

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

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

June/July 2013

www.friendsofchartres.org.uk

[Re-numbered from the Millenium] ISSUE: 53

NEW 'COUP DE CŒUR' TROPHY



Claire Crézé brought a very special gift to the meeting of our two committees during

the Exchange visit to Chichester. She explained that this trophy for the Schools Art Competition had been produced by Chartres' stained glass artist, Monsieur Picot, whom many 'exchangers' had met when visiting his studio during last year's Exchange.

It had been agreed by Chartres' Twinning Association to give a

prize for an English school who had not received another award that year, to be held by the school for one year, like the Mosaic Trophy. They specifically asked for this to be presented by the Friends of Chartres, on their behalf, and it was agreed that Ray Brown should do this. Having agreed to choose which school would receive this award, Claire visited the Studio Exhibition in PHG to see the artworks and make her decision. Then one week later, at the Awards Ceremony^{*}, Ray explained the background to this new award and presented the FROM THE CHAIRMAN . . .

A special thanks from me to Julia Sander, her team and the Hosts for organising such a successful Exchange Visit for the Chartrains. And congratulations to Margaret & Ray Brown, Lin Chaplin and Marc and Natalie at The Pallant House Gallery for organising yet another very successful Schools Art Competition. The Awards Ceremony at Pallant House Gallery went extremely well and this year I was delighted to welcome Chartres City Councillor Mme Janine Milon to the Event, representing the Mayor of Chartres.

I made two private visits to Chartres in June. The first was on the 5th/6th, on my way back from Salon-de-Provence near Avignon, where I attended a major Jean Moulin 70th Anniversary Commemoration Event. My invitation was as a result of contacts made during The Friends of Chartres & Tangmere Military Aviation Museum Commemoration in February this year and I was very pleased when our own Event was referred to by speakers in Salon. During the ceremony I was privileged to meet members of Moulin's family including his cousin Suzanne, who had very clear and fond memories of Jean at the family home near Salon in the early 1940's.

By diverting to Chartres I was able to present the Schools Art Competition French Schools award at the Mairie, along with Mme Janine Milon, Mme Soulier and M.Patrick Geroudet.

.....(continued on the back page)







SALLEY VICKERS author of 'THE CLEANER OF CHARTRES'



At the book signing: Margaret & Ray Brown (far left & right) with Salley Vickers & Henrietta Napier (centre l-r)

A fair number of Friends of Chartres were, not surprisingly, included in the large audience at the Cathedral on 27th June to hear Salley Vickers talk about her latest book *The Cleaner of Chartres*. For those who had not yet read it, but knew Salley from her earlier *Miss Garnet's Angel*, it was interesting that at the start she described how she came to write it: a teenage visit to Venice, when she was lost and entered a church, where she was shown a wall painting; and years later, finding the same church with its painting. On this occasion, having read the Book of Tobit, she recognised the figures as Tobias and the angel, who feature in her book.

Specifically on Chartres, again it was a visit which inspired a book. Very early one morning Salley was at the North door of the Cathedral, found it open, and went in – the only person there, except a cleaner working on the labyrinth floor. Such a woman would surely know more about the Cathedral and its people than anyone? And so *The Cleaner of Chartres* began to take shape.

Salley's own upbringing, she told us, was in an atheist and communist household, but with parents who had a great interest in churches. To reach the centre of a labyrinth, they told their young daughter, was to find the Kingdom of Heaven. And when Salley took her own children to see the labyrinth of Chartres, she told them the same. Years later Salley wonders what is the true interpretation, among so many, of a labyrinth?*

Her interest in characters is not purely literary but owes much to her own training and practise as a psychoanalyst (among other previous occupations). In her Jungian-based methods, she says, it is necessary to find in oneself the basic characteristics of the patient – since we all contain within ourselves elements which we do not bring to the surface, nor perhaps wish to acknowledge. People while not intrinsically evil can do evil things. The dark side of a character may make them unlikeable, but, on a different level, we must love them, which means wanting for them what is good. She explained that she wrote an 'Afterword' to this book because while it represents life, which does not have neat conclusions, she felt the reader was owed some satisfactory ending.

Salley's engaging personality and lively mind came across in the session, and those who have not yet read the *Cleaner of Chartres*, but perhaps have been charmed by one of her other works, will certainly wish to read it. And those of us who know the Cathedral of Chartres will be particularly interested.

PRESIDENT The Right Worshipful the Mayor of Chichester Councillor Alan Chaplin

OFFICERS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS

CHAIRMAN VICE-CHAIRMAN HON TREASURER HON SECRETARY	Martyn Bell Ray Brown John Wilton Margaret Brown	
Clare Apel		r 527435
(Co-opted) Tony Harrison (ChichesterLions Club)		

CITY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES (July 2013 - June 2014)

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

As part of the Festival of Chichester, the talk was introduced by the Chancellor, Canon Anthony Cane, who gave a brief background to Salley Vickers. Unfortunately, despite the best efforts of the organisers, acoustics were disappointing. The questions from the platform were muffled and inaudible to many. Fortunately Salley's replies and descriptions were mostly clear, and were throughout insightful and relevant.



*For anyone wishing to see a modern idea of a labyrinth, there is a small one on the restored floor of Boxgrove Priory.

PENELOPE JOHNSTONE

'The Cleaner of Chartres' is not the easiest of books to read, as it moves through time and place, but one that is written, as are Salley's other books, with great style and imagination. One of those books that, when you reach the end, brings all that has happened to Agnès in her troubled life to a happy conclusion, and makes you think "perhaps I should have started with the last page and finished with the first!"

Having been in correspondence with Salley about this book, with particular reference to the lack, in Chartres Cathedral, of tombs or memorials of any kind to its past Bishops (which involved extensive research undertaken by our own 'twins', Gérard and Geneviève Dufresne), we were privileged to have her company for some light refreshment at our house before her talk. We learned all about her upbringing by parents who were committed communists and atheists, whose house was filled with books - all, that is, except The Bible. Now one of her sons has just been ordained priest and both 'Miss Garnet's Angel' (one of my most favourite books) and 'The Clearner of Chartres' show, to my mind, a degree of spirituality unusual after such an upbringing.

I would urge you all to read Salley's books, particularly those which I have mentioned above. You will learn all abut Tobias and the Angel, and what they did for Miss Garnet in Venice, and a great deal about Chartres Cathedral, on which Salley carried out so much research before writing 'The Cleaner of Chartres'.

FRIENDS OF CHARTRES Programme of Events 2013

September 18 th (Wednesday)	'Bikinis on Parade, Prosthetics on the shore' - MEMOIRS of an OLYMPIC GAMESMAKER 7.30pm talk by Clare Apel St George's Parish Centre, Whyke (<i>See enclosed flyer</i>)
October 9th (Wednesday)	WINE TASTING AT HENNINGS 7.00pm North Street, Chichester (See enclosed flyer)
November 7 th (<i>Thursday</i>)	<i>'RESISTANCE OF THE SPIRIT'</i> 7.30pm Talk by Martyn Bell + film in the Mitre Theatre at the University of Chichester
November 21 st	'LE BEAUJOLAIS NOUVEAU' SOIRÉE

November 21a'LE BEAUJOLAIS NOUVEAU' SOIREE(Thursday)7.30pm Social Evening (venue to be advised)

FESTIVAL OF CHICHESTER Photographic Exhibition of Three Cities

The Festival of Chichester has been established to fill the gap of the 'Chichester Festivities' which sadly finished last year. By



using more local talent it is hoped to keep the spirit of Chichester alive.

Joining forces with the Friends of Ravenna and the Friends of Valetta this 'Three Cities' event took place in the Old Courtroom of the Council House in North Street from 1st - 6th July. Co-ordinating our section was Anne-Louise Briggs who, with Martyn and Toom, produced the much admired display of artefacts and photographs seen in this photo. None of this would

have been possible without Claire Crézé, who worked so hard in Chartres to obtain these things, and we thank her for this.



The the new Mayor of Chichester, Cllr Alan Chaplin, officially opened the event to an invited audience which also included the newly elected Chairman of Chichester District Council, Martyn Bell. The Exhibition, entrance to

which was free, had attracted a good flow of visitors. A ticketed event, which included a sampling

of local produce - food and wine - from these places, followed a talk by the Dean, Nicholas Frayling. I hope to be able report in the next edition of Citylink, together with some more photographs.

MAB

FRIENDS OF CHARTRES

Chichester's French Twinning Association

An illustrated talk by Clare Apel

who will share her Memoirs of an Olympic Gamesmaker

in her talk entitled

'Bikinis on Parade, Prosthetics on the Beach'

Clare will talk about her experience of being a language volunteer at the beach volleyball in Horse Guards Parade as well as her experience of being at Portland for the Paralympic sailing.

Accompanying slides will illustrate what it was like and what was expected, the other volunteers she met, the athletes, the guests, the presidents of various countries as well as the Olympic people, and will conclude with slides of the final procession in the Mall from where the volunteers were allowed to be.

at St George's Parish Centre, Cleveland Road,

Wednesday 18th September

7.30pm

Members £7.00 : Non-Member £8.00

Please complete the flyer and return to our Treasurer, John Wilton 1A York Road, Chichester

Tel: (01243) 778883

EDITORIAL

I apologise for the late delivery of this edition of Citylink but it has enabled me to give you the most up-to-the minute news of very recent events - and the decisions agreed about future dates.

Firstly I would like to congratulate Martyn on becoming the new Chairman of Chichester District Council. Ray and I first learned of this 'news' last week when I received his 'From the Chairman' article which was just hours before the Festival of Chichester event. I can really recommend a 3-week visit to family in Canada as a wonderful way of "getting away from it all"!

Thanks go to all who have contributed to this edition and do please get in touch if you have anything that you think might be



of interest to our members or our counterparts in Chartres. As usual my contact details are given at the bottom of the back page and I really look forward to hearing from you by phone, post or email — or seeing you at our forthcoming events.

MARGARET BROWN

Citylink - June/July 2013











ANNUAL EXCHANGE 2013

There's always an element of anticipation as hosts await the arrival of their French 'twins' and so it was on Friday 3rd May. Julia and her 'team' - John Wilton, Ray Brown and Sandy Barnett - had the Programme in place and so we all waited - and waited. A 'phone tree' had been produced where each of the above would contact hosts to inform of any known delays but this was not utilised because by the time Julia received a call to say the coach would be late, all the hosts were already there !

So why were they so late? Well, delays at Dieppe meant the ferry was late leaving and therefore was late arriving at Newhaven. Here there were insufficient security staff available to do the necessary checks on the coach passengers, creating a further delay. But a buzz of excitement erupted as their coach was spotted coming along the Avenue de Chartres towards the coach park. This continued as people greeted each other with hugs and kisses - then scurried off, with baggage in hand, to their parked cars. But wait ! Why was Bryn Davies looking so perplexed and confused? - and where were their French guests Régine & Michel?

Well, it transpired that there had been a little 'hiccup' when they arrived in Dieppe. As the French security guards checked through the details of the coach passengers, someone was frantically searching for his passport . . . ! Realising it was still at home they abandoned the coach and headed for the train back to Chartres. Next day they drove back to Dieppe where they parked their car and caught the ferry to Newhaven. Just one Taxi ride from Newhaven to Chichester and they arrived at their 'twin' family's home, just 24 hours later than the rest of the group. Once re-united with Bryn and Astrid they continued with the group visit activities as usual.

Congratulations go to Julia and her team for putting together a very full programme, but one that also gave people some free time to 'do their own thing'. Our non-hosting members were also invited to join in some of the events - Evensong in Chichester Cathedral, visit to Arundel Castle, Dinner at Chichester Park Hotel, plus the Farewell Social Evening at Fishbourne Club - and therefore had the opportunity to meet our French guests.

It was during the Exchange Dinner on the Sunday evening that I had the bright idea of suggesting - or perhaps I should say 'persuading' - Lawrence and Elodie to write a few words for our newsletter. It was the first time they had taken part in a 'Twinning' visit and their enthusiasm was contagious - and certainly worth sharing with others. These are now on page 6 of this edition and I'm sure you will enjoy reading them. I thank them both for







their diligence in fulfilling their promises and hope that we receive future articles from our new 'French Correspondent' (*I've suggested to Lawrence that this might help build her confidence in developing her language skills*). Thanks also go to her English teacher in Chartres for her help with this and also to our two English hosts, mother and daughter, Jenny and Emma, for their obvious superb hostess skills in catering for their French guests/twins.

Traditionally we welcome the Exchange guests to Chichester with a Mayor's Reception and we also have a Joint Meeting of the two twinning associations. This meeting is usually held in the historic Council Chamber (where the Deed of Jumelage was signed by the Mayors of our two communities on 28th February 1959) followed by the Reception in the adjoining Assembly Room. Slight adjustments were necessary this year because the Council House had been hired for a Wedding Ceremony in the Council Chamber followed by the Wedding Breakfast to be held in the Assembly Room. Fortunately the [then] Mayor, Anne Scicluna, was able to hold her Mayor's Reception in the Old Courtroom on the ground floor of the Council House, where she presented Claire Crézé with a book about Chichester's Walls, so tradition was upheld to some extent.

Our Joint Committee meeting was held in The Friends Meeting House (see top photos on the left-hand page). Because recent projects have involved more input from our French counterparts, there was a lot to discuss. However, the most important item on the agenda was the date for next year's Exchange, now agreed as: **2014 Exchange to Chartres :**

Thursday 1st May to Monday 5th May 2014

We look forward to once again having a full coach for this trip and, as they are in the process of being organised, details will be given in due course.



Régime & Michel with 'the passport'

All too soon it was time to say our farewells as we all gathered at Northgate Car Park early on the Tuesday. Régine and Michel were keen to show they had their documentation now they just needed to remember to disembark the coach at Dieppe and collect their car !

MARGARET BROWN













NEW TO 'TWINNING'

At the end of the official dinner, when Margaret asked me if I would like to write for the newsletter (an official one!), I wasn't sure I was able to do that... but her enthusiasm and the positive atmosphere in the twinning group persuaded me to write some words! Only 5 days ago I couldn't really imagine what would happen because it was my first time with the twinning Chichester -Chartres, but I wasn't anxious at all!

At the beginning, in the bus in Chartres, when I met the French group - people that I had never seen before - everybody was welcoming and I could feel that everyone was very delighted at the thought that they would see their Chichester friends again. And they were! When we arrived at the car park in Chichester, immediately the twin-groups were made again and I met my new "twinner" too. Jenny was so sunny and so friendly with me that I was sure it was going to be a good week-end.. (I haven't forgotten Emma's welcoming enthusiasm!)

The next morning, after a good breakfast, we met up near the Cathedral and we had a guided walk on the walls around the old town and across some streets. I had liked to discover Chichester, to have a look at the lovely little gardens, at the parks, at the old houses (some are built with flint walls and some others with bricks), and at the modern street art on some walls (It was the Festival of modern street art this weekend in Chichester). It was very beautiful at this season with the green grass and the colourful flowers, like on the pictures in magazines! At the end of the afternoon, in the Cathedral (which I found quiet and cosy), I was present at the Evensong organized as a sign of friendship between the twin-towns, and with a very nice choral society. Then, our first dinner with the family, a good meal and a nice evening to get to know each other better.

On Sunday, we visited Arundel Castle which is the home of the Duke of Norfolk. During the visit, it was interesting and surprising to feel the strong links between The Queen, the Duke with his family, the Catholic religion, the history and the English people. It's so different in France ...! In the nice garden, in a part of the castle park, there were a lot of flowers, plants and trees and wood constructions, well organized. A pleasant walk ... and in the sun!

A short walk in the town (to look at some pretty English shops!) and a cup of tea near the river later, it was time to go back to be ready for the official dinner!

The meal was well cooked and although it was an "official "dinner the atmosphere was pleasant and funny, particularly with certain people who were not afraid of the cold water of the Channel and of our redoubtable shark and who have made a so beautiful and artistic show...,(perhaps some of them who were back from the last Olympic Games...!?).Anyway they made us laugh a lot!!/)

The last day was very sunny and after a quiet lunch with Emma, Jenny, Marie-Claude and Elodie (and the dog, Clyde, too!) we went to Bosham, a beautiful little old village at the seaside only a few kilometres from the town!!! Another good time!

To close the week-end, we spent a relaxed evening, all the twinners together, with the famous and typical English "fish and chips" (without vinegar for me!) and with a narrow defeat of the



'First-timers' Lawrence and Elodie with Marie-Claude (a'2nd - timer')

French team with the English game of skittles! (but it's not a problem!...we have one year to find an activity and to have an intensive training for the next time in Chartres in 2014...!)

Then, the next morning, early and with the sunshine again (it's less sad, isn't it!?) it was the time to go back home ...

I was a little sad to leave the people who had welcomed me so warmly, those I met and those who I had conversations with (thanks for your indulgence!) My challenge was to try to speak the most in English, as my English teacher Joanne encouraged me, trying to make the least mistakes as possible (she didn't say but she probably means or hopes!) But I am happy and richer because I would have bought some cheese - Cheddar, of course, and some others I tasted! - and it's the only thing I forgot!!! Seriously, I am richer with this new experience - and it was a good occasion to meet French people too...! That was really a good time, with wonderful memories, and that was very well organized , thanks a lot!. So, see you soon!

LAWRENCE POUSSARD

(Our French Correspondent)

Je suis venue à Chichester avec ma maman Marie-Claude qui était venue en 2011 et en garde un excellent souvenir. Maman à tenue à me faire partagée cette belle aventure.

J'ai adoré le séjour chez Emma et son chien trop cool merci aussi à toutes les personnes anglaise qui son venue vers moi pour me demander comment j'allais, dommage que je ne pouvais pas leurs répondre en anglais mais Emma n'était jamais très loin pour faire la traduction.

Le château de Arundel est super la visite était intéressante mais trop longue pour moi, la dame à très bien expliquée l'histoire du château et des habitants pendant la visite, je n'ai pas fait le tour du jardin j'étais trop fatigue.

Je vais pouvoir montrer aussi des photos du palais romain à ma classe, Jean–Paul et moi nous avons été déguisé en empereur nous étudiant justement cette période en classe.

Ho, le repas au Park hôtel avec le prête était super drôle, j'ai bien aimée sa magie, j'ai aussi très bien mangée. Le dernier repas avec les jeux de quilles anglaises, trop marrant.

J'espère vous revoir bientôt

ELODIE

Citylink - June/July 2013

SCHOOLS ARTS AWARDS 2013 'A Tale of Twinned Cities': Chapter 3—Printmaking



Marc Steene, Deputy Director & Head of Learning and Community at PHG, opened this year's Awards Ceremony on 11th May by welcoming all those present and paid a special thanks to the councils who had provided grants and also to the sponsors.

Acting as 'compère' our Chairman, Martyn Bell, then gave a brief overview of the background to the competition, which has been an on-going partnership between PHG and the

Friends of Chartres since before 2009 when the first competition took place in celebration of the 50th Anniversary of our twinning with Chartres. Oliver Budd of Budd Mosaics was commissioned to create the trophy and his masterpiece reflects the 'Picassiette', home of naïve artist Raymond Isadore, which was the theme for that year. Another trophy, commissioned for the French schools which were invited to take part in the second competition, was produced by local Slindon-based woodturner, John Barrett and, like the new 'Coup de Cœur' (see front page) these trophies are held by the recipient schools for one year. Thanking the FoC subcommittee and Pallant House Gallery on behalf of the schools, he also thanked the Dean and his staff at the Cathedral who helped to display, in the North Transept, the very large French entry. We received 3 entries from Chartres, quite literally 'hand-delivered' by Claire Creze at a *very* brief meeting in Portsmouth Ferry Port (approx 20 mins) - as she returned on the same ferry.

The room was filled to capacity with specially invited guests & sponsors, teachers, parents/family and, most importantly, pupils from the ten local schools which had submitted their completed entries to Natalie Franklin at PHG by the closing date. Marc said he was thrilled to see the numbers of young people at the Gallery as well as work of such an exceptionally high standard. "It was truly remarkable to see how many talented young people there are in Chichester." The focus for this year's competition was printmaking and, taking inspiration from 'a sense of place', entrants had been able to highlight the twinning by looking at the links, relationships and similarities, geographically and architecturally, between Chichester and Chartres.

As Marc presented each school with their framed certificate, Lin Chaplin gave the Judges' feedback on each entry. With such an exceptionally high standard of work, it had been particularly difficult for the Judging Panel, which included Gregory Perry, the new Director of Pallant House Gallery. Marc then announced



Winners: aboveChichester - Parklands Community Primary School And below - Chartres l'école élémentaire Grand Jardin

that the French winner was the élémentaire Grand Jardin whose trophy was received by Cllr Janine Milon and Martyn Bell translated her speech.

Deputising for Chartres' Mayor, Jean-Pierre Gorges, Cllr Milon and Chichester's Mayor [at that time] Cllr Anne Scicluna, jointly presented the other prizes. In Janine Milon & Anne Scicluna reverse order it was announced that 3 school certificates were



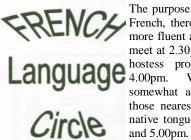
with the French Trophy.

endorsed 'Highly Commended' -Boxgrove C of E Primary, Lavant C of E Primary (Year 5 & 6) and Lavant House School (Year 5 & 6) - and three pupils from each of these schools would participate in a 2 hour printmaking workshop at Pallant House Gallery led by Printmaking Artist/Educator, Susan Ryland.

And finally it was announced that Parklands Community Primary School was the Winner. Amidst well-deserved applause, teacher Emma Raynsford, accompanied her pupils who were presented with the Trophy, framed Certificate which was duly endorsed and a book about Chartres from Cllr Milon. There was also a special prize for the pupils of this winning school - a 3 hour workshop with Susan Ryland at Pallant House Gallery the next weekend. (Reports on these workshops will be in September's Citylink.)

The accompanying Exhibition of selected entries to the schools competition which was on display in the Studio at Pallant House Gallery continued throughout the month of May before being returned to the schools. Later we will collect these and take the Exhibition across to Chartres where it will be displayed in the autumn. Congratulations go to all the participants.





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 Language 4.00pm. We then relax our conversation hostess provides tea and biscuits around those nearest to us, or else chat back in our native tongue. People go home between 4.30

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. Autumn venues are as follows:

SEPTEMBER

12th	WENDY & PAUL DEVONSHIRE in Sidlesham641457
	DBER 10th DAPHNE BOWLING <i>in Sidlesham</i> 641660
	EMBER MARGARET BROWN in Chichesterr
	CMBER MARJORIE WINN in Chichester

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

ANAGRAMS (supplied by Daphne Bowling)

6.

Can you unravel these French Towns or Cities?

<i>1</i> .	JOIND
2.	NEEBAU
3.	BOILS

- **STARCHER**
- 4. 5. **LONERHUF**
- 7. BROUGHCER 8. RASAR NEARSOL 9. **ROASTBURGS** *10*.

SEAMIN

Answers will be in the September edition of Citylink

FROM THE CHAIRMAN...

(continued from the front page)

My second visit was on the 18th/19th June to collect the marvellous Photographs and Artefacts that Claire Crézé had assembled for the July 'Tale of Three Cities' Exhibition. On being informed that I was visiting the City on the 18th and that I had been recently appointed Chairman of Chichester District Council, Mayor Jean-Pierre Gorges invited me to attend the major Resistance Ceremony that takes place each year on that date. I was honoured to lay Wreaths from Chichester District and City Councils and the Tangmere Museum at the Commemoration and felt very proud when the current Prefect of Chartres paid tribute to The Royal Air Force and RAF Tangmere in his public address.

With the Summer holidays approaching I hope many of you will have the opportunity to travel to France and hopefully our beautiful twin City of Chartres

> **MARTYN BELL** CHAIRMAN

HARBOUR ROTARY CLUB's *2013 CYCLE RIDE TO CHARTRES*



As usual, Chichester Harbour Rotary Club's Cycle ride set off in style from outside the Council House in North Street where our Chairman, Martyn Bell and Vice-Chairman, Ray Brown, joined the Mayor, Cllr Anne Scicluna, to wish them a safe journey.

Cycling through some of the most beautiful countryside in France over the Bank Holiday weekend, they arrived in Chartres on the Sundav afternoon.



Cllr Janine Milon, accompanied by Yves Bastide (Chairman of Des Amis des Jumelages de Chartres), welcomed them at the Civic Reception held in their honour, where they delivered the Mayor's gift.

The Cycle ride raised money for St Wilfrid's Hospice (main beneficiary) and other local charities.

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