

## David Edwards (1940-2013)

David was much respected and much loved member of the Club becoming its Chairman in 2007. He passed away in 2013, but in his final year volunteered to take over the post of Hon. Secretary, despite being quite unwell.

In January 2020 David's parish church, St Peter in Stratton, was recognised for its efforts to become more environmentally friendly and was presented with the bronze Eco Church Award. David's widow, Iona, received the award on behalf of the church.



Included in the projects were solar panels which were so successful that by 2019 the church became a net provider of electricity to the National Grid. David was the prime mover in this and other projects. He invested a great deal of time, effort and vision into what he perceived were the likely benefits of using modern technology.

It is fitting that, seven years after his passing, his work has been recognised.

# Award for environmental effort by Stratton church

A CHURCH in Stratton has been recognised for its efforts to become more environmentally friendly.

Rev. Arthur Champion, the diocesan environmental advisor, presented the Parish Church of St Peter with a bronze Eco Church Award earlier this month.

The Eco Church Award is given by Christian charity A Rocha, which means "the rock" in Portuguese.

Stratton Church undertook work in 2007 to build an eco loo, involving a trench arch drainage system. Then in 2011, solar panels were installed on the church roof. These projects were all driven by David Edwards.

As a result of David's hard work and vision, in 2019 the church became a net provider of electricity to the grid.

When registering with A Rocha in 2018, the church found it scored highly in the "building" section, but then needed to con-

By *Matty Airey*

centrate on other areas of church life in order to meet the criteria for an award. They were already using fair trade products and supporting specific environmental charities, but they needed to go a lot further.

So they began reducing paper usage, organising communal recycling, using environmentally friendly cleaning products and installing a cycle rack. They use a communal Christmas card and have plans to further reduce their carbon footprint.

They are now considering working towards a silver award and collaborating with the other eight parish churches in the Churn Valley Benefice.

They are also hoping to meet with pupils from Stratton School to consider if any further initiatives can be made.



Iona Edwards received Stratton's eco church award, on behalf of her late husband, David. She is pictured with Rev Arthur Champion and members of the congregation