

CITYLINK

(THE CITY OF CHICHESTER twinned SINCE 1959 with THE CITY OF CHARTRES)

NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF CHARTRES Chichester's French Twinning Association

April 2012

[Re-numbered from the Millennium] **ISSUE: 48**

Former Chairman Honoured



Margaret Brown has received a Civic Award.
See article on page 3

Margaret Brown has organised the Art Competition for what is now the third year with Textiles this time as the theme. I am looking forward to seeing what I am sure will be a superb standard of entries from the schools involved. Mme Bonnin, Head of l'Ecole du Grand Jardin, Chartres, a participating school, will be visiting Chichester's Jessie Younghusband Primary school week commencing 23rd April accompanied by 'Les Amis de Chichester' Chairman, Clare Crézé and Chartres' Councillor Isabelle Vincent.

Recently I have joined Clare Apel, a long-standing Friends of Chartres' member, as a Trustee of STONEPILLOW, the Charity for homeless people which operates in the Chichester, Bognor and Littlehampton area.

With the help of National Lottery funding they have recently opened STONEPILLOW 'RESTORE' in a warehouse on the Terminus Road Industrial Estate right opposite the new Shippam's factory. 'RESTORE' refurbishes donated household furniture and electrical goods and sells them at great prices to raise funds for the Charity. If they wish, homeless persons are trained and take part in the restoration work.

As it happens, a similar but much larger and longer-established operation exists with the same purpose in Chartres. It is known as 'Les Compagnons du Partage' and was established in Chartres by Mme Nicole Gausseron, a very well-known Chartraine.

During the Exchange, Clare and I plan to visit their premises to see what we can learn. In the meantime if you can, please visit 'RESTORE' in Terminus Road and see what is on offer.

Finally, many thanks to those members who attended our Annual Dinner at Chichester College and the AGM at St George's. Both events went very well and the food and service at the Dinner has been described as 'best ever'.

I look forward to seeing many of you soon on our own special version of 'Coach Trip' !

MARTYN BELL
CHAIRMAN

From the Chairman . . .

We have two important events coming up shortly - the Annual Exchange Visit, to Chartres this year, on 27th April and the Schools Art Competition Awards Ceremony at Pallant House Gallery on 5th May.

At the latest count, over 40 members will be participating in the Exchange, travelling by coach via Newhaven to Dieppe. My thanks to Julia Sander, John Wilton and Diana Taylor for making what have been fairly complicated arrangements this year.



1959
CHICHESTER
Twinning



2012
CHARTRES
Jumelage



CHICHESTER CITY CIVIC AWARDS



Mayor of Chichester, Cllr Tony French, and Margaret Brown with her Civic Award

The 2011 Civic Award recipients (including our former Chairman, Margaret Brown) were presented with their Medallions at a ceremony held in the Council House, on Monday 6th February 2012. Cllr Martyn Bell read the following citation :

“Margaret was a Lecturer at Chichester College until the debilitating illness M.E. (MyalgicEncephalomya-litis) forced her to take early retirement. During

her time at the College her innovative approach to teaching (including that of a blind student) lead her to be nominated for and admitted to the position of Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts. For over 20 years, since retiring, she has given freely of her time supporting a number of local organisations.

“She has been a member of Friends of Chartres since 1990 and has been a Committee member and Editor of the quarterly newsletter ‘Citylink’ for more than 18 years (editor of all but one of the 71 editions). Her Chairmanship of the Friends, from 2008 to 2011, and the tremendous amount of work she put in during that time resulted in a very successful 50th anniversary year. For most of those three years the Friends did not have a Secretary so she was Chairman, Secretary and Citylink Editor. (She is now officially Secretary).

“Margaret has very much been the driving force behind the Friends of Chartres’ successful Schools Art Competition, linking up with Pallant House Gallery and now entering its third year.

“The twinning with Ravenna has also been supported by Margaret and she was one of the original Committee members. In fact, during her second time as Mayoress in 2007/2008 she was behind the arrangements to bring the replica Mosaics from Ravenna to be displayed at Fishbourne Roman Palace.

“Following her support and interest in the local Guiding movement during her first year as Mayoress in 1997/1998 she was appointed President of Girlguiding, Chichester Division, a position that she still holds 13 years on.

“Her educational expertise resulted in her being a Governor at the Lancastrian Infant School and then for 2 years Clerk to the Governors. During this time she was prominent in establishing links with schools in Chartres (European Tunnel Competition Winners in 1994) and also school links between Chichester and Ravenna.

“For over 20 years of unpaid hard work devoted to the community she is very deserving of a Civic Award.”



Programme of Events 2012

April 27th - 1st May (Friday to Tuesday)

ANNUAL EXCHANGE - To Chartres
Programme organised by French Committee

May 1st-29th **SCHOOLS ART COMPETITION - Exhibition** in Pallant House Gallery.
Free entry to ‘The Studio’ to view the artwork created by children from the participating schools (*please check in advance that it is available for viewing*)

May 5th **Presentation of Awards** by the Mayor of Chichester & Deputy Mayor of Chartres

The following events are in the process of being organised (Dates and venues to be advised)

June New Park Film Event

July 12th Petanque Match to Celebrate ‘Bastille Day’
(Thursday)

September “Pilgrim Routes across France”
Illustrated talk by Julia Sander

October “Arles, Avignon, Aix-en-Provence, European Cities of Culture”
Illustrated talk by J Tognetti

November Celebrating ‘le Beaujolais Nouveau’

EXHIBITIONS in LONDON

The National Gallery : 7th March - 12th June 2012
Room 15 - Admission Free

The Comte de Vaudreuil : Courtier and Collector

The Comte de Vaudreuil (1740-1817) was one of the leading courtiers and collectors of paintings in Paris during the 1780s. This display features Dutch & Flemish Old Master paintings in the National Gallery’s collection that were once owned by Vaudreuil or were in Parisian collections at that time, giving an example of wealthy homes’ decorations in pre-Revolution Paris.

Further details available at : www.nationalgallery.org.uk

The Queen’s Gallery, Buckingham Palace

4th May - 7th October 2012

Leonardo da Vinci : Anatomist

(Inside his mind, Inside the body)

This exhibition is the largest of Leonardo da Vinci’s studies of the human body. He has long been recognised as one of the great artists of the Renaissance, but he was also a pioneer in the understanding of human anatomy. He intended to publish his ground-breaking work in a treatise on anatomy, and had he done so his discoveries would have transformed European knowledge of the subject. But on his death in 1519 the drawings remained a mass of indigested material among his private papers and their significance was lost to the world for almost 400 years. Today they are the Royal Collection’s greatest treasure.

Details and admission prices at: www.royalcollection.org.uk

Friends' Annual Dinner



(left) Our President proposes a toast to The Queen and (above) Organiser & Vice-Chairman, Ray Brown, thanks the students.

As a new member of the Friends of Chartres, I was honoured to receive an invite to the annual dinner held at the Goodwood Restaurant at Chichester College.

Having seen an article for the twinning association in the local paper and, having studied French A-level at high school some years ago, I was interested to see what the association did. Having joined as a member shortly after and read my first City Link newsletter, I was keen to see what opportunities were available to develop French both within the local Chichester community and with native French speakers.

Warmly greeted by Margaret Brown at the pre-dinner drinks, I was made to feel very welcome amongst other members. Whilst French conversation was not forced, there was opportunity to speak French amongst members and the meal was started with a French blessing by Reverend Canon David Nason. The delicious three course meal that followed had clearly been given a lot of thought by the Chichester college students who took great pride in the taste and presentation of the food that was served. The menu was varied with something to suit all tastes, along with plenty of French wine to compliment the food.

MENU

Soupe à L'oignon
(Onion Soup)

ou

Salade Niçoise et Thon Grillée au Limon
(Tossed Niçoise salad topped with lime glazed tuna strips)

ou

Champignons à l'ail
(Wild mushrooms pan-fried in garlic and tarragon butter served on toasted brioche)

--- 000 ---



- Goodwood Training Restaurant, Chichester College



'Front of House students' who had been waiting on the tables during the evening were congratulated and presented with 'gratuities' collected on the evening which would go towards their end-of-year outing (including those students who had been preparing the meal) - often a day trip to France.

Darne de Saumon Sauce Hollandaise
(Poached salmon darne with hollandaise sauce)

ou

Confit de Canard
(Duck leg served with spiced red cabbage)

ou

Aubergines à la Biarritz
(Baked aubergine with goats cheese garlic and lemon)

Pommes et Légumes du jour
(Fresh potatoes and vegetables of the day)

--- 000 ---

Profiterolles au Chocolat
(Choux buns with hot chocolate sauce)

ou

Crème Brûlée aux Framboises
(Raspberry brulée with shortbread biscuits)

ou

Assiette de fromages
(Assortment of French cheeses served with crusty bread)

--- 000 ---

Café et Chocolat

It was lovely to meet such a varied group of people, all members were lovely to talk to and had a keen interest in France and meeting new people.

It was also interesting, as a newcomer, to learn about the projects that some members of the committee were taking part in - to understand more about French history and our links with certain regions in France. The Chairman, Martyn Bell, spoke about his involvement in a television documentary in France and also how he had formed links with a native Frenchman based at County Hall in Chichester. Appealing up-coming events were also mentioned such as a talk on French wines, the AGM and the annual exchange,

of which many life long friendships seem to have been formed amongst long-term members and their exchange families

The Mayor, Tony French, concluded the evening by expressing his appreciation of the society, of which he has been a member for some years, and everyone stood to toast the Queen on the celebration of her diamond jubilee.

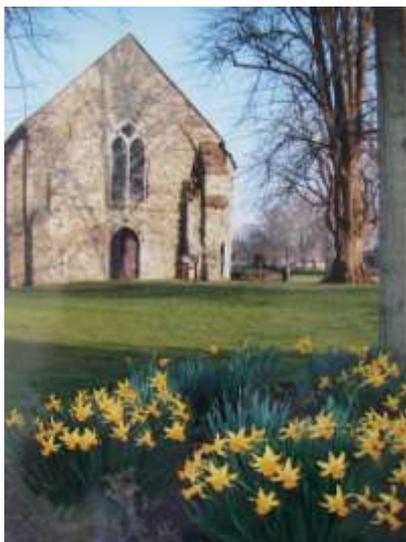
It was lovely to meet so many welcoming and enthusiastic people. The committee clearly invest a lot of time in the association and it was clear by the smiles on the faces of the members (as the pictures show) that a great evening was had by all.

KATE HOBSON

Editor's Note:

The staff had been on a tight schedule to prepare the room for our meal as this followed an extended luncheon - with guests including Prince Andrew. What's good enough for Royalty is certainly good enough for the Friends of Chartres - and 'well done' to all the students and staff.





'A HOST OF GOLDEN DAFFODILS'
Priory park, Chichester

Chichester's Entries on the theme
"Nature in the Town"

'CHICHESTER'S ENTRIES'



'LA CHASSE AU SANGLIER EST ARRIVÉE'
Knightsbridge, London



'A KISS IN THE PARK'
Priory park, Chichester



'SWARM OF BEES ON PARK BENCH'
New Park, Chichester



'FARMING IN THE CITY'
Chichester

Once again the Association 'Des Amis des Jumelages de Chartres' invited all their Twin Cities to take part in a photographic competition. Following an article in the Observer newspaper and information in our last edition of Citylink, we received the 5 photos shown above, which were sent to Chartres as **CHICHESTER'S ENTRIES**. Using the 'Airsure' tracker mail we had confirmation that they were delivered and 'signed for' on 23rd March - in plenty of time for their deadline of 31st March.

A big 'Thank You' to the 5 members who have supported us. Their names will be disclosed in the next edition and we wish them "bonne Chance" for when the French Jury meets.

PLEASE NOTE that these photographs are copies of the originals and therefore their quality is reduced. Hopefully the originals might be seen when we are in Chartres.

EDITORIAL

Our Spring edition usually has a 'sporty' feel, with photos and reports on Chartres' Eurosport Competition and Chichester's Judo Club Awards. This year, however, Portugal had problems hosting Eurosport but next year hosts will be Speyer in Germany and Ravenna will hold our 'Overall Winners' trophy until then. The Judo Club decided to wait for their their new Dojo opening so we await their double celebration in due course.

Members of the Committee are working on forthcoming events, John for our Film Event with New Park Cinema in June and Ray for Pétanque at the Canal in July. Although this is to celebrate Bastille Day it will not necessarily be held on the 14th! You will be sent details when these have been finalised and we look forward to meeting you at these events.

Due to space restrictions entrance to the Schools Arts Awards Ceremony will be by invitation only, but all members can see the Exhibition of work produced by the schools which will be on display throughout May.

As usual I thank all who have contributed to this edition and if you have something to contribute for the next edition I need to receive it by Friday 18th May at the latest please. My contact details are on the back page and I look forward to hearing from you.

MARGARET BROWN

CHARTR'ESTIVALES 2012 -

Chichester's participation

ORGAN RECITAL IN CHARTRES CATHEDRAL

Thursday 5th July - in the evening

TIMOTHY RAVALDE

Assistant Organist at Chichester Cathedral



Timothy Ravalde is the Assistant Organist of Chichester Cathedral and Musical Director of Fernhurst Choral Society. At Chichester Cathedral he is responsible for accompanying the daily choral services and assisting with the training of the choir.

He was educated at the Nelson Thomlinson School, Wigton, during which time he became Organ Scholar of Carlisle Cathedral and a Fellow of the Royal College of Organists. He then spent a year as Organ Scholar of Salisbury Cathedral.

He graduated from Cambridge University in 2010. As Organ Scholar of St John's College he accompanied the choir for numerous tours, the famous annual Advent broadcasts and three critically acclaimed CD recordings with Chandos, as well as the daily chapel services. He also acted as Musical Director of the St John's Singers, the College's mixed voice choir and won the 2009 Brian Runnett Prize for organ playing.

SCHOOLS ART COMPETITION -

Update from last year's 'Winners'

Parklands Community Primary School were thrilled to be the winners of the Schools Art competition last year. The pupils in three classes took part with great enthusiasm. They thoroughly enjoyed learning about Chartres and exploring the skills needed to produce stained glass art work.

Wanting to build on the excitement and interest that the competition had generated amongst the pupils, we decided that we would like to link with a school in Chartres. We were very grateful to Margaret Brown who helped our school to form a link with the L'Ecole de Jules Ferry. We already correspond with a school in Niort and will maintain that link with the year 3 class. The initial contact was made in the summer of last year and since then several exchanges of information have happened.



The two oldest classes at the school are sharing the link. Whilst still in its very early stages, the link has already prompted the children to ask questions about Chartres. It provides a real life learning opportunity, giving additional meaning and relevance to their lessons. The children are keen to learn new vocabulary so that they are able to communicate more fully with their pen-pals. So far the children have exchanged e-mails and have written in French about a range of subjects. We write to the French School in French and they write back to us in English. They have learned enough vocabulary to write about their families and hobbies, their likes and dislikes about school. As well as using emails to communicate we haven't given up on the postal system. Year 6 children have made and exchanged posters about our respective cities and school and we have also received Christmas cards. We are looking forward to continuing the link and hope that the children will keep in contact with their pen-pals in the future when they leave our school.



EMMA RAYNSFORD



The purpose of the Circle is to read and speak French, therefore helping members to become more fluent and confident in the language. We meet at 2.30pm in members' homes, where the hostess provides tea and biscuits around 4.00pm. We then relax our conversation somewhat and either continue in French to those nearest to us, or else chat back in our native tongue. People go home between 4.30 and 5.00pm.

LE PETITE CERCLE FRANÇAIS SPRING 2012

(Afternoon meetings)

APRIL (Thursday)

12th DIANE CURRIE
3 Wyberton House, Chestnut Ave, Chichester,789663

MAY (Thursday)

10th MARGARET BROWN
'Rock Cottage' 121 Bognor Road, Chichester.....783776

JUNE (Thursday)

14th MARJORIE WINN
"Northways", 10a Lavant Road, Chichester.....527376

JULY (Thursday)

12th DAPHNE BOWLING
"Sandpipers", Mill Lane, Sidlesham.....641660

Here we will take a break in August, and resume in September. New members please do come along and join us for an informal couple of hours of French conversation avec une tasse de thé, quelques biscuits, et un petit devoir, mais je vous en supplie de téléphoner à la hôtesse en avance s'il vous plait !!

DAPHNE BOWLING : (01243) 641660

MORNING CIRCLE

Our recent meetings have taken place on Wednesday mornings over café et croissants at Amelie's in town. It is a very informal laid-back French conversation group chatting about topical issues and culture. Please contact me for further details - merci.

EMMA HEAVER : (01243) 778568

LE CERCLE FRANÇAIS AVANCÉ ('Twilight' meetings)

The group comprises a maximum of ten (a comfortable number) capable of facilitating a conversation in French and speaking with authority on very varied subjects. When numbers exceed 10, fresh groups will be formed. For up-to-date information please contact either:

JULIA SANDER (01243) 641488 or

HENRIETTA NAPIER (01243) 528238

OBITUARY - Odette Bellanger

Many of you will recall, Didi, Jaqueline and Odette as the 3 exchange partners of Betty and Tony Ashdown. Odette died on February 1st in Orleans.

She spoke English very well having been an exchange friend of Sylvia the wife of John Bowen (who was Chairman in the early 90s) since school days. It was through Sylvia that Betty and Tony met the family Le Gall. It has been an excellent ten years of the exchange friendship.

May she rest in peace.

Dieu donne le repos à son Âme



The Fulbert Prize

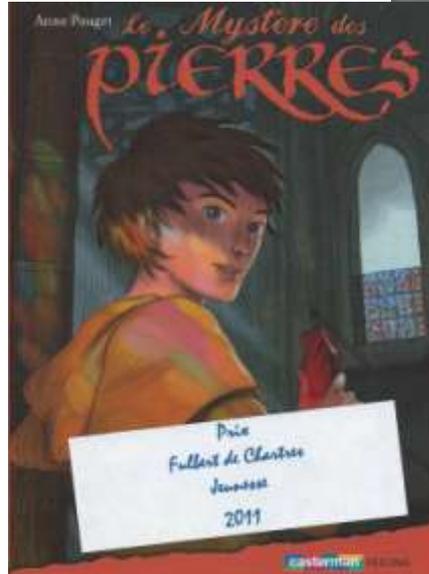
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LE MYSTÈRE DES PIERRES - Anne Pouget

Une touchante histoire d'initiation au cœur du Moyen Âge, et un beau plaidoyer pour le savoir comme instrument d'ascension sociale.

ISBN 978-2-203-035454-4

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Année 1027. Le jeune Tristan, treize ans, est le fils d'un paysan libre - l'un de ces "mangeurs de terre" à qui leur existence misérable ne laisse espérer aucun avenir enviable. Un jour, dans une forêt, il porte secours à un moine blessé, Frère Jean, venu rejoindre une abbaye près d'Orléans pour y recopier deux manuscrits très rares traduits due grec.

Cette rencontre va bouleverser la vie de l'adolescent. Reconnaissant, le lettré très érudit qu'est Frère Jean va ouvrir à Tristan les portes d'un monde incroyable dont il n'avait jamais soupçonné l'existence : celui de l'écriture et du savoir. Devenu l'apprenti de son bienfaiteur, Tristan va être appelé à vivre d'étonnantes aventures . . .

Anne Pouget

Historienne, spécialiste du Moyen Âge, Anne Pouget écrit pour la jeunesse et les adultes, et anime des ateliers de recherche et d'écriture. Elle est notamment l'auteur, chez Casterman, du roman *Les brumes de Montfaucon*, récompensé par deux prix prestigieux, d'un recueil de contes fantastiques indiens, *Les énigmes du vampire* [collection Epopée], et plus récemment d'un roman *Feeling, Si Dieu le veut Inch' Allah*.

Editor's Note:

In the last edition I was able to briefly report that I had received a copy of this year's prize-winning book from Patrick Geroudet (see small photo above). It is available to any member who would like to read it and all you need to do is please contact me by phone or email if you wish to borrow this. My contact details are shown below.

It is my understanding that the Fulbert Prize for literature first came into being in 2006, during the Millenium Celebrations for Saint Fulbert. More information about this remarkable person can be found in Claude Genin's book entitled 'Fulbert de Chartres' : ISBN 20905866-45-4 : which was published by the Archeological Society of Eur et Loir in 2006.