

### **BRANCH VICE-CHAIRMAN – GEORGE EVE**

I trained to be a chartered surveyor, became qualified, worked in Dorset, and having met my wife to be when we were 16, we became engaged in 1963 and married in the September. Moving to Norfolk we bought our first house in Stanhoe for £2,750, moving on in 1966 to a rented house just south of Norwich where the rent was £300 per annum! I was made a partner in Savills, and by then with two children, we bought a magical old rectory in mid-Norfolk: I won't tell you what I paid for it - suffice it to say it cost £1.00 per square foot and had 3.5 acres of land, a pond and a partly walled vegetable garden.

My next adventure was to buy a property to dream about in the tiny hamlet of Worthing in mid-Norfolk, 4 miles north of East Dereham: included in the sale were 5 holiday cottages, a 5/6 bedroom house, a bungalow, 750 yards of river frontage and 3 acres of land. Eventually we sold the cottages and the bungalow. The village had a round tower Saxon Church in danger of closure, so determined not to let this happen, I became a Reader in the church, which resulted in it surviving. Now in my mid-80s in the declining years of my life, I derive great satisfaction in being still married to that girl aged 16; I have three wonderful children and nine grandchildren, a dynasty which I am incredibly lucky to have produced, and of whom I am enormously proud.