

## **Celebrating Our Founders**

### **Wychwood Magazine celebrates 24 years!**

That is how long the Magazine has been running; perhaps a record for a village publication? In the early days the articles were collected on paper, typed onto “skins”, printed on Roneo / Gestetner machines and then stapled together in the

village hall, with the help of a large team of helpers (and Reg Ray’s specially adapted staplers!) One major revolution took place in 1986 when Don Salter first masterminded the production of the Magazine on computer, and Direct Image became our Printers.

#### **The Three Musketeers**

Behind the Magazine stands a Committee of great loyalty and dedication. The Magazine was the brainchild of Commander Rob Long. From small beginnings, many people have helped to make it what it is today. In particular a very special group of three nonagenarians are celebrated here namely; George Longhurst, Dudley Hopkins and Dennis Swann. All three celebrated their ninetieth birthdays over the last year. George is a past Treasurer, Chairman and Publisher. Dudley did what Dudley does so well, namely charming everyone around him to do willingly exactly what he asked them to do in the first place! Dennis Swann has been a Committee member for 24 years and latterly our Chairman through thick



George, Dudley & Denis

and thin. He introduced the first advertisements to the Magazine which were produced using the old “cut and paste” method, and what he cannot remember about the Magazine’s history is probably not worth knowing! Dennis also ensured the continuity

of the Magazine after Editor and Producer Rosemary and Don Salter left for Yorkshire at the end of last year. He introduced the new team and provided welcome focus as changes were made. Dennis has now decided to retire as Chairman in his 91<sup>st</sup> year. We owe him a huge debt of gratitude and wish him and Winifred a very happy “retirement”.

#### **Their Heritage**

What Dennis, Dudley and George have left us is a thriving Magazine which still tries to live up to the original Constitution of 1980. Same values, but a constantly evolving style. There have been many others who have made a lasting impact, not least those wonderful people who buy the magazine, put in their advertisements and contribute articles. But a word of warning, early retirement may be a feature of government policy, but our founders prove that on “The Wychwood” you have to be at least 90, before you can contemplate “early” retirement!

**Marian Wakefield**