



THE SOCIETY OF DORSET MEN



SEPTEMBER 2017 NEWSLETTER

SOCIETY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 28 October

The County Dinner at the George Albert Hotel,
Wardon Hill, near Evershot

Sunday 3 December

Christmas lunch at the Crown Hotel,
Blandford Forum

SEE THE EVENTS FEATURE ON PAGE THREE



“THE SOCIETY CONTINUES TO THRIVE”

Above: Our four principal Officers gather for the 2017 Annual General Meeting at Weymouth. Lord Fellowes of West Stafford DL [second left] presides, left is Chairman Stuart Adam, on the right are Secretary Hayne Russell and Treasurer Ian Morton [far right].

Read the report on page six.

Below: In 2005, the four principal Officers gather after that year's AGM at Dorchester. [Left to right:] Roy Adam MBE [Chairman,] Sir Anthony Jolliffe GBE DSc DMus DL [President,] John Rousell [Treasurer] and Hayne Russell [Secretary]. See “Looking back to 2005” on page seven.



Kate Adie OBE DL, speaking to the Old Hardyans at Dorchester last year.

KATE ADIE IS COUNTY DINNER SPEAKER

Kate Adie OBE DL is the guest speaker at the County Dinner this year, one of Britain's best known war correspondents, who now lives quietly in a Dorset village. Kate Adie was the BBC's Chief News Correspondent from 1989 to 2002.

Born in Sunderland, she went on to read Scandinavian Studies at Newcastle University. Leaving university coincided with the start of local radio and a long career in broadcasting began at BBC Radio Durham as a station assistant. Kate moved to Radio Bristol as a producer, then to Plymouth and Southampton as a regional TV reporter. Joining BBC television news in 1976, Kate Adie covered the SAS breaking the hostage siege at the Iranian Embassy in 1980 and subsequently travelled many of the world's most dangerous places for BBC news.

She presents the Radio Four programme *From Our Own Correspondent*, with a million and a half listeners. Kate Adie was awarded the OBE in 1993 for services to journalism and has been commissioned as a Deputy Lieutenant of Dorset. In 2013, she was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Letters by Plymouth University.

Speaking to the Old Hardyans' Annual Reunion Dinner last year, Kate said: “I was keen and I was fascinated by news.” She spoke of being in difficult places and theatres of war- “no luxuries, no electricity and terrible food- all the lot of the overseas correspondent.”

**THE SOCIETY OF DORSET MEN
NEWSLETTER**

**Editor: Michel Hooper-Immins
2 Waverley Court, Radipole,
Weymouth, Dorset. DT3 5EE.
Tel. 01305 779705.**

email: societydorsetmen@btinternet.com

**The next Newsletter will be published
in March 2018.**

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Life Member: Jason Hambleton, Upwey.

Members: Robin Hooper, Tarrant Hinton; David Hook, London.

Total membership 1,135

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Enclosed with this Newsletter is a notice regarding the decisions on membership subscriptions made at the recent Special General Meeting. These changes take effect from 1 October 2017 and thus it is important that your response is immediate. Please read the notice carefully, complete the form and send it to Membership Secretary Peter Lush without delay.

Enquiries to: 25 Maumbury Square, Dorchester, DT1 1TY. Email: peterlush3@hotmail.com or telephone 01305 260039.

THE SOCIETY SALES SHOP

The iconic Society of Dorset Men tie has a handsome striped design on a blue or red background- with no badge- and only £10 each. You'll certainly be noticed at any Society function if you're not wearing the Society tie! The attractive metal lapel badges, featuring our badge in red and silver, continue to be popular- a real bargain at only £2.40. The striking £5.40 cufflinks are again in red and silver. The 5foot6 by 4foot6 Society flag is £54. Blazer badges complete the range at only £12. Our sales shop will be at the County Dinner and at all Society functions or members can order by post. All prices include UK postage. Cheques payable to *The Society of Dorset Men*. For enquiries, email: ShaunCregan@aol.com

Send orders to Shaun Cregan at 28 Orchid Close, Taunton TA1 3XL.

PROOF-READING IN THE HOSPITAL

Having spent over five weeks in hospital again, Joan Hooper-Immins has returned home and is gradually regaining her strength. In her vital role as the Newsletter proof-reader, Joan was examining the first galley proofs in her hospital bed and has been able to read the final proofs at home.

Joan thanks all those Members who have constantly enquired about her health and wellbeing, hoping she will be well enough to attend the County Dinner in October.

FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

Greetins to 'ee all an lest 'ope thee bist be well an' 'earty. I be pleased to tell 'ee that I bin minded ver zum time t' gid 'ee all these need to know what be goin' on we our Zociety in praper Darzet. Zo yer goes! Vust I kin tell 'ee we 'ad a perty liddle lot at thick AGM lunch, jus' thirty two wi' a vew wives an' partners. Twere a bit disappointin I kin tell 'ee.

Meetin' arterwords seed we git biz'ness zorted perty quick, but thesee got t' vind a bit more vor thee zsubscriptions cum October. Trouble is zee, we be findin' it gitten mare costly to git they Yar Books and Newsletters in t' post to 'ee. I dare-say membership man be zoon gitten in touch, an' tell 'ee 'bout changin' o' they whad-'ee call it order vorms!

Then sup me bob I s'pposed we'd 'ave a waitin' list ver thick river trip, 'cos lot of members ast for un. but ounce agin' we 'ad spaces a-plenty. Still they 'oo did go add a perty vine trip up t' Vroome an' vitals at Wurham. Zeems twere enjoyed 'cos zo var I ain't 'eard no moanin'!

Zummat else we be lookin into an' that be t' do wi' our web-zite. John Heather did we proud when er' took on, gitten it zorted vor us cos twas in a bit o' a caddle. But ee' ain't too well now, zo 'im 'ave 'anded it t' a young maid, 'cos we'm must kip up wi' all this yer new fangled stuff.

We'm also doin' a bit a lookin into 'ow all t' hinvormation in they Year Books kin be git at better, zo dree committee men be zeein' if it kin be [nar Darzet word vor it] digitalised. Zo thee will be kip posted. Zum o' thee still aint 'ad yer *Illustrated History of The Society of Dorset Men*, zo we kip bein' told. We'm got plenty a' copies vor 'ee, zo you'm only got t' a's zee.

Zoon be County Dinner toime agin, zo I do hope that thou bist a-comin. Kate Adie 'ull be speechifyin an' we got zum vine vitals vor 'ee. Dwon't verget our Christmas do, cos we' m be back be thick Crown 'otel zo thesee need to maike zure theese be ready ver a zing zong a' carols. Tis all yer vor 'ee to zee in these yer *Newsletter*.

Just before I finish I was reminded when composing this how easy it is for something said in dialect to be mis-interpreted. For instance- two neighbours talking of a visit to the doctor. "An' did 'ee manage to insult the doctor" or "'Er be goin' to moderate 'er cottage. T'will be lovely when tis done!"

Finally a bit a' Darzet logic! "Yer Tom thy teeth be zo bad these 'ud be better off wi' out 'em, 'Ese wudden know thee zelf!" Reply. "No. I be kippen 'em. Twould be a purty-ow-de-do if I was at zome pleave an' lost mezelf, an' could n' tell zomebody who I be."

**Thy true vriend an' zarvent
Hayne Russell, Hon. Secretary
34 Brunel Drive, Preston, Weymouth. DT3 6NX.
email: hrussell@gotadsl.co.uk
or telephone 01305 833700**

Editor: Well done Hayne for writing this keynote column in authentic Dorset dialect. Another first for our Newsletter.

BOOK NOW FOR THE WINTER EVENTS

Book for one or both events by sending the enclosed form and your cheque- payable to The Society of Dorset Men- to Hon. Secretary Hayne Russell at 34 Brunel Drive, Preston, Weymouth, Dorset. DT3 6NX.

For enquiries, email: hrussell@gotadsl.co.uk or telephone 01305 833700

THE COUNTY DINNER

Saturday 28 October

George Albert Hotel, Wardon Hill,
Evershot, near Dorchester. DT2 9PW.

6.45pm for 7.15pm - £40

The undoubted highlight of our Society year, the prestigious County Dinner returns to the George Albert Hotel at Wardon Hill for a seventh year, ten miles north of Dorchester on the A37. Our esteemed President, Lord Fellowes of West Stafford DL, will again preside at the event, which can accommodate up to 300 diners.

Members, wives, partners and guests must apply for tickets using the enclosed booking form. The dress code for this splendid county occasion has been relaxed this year and while many men will still wear traditional black tie and evening dress, dark suits will be acceptable. Ladies may wear long or short dresses. Once again, wine can be pre-ordered, which will not only save time, but be even cheaper than buying wine on the night. Please complete the enclosed proforma with your choice and send it- with your cheque- direct to the George Albert Hotel.

This year's guest speaker is Kate Adie OBE DL. Captain Angus Campbell, HM Lord Lieutenant of Dorset and John Young, HM High Sheriff of Dorset will be attending as honoured guests of the President. In a break from the usual order of events, this year the Dorset Blue Cheese will be paraded in, prior to dessert being served.

The hotel has increased the cost for a double room and breakfast to £80. Book direct with the hotel by telephoning 01935 483430 and mention The Society of Dorset Men's County Dinner. All 39 rooms will be available. Online bookings will not give the reduced rate. This offer is available to Members throughout the year, but must be booked between four weeks and 24 hours before arrival. A single room costs £70. A new Spa Complex for beauty treatment, including a jacuzzi, sauna and steam room has just been opened.

COUNTY DINNER MENU

Roast cherry vine tomato soup
or Smoked haddock and salmon tian, horseradish with lemon dressing

Ballotine of chicken with mushroom cream sauce, potato gratin,
sugar snap peas and green beans
or Goat's cheese and red pepper filo tart, basil oil dressing,
new potatoes and micro herb salad

Dorset Blue Vinny with Dorset Knobs and assorted biscuits
with Dorset watercress

White chocolate bavarois, dark chocolate delice and milk chocolate shot
or Mint chocolate sorbet with poached pear

Tea or coffee and mints

CHRISTMAS LUNCH AND CAROLS

Sunday 3 December

The Sealy Suite, Crown Hotel, West Street,
Blandford Forum. DT11 7AJ.

12.15pm for 12.45pm - £26

The Christmas lunch returns to the popular Crown Hotel at Blandford, with a festive menu and enjoying the deft keyboard tones of John Hickson during the lunch. After pudding, Peter Lush will lead the traditional singing of carols- much missed last December.

Claimed to be the oldest inn in Dorset, in the picturesque Georgian town of Blandford Forum, the Crown Hotel is easily accessible from Dorchester, Weymouth, Bournemouth, Poole, Shaftesbury and the West Country. The Crown Hotel offers views across the River Stour meadows and the surrounding town. An inn in the 1300s, a coaching house in the 1700s and now a hotel, it is located at the southern end of the town, on the access road from the Blandford bypass [A354.] The Sealy Suite has its own bar, serving the awardwinning Badger real ales, brewed under a mile away at Blandford St. Mary. There's a large car park and a beautiful garden.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH MENU

Tomato & basil soup with warm crusty roll and butter
or Smoked salmon mousse with soft cheese, dill and mustard centre,
focaccia croutons and rocket & beetroot salad

Roast turkey with homemade stuffing, pigs in blankets, beef dripping
roast potatoes, Yorkshire Pudding, honey-roast parsnips
and roast gravy
or Herb crusted cod loin with garlic and rosemary new potatoes
and a caper & tomato dressing
or Stuffed butternut squash with garlic and rosemary roast, new potatoes
and roast tomato sauce

Sticky figgy steamed pudding with dairy custard
or Mango & passion fruit roulade with Chantilly cream
or West Country cheeseboard with Cornish Yarg, Dorset Blue Vinny
and Somerset Capricorn goat's cheese- with biscuits,
quince jelly, celery and grapes

Tea or coffee

The four objects of The Society of Dorset Men are:
"to make and to renew personal friendships and associations, to promote good fellowship among Dorset men wherever they may reside, to foster love of the county and pride in its history and traditions and to assist, by every means in its power, natives of Dorset who may stand in need of the influence and help of the Society."

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING PHOTOFEATURE

by Michel Hooper-Immins



Pam & Andrew Prowse [Deputy Chairman,] talking to Lord Fellowes of West Stafford DL [President] & Lady Emma Fellowes LVO.



The President and Lady Fellowes with Chairman Stuart Adam.



Chris Carter, Shaun Cregan [Committeeman,] Tony & Marion Biles.



David Sales, Richard Carlyle, Rex Comben, Rob Roy, Brian Moore.



Chris Corner, Bill & Ann Trevett.



Rev. Dr. John Travell FRSA [Chaplain,] Anna & Chris Skibniewski-Ball.



Tom Crabbe, Alan Coombes, Richard Jenkins.



The top table deep in conversation.

WAREHAM BOAT PHOTOFEATURE

by Trevor Matthews



Peter Lush [Membership Secretary] counts passengers on board ship.



Committeemen Douglas Beazer & John Travell get ready to board.



Alan & Christine Cheesman.



Many gather in the saloon, out of the wind.



Hayne Russell [Secretary] talks to John Neimer & Jim Clark.



Members enjoy a fine lunch at Wareham Masonic Hall



The Purbeck Gem at anchor at Wareham Quay.



Thanks to Trevor Matthews, always helpful with photography when the Editor is unavailable.

“WE MUST PROTECT THE MANY BEAUTIES OF DORSET”

by Michel Hooper-Immins

“We should mark the terrible fire at Parnham House, a reminder of the many treasures that Dorset contains and just how easily they are lost,” Lord Fellowes of West Stafford DL told members of The Society of Dorset Men at their 113th. Annual General Meeting and lunch, held on St. George’s Day in Weymouth. “We must protect the many beauties of Dorset, we have been given a marvellous county, but it does need our protection,” Lord Fellowes concluded.

In his customary all-encompassing review of the year, Chairman Stuart Adam declared that “the Society continues to thrive.” He praised Selwyn Williams on “producing a wonderful *Dorset Year Book*- next year’s will be printed entirely in colour.” He urged members to seek out business advertisers, as the extra revenue offsets the cost of printing. The Chairman thanked Michel Hooper-Immins for “the excellent *Newsletter*, which keeps members in touch with the Society and what’s going on!” Andrew Prowse heads the Charity Committee, which makes several donations a year and “gives the Society a purpose.” Finally, Stuart Adam praised Secretary Hayne Russell- “his retirement never quite materialises, certainly a good thing for the Society.”

Secretary Hayne Russell reprised the past year’s events, saying he hoped to repeat the popular Brownsea trip, but with more time on the island. He thought the 2016 County Dinner- with the Dorset Yeomanry theme- was one of the best ever. Our ever efficient Treasurer Ian Morton presented the annual accounts, showing a loss of £109 on the year’s activities, but total assets of £70,200.

Chaplain Rev. Dr. John Travell FRSA had begun the lunch with a special Grace for St. George’s Day- “We wish England well and give her every blessing.” Later, the Chaplain led the traditional “splendid silence,” paying tribute to the 32 Members who had passed away during the year.

Members acclaimed the continued presidency of Oscar winner and ITV *Downton Abbey* dramatist Lord Fellowes of West Stafford DL. Sir Anthony Jolliffe GBE DSc DMus DL and Dr. Paul Atterbury Hon. DPhil BA [Hons.] were both re-elected Deputy Presidents. All Officers were re-elected: Stuart Adam [Chairman,] Andrew Prowse [Deputy Chairman,] Hayne Russell [Secretary,] Ian Morton [Treasurer,] Michel Hooper-Immins [Public Relations & *Newsletter* Editor,] Peter Lush [Membership & Assistant Secretary,] and Selwyn Williams [*Dorset Year Book* Editor.] Committeemen Douglas Beazer, Shaun Cregan, Alderman Andy Hutchings, John Rousell, Paul Snow, Rev. Dr. John Travell FRSA and Sam Woodcock were likewise re-elected. Colin Fry from West Moors was newly elected to the Committee. Paul Snow subsequently resigned from the Committee in July.

Weymouth member Trevor Bond was named as the winner of the Bryan Challis Cup, for recruiting five new members in the past year.

The 14 minute annual meeting was followed by a five minute Special General Meeting at which it was agreed to raise the annual subscription for Members from £10 to £15 from 1 October. Life membership will now cost £200. Existing Vice Presidents face no increase, already paying £15.

JOHN HEATHER RETIRES AS WEBMASTER

www.societyofdorsetmen.co.uk

Failing health has caught-up with John Heather from Portland, who has diligently looked after the Society’s website for almost a decade. In that time, he has raised our website from a poorly designed and little known site, to an attractive and vital reflection of our Society’s image, a vital tool of our public relations. The Society thanks him most sincerely for his efforts and wishes him better health in future years.

Retiring Webmaster John Heather comments: The website has now been active for nearly ten years. I hope and believe that during that time it has brought the Society to the attention of a great deal of Dorsetmen at home, but more especially overseas.

My concept was to keep the format simple, easily updated and to make the site easily navigable. We all know the frustration of trying to find information on a non-user friendly site. When I took on the original site, it had not been updated for years, in fact I doubt that many members even knew of its existence. The Guest Book had been left uncensored and was full of adverts and links to porn sites, hardly part of the ethic of the Society! Now the guest book entries are filtered by me, although its usage is now almost zero, maybe security has overshadowed it. The site has received 14,813 hits so far, which I think is acceptable for a niche market. I am sure my successor will do an excellent job and may I wish her and the Society every success for the future.

VISIT THE SOCIETY OF DORSET MEN’S WEBSITE

**www.societyofdorsetmen.co.uk
for the latest information and reference
[including this *Newsletter* online.]**

DORSET YEAR BOOK ONLINE [BUT NOT YET!]

John Travell and Peter Lush are embarking on the mammoth project to put all the *Dorset Year Books* since 1904 online. A number of enquiries are received every year from historians and researchers about people, events and places mentioned in the informative annual publication. Secretary Hayne Russell does his best to help, but combing through 113 *Dorset Year Books* is very time consuming.

Every page of every book will have to be scanned, in convenient blocks, using Optical Character Recognition software, so that the resulting text can be searched- for example where mentions of “Wimborne Minster” are found in the text. Peter Lush is at present working on the five volumes that cover World War One and hopes to launch the project with them later this year, to celebrate the 100th anniversary of that conflict. This may require a new and larger platform on a new website, which will be widely publicised when it has been created.

Because each page needs to be scanned flat, the books will have to be unbound, scanned individually. and then restitched. Fortunately John Travell is very skilled in restitching books! The project will certainly take several years and is a massive undertaking. We wish Peter Lush and John Travell every success in this major project, which will hugely benefit future researchers and historians.

“PROUD OF OUR COUNTY AND OUR SOCIETY”

Looking back to the 2005 Annual General Meeting, the front page photograph shows the principal Officers, including our long-serving Secretary Hayne Russell, elected in 2004. Four other members of the current Committee were in place at that time- Stuart Adam, Shaun Cregan, *Newsletter* Editor Michel Hooper-Immins and John Rousell- then Treasurer, but who continued as a Committeeman.

In 2005, Peter Pitman was Editor of the *Dorset Year Book* and Roger Hellaby was Membership Secretary. Elected to the Committee that year were Peter Ashdown, Alfred Barrett, Geoff Coffin, Jed Miller, Ray Stone and Stuart Waite. We thank the Committeemen, past and present, for their good service and advice to the Society.

“I am proud of our county and of our Society,” veteran Chairman Roy Adam MBE told Members at the 101st Annual General Meeting in 2005. He went on to pay tribute to Sir Anthony Jolliffe GBE, beginning his 22nd year as President, “his dedication has never wavered.” Roy Adam spoke of the splendid Centenary Lunch at Blandford Camp and how 240 members had attended the County Dinner in October 2004, at which Julian Fellowes was the guest speaker, today our esteemed President.

THE 2018 DORSET YEAR BOOK

by Editor Selwyn Williams

The 2018 *Dorset Year Book* welcomes articles connected with Dorset, its people, topography, industry, history, flora and fauna- these can be fiction or non-fiction or expressed as a poem.

We try to publish a variety of subjects featuring a variety of Dorset locations each year, so there is something for everybody across the whole of Dorset. Article length can be from just a few words up to a maximum of 9,000.

They should be in Word [.doc or .docx] or .rtf formatted documents and emailed if possible. If you are sending typed hard copy, please use a large clear font, so they can be scanned and recognised easily by OCR software. Photographs accompanying the articles should be in as high a resolution as possible and copyright free.

The deadline for articles is 1 October, but if people let me know there is an article coming, this can be extended to 1 November. Please email to: selles.macuquina@btinternet.com or post to: Selwyn Williams at 41 Everest Road, Weymouth. DT4 0DQ.

DORSET YEAR BOOK BY POST

The 2018 Dorset Year Book can again be purchased by non-members, when it is published in late November. If any Member would like one or more sent to friends or relatives, it can be ordered from Alderman Andy Hutchings at 23 Hereford Road, Weymouth, DT4 0QB at a cost of £10 including UK postage. Please make cheques payable to The Society of Dorset Men. If it is to be sent overseas, ring Andy at 01305 784332 for a price.

WHY NO INVESTMENT AT DORCHESTER? asks The Dorsetman

One hundred million pounds of capital spending is being invested in the Dorset NHS, recounted the *Bridport News*. This sounds good news, but in fact mostly only those in the far east of the county will benefit, being mainly linked to the expansion of Poole and Royal Bournemouth Hospitals. They will receive “additional beds, pathology, Accident & Emergency facilities, a new children’s unit, maternity unit, Urgent Care Centre, day case expansion, theatre and recovery facilities.” Residents in the East will be happy, but what about those of us further west and north?

They say Dorset County Hospital will be “largely” unchanged, but no investment is being made in Dorchester. Why? It seems some of the capital will be used to merge childrens’ and maternity services at Dorchester and Yeovil, a highly controversial proposal which has seen mothers and families protesting in the streets. Many point to the outstanding care delivered by the Special Care Baby Unit and Kingfisher Ward at Dorchester, questioning why sick babies and mothers may be sent northwards over the Clay Pigeon to Yeovil Hospital, placed in a rather remote location on the far side of that town. Surely care is best delivered at the shortest distance? What of friends and relatives, who will face much longer journeys to visit?

Centralisation is the watchword in the NHS these days and amazingly, someone in authority has decided that the Royal Bournemouth Hospital is “central” for Dorset, despite being only five miles from the border with Hampshire! It seems an unspecified number of West Dorset patients will be taken to Bournemouth, which is 48 miles from Bridport and about an hour and a half’s journey- on a good day! Much longer when the roads of Bournemouth and Poole are at a standstill, as they often are in summer. If you have the good luck to live in beautiful Lyme Regis, then it will be a long 59 miles to Bournemouth Hospital.

Timely care is vital when heart attack and stroke victims are concerned. Doctors talk of the “golden first hour,” where if treatment can be started within an hour, the patient has a much better chance of recovery. The South West Ambulance Service is under severe pressure, with its budget cut by 10% and waiting an hour for an ambulance to arrive is common these days. Add the journey time to Bournemouth and a Bridport patient having suffered a stroke, could suffer a delay of 2½ hours or more.

The NHS is precious to most of us and we will all need it at some point in our lives. Forcing patients to travel further may seem to save money, but it will be to the real detriment of many. Then there is the very real danger that Dorchester hospital will be effectively and slowly downgraded, with more services and patients being leaked slowly to the East. I believe that we need to raise our voices and tell NHS bosses that West Dorset needs investment too and we will not put up with a second class NHS, just because we live in the rural west of the county. Tell your MP now that this is not acceptable and while we are happy at Bournemouth receiving a first class health service, we want to make sure we in West and North Dorset will continue to have first class facilities.

Views expressed by The Dorsetman are his own opinion and not necessarily those of The Society of Dorset Men.



Above: Hambro Cup competitors line-up after the match, with winner Mike Smeaton on the far right.

MIKE SMEATON WINS A THIRD TIME

by John Rousell

With eight past winners of the Hambro Cup in the field, this year's Society golf tournament resulted in a tight finish, the first nine were within three shots of the winner and final places had to be decided on countbacks. Mike Smeaton from Winfrith was declared winner of the annual competition for a third time and will be presented with the 79 year old silver trophy by Society President, Lord Fellowes of West Stafford DL, at the County Dinner on 28 October.

A small, but quality, field of 20 took part in the 2017 competition at Came Down Golf Club, home of the Ryder Cup. In third place was Bob Scott from Preston, by count back on the last nine, from Swanage's Tony Merrick in fourth. Second was John Gattrell from Wimborne and the eventual winner was Mike Smeaton from Winfrith, by count back on the last six holes.

Other prizes were won by Charles Cooper from Tincton- nearest the pin in two on the third hole, Frank Skinner of Sherborne- being nearest the pin on the tenth and David Bonnett from Upwey- nearest the pin in three on the fourteenth. The weather was good, if windy, for the competition, but improved as the morning went on. We were pleased to welcome some first timers to the competition, followed by lunch and the presentation of prizes by Secretary Hayne Russell.

The majestic silver cup was donated in 1938 by Captain Angus Hambro [1883-1957] from Milton Abbas, a leading member of The Society of Dorset Men. He served as a junior member of the Government in the First World War. Captain Hambro, an officer in the Queen's Own Dorset Yeomanry, was the Conservative MP representing Dorset South from 1910-22 and Dorset North from 1937-45.

In 2018, the competition will be held on Wednesday 4 July, again at Came Down Golf Club. For information, contact John Rousell at 54 Celtic Crescent, Dorchester DT1 2TA. Email: john@celtic54.plus.com or telephone 01305 266461.

COLIN FRY JOINS THE COMMITTEE

Toastmaster Colin Fry from West Moors is a familiar figure at our County Dinners, in his handsome red tail coat, announcing the order of events for the last seven years. He has now joined the Society's Committee.

Colin is proud to be a Dorset man, born in Bridport. He left Dorchester Secondary School in 1957 and became a Police Cadet with Dorset Police. He retired in 1994 as Chief Inspector at Bournemouth, having spent the majority of his career in CID.

A keen runner since the age of ten, he still runs and competes in local events, holding numerous Dorset titles at cross-country, road and track, together with South West Counties and British Police titles. Colin has also completed four London Marathons.

For many years, his main focus has been fundraising for national and local good causes. He is a Director and Trustee of Dorset charity *Pro Disability*, looking after the financial affairs of the disabled. Colin Fry is best known as an Ambassador for the *Youth Cancer Trust* at Bournemouth- providing holidays for youngsters with cancer. He supports them through toastmastering, Master of Ceremonies and speaking commitments and donates his fee for our County Dinner to them. Privileged to receive an East Dorset Community Service award in 2001, he carried the Olympic Torch in the national relay as it passed through Winfrith in July 2012- an experience never to be forgotten. Colin Fry has been a member of the Society for four years.

Below: Colin Fry leads in the Dorset Blue Vinny at last year's County Dinner

