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

JUNE 2017

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From the Chairman . . .

It seems no time since I wrote my first Chairman's letter, but a number of events have taken place since then to keep us on our toes. Not least among these of course, was the exchange visit of our friends from Chartres.

In March a group of Friends enjoyed an excellent guided tour of the Impressionist paintings in the Courtauld Gallery. We also had the opportunity to tour Somerset House and enjoy watching tourists dodging the fountains in the courtyard.

With 38 participants from Chichester this year and a similar number from Chartres, including three new hosts and their guests, our exchange is in good health. At the joint committee meeting on the first morning both Associations agreed that a priority for the next year would be to seek to expand the membership and involve families in the exchange.

A busy programme was arranged for the first couple of days. Hosts showed impressive culinary skills at the Bring and Share lunch at Fishbourne on the Saturday, and everyone enjoyed the musical accompaniment provided by the Big Pyramid band. The trip to Winchester on the Sunday was equally successful. The quality of the guided tours provided by the Winchester Tourist Office was truly excellent; the guides had obviously done their homework on the French connection and lost no opportunity of stressing the importance of the Norman connection.

The exchange dinner, which moved outside Chichester this year to the superb venue of the Brookfield Hotel in Emsworth, was a fitting conclusion to the 'official' programme. On the third and final day, hosts were free to follow their own programme of final activities and perhaps to have a lie-in, in preparation for the crack of dawn departure the next day.

With the exchange, April is always a busy month for the association. However, other activities have continued, and the Conversation Circles have met regularly. The Events sub-committee has been studying the results of the questionnaire circulated to members and is drafting an action plan to implement some of the ideas suggested. A report on the questionnaire is included in this edition of Citylink.

The eighth Schools Art Challenge, held in the Fine Arts Department of Chichester University was a huge success. We were delighted that Patrick Géroudet, Deputy Mayor of Chartres was able to attend the Private View on June 16. This year, 9 schools from Chichester and 2 from Chartres completed the Challenge. The standard of the work submitted and the creativity of the children who contributed is breath-taking.

In the next three months, our events programme includes an evening with Patricia Routledge, which is this year's Three Cities contribution to the Festival of Chichester, and a social afternoon at the Fishbourne Centre. We are trying a new venture in September, where a French cookery session will be laid on for keen cooks, followed by a dinner party to sample the results. Details of these events are included in this edition of Citylink and we hope that you will be able to attend them.

Finally, my best wishes for the summer and if you are lucky enough to be going to France, do send us news of your visit and maybe a few photos.

Amitiés à tous!

JULIA SANDER CHAIRMAN

CHICHESTER

Twinning

58 YEARS 1959 - 2017 CHARTRES

Jumelage

SOMERSET HOUSE & COURTAULD INSTITUTE

A visit to Somerset House and the Courtauld Institute was arranged on March 25th for the Friends of Chartres. After morning coffee in the spectacular courtyard spent chatting and watching tourists dodge the jets of the newly installed fountains, we joined one of the free guided tours. It has a fascinating history, dating back to Tudor times, when Edward Seymour built himself a fine palace on the site of the current building but he only enjoyed it for a few years before losing favour with the king, ending up under the executioner's axe, and his palace then became the property of the crown. Elizabeth 1st lived there before she acceded to the throne and after her death it was used by Anne of Denmark, wife of James 1st. The palace was then renamed Denmark House and Inigo Jones was brought in to redesign the building.

Having survived the Great Fire of London, by the beginning of the 18th century it had fallen into disrepair and it was demolished in 1775 and a completely new building designed by William Chambers sprang up in its place. Now known as Somerset House this building was designed to house major



offices of state and national institutions, including the Royal Academy of Arts, the Royal Society and the Admiralty. In 1836 the national register of births & deaths was established there and joined by the Inland Revenue in 1873. By the end of the 20th century these institutions had moved

elsewhere and Somerset House reinvented itself as a cultural centre housing exhibitions and hosting events and The Courtauld Institute moved into the North Wing, which had been vacated by the Royal Academy.

Our tour took us to several corners we might otherwise have missed, including the Nelson Staircase, a copy of the one Nelson may have used when visiting the Admiralty to be briefed, and the secret passage under the courtyard, with tablets commemorating the French Catholic priests who served the Catholic queens like Henrietta Maria and Catherine of Braganza. These tours take place daily, and are strongly recommended to those who could not join our group this time.

PRESIDENT

The Right Worshipful the Mayor of Chichester Councillor Peter Evans

OFFICERS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS

CHAIRMAN	Julia Sander	527435
VICE-CHAIRMAN	Anne Scicluna	789065
HON. SECRETARY	Margaret Brown	783776
HON. TREASURER	John Wilton	788833

IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIRMAN

Ray Brown783776

Martyn Bell 539800	6	Paul Everrett	603513
Anne-Louise Briggs784346	5	David Nason	573716
Paul Devonshire64145	7	Jim Payne	372900

Co-opted

Vince Foote (Chi Lions Club)	532620
Julia Schofield (Cathedral/DEEC)	784244

CITY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES (July 2016 to June 2017)

Cllr Clare Apel....783738 Cllr Anne Scicluna.....789065

In the afternoon, a guided tour of the Impressionist and Post-Impressionist paintings in the Courtauld Institute was provided for our group. Although the collection is relatively small, it includes some of the finest paintings by major Impressionist artists, such as Manet, Monet, Gaugin, Degas, Renoir, Cézanne & Van Gogh. Our guide gave us a detailed insight into such masterpieces as Manet's Bar at the Folies-Bergère, Monet's Autumn Effect at Argenteuil & Van Gogh's Self-Portrait with a Bandaged

Ear. We learned not only about the artists themselves and the experiences on which their paintings are based, but also the techniques they developed to portray the fleeting effects of light and to capture a particular moment in their paintings.



It was both an enjoyable and educational visit, and our thanks go to Jim Payne for organising it.

JULIA SANDER

FRIENDS OF CHARTRES

An illustrated talk entitled 'DEGENERATE ART'



Martyn Bell by

> Committee member of the Friends of Chartres Chairman of The Oxmarket Gallery in Chichester

at The University of Chichester

on Thursday 12th October 2017 7.30pm

Members £8.50 : Non-Members £9.50 (including refreshments)

Eighty years ago, in the summer of 1937, Adolf Ziegler, Hitler's favourite artist, organised the confiscation of so-called 'Degenerate Art' works from Nazi Germany's State Art Galleries and Museums. This included privately-owned artworks on loan.

Many of these artworks were then displayed at the special 'Entartete Kunst Exhibition' in the Hofgarden Arcades in Munich, opened by Ziegler on 19th July 1937.

The Exhibition contained works by now-acclaimed artists such as Kandinsky, Paul Klee, Kirchner and Marc Chagal.

Simultaneously Adolf Hitler opened the 'Grosse Deutsche Kunstausstellung' in the adjacent purpose-built 'House of German Art'

When the 'Entartete Kunst' exhibition closed many of its artworks were deliberately destroyed or lost. But many survived. Martyn's illustrated talk will describe how this happened.

Martyn's interest in the subject came through his work on French Resistance Leader John Moulin's undercover activity as an Art Dealer in occupied France and Moulin's admiration for Kandinksy's artwork.

AN EVENING OF FRENCH CUISINE

Friday 1st September 7.15 for 7.30 pm

The Newell Centre, Tozer Way, Chichester



A relaxed, social evening over a three-course French-themed meal prepared by **Paul Everrett and his** team.

For keen cooks, there will be the opportunity to help with preparing the meal, following some of the techniques learned by Paul on cookery courses in France.

If you'd like to be part of the cooking team, let us know when you return your booking slip.

We start preparing the meal at 5.00 pm.

Or just come along to enjoy the food - cooks always enjoy cooking for appreciative customers.

The cost of the evening will be £17.50 per head.

Further information is available from Julia on 01243 527435.

If you would like to join us, please return the attached booking form to Julia Sander, 19 Jubilee Road, Chichester, PO19 7XB together with your cheque made out to the 'Friends of Chartres'

FRIENDS OF CHARTRES Programme of Events - 2017

July 15th SOCIAL AFTERNOON (Saturday)

Tea & Games - Boules & Croquet

2.00 - 4.00pm at the Fishbourne Centre Players & Spectators Blackboy Lane, Fishbourne. £5.00 pp all welcome Tea will be provided but please bring

food to share

Further information from Julia on (01243) 527435 Flyer plus return slip for cheques to Julia (by 30th June) have been emailed directly to our membership.

September 1st COOKERY EVENT

(See advert in left hand column) (Friday)

October 12th 'DEGENERATE ART' an Illustrated Talk by Martyn Bell at the University (Thursday) (See more information on page 2)

November 23rd FESTIVE SOIRÉE to be held at The Bishops Palace (Thursday)

Programme of Events - 2018

Whilst this is in the process of being organised we are able to confirm the dates for our

> **ANNUAL EXCHANGE 2018** (when we go to Chartres)

Thursday 26th - Monday 30th April

Chichester Harbour Rotary Club's Charity Cycle Ride: CYCLE CHARTRES 2017



Friends of Chartres support from Julia, John & Ray





Friday 28th April was certainly 'a day to remember' with regards to our city's French twinning with Chartres. As Friends of Chartres' members were preparing to receive their French 'Twinners' arriving that evening for our Annual Exchange - a group of Cicestrians were preparing to travel to Chartres. The Annual 'Charity Cycle Ride to Chartres', organised by Chichester Harbour Rotary Club, was 'set off' by the Mayor of Chichester, [at that time] Cllr Peter Budge, with some of the Friends of Chartres Executive Committee members cheering them on their way.

Traditionally the cyclists take a letter of greeting from Mayor to Mayor and this year the cyclists took an additional letter from the Dean of Chichester to be delivered to the new Rector of Chartres Cathedral.



The numbers taking part in this tenth anniversary year were 49, including cyclists and marshalls, and the main charity chosen for this fund raising event is supporting the research work into brain tumours carried out at the University of Portsmouth.

On arrival in Chartres on the Sunday the Deputy Mayor, Patrick Géroudet, as usual, held a Civic Reception in the Mairie where he welcomed and congratulated all the participants and later that evening joined them for a celebratory meal in the Grand Monarch Hôtel (I'm having problems downloading these photos). Details of the amount raised for this year's charity will be available later in the year.

MARGARET BROWN

FRENCH EXCHANGE FOR NEWBIES















Whatever possessed us to volunteer to welcome an unknown French woman into our home late on a Friday night? What were we going to talk about for the next four days and more to the point, how, given our creaky French and our guest's lack of confidence in English? All this and more was going through my head as we waited for a coach to appear at the start of the exchange weekend.

We had taken the precaution of exchanging photographs beforehand so, when the coach finally materialised, we were able to greet the right person as she wearily (or was that warily?) descended from the coach. However, being French her weariness was instantly replaced with much kissing and hand movement. My daughter, with no more than 30 words of French, then took over and started signing back as we made the trip home.

Saturday had a full social calendar but for us 'newbies' fortunately it didn't include the early morning committee meeting. However, the meeting with the Mayor in the Assembly Room of the Council House that followed proved to be thought provoking, mainly for the quality of the jokes. This then lead on to a shared lunch at Fishbourne community centre, where we were greeted by a jazz band, the Big Pyramid. They were having fun, so it followed that it was smiles all round. It took away some of the need to talk, however, we didn't quite manage to get dancing as lunch had first priority. The plan for the afternoon was Skittles or Pétanque, all I can say is that I hope the Skittles game was run on English rules! The Pétanque was ably adjudicated by François who knew all the variations and was encouraging a women's team and a men's team. This, and the communal washing up, kept us going until it was time to leave.

The Evensong in Chichester Cathedral was a special occasion as 250 choristers from across Sussex processed round the cathedral to sing the chorales of the Reformation, 500 years being celebrated this year since Martin Luther published his theses. The party from Chartres was welcomed specifically, but no concessions were made to the French speakers. Luckily music was the majority of the service, but it was clear that the Lutherine doctrine puts much emphasis on the words in ones own language. It was a delight to be able to look around the cathedral after the service, and then walk home through town to supper.

Sunday's high point was again in a cathedral, this time in Winchester. The day out with guides in the town in the morning and the chance to eat a pub lunch worked really well. Even the detour on the way home via Harting to avoid an accident on the M27 worked in our favour, allowing us to see the countryside in full bloom. I don't think we quite decided on the translation of 'bluebells' but they were much admired. The evening was the meal at the Brookfield Hotel in Emsworth, yum. During the entertainment after the meal I watched my daughter's eyes widen as she looked at the Moulin Rouge skit. Oh la la!

Monday's free day was a welcome respite, although we still managed to include in it an Art Trail trip and shopping in town, and visit another French host in the evening. In no time at all it was time to leave for the coach at silly o'clock on Tuesday morning. Much kissing and hand waving later, we agreed it has been a wonderful experience, and that it would bear repeating.

A new experience for me and my family, with new friends made on both sides of the Channel. Vive la Jumelage!

JENNY COLE

Photos by Didier Rocton





CHOIR SERVICE IN CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL

This event was listed in our Exchange programme as 'optional' and happily over thirty members and their guests indicated they would like to attend. It was a special event for me as I was due to take part as a chorister in the service. Firstly, some background to the event.

robes of their own church, you do not sit with the rest of your choir, but with all the other choristers singing the same voice as you. Thus as a base, I was sitting with about 40 other bases. The feeling of being part of so many voices singing together is like nothing else.

Every year, on two consecutive Saturday afternoons, usually in late spring, the Cathedral hosts the Royal School of Church Music Sussex Area Choirs Festival. This brings together church choirs from all over Sussex (East as well as West, some from as far away as Bexhill and Haywards Heath) for an afternoon of rehearsals followed by singing at a special service open to the public, usually at 5.30pm. It is run over two

Saturdays, as too many choristers want to take part for it

to be on just one day.

The music to be sung is contained in a special booklet that is made available to choirs about three months beforehand, thus giving choirs the opportunity to start rehearsing well before the actual day of performance.

I belong to the choir at St. George's Church, Whyke, in Chichester where we rehearse on Tuesday evenings and sing every Sunday morning at the 10.00am service, plus other special services through the year. I have taken part in the Cathedral event almost every year since I joined St. George's Choir about eight years ago.

Usually we manage to at least have a look at each piece of music that is to be sung in the Cathedral, and happily this time we had been able to do a bit more rehearsal than is sometimes the case. This was important for me - I knew I would not be able to go to the afternoon rehearsals in the Cathedral, as Claire and I and our guests, Marc and Marie-France, would be at the social and lunch at the Fishbourne Centre.

For a chorister, singing with so many other choristers in a church like the Cathedral is totally different from singing in a normal church choir on a Sunday. In the Cathedral there are maybe two-hundred plus choristers, compared with at St. George's 15-20 choristers on a typical Sunday. The feeling of so many voices all singing together in such a space is truly uplifting and inspiring. In the Cathedral, although each chorister is wearing the choir

Anyway, back to the event itself. After we had returned home from the social for a bit of a rest, I hurried off to the cathedral with my music and choir robe, leaving Claire and our guests to follow on a bit later. I needed to be at the Cathedral by 5.00pm to get robed and be ready to process in. Happily I found my younger fellow base from St. George's, Jonathan, who had been there for the rehearsal, and was able to join him. As we processed in I was pleased to see that large number of 'Friends' had made it and were sitting together in the nave.

The service seemed to go well. One advantage of sitting with so many others singing your part is that, if you are unsure of a section, you hopefully have



others within earshot, who know the piece better than you do and you follow them! My favourite piece

was John Ireland's very moving 'Greater Love'. For several days afterwards I could not get it out of my head and ended up downloading it from the internet so I could listen to it ad nauseam on my little digital music player.

After we processed out, I met up with Claire and the others, and before we left several people from the Friends said how much they had enjoyed the service, including the French coach driver, which was very pleasing. Hopefully, I will be able to continue to participate in this event for many years to come.

JOHN WILTON

THE CHARTRAINS' VISIT (by Daphne Bowling)

I was lucky enough to be invited to join the farewell dinner organised by Julia Sander for her French guests plus others local enough to be able to walk to her home. I had not hosted on this occasion but my invitee from 2 years back was there and we hoped to be able to see each other during the visit.

Each English host was asked to bring a contribution to the meal, so Julia asked me to make a desert. When I suggested a real English trifle, she accepted with pleasure.

There were 12 guests and it was a delightful evening with an excellent meal which had meant a lot of preparation by Julia and Jan to find enough table and chair space as well as a delicious boeuf bourguignon.

When it came to my trifle, which Julia put in the centre of the table for everyone to admire the work of art, we were not able to translate the word 'trifle' as the dictionary only shows the other trifle meaning, so I tried to describe the content such as sherry for example and everyone wanted to try some to my horror as I had not made a big enough trifle for 12 people expecting there to be other desserts! Anyhow it was managed - hence this little article.

ENGLISH TRIFLE (enough for 8 people)

1 Jam Swiss Roll
1 tin peach slices in juice
About a quarter of pint of sweet sherry
About 3 quarters of a pint of custard
Half a pint of double cream

Method:

- 1. Slice the Swiss roll & line an attractive glass dish with the slices.
- 2. Open tin of peaches and drain.
- 3. Arrange most of the slices over the Swiss roll and into the centre of the dish, allowing a little of the juice to moisten the sponge.
- 4. Pour the sherry over all the sponge.
- 5. Make the custard and leave to cool a little before pouring over the dish
- 6. Whip the cream and when the trifle is cold, spread over the top.
- 7. Decorate with saved peach slices and a few maraschino cherries for colour.
- 8. Cover with cling film and keep in fridge until required.





'SCHOOLS ART CHALLENGE 2017' - 'Private View & Awards Ceremony' 16th & 17th June 2017 Working with the University of Chichester - Fine Art Department

'A Tale of Twinned Cities': Chapter 7: 'Interwoven'

Working once again with Steve McDade, Head of the Fine Arts Department at the University, this year's Art Challenge (set in November) was completed by eleven schools who success-





CHICHESTER WINNER -Bosham Primary School were presented with the Mosaic Trophy, certificate & books.

The Private View Award, voted for by guests attending

fully submitted their entries to the Fine Art Department on Monday 12th June. These included Bosham Primary, Bishop Luffa, Fishbourne Primary, Funtingon Primary, Lavant C of E Primary, Medmerry Primary, St Richards Catholic Primary, Slindon College, West Dean Primary plus Chartres' l'école de Grand Jardin and l'école de Rechèvres (whose artworks were brought across with this year's Annual Exchange).

The Deputy Mayor of Chartres, Patrick Géroudet, joined our President, The Mayor of Chichester, Cllr Peter Evans, and the Mayoress, Cllr Margaret Evans, to present the Awards in front of over 100 pupils, parents, teachers and invited guests at a ceremony held in the University's Chapel on Saturday

Associate Lecturer, Liz Colley, together with Marc Steene, Director of 'Outside In' and Lin Chaplin, retired Headteacher and member of Friends of Chartres, joined Steve on the Judging Panel. Starting in alphabetical order, each school received a framed certificate after receiving feed-back from the Judging Panel on the submitted artworks, before the Judges' decisions were announced. Then, starting with the French schools. lécole de Rechèvres was declared the Winner and Patrick was charged with taking the French Winner's Trophy and books to be presented to them at a ceremony to be held in Chartres the next week.



The English schools results were then announced starting with a new 'Breaking the Mould'

Certificate to Fishbourne C of E Primary (photo above) and three 'Best Individual Entry' certificates plus a book token each were awarded to Slindon College pupil, Callum Chambers (left) and Funtington pupils, Jack Bull (right) and Scarlet Vinten (who was unable to be present).





before Bosham Primary School was presented with the Winners Trophy (top left photo)

Our Chairman, Julia Sander, concluded the proceedings by congratulating all who had taken part and thanked her predecessor, Ray Brown, for initiating this annual Art Project which, with his continued enthusiasm and support of his wife, Margaret, has gone from strength to strength. Like previous years, in the autumn and using the Lions' van, the Exhibition of pupils' artwork will be transported to Chartres where it will be hung in the Maison du Saumon for public viewing from 23rd September to 3rd October - with thanks to our French counterparts and Patrick Géroudet.

She also informed everyone that Friends of Chartres intend to launch an 'out of schools' Language Club for younger members and details would be provided in the autumn term.

MARGARET BROWN



















FRENCH Conversation Groups .

The conversation circles have been meeting monthly over a cup of coffee in members' homes for a lively chat in French. The new Petit Cercle du Mardi has established itself this year and the number of members has grown. The Petit Cercle du Jeudi, has been going for some years now, but has acquired a couple of new members. As well as chatting in French, the Thursday group has been reading a thriller by Simenon: 'Maigret Tend un Piège'. It's been a bit difficult to keep the suspense going when we read it at monthly intervals, but we're hoping to find out whodunnit before the summer break.

AUTUMN DATES - Petit Cercle du mardi:

We meet the first TUESDAY of the month: 10.30 - 12.00 midday

SEPTEMBER 5th Julia Sander

Petit Cercle du jeudi:

We meet second THURSDAY of the mont: 10.30-12.00 midday

SEPTEMBER 14th Julia Sander,

OCTOBER 12th : NOVEMBER 16th : DECEMBER 14th

We welcome new members, so if you'd like to join us, call

Julia Sander on 01243 527435

Petit Cercle du mardi

Tuesday group: (l-r): Rachael Osborne, Cilla Johnson, Elizabeth Stuart Lee, Maggie Parmiter (in Julia's garden)



Petit Cercle du ieudi:

Thursday group: (l-r): Jacqueline Combes, Diana Currie, Daphne Bowling, Marjorie Winn (in Daphne's garden)



* * * STOP PRESS * * * UNIVERSITY CHAMBER ORCHESTRA PERFORM IN CHARTRES June 2017



EDITORIAL

Thanks to all who have contributed to this edition - and also to those who have promised articles for the next one. I'm able to include a 'Preview' of things to come by including the 'Stop Press' notice about the University's Chamber Orchestra concert in Chartres which Patrick brought across - I am now looking forward to receiving Jean-Claude's article and photos of this event to go into the next edition.

Following through the saying that 'a picture speaks a thousand words' then Rob Campling's report of this year's Schools Art Challenge Private View and Awards Ceremony is equivalent to a multitude of words. We have a similar French contributor, Didier Rocton, one of our 'newbies' taking part in this year's Exchange. His photos are so very professional - and numerous.

In addition to Chichester Harbour Rotary Club's Cycle Chartres event the original Rotary Club of Chichester has recently hosted an 'Exchange' visit to Chichester by their members, to be reported in the next edition. So, if you have anything which you think will be of interest to our members then do please contact me directly either by email: magbrown121@gmail.com or by telephone (01243) 783776 and the deadline for my receiving copy for the next edition is 26th August.

I look forward to hearing from you - and seeing you at our future events.

MARGARET BROWN EDITOR

PLEASE NOTE MY NEW EMAIL ADDRESS magbrown121@gmail.com

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