

CITYLINK

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

NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF CHARTRES

Chichester's French Twinning Association

www.friendsofchartres.org.uk

March 2013

[Re-numbered from the Millenium] ISSUE: 52

OUR GIFT FROM CHARTRES 'COMMEMORATING JEAN MOULIN'



*Patrick Geroudet, Adjoint au Maire de Chartres,
Yves Bastide and Claire Creze, together with
Chichester Mayor Anne Scicluna and our Chairman, Martyn Bell.*

When our French counterparts joined us for this very special event on Sunday 24th February they brought with them a gift. The portrait of Jean Moulin, which they requested be hung in the Council House, was presented to our Chairman, Martyn Bell, together with our President, Mayor Anne Scicluna, in the Mitre Theatre at the University.

Friends of Chartres, Des Amis des Jumelages de Chartres and Tangmere Museum, working together with support from the two City Councils, the University of Chichester and The Secret War Museum and learning Network, produced a very full programme for the day which was enjoyed by the many who attended.

Venues included Tangmere Museum, the Chichester University campus and the Cinema at New Park - starting at 10am through to around 10pm - with a break for lunch in the University.

The homage to Jean Moulin was given in the Address by the Mayor's Chaplin, Canon Tim Schofield, which is reproduced on page 7 together with just some of the photos which were taken at the University.

Thanks and congratulations are extended to all who helped with this very special event - and especially to Martyn who drew everything together.

MAB (Editor)

FROM THE CHAIRMAN . . .

With a very successful Jean Moulin/RAF Tangmere Commemoration, Annual Dinner and AGM behind us, we can look forward to a busy programme of activity this spring and summer.

We start on 10th April with the special viewing of Gabriel Loire's Stained Glass Windows at St Richard's Church, Cawley Road, with Majella Taylor as our Guide and on Friday 3rd of May the Exchange Group arrives from Chartres. Space permitting, 'non-hosts' are of course welcome to participate in the Programme and Organiser, Julia Sander, has recently emailed details to all Members (see details on page 3).

On Saturday 11th May, Pallant House Gallery will host the fourth joint Friends of Chartres/Pallant House Gallery Schools Art Competition Awards. This year we have fourteen entries from the Chichester Area and three from Chartres.

In the first week of July, the Friends of Chartres will team up with The Friends of Ravenna and Friends of Valetta to take part in the new Festival of Chichester. From Monday 1st to Saturday 6th July the three organisations will mount an Exhibition in The Old Courtroom, The Council House, North Street, entitled 'A Tale of Three Cities' and will feature photos, artefacts and products from the three Cities.

On 11th July we plan a pétanque match with Emsworth Twinning Association at the Canal Basin and after the summer break we have a full programme of Autumn Events and Talks.

Full details of all the above are inside this edition.

I hope like me, many of you will be spending some time in France this year. I shall be attending the opening of a new 'Resistance of the Spirit' Museum in Chambon-sur-Lignon, near Le Puy en Velay on 3rd June and hope to also attend the Jean Moulin 70th Anniversary Commemoration activities later that month in Salon de Provence and Chartres.

I look forward to seeing you over the coming weeks.

MARTYN BELL
CHAIRMAN



1959
CHICHESTER
Twinning



2013
CHARTRES
Jumelage



PRESIDENT

The Right Worshipful the Mayor of Chichester
Councillor Anne Scicluna

OFFICERS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS

CHAIRMAN	Martyn Bell.....	839704
VICE-CHAIRMAN	Ray Brown.....	783776
HON TREASURER	John Wilton	788833
HON SECRETARY	Margaret Brown.....	783776
Clare Apel.....	783738	Penelope Johnstone...771881
Anne-Louise Briggs..	784346	Julia Sander..... 527435
Emma Heaver.....	778568	Anne Scicluna..... 789065
<i>(Co-opted)</i>		
Tony Harrison (<i>Chichester Lions Club</i>).....		785737
Iain Shepherd (<i>Chichester Chamber of Commerce</i>).....		787427
Alan Thurlow (<i>D.E.E.C.</i>).....		533092

CITY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES
(July 2012 - June 2013)

Cllr Barbara Rees..... 779343 Cllr Michael Woolley.....789539

Annual Membership Fees

£10.00 single * £15.00 joint/family * £20 corporate

**New Membership Enquiries
and for any further information please contact**

Membership Secretary

Mr Ray Brown - (01243) 783776

Email: rbrown@rock-cottage.fsworld.co.uk

(Organised by)

Friends of Chartres & Pallant House Gallery

Fourth Schools Arts Competition

'A Tale of Twinned Cities'
Chapter 3 - Printmaking

Exhibition of children's Artworks

in
The Studio

at
Pallant House Gallery

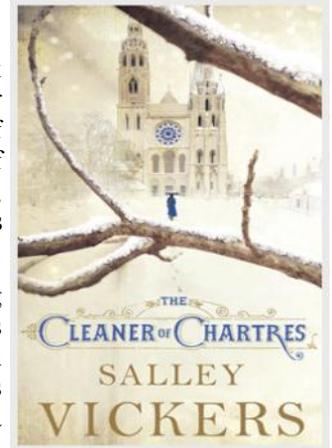
For Public Viewing from

30th April to 28th May
(inclusive)

Free Entry to The Studio (Ground Floor) in PHG

'THE CLEANER OF CHARTRES'

by Salley Vickers



I want to tell you about a book which I think is a 'must read' for all of us who are Friends of Chartres: it is 'The Cleaner of Chartres', by Salley Vickers, author of the wonderful 'Miss Garnet's Angel'.

In brief, this is the story of a young girl, damaged in infancy, who is passed from one carer or Institution to another, until she finally arrives in Chartres, where she becomes a cleaner in the Cathedral. The novel is something of a jigsaw-puzzle, moving between times and places before coming together as a complete, happy, picture in the final chapter.

Sally Vickers has meticulously researched this city which most of us now know well, and whilst reading her book, I learned so much about the Cathedral, its labyrinth, its wonderful stained glass windows, its pictures, and all those who are part of its day-to-day life. But when Salley brings all these marvels into her story, she really set me wondering why there are no tombs or gravestones in the Cathedral of Notre-Dame. After all, do any of us know another Cathedral devoid of such burial places for its Bishops throughout its history? She remarks on this fact, but says, quite rightly, that when visiting these wonderful places, it is always easier to notice things that are there, rather than things that are not.

I couldn't resist taking up this fascinating subject with our 'twins' Gérard and Geneviève Dufresne, both of whom are academics, and particularly well informed on so many aspects of the past, of the buildings and the people who lived and worked therein. They were equally intrigued, and flung themselves into research on the puzzling lack of memorials of any kind in the Cathedral. Gérard tried, unsuccessfully, to contact his old friend Malcolm Miller, an Englishman who has lived in Chartres for decades and is an authority on everything there, (Sally Vickers gleaned much of her information from him, and thanks him profusely in her Author's Note). Geneviève, however, consulted various erudite Archives, amongst which the *Centre de recherche d'archéologie et d'histoire ancienne et médiévale*, where she found a remarkable short article entitled 'Absence de sépulture dans la cathédrale de Chartres' opening with the words '*Le cas de Chartres est tout à fait singulier*'. If you read the book, and want this conundrum to be explained further, I shall have to attempt a 'Part 2' for Citylink !

I must finish by telling you I decided to contact Salley Vickers, by email, and within minutes I had a reply from her, as follows:

My agent passed on your email. Yes, fascinating isn't it? I'd love to read the article so do, please, pass it on. But whatever it concludes I will probably stick with the Abbé Paul's idea that Mary is on the side of life (rather than death ...) maybe we can combine to write a piece on all of this. I think I am coming to speak in Chichester in the Spring so hope we may meet then. Best regards, Salley.

Happy reading!

HENRIETTA NAPIER

NB: Please see page 3 for details of Salley's Lecture at 6.30pm in Chichester Cathedral on Thursday 27th June..

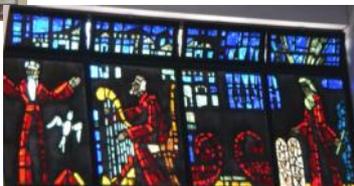
FRIENDS OF CHARTRES

Chichester's French Twinning Association



*Gabriel Loire's
Stained Glass Windows
in St Richard's R.C.
Church, Market Avenue*

**Wednesday
10th April 2013
2.30pm**
(tour approx 1 hour)



Join us for an 'on-site' tour in this Listed Grade II building with commentary by

MAJELLA TAYLOR

In 1958 this [new] Roman Catholic church was built in Market Avenue - just a year before Chichester twinned with Chartres. The building, with steel girder framework, was 'modern' when it was constructed and had plain glass windows on the upper areas of the plain walls. With foresight the Priest of St Richard's, Fr Langton Fox, commissioned Gabriel Loire to replace these with stained glass.

The Chartres' family-run Loire Studio continues the work of its founder, Gabriel, who used 'modern' techniques which are in keeping with this 'modern' building. This now houses one of the largest collections of Loire glass panels in Britain and Majella will explain the details of these masterpieces which, on 13th September 2007, contributed to St Richard's being Listed by English Heritage.

Please contact our Treasurer, John Wilton

Tel: (01243) 788 833 - or email:

johnwilton@yahoo.co.uk

(to enable us to inform Majella of the group size)

Majella is giving freely of her time - however, a collection bowl will be available at the end of the visit for people to make their donations to the church, if they so wish.

NON-MEMBERS ARE ALSO WELCOME TO JOIN US

FRIENDS OF CHARTRES

Programme of Events

2013

- April 10th** *'Gabriel Loire's Stained Glass Windows'*
(Wednesday) **2.30pm** 'on-site' Tour of St Richard's Church, Market Avenue, Chichester with commentary by Majella Taylor
- May 3rd - 7th** *THE EXCHANGE comes to CHICHESTER*
(Friday to Tuesday)
See the separate programme at bottom of page.
- June** *FILM EVENT* - Cancelled.
An alternative event is available - see below:

CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL

**Thursday, June 27th 2013
6.30pm**

'The Cleaner of Chartres'

Lecture by author Salley Vickers

*** Everyone is welcome to these lectures in the Cathedral, and entry is free.**

- July 11th** *PETANQUE MATCH + Ploughman's Supper*
(Thursday) **7.00pm** to celebrate Bastille Day - to be held at Chichester Canal Basin
(Details to follow)
- September 18th** *'Bikinis on Parade, Prosthetics on the shore' - MEMOIRS of an OLYMPIC GAMESMAKER*
(Wednesday) **7.30pm** talk by Clare Apel
St George's Parish Centre, Whyke
- October 9th** *WINE TASTING AT HENNINGS*
(Wednesday) **7.00pm** North Street, Chichester
- November 7th** *'RESISTANCE OF THE SPIRIT'*
(Thursday) **7.30pm** Talk by Martyn Bell + film in the Mitre Theatre at the University of Chichester
- November 21st** *'LE BEAUJOLAIS NOUVEAU' SOIRÉE*
(Thursday) **7.30pm** Social Evening (venue to be advised)

ANNUAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMME - Friday 3rd - Tuesday 7th May 2013

**Non-hosts are invited to join the events below (space permitting)*

- Saturday 4th** Evensong in Chichester Cathedral (Free)
5.30 - 6.15pm *(We need to notify the numbers attending)*
- Sunday 5th** *(use own transport for:)*
10.00am Arundel Castle *(*£13.00 per person)*
- 7.00 for 7.30pm** Dinner at Chichester Park Hotel *(*£23.00 pp)*
Includes welcome drink,
3 course meal and coffee
- Monday 6th** Farewell Social Evening *(*£6.00 pp)*
7.00pm at Fishbourne Club
(includes Skittles & light supper)

Events limited to Guests and their Hosts:

- Saturday 4th**
Joint Committees' Meeting
- Guided walk around the City Walls
- Mayor's Reception
- Fishbourne Roman Palace
(Workshop and Tour)

**To check availability of spaces, please contact: Julia Sander, Exchange Organiser,
19 Jubilee Road, Chichester, PO19 7XB : Tel: (01243) 527435**

DIANA TAYLOR AND THE FRIENDS OF CHARTRES

Diana's involvement with the City's French Twinning with Chartres spans many years beginning in 1980 soon after her arrival in Chichester. Her son, David, and then her daughter, Caroline, took part in the Children's Exchange and from this a very long-standing friendship has ensued with the family Massot. Diana and her husband Peter, have been regular adult 'Exchangers' with Jacques and Danielle Massot over so many years, that I think it is safe to say that they are now regarded as 'extended family'.

Diana was co-opted onto the Association's Executive Committee in 1986 where she assisted the Treasurer as Membership Secretary and then began to organise the Children's Exchange,

THE NEWSLETTER OF OCTOBER 1993

"Twinning" on air



L-r: Jeannie Chassanne, Diana Taylor and Geoffrey Marwood

working with Jeannie Chassanne in France. During this Exchange in 1993 Diana and Jeannie (both in Chartres), together with Friends of Chartres founder member, Geoffrey Marwood (who was in Chichester) were "Celebrities of the Airways" via a telephone link broadcast live on the radio. This was quite an achievement and an innovative way of

promoting our Twinning which at that time they said "*is the country's longest-established Twinning which is still going strong*".

In addition to being Vice-Chairman she also organised the Adult Exchange for many years, again working with Jeannie Chassane in Chartres, and there must be hundreds of people - both here in Chichester and over in Chartres - who remember her through these Exchanges. She was a true crusader for our French twinning and firmly believed that its success was due to the "*lasting friendships which are so valued by all parties concerned*" (a quote from her as Chairman in 1994 whilst celebrating 35 years of Twinning). During the 35th anniversary celebrations in Chartres in 1995 and at the end of a celebratory dinner, Monsieur André Alloppé, President (and Founder) of the 'Association des Amis des Jumelages de Chartres' presented Diana with a special medallion in recognition of all the work she had done over the years.

Diana was Chairman of the Friends of Chartres in 1993-96 and again in 1998-2001 (the constitution only allows a maximum of three continuous years at a time in this role) following which, in 2001, she was 'Honoured' with the title of Vice-President, a role in which she continued until her untimely death last November.

MARGARET BROWN
CITYLINK EDITOR & HON. SECRETARY

Friends of Chartres



ANNUAL DINNER 2013





Guests of Honour, Mayor of Chichester, Anne Scicluna and her Consort, Rino, were welcomed by our Chairman, Martyn Bell and his wife, Toom.



Organiser & Vice Chairman, Ray Brown, formally congratulated and thanked the students, presenting them with 'gratuities'.

Tuesday 5th Februray 2013

MENU

Soupe du jour

Soup of the day

Champignons à l'ail

Wild mushrooms pan-fried in garlic + tarragon butter served on toasted brioche

Pâté de truite fumé

Smoked trout pâté with a celeriac and horseradish remoulade

Salade d'hiver bleu

Winter salad greens with maple roasted pecans, blue cheese and crisp bacon and a vinaigrette dressing

Filets de sole florentine

Poached lemon sole served on a bed of spinach finished with a cheese sauce

Bœuf Bourguignon

Beef steak slowly braised in red wine + baton vegetables and bacon lardons

Confit de poitrine de porc

Pork served with a cassoulet of white beans

Timbale de aubergine

Aubergine & vegetable stack with parmesan and tomato

Pommes et légumes du jour

Fresh potatoes & vegetables of the day

Profiteroles au Chocolat

Choux buns with hot chocolate sauce

Tarte au citron

Lemon tart with crème fraîche

Pavlova au café et noisettes

Coffee and nut meringue

Assiette de fromages

Assortment of French cheeses served with crusty bread

Café et chocolat



The Goodwood Restaurant in Chichester College was once again the venue for this annual event and, once again, the food was delicious and the service superb. Members said last year was "the best ever" so what would they say about this year's event? We were spoilt for choice with the interesting menu, which had 4 choices for each of the 3 courses

Having sent in our choices, the catering students on duty in the Kitchen prepared our meals under the guidance of the lecturing staff. We didn't see these students but as we arrived early to ensure name places were as shown on the seating plan, we did witness those on serving duties being given their final briefing.



As our members arrived for the 6.15pm Cocktail Reception these students sprang into action with words of greeting as they helped to remove people's coats which they took to the cloakroom whilst other students served the welcoming drinks.

Having been ushered to our tables the Chairman then formally welcomed everyone and proposed a toast 'To absent Friends' and Rev Tony Ashdown said Grace, following which the students then proceeded with their waiting skills. It was interesting to note that the most popular choice of starter was *Champignons à l'ail* whilst the main course was *Filets de sole Florentine* (with *Bœuf Bourguignon* as a very close second) and *Tarte au Citron* for dessert. However, all were delightful to the eye and just about everyone enjoyed eating whichever choice they had made.

Martyn reminded everyone of forthcoming events and invited the Mayor to say a few words. Anne's anecdotes about her various encounters in Chartre caused much laughter, especially when imitating Jeannie Chassanne's English/French accent. A lovely personal touch to the evening which finished with more toasts and a collection of gratuities which go towards a summer outing for the students. So finally, what did people say about the evening - well the words I heard were, "the best ever", and now we can look forward to next year.

MAB

COMMEMORATION OF JEAN MOULIN: 24th February 2013

THE ADDRESS

In December 1964, as Jean Moulin's ashes were interred in the Pantheon, Andre Malroux made a famous speech in which he described Moulin as "the leader of a people of the night". Today we meet to bring into the light of day the memories of Jean Moulin and his work with the Resistance, the SOE and the RAF and to give thanks to God for their legacy.

In 1937 Jean Moulin went to Chartres to become the youngest Prefect in all of France. Three years later, when the invading forces entered Chartres, Moulin defiantly stayed at his post and refused to cooperate with Nazi Officers. So began the first act of passive resistance in France. But, in the months that followed, aided by local Mayors, Moulin also began to restore order amidst the chaos of the city and the surrounding district. The bringing of shape and order to what was random and disparate is a theme throughout Moulin's life and it reflects something of the work of God's Spirit who brings order from primeval chaos.

But, today we meet to remember and give thanks in this particular place, in Tangmere, because Jean Moulin's later work was only made possible with the help of others. First, there was the extraordinary skill and courage of the pilots and aircrew of 161 Squadron based here and at Tempsford and their ground crew who supported them often in hazardous conditions. On this very day 70 years ago Squadron Leader Hugh Verity ensured that Jean Moulin landed here despite dense, treacherous fog. And the importance of that landing and other similar missions cannot be overestimated. In the preface to Hugh Verity's book "We landed by moonlight" Jaques Maillier writes that without these clandestine air operations Jean Moulin would not have been able to build the structures of French Resistance that could work together in a concerted effort for France as a whole. So much is owed to RAF pilots like Stephen Hankey and James McBride who lost their lives whilst on these vital operations and to many others besides who served in Special Duties Squadrons.

Jean Moulin never blew up a train or destroyed a bridge but he made sense of the work of those who did. He united Resistance, concentrated scattered energies and so saved France from the internal conflicts that ravaged Yugoslavia and Greece – as Andre Malroux put it: "He made none of the regiments; but he made the army". And we are here today to remember too the members of those so-called "regiments" without which Jean Moulin's work would have been fruitless – the men and women of the French Resistance; the agents of the SOE such as Peter Churchill and the Gilbert brothers commemorated in this garden; and with them the heroic women of the SOE such as Odette Hallowes, Violette Szabo, Princess Noor, Diana Rowden and Cecily Lefort.

We have come here today to commemorate all these men and women not just because their extraordinary courage deserves to be remembered but because by recalling the past we also help shape the present and the future. One of the ways the evils of the Second World War was defeated was through the cooperation and friendship that was forged between Jean Moulin, Resistance members and the RAF and SOE. It is something that comes through particularly in Barbara Bertram's book on the "French Resistance in Sussex." It's a small reflection of the much larger vision that Jesus gave us in that reading just now. At the heart of human existence is the divine call to create loving friendship – it is part of the very purpose of being human. This is not simply



twentieth century was the great spiritual writer Simone Weil, who went to work in London with the Free French. She wrote very powerfully about human obligations; about having very responsibility for one another and looking to one another's needs. And although the challenges of our culture are very different from that of Jean Moulin's time the remedy is to be found in the same foundations. We need to create friendship that recognises our obligation to build up what is good and true in each other and for each other; something Jean Moulin did so powerfully in Chartres.

So, as we make our commemorations today we also remember their impact on our present and future. We remember our call to create deep friendship with one another and with God because that is the purpose of our existence. It is a call that comes from God himself and what God calls us to do He will equip us to fulfil if we look to him for grace and strength.

Canon Tim Schofield.
Precentor, Chichester Cathedral

52nd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

March 13th 2013



l-r: Honorary Secretary, Margaret Brown; Chairman, Martyn Bell, President, Mayor Anne Scicluna; Honorary Treasurer, John Wilton (Vice Chairman, Ray Brown — was 'signing in' members at the door.)



St George's Centenary Centre, Cleveland Road, was the venue for our Annual General Meeting at which our President, Mayor of Chichester, Cllr Anne Scicluna, chaired the meeting. She welcomed 30 members and 1 guest who were in attendance and, having signed the Minutes of the last AGM, it was over to the Chairman for his report.



Martyn reported an excellent year, but with some sad events: the deaths of Diana Taylor, Vice-President; former Secretary, Eileen Egles; Bryan Rice and very recently, John Bowling. He gave a full account of the year's events, of which there had been many, thanking committee members and others who had enabled these to take place. Additionally the Exchange went to Chartres, where a very full and excellent programme had been provided and a visit by the Headteacher of l'école Grand Jardin to JYS also served to bring her school's entry to our Art Competition. This Exhibition of children's work hung in Pallant House Gallery during May and was later displayed in Chartres' Marie, with help from the Chichester Lions.



The Treasurer, John Wilton then presented the annual accounts which had been sent to members with the paper for the AGM. He was congratulated on his management of the Accounts which were unanimously adopted by those present. A vote of thanks was also recorded for the 'Examiner of Accounts', Michael Merritt, who was later unanimously re-appointed to this role.



The President conducted the elections to the Executive and the following members were elected by all members present:

Officers: Chairman, Martyn Bell; Vice-Chairman, Ray Brown; Treasurer, John Wilton; Secretary, Margaret Brown.

Committee Members: Clare Apel, Anne-Louise Briggs, Emma Heaver, Penelope Johnstone and Julia Sander, leaving 1 vacancy.



To conclude the business meeting the Chairman then spoke about forthcoming events including our hosting the Exchange from Chartres in May. He also informed members that in July during the Festival of Chichester the Friends of Chartres, together with Friends of Ravenna and Friends of Valetta, would take part in an exhibition 'Tale of Three Cities' with displays of products and artefacts in the Old Court Room. There would be a membership drive, with a bottle of wine for the person recruiting most new members.



Following refreshments, a presentation of our French friends help in hanging the Children's Art Exhibition in Chartres' Mairie and nostalgic photos from last year's Exchange were shown..

**MARGARET BROWN
HONORARY SECRETARY**

The Executive has agreed to co-opt Anne Scicluna to fill the vacancy on the committee as her year 'In Office' will finish in May.

FRENCH Language Circle

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 PETIT CERCLE FRANÇAIS (Afternoons)

Sadly we have just said Au Revoir to Joyce Mitton who has been so faithful in preparing *devoir* for us each month for many years. She has found the flat of her dreams near her daughter in Worthing so we must rejoice for her sake.

Voici le programme pour les mois de Printemps quand nous serons chez les personnes quivants pour parler en français avec un tasse de thé, commençant a 2.30:

APRIL (Thursday)

11th DAPHNE BOWLING
'Sandpipers', Mill Lane, Sidlesham.....641660

MAY (Thursday)

9th MARGARET BROWN
'Rock Cottage', 121 Bognor Road, Chichester783776

JUNE (Thursday)

13th WENDY & PAUL DEVONSHIRE
Lane End, Sidlesham.....641457

JULY (Thursday)

11th JULIA SANDER
19 Jubilee Road, Chichester.....527435

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

Please contact me for further details - merci.

EMMA HEAVER : (01243) 778568

LE CERCLE FRANÇAIS AVANCÉ ('Twilight' meetings)

Up-to-date information from:

HENRIETTA NAPIER: (01243) 528238



JOHN HENRY BOWLING
1923-2013

The Parish Church of St Mary Our Lady, Sidlesham, is where friends joined Daphne and her family to say a final farewell to John on 22nd March. The church was filled to capacity for the beautiful and touching service.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Daphne and her family at this time.

Rest in Peace, John - and thank you for all you did to help our Association, especially hosting the Garden Parties.



**"Bon Voyage"
et
"Merci"
a
Joyce Mitton**



A small gathering of members enjoyed a special 'High Tea' party at the end of their February meeting as they said 'au revoir' to Joyce Mitton who is moving house to be nearer to her daughter. To mark the occasion Diane Currie presented her with a gift from the Circle as a 'thank you' and a 'Merci' card was delivered from the Executive committee.

Joyce joined the Friends in the 80s, and it was after she retired that she became more involved with the Language Circle, which at that time was organized and led by Connie Lyndhurst. When Connie died quite unexpectedly, encouraged by Daphne (who at that time was FoC Secretary), Joyce stepped in as the December 1996's Citylink records her as the 'New Circle Organiser'. For the last 16 years Joyce has diligently prepared contents for Circle meetings and we thank her for this.

Thank you Joyce - enjoy your new home.
(We must also thank Daphne who organizes the venues.)

Association member, Vincent Porter, has decided to get rid of his copies of the last seven years' back issues of the bi-monthly magazine

'La Vie Outre-Manche',

which is the French language magazine for English speakers. They have been collected in loose-leaf binders and are free of charge for anyone who wants to collect them in order to brush up their French.

Tel: (01243) 532367

EDITORIAL

Thanks to all who have contributed to this edition. We certainly have a lot to look forward to in the coming months and I hope that members will send in their articles for Citylink. The next deadline for me to receive these is the end of May. Please do contact me either by the telephone and/or email address below. I look forward to hearing from you.

MARGARET BROWN