



CORSHAM TWINNING ASSOCIATION

Annual General Meeting 18th November 2011

Present at the meeting: Ian Brain, Carole Brain, Neil Carrigan, Jo Reeves, Lindon Collins, Maurice Hancock, Roger Fido, Maggie Rayner, John Rayner, Millie Carter, Margaret Smith, Matt Wingrave, Margaret Mills, Humphrey Barnakle, Elizabeth Barnakle, Charlie Parsons, George Parsons, Jonathan Fido, Alero Malin, Julius Malin.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Charles Boyle, Isabel Boyle, Chris Riley, Rob Cannings, Pat Cannings, Roger Clifton, Christine Taylor, Audrie Beaver, Christine Bastow, John McIver, Joan McIver, Jim Ball, Elizabeth Millward, Nigel Millward, Peter Anstey, Margaret Astell, David Taylor, Jacqui Taylor.

2. Chairman's welcome

As Carole Brain was unable to join the meeting until later, Ian Brain took the chair and welcomed everyone to the 30th AGM of the Corsham Twinning Association.

3. Minutes of AGM 2010:

Minutes from the meeting on 19th November 2010 were approved, proposed by Roger Fido and seconded by Elizabeth Barnakle.

4. Chairman's address:

Ian Brain read out the following statement from Carole Brain:

"Carole has unavoidable work commitment in Scotland which means she is probably somewhere between Bristol Airport and here. She would like to thank everyone for all their efforts in this very successful 30th year of Corsham Twinning Association.

We have had a variety of well-supported and received activities:

- The Quiz night in January*
- The wine tasting evening, which was both informative and fun*
- The boules evening, where The Randoms scored a surprise victory – none as surprised as Carole, who wasn't even keen to play!*

At this point, the trophy was presented to "The Randoms" (Roger Fido, Lindon Collins and Carole Brain) for winning the boules competition.

- the French Market, with its multiplicity of stalls, filling the whole of Corsham High Street*



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- *The Anniversary visit to Jargeau – I don't think anyone will forget that amazing evening with the frou-frou girls!*

None of the events would have happened without the unending hard work and dedication of the Committee members involved in the arrangements. Roger Fido, Jo Reeves and Charles Boyle have all put in significant and visible amounts of effort this year, for which I am very grateful. Other Committee members have made valuable contributions behind the scenes, which have been very much appreciated.

Going into this coming year, we are looking to schedule even more events, to which all of our members will be warmly welcomed. With one eye on the economic crisis and a concern that EU funding for organisations such as ours will be scarcer in the future, we need to consider how we can both expand our membership and raise money to continue to support our relationship with Jargeau. As with any organisation, much of the organising of any events depends on the will and enthusiasm of a few members.

I would really like to encourage more people to become actively involved with the Association – the more the work can be shared out, the easier it is for everyone. The continuance of the Twinning Market in particular is dependent on sharing what is a heavy load more widely.

Carole is happy to continue as Chair for another year, unless someone else wants to embrace the opportunity. Carole can only apologise that she is not yet with us this evening – and she hopes to join us as soon as she can.

Carole would like to thank all of you for your support during this year."

5. Matters arising:

- a. Twinning market morning 2012: Ian Brain asked members for any offers of support to help run this event.
- b. Fund raising ideas/activities for 2012: Ian Brain welcomed any suggestions from members and asked them to pass any ideas to a committee member.

6. Financial report

Roger Fido (Treasurer) presented this year's accounts, which had been audited. There was a healthy closing balance of £3821.07, with about £2200 to come from the EU grant. Millie Carter proposed to accept the accounts and Neil Carrigan seconded. Neil Carrigan asked how Jargeau had been able to obtain an EU grant of €25,000 for our recent visit. Roger Fido said their application was very detailed



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and we could learn from this. He would forward their document to Carole Brain and ask her to report back to the next Committee meeting. **Action : Carole Brain**

7. Election of Officers and Committee

The election for members of the committee was as follows:

Chairman: Carole Brain (proposed by Ian Brain, seconded by Roger Fido)

Secretary: Jo Reeves (proposed by Neil Carrigan, seconded by Elizabeth Barnakle)

Treasurer: Roger Fido (proposed by Millie Carter, seconded by Jonathan Fido)

Ian Brain said up to 15 members were allowed on the Committee and members were welcome to attend. Meetings are held on the first Monday of the month at the Corsham Club. Further details were available on the website. Further discussion about the Twinning market morning and other fund raising events would take place at the committee meetings.

8. AOB

- Millie Carter asked if members would be interested in a French conversation group to meet monthly (the French class run by Liz Millward was due to end at Easter). Liz was prepared to lead the initial group and other volunteers would be sought. **Action: Jo Reeves to mail all members with details.**
- Roger Fido had returned art work which we had taken to Jargeau to the schools concerned. He had made contact with Corsham Primary School about a group of 50 ten year olds from Jargeau who were due to visit Bath in May and wanted to meet some children from Corsham.
- Millie Carter asked members to suggest fund raising events for 2012 in addition to the usual Quiz, BBQ and wine tasting events.
- Ian Brain thanked Roger Fido for his hard work in organising the excellent trip to Jargeau this year. It was agreed that the Corsham Band had brought added interest to the visit.
- Jargeau's visit to Corsham would take place from Thursday 1st November to Sunday 4th November 2012. There would be a day trip to Bath on the Friday.

9. Date of next AGM

Friday 23rd November 2012, venue to be confirmed.

The meeting concluded with a showing of photos and a video from the most successful 30th Anniversary trip to Jargeau, 21-25th October 2011.