



## **Summer Party 2011**

After several days of unsettled weather, the showers passed off just as the party started on Saturday 9 July, and we were able to enjoy ourselves outdoors as well as inside the marquees.

Since a great deal of preparation is required for the event, we are very appreciative of all the help that we have been given to make the evening go so well. We are again very grateful to Annie and Peter Alberto for the use of their marquees and for providing their staff to cook, carve and serve the meat; providing crockery and cutlery; and for doing our washing up. This was all very much appreciated, especially by those of us who remember long washing up sessions after parties in the past - a tremendous bonus, not to have to worry about it!

Once again, we would also like to thank Chiltern Motors for providing the meat and sausages for the children; En Route, who lent us an exotic tent for the band; David and Pauline Hawkes for copious amounts of cream; Ellie Redding for her lovely flower arrangements; Paul Nicholson and his Arcadia Trio, whose wonderful jazz playing helps the evening go with a swing. We would also like to thank Mikey, the young guitar player who entertained us whilst the band had a break and Carrie, a young Royal College of Music student, who sang some numbers with the band. The evening was again compered very suavely and professionally by Francis Sanger.

This year, Mike Chard and his troop of young helpers kept the children busily entertained in the field behind the marquees, so much so that we hardly knew there were so many children there! They only seemed to appear for food! Another very successful attraction was Steve Dean, the magician, who roved among the guests displaying all manner of mind-blowing tricks which baffled those of us who were watching.

The Golden Draw was won by R. Evans, who lives down the Vale, entitling him or her to two tickets to the filming of a session of Top Gear. Many others won an array of raffle prizes, kindly donated by members of the Society.

We must also thank all who provided mouth-watering quiches and salads and a number of sensational desserts. Thanks too to all who helped fetch and carry, decorate the marquees and plan the whole event. The evening was a great success and a real tribute to the many who worked so hard. Thank you all!

*Paul Hembury (Chairman HCCPS)*