichfield, John Barrie and Chris Strelley (shown in photograph with Grand Vice President Vernon de Cruz) who narrowly beat last year's winner, **Purley Circle**. **Epsom Circle** won the plate with their brother Eugene Egan getting the highest score trophy. A magnificent curry supper was provided by Maureen Gamber and her helpers.

