



David Seward, Clark Doidge and Anthony Browning



Jackie Edwardes, David McIntyre and Pam Whatmough



Andrew Beale and Justin Llewellyn



Chris Wilkinson, Sally Wilkinson, Pauline Mason and John Power

## Bond theme for champagne night

The champagne flowed at West Lodge Park Hotel at a Taittinger Gourmet Dinner on September 26. The evening was James Bond themed, with music from the films accompanied by the spy's favourite champagne, Taittinger. The 007 connection continued with the Taittinger Champagne Ambassador, Justin Llewellyn, son of the late Desmond Llewellyn who starred as Q in the films. Guests enjoyed a fabulous four course dinner and with each course were introduced to a different Taittinger champagne by Mr Llewellyn who gave a presentation throughout. The event also marked 30 years of service at West Lodge Park by Sommelier Anthony Browning. The Taittinger Champagne hot air balloon flew over Hadley Wood during the day and was tethered in the grounds for the evening reception.

## School opens satellite site

HAILEYBURY School in Hertford has opened a satellite school in the former capital of Kazakhstan, Almaty.

The school, which is known as Haileybury Almaty, will be a fee-paying but not-for-profit enterprise, which is as close to a charity as you can get in Kazakhstan. The money for the \$50million project has been donated by a group of founders and benefactors who have supported the main benefactor, Haileybury parent, Serzhan Zhumashov, in his quest.

The school opened in September to its intake of more than 300 children and will

eventually educate 600 children who will take IGCSE and International Baccalaureate examinations in English. The majority of students will then go on to universities in Kazakhstan, the UK or America.

Mr Zhumashov wanted to offer an English-style education to Kazakh children who were unable to attend Haileybury in England. Haileybury provided expert consultancy for the development of the school, which is for children aged 5-18 and which offers an English curriculum taught to Kazakh pupils in English, Kazakh and Russian.

## Fire crew welcomes new boss

A NEW station commander has taken the helm at Royston Fire Station. Station Commander Sean Comerford, who has worked for Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue Service for 14 years, is looking forward to working with his team of firefighters to help keep Royston residents safe. He is married

with two children, and currently lives in Steeple Morden, a village near Royston. Sean, who moves from his previous role as Technical Services Officer at Service Headquarters in Hertford, has worked as a firefighter in Watford, Garston, Hemel Hempstead and Rickmansworth fire stations.

## Ramblers finally see their hard work pay off

MEMBERS of the North Herts Group of the Ramblers' Association saw three years of hard work come to fruition with the opening of a new 28-mile circular path around Stevenage.

The Stevenage Outer Orbital Path (STOOP), which encircles the town, was opened on September 20 at Stevenage Golf and Conference Centre by Mayor of Stevenage, Councillor Mick Patson. STOOP is just the first stage of the Stevenage Paths Project. It is easily accessible from the town and well served by local buses. There are eight link paths leading out to it from the edge of Stevenage and both STOOP and the paths are clearly marked with green signs designed, paid for and positioned by local ramblers. There are ten separate walks of varying lengths, the shortest being an easy 2½ miles. Free information leaflets describing various sections of STOOP will be available to the public. The individual route described on each leaflet has been test-walked by North Herts Ramblers.