



# CITYLINK

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

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

March 2011

[Re-numbered from the Millennium] **ISSUE: 00.44**

### NEW CHAIRMAN - MARTYN BELL



#### From the 'Retiring' Chairman . . .

Having served as Chairman for three consecutive years I retired from this post at the AGM, as per our constitution, which allows me to continue to serve as Immediate Past Chairman. However, because Martyn was not able to be at the AGM and is still recovering from his operation, he asked if I would write this article as 'Retiring' Chairman. I hasten to add that his health is steadily improving as can be seen from the above photo, which was taken at the first meeting of the Executive which he Chaired.

Details of the AGM are reported on page 6 and congratulations go to the elected 'Officers': Martyn in his new role as Chairman, Ray Brown as Vice Chairman, John Wilton as Treasurer and 'yours truly' as Secretary; whilst Emma, Penelope and Julia continue as committee members.

Following the New Zealand earthquake we were concerned about Penelope's safety. No-one had heard from her since she left to go there in early January. She's now safely home and her article on the back page makes very interesting reading. I'm please to report she is still happy to take the notes at our meetings.

Please check page 5 for the report on the Annual Dinner, plus photos of all who attended. The food and service were of exceptional quality and I also received praise for the seating plan from a 'first-timer' - well done Ray.

We look forward to May's Exchange and non-hosts are able to take part in events, space permitting, details on page 3. Please return the completed flyer to Julia as soon as possible as it will be 'first come first served'.

Emma's enthusiasm in organising the new Morning Language Circle and support for the Art Competition is much appreciated. Together with Ray we three have enjoyed visiting schools and speaking with the children..

Three years ago one of my main aims was to encompass the community and I feel this has been achieved in several ways - particularly with the Art Competition and now with the Website. Setting up projects can be both time-consuming and stressful, but so worthwhile when successful, and my thanks go to Ray, Martyn and John for their continued support. As a team we work well together and, with our Chartres' counterparts, I hope we will be able to take the Association forward from strength to strength.

At the beginning of the year we received the sad news that former member Jean LeBourlier Woods had died. She was a City Councillor for 8 years and Mayor of Chichester (2003-4). During this time she helped Thomas Desgrouas with the Young People's Visits (replacing the Children's Exchanges). We also learned that two very long-standing members, Ron and Mary Barrow, had also died. During the 30th Anniversary in 1990, Ron signed the first re-affirmation document, shown in previous Citylink.

On a brighter note we look forward to the occasion when Dominique Aubert will be made Honorary Canon of Chichester Cathedral and Chichester College will host Chartres' Eurosport Competition 11th-15th April when teams from Chartres' other twin cities of Ravenna and Speyer will also take part. Harbour Rotary Club's Charity Cycle Ride to Chartres will leave the Council House on 29th April and return on 2nd May. Our June & July events are still being organised and a separate flyer will be sent to our members with details once these are finalised.

The City Council is hosting a Twinning Day on 9th April for the 40+ Twinning Associations throughout West Sussex and our Vice-President, Diana Taylor, will be the Friends of Chartres delegate at this event.

Finally I extend my thanks to all members for their support during the last 3 years it has certainly been a very busy time. I will now do my best to support Martyn, starting with my new role as Secretary (the first we've had in 3 years!) With my very best wishes to you all.

**MARGARET BROWN**  
(Hon. Secretary & Editor)



1959  
**CHICHESTER**  
Twinning



2011  
**CHARTRES**  
Jumelage



## *WORKING WITH UNIVERSITY STUDENTS*



Your committee has, since November 2008, been intending to establish a Friends of Chartres website but other events, such as our 50th Anniversary celebrations throughout 2009, have taken priority during these two years. Then last summer, the University's Vice Chancellor, Professor Behagg, agreed to help us set up this joint project working with their students and put us in touch with Dr David Cooper, Principal Lecturer, School of Enterprise Management and Leadership. In the early autumn Margaret and Ray Brown and I met with him to discuss the possibilities.

David thought that the fairly basic website we had in mind would be too simple to be a student project, but could possibly be done outside of course work by one student. The alternative was to go for something more sophisticated that he would be happy to set as a project for a group of second year students in the winter term. After consideration, we agreed to do the latter as, although it would take longer to get the website up and running, we were very keen to work with the University and provide the students with real work experience as part of their course.

In late January, we met with Dr David Cooper again and the three students who were to create our website as a group project. The meeting was held at the University's Bognor Regis campus where we were met in the car park by Joanne Juniper from Guildford, Jake Woodhouse from Essex and Weiyi Wang all the way from Shanghai. They had sent us an agenda in advance and were to manage the project themselves, as if we were their clients. The photo above shows us with them at the meeting.

After introducing ourselves, we talked about the history of the Friends of Chartres, responded to their questions and discussed the timetable for their project, which must finish with a presentation to us of the live website on 3<sup>rd</sup> May this year. Since the meeting, we have received from them a draft Project Initiation Document (PID) for comment and during the next few months we will be working together to achieve this goal.

We will be providing all the content and material to enable them to produce the website. Regular meetings and updates of their progress will be a key feature during this time. It was established we would be updated fortnightly on the progress of the website and included in the decision making processes involved. We will

have to meet the annual cost of website hosting and domain name registration but, apart from that, setting up the website will be free of charge to the Friends of Chartres.

At our suggestion, we arranged a meeting with the students on 2<sup>nd</sup> March at the Council House. The Mayor of Chichester, Councillor Michael Woolley, kindly entertained us in the Mayor's parlour and we were able to show the twinning charters, the council chamber and the various gifts from Chartres that are on display there. We look forward to meeting them again soon to track their progress. Watch this space!

**JOHN WILTON**

### PRESIDENT

**The Right Worshipful the Mayor of Chichester**  
Councillor Michael Woolley

### VICE PRESIDENT

Diana Taylor

### OFFICERS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS

<b>CHAIRMAN</b>	Martyn Bell.....	839704
<b>VICE-CHAIRMAN</b>	Ray Brown.....	783776
<b>HON TREASURER</b>	John Wilton .....	788833
<b>HON SECRETARY</b>	Margaret Brown.....	783776

Emma Heaver.....778568     Penelope Johnstone....771881  
Julia Sander.....641488     & 3 VACANCIES

### IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIRMAN

Margaret Brown

(co-opted)

Tony Harrison (*Chichester Lions Club*).....785737  
Iain Shepherd (*Chichester Chamber of Commerce*).....787427  
Alan Thurlow (*D.E.E.C.*).....533092

### CITY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

(July 2010 - June 2011)

Cllr Nick Roberts.....788619     Cllr Michael Woolley.....789539

### *Annual Membership Fees*

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

For further information please contact:

**Membership Secretary - Mr Ray Brown**

**Tel: (01243) 783776**

## Planning a visit to Chartres?

Details of current and future events can be obtained from

### Chartres Convention & Visitors Bureau

Place de la Cathédrale, 28000, Chartres, France

Tel. +33 (0)2 37 18 26 26—Fax +33 (0)2 37 21 51 91  
email: [info@otchartres.fr](mailto:info@otchartres.fr)

Visit the website at: [www.chartres-tourisme.com](http://www.chartres-tourisme.com)



## SKITTLES + BANGERS & MASH SUPPER

(Vegetarian Sausages available - please indicate on form\*)



to be held at

**The Four Chesnuts Public House**

The Hornet, Chichester, on

**Thursday 7th April 2011 - 7.30pm**

**£10.00 per person**

The 'Reigning Champion'

Martyn was 'crowned' with the coveted 'Ozzie Tifer' at our last Skittles match in April 2009 - it's an incredible 2years ago! Who will be the Champion this time? If you don't feel able to take part in the bowling please come along to enjoy a drink and chat and support those who will be playing.



\*Flyers were sent with AGM papers - for any further information

**CONTACT:**

**'Ray Brown - Chichester 783776**

## Programme of Events 2011

**April 7th** Skittles + Bangers & Mash Supper  
(Thursday) **7.30pm** at The Four Chesnuts Pub,  
The Hornet, Chichester

**May 12th -16th** (Thurs -Mon)  
**THE EXCHANGE COMES TO CHICHESTER**  
(See below for events open to non-hosting members)

*The following events are in the process of being organised*

- June** "Midsummer Madness - French Style" !  
(tba) French Film Event + Canapés & wine  
with Chichester Cinema at New Park.
- July** **University's French Music Event**  
(tba) (awaiting further details)
- Sept. 14th** "Following the Stevenson Trail in Cavenne"  
(Wednesday) Talk by Julia Sander
- October (5th)** "A Musical Evening with David Nason"  
(date tbc) Priest Vicar of Chichester Cathedral and  
of Prebendal School.
- November 11th** "French Indo China"  
(Friday) Talk by Martyn Bell

## The Mayor's Concert

### "Music of the Spanish Pilgrims"

The renowned Renaissance Choir are singing  
(the Mayor was very impressed when they sang last year)

in

### Chichester Cathedral

promises to be very lovely and very atmospheric  
on

**16th April 2011**

Tickets from [www.chichestertickets.co.uk](http://www.chichestertickets.co.uk) or Cloisters Shop

Flyers are available in Cloisters Shop and at the Assembly Rooms

All profits to go the "Children on the Edge" a Chichester  
based charity helping children in the developing world

### Chanoise Dominique Aubert of Chartres



Chichester Cathedral  
**Sunday 19th June 2011**  
**11am Sung Eucharist**  
This Service will include the  
Installation of the **Canons of Honour** - including **Chanoise Dominique Aubert**

Photo: Trinity Sunday 2009 - 50th Anniversary Celebrations

## Exchange from Chartres

**NON-HOSTING MEMBERS**  
are welcome to join in  
the following events - space permitting

**FRIDAY 13th MAY**  
7 for 7.30pm Dinner in the Chichester Yacht Club £26.50pp

**SATURDAY 14th MAY**  
6.30pm Greyhound Racing at Hove £6.00pp  
[www.brightonandhovegreyhoundstadium.co.uk](http://www.brightonandhovegreyhoundstadium.co.uk)

See website : details of 3-course meal in Skyline Restaurant  
(with panoramic views) incs entrance fee & race card - £25.00 pp

**SUNDAY 15th MAY**  
9.30am Leave Northgate Car Park lay-by for  
**DAY VISIT TO AMBERLEY CHALK PITS MUSEUM & ARUNDEL** £14.00pp

[www.amberleymuseum.co](http://www.amberleymuseum.co)

See website special events : Horses & Woodland Crafts  
(Take a picnic or restaurant is available)

Please complete enclosed flyer and **return by 15<sup>th</sup> April** to:

Julia Sander, 'Wheatcroft', Selsey Road,  
Sidlesham, Chichester, PO20 7QX

**Tel: (01243) 641488**

# CHICHESTER JUDO CLUB

## 'Friends of Chartres' Award



The Friends' Executive committee purchased this shield from money left by the late Colin Tupper and awarded it to Chichester Judo Club at their Championship evening in March 2005. It is their most prestigious award and has been presented annually to an individual who has shown 'excellence in judo - which encompasses not only judo skills but friendship, maturity and service to the Club'. They asked for Guy Bisson to also be remembered as he was instrumental in the organisation of their 'twin' Judo Club in Chartres. Guy Bisson's son, who now lives in Caen, also attended bringing a real French flavour to the event.

During the last year many changes have taken place within the club. Some of their senior coaches found it necessary to reduce the time they were able to devote to the club and their Chairman, Karen French, moved to London. Fortunately all were able to attend the Championship evening and I was invited to present the Friends of Chartres Trophy at the Presentations held in New Park Centre where I read the following prepared citation:

*"The person who is receiving the award this year goes to a boy who has only recently started Judo in the past year. He has excelled in his Judo and has shown great aptitude for the martial art. He has grown in confidence and recently entered a high level competition. It was an open competition meaning anyone could enter. He fought at least 9 grades above his own (the highest being an 11th Mon). This did not phase him at all and he put all his effort into it. Although he did not reach the knockout stages of the competition he has gained a lot of experience from it and will be taking this further.*

*"He has been a committed member of the club attending both Monday and Friday training sessions since joining with his brother. He seems to have a real passion for the art and we hope this continues. His name is Sam Beale."*

In 2005 I joined our [then] Chairman, Jim Payne, and Secretary, Linda Rice, when the trophy was handed over to the Club and have attended each year since, either as Vice-Chair or Chairman. It is interesting to see the discipline this sport brings to the young people and I would like to thank Ilona Guy whose organisational skills and dedication enabled this year's event to take place.

**MARGARET BROWN**

# SCHOOLS ART

Citylink - March 2011

## COMPETITION : News from Chartres -

received by email on 8th February

(The school, teacher and pupils, will remain anonymous for now)

We are working hard for the art competition. For 3 months we have studied the story of the cathedral of Chartres and the middle ages. We have also studied the making of stained glass (working with 'Centre du Vitrail de Chartres') - how we make a stained glass and how we read it. We have visited of course our cathedral and seen many stained glasses and afterwards we have worked on the art aspect. What are the main characteristics of a stained glass? transparency - pieces of glass - colours, and each pupil has tried to produce an art work. Now we work on the monuments of Chichester with layer and plastic papers. After the holidays we will begin the real and final 'stained glass' and we will try to do our best !!!!

Quelques exemples d'activités:



Les élèves ont appris à lire un vitrail à partir du vitrail de la cathédrale de Chartres  
'Le Bon Samaritan'



Les élèves ont appris comment on fabrique un vitrail : ici deux élèves assemblent un verre coloré avec un plomb.



Les élèves sont allés repérer à la cathédrale les vitraux du Zodiaque puis ont créé leur signe.



Les élèves ont imaginé des créations libres à partir des caractéristiques d'un vitrail. Ici un travail à partir de morceaux de papier.



Les élèves consultent maintenant les livres sur Chichester pour choisir le monument qui sera le modèle pour le vitrail.



### Grants & Sponsors:





## ANNUAL DINNER 2011 - GOODWOOD RESTAURANT

Once again we used the facilities at Chichester College's Goodwood Restaurant - the training restaurant for students following their Hospitality courses. The forty five members and guests, which included our Honoured Guests the Deputy Mayor and Mayoress of Chichester, Cllr Ray Webb and his wife Jan, were all greeted with a Sherry Reception in the newly redesigned restaurant.

This year the chef had excelled with the menu, producing a choice of four selections of dishes for each course of the meal. We really were spoilt for choice. The Sherry Reception had acted as a very good 'ice-breaker' for guests and members to be re-acquainted and a relaxed and convivial atmosphere was evident. After Canon David Nason had said a very appropriate grace we were presented with a choice of *Soupe Tomates aux Basilic*, or *Carpaccio de Thon avec Pommes Dauphinoises*, or *Champignon à l'ail* or *Pâté de Maison* for the first course.

The students were very professional in demonstrating their waiting skills under the watchful eyes of the lecturers present and as the wine flowed and people relaxed even more, the main course was served. Our choices were *Darne de Saumon Sauce Hollandaise*, or *Bœuf Bourguignon*, or *Supreme de Volaille aux Pointes d'Asperges* or *Coulbiac de Riz aux Champignons Baronne de Juniac*, served with *Pommes Fondantes et Panaché de Légumes*. During the meal we do not see the students and staff who work so hard in the kitchen, however, we do taste and see the fruits of their labours. Each of the choices was delicious and superbly presented, and we congratulate them for this.

Choices for desserts were *Tarte aux Chocolat* or *Crème Brulée aux Framboises* or *Dèlice au Cassis* or *Assiette de fromages* each of which was a treat for the eyes as well as for the mouth. As the evening drew to a close the Chairman gave the customary 'after dinner speech'. She explained that this had been requested by a member who, a few years ago, was upset that this ritual had been dropped and the evening just fizzled out. She then went on to tell the story about the Friends of Chartres' Candlesticks which concluded with the 'survivor' being held high (with help from the Deputy Mayor) for all those present to see.

Following the Deputy Mayor's response John Wilton (Treasurer) asked to say a few words and, together with Martyn Bell (Vice-Chairman), they presented Margaret with a bouquet of flowers as a 'Thank You' for her years as Chairman.

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 it was explained that this goes towards providing the students with an 'outing' at the end of the College year.

MB



## ChiCycle's 'VIRTUAL' cycle ride to Chartres

On a cold wintery day in March, Michael Woolley, Mayor of Chichester and Margaret Brown, Chair of the Friends of Chartres, met at the Cross to launch the ChiCycle Challenge.

James Price, a student at Luffa, has designed a website to encourage people to cycle and leave their cars at home. You can log your rides on this website which simply adds up all your rides until you get to Chartres, the city we are twinned with.



You have until 22nd September to log your rides - this gives you seven months to cover the 240 miles. And you do not need a passport for this virtual ride. You can log any rides, whether they are for pleasure or just to get to work, the shops, or getting around town. On 22nd September 2 names will be drawn from the "beret" of those people who have completed the distance - one child will

win afternoon tea at Maison Blanc for his or her family and one adult will win a meal for a couple at Cafe Rouge.

Please register your rides at <http://www.chicyclechallenge.co.uk/> and encourage your friends and relatives to register too. The aim is to reduce pollution and congestion and to have fun, while getting some fresh air and exercise over the coming months".

**SARAH SHARP**



*L-r staff from Café Rouge with the Mayor, Michael Woolley (captured twice) and staff from Maison Blanc (who brought patisseries - eaten and enjoyed by all present) with Margaret + James Price, web designer*

Photographs taken by Sarah Sharp



*Ralph Harvey was presented with a 'Thank You' bottle of wine by the new Vice Chairman, Ray Brown - Julia Sander produced the 'nibbles'*

## THE 50<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Citylink - March 2011



*Retiring Chairman, Margaret Brown, Deputy Mayor, Cllr Ray Webb & Treasurer, John Wilton*

The Annual General Meeting held at St George's Centre on Wednesday 16th March was attended by the Mayor, Cllr Michael Woolley and the Deputy Mayor, Cllr Ray Web. As President, The Mayor opened and chaired the meeting until he had to leave for another engagement, at which point the Deputy Mayor stood in for him.

In presenting her report Margaret explained that, having served for three consecutive years as Chairman, she would be retiring from this role as per our constitution which allows her to continue to serve as Immediate Past Chairman. She then gave a full report of the activities during the past year including the Exchange, this time to Chartres, where both Mayors had signed a 're-affirmation of twinning' document - this time on French soil. Friends' activities continued to encompass the community by working with Pallant House Gallery on our Schools Arts Competition, now in its second year and a new initiative working with the University to produce a website for our Association.

John Wilton presented his Treasurer's Report referring to the accounts which had been approved by the Examiner of Accounts and previously been sent to all members. The accounts were unanimously agreed to be adopted by all present.

The following members had agreed to serve on the Executive, having been proposed, seconded and elected by those members present: **Officers:** Chairman, Martyn Bell; Vice-Chairman, Ray Brown; Treasurer, John Wilton; Secretary, Margaret Brown; and **Committee Members:** Emma Heaver, Penelope Johnstone and Julia Sander, leaving 3 vacancies on the Committee. John Parrott was re-appointed to continue to be the Examiner of Accounts.

Prior to closing the meeting the Treasurer thanked Margaret for what she had done during her 3 years as Chairman and, together with the Deputy Mayor, presented her with a basket of flowers.

Following a short break for refreshments and nibbles, which had been prepared by Julia, Ralph Harvey from Bastows introduced a selection of 'Chansons' from his collection of French music. These covered a wide range of music styles and countries, including Canada's Quebec region, and were enjoyed by all. In Martyn's absence (for justifiable reasons) it fell upon the new Vice Chairman to thank Ralph and present him with a bottle of wine in appreciation. Ray then reminded everyone about the forthcoming events, namely the Skittles plus Bangers and Mash Supper at the Four Chesnuts public house.

## English Dance . . . in Chartres !

Citylink - March 2011

The purpose of the Association "La Ronde de Chartres" is to practise and to teach people how to dance folk dances from Eure et Loir. This year, 2011, is the year of its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and "La Ronde de Chartres" will invite many folk dance bands, from our twinned Cities or from other Cities, to celebrate this event throughout the year.

On Saturday February 12<sup>th</sup>, the English Dance was performed by the Shepherd's Crown Band, the Chichester Folk Dance Band, and some members of the Martletts. Nineteen musicians and dancers came from Chichester on that special occasion.

At 20.30 there were more than 100 Chartrains in Salon Marceau of the City Hall, ready to rush to the dancing floor. Among them



were many members of the adults' exchanges with Chichester, taking the opportunity to spend some time together, to practise their English, as well as dancing!

Geneviève Billet, dynamic chairman of "La Ronde de Chartres" and John Portlock, "Caller" of the Shepherd's Crown, were in charge of organizing the dances, which they did very professionally and with a great deal of humour.



Firstly they placed the dancers in a circle, or by groups of 3, 4 or 5 couples. Then they demonstrated the steps and links between them, alone at first and then with all the dancers. (Some of us were obviously not used to performing such exercises, but John had an eye on everyone and kindly put us back on the right track). "Everybody is ready?"



Nigell Marshall, violinist, Harry Elliott, double bass player, Roy Lidstone, keyboards player, from the Shepherd's Band, and Monique Serrand, accordion player from "La Ronde de Chartres" started playing. The dancers must now follow the music and try to remember all the steps they learnt a few minutes ago. Despite some mistakes of steps or timing, we go on smiling and having fun. And I will tell you a secret: our favourite step is when John says "*Swing your partner!*" Everyone understands and can do it easily!



But dancing makes you feel tired and thirsty and your legs need a rest. So during the breaks, Marilyn and Kerry, very well known singers of West Sussex, sang nice folk melodies for us.

The hours went by quickly and it was quite late when the party ended. We had all spent a lovely evening, which reminded us of the good memories when we celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the twinning between Chichester and Chartres at Weald and Downland Open Air Museum in June 2009.

On April 16<sup>th</sup>, "La Ronde de Chartres" will organize a Bavarian Dance, a superb opportunity if you are fond of waltzing. And in June, a folk dance band from Speyer will give a show of German dances in the street of Chartres.

On April 1<sup>st</sup>, the members of the adults' exchange will spend an evening together, to meet and organize our travel to Chichester in the month of May.

**CLAIRE CRÉZÉ**

*A special thanks to Philippe Rabartin, and Basem Shalabi, from the Bethléem committee, for the photos.*



*Familiar Faces - Marie-Thérèse Geugan, Claire & Alain Crézé and Sylvie & Philippe Rabartin.*

# 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 & 5.00pm depending on commitments.

## AFTERNOON CIRCLE

It is very sad to have to start with the sad news of the loss of one of our little circle: dear Patricia Hooley, who was so loyal and who made a most valuable contribution. She is going to be missed so much by us all. (*This was reported in last edition - but is obviously important for the Circle's own respects to be paid.*)

Starting with our April gathering, our Circle will meet during the spring at the following venues:

### APRIL (Thursday)

14th DIANE CURRIE  
3 Wyberton House, Chestnut Ave, Chichester.....789663

### MAY (Thursday)

19th MARJORIE WINN  
"Northways", 10a Lavant Road, Chichester.....527376

(please note change from our usual 2nd Thursday in the month to the third in this case due to the French Exchange)

### JUNE (Thursday)

9th DAPHNE BOWLING  
"Sandpipers", Mill Lane, Sidlesham.....641660

### JULY (Thursday)

14th JOYCE MITTON  
38 St Leodegar's Way, Hunston.....779558

New Members, please do come along at 2.30pm 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 téléphone a la hôtesse en avance s'il vous plait !!

Voice quelques semaines de vacances, avec du soleil j'espere.

**DAPHNE BOWLING**  
(01243) 641660

## A VERY SPECIAL UMBRELLA

To commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Twinning, we were presented with very elegant little red umbrellas, neat and lightweight, with 'Chartres' and 'Chichester' on them. How far has yours travelled?



## MORNING LANGUAGE CIRCLE

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The second meeting of this group took place at Veronique's home where members learned about the French tradition of 'La Galette des Roix'. After watching a recording of a French TV programme the conversation flowed whilst trying to answer the questions posed. Veronique happily shares her expertise in the French language, her native tongue, and currently teaches nursery children. "The younger the child, the easier it is for them to learn to pronounce the words as their facial muscles are developing." Like Pavlov's dogs we were given a 'treat' in the form of tasting Veronique's home made 'Galette des Roix', 'washed down' on this 'special' occasion with . . . Champagne! (we normally drink coffee, or tea). For the latest details contact

**EMMA HEAVER**  
(01243) 778568

## EVENING ('Twilight') LANGUAGE CIRCLE

Initiated by Henrietta Napier and known as 'Le Cercle Français Avancé' it meets on a monthly basis and is restricted to a max of ten (a comfortable number) 'capables de tenir facilement une conversation en française et de parler avec autorité sur des sujets très variés.' When numbers exceed 10 fresh groups will be formed. For up-to-date information please contact either

**HENRIETTA NAPIER**  
(01243) 528238

**JULIA SANDER**  
(01243) 641488

## STOP PRESS . . .

A last minute booking enabled your Vice Chairman and his brother, who has never been on a plane before, to travel to Paris from Chichester yesterday (30th March).

The journey, in the front 30 seat section of a Boeing 737 aeroplane purchased from French Airways Mediterranean Flight was organised by Chichester Airways at Chichester College.

The trip was very economically priced and included in-flight refreshments, but unfortunately did not include a return option.

Further details available . . .

Mine has gone about as many miles as would be possible so far - twice to New Zealand, being so easy to pack. It accompanied me in my backpack on long coach journeys and when walking. The first year it was my 'you'll recognise me by' for an email friend, the second year on doubtful days - rather like English summer days - it came to and fro to the Botanic Gardens in Christchurch where I was a volunteer. Of course, as in England, the one day it was not with me, there was a downpour.

My visit was before the big quake in late February, but there were a number of nasty 'aftershocks' from the September one. The very beautiful Gardens cover 75 acres and were set up shortly after the foundation of Christchurch, and one hopes that despite the destruction in the centre of the city, these have survived.

**PENELOPE JOHNSTONE**