

## Las Vegas comes to Welling

A splendid start to the 2015 Festival took place at the Westwood Masonic Centre on Saturday the 30<sup>th</sup> May.

Las Vegas came to Welling complete with Roulette and Black Jack tables, a magician to entertain whilst a splendid meal was enjoyed by all and then a varied and energetic performance by the Blues Brothers.

After watching the recorded message from our Provincial Grand Master the Centre was indeed privileged to receive an interesting presentation by Richard Douglas, the Chief Executive of the Masonic Samaritan Fund, detailing the aims and workings of the Charity. With regard to the launch, Richard said that no other launch had been of this magnitude or spread over so many venues. He was truly impressed.

E. Comp Douglas Hughes 2<sup>nd</sup> ProvGPrin represented the PGM and he thanked Ken Richardson and the Centre staff for working so hard to ensure the success of the evening. Following the evening Doug stated that this had been his first involvement in a Festival launch and that he was overwhelmed by the commitment of so many Brethren and their wives and partners. He added that this can only auger well for a truly successful festival. With regard to the event at Welling, Doug stated that those attending the launch had fully involved themselves from the onset – the meal time was buzzing, the speeches were very well received and the entertainment was all encompassing. The casino was very well supported and it was as entertaining as it was successful in further fund raising.

The festivities ended at midnight with a few sore feet from dancing and a sum in excess of £500 raised from the casino to set the fund raising off to an enthusiastic start.



*The magician clearly had nothing up his sleeves!*



*Shortly after it was announced, the MSF cloning service passed its first trials with 100% success...*



*... well almost 100%!*