



## John Celebrates 50 Years

**Swale Circle** honoured John Carey for achieving 50 years in the Association at their May meeting. John celebrated with his family and fellow brothers before being presented with a scroll by Grand President Vernon DeCruz to commemorate the occasion.

*Pictured left to right are: Swale President Jim Bunce, John Carey and Grand President Vernon DeCruz*



*John is pictured with members of his family and brothers of the Circle*

## Joe Has Life Changing Experience

Last year Joe Peck spent nine months working at a school in Myanga, a poor part of Western Kenya, partly financed by the Bursary Fund through **Nottingham Circle**. Recently Joe was the guest speaker at a **Shrewsbury Circle** meeting when he was able to share some of his experiences there including trying to teach schoolchildren maths in broken Swahili and finding himself volunteering to help with digging latrines at the school!

In his spare time he became adept at mending mud huts washed away by rain storms and he also helped the Poor Clare Sisters at a nearby mission in any way he could. The main theme of his talk was "How a Catenian Bursary can result in a life changing experience" and he majored on how much he appreciated that support. His comments provided much food for thought for the brothers present.

How come a young man from Nottingham was at Shrewsbury? Well, a large number of brothers in the Circle are from St Patrick's Parish, Wellington, which supports the Poor Clare Mission in Myanga, both financially and prayerfully. When a previous Catena article announced a young man was going to Myanga with a Bursary award, contact was made and an invitation was sent for him to speak to the parish on his return. Joe spent the weekend in Wellington, "preaching" at all Masses then "holding an assembly" at St Patrick's Primary School for all 250 pupils. Fortuitously it was the weekend preceding a circle meeting so Joe was invited to give a third version of his talk, this time to brothers.

*Pictured left to right are: Shrewsbury brothers Frank Burns, St Patrick's parishioner; President Roger Thompson, and Joe Peck sharing more Kenyan experiences*



## 80 Years as Catenians

**Torbay Circle's** John Brophy and Bill Victors share 80 years of membership of The Association having joined in 1970.

John was Headmaster of the Assumption Parish Primary School for over 20 years until his retirement in 1984. He was sponsored by the late Tom Ward while Bill Fieldhouse was President, two of Torbay's much loved brothers. John served Torbay Circle on Council and has also been Secretary. Bill became a very active member as soon as he joined the Circle; within months he became its Social Secretary until 1980 when he served for the first time as President. Bill moved to Eastbourne in 1983 where he became just as active as he had been in Torbay, serving as President in 1987. On his return to Torbay in 1993 he became Vice President, and then in 1995 Bill served for the third time as President. Bill says he has been on Council for 35 years and was Provincial Councillor for two. Bill retired from his dental practice in 1992 and he now enjoys time with his wife Pam and family. Together Bill and Pam are members of the St Mary's Parish Church choir, where Bill's voice is unmistakable.



*John (left) and Bill (right) are seen here with Province 13 Director Bob Butler (centre)*

## Presentation of 40 Years Scroll

In April 1970 John Vickers joined **North Wales Circle** and 40 years later, almost to the day, he received his Scroll. In 1972 he transferred to **Ringway Circle** and became President there in 1980/1981.

He returned to live in Deganwy and rejoined North Wales Circle in 1999, where he has been Chamberlain for several years.

*Photograph shows: Director of Province 4, Eric Smith, presenting the Scroll to John accompanied by his wife Pauline*

