

# The Christmas Feast

AUDREY KIRK

GAZING AROUND the lofty interior of Dover College Refectory on the night of 16th December I pondered on the Christmas feasts of many years past. Had there been austere meals with chanting or were they riotous feasts with music? Probably both, we'll never know, but most likely it would have been very cold!

Our feast, with John Gerrard acting as Master of Ceremonies in the absence of our Chairman, who had 'flu, was fit for a "King and Queen" with the most varied and sumptuous choice of dishes both savoury and sweet and washed down with good table wines.

It was a fitting occasion for our President, Brigadier Maurice Atherton, to present the Arjo Wiggins paper mill with a special award for their splendid new gas-driven power plant, which as well as being a good modern design is extremely efficient in its operation.

After the speeches, we were royally entertained by members of the Dover Choral Society under the able leadership of



THE BRIGADIER MAKES THE AWARD TO ARJO WIGGINS

Michael Foad who, between musical pieces read some evocative and at times, highly amusing poetry from John Betjman and Allen Bennett.

As usual, Jeremy and Sheila Cope did the Society a great financial favour by running the raffle, which I understand raised the record sum of over £160. Following the raffle we all sang the evening to a splendid close with popular carols and wished seasonal greetings to all our friends.

A special thank you to Joan Liggett and her husband Richard who, as usual, splendidly organised the whole evening. On this occasion she deserved special praise for recovering so effectively from the misfortune of spilling all the table place names on the floor immediately prior to our arrival.

## AN APOLOGY and Errata

The *Newsletter* expresses regret that paragraph 2 of page 117 of issue No. 24 contained inadvertent factual inaccuracies and, below, prints the corrected version.

"He then introduced the first speaker, Ian Gill, of the East Kent Initiative, recalling that he was once Town Clerk of Dover and had succeeded James A. Johnson in that capacity. Mr Gill had collaborated with the New Dover Group in saving from destruction one of the remains uncovered by the archaeological dig in the Market Square area organised by Brian Philp, in which the Painted House was discovered. He became Chief Executive of Thanet District Council in 1975 and was now returning to Dover as Managing Director of the East Kent Initiative."