



ALRESFORD TWINNING ASSOCIATION



Review of 2013

Presidents Evening 2013

The President's evening in January was held in St Gregory's Hall. The evening was well attended despite the very cold weather but once inside the cheerful atmosphere provided a warm start to the New Year.

44 members attended including some new members who were very warmly welcomed.

Skittles in March

This year we returned to the Northbrook Arms for another enjoyable evening of Skittles plus supper organized by Ali Love.

Spring Walk Sunday 14th April

A good crowd turned up at the Cricketers at Easton for the annual walk, this year led by Anna and Jim Thompson. We enjoyed an interesting hike around the Itchen Valley, in glorious spring sunshine, past some lovely gardens and beautiful countryside, finishing at the Cricketers for Sunday lunch.

Whilst there were less members in attendance than previous years an enjoyable evening was had by all and after a bit of negotiation due to the uneven number of team members, Steve McClelland's team were declared the winners.

French Market

The French Market in Broad Street did not go ahead in 2013 due to economic considerations. The cost of bringing the market to the area (ferry, fuel, accommodation) has been more than the traders' turnover in past years. The market will consider returning when the economic situation improves.



Bridge over the Itchen



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Exchange Weekend

The weekend of 31 May to 2 June saw us hosting 27 of our Bricquebec friends, many on return visits. This was the 30th exchange visit between our two towns. A group visit was arranged for the Saturday to Mottisfont Abbey. Those that took part were blessed with good weather and besides visiting the house, they could enjoy the beautiful ground and riverside walk. Unfortunately, due to the exceptionally late on-set of summer the roses were not out.

In the evening we gathered in the undercroft of The Swan and to mark this 30th Anniversary and were honoured to have the Mayor and Mayoress of Winchester with us. Ernie and Barbara Jeffs have been members of the Twinning Association for many years and our guests were very impressed to have them supporting the event, complete with mayoral regalia

Enjoying the sun at Mottisfont



Two other special guests were Barbara Noble and Guy Pichon, who as founding members of the Association cut the celebratory cake - beautifully made by Margaret Lumb.

Nearly 60 sat down to dinner, after which the 'choir' from Bricquebec entertained us with a song especially for the occasion.



Cutting the Cake



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Dinner in the Undercroft

Summer Wine Evening Friday 12 July

Barry and Jill Cope hosted the Summer Wine evening - and for once the weather was perfect. 40 members enjoyed an ideal summer's evening in their lovely garden

Annual Dinner Saturday 12 October

The venue this year was the refurbished Cricketers at Alresford. A varied menu was offered by the new management in very pleasant surroundings.

Petanque Evening 6 September

Eighteen people turned up at Alrebury Park on a rather chilly evening in September, to play Petanque, we were able to play for about an hour and a half, before we decided to adjourn to the bar, as the weather was not very favourable. We need a balmy June evening next year