

CITYLINK

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

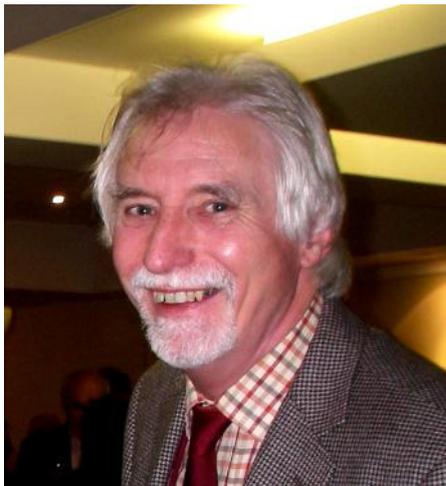
NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF CHARTRES Chichester's French Twinning Association

www.friendsofchartres.org.uk

March 2014

[Re-numbered from the Millenium] ISSUE: 56

FROM THE 'NEW' CHAIRMAN



This is my first Chairman's report following my election at the Friends of Chartres' AGM just a few weeks ago on 12th March. I am looking forward to the year ahead and would like to thank those members who proposed and seconded my nomination and who supported my election.

What could prove to be a good link with Fishbourne and Tangmere French twinning associations was formed on 21st March when Fishbourne Twinning Association organised a Darts Match Challenge - see Jim Payne's report on page 7.

Forthcoming events include a European Quiz Evening on 10th April and a visit, by coach, to Southwick Park on 11th June. This will include a guided tour of the RMP Museum, D-Day Map Room and the Chapel, the contents of which were transferred from Chichester when the RMP moved to Hampshire from the Rousillon Barracks. It will also include a meal in the Officers' Mess. I hope to see you there and advise that you book early as it will be open to other groups.

Chichester Minerva Theatre is the venue for 'A World Premiere' of David Haig's new play "Pressure" from 31st May - 28th June. This little known true story is about the D-Day invasion and the crucial question regarding the different predicted weather

on the proposed invasion day from an American celebrity weather man and a Scottish Chief Meteorological Officer. Seeing this play before our visit would add an extra dimension to the Map Room and the dilemma facing Allied Supreme Commander, General Eisenhower.

Having missed the Exchange visit to Chartres in 2012 due to ill health I am looking forward to our journey across the Channel from 1st to 5th May. The Exchange is one of our Association's strengths with a contingent of around 48 taking part, representing about 40% of our membership. We will be joined on the trip by the University of Chichester Orchestra, numbering 40+, travelling separately but on the same crossing. Also arriving on Sunday 4th May will be those taking part in the Chichester Harbour Rotary Club's Annual Chichester to Chartres sponsored cycle ride. A mini invasion of Cicestrians !!

The biennial Festival of Flowers in Chichester Cathedral (29th - 31st May) is celebrating its 10th Anniversary with 'The Music Makers' as its theme. We are supporting the stunning flower arrangement by Val Rossiter featuring St Fulbert's Hymn 'The Choirs of New Jerusalem' and Richard Cayeux of Gein has produced a unique hybrid Iris "Cathédrale de Chichester" (see page 3).

A joint event with Friends of Ravenna and Friends of Valetta is being planned for the first week in July as part of this year's Festival of Chichester (see page 6).

Following the launch of the 5th Schools Art Competition at Pallant House Gallery last October we had interest shown by 14 local schools followed by the notice of four entries from France. This event has been supported up to now by generous grants from both Chichester City Council and West Sussex County Council plus our private sponsors. The Local Authority support cannot necessarily be guaranteed to be available in future years, so our private sponsorship efforts will need to be stepped up.

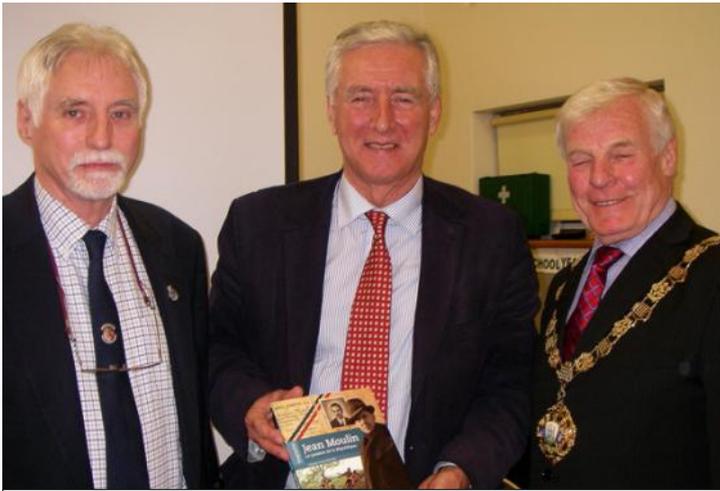
With an interesting selection of events coming up, including the Exchange, I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible.

RAY BROWN

55 years CHICHESTER Twinning 1959

55 years CHARTRES Jumelage 2014

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



L-r: New Chairman - Ray Brown, Retiring Chairman - Martyn Bell & President - The Mayor of Chichester - Cllr John Hughes

The Association held its 53rd Annual General Meeting in St George's Centenary Centre on Wednesday 12th March 2014 where our President the Mayor of Chichester, Cllr John Hughes, opened the meeting by welcoming the 29 members who were in attendance. Having signed the Minutes of the last AGM, it was over to the retiring Chairman for his report.

Martyn Bell explained that, having served as Chairman for three consecutive years, he would be retiring from this role as per our constitution and would give his report in two sections. He began with a comprehensive review of the year's events followed by an overview of his 3 years as Chairman - extended backwards to include his reminiscences of the 50th Anniversary Dinner in February 2009 at which an innovative 'video link' with Chartres was established and his first 'Jean Moulin' talk given later that year. Special thanks were given to the committee and he concluded by reading out a letter he had received from the retiring Dean who had been invited to our 2014 Annual Dinner.

The President then introduced the Treasurer, John Wilton, who presented the annual accounts which had been approved by the Examiner of Accounts and previously sent, together with the AGM papers, to all members. He gave a full break-down of the accounts explaining that the deficit shown was due to the deposit for the 2014 Exchange transport costs being paid in December 2013 - earlier than previous years. Thanks were given to the City Council, WSCC and independent sponsors who had again supported the Schools Art Competition, enabling this to begin its fifth year. The accounts were then unanimously adopted by



'NEW FACES' (above l-r)
Sandy Barnett, Paul Devonshire and David Nason - plus Julie Schofield (who is co-opted and is replacing Alan Thurlow as our DEEC link through the Cathedral)

PRESIDENT

The Right Worshipful the Mayor of Chichester
Councillor John Hughes

OFFICERS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS

| | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|--------|
| CHAIRMAN | Ray Brown..... | 783776 |
| VICE-CHAIRMAN | Julia Sander..... | 527435 |
| HON SECRETARY | Margaret Brown..... | 783776 |
| HON TREASURER | John Wilton | 788833 |
| | Sandy Barnett..... | 527278 |
| | Penelope Johnstone... | 771881 |
| | Anne-Louise Briggs.... | 784346 |
| | Emma Heaver..... | 778568 |
| | Paul Devonshire..... | 641457 |
| | David Nason..... | 573716 |

IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIRMAN

Martyn Bell.....839704

(Co-opted)

| | |
|--|--------|
| Tony Harrison (Chichester Lions Club)..... | 532893 |
| Julie Schofield (Cathedral/DEEC link)..... | 784244 |

CITY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES (July 2013 - June 2014)

| | | | |
|------------------------|--------|-------------------------|--------|
| Cllr Barbara Rees..... | 779343 | Cllr Anne Scicluna..... | 789065 |
|------------------------|--------|-------------------------|--------|

those members present and John was again congratulated on his management of these. Following this, 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 election of Officers to the Executive and the following, having been duly proposed and seconded, were unanimously elected by those members present.

Chairman: Ray Brown; Vice Chairman: Julia Sander;
Hon. Treasurer: John Wilton; Hon. Secretary: Margaret Brown.

Committee Members:

Sandy Barnett, Anne Louise Briggs, Paul Devonshire, Emma Heaver, Penelope Johnstone and David Nason.

The new Chairman, Ray, then thanked the Mayor and expressed his delight at the Executive now having a full committee. He then invited Officers to give details about forthcoming events which included a European Quiz in April, Exchange to Chartres in May, and a visit to Southwick Park by coach in June, whilst our autumn events are being finalised by the committee.

Members were urged to send in their entries for Chartres' Photo Competition and informed that once again we will work on a joint event with Friends of Ravenna and Friends of Valetta which will take place in July as part of the Chichester Festival.

Prior to closing the meeting Ray then thanked Martyn for what he had done during his 3 years as Chairman and, together with the Mayor, presented him with a book (about Jean Moulin, of course) and reminded him of his new role on the committee - as Immediate Past Chairman. Following refreshments Clare Apel gave an illustrated talk (see page 6).

**MARGARET BROWN
HONORARY SECRETARY.**

June 11th 2014
SOUTHWICK PARK
 by coach - and including
Lunch in the Officers' Mess



Tour to Include
D-Day Map Room, RMP Museum & Chapel

Southwick House, a manor house of the Southwick Estate to the north of Portsmouth, is distinct for its two-storey foyer lit from a cupola and a series of elliptical rooms. It was built in 1800 in the late Georgian style to replace an earlier Southwick Park House.

In 1943 the house was chosen to be the location of the Advance Command Post of the Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force and in 1944, in the months leading up to D-Day, the house became headquarters of the main allied commanders including Naval Commander-in-Chief Admiral Ramsay, Allied Supreme Commander General Eisenhower and the Army Commander-in-Chief General Montgomery.

After Coffee & Biscuits on arrival we will visit the Map Room where the large wall maps that were used in planning D-Day are still in place in the house (with the various markers showing the positions of the involved forces at the moment the first landing commenced) and we will hear the extraordinary story of the procurement of the map and its place in our history.

The Guide will then take us to the RMP Museum and Chapel, following which we will return to the house for a 2-course lunch in the Officers' Mess before returning to Chichester.

Coach departs at 9.30am from the Lay-by at Northgate Car Park returning there around 3.00pm.

Please **return (by 30th April)** the completed form, together with your cheque made payable to 'Friends of Chartres', to:

MARGARET BROWN (Hon. Secretary)
 'Rock Cottage', 121 Bognor Road, CHICHESTER, PO19 7TH

Because we would like to have a full coach we are inviting other groups to join us - so do please return your form ASAP

Please note: As Southwick Park is a "working" Ministry of Defence base it will be necessary for us to provide a list of participants in advance of the visit and **it will not be possible for anyone to join the visit who is not booked on that date.** It will also be necessary for everyone to carry some form of identification on the day.

FRIENDS OF CHARTRES
Programme of Events
2014

- May 1st - 5th** **THE EXCHANGE TO CHARTRES**
 (Thurs - Mon) [Exchange events organised by Chartres Cttee]
- June 3rd - 29th** **SCHOOLS ART COMPETITION**
Exhibition of children's Artwork in PHG
 [Free entry to The Studio - ground floor in PHG]
- June 11th** **VISIT TO SOUTHWICK PARK**
 (Wednesday) **D-Day Map Room, RMP Museum & Chapel**
 (See details opposite and on the enclosed flyer)
- July 7th - 11th** **CHICHESTER FESTIVAL**
'Art & Architecture' Exhibition & Event
 With Friends of Ravenna & Friends of Valetta
 [Further details see page 6]

The following events are being investigated by the committee

- September/ **Illustrated Talk at University of Chichester**
- October **Film Event**
- Nov/Dec **Christmas Cheese & Wine**
 (to possibly include 'le Beaujolais Nouveau')

Chichester Cathedral Restoration & Development Trust's
10th Anniversary of this biennial Festival

FESTIVAL OF FLOWERS

29th - 31st May 2014

The 'Theme' for this year's event is

"The Music Makers"

Tickets: www.chichestertickets.co.uk or Tel: (01243) 813595

Val Rossiter's arrangement "St Fulbert" in the Lady Chapel is being supported by the Friends of Chartres

(Organised by)

Friends of Chartres & Pallant House Gallery

Fifth Schools Arts Competition

'A Tale of Twinned Cities'

Chapter 4

Illuminated text - Ancient & Modern

Exhibition of children's Artworks

in

The Studio

at

Pallant House Gallery

For Public Viewing from

3rd - 29th June
 (inclusive)

Free Entry to The Studio (Ground Floor) in PHG



Guests of Honour: Mayor & Mayoress of Chichester, John & Cherry Hughes and the Dean, Nicholas Frayling were welcomed by Chairman, Martyn Bell and his wife, Toom

Friends of Chartres



**ANNUAL DINNER
2014**

**Goodwood Restaurant
Chichester College**



This venue is the training restaurant for students following their Hospitality courses and has become a firm favourite for our Annual Dinner, which is traditionally held in February, marking the date when our two communities became 'Twins'. It is now **55 years** since the 'Deed of Jumelage' was signed by the Mayors of Chartres and Chichester in the City's Council Chamber on 28th February 1959, thus cementing the friendship between the two communities. Our Association came into being just two years later, making 'Friends of Chartres' one of the country's longest standing - and still very active - Twinning Associations.

The Mayor & Mayoress are traditionally invited as the 'Guests of Honour' to our Annual Dinner, but this year another invitation was sent to the Dean, the Very Reverend Nicholas Frayling (who had recently been given the Freedom of the City) and we were pleased that he was able to join us before his retirement later that month.



After the welcoming (unexpectedly non-alcoholic!) 'Cocktail' Reception which acted as a very good 'ice-breaker' for guests and members to be re-acquainted, it was evident that the atmosphere was very relaxed and convivial. Having checked the seating plan people were ushered to their tables and after a few words of welcome from Martyn, followed by an appropriate French Blessing by Canon David Nason, the waiting staff began to serve the delicious meal.



We had sent in our choices in advance - an absolute necessity given there were four choices for each of the three courses. For the first course these were *Soupe du jour*, or *Champignons à l'ail*, or *Pâté de truite fumé*, or *Salade d'hiver bleu*. Unfortunately we did not see the catering students who work so hard in the kitchen, but we certainly enjoyed seeing and tasting the fruits of their labours. The dishes were delicious and very well presented and the front of house students, whilst sometimes being a little nervous, were very professional in demonstrating their waiting skills.

We learned that these were first year students who had just started their course in September. Given that there were so many choices of dishes it was remarkable to see how well they coped in ensuring each person received the correct dish. As an 'aide mémoire' we had included this information on each person's name place setting - mainly to ensure we didn't change our minds at the last moment !



As the evening progressed and the atmosphere became even more relaxed - wine could be purchased from the bar, yet another task for the students to cope with - we moved on to the main course. Our choices were *Filets de sole Florentine*, or *Bœuf Bourguignon*, or *Confit de poitrine de porc* (Served with a cassoulet of white beans), or *Timbale de aubergine*, and all these dishes were served with *Pommes et légumes du jour*. Once again, although sometimes a little nervously, the students excelled in their serving skills.

Then came the desserts: *Profiteroles au Chocolat*, or *Tarte au citron*, or *Pavlova au café et noisettes*, or *Assiette de fromages* - we were truly spoiled for choice. The warm and friendly atmosphere continued as the students cleared the tables and served Coffees and hand-made chocolates.



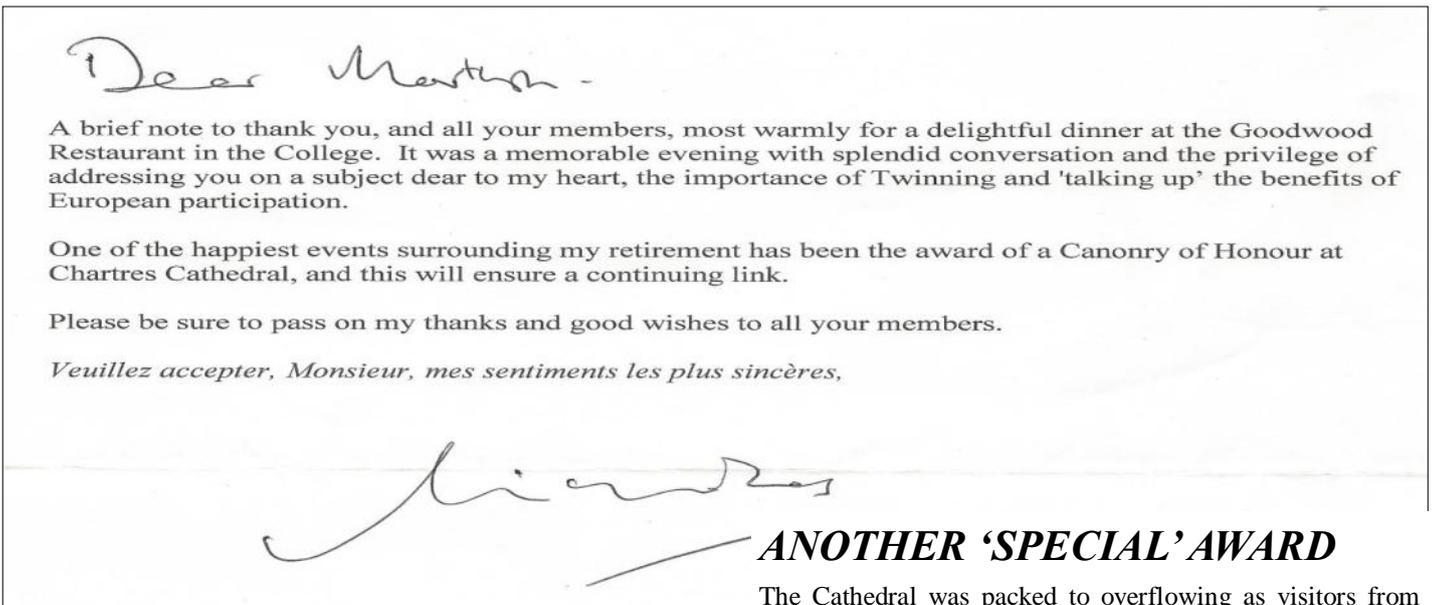
Martyn then introduced the Dean who spoke about Twinning and, relating to his own family background, the importance of European participation as a means of peace. This was well received and a fitting end to a superb evening.



The Dean was thanked for all he had done during his time as Dean of Chichester and especially for his support towards our Twinning.

Finally our organiser of the evening, Ray Brown, thanked and congratulated the students and staff for providing such a splendid meal. He then handed them the gratuities which had been collected from each table and explained that this goes towards providing the students with an 'outing' at the end of the College year, often going to France.

MAB



ANOTHER 'SPECIAL' AWARD

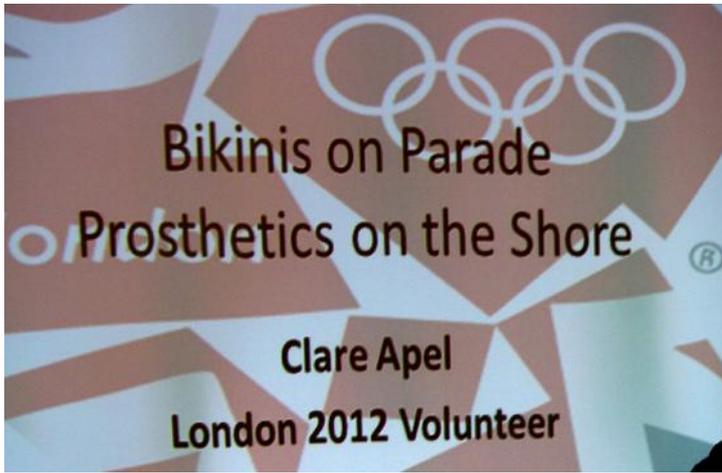
The Cathedral was packed to overflowing as visitors from throughout the diocese flocked there for the Dean's Farewell Evensong, and it was good to also see representatives from Beyreuth, Bamberg and Chartres - with whom the Cathedral has strong links.

At the end of the service the Dean received many gifts including a large telescope and everyone was invited to a marquee on the lawn where tea and cakes were being served and where the Dean would cut a specially prepared cake to mark the occasion.

Prior to the cake cutting and amidst a multitude of people the Dean of Chartres Cathedral, Chanoine Dominique Aubert, asked to read out a letter he had brought from their Bishop. Here it was announced that Nicholas would be made an Honorary Canon of Chartres Cathedral. This very special message was received with great joy by all those present. A truly wonderful ending to an unforgettable weekend.

MARGARET BROWN





This was the intriguing title for Clare Apel's talk given to members of the Friends of Chartres as a post-AGM 'treat' - and a very interesting treat it proved to be.

Clare spoke to us of her experiences as a Gamesmaker during the 2012 Olympic Games. One of 70,000 volunteers accepted out of over 250,000 applicants, Clare worked as a language volunteer at both the Olympic and the Paralympic Games, hosting guests from Italy, looking after Italian teams and escorting VIP's to their places. She described the experience as 'a great honour', but it was plain from her description of her daily routine that it was also extremely hard work.

During the Olympic Games Clare was on duty at the Horse Guards Parade, where the beach volleyball events took place - hence the 'Bikinis on Parade' part of the title. Despite the image of beach volleyball as a beach game for glamorous young women, Clare soon realised that it is as competitive and taxing as any other sport. She worked shifts from 7:00 am to 4:30 pm or from 4:30 pm until late at night. Play sometimes continued until 1:00 or 2:00 am. Covering the first shift meant taking the 5.00am train from Chichester and she was rarely home before 8:00 pm. Her first task on arriving at the stadium in the morning was to work with a team of volunteers removing the nuts which squirrels had helpfully buried in the sand on the volleyball court during the night.

For the Paralympic Games, Clare was assigned to the water sports events in Weymouth. She was amazed to see the enormous range of disabilities of the competitors, who had the disconcerting habit of discarding their prosthetic limbs and leaving them in large piles on the beach before competing. Only 30% were disabled from birth; the remaining 70% had been disabled as the result of accidents, many of them sustained through sporting activities.

Clare had to provide simultaneous translation for athletes and the press. She also arranged boat transport to events for VIP's in wheelchairs - not easy as there were no suitably equipped boats. Fishing boats had to be specially cleaned for the purpose in order to remove all traces of fish. However, she sometimes was able to charter a gin palace to transport guests to the events in a more salubrious manner.

Clare believes that the Gamesmakers enhanced the whole experience for participants and spectators alike. As with all the volunteers, she was responsible for her own expenses, including travel, which came to a considerable sum. It is estimated that the Gamesmakers saved the Exchequer half a billion pounds by

WE NEED YOUR HELP !

During the Festival of Chichester we will be working with the Friends of Ravenna and the Friends of Valetta to present an exhibition of photographs and artefacts. This will take place in the Old Courtroom during the first full week of July with the title "Art and Architecture" of the three cities of Chartres, Ravenna and Vailletta.

Saturday 5th July (morning) the Mayor of Chichester will formally open the exhibition and the public will be welcome during that afternoon, and on Monday to Friday of the following week.

Monday 7th July will be a celebration evening in the Assembly Room. Theatre producer Roger Redfam will be in conversation with Sarah Badel, Susan Jameson and James Bolam on "The Art of Acting". This will be followed by wine and nibbles from the three countries and the actors will perform readings of short prose and poetry about the cities and countries.

What we need from our members are some short pieces of poetry and prose on Chartres and France for the actors to speak and read. Personal quotations may also be useful. If we have a good choice for our actors, all the better. Please try to help, so as to make this evening a good and interesting one.

PLEASE CONTACT: ANNE-LOUISE BRIGGS

Tel: 784346 Email: albriggs47@googlemail.com

who also needs help to put up the displays - on 4th July (and to dismantle them at the end of the Exhibition). Volunteers to steward the Exhibition throughout the week are also needed.

EDITORIAL

A special 'Thanks' goes to those who have contributed to this edition which we hope you enjoy reading. Looking through back copies of our newsletter I thought I'd send out a 'Challenge' to all our members, both long-standing and 'new', which hopefully will bring out some budding 'journalists'. Do you have any news or anecdotes which might interest our members or our friends in Chartres? or perhaps you are able to produce a Crossword Puzzle or word game (together with answers, please), or if you would like to do the 'write up' for one of our events, then do please contact me by phone (01243) 783776 (for a 'personal touch') or my other contact details are at the bottom of the back page. I do really look forward to hearing from you.

MARGARET BROWN

giving their time freely. In recognition of their efforts, they were given ringside seats in a specially constructed stand on the Mall to watch the Olympic parade.

The country owes a great debt to the Olympic volunteers who gave their time and expertise so generously to make the event the success it so clearly was.



Clare closed her talk by aptly quoting the words of Lord Coe: 'When our time came, Britain, we did it right.'

Having thanked Clare for her very interesting talk the Chairmen then presented her with some wine.

JULIA SANDER

FISHBOURNE CHALLENGE

An evening of team weapon throwing.

(Chichester and Tangmere foolishly accepted the challenge)

Venue: The Woolpack Inn, Fishbourne

The Woolpack: Visions of an older generation toiling in the fields, what had our evening in store for us ?



A pre-martial arts throwing of sharp metal darts at a target and what of the challengers, can we cope ?

Full of trepidation six Friends of Chartres plus a visitor met for a pre-contest dinner. Reinforced by two young ladies and their



husbands (and the promise of more contestants to follow) our spirits recovered slightly.



Gradually the Inn filled with people, I counted eight from Tangmere (see above) but the Fishbourne contingents kept coming and the contest arena was filled with bodies. Chaos! How could anyone organise a competition in this mass of people ?



Organize they did. Fishbourne ably organised the tournament in true Roman fashion. The Woolpack landlord provided a Challenge Cup and a Second Division Shield.

The challenge began with our untrained gladiators stepping up to the competition black line. Fortunately our adversaries were no better



prepared and the normal weapon throwing saw only two of every three weapons finding the target from each combatant.

And so the evening progressed. Chichester Team Red won their duel; Team Blue lost and departed to the lower league Shield competition. In their next round Chichester's Team Red were defeated thus leaving the Final Round for the Challenge Cup to be between Tangmere and Fishbourne. Our hopes now rested on the Second Division Shield - and Chichester's Team Blue.

Small parcels of meat wrapped in wheat arrived and hey! it did



the trick. The Blue team were revived and, led by the amazing Olympic figure of Paul Devonshire, won the Shield. Hooray !!!



Julie Pembery (left) presented the trophies

Tangmere won the Challenge Cup and a Fishbourne member won a Statuette for the highest score. Congratulations to Fishbourne for organising a thoroughly enjoyable evening. There were no fatal injuries recorded and I for one would recommend the next contest to our members who were not able to partake in this year's event.

JIM PAYNE

EDITOR'S NOTE: Jim has failed to mention that he was in line for receiving the Statuette for the highest score. Unfortunately, his high score of 93 was just 'pipped at the post' in the last few minutes of the final game by an unbelievable score of 140. Thanks go to Fishbourne Chairman, Julie Pembery, and her committee for a really good evening of entertainment.

«Les Amis des Jumelages de Chartres »
PHOTO COMPETITION 2014
 Robert Laillet Prize : 'Unusual in the City'

LE PETIT CERCLE FRANÇAIS (Afternoons)

These are held on the 2nd Thursday of the month at various homes of our members. We concentrate on conversation and might include a crossword puzzle or translation for homework. It is very informal and relaxed. The standard is variable and the more able help the less able. We start at 2.30pm and have tea between 4 and 4.30pm. Do contact any one of us to have a chat if you are interested. Spring venues are as follows:

| | |
|------------------|---|
| APRIL | |
| 10 th | DAPHNE BOWLING in Sidlesham.....641660 |
| MAY | |
| 8 th | MARJORIE WINN in Chichester.....527376 |
| JUNE | |
| 12 th | DIANE CURRIE in Sidlesham.....789663 |
| JULY | |
| 10 th | DAPHNE BOWLING in Sidlesham.....641660 |

Will you please confirm your attendance in advance to enable the host to provide sufficient cups for tea.

WENDY DEVONSHIRE : (01243) 641457

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

FRENCH LANGUAGE CLASSES/COURSES

For other opportunities to learn French, at all levels, locally please go to:

Aspire Sussex Ltd (formerly WSCC Adult Ed. & Learning)
www.aspiresussex.org.uk - Tel: (01243) 850744

Chichester College (Westgate Fields, Chichester)
www.chichester.ac.uk - Tel: (01243) 786321
 (course enquiry: info@chichester.ac.uk)

EMMA HEAVER: (01243) 778568

CHICHESTER'S ENTRIES



'Noose Ends'
Oaklands Park, Chichester



'Il ya du brouillard, je suis perdu'
Chichester Canal Basin



'Landed safely (for the nesting time?)'
Baffins Lane Car Park, Chichester



'Swan Walking'
Chichester Area

Once again the Association 'Les Amis des Jumelages de Chartres' invited all their Twin Cities to take part in the third edition of this photographic competition. This invitation missed the last edition of Citylink (arriving during the Christmas holidays) so was emailed to members. The four photos shown above were sent to Chartres on the 24th March as **CHICHESTER'S ENTRIES** using 'Airsure tracker' mail to ensure they will be delivered and 'signed for' in plenty of time for their deadline of the 7th April..

A big 'Thank You' goes to those 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.

Annual Membership Fees

£10.00 single £15.00 joint/family
 £20 corporate

Membership Enquiries & further information contact

Membership Secretary

Mr Ray Brown - (01243) 783776